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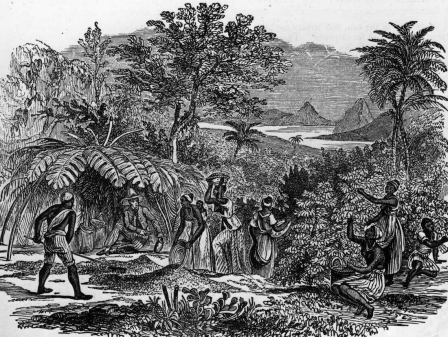
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African Studies, and Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

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# Entry Event: Sensory Experience

Smell each product. Don't talk about it yet! After each, quickly Stop and Jot in response to the questions below:

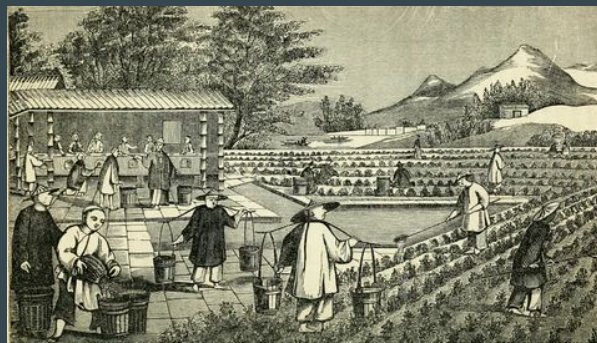
- What do you think this is?
- What does it make you think about and/or feel?
- Does this smell remind you of anything or connect you to past experiences? If so, what?



# Coffee, tea, or chocolate



Our favorite hot drinks and the history of the world





Which image appeals to you the most? Why?



# List - Group - Label

## Coffee

- 1) List as many facts as you can about coffee.
- 2) Now, put those facts into groups or categories that make sense to you.
- 3) Finally, give each group a label (name the categories).

## Black Tea

- 1) List as many facts as you can about coffee.
- 2) Now, put those facts into groups or categories that make sense to you.
- 3) Finally, give each group a label (name the categories).

## Chocolate

- 1) List as many facts as you can about coffee.
- 2) Now, put those facts into groups or categories that make sense to you.
- 3) Finally, give each group a label (name the categories).

Coffee, tea, or chocolate? Identify each one!



Coffee, tea, or chocolate? Identify each one!



Coffee, tea, or chocolate? Identify each one!



# Coffee (coffea)



# Black tea (*Camellia sinensis*)



# Cacao (theobroma cacao)... *chocolate*



## Our Driving Questions:

- What lessons about the world can we learn from our favorite hot drinks?
- How do coffee, tea, and cocoa illustrate important historical and cultural patterns?

# Culture

- Culture encompasses religion, food, what we wear, how we wear it, our language, marriage, music and is different all over the world.  
<https://www.livescience.com/21478-what-is-culture-definition-of-culture.html>
- Culture is a way of life of a group of people--the behaviors, beliefs, values, and symbols that they accept, generally without thinking about them, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next.  
<http://people.tamu.edu/~i-choudhury/culture.html>
- Culture can be defined as all the ways of life including arts, beliefs and institutions of a population that are passed down from generation to generation.  
<https://sphweb.bumc.bu.edu/otlt/mph-modules/PH/CulturalAwareness/CulturalAwareness2.html>

# Cultural diffusion

- Cultural diffusion is the spreading out and merging of pieces from different cultures. These different cultures all have many diverse types of food, clothing and even languages that people love and enjoy every day.  
<https://www.dclibrary.org/node/62675>
- Cultural diffusion is a term we use to explain the ways cultures spread and intermingle around the world. For example, it refers to the spread of American culture into Asia and the spread of Asian fast food in the United States.

It occurs through the spread of cultural items during times of conflict, migration, and trade. Examples of cultural items include philosophical ideas, inventions, fashions, religious beliefs, technologies and languages.

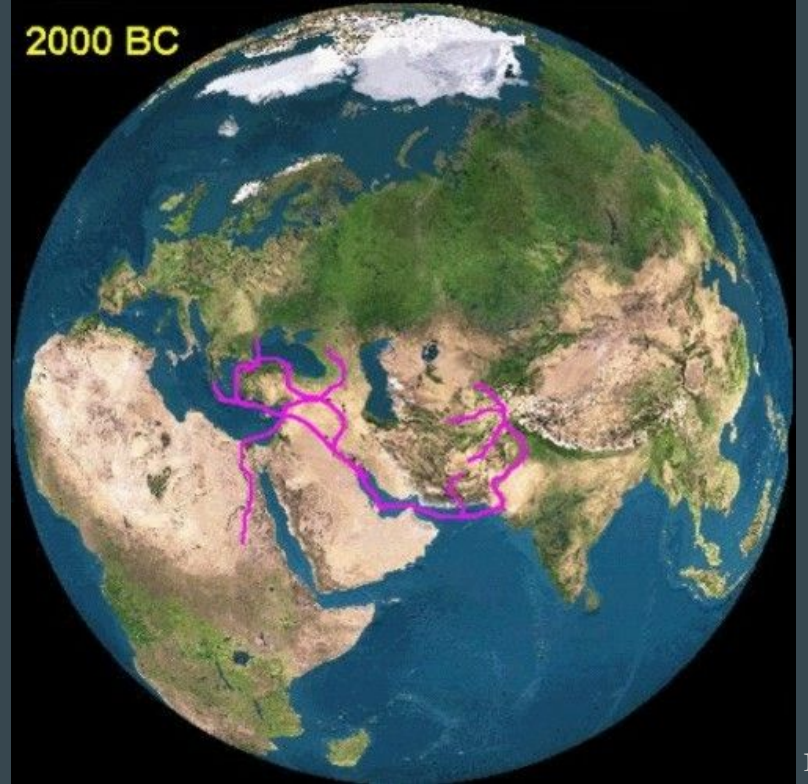
<https://helpfulprofessor.com/types-of-cultural-diffusion/>

3000 BC



[https://www.archatlas.org/journal/as-herratt/traderoutes/urbansupplyroutes\\_seq/](https://www.archatlas.org/journal/as-herratt/traderoutes/urbansupplyroutes_seq/)

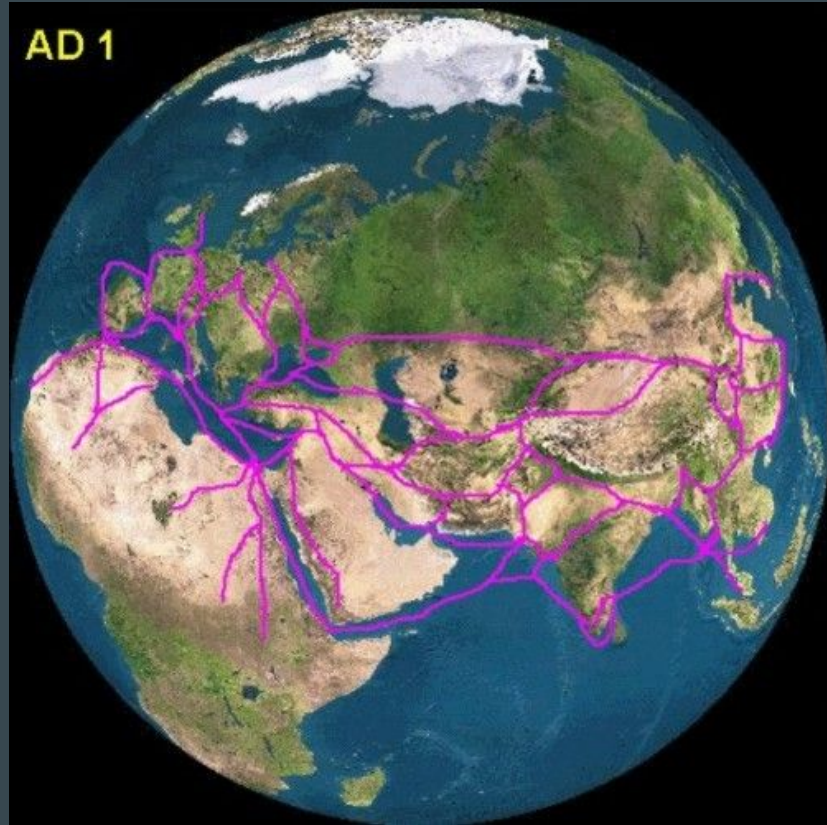
2000 BC



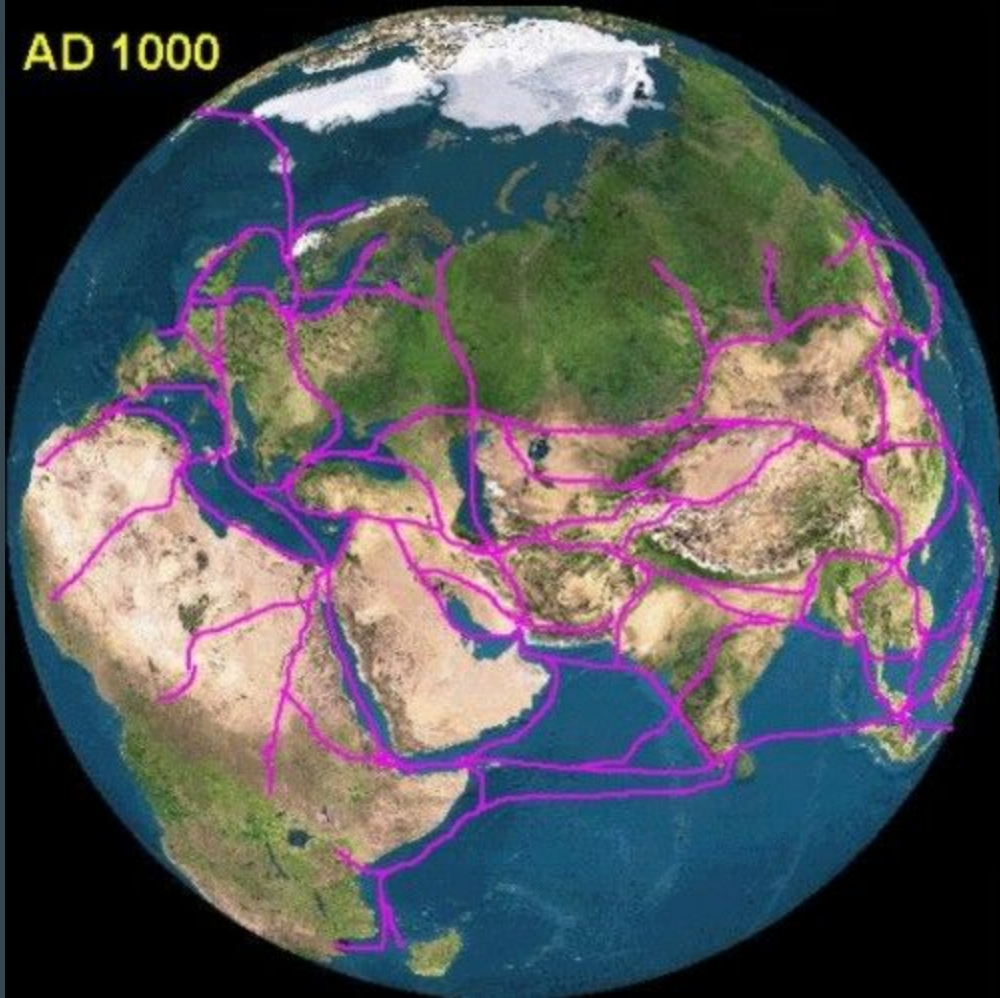
1000 BC



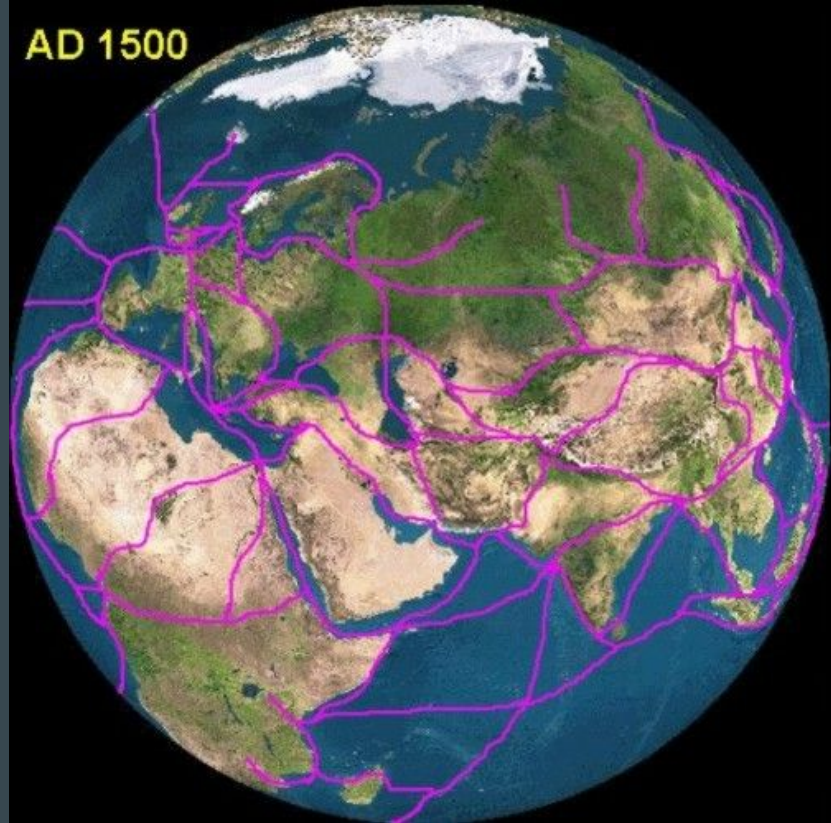
AD 1



AD 1000



AD 1500



# Coffee, tea, and chocolate as cultural resources

# Coffee / Gahwa

(*gahwa* means coffee in Arabic)

“So important is gahwa in the Arab world the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (unesco) included gahwa in the uae, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Qatar in the agency’s 2015 Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The designation recognized the value of preserving the historical customs and traditions of coffee drinking in these nations.”

<https://www.aramcoworld.com/Articles/March-2020/Gahwa-Renaissance>



The traditional pot in which *gahwa* is served to guests is the *dalah*, whose long, narrow, curved spout, thin handle and finial-topped lid have made it a popular, nearly universal symbol of hospitality throughout the Arabian Peninsula. In the United Arab Emirates, a *dalah* appears on the 1-dirham coin.

# A description of Bedouin coffee ceremonies..

“The heart of the ceremony, he says, is hospitality, a cherished Bedouin value. As nomads, Bedouins often lived in harsh conditions with scarce resources. They relied on reciprocal generosity among the communities and tribes they encountered. Still today, any traveler or visitor, as was the custom of their older tribesmen, is always hosted, sheltered and fed for three days and three nights with no questions asked. All visitors receive a welcoming cup of coffee; simply placing a *dalah* atop a fire pit is invitation enough for anyone to join.”

<https://www.aramcoworld.com/Articles/March-2020/Gahwa-Renaissance>

## Coffee Cup Conversation



It is customary that visitors to a *majlis* receive welcome with three cups of *gahwa*. The first is *al-dhaif*. It cannot be refused without risk of insult to the host.

# Tea in Afghanistan

“One of the reasons why so much tea is consumed in Afghanistan is that the beverage is an essential element of [Afghan hospitality](#). Afghans are an extremely hospitable people, and treating guests with generosity and honor is considered to be a reflection of personal reputation. Offering tea is one of the most important ways that this hospitality is demonstrated.

If you are ever a guest in an Afghan home, you will always be offered tea: this is a sign of the host’s respect for you, just as your acceptance of the offer is a sign of your respect for your host. You can then expect to have your cup constantly refilled throughout your visit. To politely signal to your host that you have had enough, you can turn your cup upside down, or you can cover it with your hand and thank them.”

<https://ehsanbayatafghanwireless.com/7-fun-facts-about-the-most-popular-beverage-in-afghanistan/>

# Tea in Vietnam



While tea has a special philosophical value for scholars and a long tradition in Vietnamese history, it has its own place today in the life of ordinary people living both in the cities and in the countryside. In the past, peasants could not afford expensive tea, so they grew tea on their own. Nowadays, tea is used to bind people together, for example, the peasant often invites his neighbor around for a chat over a cup of tea. They drink tea initially to thank the host for his hospitality, then throughout several tea sips, they open heart more, to share their feelings, to speak about the family, the company and finally to feel the nature savor of the cup of tea.

<https://vietnamdiscovery.com/culture-arts/tea-drinking-in-vietnam/>

# Chocolate in Mexico

“Despite challenges, Mexicans remain proudly active in promoting their relationship with cacao and chocolate, a model that many other cocoa-producing countries could emulate. At home, many Mexican’s daily routines kick off without a visit to neighborhood tamale stands with champurrado, a type of atole made from chocolate discs or powder. Our elites negotiate terms over a concha con nata and chocolate de taza at Mexico City’s [El Cardenal](#). On visits to Chiapas and his native Tabasco, President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador [tweets about pozol](#), a cacao and corn drink from southeastern Mexico. Our diplomats abroad promote chocolate as well, like [Melba Pria](#) – ambassador to Japan – who presents mole as our version of curry and [Maria de los Angeles Arreola](#) – ambassador to Ghana – who celebrates in West Africa the diversity of Mexican gastronomy.”

<https://www.chocolateinstitute.org/post/mexico-s-love-for-chocolate>

**What stands out in the excerpts?**  
**Why are these products important?**  
**What do they seem to have in common?**