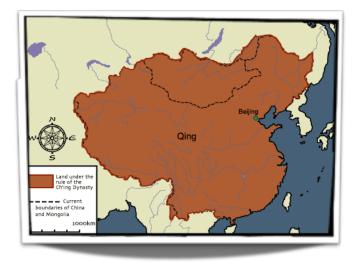## E. Asia

China.... The Qing dynasty used the 1600s to expand their influence in Asia. The Chinese army conquered east to the Himalayan Mountains, taking the region known as Tibet. They also conquered north to the Gobi Desert, taking over Mongolia. The Chinese used their military, cultural and economic power to heavily influence the countries around them; including Japan, Korea and Vietnam. This built China a pocket of protection.

Inside of China, the Qing Dynasty used their Confucian policies to promote their self-sufficiency. China's geography gave the government access to all of the labor and materials the country needed. If one area had a resource or labor need it could be brought in from another part of China. This meant that China did not need to trade with other countries or go exploring/colonizing. Indeed, the Qing Dynasty and Confucianism was so opposed to trading that merchants were the lowest non-slave group in Chinese society. While there was internal trade, it was a laissez-faire system where the government kept their hands off and didn't impose taxes. Instead of taxing internal trade, the Qing promoted feudal style farming, with large land lords renting out land to small farmers and the government taxed the land and the harvest. While this meant this helped feed all the Chinese people, it also prevented the rise of the Middle Class or further industrial innovation.

Due the Confucian policies and the annoyances of the Europeans, China further isolated itself and installed the Canton System. When Portugal and Spain arrived in China, they had been allowed to buy Chinese goods from a number of trading ports. However, with the merchants came the missionaries who were evangelizing Roman Catholic Christianity. Many converted, including some higher level officials. However, the Pope began to make rude statements towards the Emperor of China while also threatening excommunication to any Chinese Christian who took part in the practice of Filial Piety (worshipping/honoring of family ancestors). These actions, along with the brutal colonization of islands in Asia, promoted the Chinese to kick out the Europeans, outlaw Christianity and implement the Canton System.

The Canton System was China's attempt to limit foreign (European) influences on China. The Chinese were the worlds leading producer of finished goods that were in high demand all over the globe. The Chinese refused to buy foreign goods, but would sell them to anyone who would come to the port city of Canton to get them. When arriving in Canton, a foreign merchant could only talk to certain business people from select businesses. No foreigners could permanently live in Canton nor were they allowed to learn or speak Chinese. The Canton System ensured that large amounts of the world's money went into China (like all of the Silver Spain acquired in the Americas), while keeping all the foreign ideas, products and religions out. If you disobeyed the Canton system, then you would be banned from buying any Chinese product.

The British & Opium... The British East India Company (BEIC) had a problem: they were buying all the goods from China but China had little they wanted to buy from Britain. This meant that the BEIC was bringing lots of silver and gold to China, but none was coming back in their direction. This was a problem that needed to be fixed.

In the 1600s, the British found an answer: Opium and Tobacco. Opium had been a recreational drug in China since the 1500s, but only used by the rich elite. As the British got more involved in India and North America, they came across vast quantities of Opium (in North India) and Tobacco (East Coast of the Americas). The BEIC began to trade it at the Chinese trading post mixed with Tobacco to lower the price so that it could be afforded by the large middle and lower classes. The desire for Opium rose dramatically, as did the profits for the BEIC.

The Quing dynasty in 1726 tried to ban Opium, afraid of what the harsh effects it had on peoples minds and bodies. The BEIC, never a big fan of the Canton Laws, began to smuggle Opium into China, making the desire grow even more. At its peak, the BEIC was smuggling 9,000 tons of Opium into China. In less then 50 years, the BEIC went from BRINGING lots of silver TO China... to GETTING lots of Silver FROM China.

India
In the 1600s, the Muslim Mughals had unified almost all of India. The Mughal dynasty created a ruling system that merged the Hindu majority into the power structure of the Mughals. At first there was strong cooperation between the Muslims and Hindus. However, as time progressed, tensions began to rise between the Hindu and Muslims.

With the sales of Opium and Tobacco increasing steadily in China, the BEIC needed more Opium from India. They had a couple problems. The first problem were the pesky French. The BEIC wanted a monopoly over Indian trade, they wanted to be the only business selling Indian goods. The French, on the other hand, wanted a monopoly on Indian trade. This difference led to a series of three wars between 1746-1757 called the Seven Years War. These wars had divided Europe along business and religious lines. Battles were fought in Europe, Asia, the Caribbean, North and South Americas; making it, according to some historians, the first "world war." The British won. They had the worlds most powerful army and navy, and now had the sole rights to trading in India.

Now that the BEIC had a monopoly over Indian trade, they had another problem: the finicky Mughals of India wanted to tax the BEIC on the goods that they bought from India. This was cutting into the BEIC profits, at least more than they liked. Plus, the Mughals were limiting how much Opium could be grown and traded. The BEIC felt they had to _defend_ their profit margin. This led to a series of battles between the Mughals and the BEIC over Northern India in 1764. The BEIC won and began to colonize the Northern Opium growing territories.

ASSIGNMENT

1) Read & Update the Content Matrix
2) Fill out this chart with the the strengths/positives and weaknesses/negatives of each region.

Region	Strengths	Weaknesses
Europe		
E. Asia		
S. Asia		

3) Create an impact chart. As you read you are to evaluate each area on the level of impact the people in that region had on the world culturally, militarily, and economically.
   - Rate each area as to how impactful you believe them to be at the at 1640 AD (🟦) and at 1815 AD (🔺).
   - Draw arrows to show whether they grew or shrunk in impact and influence.
   - If there is change, ask yourself "What caused them to grow or shrink or stagnate in their influence?" and make note of it on your chart.

Example