

Age of Discovery

After the Crusades, the people of Western Europe wanted to discover new lands. They had three main goals:

Gold — they wanted more wealth

Glory — they wanted more power and lands

God — they wanted to spread Christianity

All of this was made possible by the use of scientific advancements, improved technology and cartography.



The Portuguese

Portugal was the first Western European country to begin global exploration. Prince Henry, the son of the Portuguese King, traveled and conquered lands in North and West Africa. He then began a navigation school and became known as Prince Henry the Navigator



The Caravel

The Portuguese developed a new type of sailing ship, the caravel. It had triangular sails which allowed it to tack or zig-zag with the wind. It had a moveable rudder which helped it steer and it had a large cargo hold, allowing it to carry more cargo.



Navigational Instruments

Cultural diffusion and technological improvements allowed the Western Europeans to use four essential navigational aids. To navigate by both day and night they used the sextant, compass, and astrolabe. To chart their travels they used maps and divided the world by longitude and latitude.



The East Indies

In 1498, Vasco da Gama sailed around the Cape of Good Hope and into the Indian Ocean. He reached the port of Calicut in India. Upon his return he brought back various spices including pepper and cinnamon. He started what was to be known as the Spice Trade. The area he discovered was to become the East Indies.



Expansion of the Spice Trade

By 1511 the Portuguese controlled the Straits of Malacca in Malaysia. In 1521 Spain, under the leadership of Ferdinand Magellan, had developed their own spice trade in the Philippine Islands.

By 1600 the dominance of Spain and Portugal was challenged by the French, British and the Dutch. France and Britain occupied areas around India. The Dutch took control of South Africa, Java and the majority of the East Indies from Portugal.

Both the British and the Dutch formed trading companies; the British East India Company and the Dutch East India Company.

Shipments by sea were now 1/5 of the cost if the same goods were taken back by land. Empires were now emerging and the focus of future trade was now China and Japan.



The West Indies

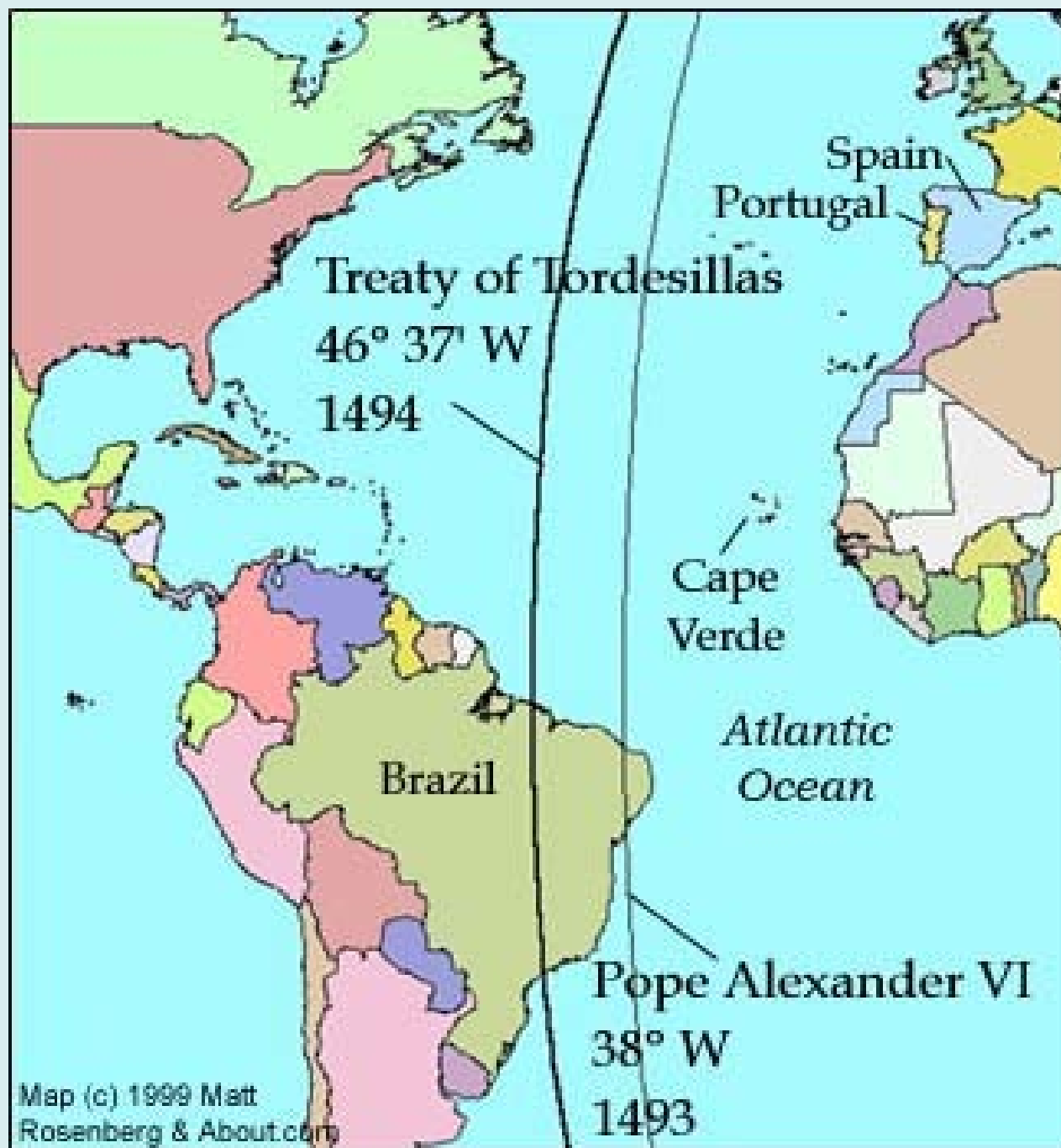


In 1492 Christopher Columbus sails west to find a shorter route to Asia. In October he reaches the islands of the Caribbean and claims them for Spain. Portugal and Spain argue over who should control.

In 1493 Pope Alexander VI creates an imaginary line, north to south, through the Atlantic Ocean. All lands West of this Line of Demarcation belong to Spain, all lands East belong to Portugal.

Portugal complains that too much land is given to Spain so in 1494 Spain and Portugal sign the Treaty of Tordesillas, the Line of Demarcation moving west so that Portugal can rule Brazil.

Both Spain and Portugal now began to create these newly found lands into colonies. Over the next two centuries, other European explorers began sailing across the Atlantic in search of unclaimed lands.



Early Voyages of Discovery

<u>Years</u>	<u>Explorer</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Area</u>
1487-88	Dias	Portugal	West Africa, Cape of Good Hope
1492-93	Columbus	Spain	West Indies, Caribbean
1497-99	Da Gama	Portugal	East Africa, India
1497	Cabot	England	Canada, North America
1513	Balboa	Spain	Central America, Pacific Ocean
1519-22	Magellan	Spain	Circumnavigates the globe
1534-35	Cartier	France	Canada, St. Lawrence River
1608	Champlain	France	Eastern Canada, Northern U.S.
1609	Hudson	Holland	Arctic Ocean, North America



THE SPANISH CONQUISTADORS



Conquistadors

In 1519, a Spaniard named Hernando Cortés landed in Mexico and he, along with the others that followed him, became known as conquistadors (conquerors). It was Cortés and his 600 men that conquered emperor Montezuma II and the Aztec empire.

In 1532, another conquistador, Francisco Pizarro conquered the Incan Empire. Other conquistadors conquered what was left of the Maya from the Yucatan to Guatemala.



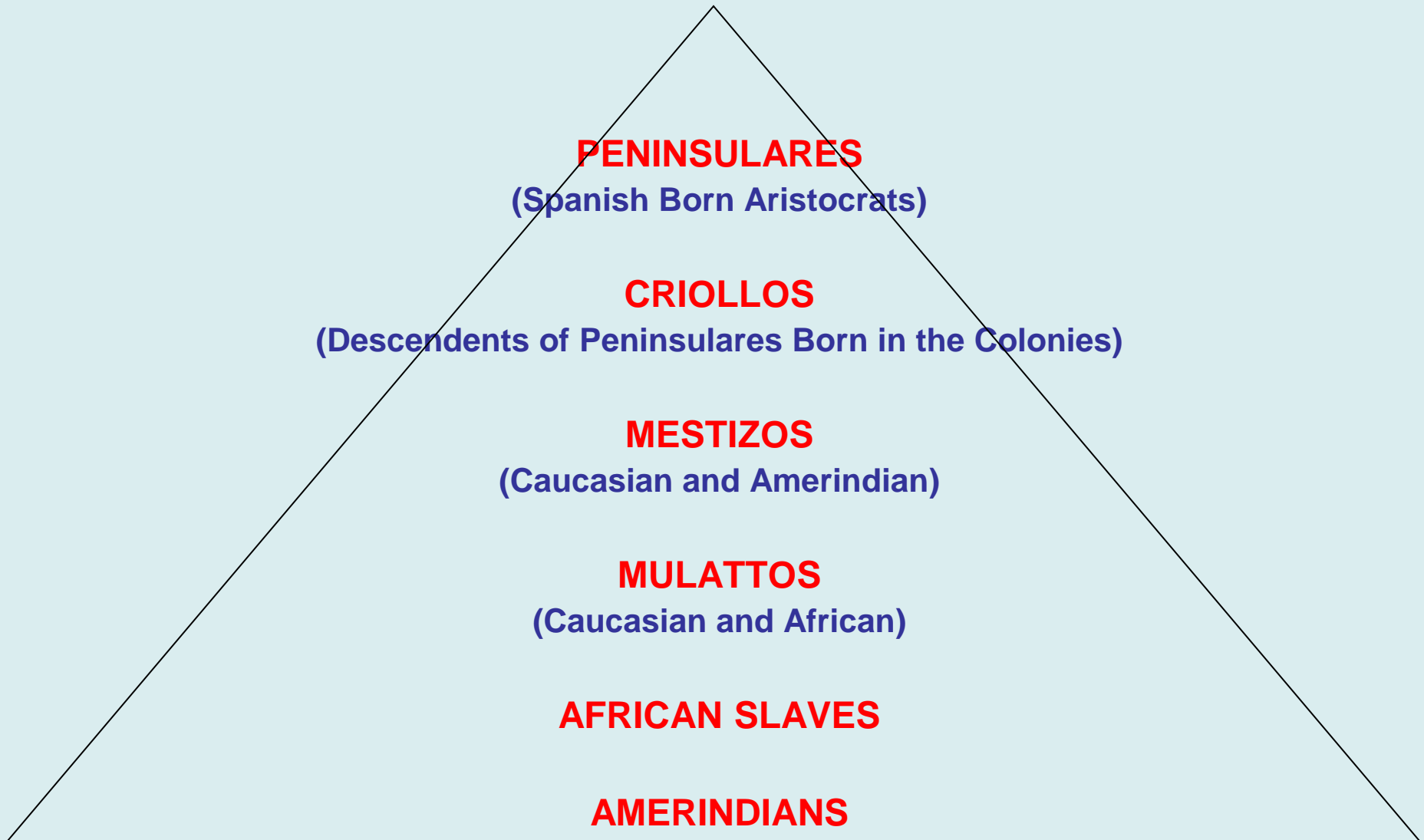
Native Population of Central Mexico

Year	Population
1519	25.3 million
1523	16.8 million
1548	6.3 million
1605	1.0 million



The Spanish defeated the Native Indians who were no match for muskets and cannons and did Not have any immune systems against diseases such as the Common Cold, Measles, Mumps, Smallpox and Typhus that the Europeans brought with them to the Americas.

Latin American Colonial Class Structure



The Encomienda System

Although the Spanish conquerors lived among and intermarried with the native people, they also oppressed them. In their effort to exploit the land for its precious resources, the Spanish forced Native Americans to farm, ranch or mine for Spanish landlords.

The landlords received the rights to the natives' labor from the Spanish authorities. They promised the authorities that they would act fairly and respect the workers but many abused these people and worked them to death, especially inside the badly built gold and silver mines.

The Columbian Exchange



New World

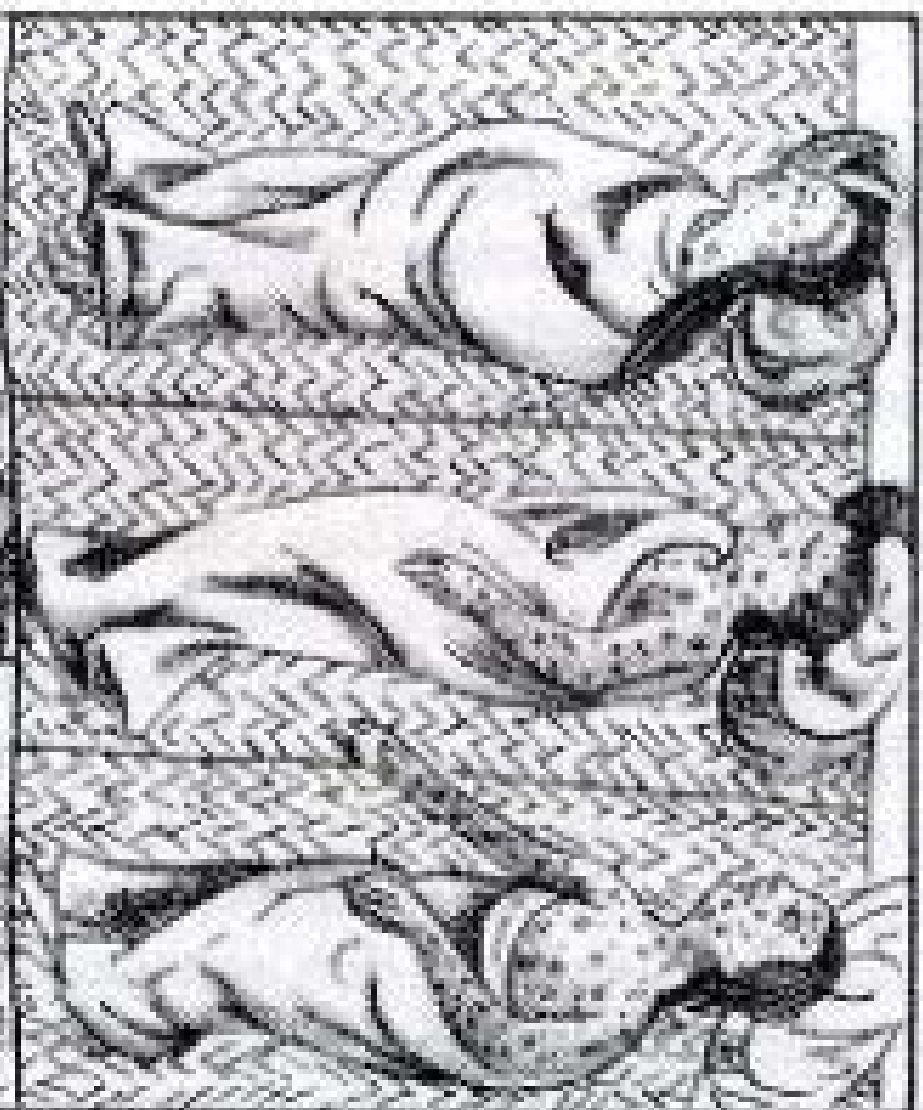
- Foodstuffs:
corn, potatoes,
beans, cocoa
beans
- Precious
metals:
gold, silver
- Tobacco

The Columbian Exchange

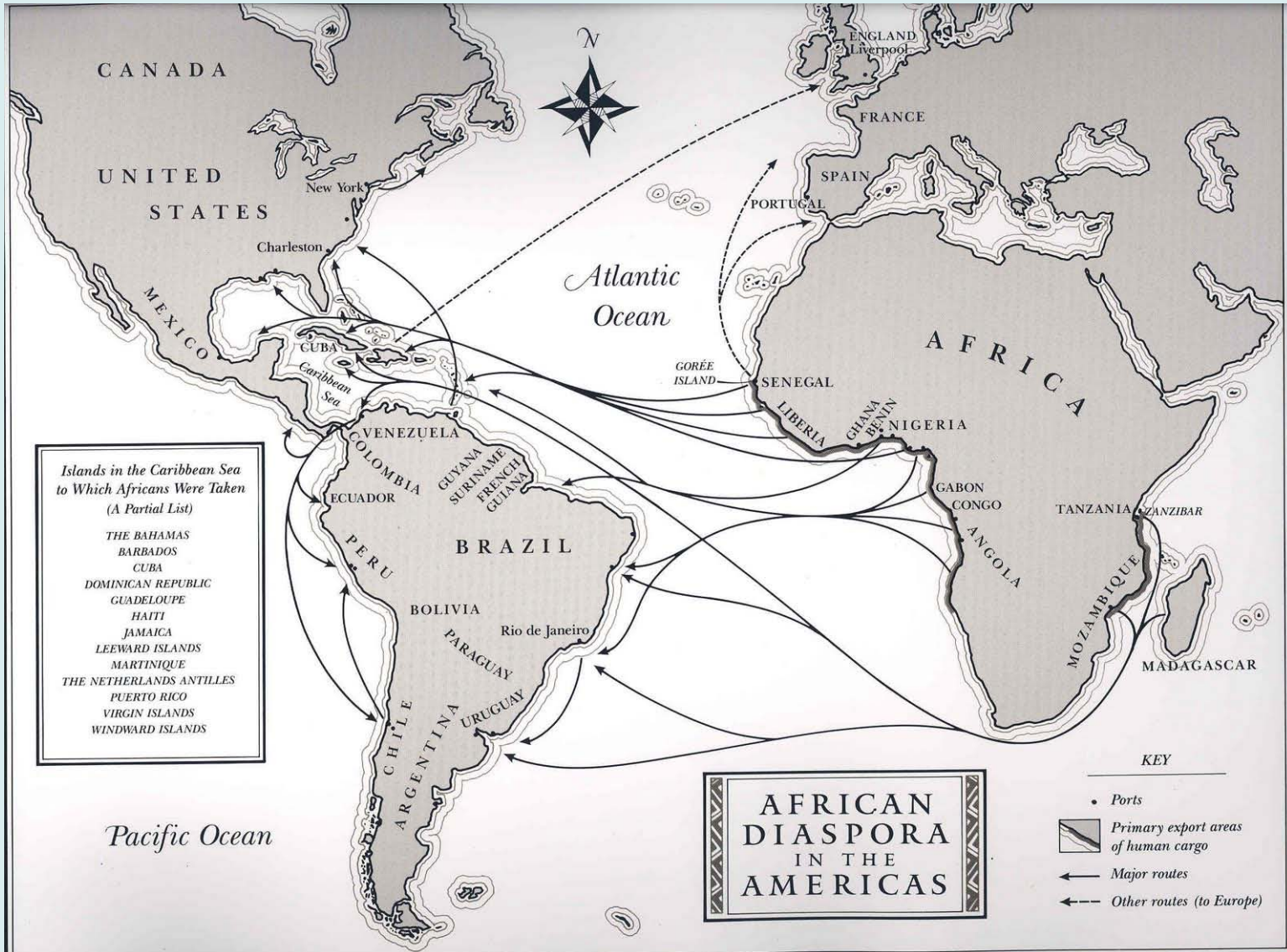
This diagram represents the movement of people and goods between Europe, the Americas, and Africa following Christopher Columbus's discovery of the New World.

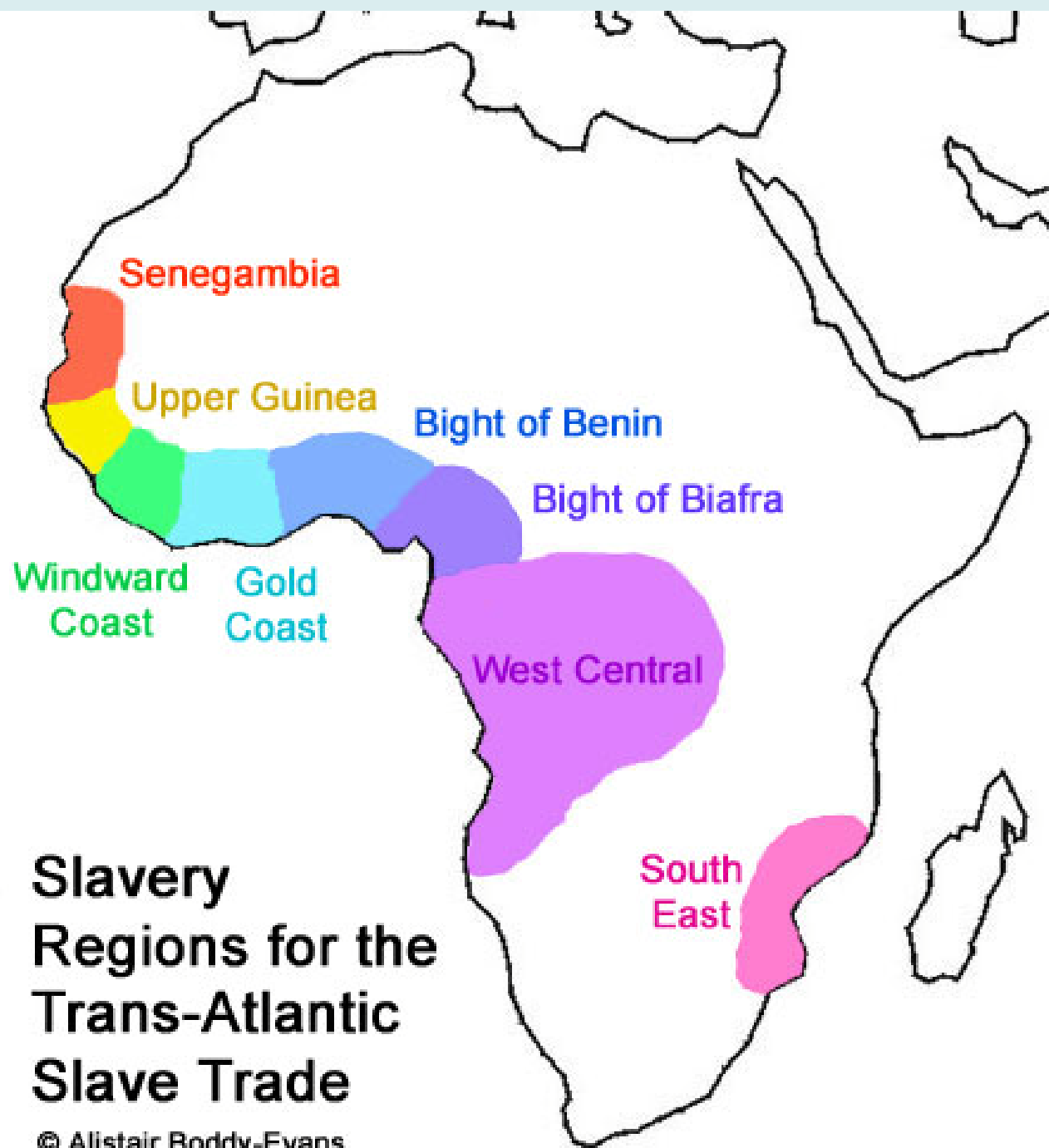
Old World

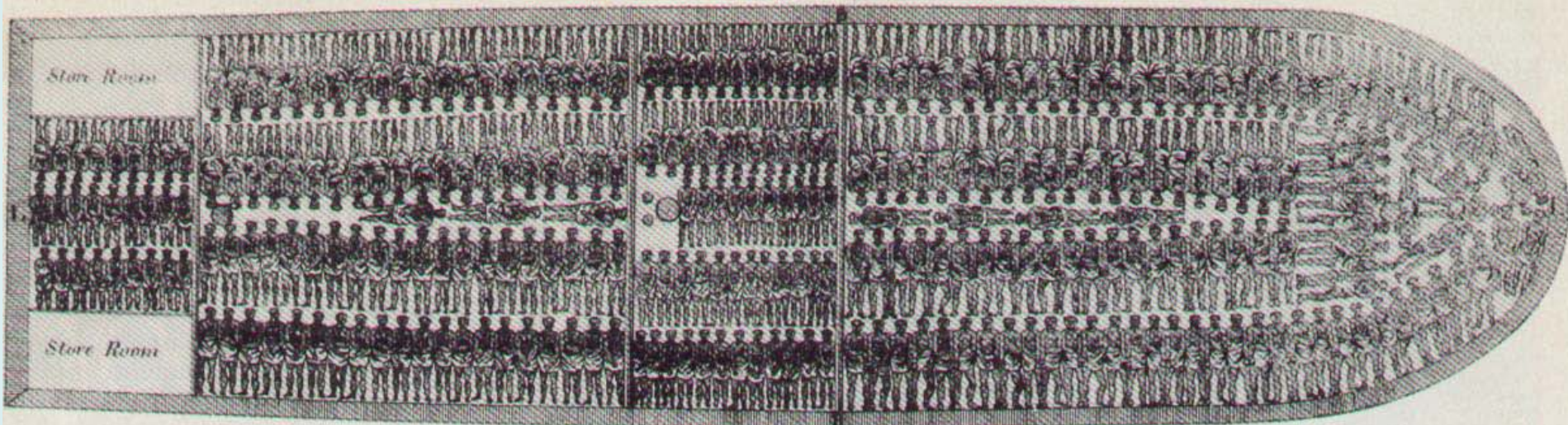
- Foodstuffs:
wheat, sugar,
rice, coffee beans
- Livestock:
horses, cows,
pigs
- Diseases:
smallpox,
measles,
influenza,
typhus



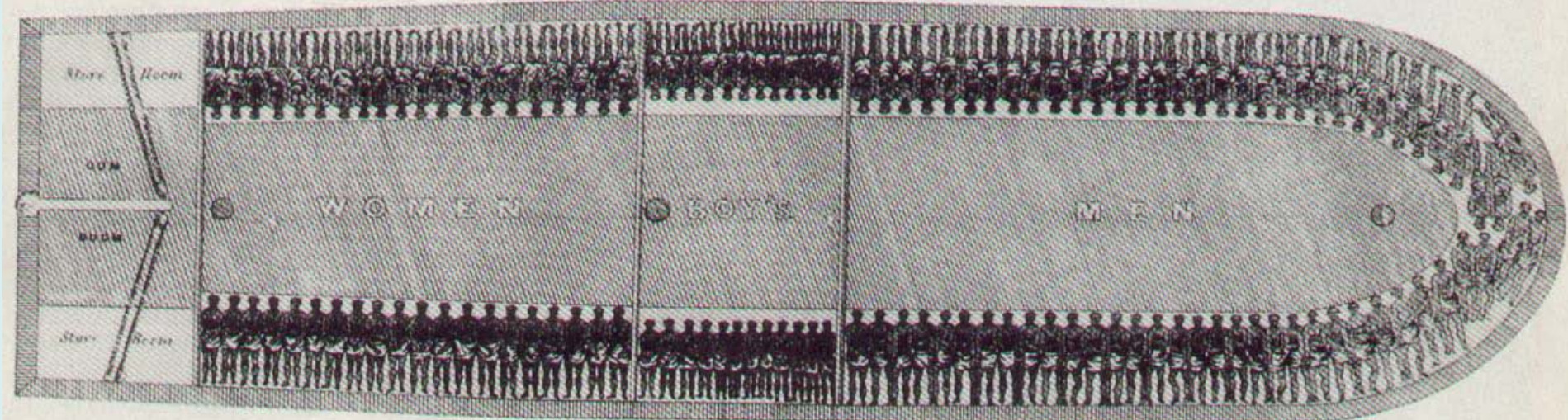
The Middle Passage







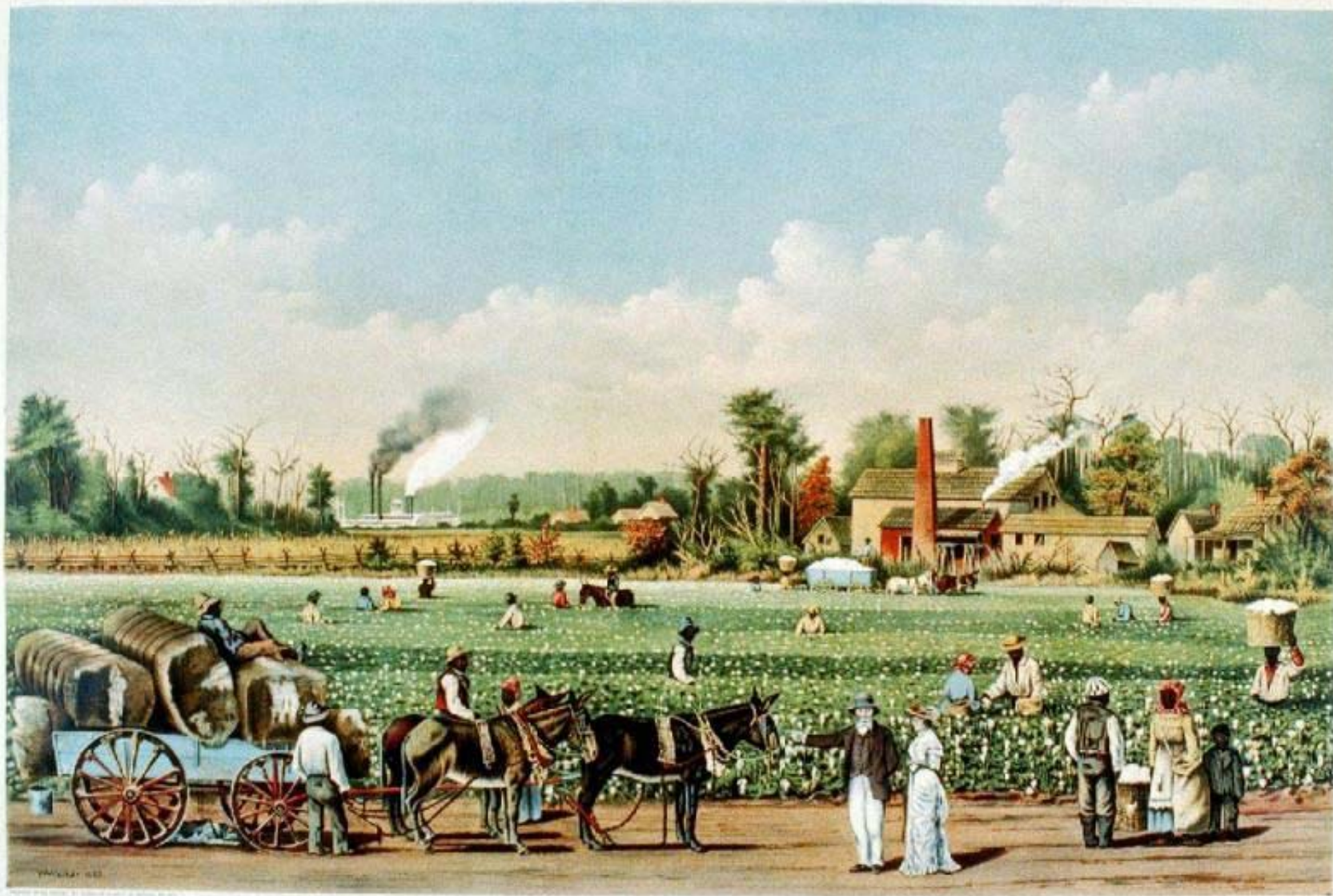
PLAN SHEWING THE STOWAGE OF 130 ADDITIONAL SLAVES ROUND THE WINGS OR SIDES OF THE LOWER DECK BY MEANS OF PLATFORMS OR SHELVES (IN THE MANNER OF GALLERIES IN A CHURCH) THE SLAVES STOWED ON THE SHELVES AND BELOW THEM HAVE ONLY A HEIGHT OF 2 FEET 7 INCHES BETWEEN THE BEAMS AND FAR LESS UNDER THE BEAMS. See Fig 1.





Slaves working on a sugar plantation





A COTTON PLANTATION ON THE MISSISSIPPI

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