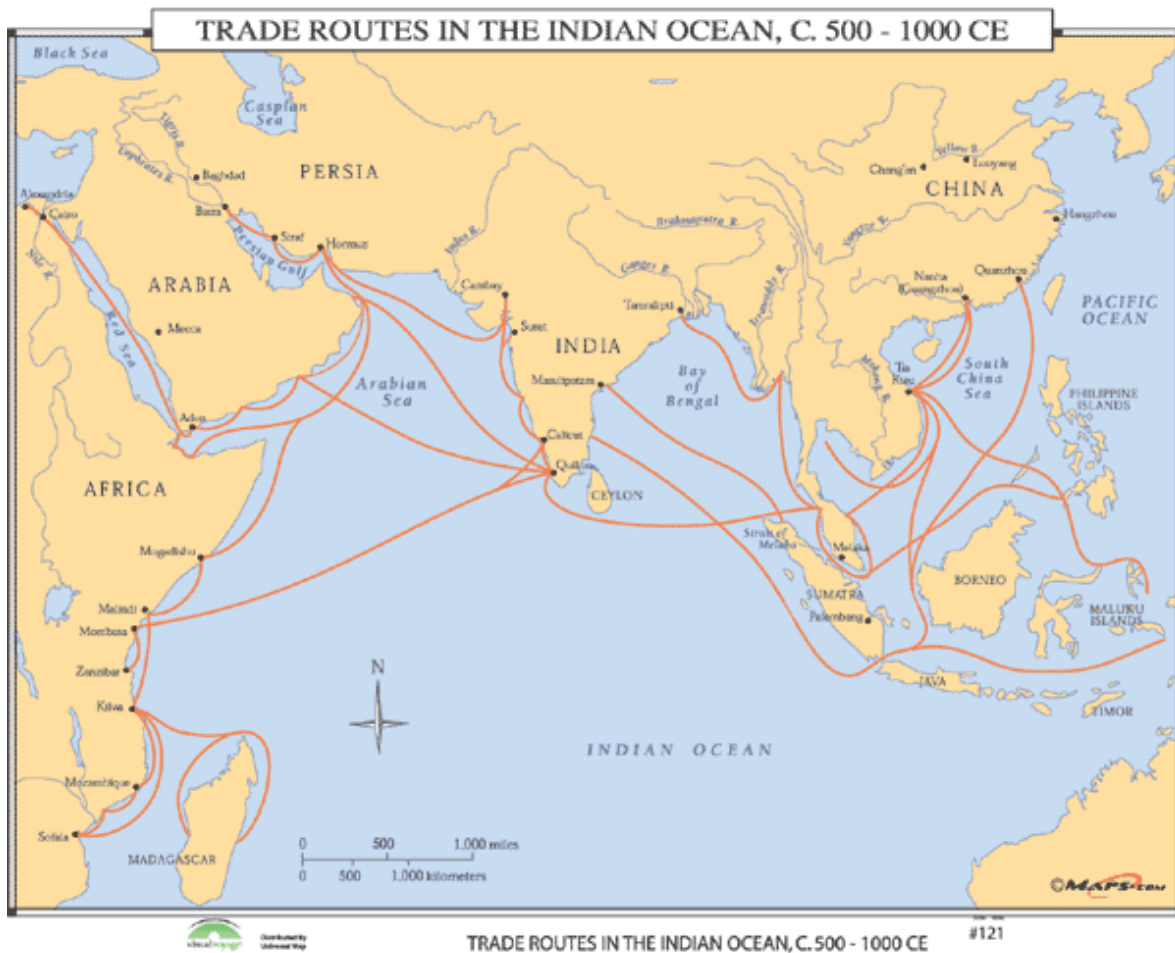


Indian Ocean Trade

India became the trading center until the Europeans rounded the Cape of Good Hope Americas were discovered and colonized by the 1600s.

Junks from China and Dhows from the Middle East and East Africa sailed with the prevailing seasonal winds that changed direction between the monsoon seasons.



Indian port cities became Emporia, clearing houses and warehouses for this cross-cultural trade networks. These cities continued to thrive once the Europeans arrived and prior to colonization by the British. In the Indian Ocean basin, specialized production increased especially cotton, leather, stone, carpets, iron and steel.

Cross-Cultural Trade in the Indian Ocean Basin

Arabia

From
Coffee
Incense
Horses
Carpets

To and Origins
Silk, Porcelain ware, Tea (China)
Gold, Ivory, Slaves (East Africa)
Spices [pepper, nutmeg, cinnamon] (Indonesia and Sri Lanka)
Wood products (Indonesia and Sri Lanka)

India

From
Cotton cloth
Indigo
Pearls & Gems

To and Origins
Silver Bars (Europe)
Minted silver (Europe)

China

From
Silk
Precious metals
Sugar
Tea

To and Origins
Luxury Products (Europe)
Spices (Indonesia)
Cloth (India)
Silver (Europe)

Japan

From
Precious metals
Lacquer
Silk

To and Origins
Porcelain ware (China)
Luxury Products (Europe and United States)
Spices (Indonesia)

Indonesia

From
Pepper
Nutmeg
Cloves
Teak Wood

To and Origins
Cloth (India)
Ivory (East Africa)
Silver (Europe)
Gold (China)

Sri Lanka

From
Cinnamon
Pepper
Elephants
Sappanwood

To and Origins
Cloth (India)
Luxury Goods (Europe)

Europe

From
Silver Bars
Minted Silver

To and Origins
Spices (Arabia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka)
Coffee (Arabia)
Sugar (China)
Tea (China, Japan)
Wood (Indonesia, Sri Lanka)