

Asian Land-Based Empires: State Consolidation and Imperial Expansion

Asian land-based Empires during 1450-1750 had public displays to legitimize their power. Many of the expanding empires were looking for strategies of centralization to unify them. The empires expanded and conquered more people and land through many military methods, such as the use of gun-powder.

Rulers would use arts to show their political power to both their own empire and the other empires. Such art that was commonly used was **monumental architecture**.

- Helped legitimize power, or justify their rule
- The monumental architecture made the empire look more prosperous so the idea of being invaded or attack by another empire would look less appealing due to how successful the empire appeared to be

Rulers would also use **religious ideas** to legitimize their rule, because people outside a province wouldn't cooperate with each other and such, but having both of them sharing a common thing, religion, unification of the empire was deemed possible.

- Chinese Mandate of Heaven
 - The emperors were chosen by the gods to rule

States would also treat people of another race or religion that were different to their own differently, so that it could still benefit the empire's economy, all while limiting their capability of challenging the state authority.

- Manchu policies towards the Chinese
 - Aggression towards the Chinese's religion and culture
- Ottoman treatment of Dhimmis
 - **Dhimmis**: non-Muslims class that lacked freedom of movement, had additional taxes, restricted to where they could settle and restricted from certain jobs

The ways they brought in government elites as well as military leaders which was significant and a change from the older ways.

- Ottoman method of the devshirme showed racial discrimination and benefitted the military
 - **Devshirme**: kidnapping of boys from Christian families who would eventually be trained to join the military and to have some become military leaders and high administrators of the Empire
- Chinese Examination System: It allowed people who were not of the lowest class take an exam to be a government official. Originally you were born into power, but now you had to earn the power by scoring extremely high on the exam.

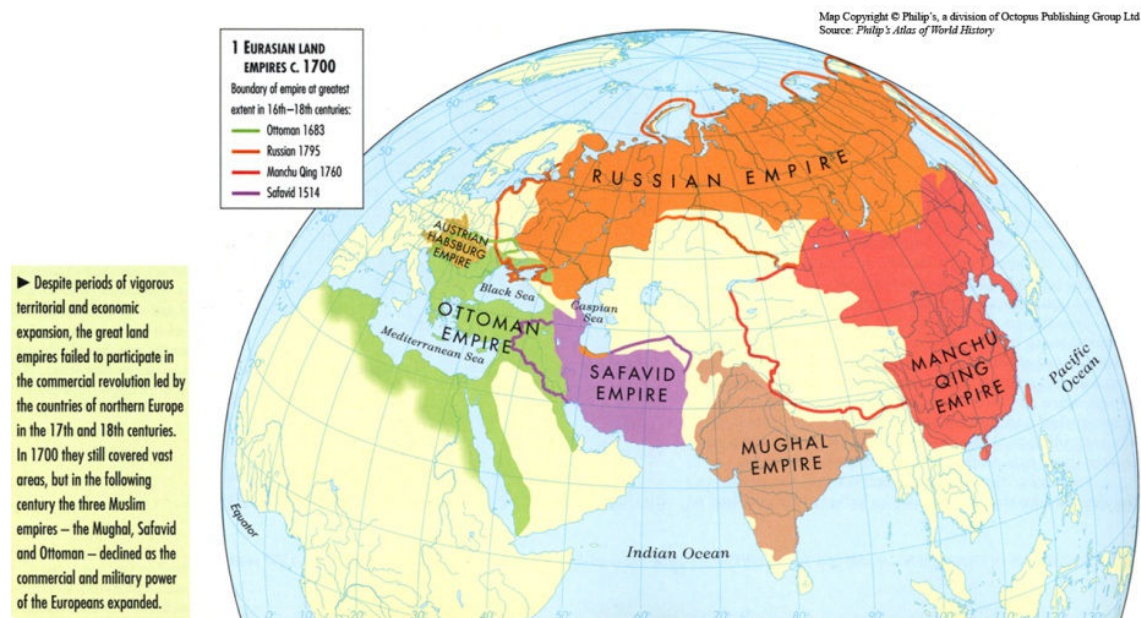
Imperial expansion methods that were successful involved the use of gun-powder, cannons, and armed trade. They were ahead in military technology, giving them a tactical advantage.

Manchu: the nomadic people located near the Chinese area during the Qing dynasty. They overthrew the dynasty before them. They were the ones who established the Qing dynasty. They also didn't want to let go of their "superior" nomadic ways, so they did not allow intermarriage between the Manchus and Chinese as a way to keep their ways.

Mughals: people who had settled in the present day India. They were able to have a prosperous economy because of the road system and the uniform currency that was unifying them. The people were mostly Muslim and under the reign of Aurangzeb they established many great monuments such as the Taj Mahal.

Ottomans: was a multicultural group of people who were located near Europe and the Mediterranean area. They were a very large empire that kept expanding, making allies and conquering new areas. When their military technology fell behind, they lost the Battle of Vienna, ending the expansion of the Ottomans.

Russians: after two centuries of Mongol rule, Russians were beginning to rise in power. When they started an empire, they began conquering land, which was for the most part successful despite how much resistance they had to go against that was provided by the nomads. After the addition of new lands and people, the people became Russians, adopting the language and Christianity.



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