



A Growing Economy

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A Growing Economy

- Main Idea (Objective):



- The Tang Dynasty strengthened China's economy by supporting farming and trade.

A Growing Economy

- Lecture Focus (Essential Question)



- Do you know anyone who drinks tea or wears silk clothing? Both of these items were first produced in China... Lets see how farming changed under the Tang Dynasty.

A Growing Economy

- When the Han Dynasty in China collapsed in the 200's C.E., it was a disaster for China's economy.



- As fighting began, cities were damaged and farms were burned all throughout China.

A Growing Economy

- Artisans made fewer goods, farmers grew fewer crops and merchants had less items to trade.



- Under the Tang Dynasty, these problems were completely resolved.

Why Did Farming Improve?

- When the Tang rulers took power in 618 C.E., they brought peace to the countryside and gave more land to farmers to care for.



- As a result, farmers were able to make many advances.

Why Did Farming Improve?

- They improved irrigation and introduced new ways of growing their crops.



- Farmers also developed new kinds of rice, which grew well in poor soil, produced more per acre, grew faster and were resistant to disease.

Why Did Farming Improve?

- These changes helped farmers grow more and more rice.



- China's farmers also began to grow tea, which became a really popular drink.

Why Did Farming Improve?



- They made improvements in other crops as well...and with more food available, the number of people in China greatly increased.

Why Did Farming Improve?

- At the same time, more people moved southward, where rice grew abundantly in the Chang Jiang Valley.
- This led to the rise of new Cities.



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Why Did Farming Improve?

- **Questions:**
- 1) Why was the collapse of the Han Dynasty a disaster for China's economy?
- 2) How were farms changed when the Tang Dynasty took over China?
- 3) What were the benefits of the new Rice developed under the Tang Dynasty?

Why Did Farming Improve?

- Questions:
- 1) Why was the collapse of the Han Dynasty a disaster for China's economy?
 - With fighting came destroyed cities, burned farms, fewer goods and less trade
- 2) How were farms changed when the Tang Dynasty took over China?
 - More land was given to farmers, improved irrigation and new growing methods
- 3) What were the benefits of the new Rice developed under the Tang Dynasty?
 - It grew in poor soil, produced more per acre, grew faster and was resistant to disease

China's Trade Grows

- Tang rulers also had new and improved roads and waterways constructed.



- These changes allowed people to travel within and outside China much easier.

China's Trade Grows

- One of these roads was the **Tea Horse Road** which was a network of caravan paths winding through the mountains of Southwest China.



- It is also sometimes referred to as the **Southern Silk Road**.

China's Trade Grows



China's Trade Grows



China's Trade Grows

- Chinese merchants were able to increase trade with new cultures and people that were located all over Asia including Western China and India.



- The Silk Road, now under the Tang control, once again bustled with activity.

China's Trade Grows

- One of the items traded by the Chinese was **Silk Fabrics**.



- This product gave the roads its name and was popular in markets to the west of China.

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China's Trade Grows

- Remember **silk** is unique to China and areas like the continent of Europe desired this product substantially!



- What was the common fabric in Ancient Europe?

China's Trade Grows

- In addition, China traded tea, steel, paper and porcelain.



- **Porcelain** – is made of fine clay and baked in extremely high temperatures

China's Trade Grows



- The so-called Peace Wall of the Porcelain House is decorated with over 600 ancient Chinese porcelain vases

China's Trade Grows



- In return for silk, countries traded China products such as gold, silver, precious stones, jade and fine woods.

China's Trade Grows



China's Trade Grows



- In addition, the Tang opened new ports along China's coast to boost trade!

China's Trade Grows



- Many of these ports are still open today!

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China's Trade Grows



China's Trade Grows

- **Questions:**
- **1)** What did Tang officials build that made travel easier in and outside of China?
- **2)** What were some products that the Tang Dynasty were bringing to China?
- **3)** What areas and countries did China's trade routes connect with?

China's Trade Grows

- **Questions:**
- **1) What did Tang officials build that made travel easier with and outside of China?**
 - **Roads and Waterways**
- **2) What were some products that the Tang Dynasty were bringing to China?**
 - **Gold, silver, jade, precious stones and fine woods**
- **3) What areas and countries did China's trade routes connect with?**
 - **All over Asia, India and Western China**

China's Trade Grows

- Connecting to the Past:
- Answer the following question in an open ended, one paragraph response.
- Why do you think silk is still expensive today?



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China's Trade Grows

- **Reading Check:**
 - Answer the following question in an open ended, one paragraph response.
- **Cause and Effect:** How did the new kinds of rice developed under the Tang Dynasty help its population grow?