

Topic 7: Russian Expansion Ming Qing Defense

Oct. 16, 21, 23, 2003

Outline

The Long Sixteenth Century, ca 1450 – 1616 CE

1. The World: Key Turning Points

- 1453: Victory of Ottomans at Constantinople → Istanbul**
- 1453: Flight of Greeks to Italy: “beginning” of Renaissance**
- 1488: Portuguese round Africa**
- 1511: Portuguese seize Malacca**
- 1557 Portuguese arrive at Macao.**
- 1454: “invention” of printing from movable type in Europe**
- 1517: Martin Luther nails 95 Theses on door at Wittenberg, beginning the Reformation: Religious war in Europe to 1648-1688**
- East Asia**
 - Ming expeditions: 1409-24 to the Northwest;**
 - 1400-30s: Zheng He to Indian Ocean and Africa**
 - 1449 catastrophe in Central Eurasia**

2. ca.1500 The rise of the sea

- New World Silver unites the world: it flows into China.**
- Ming commercialization.**
- Maritime discoveries**
- “Decline” of caravan trade {Rossabi]**
- Russian and Chinese expansion**

3. China Turns Defensive: The Building of the Great Wall

4. The Uzbeks in Central Eurasia; The Mongols on Ming Frontiers Tibetan Buddhism and the Mongols

5. Russia’s Expansion

6. Some Explanations for the “Decline” of Central Eurasia

**Maritime trade replaces caravans?
Gunpowder?
Better: the aftermath of Chinggis Khan: Agrarian empire led by
settled nomads close up the frontier.**

Portuguese Exploration

From Encyclopedia of World History

PORTUGAL began a major program of oceanic exploration and trade under the leadership of PRINCE HENRY THE NAVIGATOR (1394-1460).

1418-19

Exploration of Madeira Islands.

1427-31

Definitive discovery of Azores by Diogo de Sevilla.

1433

After ten-year effort, Portuguese ships rounded Cape Bojador; increased slave raiding.

1444

Nuño Tristam reached Senegal River.

1445

Dinís Dias rounded Cape Verde; increased trade, Portugal-West Africa.

1455-57

Alvise da Cadamosto, Venetian serving Prince Henry, explored Senegal and Gambia Rivers, discovered Cape Verde Islands.

1470-71

João de Santarem and Pedro Escobar reached Mina on Gold Coast, set up Portuguese trading station (fort, 1482).

1472

Expeditions passed equator; Fernando Po discovered island that bears his name.

1482-84

Diogo Cão reached Congo River.

1487

Portuguese King John sent overland expedition (Pedro da Covilhã) to India and east coast of Africa.

Portuguese ships gradually moved along the African coast, with Bartolomeu Dias reaching the Cape of Good Hope in 1487 and VASCO DA GAMA sailing around Africa and entering the Indian Ocean in 1497. PEDRO CABRAL touched Brazil en route to India (1500); regular Portuguese trade to India began. Da Gama attempted to close the Red Sea to Arab trade

(1501). Almeida defeated Muslim Indian Ocean fleet (1509). Within the next half century, Portuguese commercial and military bases were established throughout the Indian Ocean basin and in the South China Sea, in Goa (1510; governorship of Alfonso de Albuquerque), in Malacca (1511), and in Macao by 1557. Jorge Alvarez first reached China in 1513. In 1542 Antonio de Mota first reached Japan, after being blown off course.

From Seventeenth Century Crisis to the Dappled Sunshine of the Eighteenth Century

- 1. Seventeenth Century World Crisis, Eighteenth Century Expansion**
 - a. English Civil War 1640-60 → Glorious Revolution 1688 → 18th century Stability and Empire**
 - b. France: Religious wars → 1688 Settlement; Louis XIV, imperial expansion**
 - c. Germany: Thirty Years War 1618-48 → Rise of Prussia**
 - d. Russia: Time of Troubles 1603-1618 → Muscovy → Russian Empire**
 - i. Peter the Great [r.1689-1725]**
 - ii. Catherine the Great [1762-1796]: conversations with Voltaire, extension of serfdom, ruthless repression of revolt**
 - e. China: Ming-Qing transition [1600-77] – Flourishing Age of Kangxi and Qianlong**
- 2. The Losers[?]: Qing Expansion and the Mongolia-Xinjiang-Tibet**
 - a. Yongzheng's Fiasco and Achievements: Tibet and Mongolia [1722-1735]**
 - b. Truce on the Frontier 1745-55**
 - c. Qianlong's Final Blows: 1755-1760**
 - d. The "Return" of the Torghuts**
 - e. Consequences: Population settlement; Commercial integration; Diversities of Imperial Rule; The creation of multiethnic Xinjiang**
 - f. Hidden tensions of the Flourishing Age: population pressure, mobility, frontier instability.**
 - g. Classifications of Peoples: Ethnographies, Maps**
- 3. New Arrivals in the East: Trading Companies, Explorers, and Spies**
 - a. Dutch VOC**

British EIC