

Robert W. Strayer  
**Ways of the World:  
A Brief Global History**  
First Edition  
**CHAPTER XIV**  
Empires and Encounters  
1450–1750  
*Russia*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

***The Steppes and Siberia:  
The Making of a Russian Empire***

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*Chinese conquests, together with the expansion of the Russian Empire, transformed Central Asia.*

<i>Eurasia Before</i>	<i>After under Russian or Chinese Rule</i>

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*Russians and Empire*

- A small Russian state centered on Moscow began to emerge ca. 1500
  - Moscow began to conquer neighboring cities
  - Three centuries grew into a massive empire
  - Early expansion into the grasslands to south and east was for security against nomads
  - Expansion into Siberia was a matter of opportunity (furs) not threat

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Experiencing the Russian Empire

- Conquered people had to take an oath of loyalty to the Russian ruler.



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### *Russians and Empire*

- With imperial expansion, Russians became a smaller proportion of the overall population.
- Russian Identity
- Colonization experience was different from Americas

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---