

THE OVERSEAS CHINESE

A. Pre-European Era – fleeting contacts

1. Voyages of Admiral Zheng

He (1405-33) – the Ming dynasty exception

Zheng He's vs. Columbus' Ships



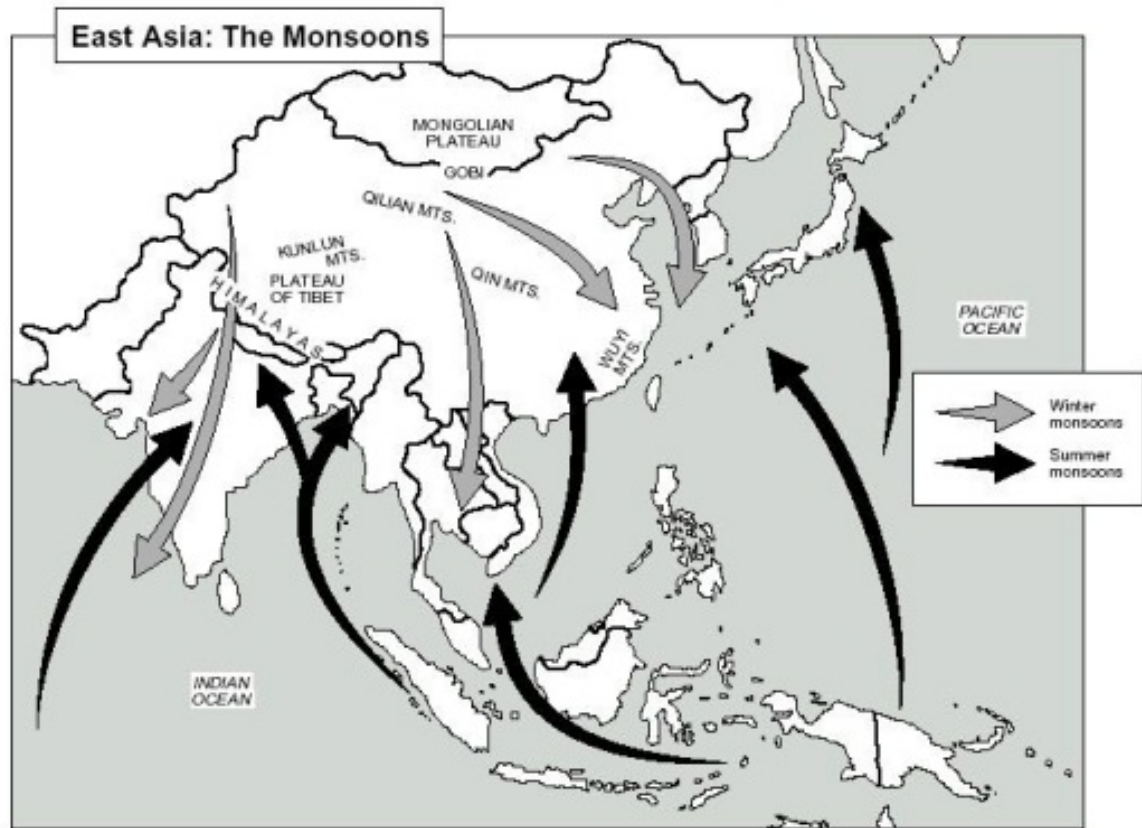
2. Trade & trade winds


a. some cultural

exchanges, e.g. food

b. some intermarriages

The Winds of Trade




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3. Chinese merchants not as key as Indians or Arabs
 4. Vietnam – the land link exception

B. Symbiotic European-Chinese Relationship

1. 1511 Portuguese arrive in Malacca (and attack)
2. “Nats on the Horizon”


Portuguese at Malacca/Melaka



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3. European need for port domination
 - a. distance from home
 - b. little skills & few goods
 - c. no networks vs. other merchants

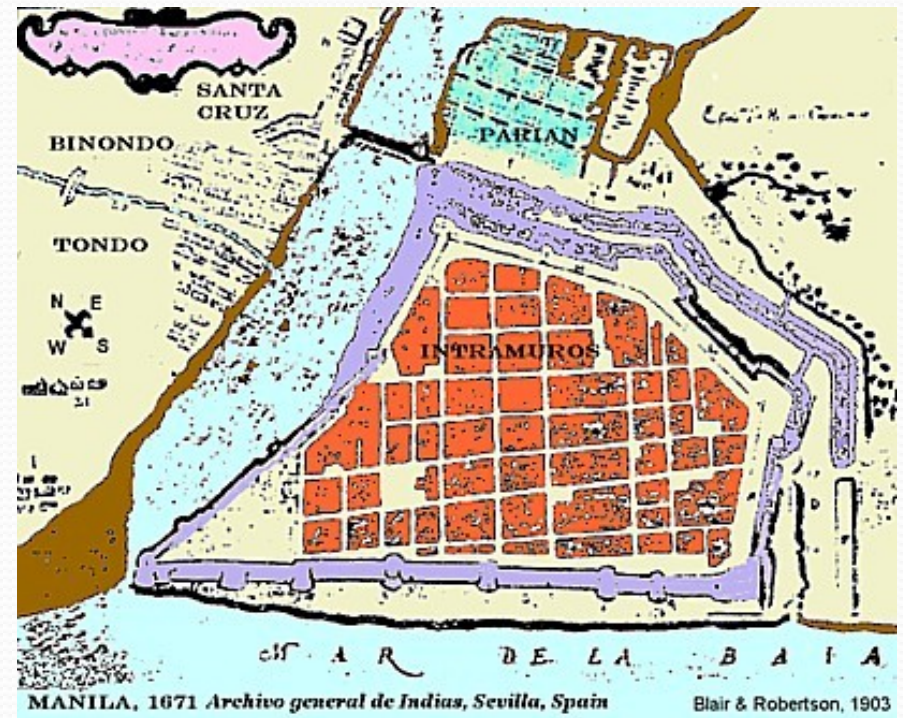
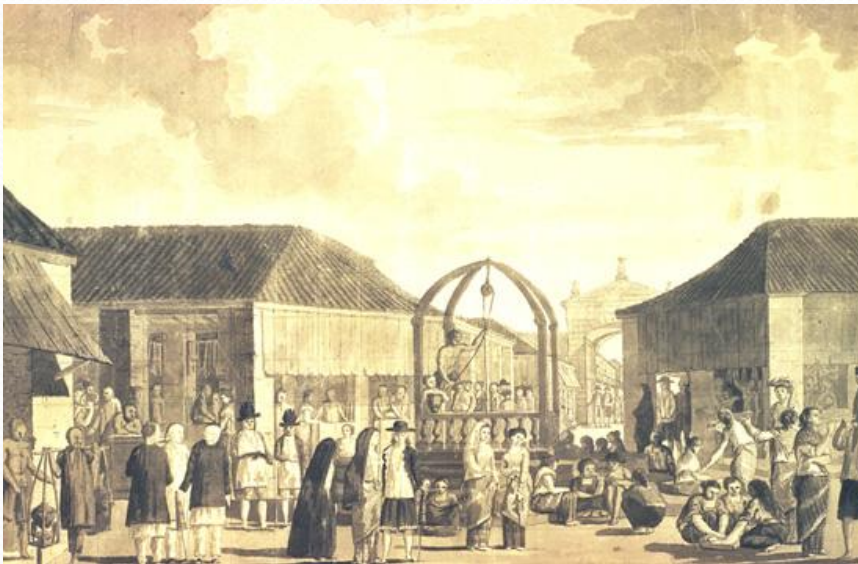
4. Chinese need ally vs. Indians & Arabs



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5. Relationship of suspicion
(Spanish-Philippines)
 - a. enforced residence in the
“Parian” ghetto under Ft.
Santiago’s guns

Chinese under Spanish Rule

Fort Santiago & the Chinese Parian





b. restrictions on numbers
of entries

c. local marriage possible
only with conversion

d. bloody riots & Spanish
military attacks

C. Local Rulers & Chinese

1. Short-term alliance for mutual benefit

- a. Malay tin mining


- b. specific limits & no women allowed

Tin Mining in Malaya



Chinese Life in Thailand



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2. Long-term controlled immigration & assimilation
 - a. encouraged by ruling Chakri dynasty
 - 1.) recognized value of industrious immigrants

2.) increase strength vs.

Europeans

3.) intermarriage with elite



Thai families





3. Chinese-Filipino mestizos

a. descendants of early
immigrants

b. assimilation via maternal
extended family



c. can travel outside of Parian

d. capital & provincial land

→ develop agriculture

exports

e. key role in anti-Spanish

nationalism

Chinese Mestizos & Role in the Philippine Revolution



Mestiza

Jose Rizal
Mariano Limjap
& Family



D. European Use of Chinese

1. Divide & conquer in Malaya

a. 19th century racial

beliefs & hierarchies

b. economic division of the

country & its legacy



2. The hated “enforcer” in
Indonesia

a. local tax collectors


b. concession for local
opium monopolies

3. Creation of Singapore – from Malay village to a Chinese city



E. Chinese Occupy a Middle Level

1. European dominate large economic sectors – the Chinese are junior partners

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2. Merchant link between
European goods & natives
 3. Merchant-moneylenders
invest in agriculture



4. Native resentment

a. Chinese seen as
“Shylocks”

b. seen as parasitic closed
community that does not
share its wealth



c. post-independence results

1.) repressive laws vs.

language & schools

2.) exploitation (bribes &
kidnapping)



3.) political marginalization

– esp. in Malaysia

4.) massacres – Malaysia

1969 & Indonesia 1998