The galleon trade emerged in the late 16th century to directly link to Asia, Europe, and the Americas, and to some lesser extent Africa, which was the main source of slaves (Mann 2011:45). The main items of trade initially were Europe's silver and the Chinese silk and porcelain. During this period, China was the world's wealthiest and the most powerful nation and constantly looked down on the European nation (Mann 2011:46).The Chinese courts feared potential uncontrollable change in the Chinese way of life that could emerge from the unregulated galleon trade, with Spain having taken over the Chinese money supply with its precious silver. On the other hand, Spain also tried to limit trade with Chinese merchants.

Despite China's emperors locking out Europe and the Americas to preserve the Chinese way of life, there was still constant penetration from other continents (Mann 2011:46). Previously the Chinese agricultural economy was pegged on rice and only grown in the wet river valleys. The introduction of sweet potatoes created an opportunity in the dry uplands. A huge number of sweet potato farmers invaded the sparsely populated dry uplands and engaged in heavy cultivation. Consequential heavy deforestation led to soil erosion, heavy flooding, and deaths. As a result, China becomes more destabilized while Europe benefited more from the galleon trade. The rise of the Homogenocene in Asia paved the way for the supremacy of the west (Mann 2011:47).

The Homogenocene is credited to have given rise the globalization (Mann 2011:50). The extraction of silver was labor-intensive and created the need for slaves. African and Indian communities had to bear the brunt for little or no pay. Greedy for more money, the Spanish monarchy wants to send more silver to China to gain maximum profits. This scenario creates an opportunity for smuggling .Historians argue that European expansion motives controlled world affairs, while others argued that the Chinese demand was the source of interest in the globalization of the economy.

Galleon trade had made Europe more powerful despite constant economic, political, and social crises experienced in her history. Spain's monarchy responded to Corte's conquest of Mexico by launching costly attacks against France, the Ottoman Empire, and the Holy Catholic Empire (Mann 2011:52). Spain defeated the Ottomans in 1571. The Netherlands, a Spanish colony, fought for her independence for an estimated eighty years. Spain also went ahead attacked England but was thwarted (Mann 2011:52).

The writings of Charles C. Mann in his book *Uncovering the new world Columbus created* about the galleon trade and its impact on colonization are a true narration of what occurred then. The narration has been backed up by historical evidence that is highly relevant in today’s world. For instance, there are existing statues of slain anti-globalization leaders such as Jose Rizal and Rajah Sulayman in Manilla, Phillipines.

Work Cited

Mann, Charles C. *1493: Uncovering the new world Columbus created*. Vintage, 2011.