

# Many gain momentum and evolve into leaders of

[Economics](#), [Trade](#)



Many demographic changes took place that radically altered life in Europe which caused them to gain momentum and evolve into leaders of the modern world.

Before 1450, Europe was populated by serfs or peasants, living in rural areas. No large cities existed yet, like the cities in China, the Middle East, and Northern Africa. The entire era in Europe between 500 and 1450 was known as the “ Middle Ages,” a time between the fall of the Roman Empire and the revival of “ civilization”(HistoryHaven. com). After that, the Renaissance was born because The renaissance allowed for feudalism to be destroyed and became the breeding ground for skilled artisans and creative individuals such as Leonardo Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Dante Alighieri, and many more that helped power the Renaissance. Not only that but the Renaissance opened doors to discuss difficulties within the Catholic church.

Following the Renaissance came the reformation which caused conflicts and wars across Europe. Another cultural change that was added to Europe’s foundation was the scientific revolution. This helped to create origins to modern science and to get a better understanding of the world they live in. These events helped Europeans to challenge the unknown and to become awoken in the society and universe they reside in thus advancing Europe as a whole to becoming world leaders.

Trade in China began suffering during the Ming dynasty because of its unwillingness to cooperate and allow the import of European goods. During the Ming dynasty, silk was in high demand throughout all of Europe and China would only trade for gold, which the British refused. The British sent

opium instead, which was agreed to by the government and quickly was accepted and used by the Chinese people. However, it was highly addictive and soon the Chinese government outlawed opium causing the British to illegally export and smuggle the drug into the country. This started the Opium Wars, which seriously impacted China and was likely the beginning of the fall of the Chinese Empire.