

ECO 2210Y

Topic no. 30: The Changing Patterns of Mediterranean Commerce, 1300 - 1600: Italy, Catalonia/Aragon, France, the Ottoman Empire, and the Levant.

Italy and Mediterranean Commerce during the late-medieval 'Great Depression'

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2. Robert S. Lopez, 'The Trade of Medieval Europe: the South,' in Cambridge Economic History of Europe, II: Trade and Industry in the Middle Ages, 2nd edn., ed. M.M. Postan and Edward Miller (Cambridge, 1987), pp. 306-473.
3. Van der Wee, Herman, 'Structural Changes in European Long-Distance Trade, and Particularly in the Re-export Trade from South to North, 1350 - 1750,' in James D. Tracy, ed., The Rise of Merchant Empires: Long-Distance Trade in the Early Modern World, 1350 - 1750 (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990), pp. 14 - 33.
4. Thomas A. Brady, jr., Heiko O. Oberman, and James D. Tracy, eds., Handbook of European History, 1400-1600: Late Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation, Vol. I: Structures and Assertions (Leiden/New York/Cologne: E.J. Brill, 1994):
 - a) Bartolomei Yun, 'Economic Cycles and Structural Changes,' pp. 113-46.
 - b) John H. Munro, 'Patterns of Trade, Money, and Credit,' pp. 147-96.
 - c) John Marino, 'The Italian States in the 'Long Sixteenth Century',' pp. 361-68.
5. John Munro, 'Industrial Transformations in the North-West European Textile Trades, c. 1290 - c. 1340: Economic Progress or Economic Crisis?' in Bruce M. S. Campbell, ed., Before the Black Death: Studies in the 'Crisis' of the Early Fourteenth Century (Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, 1991), pp. 110 - 48.
6. Hidetoshi Hoshino, 'The Rise of the Florentine Woollen Industry in the Fourteenth Century,' in N.B. Harte & K. Ponting, eds., Cloth and Clothing in Medieval Europe (1983), pp. 184-204.
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The Commercial Supremacy of Venice and the Iberian Challenge (Catalonia & Portugal)

8. Eliyahu Ashtor, 'The Venetian Supremacy in Levantine Trade: Monopoly or Pre-Colonialism?' Journal of European Economic History, 3:1 (Spring 1974), 5-53. Eliyahu Ashtor, 'The Volume of Levantine Trade in the Later Middle Ages (1370-1498),' Journal of European Economic History, 4:3 (Winter 1975), 573-612; Eliyahu Ashtor, 'Observations on Venetian Trade in the Levant in the XIVth Century,' Journal of European Economic History, 5:3 (Winter 1976), 533-86.
9. Pierre Vilar, 'Le déclin catalan du bas Moyen Age: Hypothèses sur sa chronologie,' Estudios de Historia Maderna, 6 (1956-9)

10. Manuel Riu, 'The Woollen Industry in Catalonia in the Later Middle Ages,' in N. B. Harte and K. G. Ponting, eds., Cloth and Clothing in Medieval Europe (London, 1983), pp. 205-29.
11. Eliyahu Ashtor, 'Catalan Cloth on the Late Medieval Mediterranean Markets,' Journal of European Economic History, 17:2 (Fall 1988), 227-57.
12. Frederic Lane, 'The Mediterranean Spice Trade: Its Revival in the Sixteenth Century,' The American Historical Review, 45 (1940), 581-90, reprinted in his Venice and History: The Collected Papers of Frederic C. Lane (Baltimore, 1966), pp. 23-34

The Decline of Venice: the English and Dutch Challenge, 1560 - 1640

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- * 14. Richard T. Rapp, 'The Unmaking of the Mediterranean Trade Hegemony: International Trade Rivalry and the Commercial Revolution,' Journal of Economic History, 35:3 (Sept. 1975), 499-525.
- ** 15. Carlo Cipolla, 'The Decline of Italy: The Case of a Fully Matured Economy,' Economic History Review, 2nd ser. 5 (1952). A much revised and expanded version was subsequently published as 'The Economic Decline of Italy,' in both Brian Pullan, ed., Crisis and Change in the Venetian Economy (London, 1968), pp. 127-45; Carlo M. Cipolla, ed., The Economic Decline of Empires (London, 1970), 196-214.
16. Brian Pullan, ed., Crisis and Change in the Venetian Economy in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (London, 1968).
 - (a) Domenico Sella, 'Crisis and Transformation in Venetian Trade,' pp. 88-105.
 - (b) Domenico Sella, 'Rise and Fall of the Venetian Woollen Industry,' pp. 106-26.
 - (c) Carlo M. Cipolla, 'The Economic Decline of Italy,' pp. 127 - 45.
 - (d) Brian Pullan, 'Wage Earners and the Venetian Economy, 1550-1630,' pp. 146-74.
17. Herman Van der Wee, ed., The Rise and Decline of Urban Industries in Italy and in the Low Countries: Late Middle Ages - Early Modern Times (Leuven, 1988).
 - (a) P. M. Piergiovanni, 'Social and Economic Consequences of Structural Changes in the Ligurian Silk-Weaving Industry from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century,' pp. 17 - 40.
 - (b) S. Ciriaco, 'Mass Consumption Goods and Luxury Goods: the De-Industrialization of the Republic of Venice from the Sixteenth to the Eighteenth Century,' pp. 41 - 62.
 - (c) P. Malanima, 'An Example of Industrial Reconversion: Tuscany in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries,' p. 63 - 74.
 - (d) A. Moioli, 'De-Industrialization in Lombardy during the Seventeenth Century,' pp. 75 - 120.

QUESTIONS:

1. What changes took place in Mediterranean and Italian commerce during the 14th and 15th centuries? What happened to the commercial fortunes of Venice, Genoa, and Florence during the so-called late-medieval Great Depression?
2. How did Venice gain supremacy in Mediterranean and especially Levantine commerce by the 15th century? How did Venice react to first Catalan and then Portuguese competition, especially in the Levantine spice trade. Explain the importance of the commerce in spices and cotton.

3. Why did Venice's Golden Age not last beyond the 1570s? What impact did the following have upon Venetian commerce in the 16th and early 17th centuries: Portugal, the Ottoman Empire, England, the United Provinces (the Dutch Republic)?