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A Shrinking World

The troops of Alexander achieved victory not on the battlefield but also in terms of connecting various societies and cultures. In this regard, the conquests of Alexander served as guidance in the era of practices and thinking that revolutionized Greek achievements into a mutual compatible culture known as Hellenism (Tignor, Robert, et al.). In fact, Hellenism did not take over local traditions and values instead it paved the way to adjustments and adaptability in the cultures it came across. In this way, several parts of the world got interconnected. In addition, Alexander set the foundation for a state machine and brought stability and security in different trade systems. For this purpose, the main commercial routes were constructed, and among them, the most famous is the Silk Road. The armies of Alexander kept following the existing routes of long-distance trades and traditional exchange. However, these connections had some boundaries in the form of institutional flaws. The fresh ideas came along: different regions of the world could be integrated through mutual culture and common merchandises.

Hellenism had been the hallmark of Alexander’s victories (Tignor, Robert, et al.). The links of culture and trade improved regional interaction and cooperation that provided the world with the opportunities for new methods of connecting societies and coming together. The caravans covering long distances and naval trading led to the frequent routes that were connected via commercial hubs.

Moreover, the victories of Alexander removed the obstacles between the Mediterranean and Southwest Asia and promoted Hellenistic characteristics which expended to South Asia. In this respect, the conquests of Alexander witnessed the progress of Cosmopolitan World. The small state of Macedonia had transformed into a regional state, taking over neighboring states and utilizing its resources alongside revenues out of the slave trade to sponsor new military technologies and a regular army (Tignor, Robert, et al.). Alexander emphasized Hellenistic culture that signified a collective identity of those who followed the Greek ways.

The Hellenistic culture comprised disciplines such as history, philosophy, political and cultural approach, and the way of entertainment, competitive sports, and arts. A common language Koine Greek got the status of international language, which greatly helped communication for trade and commerce and transfer of ideas. Different cultures of the world came together, so, fresh ideas emerged that stressed the cosmopolitan identity of many people. The kingdom witnessed expansion, and Hellenistic culture remained its distinguishing feature.

According to Strabo (the Greek Geographer), the city of Alexandria had become a hub of trade and commerce across Afro-Eurasia. Also, Alexandria had a wonderful Harbor which was protected by banks. The harbor was known as "Great Harbor," and it was divided into many small harbors. It was a busy Harbor, and the overall exports outweighed imports, which means the city earned substantial revenue through this port. The infrastructure of the city was also impressive as it had wide roads to ride horses and drive carriages. Alexandria received important trade good from different parts of the world and supplied the local products to different countries. In addition, the city had a dynamic population, and it truly represented Hellenistic culture, several Greek and non-Greek individuals communicated in common language (Tignor, Robert, et al.). The people of Alexandria were provided with entertainment by keeping in view the taste of a large audience.

Alexandria in Egypt was a role model of multicultural Hellenistic city. The people belonging to different cultures of the world embraced the Hellenistic identity in the city of Alexandria. The idea of Hellenistic culture was great from Alexander which brought different cultures and ethnicities together. The model was followed by different empires such as Romans adopted various elements of Hellenistic culture to have their influence in the Mediterranean. Finally, the city of Alexandria offered so much to the world and its citizens that it became a symbol of trade, development and art and culture.

Works Cited

Tignor, Robert, et al. Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: A History of the World from the Beginnings of Humankind to the Present. The Mongol Empire to the Present. Volume Two. WW Norton, 2008.