

WINDOWS ON THE WORLD BACKGROUND

History

AFRICA

West Africa *Ghana* Asante state centered in modern south Ghana; ruled by an Asantehene, or king; capital at Kumasi. Traded slaves to British and Dutch for firearms. Under Opoku Ware (r. 1764–77), state reached widest extent.

Americas

Latin America *Brazil* Growing unification of country; rule by governor general; capital Bahia (Salvador), to 1763, and Rio de Janeiro, after 1763. Rising Luso-Afro-Indian culture: unified by Portuguese language, patriarchal family structure; rural society; sugar economy; tobacco, cattle, cotton, and coffee.

Viceroyalty of Peru Reforms by new Spanish (Bourbon) dynasty reduced the viceroyalty in size and initiated economic decline; lost its northern lands and thriving port of Guayaquil (now in Ecuador) and its southern lands, including Potosí silver mines. Indian revolt led by Tupac Amaru II (about 1742–1781).

Native North America *Plains* Three main divisions of Sioux: Santee, Yankton, and Teton; in 1650, Sioux driven from Lake Superior area, where they farmed and hunted, by Ojibwa people; Teton and Yankton moved onto the plains and adopted a new lifestyle, marked by nomadic hunting of buffalo and other big game; lived in teepees (a Sioux word); men made war on horseback and collected scalps and horses; women made embroideries of porcupine quills and beads; the sun dance, the chief tribal festival.

ASIA

China *Ch'ing Dynasty* Thriving economy; painting, printmaking, and porcelain manufacture flourished. Toleration of Roman Catholic missionaries.

India *Mogul Dynasty* Between 1757 and 1800 officials of British East India Company assumed political power and began to treat India as a conquered rather than acquired country. British power, though veiled, was real. British cultural influences: Indian troops trained in the British manner; English became popular; translations of works such as *Bagavad Gita* into English.

Japan *Edo period* The few remaining daimyo (250 in 1800) lived in castles on their land and were forced to keep second residences in Edo and to spend alternate years there; this system kept down rebellion, left the daimyo financially weak,

and resulted in thriving post towns and huge growth in Edo. After 1638, Nagasaki was only Japanese city open to foreigners, mainly Dutch.

Culture

AFRICA

West Africa *Ghana: Golden Stool* This symbol of the Asante state is said to have descended from heaven at a time of political crisis. Asante kings were enthroned on the Golden Stool.

AMERICAS

Latin America *Brazil: Daniel* The statue of Daniel was part of a courtyard gallery devoted to twelve Hebrew prophets, sculpted by Aleijadinho, an African-Portuguese artist. Daniel is represented as a gentle man with a tamed lion crouched beneath his hand. *Viceroyalty of Peru: Church of Santiago* This church, at Pomata, Peru (about 1690–1722), is one of the earliest examples of the mestizo, which means mixed descent from European and native Indian stock, and reflects its blend of Spanish and indigenous forms and motifs. The Church of Santiago's façade has a massive appearance that is somewhat lightened by the wall surface around the portal area being divided into a two-story set of compartments, framed by columns of local origin, that serve as niches for religious sculptures.

ASIA

Japan *Edo period: Segawa Tomisaburo II as Yadorigi, Ogishi Kurando's Wife* This print depicts the male actor Segawa Tomisaburo II in costume as Yadorigi, a female character in a Kabuki play. Sharaku, probably an actor himself, was one of the most famous *ukiyo-e* painters, making fewer than 160 works, chiefly portraits of actors. He typically painted close-up views of his subjects and showed them in poses revealing their ways of acting. All of his works were produced in one year (1794). *Taku Koshihyo (Confucian Temple)* This temple at Taku City is a fine example of Edo period architecture. Made of wood, it was built in the Japanese Zen Buddhist style with a few Chinese features, such as the curving gable portico and wooden arch.