

Worldviews at Work

Compare how belief systems shaped contact beyond imperial borders.

9.7c "The Ottoman Empire and the Ming Dynasty had different views of the world and their place in it. Islam under the Ottoman Empire and Neo-Confucianism under the Ming Dynasty influenced the political, economic, military..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline links between beliefs and policy. Circle interactions with outsiders; label them O (Ottoman) or M (Ming).

Two Powerful States, Two Approaches

- ① Ottoman sultans ruled a Muslim empire spanning parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa. They claimed duties to defend Islam and protect Mecca and Medina. Under Suleiman the Magnificent in the sixteenth century, Ottoman armies fought in Europe and around the Mediterranean. Yet Suleiman also cooperated with Christian France against their Habsburg rivals. Religious differences did not prevent strategic diplomacy. Ottoman leaders combined claims to Islamic authority with practical interests in security, trade, and power.
- ② Ming rulers used Neo-Confucian ideas stressing hierarchy, proper relationships, and moral government. Court diplomacy often placed the emperor above visiting rulers in a symbolic hierarchy. Tribute missions brought gifts and performed rituals of respect; the court offered gifts and trade opportunities in return. Actual relations were more varied than this ideal. Officials regulated commerce and negotiated with outsiders, while merchants also traded through other channels. Beliefs shaped policy alongside revenue, security, and changing circumstances.
- ③ Portuguese merchants established a settlement at Macao in the mid-1500s under Chinese authority. Later, Jesuit Matteo Ricci learned Chinese and presented European knowledge to gain officials' interest. Some welcomed clocks, maps, and astronomy, while others questioned Christian teachings and their effects on social order. Ming officials therefore combined selective contact with controls. Comparing Macao with Ottoman cooperation with France shows different arrangements for foreign relations, not a simple contrast between an open empire and a closed one.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Why did Suleiman cooperate with Christian France despite religious differences?

2 What exchange occurred during Ming tribute missions?

3 Compare the Ottoman relationship with France and Ming contact at Macao.

4 How could Ming ideas about social order shape officials' responses to Ricci?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write four sentences advising either ruler about European visitors. Propose a policy, connect it to a belief or worldview, explain a practical goal, and compare a passage example from the other empire.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline links between beliefs and policy. Circle interactions with outsiders; label them O (Ottoman) or M (Ming). Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did Suleiman cooperate with Christian France despite religious differences?	France and the Ottomans shared Habsburg rivals, so strategic interests encouraged cooperation.
2	What exchange occurred during Ming tribute missions?	Missions brought gifts and performed rituals of respect; the court offered gifts and trade opportunities.
3	Compare the Ottoman relationship with France and Ming contact at Macao.	Ottoman cooperation with France opposed shared rivals. Portuguese merchants settled at Macao under Chinese authority and controls.
4	How could Ming ideas about social order shape officials' responses to Ricci?	Some officials questioned how Christian teachings would affect social order, even while others welcomed useful European knowledge.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A Ming adviser could allow foreign scholars to present useful knowledge while following court rules. This would respect the court's hierarchy. It could also help officials learn about maps and astronomy. Ottoman cooperation with France likewise shows that practical benefits could encourage contact across religious differences.

Accept passage-supported policies and comparisons. Distinguish religious or philosophical ideas from practical interests, and avoid treating either empire's policies as uniform or unchanging.