

## AP 1200-1450 Key Concepts

### TOPIC 1.1 Developments in East Asia from c. 1200 to c. 1450

#### Unit 1: Learning Objective A

Explain the systems of government employed by Chinese dynasties and how they developed over time.

A. Empires and states in Afro-Eurasia and the Americas demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity in the 13th century. This included the Song Dynasty of China, which utilized traditional methods of Confucianism and an imperial bureaucracy to maintain and justify its rule.

#### Unit 1: Learning Objective B

Explain the effects of Chinese cultural traditions on East Asia over time.

A. Chinese cultural traditions continued, and they influenced neighboring regions.

B. Buddhism and its core beliefs continued to shape societies in Asia and included a variety of branches, schools, and practices.

#### ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

Cultural traditions:

- Filial piety in East Asia
- Influence of Neo-Confucianism and Buddhism in East Asia
- Confucian traditions of both respect for and expected deference from women
- Chinese literary and scholarly traditions and their spread to Heian Japan and Korea

Buddhism:

- Theravada
- Mahayana
- Tibetan

Technological innovations:

- Champa rice
- Transportation innovations, like the Grand Canal expansion
- Steel and iron
- Textiles and porcelains for export

#### Unit 1: Learning Objective C

Explain the effects of innovation on the Chinese economy over time.

A. The economy of Song China became increasingly commercialized while continuing to depend on free peasant and artisanal labor.

B. The economy of Song China flourished as a result of increased productive capacity, expanding trade networks, and innovations in agriculture and manufacturing.

### TOPIC 1.2 Developments in Dar al-Islam from c. 1200 to c. 1450

#### Unit 1: Learning Objective D

Explain how systems of belief and their practices affected society in the period from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

A. Islam, Judaism, Christianity, and the core beliefs and practices of these religions continued to shape societies in Africa and Asia.

#### ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

New Islamic political entities:

- Seljuk Empire
- Mamluk sultanate of Egypt
- Delhi sultanates

#### Unit 1: Learning Objective E

Explain the causes and effects of the rise of Islamic states over time.

A. As the Abbasid Caliphate fragmented, new Islamic political entities emerged, most of which were dominated by Turkic peoples. These states demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity.

B. Muslim rule continued to expand too many parts of Afro-Eurasia due to military expansion, and Islam subsequently expanded through the activities of merchants, missionaries, and Sufis.

**Unit 1: Learning Objective F**

Explain the effects of intellectual innovation in Dar al-Islam.

A. Muslim states and empires encouraged significant intellectual innovations and transfers Innovations:

- Advances in mathematics (Nasir al-Din al-Tusi)
- Advances in literature ('A'ishah al-Ba'uniyyah)
- Advances in medicine Transfers Preservation and commentaries on natural philosophy
- House of Wisdom in Abbasid Bagdad
- Scholarly and cultural transfers in Muslim and Christian Spain

**TOPIC 1.3 Developments in South and Southeast Asia from c. 1200 to c. 1450**

**Unit 1: Learning Objective G**

Explain how the various belief systems and practices of South and Southeast Asia affected society over time

A. Hinduism, Islam, and Buddhism, and their core beliefs and practices, continued to shape societies in South and Southeast Asia.

**ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

Beliefs and practices:

- Bhakti movement
- Sufism
- Buddhist monasticism Hindu/Buddhist states:
- Vijayanagara Empire
- Srivijaya Empire
- Rajput kingdoms
- Khmer Empire
- Majapahit
- Sukhothai kingdom
- Sinhala dynasties

**Unit 1: Learning Objective H**

Explain how and why various states of South and Southeast Asia developed and maintained power over time.

A. State formation and development demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity, including the new Hindu and Buddhist states that emerged in South and Southeast Asia.

**TOPIC 1.4 State Building in the Americas**

**Unit 1: Learning Objective I**

Explain how and why states in the Americas developed and changed over time.

A. In the Americas, as in Afro-Eurasia, state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity, and expanded in scope and reach.

**ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

State systems in the Americas:

- Maya city-states
- Mexica
- Inca
- Chaco
- Mesa Verde
- Cahokia

**TOPIC 1.5 State Building in Africa**

**Unit 1: Learning Objective J**

Explain how and why states in Africa developed and changed over time.

A. In Africa, as in Eurasia and the Americas, state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity and expanded in scope and reach.

#### **ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

State systems in Africa:

- Great Zimbabwe
- Ethiopia
- Hausa kingdoms

#### **TOPIC 1.6 Developments in Europe from c. 1200 to c. 1450**

##### **Unit 1: Learning Objective K**

Explain how the beliefs and practices of the predominant religions in Europe affected European society

A. Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and the core beliefs and practices of these religions continued to shape societies in Europe.

##### **Unit 1: Learning Objective L**

Explain the causes and consequences of political decentralization in Europe from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

A. Europe was politically fragmented and characterized by decentralized monarchies, Feudalism, and the manorial system.

##### **Unit 1: Learning Objective M**

Explain the effects of agriculture on social organization in Europe from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

A. Europe was largely an agricultural society dependent on free and coerced labor, including serfdom.

#### **TOPIC 1.7 Comparison in the Period from c. 1200 to c. 1450**

##### **Unit 1: Learning Objective N**

Explain the similarities and differences in the processes of state formation from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

State formation and development demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity in various regions.

A. As the Abbasid Caliphate fragmented, new Islamic political entities emerged, most of which were dominated by Turkic peoples. These states demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity.

B. Empires and states in Afro-Eurasia and the Americas demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity in the 13th century. This included the Song Dynasty of China, which utilized traditional methods of Confucianism and an imperial bureaucracy to maintain and justify its rule.

C. State formation and development demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity, including the new Hindu and Buddhist states that emerged in South and Southeast Asia.

D. In the Americas, as in Afro-Eurasia, state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity, and expanded in scope and reach.

E. In Africa, as in Eurasia and the Americas, state systems demonstrated continuity, innovation, and diversity, and expanded in scope and reach.

#### **TOPIC 2.1 The Silk Roads**

##### **Unit 2: Learning Objective A**

Explain the causes and effects of growth of networks of exchange after 1200.

A. Improved commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade and expanded the geographical range of existing trade routes— including the Silk Roads—promoting the growth of powerful new trading cities.

B. The growth of interregional trade in luxury goods was encouraged by innovations in previously existing transportation and commercial technologies, including the caravanserai, forms of credit, and the development of money economies.

C. Demand for luxury goods increased in Afro- Eurasia. Chinese, Persian, and Indian artisans and merchants expanded their production of textiles and porcelains for export; manufacture of iron and steel expanded in China.

#### **ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

Trading cities:

- Kashgar
- Samarkand

New forms of credit and money economies:

- Bills of exchange
- Banking houses
- Use of paper money

## **TOPIC 2.2 The Mongol Empire and the Making of the Modern World**

### **Unit 2: Learning Objective B**

Explain the process of state building and decline in Eurasia over time.

A. Empires collapsed in different regions of the world and in some areas were replaced by new imperial states, including the Mongol khanates.

### **Unit 2: Learning Objective C**

Explain how the expansion of empires influenced trade and communication over time.

A. The expansion of empires—including the Mongols—facilitated Afro-Eurasian trade and communication as new people were drawn into their conquerors' economies and trade networks.

### **Unit 2: Learning Objective D**

Explain the significance of the Mongol Empire in larger patterns of continuity and change.

A. Interregional contacts and conflicts between states and empires, including the Mongols, encouraged significant technological and cultural transfers.

### **ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

Technological and cultural transfers:

- Transfer of Greco-Islamic medical knowledge to Western Europe
- Transfer of numbering systems to Europe
- Adoption of Uyghur script

## **TOPIC 2.3 Exchange in the Indian Ocean**

### **Unit 2: Learning Objective E**

Explain the causes of the growth of networks of exchange after 1200.

A. Improved transportation technologies and commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade and expanded the geographical range of existing trade routes, including the Indian Ocean, promoting the growth of powerful new trading cities.

B. The growth of interregional trade in luxury goods was encouraged by significant innovations in previously existing transportation and commercial technologies, including the use of the compass, the astrolabe, and larger ship designs.

C. The Indian Ocean trading network fostered the growth of states.

### **ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

Growth of states:

- City-states of the Swahili Coast
- Gujarat
- Sultanate of Malacca

### **Unit 2: Learning Objective F**

Explain the effects of the growth of networks of exchange after 1200.

A. In key places along important trade routes, merchants set up diasporic communities where they introduced their own cultural traditions into the indigenous cultures and, in turn, indigenous cultures influenced merchant cultures.

B. Interregional contacts and conflicts between states and empires encouraged significant technological and cultural transfers, including during Chinese maritime activity led by Ming Admiral Zheng He.

### **ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES:**

Diasporic communities:

- Arab and Persian communities in East Africa
- Chinese merchant communities in Southeast Asia
- Malay communities in Indian Ocean Basin

### **Unit 2: Learning Objective G**

Explain the role of environmental factors in the development of networks of exchange in the period from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

A. The expansion and intensification of long- distance trade routes often depended on environmental knowledge, including advanced knowledge of the monsoon winds.

### **TOPIC 2.4 Trans-Saharan Trade Routes**

#### **Unit 2: Learning Objective H**

Explain the causes and effects of the growth of trans-Saharan trade

A. The growth of interregional trade was encouraged by innovations in existing transportation technologies.

B. Improved transportation technologies and commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade and expanded the geographical range of existing trade routes, including the trans-Saharan trade network.

#### **Unit 2: Learning Objective I**

Explain how the expansion of empires influenced trade and communication over time. The expansion of empires—including Mali in West Africa—facilitated Afro-Eurasian trade and communication as new people were drawn into the economies and trade networks.

### **TOPIC 2.5 Cultural Consequences of Connectivity**

#### **Unit 2: Learning Objective J**

Explain the intellectual and cultural effects of the various networks of exchange in Afro-Eurasia from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

A. Increased cross-cultural interactions resulted in the diffusion of literary, artistic, and cultural traditions, as well as scientific and technological innovations.

B. The fate of cities varied greatly, with periods of significant decline and periods of increased urbanization, buoyed by rising productivity and expanding trade networks.

C. As exchange networks intensified, an increasing number of travelers within Afro- Eurasia wrote about their travels.

### **ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

Diffusion of cultural traditions:

- The influence of Buddhism in East Asia
- The spread of Hinduism and Buddhism into Southeast Asia
- The spread of Islam in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia

Diffusion of scientific or technological innovations:

- Gunpowder from China
  - Paper from China
- Travelers:
- Ibn Battuta
  - Margery Kempe
  - Marco Polo

### **TOPIC 2.6 Environmental Consequences of Connectivity**

#### **Unit 2: Learning Objective K**

Explain the environmental effects of the various networks of exchange in Afro-Eurasia from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

A. There was continued diffusion of crops and pathogens, with epidemic diseases, including the bubonic plague, along trade routes.

## **ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES**

Diffusion of crops:

- Bananas in Africa
- New rice varieties in East Asia
- Spread of citrus in the Mediterranean

## **TOPIC 2.7 Comparison of Economic Exchange**

### **Unit 2: Learning Objective L**

Explain the similarities and differences among the various networks of exchange in the period from c. 1200 to c. 1450.

A. A deepening and widening of networks of human interaction within and across regions contributed to cultural, technological, and biological diffusion within and between various societies.

B. Improved commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade and expanded the geographical range of existing trade routes—including the Silk Roads—promoting the growth of powerful new trading cities.

C. The growth of interregional trade in luxury goods was encouraged by innovations in previously existing transportation and commercial technologies, including the caravanserai, forms of credit, and the development of money economies.

D. Changes in trade networks resulted from and stimulated increasing productive capacity, with important implications for social and gender structures and environmental processes.

E. Demand for luxury goods increased in Afro-Eurasia. Chinese, Persian, and Indian artisans and merchants expanded their production of textiles and porcelains for export; manufacture of iron and steel expanded in China.