**Chapter 17 – The Expansion of Europe, 1650 - 1800**

**Focus Questions:**

1. What important developments led to increased agricultural production, and how did these changes affect peasants?
   1. How did the open-field system work? Why was much of the land left uncultivated while the people sometimes starved?
   2. What changes brought the open-field system to an end?
   3. Where did the modern agricultural revolution originate? Why?
   4. What is meant by enclosure? Was this movement a great swindle of the poor by the rich, as some have claimed?
2. Why did the European population rise dramatically in the eighteenth century?
   1. Was the dramatic growth of population in the eighteenth century due to a decreasing death rate or an increasing birthrate? Explain.
   2. How was the grip of the deadly bubonic plague finally broken?
   3. What improvements in the eighteenth century contributed to the decline of disease and famine?
3. How and why did rural industry intensify in the eighteenth century?
   1. How did the putting-out system work and why did it grow?
   2. What were the advantages and disadvantages of the putting-out system for the merchant-capitalist? For the worker?
   3. What was mercantilism? How could it have been a cause of war? Of economic growth?
4. What were guilds, and why did they become controversial in the eighteenth century?
   1. Who participated in guilds and who were denied access (and why)?
   2. What functions did guilds serve in society?
   3. What economic impact did guilds have?
   4. Who was Adam Smith and what economic argument did he make?
5. How did colonial markets boost Europe’s economic and social development, and what conflict and adversity did world trade entail?
   1. What was mercantilism? How could it have been a cause of war? Of economic growth?
   2. The eighteenth century witnessed a large number of expensive and drawn-out wars. Who was attempting to alter the balance of power? Were the causes of these wars economic or political?
   3. Did the American colonists and the American colonial economy benefit or suffer from the British mercantilist colonial system?

**Key Figures and Ideas**

* Market Economy
* Agricultural Revolution
* Crop Rotation
* Selective Breading
* Seed Drill
* Putting­ out System
* Cottage Industry
* Industrial Revolution
* Slave labor
* Consumer Culture
* Raw materials
* Atlantic trade
* Market driven wages and prices
* Navigation Acts
* Bank of England
* Middle Passage
* Triangle trade
* Plantation economy
* Adam Smith
* Arthur Young
* Olaudah Equiano
* Benjamin Franklin
* Captain James Cook
* Jethro Tull