

In my presentation, I'm going to talk about coffee, and its importance both in (1)_____ and social terms. We think it was first drunk in the Arab world, but there's hardly any documentary (2)_____ of it before the 1500s, although that doesn't mean people didn't know about it before then.

However, there is (3)_____ that coffee was originally gathered from bushes growing wild in Ethiopia, in the northeast of Africa. In the early sixteenth century, it was being bought by (4)_____, and gradually its use as a drink spread throughout the Middle East. It's also known that in 1522, in the Turkish city of Constantinople, which was the centre of the Ottoman Empire, the court physician approved its use as a (5)_____.

By the mid-1500s, coffee bushes were being (6)_____ in Yemen and for the next hundred years, this region produced most of the coffee drunk in Africa and the Arab world. What's particularly interesting about coffee is its effect on (7)_____ life. It was rarely drunk at home; instead, people went to coffee (8)_____ to drink it. These people, usually men, would meet to drink coffee and (9)_____ about issues of the day.

But at the time, this chance to share ideas and opinions was seen as something potentially (10)_____, and in 1623, the ruler of Constantinople demanded the (11)_____ of all the coffee houses in the city. Although after his death many new ones opened, coffee (12)_____ continued.

In the seventeenth century, coffee drinking spread to Europe, and here too, coffee shops became places where ordinary people, nearly always men, could meet to (13)_____ ideas. Because of this, some people said these places performed a similar function to (14)_____. These discussions had a huge impact on social life, and many social movements and political (15)_____ had their origins in coffee house conversations.

In the late 1600s, the Yemeni (16)_____ on coffee production broke down, and production spread around the world, helped by European (17)_____. Europeans set up plantations in Indonesia and the Caribbean, and production in these colonies (18)_____.

Types of coffee were often named after the (19)_____ they were shipped from, like Mocha or Java. In Brazil and the Caribbean, coffee was grown on large (20)_____ and most workers were slaves. In Java, however, peasants passed a portion of their harvest to the Dutch, and it was used as a form of (21)_____.

In the 18th century, coffee was grown in larger quantities to satisfy (22)_____ demand. It became nearly as important as (23)_____. But coffee was still too expensive to be drunk regularly at home, so most consumption took place in public houses.

In Britain, a new drink from China started to replace coffee – this was (24)_____. It became popular in the late 1700s, but after 1776, when the USA gained (25)_____, coffee remained the preferred drink in the USA.

By the 19th century, coffee was being widely produced and consumed. Prices dropped due to improvements in (26)_____, making coffee more affordable for the (27)_____ classes. It wasn't just a morning drink anymore – people drank it to stay awake, even late at (28)_____.