Three Old Worlds Create a New

1492 - 1600
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Mound builders of the Ohio River region, the Pueblos modern states of Arizona and New Mexico, and the Mississippian culture of the Midwestern and southeastern United States (Cahokia/City of the Sun near St. Louis, Monks Mound- largest earth work in the Americas)
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The Aztec empire was built on a warrior tradition that included human sacrifice and
conquering rival tribes. Forced those conquered to pay tributes. Hereditary classes of
warriors, merchants, priests, slaves, and commoners.
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TENOCHTITLAN
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West African religious beliefs stressed complimentary male and female roles. Islam had a heavy influence in Northern Africa.
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D. Lessons of Early Colonization

Europeans learned that they could transplant crops and livestock successfully to new lands, that the inhabitants of these new regions could be conquered, and slave-based plantations could be profitable.
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Columbus died believing he had found Asia, map makers named the new region America in honor of Florentine explorer, Amerigo Vespucci.

E. Northern Voyages

Because of the winds they confronted, mariners who sailed to the region that was to become the United States and Canada followed a route different from those who sailed to the south.

F. Norse Seafarers

Leif Ericsson had established a short-lived settlement in modern Newfoundland in the year 1001.

G. John Cabot’s Explorations

John Cabot deserves credit for bringing the first formal knowledge of the continent’s northern coast (NewFoundland). Claimed land for England.
VII. Spanish Exploration and Conquest
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C. Christianity in New Spain

Franciscan and Dominican friars established a number of missions to Christianize Native Americans. Religious symbols juxtaposed with native gods (corn goddess, cruz del condor). Built monasteries and churches on former temples.
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D. Thomas Harriot’s Briefe and True Report

Harriot, a noted scientist, publicized the benefits of Virginia, including its natural resources like copper, iron, furs, grapes, and people. Highlighted possibilities for economic development 1) Availability of commodities 2) profits that would come from American products 3) ease of manipulating the native population.