

Chinese Expansion & Withdrawal

- 1) What factors led to the Fall of the Mongol Empire?
- 2) What changes did Hongwu bring to China after he defeated the Mongols? Which of these changes do you think was the most important to address first?
- 3) Did China have explored the world and setup colonies in far off lands? If yes, Why didn't they?
- 4) What was impressive about Zheng He's voyages? Why do you think he is not celebrated around the world like Christopher Columbus?
- 5) Which society was more rich/powerful/impressive: China or Europe? Why?
- 6) Marco Polo was an Italian Merchant who was one of the first Europeans to travel to China - during the time of the Mongol rule.
 - What was the "Mint"?
 - Why would a "Mint" and "currency" be important to a society?
 - Where did people travel from to trade/exchange with the Emperor?
 - How wealthy was the Chinese Emperor?
- 7) Marco Polo's work was one of the first books to be widely published in Europe. What impact do you think this book had upon the readers of the workers/farmers/craftsmen of Europe?