

GLOBALIZATION & THE INTERNATIONAL CHILLI TRADE: A BRIEF HISTORIC ANALYSIS

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Received: 16 Apr 2021

Accepted: 19 Apr 2021

Published: 26 Apr 2021

ABSTRACT

A common misconception is that the economic system referred to as globalization is a relatively new social invention. It should be noted that there are several earlier trade protocols which might have acted as a precursor for the establishment of this system that is now engrained in today's socio-economic order. A good example of such a historic trade-route being the basis of globalization would be the trans-Atlantic chilli trade established following the European re-discovery of the Americas (aptly named the "New World" by the European explorers) by a Spanish-funded expedition. In less than five centuries since its discovery, the New World spice known as chilli has now become a staple component of several Asian and African cultures and cuisines, shaping their agricultural economies to this day.

KEYWORDS: *History, Globalization, Chilli Trade, Trans-Atlantic Chilli Trade*