

AP European History - Chapter 14 *Europe & the World: New Encounters 1500-1800* Class Notes & Critical Thinking

Focus Question: Why did Europeans begin to embark on voyages of discovery and expansion at the end of the fifteenth century?

AGE OF EXPLORATION AND CONQUEST (“Old Imperialism”)

- ▶ **Motives: “God, Glory, Gold”**
 - Christian Crusaders in 11th & 14th centuries created European interest in Asia and Middle East
 - Religious desire to convert pagan peoples in the New World
 - Rise of nation states (“New Monarchs”) resulted in competition for empires and trade
 - ▶ Portugal and Spain sought to break the Italian monopoly on trade with Asia.
 - **Mercantilism:** sought colonies to extend empire & gain more resources
 - Technology facilitated sea travel: astrolab, better maps
 - **Commercial revolution** resulted in capitalist investments in overseas exploration

Means: Technological Innovations

- ▶ **Compass:** directionality improvements aided navigation
- ▶ **Stern-post rudder & Lateen rig:** increased maneuverability & ability to sail into the wind
- ▶ **Portolani:** charts used for navigation
 - Underestimated size of globe/oceans & didn’t take into account the curvature of the earth
- ▶ **Quadrant:** the earliest device used to find latitude
 - was a quarter-circle of wood
 - marked in degrees, with a plumb line and a sight along one edge
 - first taken to sea around 1460.
- ▶ **Astrolabe:** Another early latitude-measuring device.
 - disc with degrees and a movable arm with sights, first known to be at sea about 1481.

Impact of Renaissance

- ▶ Search for knowledge, adventurism, monopoly of Italian trade with East
- ▶ Impact on Portugal, Spain, France, England

Critical Thinking:

Which “G” do you think drove exploration the most?

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Focus Question: How did Portugal and Spain acquire their overseas empires, and how did their empires differ?

Portugal

- ▶ Took the lead in exploration
- ▶ Established commercial network along African coast, South & East Asia, & South America
- ▶ Prince Henry the Navigator (1394-1460): financed exploration
 - ▶ Christian alliances, spread Christianity, & more trade
 - ▶ Founded school for navigators
- ▶ Vasco da Gama (1469-1525): route to India, traded with Muslims & announced he was in search of “Christians and spices”

Spain

- ▶ Christopher Columbus (1451-1506) “discovered” America, or did he?
- ▶ Treaty of Tordesillas (1494): New World divided by Spain and Portugal
- ▶ Ferdinand Magellan (1480-1521): circumnavigation of the globe – killed by natives in Philippines
- ▶ Conquistadores: began creating empires by conquering Indians
- ▶ Hernando Cortès (1485-1547): Aztecs
- ▶ Francisco Pizarro (1478-1541): Incas
- ▶ Mestizos: mixed white and Indian descent
- ▶ Creoles: American-born Spaniards

Spanish Domination

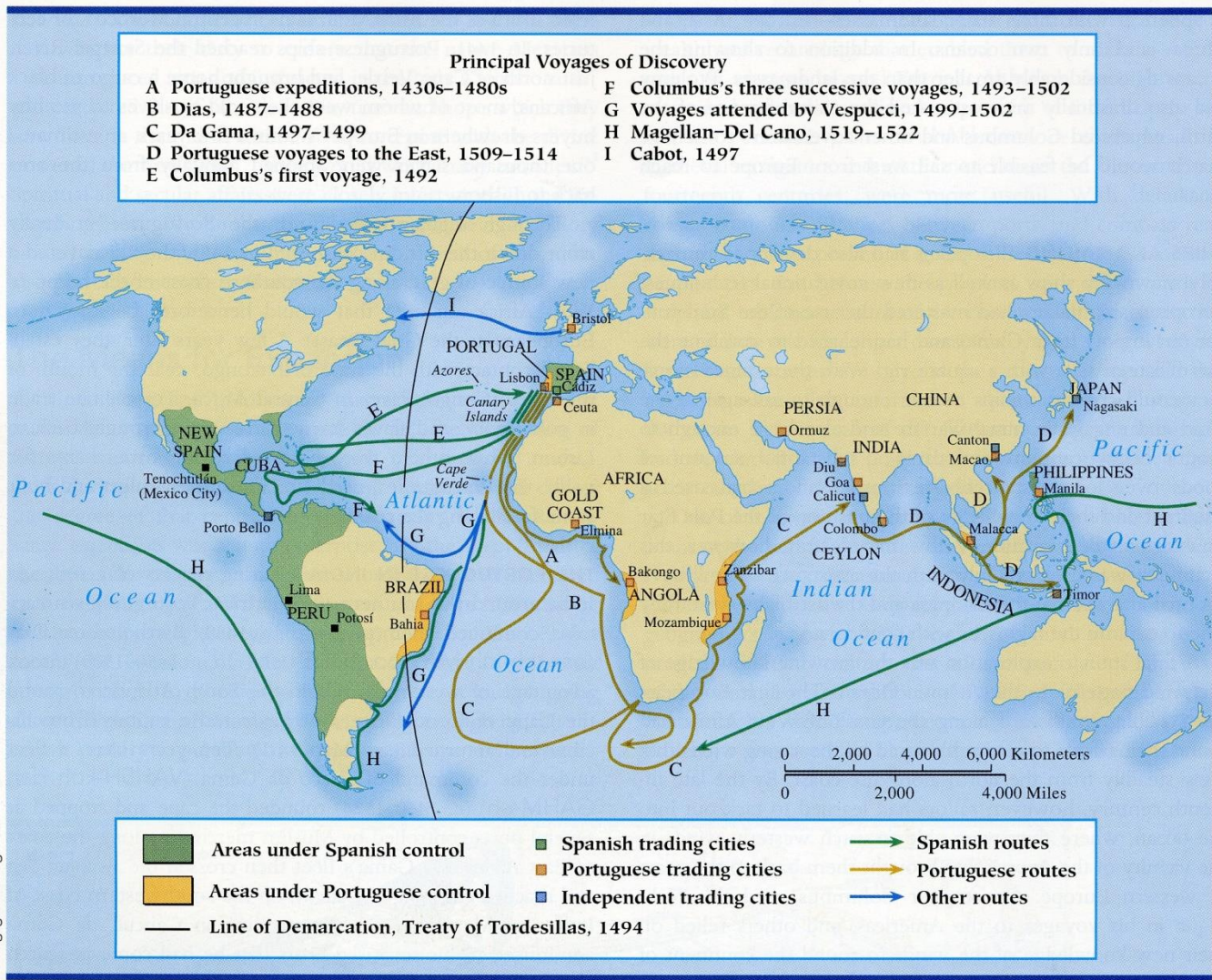
- ▶ Established colonies across Americas, Caribbean, & Pacific – made Spain dominant state in Europe
- ▶ Sought to take land & resources – not to trade
- ▶ Sought to Christianize pagan peoples
- ▶ **Agents of Domination:**
 - **Guns & gunpowder**
 - **Horses**
 - **Disease – small pox**
 - **Native Allies**

Critical Thinking:

Is the legend of Columbus fact or glorification?

What impact will the conquistadores have on the Americas?

Analyze the image of the Aztec victims of smallpox on pg 412



MAP 14.1 Discoveries and Possessions in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries. Desire for wealth was the main motivation of the early explorers, though spreading Christianity was also an important factor. Portugal under Prince Henry the Navigator initiated the first voyages in the early fifteenth century; Spain's explorations began at the century's end.

Q Which regions of the globe were primarily explored by Portugal, and which were the main focus of Spain's voyages?

Map Analysis pg 408

Which regions of the globe were primarily explored by Portugal?

Which were the main focus of Spain's voyages?

The Spanish Conquistador: Cortés and the Conquest of Mexico

HERNÁN CORTÉS WAS A MINOR SPANISH nobleman who came to the New World in 1504 to seek his fortune. Contrary to his superior's orders, Cortés waged an independent campaign of conquest and overthrew the Aztec Empire in Mexico (1519–1522). Cortés wrote a series of five reports to Emperor Charles V to justify his action. The second report includes a description of Tenochtitlán, the capital of the Aztec Empire. The Spanish conquistador and his men were obviously impressed by this city, awesome in its architecture yet built by people who lacked European technology, such as wheeled vehicles and tools of hard metal.

Cortés's Description of Tenochtitlán

The great city Tenochtitlán is built in the midst of this salt lake, and it is two leagues from the heart of the city to any point on the mainland. Four causeways lead to it, all made by hand and some twelve feet wide. The city itself is as large as Seville or Córdoba. The principal streets are very broad and straight, the majority of them being of beaten earth, but a few and at least half of the smaller thoroughfares are waterways along which they pass in their canoes. Moreover, even the principal streets have openings at regular distances so that the water can freely pass from one to another, and these openings which are very broad are spanned by great bridges of huge beams, very stoutly put together, so firm indeed that over many of them ten horsemen can ride at once. Seeing that if the natives intended any treachery against us they would have every opportunity from the way in which the city is built, for by removing the bridges from the entrances and exits they could leave us to die of hunger with no possibility of getting to the mainland, I immediately set to work as soon as we entered the city on the building of four brigs, and in a short space of time had them finished so that we could ship 300 men and the horses to the mainland whenever we so desired.

The city has many open squares in which markets are continuously held and the general business of buying and selling proceeds. One square in particular is twice as big as that of Salamanca and completely surrounded by arcades where

there are daily more than 60,000 folk buying and selling. Every kind of merchandise such as may be met with in every land is for sale there, whether of food and victuals, or ornaments of gold and silver, or lead, brass, copper, tin, precious stones, bones, shells, snails and feathers; limestone for building is likewise sold there, stone both rough and polished, bricks burnt and unburnt, wood of all kinds and in all stages of preparation. . . . There is a street of herb-sellers where there are all manner of roots and medicinal plants that are found in the land. There are houses as it were of apothecaries where they sell medicines made from these herbs, both for drinking and for use as ointments and salves. There are barbers' shops where you may have your hair washed and cut. There are other shops where you may obtain food and drink. . . .

Finally, to avoid being wordy in telling all the wonders of this city, I will simply say that the manner of living among the people is very similar to that in Spain, and considering that this is a barbarous nation shut off from a knowledge of the true God or communication with enlightened nations, one may well marvel at the orderliness and good government which is everywhere maintained.

The actual service of Montezuma and those things which call for admiration by their greatness and state would take so long to describe that I assure your Majesty I do not know where to begin with any hope of ending. For as I have already said, what could there be more astonishing than that a barbarous monarch such as he should have reproductions made in gold, silver, precious stones, and feathers of all things to be found in his land, and so perfectly reproduced that there is no goldsmith or silversmith in the world who could better them, nor can one understand what instrument could have been used for fashioning the jewels; as for the featherwork its like is not to be seen in either wax or embroidery; it is so marvelously delicate.



What did Cortés focus on in his description of this Aztec city? Why do you think he felt justified in overthrowing the Aztec Empire?

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1. What did Cortés focus on in his description of this Aztec city? Why do you think he felt justified in overthrowing the Aztec Empire?
2. **COMPARISON:** Compare Cortés's descriptions of Tenochtitlán with Marco Polo's of China. How are they similar and different?

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Focus Question: How did the arrival of the Dutch, British, and French on the world scene in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries affect Africa, Southeast Asia, India, China, and Japan? What were the main features of the African slave trade, and what effects did it have on Africa?

Slave Trade

- ▶ **Triangular Trade**
- ▶ Exploration motivated by search for spices but found other resources in Africa, such as slaves
- ▶ Portuguese 1st in slave trade, by 18th century dominated by British = transported ½ of all slaves

Middle Passage

- ▶ Middle leg of the triangular trade that took slaves from Africa to Americas
- ▶ Slaves packed in cargo ships – most died en route
- ▶ Those that survived journey exposed to diseases they had no immunity (like native Americans)
- ▶ Result: slave owners encouraged slaves to have children

Southeast Asia

- ▶ Portuguese initially dominated region but soon pushed out
- ▶ Expelled by Dutch & Spanish while British & French initially pushed out (later in 19th century will be dominating forces)
 - Dutch East India Company – spice trade
 - Spanish in Philippines – major base for trade after Magellan

India

- ▶ British presence in India steadily increased 17th century – established trading ports
- ▶ French & Dutch rivaled British but military leader Sir Robert Clive consolidated control & BEIC kept them out
- ▶ Result: significant increase in Britain's power = shift

China & Japan

- ▶ Portuguese explorer Marco Polo 1st to arrive in China
- ▶ Arrival of Europeans coincided with decline of dynasties of China
- ▶ Both China & Japan wanted to trade but also keep westerners out = British would push in anyway
- ▶ Portuguese also 1st to Japan but soon replaced by Dutch

British in America

- ▶ Sir Francis Drake (1540-1596): led English “sea dogs” against Spanish shipping
- ▶ Sir Walter Raleigh (1552-1618), Roanoke Settlement
- ▶ Privateers = Elizabeth I granted legalized pirates (mostly vs. Spain)
 - ▶ Led to conflict/war between the states = WOR

Critical Thinking:

Draw a diagram noting the triangular trade's legs & products.

Why did Portugal's prestige in the world decline?

French in America

- ▶ Rivalry with British over territory – later pushed out by British
- ▶ Jacques Cartier (1491-1557): search for Northwest Passage (explored Canada)
- ▶ Samuel de Champlain: “Father of New France”
- ▶ Established trading ports = most French Canadians were hunters, trappers, missionaries, or explorers while British settled colonies

Focus Question: How did European expansion affect both the conquered and the conquerors?

Columbian Exchange

- ▶ America → Europe
 - ▶ Tomatoes, Pumpkins, Tobacco, Corn, Vanilla, Peanuts, Turkey, Pineapple, Cacao Bean
- ▶ Europe → America
 - ▶ Olives, Coffee Bean, Onions, Citrus Fruits, Bananas, Grapes, Grains, Livestock



Critical Thinking:

How will the competition between France & Britain shape North America in the future?

How will the introduction of new products impact both the new and old worlds?

Focus Questions Answer:

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Focus Question: What was mercantilism, and what was its relationship to colonial empires?

Price Revolution

- ▶ Rise in prices due to inflation had huge impact on price of foodstuffs
- ▶ Instrumental change because Europe had been used to stable prices & wages couldn't keep up

Joint-Stock Companies

- ▶ Crucial for commercial expansion/exploration
- ▶ Funded explorers & settlement of colonies
- ▶ Investors supplied the capital/money
- ▶ British East India Company
- ▶ Dutch East India Company

Mercantilism

- ▶ New economy that replaced feudalism
- ▶ State run economy = king's economy
 - Mercantilism started by French financial minister Colbert under Louis XIV
- ▶ Favorable balance of trade
- ▶ Export more than import
- ▶ More gold & other precious metals
- ▶ Impact = reasoning behind colonial development, expansion of trade networks, & increase of production

Critical Thinking:

How will the new economies & influx of precious metals/spices impact the economies of the home countries?

Why did mercantilism develop? How will it impact the decisions country's make?

Focus Question Answer:

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Chapter 15

Focus Question: What economic, social, and political crises did Europe experience in the first half of the seventeenth century?

30 Years' War

- (1618-1648) – most important war of the 17th century
- Failure of **Peace of Augsburg**, 1555
- Four phases of the war:
 - 1. Bohemian Phase (1618-1625)**
Defenestration of Prague: triggers war in Bohemia
Protestants threw 2 of Ferdinand's officials out of a window - survived
Protestant forces eventually defeated; Protestantism eliminated in Bohemia
 - 2. Danish Phase (1625-1629)**
Height of Catholic forces during the war
Albrecht von Wallenstein (1583-1634): paid by emperor to fight for HRE
Edict of Restitution (1629): emperor declared all church territories secularized since 1552 automatically restored to Catholic Church
 - 3. Swedish Phase (1630-1635)**
Protestants liberate territory lost in previous phase
Gustavus Adolphus: pushed back Catholic forces back to Bohemia
 - a. Battle of Breitenfeld, 1630
 - b. Emperor annuls Edict of Restitution
 - c. Gustavus Adolphus killed – momentum turns in favor of Cath.
 - 4. Franco-Swedish (French International) Phase (1635-1648)**
Cardinal Richelieu allied with Protestants (like in earlier Habsburg-Valois Wars) following death of Gustavus Adolphus & defeat of Swedes in 1632
Turned tide of war back in favor of Protestants who won

Treaty of Westphalia (1648)

- Ended Catholic Reformation in Germany
 - Renewal of Peace of Augsburg (but added Calvinism as accepted faith)
 - Dissolution of Holy Roman Empire confirmed
 - Dutch and Swiss independence
 - 300+ German states became sovereign

Results of 30 Years' War

- Most of war fought in Germany
- Germany physically devastated (as much as 1/3 of pop. in certain areas perished)
- End to wars of religion
- Beginning of rise of France as dominant European power; also Britain & Netherlands
- Religion no longer issue of conflict, Europe now focused on balance of power

Critical Thinking:

Summarize the importance of Adolphus during the 30 Years' War?

Why was the 30 Years' War significant for Europe's past & future?

30 Years' War Maps from *Western Civilization: Sources, Images, and Interpretations* pg 213

1. In what ways do the geopolitical and religious divisions of Germany explain the duration and extent of damages of the Thirty Years' War?

2. How might historians use these maps to support their interpretations of the causes and significance of the Thirty Years' War?

Interpreting Secondary Sources: *Western Civilization: Sources, Images, and Interpretations* pg 214-215

Political Interpretations: Holborn

1. Consider: The role religion played in the conflict even though it may not have been primary in causing the war; other factors that might have caused the war.

Religious Interpretations: Friedrich

2. Consider: The evidence Friedrich uses to support his argument; why, according to Friedrich, many historians have rejected the religious interpretation of the war; how Holborn might criticize this argument.