



Land-Based Empires

Unit 3

c. 1450 C.E. - c. 1750 C.E.



Empires Expand

- Imperial expansion relied on gunpowder weapons, cannons, and armed trade
- Manchu, Mughals, Ottomans, Safavids, Russia, and Songhai
- Political and religious disputes led to rivalries and conflict



Empires: Administration

- Bureaucratic elites and/or military professionals emerge (devshirme, samurai)
- Religious ideas (Mexica human sacrifice, European divine right, Islam)
- Art and monumental architecture (Qing imperial portraits, Incan sun temple, Mughal mausolea and mosques, European palaces like Versailles)
- Tax collection systems (Mughal zamindar, Ottoman tax farming, Mexica tribute, Ming taxes in currency)



Empires: Belief Systems

- The Protestant Reformation creates a break between Protestant and Catholic traditions
- Political rivalries between the Ottoman and Safavid empires intensifies the Sunni-Shi'a divide in Islam
- Sikhism develops in South Asia in a context of interactions between Hinduism and Islam