

Chapter 14 A Recap: European and Asian Commerce

Guiding Question: How did the Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, and British initiatives in Asia differ from one another?

Portuguese

- Set up “**trading post empires**” to control trade routes of the Indian Ocean
- Used naval power to enforce “cartaz” system of economic regulations
- Amid existing states and empires in South Asia (Mughal)

Spanish

- Established “**colonial rule**” over Philippine Islands
- Drew on experience in the Americas; missionary impulse of Catholics
- Southeast Asia lacked a central or dominant authority making colonization easier

Dutch and British

- Organized ventures through “**private trading companies**”
- Economic efficiency = raised money and shared risks
- Political Power = chartered by empire to make war and govern territories

WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF EACH EUROPEAN EMPIRES CONTACT WITH ASIAN COMMERCE?

While initial Portuguese control faded amid existing Asia powers and increasing European competition, Spanish, Dutch, and British efforts proved more profitable and long-lasting in Asia. Spanish colonization resulted in direct rule over the Philippines, whereas the Dutch and British maintained direct economic control that often weakened regional authority and long term economic growth of Southeast Asia.

