In the period from 600 C.E. to 1450 C.E. improved transportation technologies and commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade, and expanded the geographical range of active trade networks.

***Develop an argument that analyzes economic continuities and changes in trade networks within Afro-Eurasia in the period 600 C.E. to 1450 C.E.***

1. **Introduction**
   1. Prior to the emergence of post-classical interactions, the establishment of large regional civilizations and regular interregional trade served to catalyze the practice of economic interaction between neighboring civilizations. With the growth of transregional networks of communication and commerce between 600 BCE to 600 CE, the pathway to a more economic, or mercantilist perspective of the market was formed. Thus, it grew to be able to provide an array of opportunities for the economic world to undergo a variety of changes as the economic status of the globe evolved and adapted to the ever changing traditions of the progressing globe.
   2. Claim
      1. The historic pattern of interaction and trade across geographical regions and cultures has been a phenomenon that has persisted throughout time, from the earliest established societies to contemporary time periods. However, the post-classical civilizations present from 600 to 1450 CE experienced a drastic increase in transportation technologies and commercial practices that accelerated international commerce and cross-cultural interaction in the Afro-Eurasian hemisphere.

II. **Body Paragraph #1**

1. Throughout history, there has been a consistent pattern of interaction and trade between established civilizations regardless of the available technology and methodology present in those time periods.
2. Historical evidence:
   1. Beginnings of trade that go back to the River Valley Civilizations, where, for example, Mesopotamia traded with the Indus River Valley societies.
   2. Interconnection between nations within Afro-Eurasia continued in previously established trade routes such as the Silk Roads, the Sand Routes, and the oceanic routes implemented in the Indian Ocean region.
3. Though civilizations have not always had the same technological means to trade at the same scale throughout time, the demonstrated interactions between societies have been consistent in their presence ever since the earliest River Valley Civilizations.

III. **Body Paragraph #2**

1. The emerging and improved transportation means, along with new navigational technology, greatly expedited and revolutionized trade in the post-classical era, fostering cross-cultural connections and an increase in circulation of goods.
2. Historical evidence:

* Ships = junks, caravels
* Navigational techniques, such as
  + Compass
  + lateen sail
  + astrolabe
* Goods produced

- Bulk items (steel, stone, coral, iron and building material)

- Lux. items (silk, gold, salt)

1. The slew of navigational and transportation technologies that surfaced during this time period allowed the growing merchant class to expedite trade and cultivate a pattern of increased commerce throughout the world.

IV. **Body Paragraph #3**

1. As commerce and technology evolved, the post-classical civilizations developed new strategies of organizing finances that allowed a push for societies to increase trade through 1450.
2. Historical Evidence
   1. Credit
   2. Paper money
   3. Banks
3. With the growth of economic commerce throughout the post-classical period, new strategies allowed financial institutions to increase trade. When paper money was created, people were now able to carry more money with less weight, therefore increasing amount of product bought. This aided in the increase in economic activity within developing societies.

V.  **Conclusion:**

Ultimately, it can be observed that the advent of new technologies and economic institutions in the postclassical era marked a revolutionary change in trade in which commerce and interaction was accelerated. However, it is equally true that the persistent patterns of economic movement throughout history continue beyond the developments made through 1450. The Columbian Exchange and the Transatlantic Slave Trade are examples of how trade continued to expand geographically with the discovery of the New World in the early modern era with the foundation built by the societies of the postclassical period. The economic methods and functions that shaped civilizations during this time would continue to be improved upon and bring international trade to unprecedented heights.