Southeast Asia
1500-1750
January 23, 2014
Review

• Did many Japanese become Christians in the 16th century?

• What was a shogun?

• How did the government of Tokugawa Japan differ from the government of China?

• Were there many opportunities for entertainment in the cities of Tokugawa Japan?
Japan and its Neighbours

• What was the relationship of Japan to China? Did it pay tribute? How did it obtain goods from China? (Ebrey, 290)

• Japan was allowed a trading post on Korea’s southeast coast. Korean envoys visited Japan, and corresponded via Tsushima, an island between Japan and Korea.

• What was the relationship between Japan and the Ryūkyūs? (Ebrey, 290–91)

• The Dutch were allowed a trading post in Nagasaki harbour (Dejima Island) (Ebrey, 269)

• Except for the Dutch, Europeans were barred from Tokugawa Japan
Religion in Tokugawa Japan

- Shinto--primarily a worship of local deities, including the imperial family, including the imperial family.

- Buddhism -- used and controlled by the state, although it was divided into many different denomination (Zen, Pure Land, True Word, Nichiren—a unique Japanese form of Buddhism)

- Neo-Confucianism (Ebrey, 304) - appealed to some samurai because of its emphasis on loyalty and on self-discipline. However, Japan was not as Confucian as China, Korea, and Vietnam (no civil service exams).
• Neo-Confucianism was a favourite ideology of many samurai, and the official ideology in government schools because it subordinated the individual to the group.

• However, it was not applied to actual politics, except in the case of a few who asked why the shogun ruled instead of the emperor.

• Confucian ethics grew in popularity among the merchant classes (Shingaku)

• There was also a nativist reaction against Neo-Confucianism called “National Learning” (Kokugaku) which promoted Shinto ideas over Neo-Confucianism.
Southeast Asia today:
http://www.freeworldmaps.net/asia/southeastasia/political.html

http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/~haroldfs/messeas/images/frames.html

http://asiasociety.org/countries/traditions/introduction-southeast-asia

http://www.japanfocus.org/-denys-lombard/2371
From an article on South China and Southeast Asia as one economic unit!
Denys Lombard, Another "Mediterranean" in Southeast Asia. in Japan Focus
http://www.japanfocus.org/-denys-lombard/2371

Eastern and Western maritime routes to Asia:

http://people.hofstra.edu/Jean-paul_Rodrigue/GESA/maps/Map_Eastern%20Maritime%20Route%20to%20Asia.pdf
The Portuguese Empire

Lockard, pp.75—79

European-Asian Trade:

http://www.iro.umontreal.ca/~vaucher/Genealogy/Documents/Asia/EuropeanExploration.html

Map of Portuguese Empire

http://www.colonialvoyage.com/eng/maps/portuguese/asia.html

and

http://courses.wcupa.edu/jones/his101/web/38compar.htm
the Spanish Empire

Lockard, pp.79-85

Spanish Empire

http://lrc.salemstate.edu/hispanics/history.htm
The Philippines

Lockard, pp. 79-85

Map of the Philippines


Maritime Southeast Asia:

The Dutch arrive

Lockard, pp 85-89, 93-97

• Preceded by the Portuguese and the Spanish.

• Failed to kick the Spanish out of the Philippines, but defeated the Portuguese in Melaka and on Java, though the Portuguese held on to half of Timor. (Lockard, p. 85)

• Established a base in Jakarta in 1619 and in Taiwan in 1624.

• Slowly began bringing the various kingdoms of Indonesia, especially in Java and Sumatra, under their control. They planned to use the land and people of those islands to produce commercial crops, such as sugar cane and coffee.

• Let Chinese there handle much of the trade between Jakarta and China.
The Dutch Empire

Dutch Empire:

http://www.saburchill.com/history/chapters/empires/0004.html

and

http://www.conservapedia.com/Dutch_Empire
The Dutch in Taiwan

Dutch in Taiwan:

Ebook on-one
How Taiwan Become Chinese: Dutch, Spanish, and Han Colonization in the Seventeenth Century
http://www.gutenberg-e.org/andrade/
Islam
In Southeast Asia in 1650

Spread of Islam to Southeast Asia:

http://jspivey.wikispaces.com/Corie+and+Erica

http://islaminsoutheastasia.weebly.com/history.html

Islam in Southeast Asia in 1650

Francis Robinson, ed Atlas of the Islamic World since 1500
( New York: Facts on File, 1982) p. 91
The limited Impact of the West

• No overall Western scientific or technological superiority (Lockard, pp. 91--92)

Except in military, nautical, and astronomical matters.

• Much was happening in Asia at that time that had nothing or little to do with the West.

• Impact on the West: Why does Starbucks sell coffee from Java and Sumatra?
Asia Before Imperialism

- Mughal empire in South Asia strong in the 1600s.
- New Burmese, Thai, and Vietnamese governments in the 16th century.
- Islam gains ground in maritime Southeast Asia after 1500.
- China and India were the two economic powerhouses in the 1600s and 1700s.
- Japan grew wealthier after 1600.
- The West was drawn to Asia by Asian wealth.
Southeast Asia

• Three main regions:

• Vietnam -- resembles China in many ways (Confucian government, Mahayana Buddhism, etc.

• Mainland states (besides Vietnam) Kings in which kings ruled with the help of aristocrats. Theravada rather than Mahayana Buddhism (Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia)

• Maritime states and societies: More Muslim than Buddhist. Did not have the large states we see on the mainland. (Malay peninsula, Indonesia [Java, Sumatra, Bali, etc), Timor, Borneo, the Philippines.)
Vietnam
Lockard, 90-91

• Didn’t take the shape it has now until 1802. Before that, much of the area in the deep south was Khmer, not Vietnamese. Moreover, even though Vietnam had a monarchy, from the 16th century until the end of the 18th, there were actually two rulers, one in the north and one in the south, neither one of them from the Le family though technically the Le family were supposed to be the actual rulers of the entire country. (Lockard, pp. 59--62)

• French missionaries entered Vietnam in the 17th century. Created a way to write Vietnamese in Roman letters. However, the governments of Vietnam tended not to be very friendly toward the French and their Vietnamese converts.

• Became more Confucian after 1802 than it had ever been before.
Siam (Ayutthaya)  
(Later Known As Thailand)

• A powerful kingdom called Ayutthaya fought with both the Khmers and the Burmese. It had a cosmopolitan capital, with around 20,000 Chinese living there in 1700.

• In 1782, a general who was a son of a Chinese immigrant seized control of the government and established a new dynasty, the one that still sits on the Thai throne today.

• Siamese kings were powerful in their capital but their power weakened significantly away from the capital region. The king had to rely on the help of aristocratic families to govern. (Lockard, p. 57)
Toungoo
Lockard, 52-54

• A state based in what is now Myanmar that was the strongest state in Southeast Asia in the 16th century.

• Fought with the Thais.

• Engaged in trade with China

• Fell in 1752 to a Burmese general.
Southeast Asia in 1800

Centers of Power in Southeast Asia at the end of the Eighteenth Century

The 17th-century downturn

- The strong governments that arose in the 16th century started fighting among themselves as trade declined, leaving less for those governments to support themselves in the style to which they had become accustomed.

- Why did trade decline?

- Japan stopped exporting as much silver, and less silver flowed into Asia from Latin America.

- the weather turned unfavourable (a “little ice age”) for many commercial crops