**Time Period 3:**  **Theme 1: Interaction Between Humans and the Environment**

The era of 600 to 1450 CE was a time when civilization spread geographically; it covered many parts of the globe and great migrations of people had wide impacts on settled areas.

**Demography and Disease:**

* long distance trade promoted spread of
* Bubonic Plague, or “Black Death”: 1340s-1600s
	+ most victims died within a few days of being infected
	+ population decreased drastically, causing great labor shortages and workers even demanded higher wages; peasants rebelled and weakened the feudal system
	+ China’s decreasing population contributed to the decline of the Yuan dynasty
	+ Europe’s population dropped by 25% during the 14th century
	+ spread rapidly through long-distance trade, through fleas that infested rats and humans
* spread through movements of missionaries, nomads, traders, and increasing interaction
* urbanization; major cities emerged
* Tang and Song:
	+ increasing population; 45 million by 600 CE → 115 million by Song dynasty in 1200 CE, partially due to agricultural revolution and better transport systems
	+ established cities grew; 2,000,000 population in the Tang capital of Xi’an
	+ Song capital of Hangzhou = 1,000,000 residents; other Chinese cities often had 100,000 people
* Feudal Europe = more agricultural production due to increase in crops → population growth

**Migration:**

* movement of people included Bantus, Turks, Mongols, and Vikings
* The Vikings: (800 - 1100 CE)
	+ Scandinavian nomadic group
	+ seasonal raids to supplement farm production; ransacked towns/villages across Europe; small boats used in battle influenced their success
	+ explored North Atlantic Ocean (Iceland, Canada, Greenland, Newfoundland, NE US coast); established settlements in Scotland, Northern France, and Eastern Europe
	+ looted and destroyed communities, churches, and monasteries
* The Seljuk Turks: (1000 - 1450 CE)
	+ pastoral nomadic group from central Asia, often mercenaries
	+ invaded Baghdad by 1055 and took over Abbasid Caliphate; by 1071, pushed Byzantine Empire out of Anatolia
* The Afghan Turks (1000 - 1450 CE)
	+ began raids into India in 10th century
	+ by late 12th century, settled in Northern India and began Delhi Sultanate (1206 - 1526 CE)
* The Mongols
	+ pastoral nomadic group from Asia, united by Genghis Khan
	+ horsemanship, archery; created largest land empire
	+ westward expansion into Africa was stopped in 1260 when halted by Mamluks of Egypt
	+ carried new foods, inventions, and ideas to other civilizations
* Bantus:
	+ Bantu Migration from the Sahara in Africa, spread south and east
	+ language became a basis of formation for later languages
* Merchants spread Nestorian Christianity to India, Central Asia, and China
* Ibn Battuta’s and Marco Polo’s travels → spread culture
* Arabs moved from the Arabian peninsula to the Middle East, northern Africa, and southern Europe, helping spread Islam
* migration had environmental effects: deforestation, soil erosion, flooding
* plants cultivated and animals domesticated as moved toward new areas
* spread of Bantu and Swahili languages

**Patterns of Settlement:**

* Japanese island configuration led to the development of isolated communities
* Explorations of Vasco De Gama
	+ was able to reach India by sea and gain access to Spice Islands
* Maya (300 - 900 CE)
	+ borrowing from Olmecs, developed large domains and lived in scattered settlements on the Yucatan peninsula in southeastern Mexico
* Aztecs (1400 - 1521 CE)
	+ urban capital of Tenochtitlan consisted of 150,000 inhabitants build on island of Lake Texcoco
	+ fell to Spanish due to disease and warfare
	+ irrigated agriculture (chinampas)
* Incas (1400 - 1540 CE)
	+ conquered a large area and absorbed many tribes in South America
	+ grew into a stretch of land that covered 3,000 miles from north to south; fell to Spanish

**Technology:**

* gunpowder and rockets (late 1000s)
* compass, aided maritime navigation
* porcelain - chinaware
* moveable type
* improved shipbuilding; Chinese junk ships - massive hulls, carried lots of cargo
* mathematics in India; number system including zero
* iron production in China increased
* spread of printing and gunpowder from East Asia
* safe and reliable transportation