

# Chapter 2

## The Age of Exploration

### 2-1 Notes

Europeans set sail

### The Commercial Revolution

1100-1200...European prosperity. Asian trade...population boom.

### The Black Death

1. BUBONIC PLAGUE!!!! RATS! ...& fleas
  - a. brought back on trade ships from Asia.
  - b. 1348-50 75 million died...1/3 of Europe's population.
  - c. Ring around the Rosey,

### The Economy Grows

1. Plague ends and the economy starts to recover
2. smaller population = labor shortage
  - a. workers got paid more
  - b. more spending \$
3. Localized product specialization
  - a. France And Italy...wine
  - b. England wool
  - c. Venice...glass
4. Far away trade resumes...gutsy!!!

### Banks and Bankers

1. Medici Family(Florence Italy) Established the first banks.
  - a. pay back w/ interest...making money on money.
2. Joint Stock Companies let individuals invest in companies to gain a share of the company.

### The Renaissance...

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“the rebirth of learning and art in Europe”...1350s-1600

#### Education and Ideas

1. Greek and Roman ideas rediscovered
  - a. had been hidden in monasteries of Europe
2. new ideas about
  - a. art
  - b. science
  - c. technology
3. Encouraged exploration of the seas!

#### Science and Technology

1. European thinkers took Arabian ideas and expanded on them.
  - a. translated texts into Latin
2. new tech allowed sailors to navigate without landmarks
  - a. astrolabe
  - b. magnetic compass
3. printing press!!
  - a. Gutenberg 1450
  - b. made print accessible to the masses
    - i. 15-20 million texts produced by 1500
      1. The Bible was the most commonly written book during this time

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#### The Growth of the Arts

1. New techniques
  - a. Perspective art looked more real...lifelike
    - i. angles
    - ii. depth
    - iii. scale
  - b. da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raffaello, Botticelli
    - i. check this out about the development of the Renaissance  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uhG7rKfM8ws>
    - ii. or this...  
[http://teachertube.com/viewVideo.php?video\\_id=28329](http://teachertube.com/viewVideo.php?video_id=28329)

#### Trade with Africa and Asia

Greatest profits came from trade with Asia and Africa

#### Trade Risks and Rewards

1. Gold, slaves, ivory, and salt (preservative) were the primary trade items from Africa
2. Silks and spices from China
  - a. Silk was made into fine clothing
  - b. Spices were for cooking and scent.
    - i. pepper, cinnamon, ginger, currants, saffron...etc
      1. 1 ton of pepper...
  - c. trips were dangerous
    - i. open water
    - ii. thieves
  - d. each step in the process bumped the price up a bit

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#### The Search for a Sea Route

1. Portugal, Spain, , France, and England were looking for an alternate route to Asia
  - a. traditional routes were dangerous
  - b. wanted access to Asia
    - i. Venice held a monopoly on the route
  - c. many found Asian culture interesting
  - d. wanted to spread Christianity to Asia
2. The answer was a route west to go east...

#### The Portuguese Explore Africa

1. Location on the Atlantic encouraged Portugal to the sea.

#### Portugal Takes to the Seas

1. Henry the Navigator
  - a. Portuguese King...often considered the father of the Age of Exploration.
    - i. gathered map makers, ship builders, sailors,
    - ii. improved technology
      1. compass
      2. caravel..."the best ship that sailed seas"
  - b. sent ships along the west coast of Africa to find a sea route to Asia. Felt life if he didn't, no one would
  - c. died in 1460
2. Bartolomeu Dias finally found the route around the southern tip of Africa
  - a. named the tip the Cape of Good Hope

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#### The Slave Trade

1. During their exploration of Africa, the Portuguese established small trading post on the shores of western Africa to resupply ships and trade with locals
2. eventually became interested in trading for slaves
  - a. Some merchants already had slaves from wars or raiding.
3. broke up families and communities
  - a. took the young, strong,
    - i. impact..?