



■ Essential Question:

–What were the global impacts of the European Age of Exploration?

■ Warm-Up Question:

–Identify each of the following people:

- Prince Henry the Navigator
- Vasco da Gama
- Ferdinand Magellan
- Samuel Champlain

# The Impact of the Age of Exploration

- Group presentation directions:
  - Each student group will be assigned one of nine major effects of European exploration
  - Read the placard information and complete three tasks as a group:
    - Create a summary for the placard that completes this sentence “*The Age of Exploration impacted \_\_\_ because...*”
    - Create a symbol for your summary
    - Pick a group member to present

# 1. Asian Trade

- Led by Prince Henry, “the Navigator”, the Portuguese were the first Europeans to explore the west coast of Africa, to sail around the southern tip of Africa and finally, the first to reach India.
- The Portuguese seized trading ports in India and in the Spice Islands. They fought the Muslim merchants who had control of the ports. The prices of Asian goods like spices and fabrics dropped, and more people in Europe could afford to buy them.
- Not only did Portuguese sailors bring back spices and goods from the Indian Ocean (cinnamon, pepper, porcelain, jewels and silk) but they also brought slavery to their colony of Brazil.

## 2. Nationalism

- The explorations and conquests of the conquistadors transformed Spain. The Spanish rapidly expanded foreign trade and overseas colonization. For a time, wealth from the Americas made Spain one of the world's richest and most powerful nations. At the height of Spain's power it was ruled by Philip II.
- In the long run, gold and silver from the Americas hurt Spain's economy. **Inflation**, or an increase in the supply of money compared to goods, led to higher prices. Monarchs and the wealthy spent their riches wastefully instead of building up Spain's industries.

# 3. Capitalism

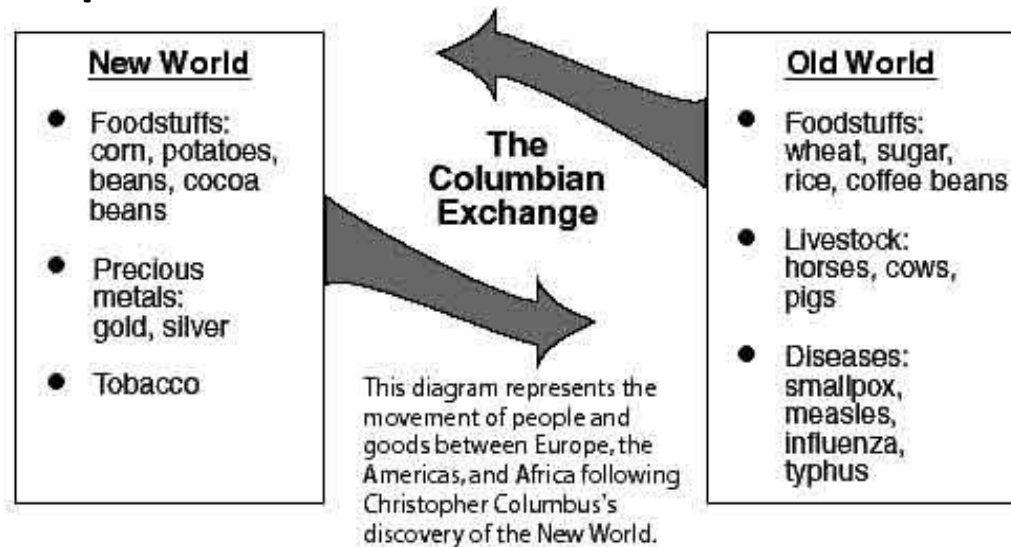
- The voyages of explorers had a dramatic impact on European trade. As a result, more goods, raw materials and precious metals entered Europe. New trade centers developed, especially in the Netherlands and England.
- Exploration and trade led to the growth of **capitalism**. This system is based on investing money for profit. Merchants gained great wealth by trading and selling goods from around the world. They then could use their profits to finance other voyages and to start trading companies. Other people began investing money in these companies and shared in the profits as well.

# 4. Mercantilism

- European nations developed a new economic policy called **mercantilism**. Kings believed that wealth was the best way to build their countries' power. They tried to reduce the things that bought from other countries and increase items sold.
- Having colonies was a key part of this policy. Nations expected colonies to supply raw materials for their industries. They could also make more money by selling finished goods to their colonies.
- As a result, a “triangular trade” developed: manufactured goods were made in the mother country, raw materials were produced in the colonies, and slaves from Africa were brought to the colonies to produce raw materials.

# 5. Columbian Exchange

- Early Spanish explorations were important because it led to knowledge of the existence of the Americas and the creation of colonies in the “New World”.
- The Spanish gained great wealth, and crops began to be exchanged with the “Old World” of Europe. The introduction of Europeans plants, animals, and diseases in America and the introduction of American crops into Europe became know as the Columbian Exchange
- This diffusion of “Old World” and “New World” products changed world history.



# 6. Colonies and Plantations

- During the 1500s, Portugal began to establish **colonies** in Brazil which greatly impacted the native people. The Portuguese tried to get them to give up their religion and convert to Christianity. They also forced them to work on sugar **plantations**. Missionaries sometimes tried to protect them from abuse, but countless numbers died from overwork and European diseases.
- The colonization of Brazil also had an impact on Africa. As the native population decreased, the Portuguese needed more laborers. Starting in the mid 1500s, for over 300 years, they brought millions of enslaved West Africans to Brazil.



# 7. Disease

- To explore and conquer “New Spain,” the Spanish turned to men called *conquistadors* (conquerors). The conquistadors were allowed to establish settlements and seize the wealth of natives. This led to conquering of the Aztecs by Cortes and the Inca by Pizarro.
- When conquistadors arrived they brought with them their horses, armor and guns, which helped them in battle. But more deadly for the natives were the deadly epidemic diseases that the Europeans carried. Millions of natives died from diseases. For example in Mexico, there were about 25 million native people in 1519. By 1605, this number had dwindled to 1 million.

# 8. Slavery

- When native populations were wiped out because of overwork and disease, both the Spanish and Portuguese began to import slaves from the west coast of Africa. Over the next 300 years millions of slaves would be taken across the Atlantic Ocean.
- The journey across the Atlantic was grueling and deadly. The **Middle Passage** is the name given to the journey of African slaves to the Americas.
- Once slaves arrived in the New World they were forced to work in harsh conditions on plantations growing sugar and indigo and work in gold and silver mines.

# 9. Christianity

- One of the impacts of exploration on the Americas was the introduction of Christianity. The Spanish conquistadors were accompanied by Catholic missionaries looking to spread Catholicism.
- Some natives were forced to convert by the Spanish that were looking to win converts as a way to fight against the Protestant Reformation. The fierce competition of European nations during the time period was not limited to wealth and power, but included religion as well.





■ Essential Question:

–What were the global impacts of the European Age of Exploration?

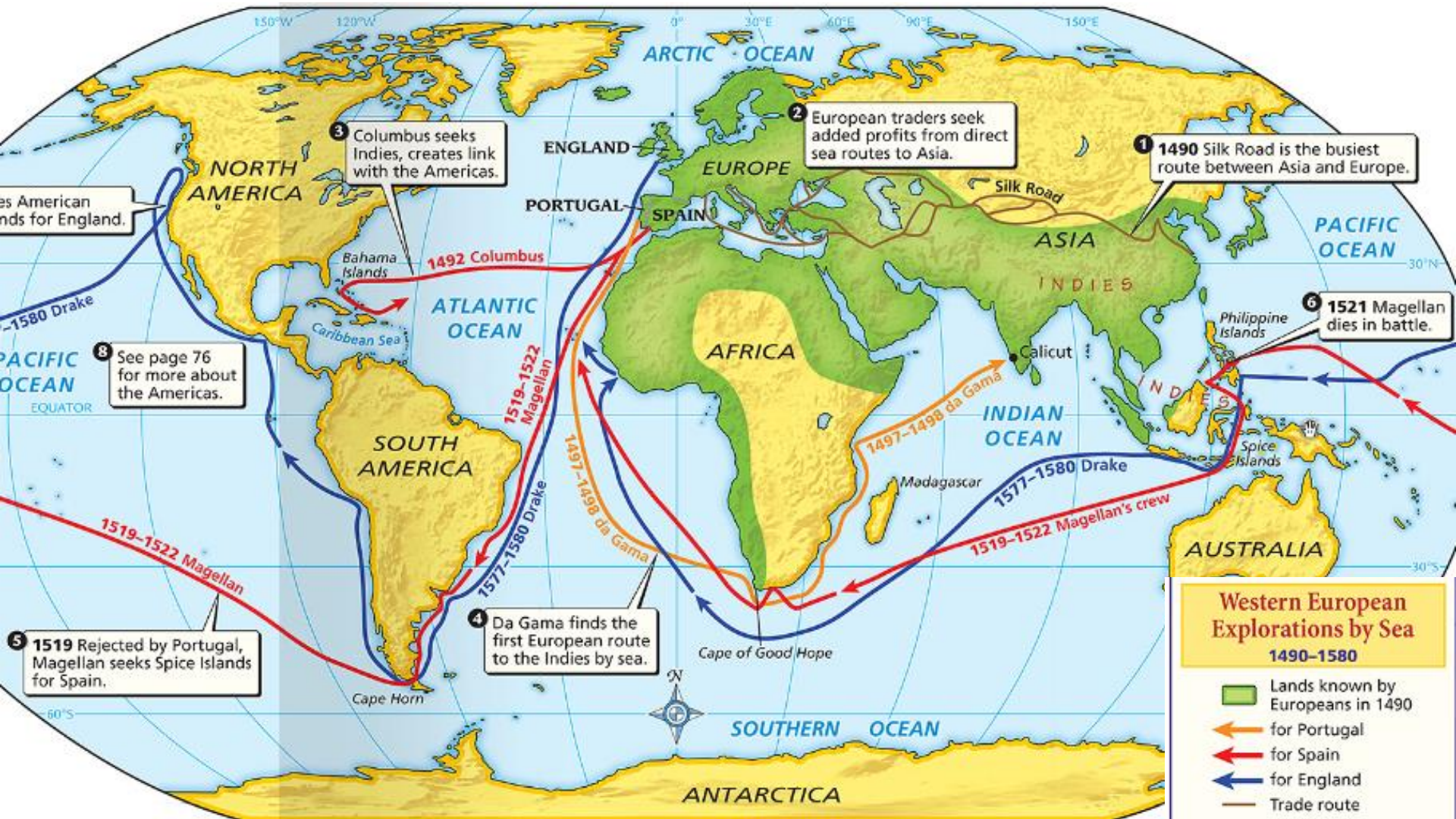
■ Warm-Up Question:

–What was the Columbian Exchange?

–What is mercantilism?

–What is capitalism?

# The Impact of the Age of Exploration: Europe

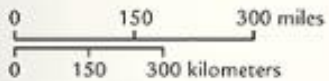


Europe was greatly impacted by the Age of Exploration

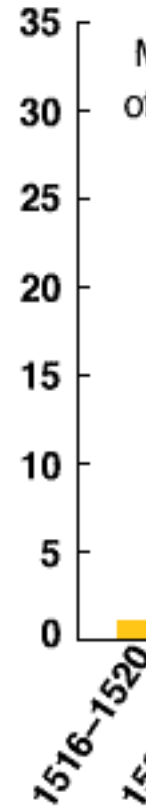
Overseas colonies increased the wealth of European nations, the power of kings (called nationalism)

This was especially true in Spain where the influx of gold turned Spain into one of the wealthiest & most powerful nations in Europe

- Paris • Over 100,000 people
- Seville • 60,000 to 100,000
- London • Under 60,000



**E** Coastal nations such as Venice, Portugal, and later Spain gained wealth and power by dominating the sea.



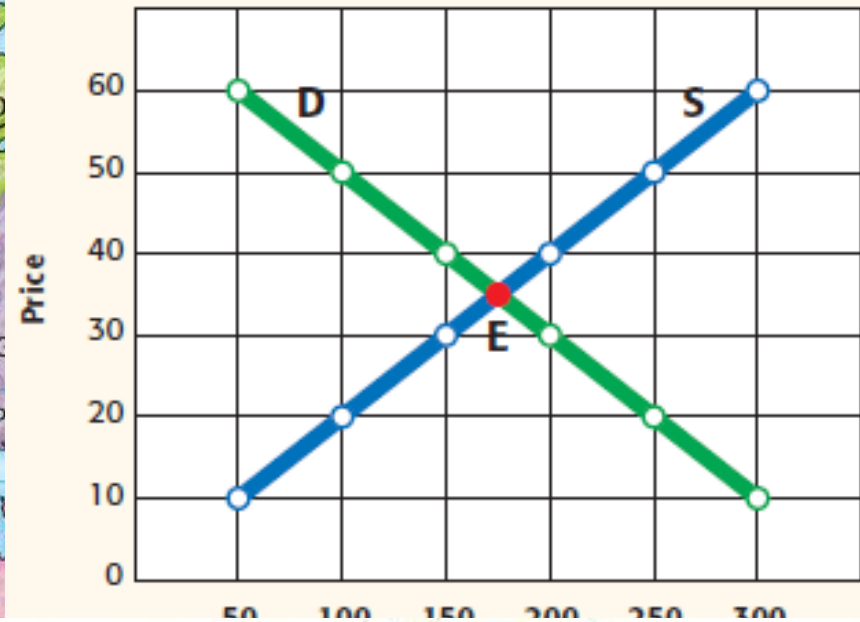
King Philip II

The increase in trade led to the growth of capitalism, especially in England & the Netherlands

Capitalism is a system in which merchants trade & invest money in order to make a profit; Prices are determined by supply and demand

Citizens can invest money in companies like the British East India Company & share in the profits

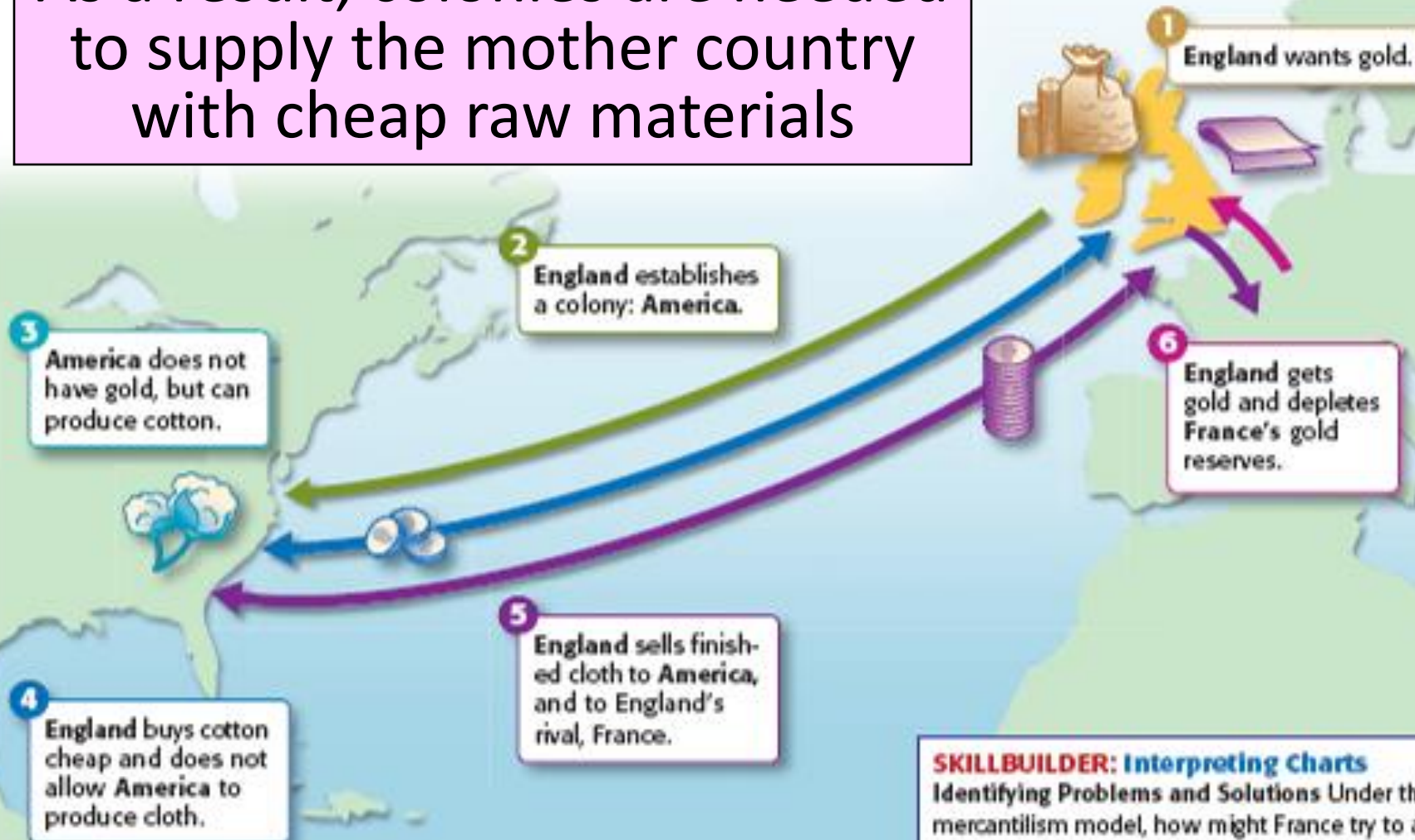
## Supply and Demand





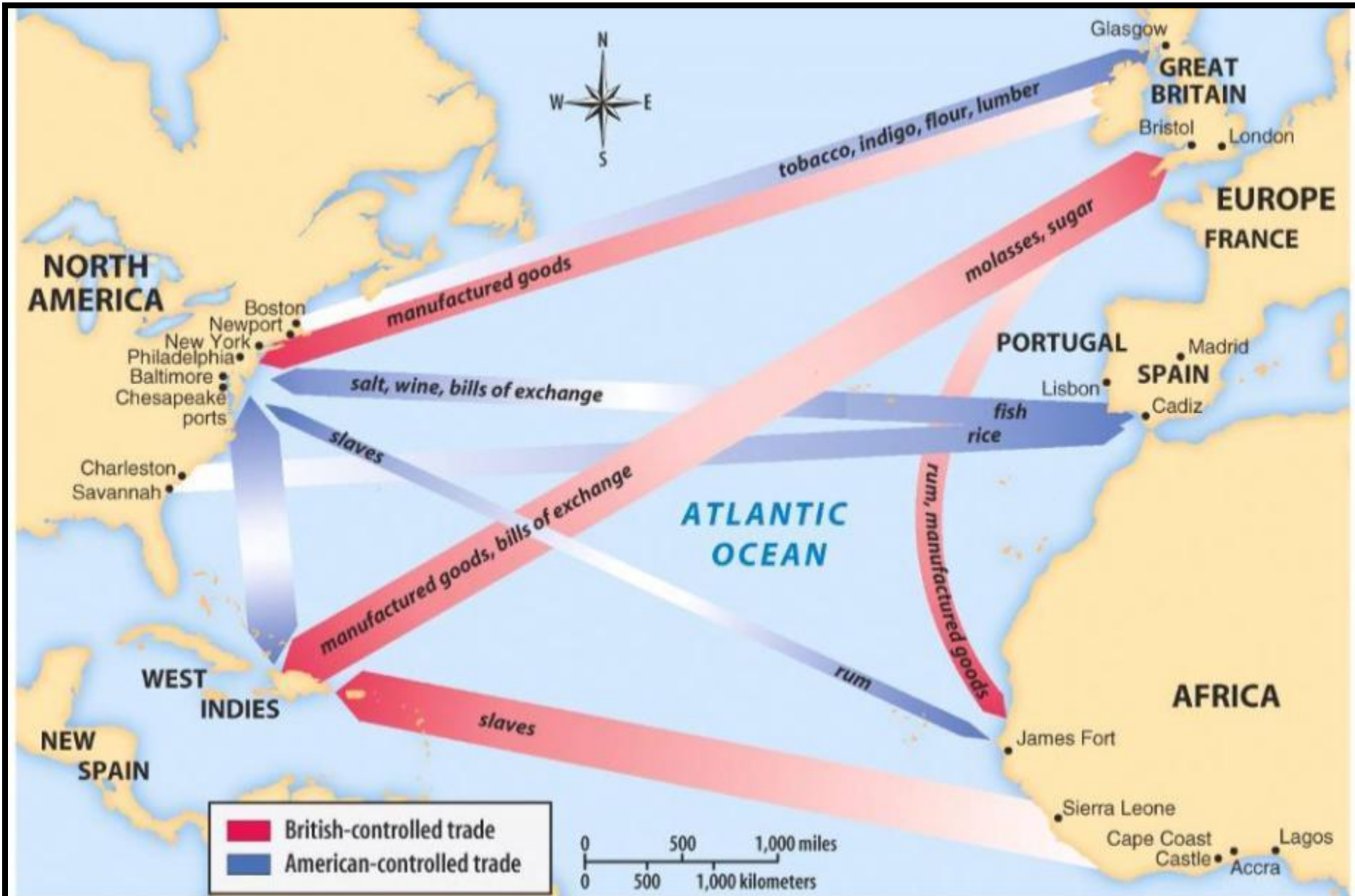
Nations developed an economic policy called mercantilism based upon the idea that national power comes from a favorable balance of trade

As a result, colonies are needed to supply the mother country with cheap raw materials

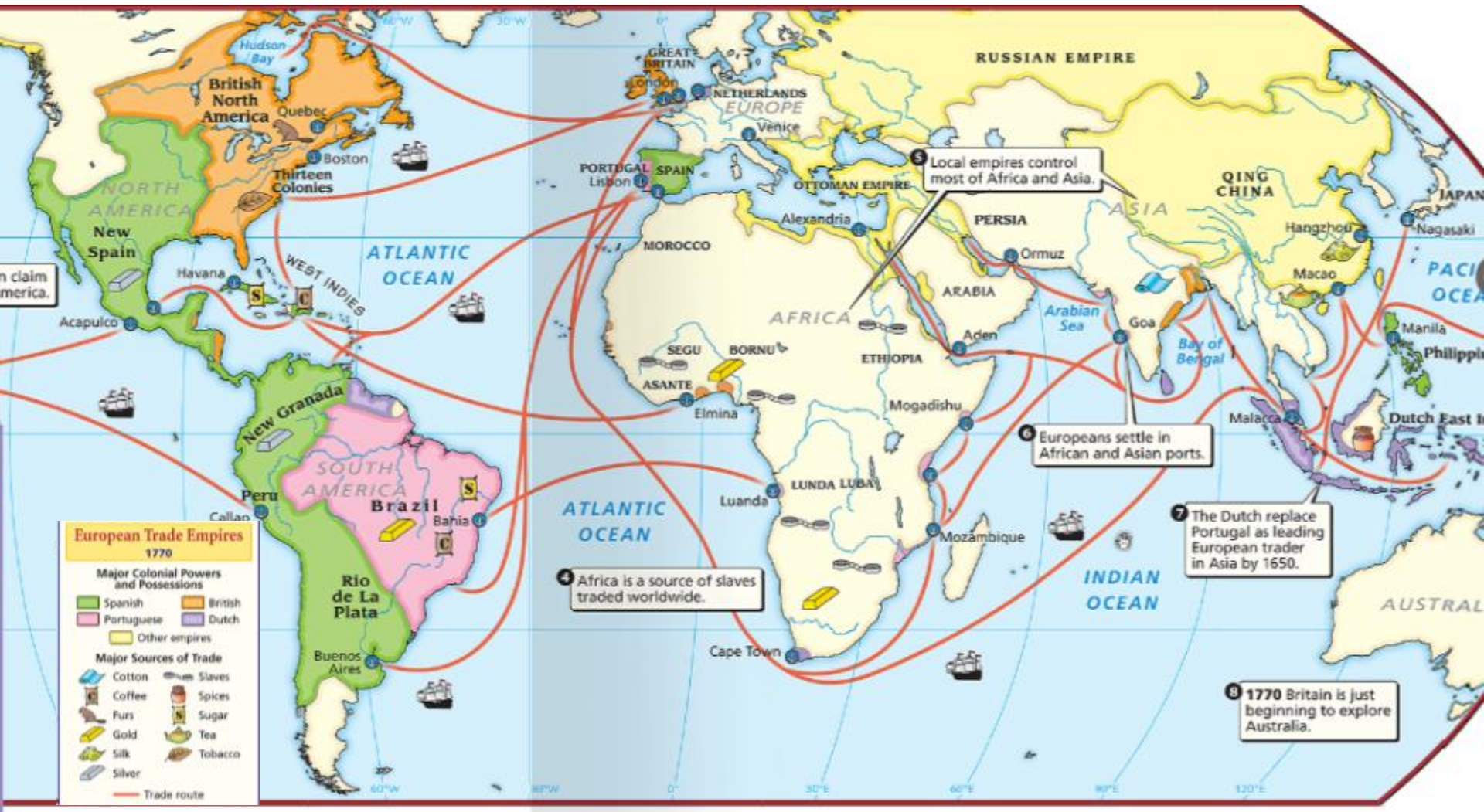


**SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Charts**  
Identifying Problems and Solutions Under the mercantilism model, how might France try to acquire gold and become more powerful than England?

Due to mercantilism, a “triangular trade” developed between Europe, their overseas colonies, & Africa



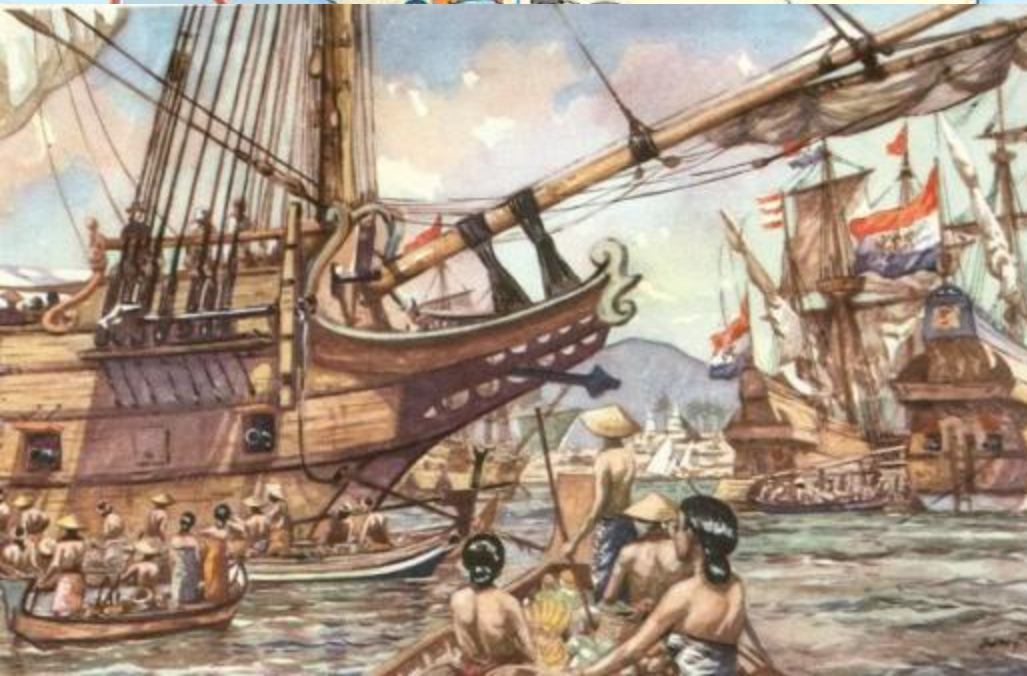
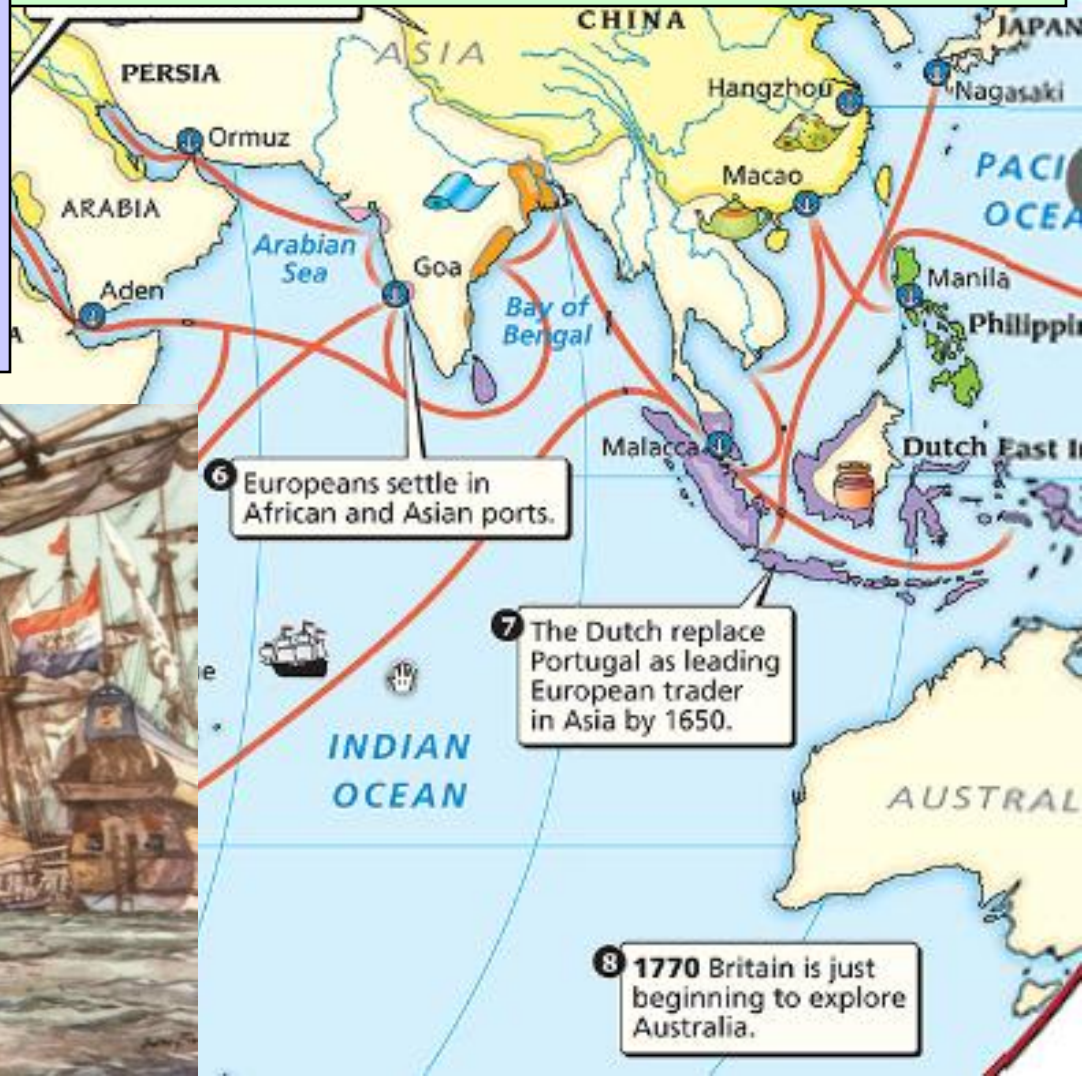
# The Impact of the Age of Exploration: Asia, America, Africa



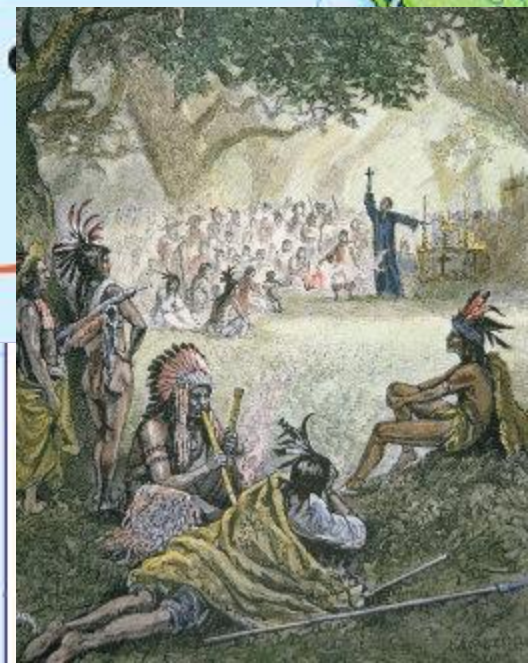
Asia was greatly impacted by the Age of Exploration

The Portuguese & Dutch seized trade ports in the Spice Islands & in India in order to gain exotic goods like cotton & spices

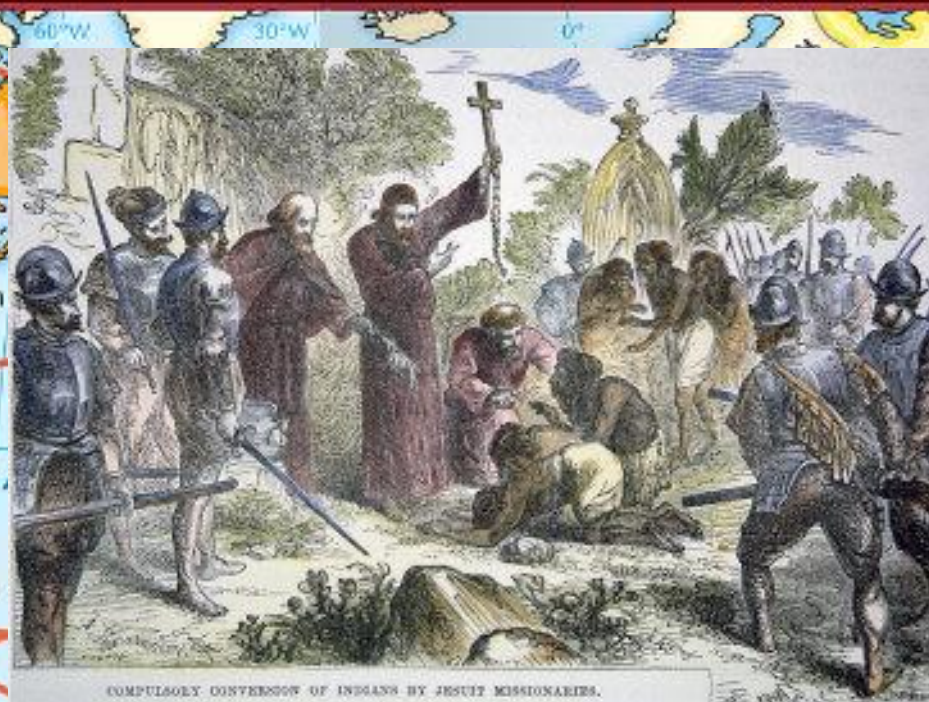
European merchants began to dominate trade in China & Japan & converted many people to Christianity



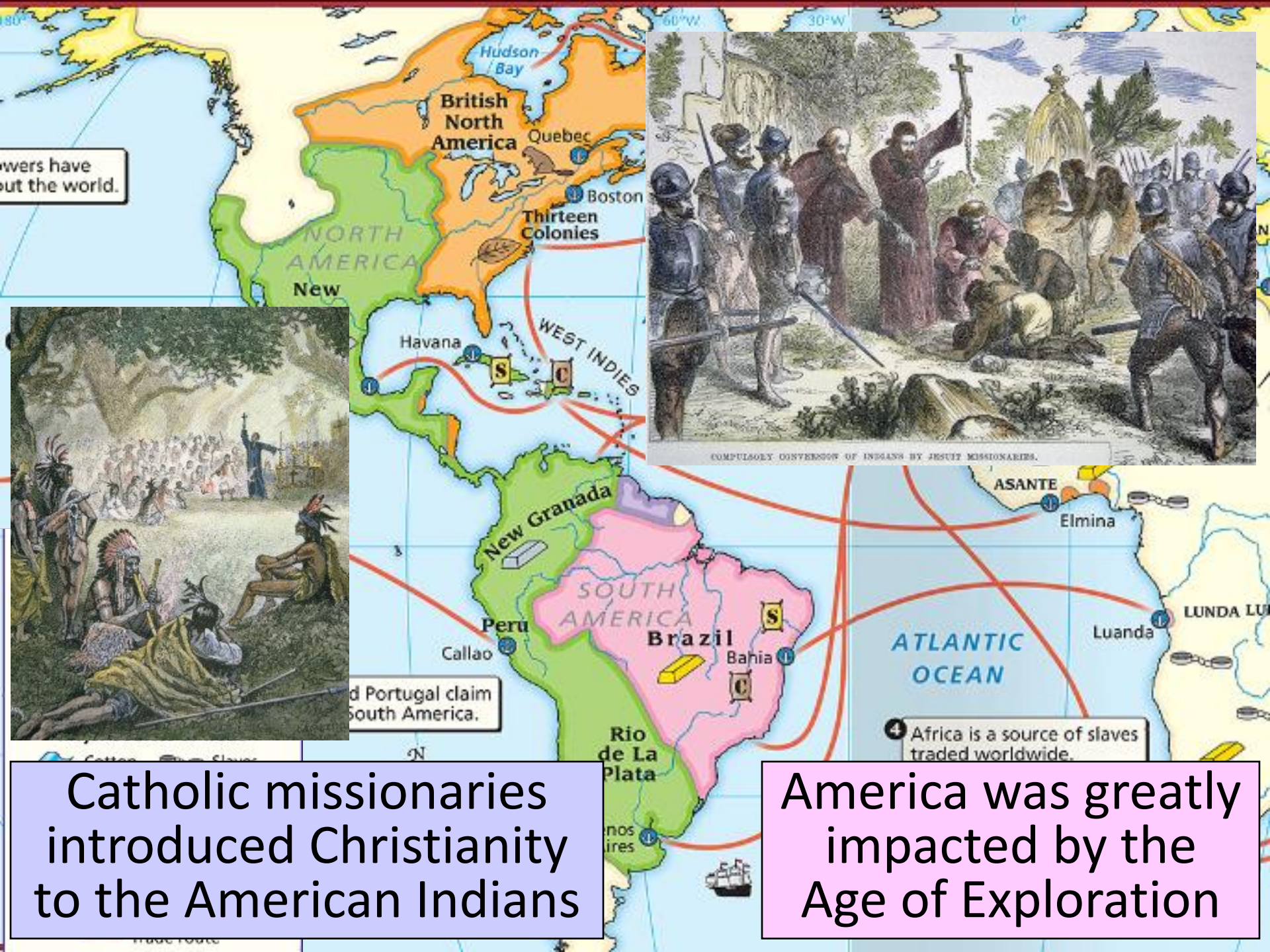
owers have  
out the world.



Portugal claim  
South America.



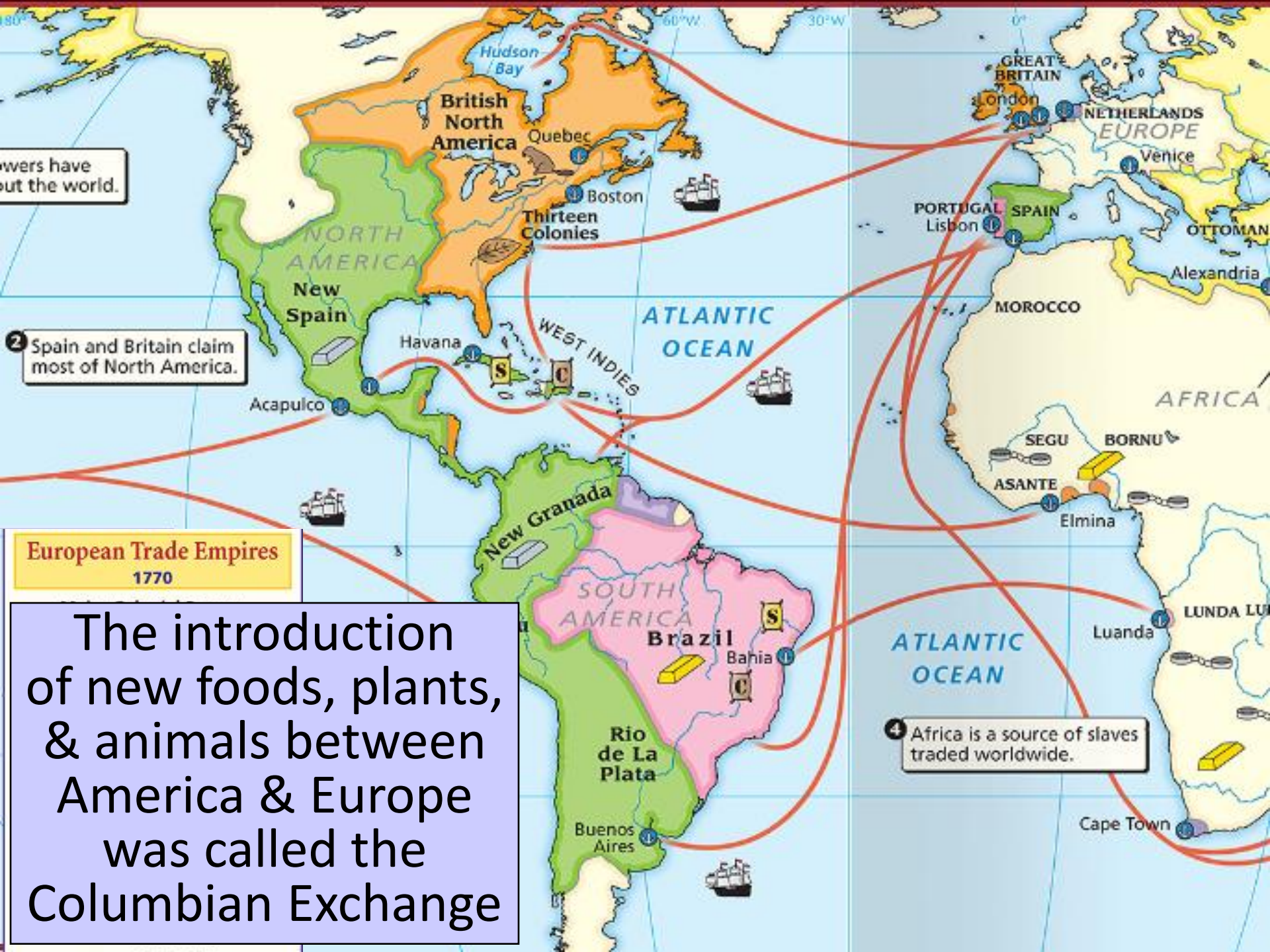
COMPULSORY CONVERSION OF INDIANS BY JESUIT MISSIONARIES.



4 Africa is a source of slaves  
traded worldwide.

Catholic missionaries  
introduced Christianity  
to the American Indians

America was greatly  
impacted by the  
Age of Exploration



owers have  
out the world.

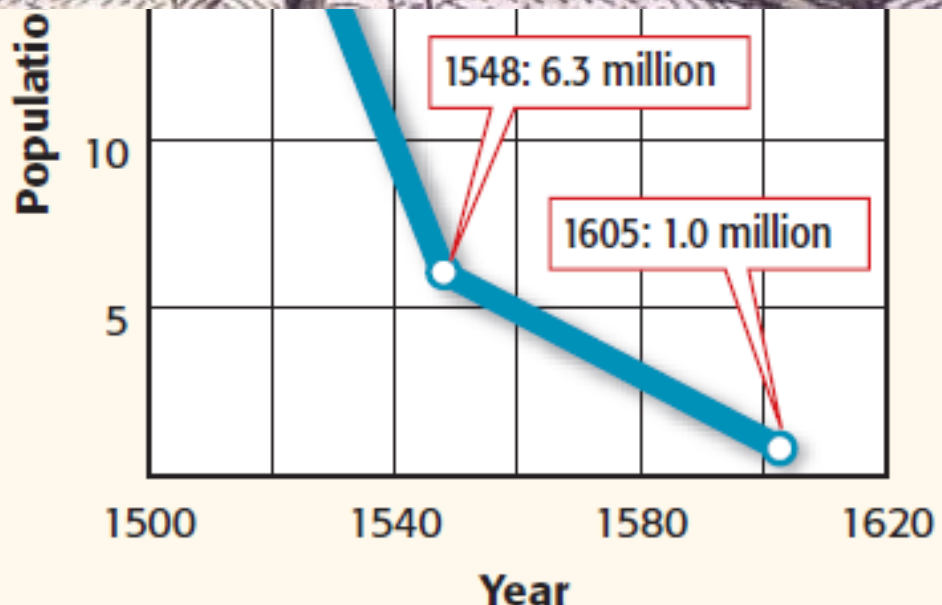
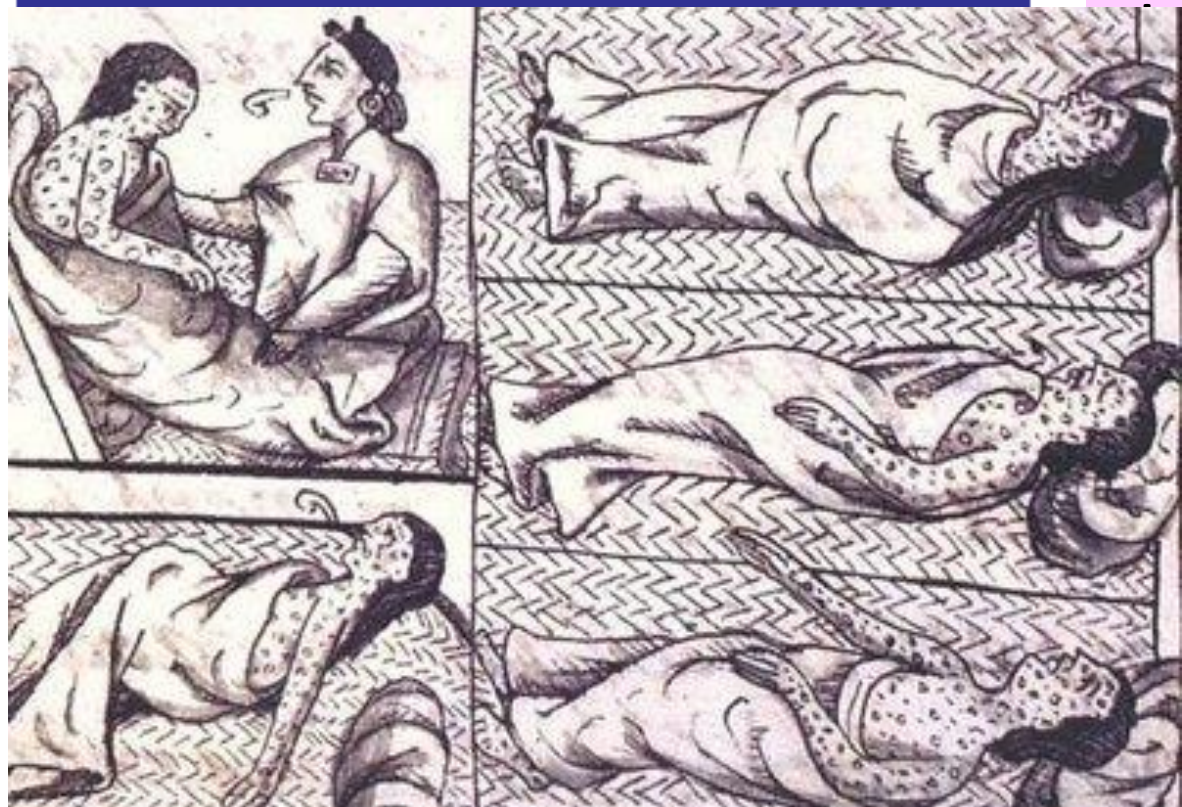
2 Spain and Britain claim  
most of North America.

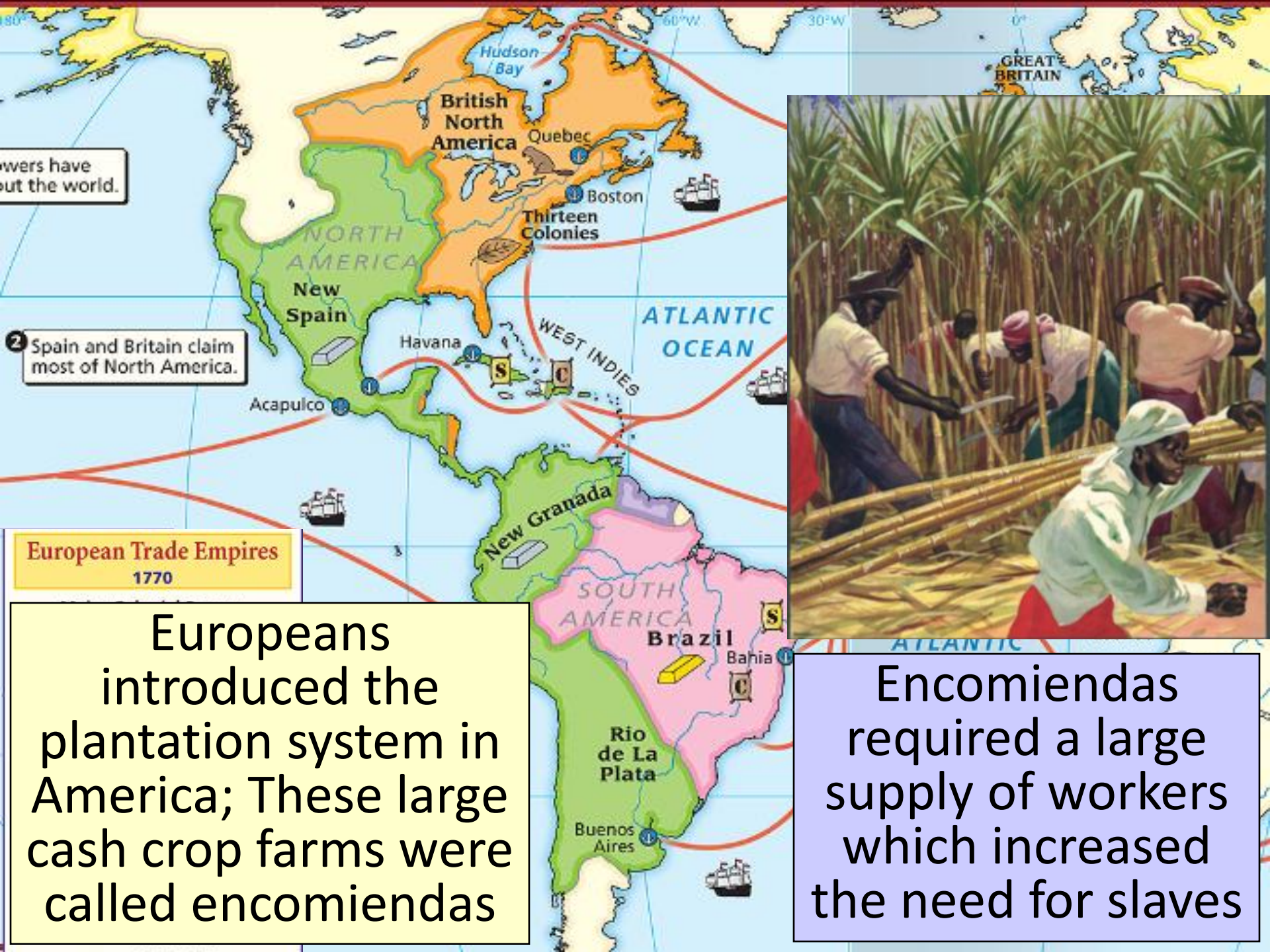
European Trade Empires  
1770

The introduction  
of new foods, plants,  
& animals between  
America & Europe  
was called the  
Columbian Exchange

4 Africa is a source of slaves  
traded worldwide.

The introduction of European diseases like smallpox & influenza killed as many as 90% of Native Americans





Europeans have  
taken over the world.

2 Spain and Britain claim  
most of North America.

European Trade Empires  
1770

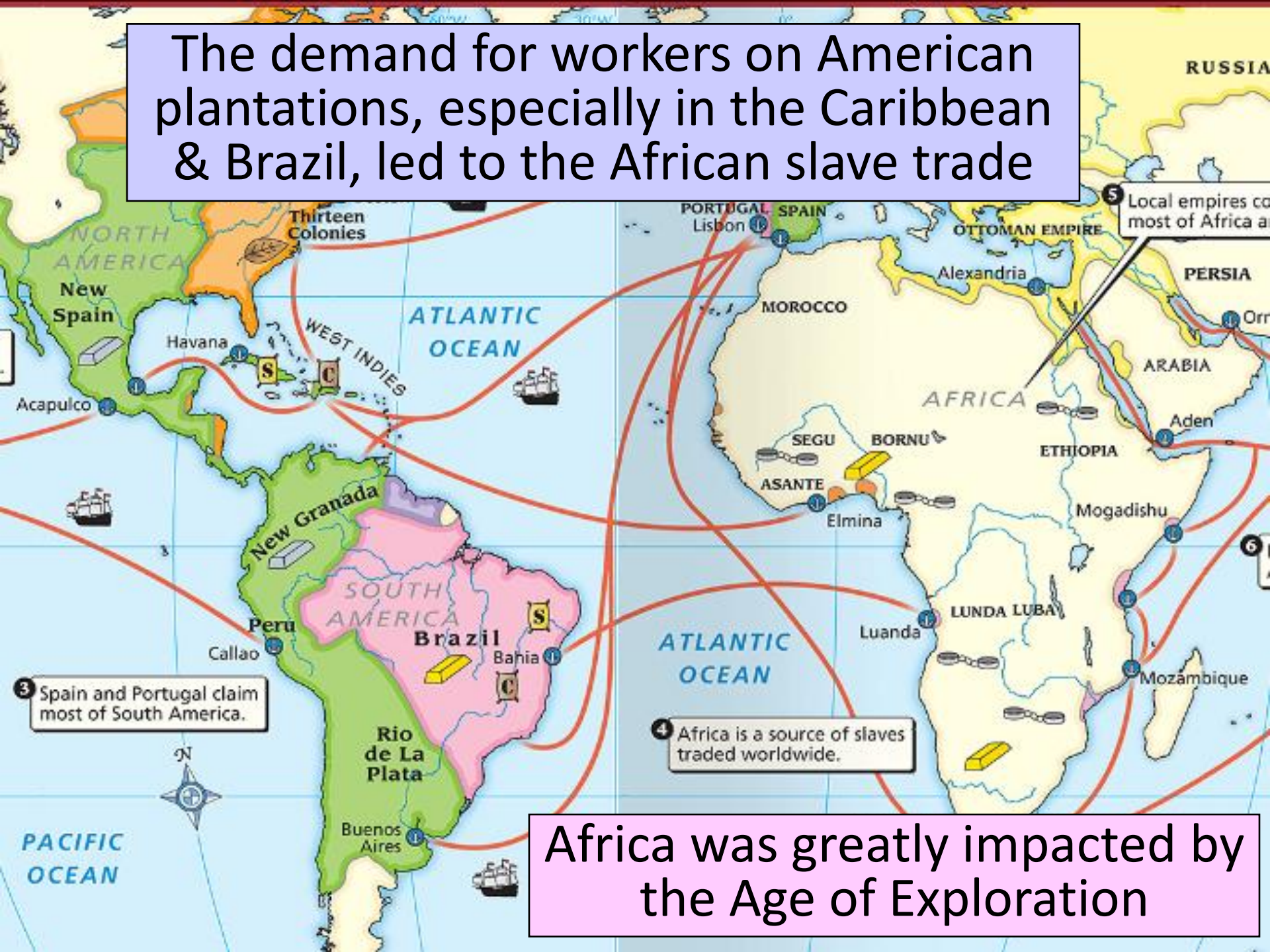
Europeans introduced the plantation system in America; These large cash crop farms were called encomiendas

Encomiendas required a large supply of workers which increased the need for slaves



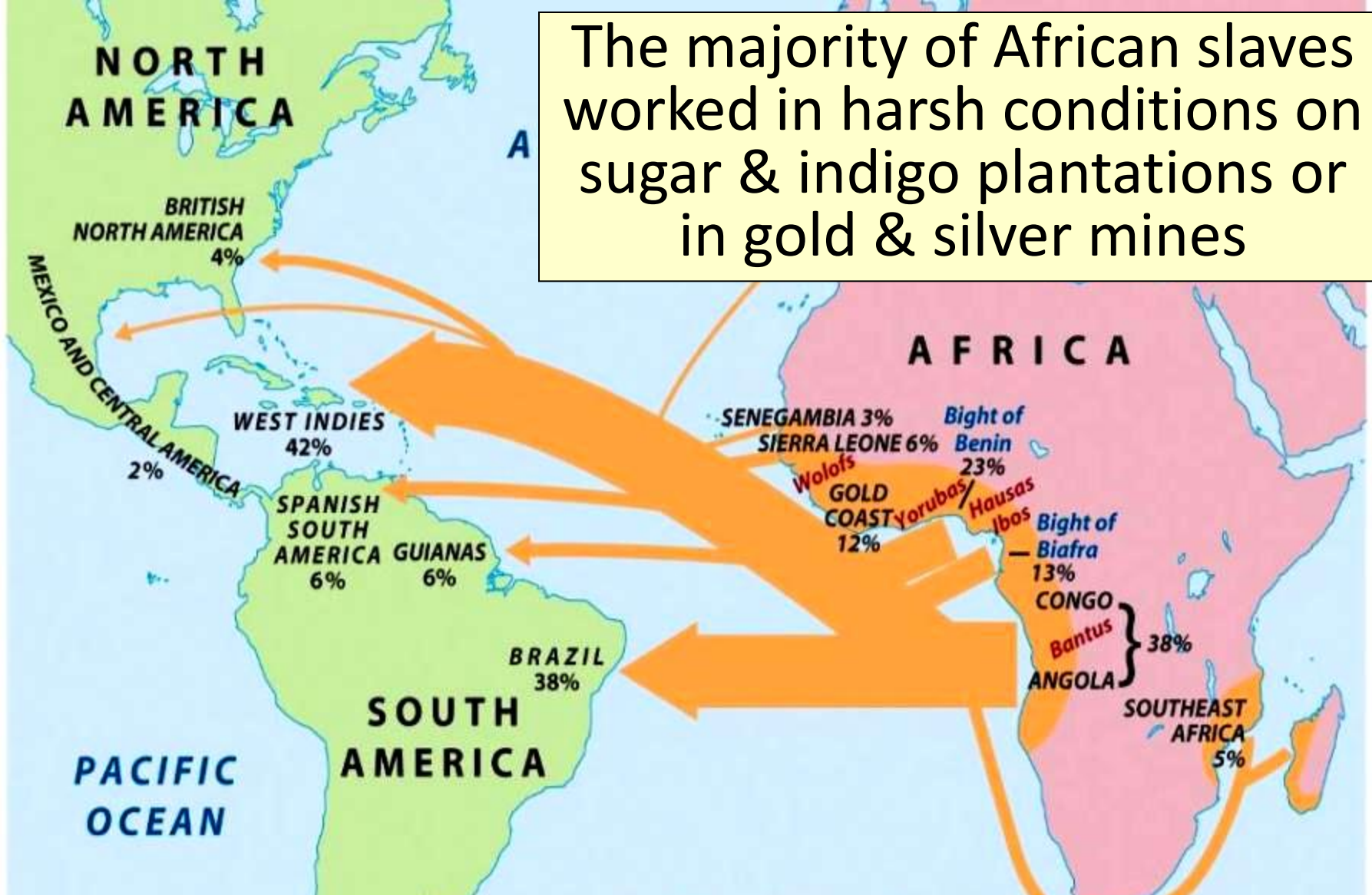


The demand for workers on American plantations, especially in the Caribbean & Brazil, led to the African slave trade



Africa was greatly impacted by the Age of Exploration

The majority of African slaves worked in harsh conditions on sugar & indigo plantations or in gold & silver mines



For 300 years, slaves were sold in West Africa & brought to America along a route across the Atlantic Ocean known as the Middle Passage

# Sugar plantation in Haiti

