**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.
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