Chapter 22: Asian Transitions in an Age of Global Change

The Asian Trading World and the Coming of the Europeans

- **Asian sea trading network**: Arab (glass, carpets), India (textiles), China (paper, porcelain, silk). Spices, very important and expensive, local and international trade exist. Central control and military force were absent in the trading network.
  - All three prefer coastal routes. Vital points of trade were important (red sea, Malacca, Persian Gulf).

I. Trading Empire: The Portuguese Response to the Encounter at Calicut
  a. Portuguese use force to enter trade system (win ports on Indian and African coasts). Weapons and ships unmatched (except by Chinese). Diu (victory over Indian-Egyptian fleet) secures this.
  b. Establish factories to control trade at Ormuz and Goa as well as won the strait of Malacca. Tried to form a monopoly over Asian trade and license ships.

II. Portuguese Vulnerability and the Rise of the Dutch and English Trading Empires
  a. Successful for a little, but failed overall. Not enough manpower, corruption, losses of ships (end of 16th century).
     1. Dutch vs English. Dutch win Asia and set up Batavia (closer to the where the spices are grown) --> monopolies of certain spices, not all trade.
  b. Dutch trading empire resembled Portuguese, but had better ships and monopoly. Found most $ from peacefully trading. Most profit from fees for transportation. English fail to India and adopt some of the Dutch ideas.

III. Going Ashore: European Trade Systems in Asia
  a. Europe is crushed when it tries to expand inward. Only in Java (for coffee trade) and in Sri Lanka (cinnamon) did they expand inward. Dutch main power in Java by mid 1700s. Spain conquers north Philippines (Luzon) but fail to conquer the south (Mindanao) ruled by Muslims.
  b. Europeans establish tributary systems (crops, some new so traditional) for those they control similar to the ones set up in New Spain.

IV. Spreading the Faith: The Missionary Enterprise in South and Southeast Asia
  a. Expeditions under Yungle by Zheng He. Huge expansion as far as Persia, Africa, and Arabia. Expansion abandoned and fleets made smaller --> open to interaction between Europe and China.

Motives and challenges in the Indian Ocean trade network: Great trade and materials from Asia. Individual merchants sponsored. Do not have good objects to trade.

**What and who flows across the Indian trade network**: Portuguese, Dutch, Other Asian peoples, silk, precious stones and metals, Spices.

**Nature of Trade network**: Great trade and materials from Asia. Individual merchants sponsored. Do not have good central control over the trade network.

**Where ships travel**: Prefer to travel safely on the coastlines.

Ming China: A Global Mission Refused

- Yuanzhang wins control of China and declares himself Hongwu in 1368. Mongol dress gone, names dropped and removed form documentation, Mongol palaces and buildings raided and Mongols driven out.

I. Another Scholar Gentry Revival
  a. Scholar gentry back into the bureaucracy. Civil service reinstated and expanded. Civil service is the most important as it had ever been. Huge competition

II. Reform: Hongwu's Efforts to Root Out Abuses in Court Politics
  b. Wives to be chosen from humble origins, writings censored, warned against eunuch use. Reforms lapse under later rulers.

III. A return to Scholar Gentry Social Dominance
  a. Work to help peasants: irrigation, tax exempt status for those who clear and cultivate, lowers forced labor, promotes silk and cotton production.
  b. Rural Gentry class grows in power. Buy peasant land, force them to be tenants. Women subordinate to men and youth to elders. Harsh laws into place to support this. Neo-Confucianist influence rising and strong.
  c. Women still powerful behind the scenes. Women confined to home, status based on childbirthing (males).

IV. An Age of Growth: Agriculture, Population, Commerce, and the Arts
  b. Full development of Chinese Novel and colorful art based on nature occurred. Art focus on technique.

V. Ming Expansion and Retreat, and the Arrival of the Europeans
  a. Expeditions under Yungle by Zheng He. Huge expansion as far as Persia, Africa, and Arabia. Expansion abandoned and fleets made smaller --> open to European incursion by sea.
  b. Emperor becomes target of Jesuits. Matteo Ricci and Adam Schall are intelligent Jesuits who try to gain prestige through knowledge. Win some converts.

VI. Ming Decline and the Chinese Predicament
  a. Late 1500s in decline. Poor leadership, peasant exploitation, and failed public works. Fell in 1644 to Chinese rebels under Chongzen.

Fending off the West: Japan's Reunification and the First Challenge

- Three military leaders restore unity to Japan. Oda Nobunaga: First daimyo to use firearms from Portuguese, rid of last Asikaga shogun.
- Toyotomi Hideyoshi: takes over after Nobunga. Great diplomat and military leader. Tried to take of Korea but failed.
- Tokugawa Ieyasu: Focused on domestic consolidation. Ruled from Edo (Tokyo) and brought Daimyos under his control, establishing political unity.

I. Dealing with the European Challenge
  1. Hideyoshi feared of invasion, and with Buddhism crushed, Christians were not as useful.

II. Japan's Self Imposed Isolation
  b. Ieyasu broadens campaigns to isolate Japan. By 1640, only small commerce at Deshima is allowed.
  c. Tokugawa consolidate their strength. School of National Learning Kicks out Confucianism. Some elites follow the Dutch very closely.