

Ideas Travel the Silk Road

► Time and Change

1. Turn to pages 44–45 in the Atlas. Use the timeline at the top of the page to find two dates that were significant for two of the world's religions—Christianity and Islam. Write each event and the year it occurred on the lines below.

Events

Year

- a. _____
- b. _____
- _____

► Gathering the Facts

2. Read the introduction. Write **T** next to each of the following statements if it is true or **F** if the statement is false.
- a. The cultures of Asia, Europe, and Africa were isolated from each other between 400 and 1500. _____
- b. The spread of religion helped unite large regions. _____
- c. Trade and travel connected places that were far apart. _____

► Places, Regions, and Landscapes

3. Look at pictures A, B, C, D, and E and read their captions. Match each invention with the region it was invented. (Some regions may be used more than once, some may not be used at all.)

Invention

Region

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| a. Hindu-Arabic numerals • | • Arab world |
| b. Compass • | • India |
| c. Stirrups • | • China |
| d. Paper • | • Central Asia |

► People and Cultures

4. Look at pictures A and E for examples of Arabic and Chinese writing. Also look at chart D, "Development of Chinese Characters," on page 21. Next to each statement below, write **A** if it describes Arabic writing or **C** if it describes Chinese writing.
- It is written horizontally. _____
 - It is written vertically. _____
 - Each character represents an idea. _____
 - Each letter represents a sound. _____
 - It looks the most like our writing. _____

★ History Through Maps

5. Look at the map, "Silk Road and Other Trade Routes." Use the information to answer the following questions.
- What was the main trade route between Asia and the Mediterranean region?

 - Where did the plague originate? _____
 - In which region were spices the main sources of trade?

 - What were the main sources of trade goods found in China?
_____, _____, _____
 - If you wanted to trade frankincense for cotton by sea, what two cities would be along your trade route? _____ and _____
 - What goods came from the Mediterranean region?
_____ and _____
 - What city marked the beginning of the Silk Road in the east? _____
What city marked the beginning of the Silk Road in the west? _____

UNIT 4 Empires and Cultures of Asia

395 to 1641

622 Islam begins to spread.

B.C. (B.C.E.) < > A.D. (C.E.)

500

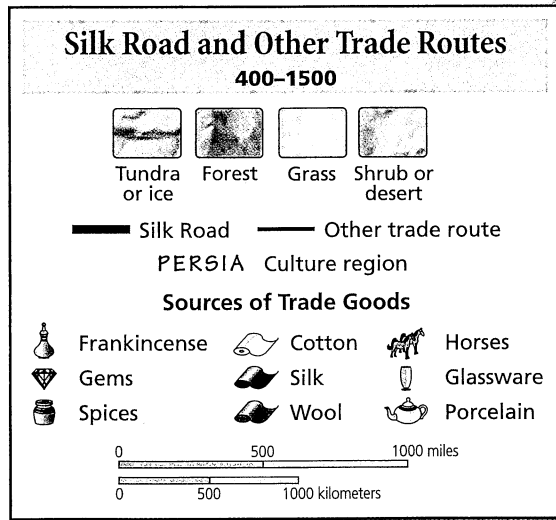
395 Byzantine Empire separates from Western Roman Empire.

By 620 Hindu-Arabic numbers used in India.

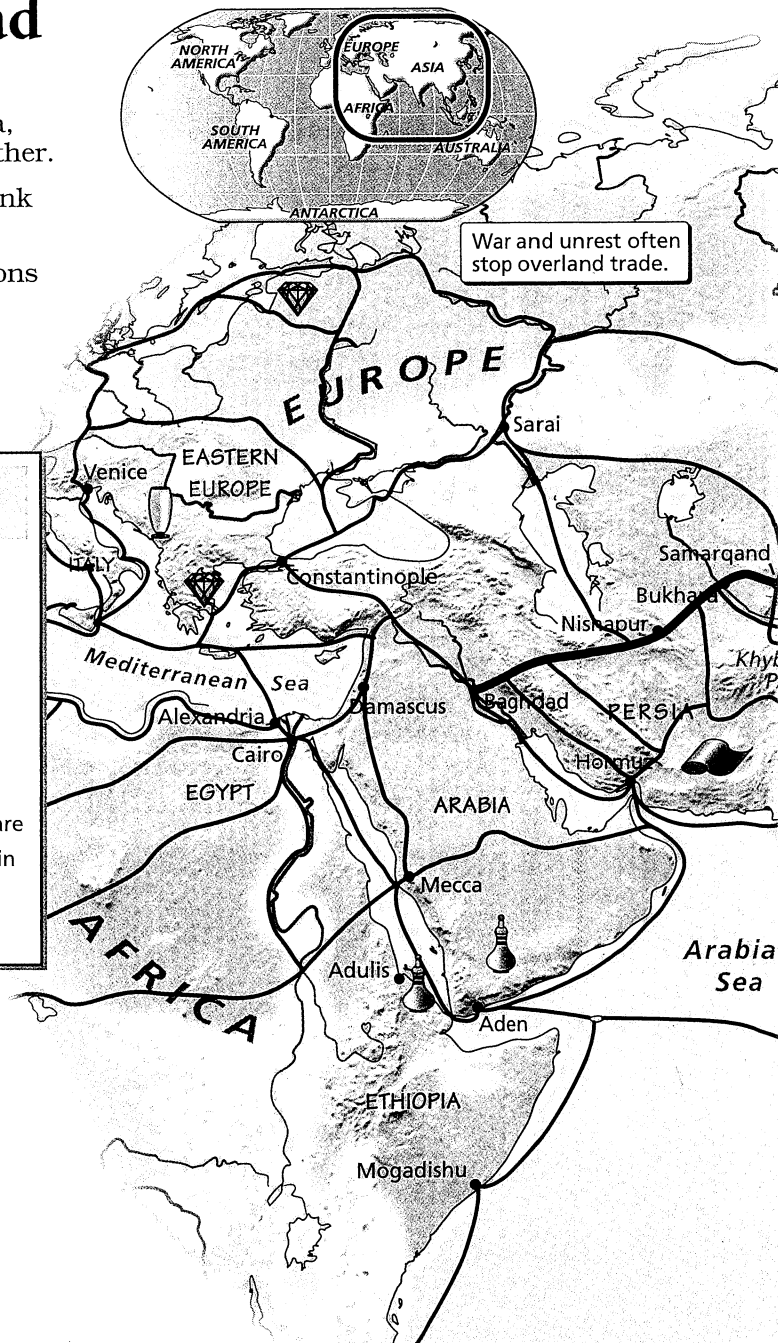
Ideas Travel the Silk Road

Between A.D. 400 and 1500, cultures of Asia, Africa, and Europe came into closer contact with one another.

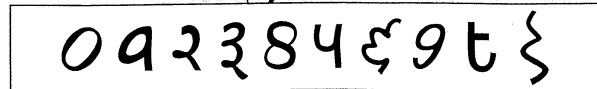
- The Silk Road and other trade routes helped link distant areas. Trade and travel increased.
- Traders and armies brought ideas and inventions from one region to another.
- Religions such as Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism linked large regions.



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A From the 700s to the 1400s, the Arab world was the center of scientific discovery. Many advances were made in science and medicine, as shown by this text on the human eye.



B The digits 0-9 that are used by people all over the world today are called Hindu-Arabic numerals. This system was developed in India over hundreds of years and then spread westward.

800-1200
Khmer kingdoms flourish in Southeast Asia.

1054
Eastern and Western Christianity split into two separate churches.

1398
Mongol ruler Timur invades Delhi.

1453
Ottoman Turks conquer Byzantine Empire.

1000

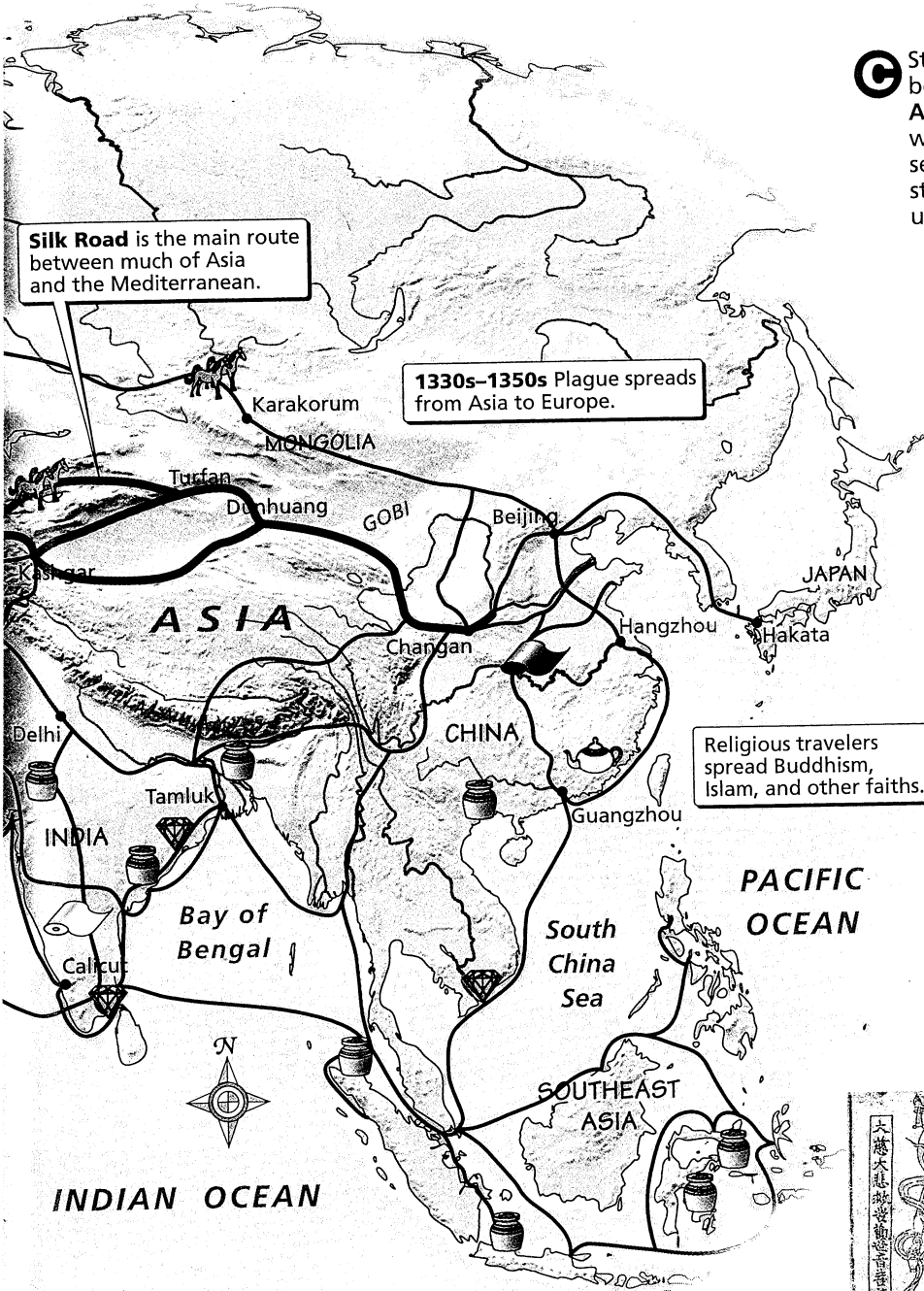
1500

751
Chinese expansion into Islamic lands is halted.

1180-1603
Japan is engulfed by civil wars.

1279-1368
Mongols conquer and rule China.

1640
Japan expels European traders.

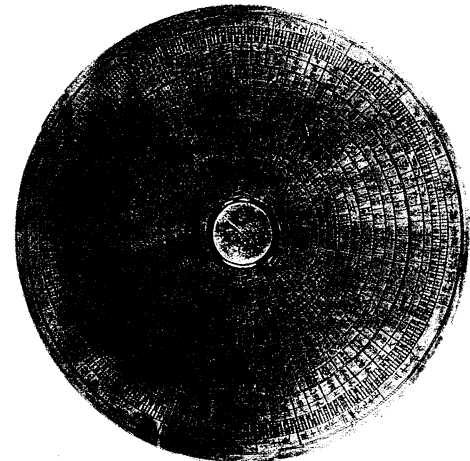
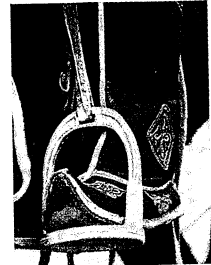


Silk Road is the main route between much of Asia and the Mediterranean.

1330s-1350s Plague spreads from Asia to Europe.

Religious travelers spread Buddhism, Islam, and other faiths.

C Stirrups, thought to have been developed in Central Asia, changed how horses were used in war. A rider seated in a saddle with stirrups was better able to use a weapon.



D Chinese sailors were the first to use magnetic compasses. Unlike navigating by the stars, a compass could be used any time of day in any weather conditions and allowed for more accurate navigation.

E Printing, invented in China, allowed many copies to be produced quickly, making information more widely available. Printing used paper, also invented in China, which was much cheaper than other writing materials.

