

Many mariners contributed significantly to the discovery of new territories and the development of trade routes with other nations during the Age of Exploration. Italian navigator Christopher Columbus set out to locate a western passage to Asia while sailing under the Spanish flag. In 1492, he incorrectly thought he was in the East Indies when he discovered the Caribbean islands. Vasco da Gama, on the other hand, was a Portuguese navigator who had been hired by the Portuguese king to discover a sea passage to India. In 1498, he arrived in Calicut, India, paving the route for Portuguese trade in the Indian Ocean.

Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan sailed for Spain while flying the Spanish flag. His objective was to locate a westward passage to the East Indian Spice Islands. He found the strait that now bears his name, opening the Pacific Ocean for his crew. Despite the fact that he passed away while at sea, his crew became the first to complete a globe-circulation. Zheng He was a Chinese admiral who oversaw seven expeditions across the Indian Ocean in the early 15th century with the intention of establishing commercial and diplomatic ties with other nations. For the Chinese Empire, he found new areas and trading opportunities; nevertheless, after his passing, his excursions came to an end.

The mariners were explorers, but they had distinct aspirations and accomplishments. While da Gama and Zheng He wanted to forge trade ties with other nations, Columbus and Magellan looked for new trade routes to access the wealth of Asia. While Zheng He and Vasco da Gama sailed under the Chinese flag, Columbus and Magellan sailed under the Spanish flag. While da Gama and Zheng He discovered new trading prospects for the Chinese Empire, Columbus and Magellan explored new areas in the Americas. Each mariner contributed significantly to the molding of world history through their explorations and discoveries.

Overall, the travels of the seafarers left a mark on world trade, economy, and culture. They opened the door for European expansionism and colonization, which would rule the world for centuries. Further exploration and discovery were made possible by these explorers' contributions to the advancement of contemporary navigation and cartography. The discoveries and accomplishments of the seafarers have received both praise and criticism over the years, but they still have a significant place in world history and continue to serve as an example for present and upcoming generations of explorers and adventurers.