

# MING & QING Notes

## CHAPTER 16

### Last 3 Dynasties (Beijing)

- Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368)
  - Mongolian
- Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)
  - Han Chinese
- Qing Dynasty (1644-1911)
  - Manchu



# Confucian culture

- Chinese defined by Confucian culture
- civil service exam (605-1905)
  - social mobility
  - reward diligence, discipline, and willpower, but not talent or innovation

## FOOTBINDING

- Footbinding began in the early Tang Dynasty after an emperor expressed love for small feet.
- At first few women bound their feet; however, by the end of the Song Dynasty women of all classes bound their feet.
- Women with bound feet were much more marriageable.
- Showed that the woman did not have to work (that they were wealthy)



# The Ming Dynasty

1368-1644

## THE MING DYNASTY

- The Ming Dynasty used the Mandate of Heaven to justify their dynasty.
- Mandate of Heaven: the idea that there could be only one legitimate ruler of China at a time, and that this ruler had the blessing of the gods.



Ming Dynasty Empire (1368-1644)



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# China's Tributary System

- Traditional system for managing foreign relations
- The “Central Kingdom” worldview
- Ming dynasty had the most extensive tributary system
  - tributes from East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and even West Asia and Africa

## **MING TAKE TO THE SEAS**

- Emperor Yonglo sponsored voyages to extend influence
- Zheng He led 7 voyages to Southern Asia, and East Africa
- Over 300 ships and 20,000 men
- Traveled for trade and commerce

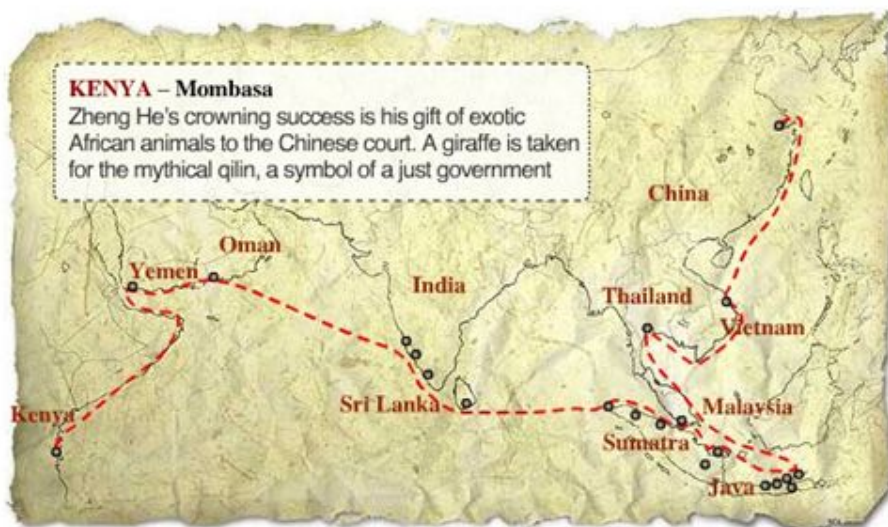


# MING TAKE TO THE SEAS

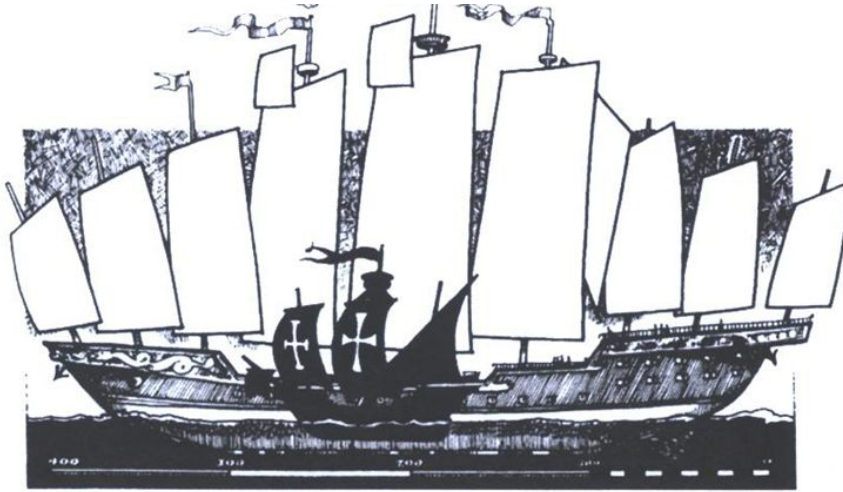


- Presented gifts from China wherever he went and foreign leaders sent tribute to China
- Voyages stopped because funding was needed to protect the borderlands.
- The Ming increasingly became isolationist avoiding European influence.

## Zheng He's expeditions



# MING JUNKS V. EUROPEAN CARAVELS



Reconstruction of Ming 'treasure ship' compared to Columbus's St Maria, fifteenth

## MING ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

### *Prosperity*

- Ming rule brought prosperity to China
- Improved methods of irrigation increased farm production
- Peasants produced huge rice crops in southern river valleys

### *Growth of Crops, Population*

- 1500s, new crops like corn, sweet potatoes from The Americas reached China
- These crops further increased farm output
- Stability, plentiful food led to substantial population growth

### *Growth of Cities, Industries*

- As population grew, so did cities
- Industries like manufacture of porcelain, silk expanded in response to growing European demand
- At same time, China remained mainly agricultural society



# MING DECLINE

## *Reasons for Decline*

- Late 1500s, Ming Dynasty began to decline
- Weak rulers took throne, corruption increased under their rule
- Defense efforts drained treasury; rulers raised taxes
- 1600s, high taxes, crop failures led to famine, hardship; rebellions broke out

## *The Manchu*

- Ming China weakened; the Manchu, a people to northwest in Manchuria, saw their chance
- 1644, Manchu swept into Beijing, took capital
- Last Ming emperor killed himself to avoid capture
- Manchu formed own dynasty; gave it Chinese name—Qing

# The Qing Dynasty

**1644-1912**

# Qing Dynasty (1644 - 1912)

- Ming dynasty fell in 1644 amid peasant uprisings and Manchu invasion



## QING DYNASTY

- Last dynasty in China
- Under the Manchu rulers, China became prosperous reached its largest size in history.
- The Chinese still believed their products to be superior to Europeans
- They traded silk, spices, and porcelain for gold and silver (until opium was introduced around 1800)



## The Fall of the Qing

- European Imperialism
  - China Loses Tributaries
  - Opium Wars
  - Spheres of Influence
- Internal Struggles
  - rulers Manchu, most people are Han
  - Loss of the Mandate of Heaven
  - Refusal to modernize
  - Boxer Rebellion

## Emperor & Macartney (1793)

