

Europe

Mediterranean Sea

Egypt

Persia

China

Arabia

India

Somalia

Indian Ocean

Java



# Age of Exploration

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Contact and Conflict

1450- 1700

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# Guiding Questions

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- ✦ How and why did Europeans undertake ambitious voyages of expansion?
- ✦ What was the impact (long term/short term) on colonized people?
- ✦ What was the impact on Europe?

# Causes of European Expansion

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- ✦ Mid 15<sup>th</sup> century Europe was experiencing a period of **revival (pop)** and **economy**
- ✦ Demands for luxury goods increased
- ✦ Fall of Constantinople and Ottoman control of trade routes created obstacles to East
- ✦ **SPICES?! – but why?**
- ✦ Rise of **new monarchies** (growth of government state.) European monarchs were motivated by competition (**GOD, GLORY, GOLD**)

# Why? Knowledge (Glory)

- ✦ Ptolemy portrayed the world as a globe/Global wind patterns/**Ptolemy's map** (2<sup>nd</sup> century)
- Included Europe, Asia and Libya (Africa), Missing:?
- Showed the world as round
- More land than water
- Presented world as much Smaller.
- No Pacific or Americas
- Asia is attached to Africa



# Why? Technology

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✦ Cartography: Mercator Projection (1569)

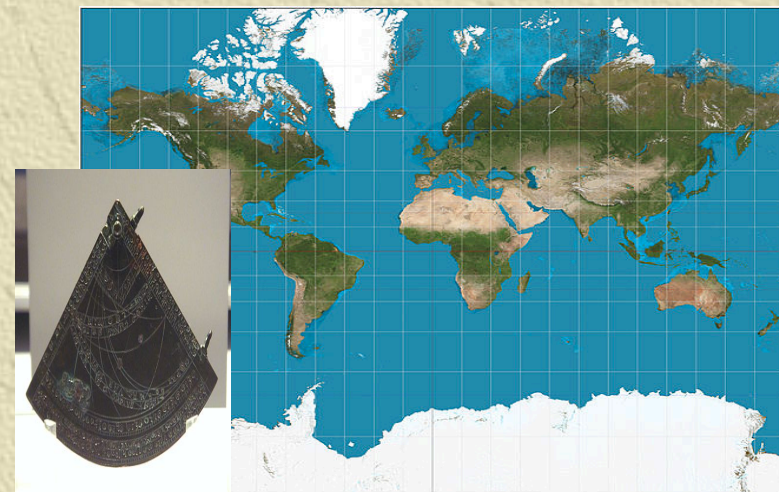
Tools (for latitude only)

✦ Caravel Ships

✦ Magnetic Compass  
(direction and position)

✦ Astrolabe

✦ Quadrant



# Why? Capitalism (Gold)

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- ✦ Rise of Capitalism/End of Feudalism
- ✦ Europe moved from a land based economy to money
- ✦ After the black death, labour became a valuable commodity
- ✦ More trade saw the growth of more towns
- ✦ Growth of middle class – demanded more goods from Asia
- ✦ We started to rely on capital, labour, raw materials – powerful merchants/monarchy start to sponsor voyages of exploration and colonization

# Why? Desire for new markets

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- ✦ Turks (Islamic Empire) had taken over Constantinople in 1453
- ✦ Turks continued trade with Europe but wanted to control the market = Europeans started to look elsewhere for goods.
- ✦ Access to spices, cinnamon, sugar, pepper all came via the spice route
- ✦ Access to silk via the Silk Road. However, this meant travelling by land through China (expensive and dangerous.)



# Why? Religion (God)

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- ✦ A place for religious tolerance and a search for new souls – Reformation, Counter Reformation, colonies as home for radicals and heretics
- ✦ Jesuit missions



# Portugal (first to seek a route)

- ✦ Portugal was the leader of European expansion and exploration
- ✦ Economic/religious motivations
- ✦ Prince Henry the Navigator sponsored first voyages along the coast of West Africa (1420)
- ✦ In 1488 Bartholomeu Dias rounded the tip of Africa (the Cape of Good Hope.)
- ✦ Vasco de Gama went around the Cape and arrived off the Coast of India in 1498.
- ✦ De Gama establishes Portuguese settlements in Calcut and Goa (brings home spices.)

**PORTUGAL**  
Lisbon

**SPAIN**  
Ceuta

Azores

Canary Is.

**Eanes, 1434**

Tropic of Cancer

Cape Verde Is.

**D. Dias, 1445**

**Gomes, 1456**

Elmina

**AFRICA**

**ATLANTIC OCEAN**

*Portuguese  
Exploration  
of Africa*

Tropic of Capricorn

0 500 1000 mi  
0 800 1600 km

Cape of Good Hope

**Cão, 1482**

**Cão, 1486**

← **Bartolomeu Dias (1487-88)**

Mediterranean Sea

Nile

Niger

Gulf of Guinea

Congo

# Voyages of Columbus

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- ✦ Columbus, an Italian explorer
- ✦ Sponsored by Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain
- ✦ Reached the Americas in 1492, where he explored Cuba and the island of Hispaniola
- ✦ Believed he had reached Asia; in three more voyages he attempted to find a route through the major islands of the Caribbean to central Asia

# The New World

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- ✦ Amerigo Vespucci - Italian navigator who crossed the Atlantic several times and officially called the land thought by Columbus to be Asia the "New World."
- ✦ Later a German cartographer renamed this land "America" in honor of his work




# Treaty of Tordesilla (1494)

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- ✦ Spain and Portugal were both extensively exploring other lands and creating new sea routes for trade.
- ✦ Both were concerned the other country would attempt to infringe on their newly discovered territories
- ✦ They agreed on a line of demarcation, an imaginary line that divided the earth into two “spheres of influence”
- ✦ The treaty of Tordesillas (1494) gave Portugal control of anything east of the line, and Spain control of anything west of the line.
- ✦ Portugal gained control of everything around Africa while Spain was given the “rights” to most of the Americas



Alain Houot

 Portugal et ses possessions

# Crash Course History

- ✦ Bartholomew Dias vs. Vasco De Gama,  
Francisco Pizzaro vs. Hernan Cortes,
- ✦ Zheng He vs. Christopher Columbus
- ✦ Ferdinand Magellan vs. Amerigo Vespucci



Vs.





# The Spanish Empire

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- ✦ The Spanish conquerors of the Americas were known as Conquistadors (superior military technology, disease, etc. to overwhelm Indigenous peoples)
- ✦ Hernan Cortes took only three years to overthrow the Aztec Empire of Central Mexico
- ✦ By 1550, the Spanish had gained control of Northern Mexico
- ✦ Francisco Pizarro took control of the Incan Empire in the Peruvian Andes

# Spanish Rule

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- ✦ Within 30 years of their arrival the Spanish had taken the western part of Latin America (Mexico, Central and South America) was under Spanish control
- ✦ The encomienda system was a labour system which rewards the conquerors with the labour of particular groups of people.

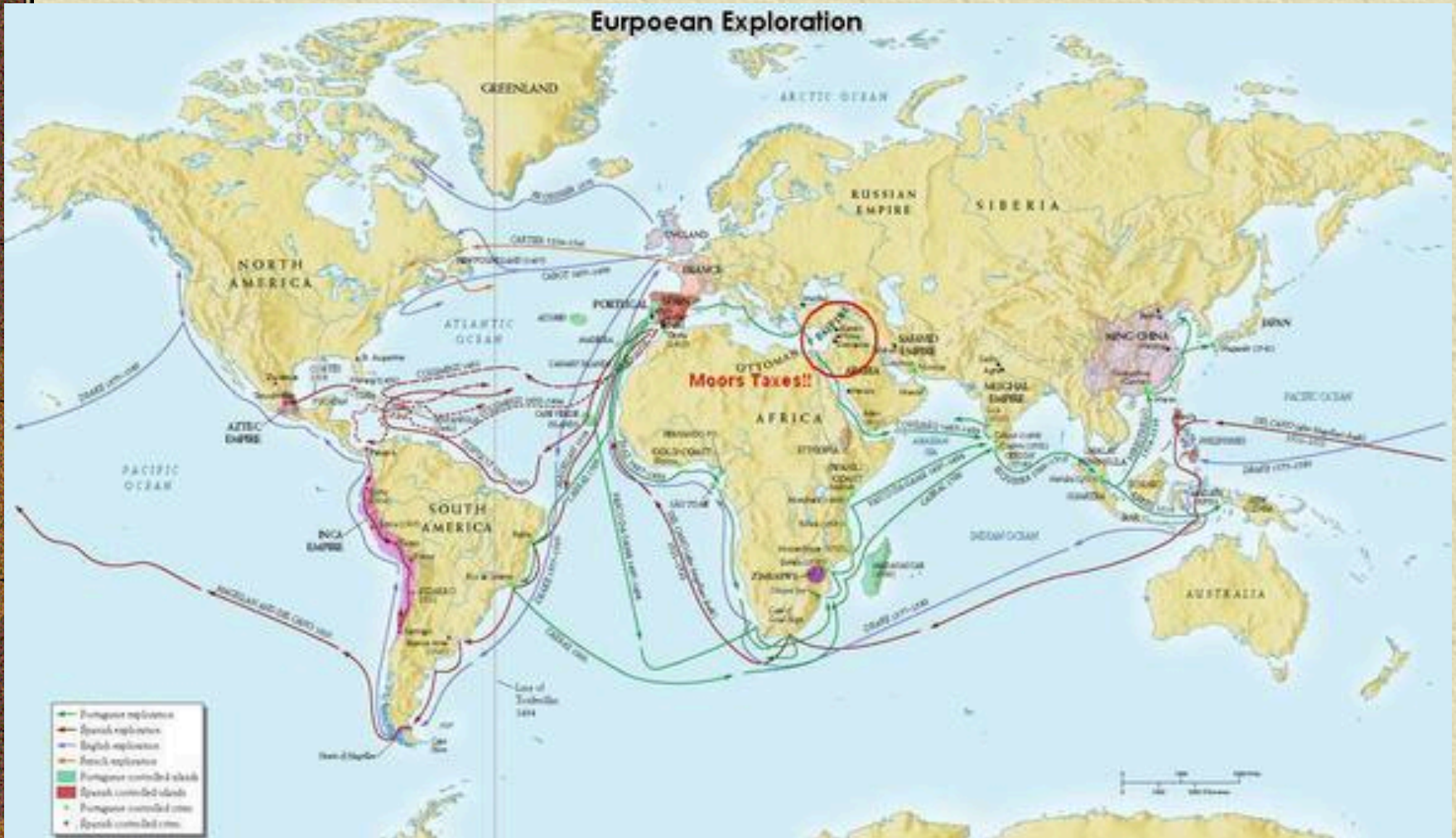
# Aztec Empire – Cortes (1519-1521)



# Inca Empire – Pizarro (1531-1533)



# Legacy – Columbian Exchange



# Legacy

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- ✦ Trade
- ✦ Capitalism
- ✦ End of Inca & Aztec civilizations
- ✦ Slave trade
- ✦ Wealth – Spain & Portugal
- ✦ New technologies
- ✦ Late arrival of France, England and Netherlands...

# Works Cited

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- ✦ Legacy: The West and the World, Garfield Newman
- ✦ Microsoft Encarta Reference Library 2003