

Exploration Notes (Spielvogel Chapter 14)

- I. Motivations – “God, glory, & gold”
- II. Portugal – Prince Henry the Navigator (1394-1460)
 - A. exploration of African Coast
 - B. Bartholomew Dias 1488 voyage
 - i. rounded Cape of Good Hope
 - ii. returned home fearing mutiny
 - C. Vasco da Gama 1498
 - i. rounded the cape and sailed to India, searching for “Christians and spices”
- III. Spain
 - A. Christopher Columbus (1451 – 1506)
 - i. Ptolemy's Map
 - a) 2nd century astronomer
 - b) map shows the size of the earth – smaller than it really is
 - a) all this + new technology = overseas voyages
 - ii. funded by Isabella of Castille
 - a) agreed that he would get knighthood, appointed “Admiral of the Ocean Sea”, viceroy of the new lands, and get 10% of the wealth from the new lands
 - iii. claimed to the end he had found Asia
 - iv. returned to Spain in chains with brother to be judged for crimes against natives
 - a) found guilty, but king let him out – nevertheless, he lost all his titles (still died wealthy)
 - B. Columbian exchange
 - i. East to West – disease, technology, horses
 - ii. West to East – potatoes, tomatoes, chocolate, gold/silver
 - C. Spanish Empire in New World
 - i. focus on conversion of natives – make them more like us (Missions)
 - a) treatment of natives: you join us
 - ii. Conquistadores
 - iii. Hernan Cortes – Aztecs (1485-1547)
 - a) burned ships
 - b) had a native girlfriend – acted as translator
 - c) gathered natives to help overthrow Aztecs (tired of being sacrificed)
 - d) sent girlfriend into Tenotichtlan (Aztec capital) to intentionally spread smallpox
 - e) overthrew Montezuma with 600 soldiers
 - iv. Francisco Pizarro – Incans (1478-1541)
 - a) only had 180 men & 37 horses
 - b) kidnapped Emperor Atahulpa & demanded his weight in gold – delivered
 - c) then refused to release him and demanded room full of gold – delivered
 - d) killed emperor anyway
 - D. Outlaw rivals' use of ports – leads to golden age of piracy/privateers
 - E. Spain becomes world sailing power until Armada of 1588
- II. growth of slave trade
- III. France
 - A. treatment of natives: we'll join you
- IV. England
 - A. British East India Company

- i. Brits gain control of India, America
 - B. treatment of natives: Get out of the way.
- V. global economic changes
 - A. widespread inflation in 1590s (define inflation)
 - i. price revolution caused by rising costs and increasing population – all while wages stay the same
 - B. Mercantilism – government wants a strong economy
 - i. there is only so much trade – can't increase or decrease
 - a) an increase in one country's trade required the decrease of another country's trade
 - requires one nation to take from others – usually through colonies
 - ii. governments manipulated markets
 - a) especially aimed at keeping trade imbalance in their own favor
 - C. end of guild system
 - i. because jobs move to the countryside (search for cheap spots)