

Motives

Gold: Merchants, adventurers, and government officials had high hopes of finding precious metals and new areas of trade.

God: People wanted to spread the teachings of Jesus Christ after impact by the Catholic Reformation. Missionaries accompanied Conquistadors and forced Natives to convert.

Glory: Explorer's sought glory for their country while Kings and Queens wanted to claim the large amount of unconquered lands for prestige

Other: Many explorers were inspired by the myths of the Middle Ages in which they described mysterious lands with precious stones and gold. Also, explorers were inspired by Marco's Polo's adventures to Asia while the Asian Trade route reopened its doors

Means (How)

Monarchies: There was a growth of centralized Renaissance monarchies. European monarchies had increased authority and resources thus able to use their energies beyond their borders.

Technologies: Ptolemy's world map was most important map at end of 15th century. New ships used the axial rudder and lateen sails with square rig thus able to be mobile and sail against wind. Ships could engage in naval warfare and carry a lot of goods. New tools like the compass and astrolabe increased confidence. Knowledge of wind patterns let sailors sail long distances.

Portugese in Africa

Prince Henry Founded a school for navigators on the southwestern coast of Portugal which led to Portuguese fleets sailing southward along the coasts of W. Africa looking for Gold They Also brought back Africans which were sold as slaves.

Portugese in Africa (cont)

Trade Found new gold sources at Gold Coast, and established contact with Bkongo where they traded in gold, ivory, and slaves.

Land The Portuguese leased land from local rulers and built stone forts along the coast

They overall led European expansion but other countries would eventually take over them.

Portuguese in India

Bartholomew took advantage of winds to Cape of Good Hope, but returned shortly (1450-1500).

Vasco de sailed around Cape of Good Hope to Muslim Ports and Calicut in S. India where he brought home lots of spices (1460-1524)

Monopoly Portuguese would destroy all Arabic trading ports and hold a monopoly on the spices

Afonso leader of Portuguese fleet and set up ports at Goa which became headquarters for Portuguese operations

in 1509, a Portuguese armada defeated a combined Turkish and Indian fleet near India and created a blockade of the Red Sea to cut off spice trading to Ottoman Muslims in Egypt

Portuguese in East Indies / SE. Asia

Albuquerque seized Malacca in Malaysia after a short but bloody battle in which the Portuguese slaughtered the local Arab population. This helped destroy the Arab spice trade and provided the Portuguese with a way station on the route to the Spice Islands (Moluccas)

Malacca launched expeditions to China and Spice Islands from here.

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Portugal in China

The Portuguese were the first to reach China and at that time, the Chinese didn't really care about them and thought they were just Barbarians. When they got their China was in the Ming Dynasty; an era of greatness. However, the Ming Dynasty declined due to weak rulers and government corruption. The Ming Dynasty turned to the Qing Dynasty where the Qing overthrew the Ming and had strong rulers. The Qing would correct all the problems and restore the peace. The Portuguese would be later taken over by the English.

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Portugal in Japan

The Portuguese were also the first to land on Japan. Portuguese ships began stopping at Japanese ports regularly to take part in the regional trade between Japan, China, and SE Asia. The Japanese were very fascinated by their tobacco, clocks, eyeglasses, and other stuff; while the novles were interested in their firearms in which they would use to defeat enemies and unify islands. However, the Catholic Missionaries that came along would mess with the politics which made Tokugawa Ieyasu pissed. He was so pissed that he expelled all missionaries and persecuted Japanese Christians and closed 2 major trading ports. They would only allow the Dutch to stay because they didn't mess with politics..

Spain in the New World (Overall)

Columbus Italian-born explorer and navigator who thought Asia could be reached by sailing west. He thought he had reached Asia and assured the king and queen he'd find gold and convert the natives ("Indians") to Christianity.

Magellan Sailed for Spain after being rejected by Portugal and went around the tip of S. America, across the Pacific Ocean, and to the Phillipines where he was shot. Often credited as first to circumnavigate the world.

Spain in the New World (Overall) (cont)

John Cabot Venetian; explored the New England coastline of America under a license from King Henry VII of England

Pedro Cabral Portuguese; discovered South America accidentally in 1500

Amerigo Vespucci Florentine; published a series of letters describing the geography of the New World that led to the use of the name "America"

Vasco Nuñez de Balboa Spanish; led an expedition across the Isthmus of Panama and reached the Pacific Ocean in 1513

Civilizations in New World

Mayans Highly intelligent and skilled people built temples and pyramids, were skilled artists, and developed an accurate calendar. They were agrarian people who cleared the dense rainforests to farm.

Aztecs Strong warriors who constructed temples, public buildings, houses and became leading city by 15th century. Biggest downfall was loose political organization of semi-independent territories

Civilizations in New World (cont)

Incas Were a small community in Cuzco and great builders that constructed a road system of 24,800 miles, advanced bridges, and storage depots. Leader Pachacuti created a highly centralized government and expanded. Had a well organized system divided into 4 quadrants with provinces (each with own governors).

Spanish Conquest of Empires

Spanish Administration

Encomienda system that permitted conquering Spaniards to collect tribute from the natives and use them as laborers. In return, they must pay Indians wages, and supervise their spiritual needs. However, people ignored it and brutally used Indians to pursue their own economic interests.

viceroy Spanish developed administrative system based on viceroys. Spanish possessions were each governed by a viceroy who served as the king's chief civil and military officer and was aided by advisory groups called audiencias.

Spain in Phillipines

Spanish gained control over the Philippines which eventually became a major Spanish base in the trade across the Pacific. They would carry ships full of silk and other luxury goods to Mexico to trade for their silver.

They posed a threat to the weakening Portugal empire in SE Asia. But Spain would soon face competition for Portugal from the Dutch.



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Spain in the Americas (17th Century)

Spain and Portugal had large colonial empires in the Americas in the 16th century; Portugal had empire in Brazil and Spain had large South America empire. However, Spain's importance as a commercial power began to decline rapidly because of a drop in the output of the silver mines and poverty in the Spanish monarchy. At the 17th century, both Spain and Portugal's faced competition from the Dutch, British, and French.

Dutch in SE. Asia

The Dutch came along with the English and posed a major threat to Portugal. They first seized a Portuguese fort then gradually took over the spice trade. They occupied most of the trading ports in the Indian Ocean. Later, they would drive the English traders out of the spice market. The Dutch also began to consolidate political and military control over entire areas and brought the inland regions under their control to protect their position.

tldr; Drove Portugal, Spain, and English out of SE Asia spice trades and basically controlled all of it.

Dutch in America

The Dutch were the first to establish settlements on the North American continent through Henry Hudson. However, in the second half of the 17th century, they faced competition from the English and French along with years of warfare with them which led to decline of the Dutch commercial empire

tldr; Dutch were the first to establish stuff in N. America and were kinda successful, but later failed and got taken over by British and French.

French in America

The French North America was run autocratically as a vast trading area of furs, leather, fish, and timber. However, the French state was unable to get people to move to Canada which left Canada thinly populated. Later, the French were unable to provide enough men or money as they mainly focused on the Continental war over their conquest of the NA continent. In 1763, the Seven Years War would force them to surrender the rest of their Canadian lands. However, they (along with British) were able to break into the Spanish Latin America market where the French Bourbons became the kings of Spain..

tldr; Pretty big fail in North America but pretty successful in South America.

British in India

English and Dutch were competing against each other and Portugal for regional trade in India. In 17th century, British presence in India would increase. Soon, the Dutch gave up on India for focus on their spice trade, but the French were really persistent and managed to compete successfully with the British. However, the British were saved by Sir Robert Clive (CEO of BEIC). Eventually, the French also died out in India because their government stopped giving them money; the French were later completely kicked out by British in 7 years war. The British began to expand their authority into the interior which would mark a major step in the gradual transfer of all of India to the BEIC..

tldr; British were most successful in India after defeating the Dutch and French.

British in China

The English would replace the Portuguese as the dominant force. They operated through the East India Company which served as a trading unit and administrator of English colonies in Asia. They would establish trading ports and export tea and silk to England. However, China limited themselves from the British as they were confined to a small island outside the city walls from October to March. The British then got mad and demanded for them to be open to British goods and access to other cities. However, they got rejected which would later cause China's downfall..

tldr; British were most successful and made lots of money and they kicked out the Portuguese, but were confined by China.

British in Americas

The British Colonies of Jamestown pretty much was a big failure which made it evident that the colonizing of American lands wasn't conducive to quick profits. However, the desire to practice one's own religious and their economic interest led to a successful colonization. This was evident through the Massachusetts Bay Company as well as how English had established control over most of the eastern seaboard in the US. They had thirteen colonies with own individual legislatures. British colonies were also assigned roles in the mercantilist theory which basically just prevented them from getting out of control and keep the trade favourable to the motherland..

tldr; Pretty successful as they were slow to start, but quickly became big success.



Slave Trade

From 16th to 18th century, thousands to millions of Africans were removed from their homes and forcibly shipped to plantations in the New World. At first, European exploration of the African coastline did not affect most Africans living in the interior of the continent, but Africans living on the coast suffered a lot. Also, at first African slaves were just simply replacing Europeans ones as domestic servants for rich people. However, Cane sugar and other labor intensive crops were introduced which drove up the demand for slaves. And since African land was not good for growing stuff, slaves were being shipped off to Brazil and the Caribbean..

tidr; Europeans started trading and settling around Africa which led to slaves being shipped off to Europe and America's.

Effects of the Slave Trade

The importation of cheap manufactured goods from Europe undermined local cottage industries and forced countless families into poverty. The slave trade also led to depopulation of some areas and deprived African villages of their strongest men. Not only that but African tribes needed to maintain a constant supply of slaves which led to war and violence between the tribes. Also, despite humanism, slaves were still largely acceptable to Western society. Europeans still view blacks as inferior beings fit for slaves.



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