

If the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans were switched, placing China as the closest Eurasian hierarchy to the Americas, the history of the world would have taken a dramatically different turn. In this alternate history, Chinese maritime exploration would have taken on a much more significant role in the discovery and colonization of the New World.

Zheng He was a Chinese explorer who sailed across the Indian Ocean to Southeast Asia, India, and East Africa in the early 15th century. If he had discovered Mexico and the Aztec Empire, it would have had a profound impact on both Chinese and American history. In the early 1400s, China was the dominant economic power in the world, with a powerful navy and a vast network of trade routes that stretched across Asia and the Indian Ocean. Zheng He's voyages were part of a larger effort by the Ming Dynasty to expand Chinese influence and establish new trading partners.

If Zheng He had discovered Mexico and the Aztec Empire, China's goals in maritime activity would have been different from those of the Europeans. The Europeans were motivated by a desire to find new trade routes to the East and to spread Christianity. The Chinese, on the other hand, were interested in expanding their trading network and establishing their influence over other cultures.