

I. Traditional peasant agriculture increased and changed, plantations expanded, and demand for labor increased. These changes both fed and responded to growing global demand for raw materials and finished products.

A. Peasant labor intensified in many regions (such as the development of frontier settlements in Russian Siberia, cotton textile production in India or silk textile production in China).

B. Slavery in Africa continued both the traditional incorporation of slaves into households and the export of slaves to the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean.

C. The Atlantic slave trade increased demand for slaves and altered male-female ratios in Africa.

D. The purchase and transport of slaves supported the growth of the plantation economy throughout the Americas.

E. Spanish colonists transformed Amerindian labor systems (such as introducing the *encomienda* and *hacienda* systems or changing the Inca *mit'a* labor obligation into a forced labor system).

F. Europeans used coerced and semicoerced labor (such as indentured servitude or impressment).

II. As new social and political elites changed, they also restructured new ethnic, racial and gender hierarchies.

A. Both imperial conquests and widening global economic opportunities contributed to the formation of new political and economic elites (such as the Manchus in China, Creole elites in Spanish America, European gentry or urban commercial entrepreneurs in all major port cities in the world).

B. The power of existing political and economic elites (such as the zamindars in the Mughal Empire, the nobility in Europe) fluctuated as they confronted new challenges to their ability to affect the policies of the increasingly powerful monarchs and leaders.

C. Some notable gender and family restructuring occurred, including the demographic changes in Africa that resulted from the slave trades (as well as the dependence of European men on Southeast Asian women for conducting trade in that region or the smaller size of European families).

D. The massive demographic changes in the Americas resulted in new ethnic and racial classifications (such as mestizo, mulatto or Creole).

Key Concept 4.3. State Consolidation and Imperial Expansion

I. Rulers used a variety of methods to legitimize and consolidate their power.

A. Visual displays of political power (such as monumental architecture, urban plans, courtly literature or the visual arts) helped legitimize and support rulers.

B. Rulers used religious ideas (such as European notions of divine right, the Safavid use of Shiism, the Mexica or Aztec practice of human sacrifice, or the Chinese emperors' public performance of Confucian rituals) to legitimize their rule.

C. States treated different ethnic and religious groups in ways that utilized their economic contributions while limiting their ability to challenge the authority of the state (such as the Ottoman treatment of non-Muslim subjects, Manchu policies toward Chinese)

D. Recruitment and use of bureaucratic elites, as well as the development of military professionals (such as the Ottoman devshirme, Chinese examination system), became more common among rulers who wanted to maintain centralized control over their populations and resources.

E. Rulers used tribute collection and tax farming to generate revenue for territorial expansion.

II. Imperial expansion relied on the increased use of gunpowder, cannons and Armed trade to establish large empires in both hemispheres.

A. Europeans established new trading-post empires in Africa and Asia, which proved profitable for the rulers and merchants involved in new global trade networks, but these empires also affected the power of the states in interior West and Central Africa.

B. Land empires, including the Manchus, Mughals, Ottomans and Russians, expanded dramatically in size.

C. European states, including Portugal, Spain, the Netherlands, France and Britain, established new maritime empires in the Americas.

II. Competition over trade routes

(such as Omani-European rivalry in the Indian Ocean or piracy in the Caribbean), **state rivalries** (such as the Thirty Years War or the Ottoman-Safavid conflict) **and local resistance** (such as bread riots) **all provided significant challenges to state consolidation and expansion.**