

A large, multi-masted wooden sailing ship with numerous yellow sails is the central focus, sailing on a deep blue sea with white-capped waves. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. In the background, other smaller sailing ships are visible on the horizon. The overall scene depicts a historical maritime setting.

Ming Dynasty

Introduction: Hannah

Economics: Jacob

Politics: Kerr

Society: Flora

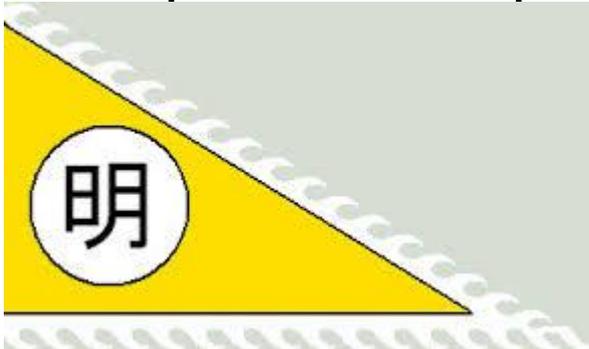
Technology/Achievements: Anthony

1. Introduction of The Ming Dynasty

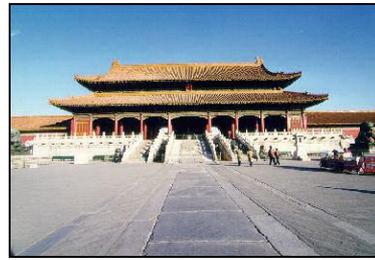


A) Beginnings of the Ming Dynasty

- ❖ From 1368-1622 China flourished under this dynasty.
- ❖ Ended Mongol rule in China.
- ❖ Many states from Korea and other Southeast Asia paid tribute of recognition of their power.
- ❖ Expected Europe to pay tribute, however Europe didn't.



B) Hongwu (Ming Taizu)



- ❖ Commanded rebel army to defeat the Mongols, and became the first emperor of the Ming.
- ❖ Supported agriculture to get rid of the Mongolian past.
- ❖ Reforms led to rice production and improved irrigation.
- ❖ Hongwu encouraged Confucian morals and restored the civil-service examination.
- ❖ Died in 1398 and his son, Yonglo became King.
- ❖ The royal court was moved to Beijing under Yonglo's rule.

C) Fun Facts



- ❖ Over one million workers worked on the Forbidden city.
- ❖ Folded fans were brought from Korea and Japan which flourished the trade.
- ❖ Permission had to be granted for the entrance of the Forbidden City.
- ❖ Emperor Hongwu created spies because he was worried of losing his rule.
- ❖ There was an Emperor who ruled when he just 8 years old (Yingzong).

2. Economics



(A) Communications (Jacob)

One of the most significant developments of the Ming was the increased maritime trade and tributary links. In the 15th century, Zheng He commanded a huge fleet of ships which traded with the Spanish, Dutch, and Portuguese. This stimulated the economy, and resulted in the mass importation of silver into China. This led to silver replacing paper banknotes and copper coins.

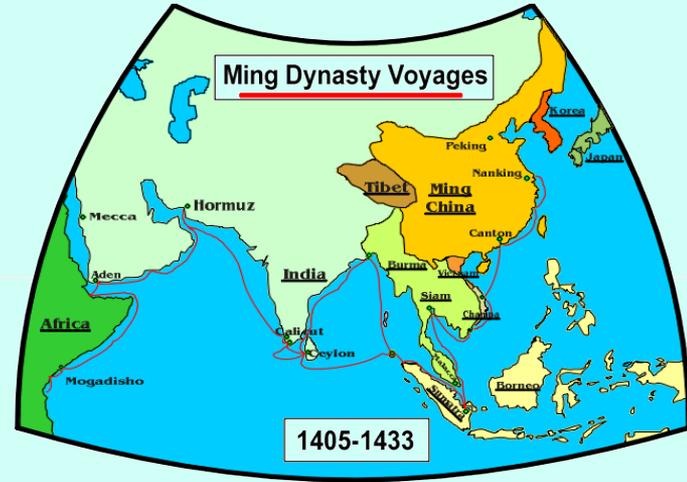


(B) Trade (Jacob)

The Ming Dynasty was highly interested in trading with the Portuguese and Spanish since they had the most silver of any European nations. Aside from silver, the Ming Dynasty was not interested in much trade with Europe. But Europe was interested in trading with Asia!



Ming Dynasty Empire (1368-1644)



1405-1433

(C) Effect on Trade (Jacob)

The Europeans wanted Asian goods like spices, teas, and porcelain. In fact, the Europeans were so interested in trading with the Chinese that they set up a specific trading outpost in Manila (the Philippines).



D) Jobs (Jacob)

- ❖ Dike and canal repairmen
- ❖ Farmers
- ❖ Hunters
- ❖ Traders
- ❖ Civil Service

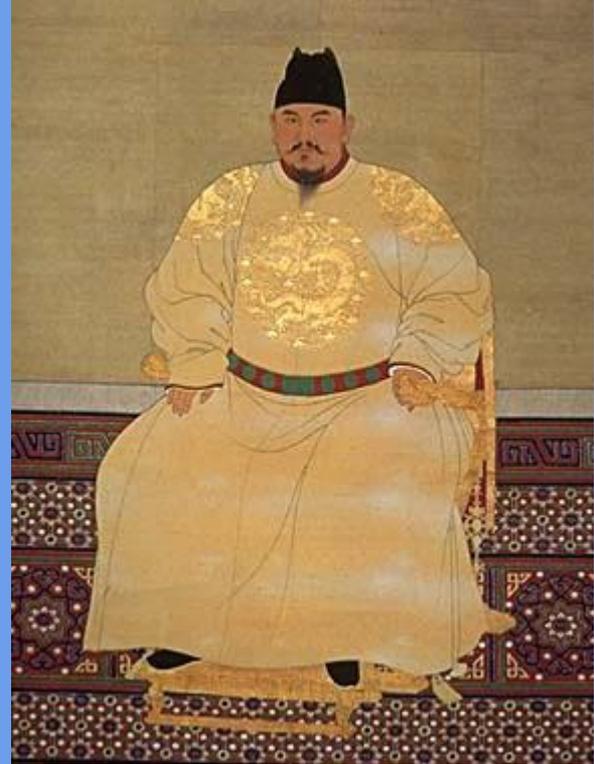


3. Politics (Kerr Yoo)



Government

- ❖ China followed the same type of government for about two thousand years.
- ❖ During the Ming dynasty, China had a very strong central government with an emperor.
- ❖ The first emperor was Hongwu.



<http://www.ibiblio.org/chinese/art/contents/peop/c01s01p05.htm?image=1>

Rise of the Ming Dynasty

- ❖ Hongwu helped push the Mongols out of China and he rose to power.
- ❖ Hongwu's first action was to rebuild state infrastructure due to the pillaging of the Mongols.



Hongwu's Secret Police

- ❖ Hongwu had suspicion that people were plotting against him leading to the secret police being created.
- ❖ Several purges occurred, killing over 100,000 people.

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Provinces

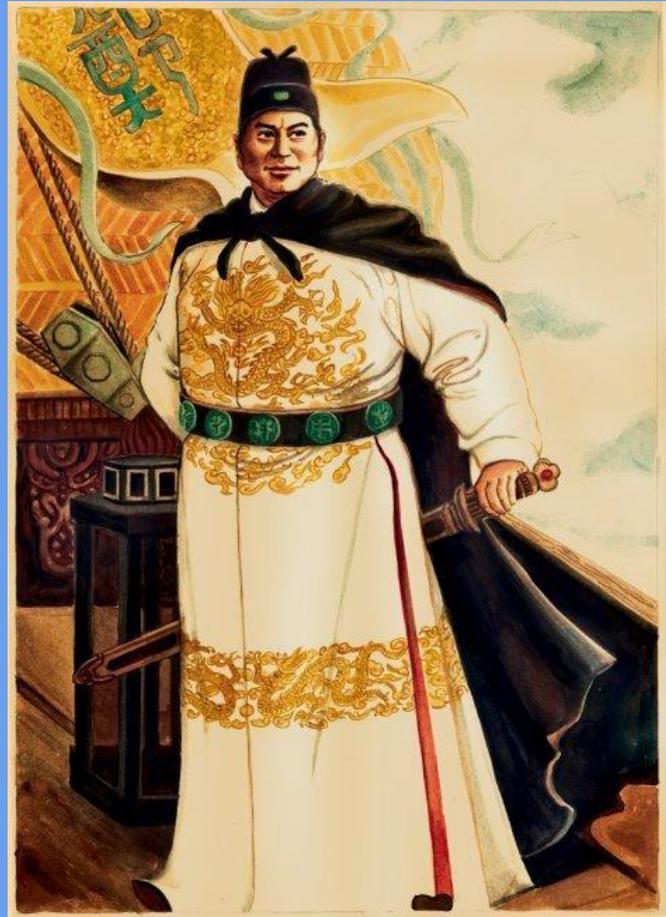
- ❖ During the Ming dynasty, the empire was split into 13 provinces, which would form the modern provinces.
- ❖ Provinces were made up of prefectures, which were made up of subprefectures which were made up of subprefects and the smallest unit were counties.



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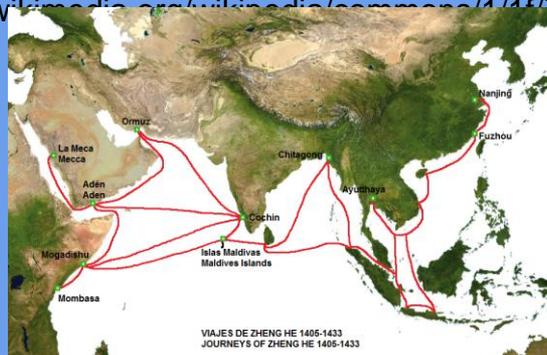
Zheng He

- ❖ Zheng He was an intelligent and talented man who was born into a Muslim family.
- ❖ Due to his Muslim background, the emperor chose him as an ambassador and an admiral due to his familiarity of the Middle East.



Voyages of Zheng He

- ❖ Zheng He was given 317 ships and 27,870 men. He left Nanjing with plenty of goods for trade, and defeated any pirates in his way.
- ❖ Zheng He went on seven voyages.
- ❖ Zheng He sailed to India, the Arabian Peninsula and Africa.



Return of Isolationism

- ❖ In the sixteenth century, the emperor felt that a strong navy was a useless luxury due to the largest threat being the Mongolians in the north.
- ❖ China felt that the anyone outside was an uncivilized barbarian, and they were basically right considering that they were arguably the strongest nation at that time.

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1f/Zheng_He.png

