Interactive Notebook Setup

- 9/26/2019
- Growth and Impact of Silk Road Trade
- This will be one page
Growth of Silk Road Trade

Impacts of Silk Road Trade
As we have already seen, Mongol support and protection was the greatest reason that Silk Road Trade thrived again.
Domestication of pack animals like camels increased quantity of goods that could be traded as part of the Silk Road.

Merchants began relying on caravans for safety and easier travel.
Growth of Silk Road Trade

- Central Asian nomads settled at common stopping points on caravan routes developed into trading town called caravanserai

- Caravanserai provided:
  - Safe Rest areas
  - Fresh pack animals
  - Travel supplies
Growth of Silk Road Trade

- Trade was made easier by major advances in commerce and exchange of goods

- People were no longer interested in trading goods for goods or bartering

- Carrying massive quantities of coins became impractical and dangerous
Growth of Silk Road Trade

- Banking houses developed in Europe, Middle East and East Asia

- Banking houses:
  - Allowed people to safely store large amounts of wealth
  - Gave credit/loans to established caravans
Growth of Silk Road Trade

- Banking houses issued Bills of Exchange to safely/easily buy goods for trade without having to carry/use large amounts of currency.

- B.O.E = essentially a check and were usually for a specific amount or for specific item.

- These relied on existence of multiple banking house.
Growth of Silk Road Trade

- Use of paper currency spread from China to the Middle East and led to development of more commercial economies
Impacts of Silk Road

- Well placed Trading cities grew in wealth, power, and cultural importance as the Silk Road became more important.
Impacts of Silk Road Trade

- Oasis Town of Kashgar in West China was located at a place where multiple caravan routes met, making it an extremely important and wealthy city.

- Chinese merchants would buy European/Middle Eastern goods to take back to China.

- Middle Eastern and Europeans would buy goods to take West.

- Indian merchants bought and sold goods here as well.
Impacts of Silk Road Trade

- Central Asia group called Sogdian became important trading middlemen in Silk Road trade between East Asia and Middle East.

- As a result of this role Sogdian adopted Buddhism from East Asia and eventually converting fully to Islam.

- Sogdian Oasis town Samarkan became major meeting point/trading city.
Impacts of Silk Road Trade

- Demand for luxury goods continued to increase throughout Afro-Eurasia led to technological advancements in the production.

- Increasing demand led to merchants and artisan expanded creation of luxury items purely to trade outside of their empires.
Impacts of Silk Road Trade

- Islamic merchants/artisans exported Textiles/Rugs
Impact of Silk Road Trade

- Indian merchants/artisans exported cotton, textiles, and spices
Impacts of Silk Road Trade

- Chinese merchants/artisans exported silk, porcelain, iron and steel
Impacts of Silk Road Trade

- Nobles in Middle East and Europe began to rely on luxury goods as a way to PUBLICICALLY show status and wealth

- Many of the items people traded for were objectively worthless for survival, but made life more comfortable

- Or at least make your neighbors jealous…
Impacts of Silk Road Trade

- Sogdian Oasis town of Samarkand was in the middle of Silk Road and served as halfway point for many Chinese and Middle Eastern/European Merchants