

# The Early Modern Period 1

Unit 8

# Early Modern Period...

...is a period of history between the discovery of America (1492) and the French Revolution (1789).

Some major events included:

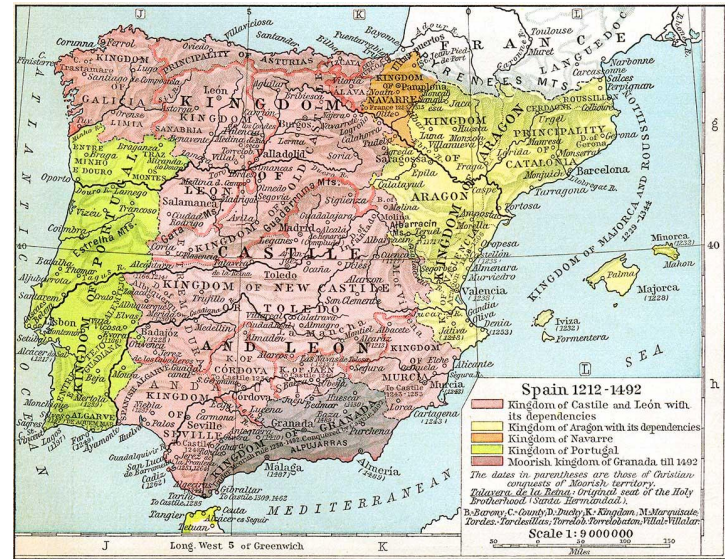
- ★ The emergence of **authoritarian monarchies**
- ★ The division of **Christendom**
- ★ The **Renaissance**
- ★ Major geographical discoveries
- ★ The development of **trade**
- ★ The rise of the *bourgeoisie* (middle class)

# Ferdinand II and Isabella I



Wedding portrait of King Ferdinand II and Queen Isabella I

- ★ Isabella I of Castile and Ferdinand II of Aragón were married in 1469.
- ★ They became the **first sovereigns** of the Spanish monarchy.
- ★ Their aims and accomplishments:
  - establish **political unity**
    - incorporating Navarra, Granada and Portugal into their territory
  - achieve **religious unity**
    - used measures like the inquisition
  - expand their territory
    - **strategic marriages**
  - strengthen their power
    - setting up royal councils
  - strengthen the justice system
    - creating royal tribunals, **Audiencias**



# Maps of Spain from 1212 - 1492

# Questions?????

1. When did the Early Modern period begin and when did it end?  
The Early Modern period began in 1492, with the discovery of America and ended in 1789, with the French Revolution.
2. What are the 6 major events of the Early Modern period?
  - ★ The emergence of authoritarian monarchies
  - ★ The division of Christendom
  - ★ The Renaissance
  - ★ Major geographical discoveries
  - ★ The development of trade
  - ★ The rise of the bourgeoisie

# Questions?????

1. What 3 achievements were made during the Renaissance period?

★ Literacy

★ Scientific

★ Artistic

2. What was the reason why King Ferdinand II and Queen Isabella I incorporated Navarra, Granada and Portugal into their territory?

They wanted to establish **political unity**.

3. How did the Catholic Monarchs strengthen their power?

They strengthened their power by setting up royal councils, which were groups of professional advisors who assisted the Catholic Monarchs with specific affairs or territories (similar to the Council of the Inquisition).

# The Discovery of America

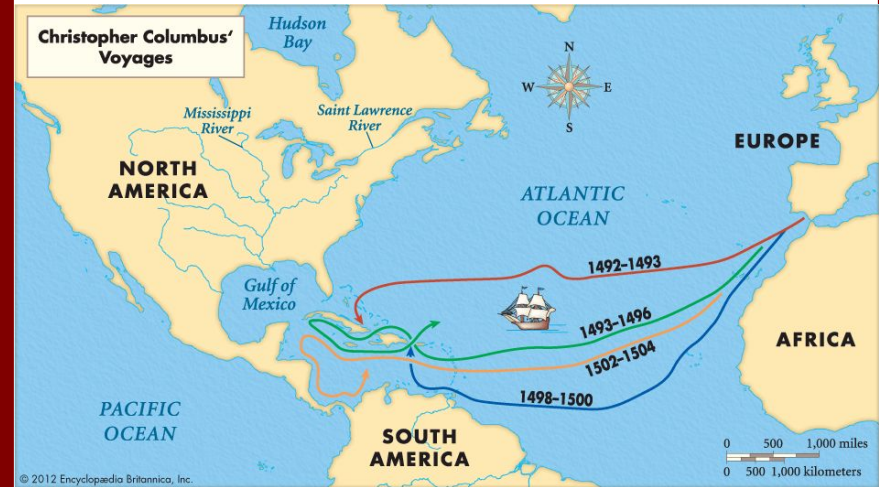
Columbus thought he could reach India by sailing west:

- ★ So he pitched his idea to Portugal and they said, no.
- ★ Then he asked Ferdinand and Isabella and they said, sure.
  - They all signed an agreement, the **Capitulations of Santa Fe** (which stated that for any land found, Christopher Columbus would be granted a special title and given part of the riches obtained.)
- ★ On October 12th, 1492, Christopher Columbus landed on the island of Guanahani (Bahamas).
- ★ When returning to Spain, he also discovered Juana (Cuba), Hispaniola (Haiti & the Dominican Republic). He called his discoveries the Indies.

# The Discovery of America

3 factors led to this momentous discovery:

1. Significant developments in navigation
2. A desire to spread Christianity
3. A need for new trade routes



**Christopher Columbus'  
Voyages from 1492 - 1504**



# The Spanish Colonisation of America

The people who conquered these new lands were called conquistadors.

There were 2 stages of the colonisation process:

1. **Hernán Cortes** conquered the Aztecs in Mexico (1519-1521) and **Francisco Pizarro** conquered the Inca in Peru (1533).
  - ★ Firearms & horses were key to their success.
2. The Spanish conquered the southern region of North America, Central and South America (except Brazil).



# Governing the Americas

Spain governed their colonies and trade by:

- ★ **The Council of the Indies**  
(made laws)
- ★ **The Casa de Contratación**  
(managed trade)
- ★ Splitting the colonies into 2:
  - **Viceroyalty of New Spain**
  - **Viceroyalty of Peru**



# Effects of the Spanish Conquest

## Positive

- ★ found precious metals (gold & silver)
- ★ Introduced many new crops to Europe (potatoes, maize, tomatoes, cocoa and tobacco)

## Negative

- ★ Exploitation of precious metals
- ★ Forcing indigenous people into slavery
- ★ Bad conditions
- ★ Spanish introduced new diseases to the indigenous people
- ★ near extinction of indigenous population

# Questions?????

4. Who was the leader of Spanish explorers that sailed in search of new lands in 1492?

Christopher Columbus

5. What was the name of the agreement made between Christopher Columbus and Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II?

Capitulations of Santa Fe

6. What is the name of the island that Christopher Columbus first reached on October 12, 1492?

Guanahani (now Bahamas)

# Questions?????

7. What year did Christopher Columbus die?

1506

8. What's the difference between the Council of the Indies and the Casa de Contratación?

The Council of the Indies made laws and named governors for the new Spanish colonies. The Casa de Contratación managed trade with the Americas and controlled the arrival of precious metals.

9. What are a few of the crops introduced to Europe after the conquest of America?

Potatoes, maize, tomatoes, cocoa and tobacco.

# Charles 1: Conflicts in Spain

- Succeeded his grandparents (Ferdinand II and Isabella I) to the throne. However, he was unpopular with the citizens because:
  - He couldn't speak Spanish
  - He appointed foreigners to positions of power
  - Imposed heavy taxes



# Charles V: Conflicts Abroad

- Charles I became King and a Holy Roman Emperor in 1520. His title was changed to Charles V.
- Three main problems:
  - a. **Wars with France** - Charles spent years fighting over Navarre, Franche-Comté and Naples.
  - b. **The threat of the Ottoman Turks** - to the Central European and Mediterranean Empire.
  - c. **The spread of Protestantism** - Martin Luther separated from the Roman Catholic Church in 1520. Protestants gained religious freedom after signing the Peace of Augsburg.

# Philip II

Charles V was succeeded by his son, Philip II in 1556. He faced the following threats abroad:

- **Wars with France:**
  - Over Italy
  - Ended with victory in 1557 in the Battle of Saint Quentin
- **Then Ottoman Turks:**
  - Spanish victory in 1571 in the Battle of Lepanto
- **The Low Countries:**
  - Protestants broke free from Spanish rule in 1579, becoming the United Provinces
- **England:**
  - English pirates disrupted trade with the Americas, Spanish Armada was defeated.

