

## **European Exploration**

### **A. Before late 15<sup>th</sup> century**

1. Trade restricted to land travel
2. Ships used on Mediterranean and Indian Ocean – But linked to land routes

### **B. Causes of exploration - interrelated factors converging on continent at same time**

1. Success of Hanseatic League
2. Crusades spawned new, efficient trade routes
3. Apply new technologies:
  - a. Sternpost rudder - improved steering - Invented in China
  - b. Lateen sails - sail in any direction regardless of wind
  - c. Astrolabe - measured distance of sun/stars above horizon - latitude
  - d. Magnetic Compass - Chinese - direction without sight of land
  - e. Three-Masted Caravels - larger sails, large cargo rooms w/ more provisions
  - f. Better knowledge of stars → Gained from Arabs
  - g. Sextant - able to journey further without getting lost
  - h. Gunpowder - 1500s and 1600s - huge gunships → Explorers/conquerors could use against less technologically advanced nations
4. Economic goals
  - a. Fiercely competitive about trade routes
  - b. Access to luxury goods: Silk, metal goods, spices, fruit, jewels, precious metals
  - c. Need a direct route
    1. Tired of Middle East being middlemen
    2. Gain access, increase profits
5. Political goals → Increasingly organized under strong leaders
6. New ideology:
  - a. Renaissance thinking looked externally not internally
  - b. Renaissance thinking led to belief that man could affect destiny
  - c. Renaissance ideals → Sense of curiosity and adventure
7. European visitors to Mongol court learned of Asian technology → printing press, gunpowder, magnetic compass → Marco Polo stories
8. Rise of nation-states
  - a. encouraged economic development
  - b. created rivalry between nations for new territories and new wealth
9. precedent of Italian merchants making money → want to get a piece of the action

### **C. Early Exploring Nations - Iberian wave**

1. Why Portugal?
  - a. Location: Coast of Africa - strategic + On Europe's Atlantic frontier
  - b. Trade relations with Muslim nations
  - c. Royal family supported exploration → Prince Henry the Navigator
  - d. Maritime experience: Mediterranean trade + Long series of naval wars with Ottoman Turks
  - e. Strategy
    1. Explore Africa Coast - around and East
    2. Claimed several Atlantic island groups - Madeiras and Azores
  - f. Colonization
    1. Far East and Southeast Asia - too strong/advanced to conquer
    2. Settled for trading ports - Goa, Malacca, Sri Lanka
2. Spain - Head west
  - a. Distracted/delayed by Reconquista → War against the Moors
  - b. Would have to find option B, Portuguese already have Africa

- c. Columbus's voyage - Financed by Ferdinand and Isabella
  - d. Colonization → Started in Caribbean: Island bases on Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Hispaniola (DR/Haiti)
3. Treaty of Tordesillas - line of demarcation - Brazil vs. Rest - Pope draws line

#### **D. Northern Exploring Nations - Northern Wave**

1. Background
  - a. Spanish/Portuguese jealously guarded geographic knowledge/navigational techniques
    1. Wanted to lock northern Europe out of Atlantic exploration
    2. What was at stake? Military power / Immense wealth / Religious rivalry
  - b. In 1500s, N. Europe only really can explore N. Atlantic coast of N. America
    1. Hoping to find a "Northwest Passage" to China/India through Arctic
  - c. By middle 16<sup>th</sup> century, 17<sup>th</sup> century - gained knowledge from Spanish/Portuguese
  - d. Led to conflict wherever they went → meant wars on water and on land
2. England
  - a. 1500s - English fought series of naval wars with Spain
    1. Goals:
      - a. harass Spanish colonies
      - b. capture Spanish treasure ships returning from New World
    2. Gained navigational/geographic knowledge from these wars
  - b. 1600s - English establish colonies
    1. Failed early colonies in N. America - Roanoke most famous
    2. Eventually Plymouth Rock (escaping Puritans) and Jamestown - Virginia
  - c. British East India Company → Manage economic/military relations
  - d. Eventually landed and explored Asia - took Asian port in Malacca
  - e. Motivations
    1. Gain military strength
    2. Gain wealth
    3. Difference → Eager to turn colonies into permanent settlements
    4. Exploitation of natural resources the norm
    5. Brought slaves to the New World
3. France
  - a. Surveyed Atlantic coast near Canada
  - b. Colonized Canada → Main reason - rich supply of animal furs
  - c. Later explored Mississippi, Great Lakes and major rivers
4. Netherlands - aka the Dutch
  - a. At first, closely tied to War of Independence against Spain
    1. Strategy - attack Spanish at sea - disrupt connections to colonies
    2. Later did same to the Portuguese
  - b. Dutch East India Company
  - c. Invaded Indonesia - maintain colonial presence for hundreds of years
    1. Ran pepper and spice plantations
    2. Established Batavia 1619 - later became Jakarta
  - d. N. America
    1. Purchased Manhattan - New Amsterdam - 1624 → English took from Dutch in mid 1600s
  - e. Africa - Cape Colony - Southern tip → Supply station for ships sailing to Indonesia
5. Effects
  - a. created colonies
  - b. conquering new lands

- c. led to wars
- d. led to nationalism
- e. legitimacy of absolute monarchy
- 6. Why Northern colonies?
  - a. Risky, expensive - needed backing of strong/wealthy states
  - b. Merchants needed protection - need strong navies

#### ***E. Effects of European colonization***

- 1. emergence of truly global economic system
- 2. worldwide system of military competition among European powers for global dominance

#### ***F. Themes of European exploration***

- 1. Nations of Europe tried to establish control over territories they encountered
  - a. Conquered and colonized
  - b. Forced open markets
- 2. Legacy - Positive for Europe
  - a. Nations of Europe unprecedented amount of geographical, navigational, scientific knowledge
  - b. Europe became extremely rich and powerful
  - c. No longer the smallest/weakest civilization
- 3. Legacy - Moral and ethical price
  - a. Connection to war, greed, prejudice, religious intolerance, slavery
  - b. Parts of the world remained under European control for hundreds of years
  - c. Tensions between nations still have impact on international relations
  - d. Environments, populations, economies, political systems altered dramatically

#### ***G. Patterns of world trade***

- 1. Europeans established ports in East Asia, Southeast Asia, India, and west coast Africa
- 2. involvement in international trade positively affected local and regional economies
- 3. where direct trade not possible, Europeans negotiated special economic rights
  - a. Russia - factors establish agencies in Moscow/St. Petersburg
  - b. Ottoman Empire - Western European traders formed colonies with Constantinople → Granted special commercial considerations

#### ***H. Regions outside the world trade system***

- 1. China relied primarily on regional trade
  - a. Most of economic activity through the port of Macao
  - b. Disinterest in European products
  - c. Trade imbalance - Europeans paid for Chinese products with silver
- 2. Tokugawa Japan prohibited foreign trade → EXCEPT for limited commercial activity with the Dutch - Nagasaki
- 3. Russia traded primarily with the nomads of central Asia
- 4. Ottomans dismissed the impact of European technology → showed little enthusiasm for trade with the West
- 5. Mughal India encouraged trade with the West -- More preoccupied with imperial expansion
- 6. Internal Africa - Europeans afraid to enter
  - a. Risk of contracting malaria
  - b. Lack of navigable rivers

## **Commercial Revolution**

### **A. New Financing**

1. Joint Stock Company
  - a. Pool the resources of many merchants
  - b. Reducing the costs and risks of colonization
  - c. Investors buy shares/stocks in company
  - d. Each investor receives profit if company makes money → Potential for huge profits
2. Substantial middle class of merchants
  - a. attracted more investors → beginnings of modern stock market

### **B. Changing views**

1. Church revised ban on standard business practices: lending money / charging interest
2. Monarchies granted trade monopolies to trade routes
  - a. These companies would essentially run the nation they traded from
    1. Dutch East India Company - Spice Islands - Indonesia
    2. British East India Company - parts of India
    3. Moscovy Company - England - Russia
  - b. Fostered the growth of capitalism
3. **Mercantilism** → country actively sought trade + don't import more than export
  - a. Country's surplus had to be met by another's deficit
    1. Pushed for colonization
    2. All resources to mother country
    3. Colonies must buy from mother country only
    4. Must ship using mother country's sailors/ships
  - b. Protected domestic industry
    1. Huge tariffs on imports
    2. Reduced/banned tariffs on trade within country
  - c. Colonies annoyed
    1. Resources shipped to Europe
    2. Not free to buy cheapest/best products from overseas
    3. Added taxes create greater resentment
  - d. Social diversification
    1. Growing importance of nonagricultural ways to earn money
    2. Bourgeoisie - middle class → banking / commerce / shopkeeping / artisanry / craftsmanship
    3. small middle class to begin with, but grew in size and importance
  - e. Wealth now based on industries around money, not merely land
  - f. Extraction of precious metals - especially silver
    1. effect on economies around the world → glut of precious metals → severe inflation
  - g. Birth and growth of Atlantic slave trade: 1400-1800 - 12 million Africans

### **C. Chartered companies - companies allowed to exist by Charter from the crown**

1. Independent traders looking for profit from business

### **D. State banks** → Large banks chartered by monarchy

1. Facilitated lending and managing of kingdom's economy
2. Lent money to the government
3. lent money and issued bank notes - redeemable for coin (gold/silver)

## **European colonization of Americas**

### **A. Why successful?**

1. Disease → Indigenous people had no resistance - developed independently
2. Neighboring states hated Aztecs, more than happy to help
3. Fear of unknown - metal, horseback - seen as God
4. Motivation - acquire gold and spices
5. Superior weapons

### **B. Early colonization**

1. Cortes - 1519 - Aztecs → Tenochtitlan - Mexico City - New Spain
2. Pizarro - 1531 - Incas
3. **Goals:**
  - a. Boost home countries' power and wealth
  - b. Exploitation and exploration of raw materials
  - c. Spread of Roman Catholicism
  - d. Labor system
    1. Attempted to use natives, but failed
    2. Resorted to importing labor from Africa

### **C. Differences in empire expansion from earlier empires**

1. Existing populations wiped out → not allowed to remain intact
2. Huge numbers of people moved in
3. Previous empires merged with, converted, or were converted by existing population
4. Americas - Europeans created new continent in own image → two Europes essentially

### **D. Labor/Economic System**

1. Hierarchical system
  - a. *Peninsulares* - Spanish officials
  - b. *Creoles* - born in colonies to Spanish parents
    1. Educated, wealthy
    2. Looked down upon by Spanish aristocracy
    3. Became leaders of resistance movements later
  - c. *Mestizos* - European and Native American ancestry
  - d. *Mulattos* - European and African ancestry
  - e. Native Americans - little to no freedom → Worked on estates, in mines
2. **Encomienda System** - American Feudalism
  - a. Peninsulares get land and number of slaves/native laborers
  - b. In exchange, must protect them and convert them
3. Attempts at reform
  - a. Treatment horrific - Christian missionaries appealed for reform
  - b. Reduced strain on natives by bringing in Africans
  - c. Replaced one oppressed group with another
  - d. Both Africans and Natives ended up at bottom of social hierarchy

### **E. Difference in methods of Colonization**

1. **Spanish/Portuguese**
  - a. Resource extraction #1 priority
  - b. Treatment of Native Americans harsh
    1. Until recently known as cruelest of colonizers
    2. Indians first as slaves, then exploited for cheap labor
    3. Kept near bottom of Latin American social scale
  - c. Importation of African slaves massive
    1. More brought to Latin America/Caribbean than United States

- 2. Primarily brought over males
- 3. numbers only kept up through importation, not reproduction
- d. Missionaries/priests - conversion to Catholicism a priority
- e. Settled presence of Spanish/Portuguese (large cities) created permanent colonies
- 2. **French**
  - a. Focused on economic exploitation → fur trade
  - b. Made little effort to create long-term settlements
    - 1. Attacks from British made it difficult to have long-term settlements
  - c. Hunters, trappers, soldiers - remarkably adept at adapting selves to environment → Learned language of Native Americans → made alliances
- 3. **English**
  - a. Most strongly encouraged long-term settlement
    - 1. viable, long-lasting colonies desirable
    - 2. Grew rapidly - men, women and children stayed → communities grew
    - 3. Strong systems of local government
  - b. Colonists went to escape religious persecution
  - c. Some colonists were convicts
  - d. Greatest number indentured servants → Worked for masters in exchange for payment of voyage over
  - e. Used African slaves → Tobacco/cotton growing southern plantation societies
  - f. Initially, relationship with Indians relatively peaceful → Relationship soured during French/Indian Wars

**Columbian Exchange** - most rapid and profound ecological transformation in world history → New foods, animals, resources led to massive changes for both regions

#### **A. From Europe/Africa**

- 1. horses, pigs, cattle, goats, sheep, chili peppers, sugar cane
  - a. Increased milk and meat supply in Americas
  - b. Horse provided labor and transport → Changed nature of Indians on the Plains
- 2. Food - for the most part Americas uninterested in food crops
  - a. wheat, olive trees, grapevines, coffee
- 3. Christianity
- 4. From Africa - food, cultural practices, religious beliefs

#### **B. From Americas**

- 1. Food – Types:
  - a. squash, beans, corn, potatoes, cocoa
  - b. Maize and sweet potatoes to China and parts of Africa
  - c. White potatoes to Europe
  - d. Manioc to Africa
  - e. Sugar cane cultivation transferred to Brazil/Caribbean
- 2. Impact → Boost population growth
- 3. Dramatically shifted diet - Europe now getting different parts of food pyramid
  - a. Vitamin rich tomatoes
  - b. **Sugar** as luxury good
- 4. Excellent source of **cotton**

#### **C. Diseases**

- 1. Mostly European diseases that killed Americans → smallpox and measles
- 2. Only disease thought to be brought back from natives is syphilis (not proven)

## **D. Weapons**

## **E. People**

1. Forced - coercive - slavery, convicts
2. By choice - colonists, religious persecution, exploration, indentured servitude
3. DNA from different regions now mixed
4. European encounter with Americas - totally changed Americas
  - a. Altered biological and dietary realities for tens of millions of people
  - b. Greater cultural interaction
  - c. Movement of Europeans and Africans - forever altered North/South American ethnicity, religion, language, art, and music

## **Triangular Trade Route**

### **A. Slaves from Africa on Middle Passage**

1. Captured / stolen and then taken to slave factories
2. 13-20% died en route → death from suicide, illness, thrown overboard for lack of supplies
3. Only 5% went to N. America, most to Caribbean and South America
4. Most N. American slaves first had spent some time in the West Indies

### **B. Rum, sugar to Europe**

### **C. Manufactured goods - guns - to Africa**

## **Slave Systems in the Americas**

### **A. Labor/Economic System**

1. Encomienda System → Not "intended" to be slave system, but essentially was
2. Attempts at reform
  - a. Attempts by clergy to protest cruel treatment
  - b. Abolished in 1542 → new government leadership forced Spanish to bring in more African slaves

### **B. African Slave Trade**

1. Existed before transatlantic voyages
  - a. Africans had been raiding from ancient times
    1. Put to work in gold and salt mines
    2. Women often enslaved and traded → harem / household servants
  - b. trans-Saharan trade already brought slaves to Mediterranean world
  - c. mid-15<sup>th</sup> century Portuguese opened up direct trade
2. New World demand for labor
  - a. Forced migration of millions → W. Africans already skilled in agriculture
  - b. Changed history of New World → plantation economies
3. Some African rulers cooperated with slave trade
  - a. Portuguese brought into contact with powerful African kingdoms → Kongo, Benin, Mali and Songhay
4. Europeans forced issue
  - a. rounded up
  - b. forced onto ships
  - c. chained together
  - d. Endured Middle Passage → Hot, unventilated conditions - suffocation / Some starved / Killed in attempted revolts

- e. Taken to auction blocks
- 5. Types of labor → Sugar/coffee plantations and Mines
- 6. Slavery hereditary - children automatically slaves
- 7. N. America vs. S. America Caribbean
  - a. Families vs. Males
  - b. Natural reproduction vs. existence based on trade
  - c. Motivation for keeping alive differed
- 8. Reached peak in 18<sup>th</sup> century

### ***C. Effects on Africa***

- 1. Guns and European glass became prized → Often traded for human slaves
- 2. Causes massive demographic shifts
  - a. Brutal separation from family/culture
    - 1. More males than females transported
    - 2. Heavy work required on plantations
  - b. Even if survived, absorbed into foreign culture that considered them property
    - 1. Many Christianized, but...
    - 2. Maintained parts of their language and culture
    - 3. Unique cultural synthesis - African music, dress, and mannerisms mixed with Spanish and indigenous cultures in the Americas
- 3. Reliance on importation of European technology → Lessened technological development of African kingdoms