The Shape of World History during the Early Modern Period

I. Geographical Overview

A. Land Masses

B. Oceans, Seas, and Bays

C. River Systems

II. Types of State Formations (Dynasty → Nation-State)

A. Empires (mostly agrarian based)
   1. Ottoman
   2. Sharifian
   3. Safavid
   4. Mughal
   5. Vijayanara (S. India)
   6. Ming
   7. Mataram (Java)
   8. Inca

B. Small-scale City-States (often coastal; usually trade based)
   1. Kilwa
   2. Hormuz
   3. Calicut
   4. Venice
   5. Genoa
   6. Melaka
   7. Novgorod
   8. Sofala

C. City-States That Become Empires
   1. Tenochtitlan → Mexica (Aztec) Empire
   2. Muscovy → Russian Empire

D. Overseas Empires
   1. Portuguese
   2. Spanish
   3. British
   4. Dutch
   5. French

III. Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>World</th>
<th>Asia</th>
<th>China</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1500</td>
<td>335 mil.–375 mil.</td>
<td>200 mil.–225 mil.</td>
<td>80 mil.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1650</td>
<td>500 mil.</td>
<td>300 mil.</td>
<td>110 mil.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1750</td>
<td>700 mil.</td>
<td>420 mil.</td>
<td>180 mil.</td>
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Select Cities (Population in Early 16th-cent.)

- Beijing 672,000
- Vijayanagar 500,000
- Cairo 400,000
- Hangzhou 250,000
- Tabriz 250,000
- Istanbul 200,000
- Guar (India) 200,000
- Paris 180,000
- Kyoto 150,000
- Melaka 100,000–200,000
- Tenochtitlan 100,000–200,000
- London 100,000–150,000
Aspects of the Western Ascendancy (1500–1800)

I. “Western”—area “whose culture and society are most influenced by traditions rooted in Greek and Roman culture and in Christianity” (*Encarta World English Dictionary*, s.v. “West”)

II. The Components and the Historical Periods with Which Their Origins Are Associated

A. Competitive Spirit—Renaissance
   1. artistic
   2. commercial—profit motive and beginnings of capitalism
   3. political

B. Widespread Literacy — Reformation
   1. literacy — printing press; Bible translated into local languages
   2. “Everyman his own priest” — people can decide for themselves

C. Constitutionalism— English Revolution
   1. democratic institutions constitutionally guaranteed
   2. checks and balances built into system
   3. bringing of lower social classes into the governing process

D. Implementation of Scientific Thinking — Scientific Revolution
   1. “spirit of number and reason” — trivium and quadrivium
   2. experimentation and measurement
   3. government support of scientific research

E. Secularization of Society — Enlightenment
   1. secularization of social practices and ways of thinking
   2. separation of Church and State
   3. application of scientific method to social problems

F. Nationalism— French Revolution
   1. equality before the law
   2. metric system
   3. medical advances
   4. merit promotion//professionalism