

The Age of Exploration 1500-1800

European Exploration & Expansion

Shout Out! Kudos! Congrats! Renaissance Open Notes Test

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Essential Question

- What are the effects of political and economic expansion?
 - On the explorers?
 - On the conquered?



Why does it matter?

- 1. The connections European explorers made between Europe and the rest of the world were crucial to forming the world we live in today.
- 2. European explorers were driven by a variety of motives and should not be typecast:
 - a. Wealth
 - b. Political Ambition
 - c. Religious Zeal and Missionary Calling
 - d. The Call of Adventure

Lesson Vocabulary

Caravel

- A small, fast, maneuverable ship that had a large cargo hold and usually three masts with lateen sails. Developed by Prince Henry of Portugal.
 Colony
- A settlement of people living in a new territory, linked with a parent company or state by trade and government control.

Conquistador

• A leader in the Spanish conquest of America

Motives and Means

From 1500 – 1800...

- **First Portugal**, then Spain, followed by the Netherlands, England, and France.
- Europe was fascinated with Asia, in part due to the 13th century journeys of Marco Polo.

Motives ("GOLD, GLORY, and GOD") for European expansion

- 1. Desire to convert indigenous people
- 2. Grandeur and glory (political gain)
- 3. Economic interest (trade and gold)
- 4. Chasing a spirit of adventure

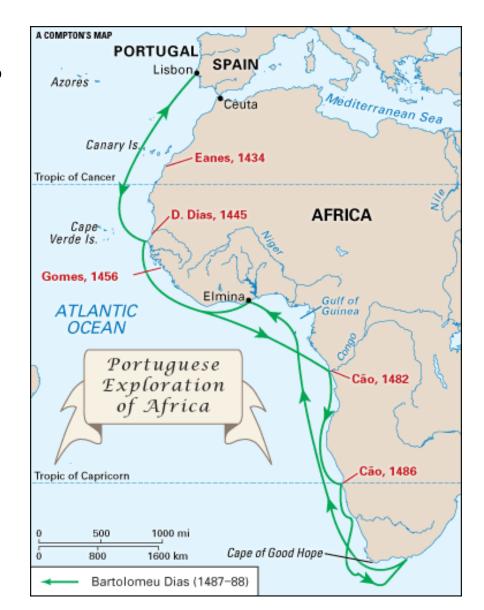
Motives and Means

From 1500 – 1800...

Means – New Technologies

- The **Caravel** sailing ship was developed in Portugal by Prince Henry the Navigator.
 - It made long sea voyages possible and... profitable (cargo hold).
- Advances in **cartography** (mapmaking).
- Advances in **navigation**.
 - Astrolabe.
 - Magnetic compass.
 - Knowledge of wind patterns (prevailing winds).

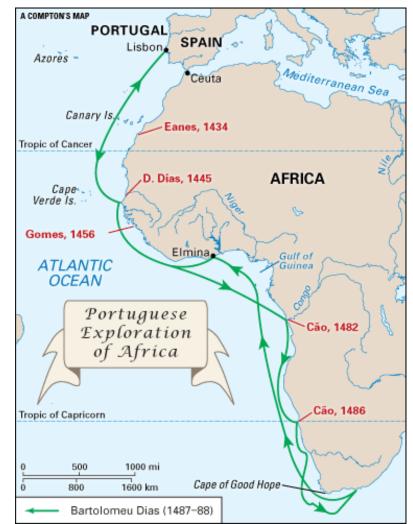
 Portugal took the lead, sailing southward along the African coast.



Portuguese, sponsored by Prince Henry, soon discovered a new source of gold from the African continent.

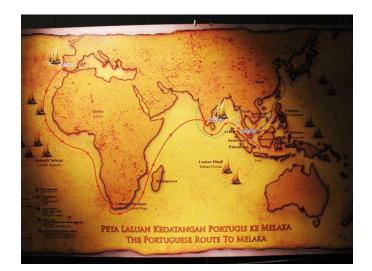
• The southern coast of West Africa soon became known as the **GOLD COAST** to Europeans.

- The goal was to find a sea route to the Orient.
- 1487 88, Bartolomeu Dias reached the tip of Africa – the Cape of Good Hope – and returned to Portugal.
- Vasco **da Gama** made it around Africa to India and returned to Portugal.



The Portuguese soon

- had destroyed Arab control of the spice trade in the Indian Ocean and
- 2. established a limited empire of trading posts on the coasts of India and China.





Spanish Explorers

- As the **Portuguese sailed south** around Africa to the Orient, **Spain sailed west** across the Atlantic Ocean to find a trade route to India.
- Christopher Columbus (Italian) persuaded Queen Isabella (yes, the same one) to finance a voyage westward.
 - In 1492, he was the first European since the Vikings to reach the Americas.
 - He made four voyages, reaching all the major Caribbean islands and Central America. He believed they were islands off of India and called them, the Indies.



New Lands to Explore

- Treaty of Tordesillas
 - 1494
 - Brokered between Portugal and Spain, two Catholic nations,
 by the pope.
 - Basically split the known world in two, giving half to each nation.

New Lands to Explore

- England gets into the game
 - 1497
 - John Cabot (an Italian), explored New England, claiming it for the English crown.
- Portugal lands in Brazil in 1500.
- Amerigo Vespucci chronicled many Portuguese voyages to the New World. His letters popularized a new name for the new lands – America (after Amerigo).

The Spanish Empire

Spanish conquerors were known as **conquistadors**.

- Fresh off the success of the Reconquista of the Iberian Peninsula from Muslim forces.
- The Spanish Empire was quite different than the trading post empire the Portuguese had built.



The Spanish Empire

Conquest of the Aztec

- Hernan Cortes defeated the ancient Aztec empire of Mexico.
 - Made alliances with Aztec enemies.
 - Superior military technology (horses, armor, firearms, cannons, steel swords and halberds).
 - Disease

The Spanish Empire

Conquest of the Inca

- Francisco Pizarro defeated the ancient Incan empire of South America.
 - Took advantage of a civil war.
 - Superior military technology (horses, armor, firearms, cannons, steel swords and halberds).
 - Disease



European Rivals

- By the end of the sixteenth century...
 - The Dutch had settled in the northeast and named it New Netherland.
 - Established a trading empire.
 - Fell to the rival French and English after 1660.
 - In 1664, the English seized New Netherland and renamed it New York.

European Rivals

- 17th century, the French colonized much of Canada and Louisiana.
- The English colonized much of the eastern
 seaboard of North
 America and set up
 plantations in the
 Caribbean.



