**Sea Roads: Catalyst for Change**

Describe how the Indian Ocean changed the culture (government, religion and economies) of each of these two areas.

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| Southeast Asia | East Africa |
| * Location between China and India made it an important trade center * Malay sailors opened an all sea route between India and China through the Straits of Malacca * Led many small ports to compete to attract traders * Malay kingdom of Srivijaya emerged because gold, access to spices and taxes on ships created resources to make a state * Inland states also participated   + Funan in modern Vietnam   + Khmer kingdom of Angkor exported exotic forest products   + Champa in Vietnam tried to control trade between China and Southeast Asia which started a war with China * Indian culture spreads to Southeast Asia   + Hindu and Buddhist temples   + Indian alphabets, art forms, political and religious ideas; especially Buddhism   + “Indianization” of Southeast Asia was mostly voluntary | * Swahili civilization of East Africa developed from a blend of Bantu with commercial life of Indian Ocean   + Growing demand for east African products; gold, ivory, quartz, leopard skins, some slaves, iron and wood products   + African merchant class develops in the east * Swahili civilization flourished   + Very urban with cities between 15,000-18,000   + Political independence of cities; ruled by a king   + Accumulated goods from interior Africa and traded for Asian goods * Most trade was done in Arab ships * Indian Ocean trade became ingrained in East African culture   + Arab, Indian and Persian merchants settle in East Africa   + Many ruling families claimed Persian or Arab origins   + Swahili was written in Arabic script with Arabic borrowed words * Islam/Swahili culture didn’t spread much past the coast until the 19th century. |