### **The Colonial Era** 300 Years of Spanish Domination 1521-1821

### From "Reconquista" to "La Conquista"

#### The Reconquista in Iberia

- Spanish, Portuguese spent 700 years reclaiming land from Muslims
  - State supported, state financed campaign
  - Well trained, well motivated, army
  - State gets its tenth of conquests, soldiers get a share of profits, too
  - Aristocrats obtain estates with feudal labor (Muslims)
- Final conquest of Granada in 1492 ended employment of army
- Spanish, Portuguese had to expand overseas or risk local problems
- Iberian Model
  - Heavily urbanized society with small villages, towns, agriculture
  - Aristocrats live in town, do no manual labor
  - Bureaucrats, usually judges, lawyers run government, live in town
  - Larger towns center of church, schools; church-state alliance, too
  - Commoners seek to become nobles, follow similar life, willing to immigrate
- Model for Exploitation based on Canaries, Azores example
  - Enslave natives, give land to Europeans
  - Plantations set up for export of sugar
  - Enslaved natives die off, import slaves, usually Africans

# **SPANISH CARIBBEAN**

#### Columbus and Successors

- Early Successes
  - Arrive Bahamas, Hispaniola
  - Built fort of Santo Domingo
  - 1511: controlled Cuba, Puerto Rico
  - 1520: controlled Lesser Antilles
  - Visited Panama, southern coasts
- Encomiendas set up
  - Land grants to Spanish settlers
  - Total control over locals: use as slave laborers or tax them
- Royal Administration arrives
  - Governorship, treasury office, royal courts, professional magistrates
  - Capitals laid out in a grid pattern with royal palace, cathedral
- Indigenous peoples were the Taino, Carib
  - Lived in small villages under authority of chiefs
  - Showed little resistance to European visitors
  - Taino conscripted to mine gold, work plantations
  - Brutal abuses plus smallpox = disappearance of natives



### **CONQUEST OF MEXICO & PERU**

#### **General Conquests**

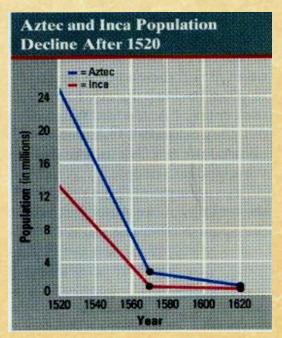
- Not unified but haphazard
- Group of opportunists led by one man: seek gold, glory
- Age of Conquest came to end around 1570
- Royal administration after conquests, abuses
- Hernan Cortés
- Aztec, Inca societies wealthier, more complex
- No more able to resist Spanish
- Cortes, 450 men conquered Aztec empire, 1519-1521
- Tribal resentment against the Mexica helped Cortés
- Epidemic disease (smallpox) also aided Spanish efforts
- Francisco Pizarro
  - Small band toppled the Inca empire, 1532-1533
  - Internal problems and smallpox aided Pizarro's efforts
  - By 1540 Spanish controlled all the former Inca empire
- Reasons for Indian Collapse
  - Unable to overcome technology, ruthless leadership
  - Decimated by diseases
  - Internal problems weakened Inca, Aztec





## **DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFT**

- Decline of Indian Population by 1750
  - Drops from 125 million to 5 million
    - Caribbean Indians disappeared
    - Mexico: from 22 to 2 million by 1580
    - Peru: from 10 to 1.5 million by 1590
    - Diseases: smallpox, influenza, measles
  - Results
    - Whole areas abandoned
    - Indian traditions, social norms questioned
    - Economic structures collapse
- Europeans replace Native
  - Flora, fauna, cultural norms replace Indian
  - Farmers, ranchers take over Indian lands
  - Sheep, horses, cattle, crops replace Indians, varieties
  - European culture seen as superior it won, we should adopt it



# **IBERIAN COLONIES**

- Spanish colonial administration formalized by 1570
- Administrative centers in Mexico and Peru governed by viceroys
- Viceroys reviewed by audiencias, courts appointed by the king
- Viceroys had sweeping powers within jurisdictions
- Portuguese Brazil
  - Visited by explorer Cabral, named after Brazil nut
  - Given to Portugal by Treaty of Tordesillas 1494
  - Portuguese king granted Brazil to nobles
  - Royal Governor oversees but does not always rule
  - Sugar plantations by mid-16<sup>th</sup> century
- **Colonial American society** 
  - European-style society in cities, at certain elevations
  - Indigenous culture persisted in rural areas, especially jungles, heights
  - More exploitation of New World than settlement
  - Many Iberian migrants settled in the Americas, 1500-1800
    - Administrators
    - Soldiers
    - Landowners
    - Clergy



### **EXPLOITATION OF INDIANS**

- European hierarchy grafted onto existing structure
  - Europeans eliminated Indian leadership, priesthood
  - Europeans used Indian aristocracy to mediate with commoners
- Indian slavery prohibited although distinction minor
- Different forms of labor, taxation created
  - Encomiendas used Indians as feudal like labor
    - Old Indian models but now arbitrary, excessive
    - Ended 1540 as too threatening to royal power
    - Forced labor
      - Mita in Peru
      - Cuatequil in Mexico
  - Repartimiento replaces Encomienda system
    - Repartimiento redistributed natives for forced labor
    - Little different from encomienda
    - Except village decide whom to send as laborers
    - Natives moved around as migrant workers, laborers on official duties
  - 17<sup>th</sup> century
    - Indians flee villages, work for landlords, in cities; done to avoid conscription
    - Allowed Indians to choose work; began to work for wages



# The Encomienda

After the intensive rush for gold, land became the center of the economy. The encomenderos received tribute of a land along with the free labor. In principle, they would protect the natives under their care and supervise their conversion to Catholicism.

In reality, it allowed the Spaniard to exploit the land and people for his advantage.



- "the Conquerors often maltreated and abused the natives under their trust" (Acuna 2007:21).
- Cortes himself had received land in the Valley of Oaxaca with 23,000 subjects (Keen 1996:68).



Another example was Hernando Alonso, a soldier who came with Cortez who received an encomienda in Actopan, just 62 miles north of Mexico City which included 8,000 natives. He used his encomienda title to expand his business into pig and cattle raising, banking, real estate and mining. He was considered one of the richest people early in the Conquest.

## **The Repartimiento**

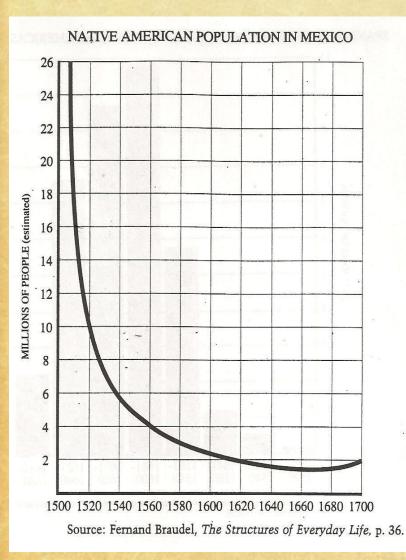
 After 1542 Repartimiento :rationing of Indian to the Spanish later took the place of the encomienda system by demanding that the Spanish pay the Indians for their labor. Unfortunately, this system continued to keep the native in a state of servitude by creating dependency on the encomendero. "Under this system, native communities provided labor for public projects, agriculture, mines, and as often abused it. The repartimineto was not limited to labor, it also included the requirement that natives purchase the goods from Spanish authorities only" (Acuna).

# The Black Legendpaintings by Debry









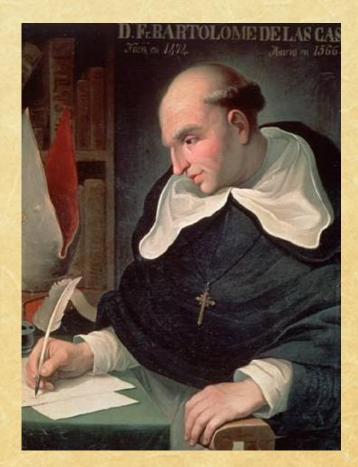
### Decline of Population

Genocide/Ethnocide occurred from 25m to 1.2 in 100 years due to "killings, floggings, overwork, malnutrition, poor hygiene, starvation, and disease caused more than 90% of the Indian population to be wiped out by 1650"

(Cockcroft 1988:19).

# Bartolome de Las Casas (Protector General of the Indians)

 He forced a Papal Bull (law) in 1537 that declared the Indians free. In 1542 the Crown passed the New Laws prohibiting further allocation of Indian lands to the colonists but to no avail. The Spaniards liked to say "obedezco pero no cumplo" (I obey but do not comply).





"He separated and divided Families, forcing Married Men from their Wives, and Maids from their Parents, which he

bestow'd upon his Marriners and Soldiers, to gratifie their burning Lust. All his Ships he freighted with Indians, where

Hunger and Thirst discharg'd them of their Servitude and his Cruelty by a welcome Death. He had two Companies of

Soldiers who hackt and tore them in pieces... O how many Parents has he robb'd of their Children, how many Wives of

their Husbands, and Children of their Parents? How many Adulteries, Rapes, and what Libidinous Acts hath he been

guilty of? "

### **A QUESTION OF MORALITY**

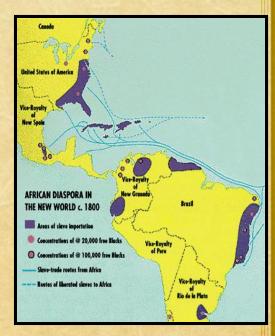
- Conquest involved violence, murder, theft
  - Raised moral, philosophical questions
    - Many scholars justified it as (Sepulveda)
      - Bring civilization, Christianity to backward
      - Conquest of inferior by a superior culture
    - The Leyenda Negra or Black Legend
      - Story circulated by the English
      - Spanish were murderers
      - Spanish conquest and treatment of Indians abnormal
      - Truth: All Europeans rarely differed from Spanish



- 1550: Spanish King calls commission to investigate
  - Bartolome de las Casas spoke against Sepulveda
  - Defended Indians, their lives, conquest unjustified
  - Crown backs de las Casas but conquest too much wealth to ignore
  - Crown orders worst abuses halted
  - Takes direct control of colonies, creates royal government

### AFRICAN SLAVES IN THE AMERICAS

- Indians, Indentured Servants not sufficient
  - Indians decimated by diseases
  - Labor needs extreme in mines, plantation
  - Europeans will often not work
    - Iberian nobles lose patents of nobility if worked
    - Europeans unaccustomed to hard labor
    - Indentured servants too few to do work
- African Slaves
  - Africa had an overabundance of exportable labor
  - Europeans diverted slaves to Atlantic Coast
  - Slaves gradually introduced to Brazil, Caribbean
  - Slavery spread to coastlines of the Caribbean
  - Slaves used in plantation economies producing exportable cash crops



## **Women in Colonial Mexico**

 Before the arrival of the Spaniards, women generally married when they were about 20 years of age but when the Colonial Era began, society encouraged younger and younger marriages as early as 12 and 14. Native women had rights of owning property but were more seen as an inferior role in the larger social classes. Although, native noble women who married the conquerors and brought a dowry were more easily assimilated than lower-classes natives. There were very few religious schools dedicated to educating young women. By the end of the 1700's, one third of the population of Mexico City were women but a majority of lower jobs were held by either Indian or mestizo women in a world becoming more machista than ever (Acuna 2007:23-24).

### **SPANISH MINING, AGRICULTURE**

- Silver more plentiful than gold
  - The basis of Spanish New World wealth
  - Melted Aztec, Inca gold into ingots
  - Two major sites of silver mining
    - Zacatecas (Mexico)
    - Potosi (Peru)
- Global significance of silver
  - 1/5 of all silver mined went to Spanish treasury (the quinto)
  - Paid for Spanish military and bureaucracy
  - Passed on to European, Asian markets for luxury trade goods
- **Coastal Plantations** 
  - Produced cash crops for export: sugar, cocoa
  - Eventually required large imports of slave labor
  - Large private estates (haciendas, estancias) set up
  - Were the basis of Spanish American production, aristocratic wealth
  - Spanish transplanted Iberian model
  - Produced grains, grapes, cattle, horses, sheep

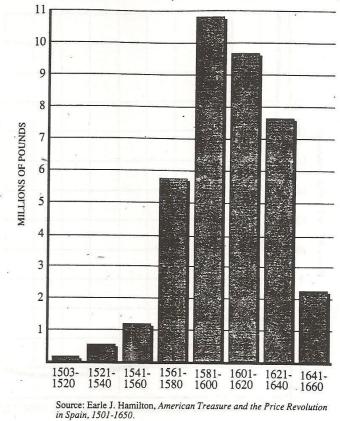
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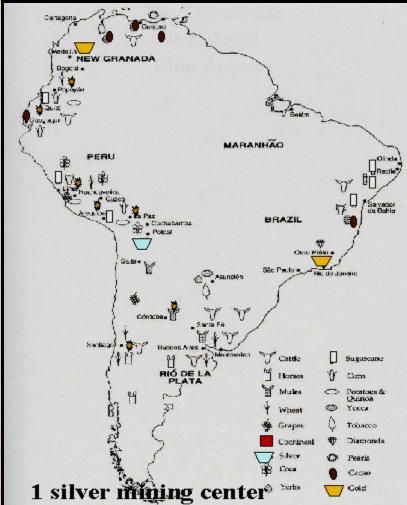
# **Silver Mines**

- "It was not until after the 1541 Mixton Rebellion that the Spanish were able to open the mines of Zacatecas, which at their height, produced 1/3 of Mexico's silver and employed 5,000 workers" (Acuna 2007:25). Guanajuato followed in 1548. The mining bonanzas created the Camino Real (see map) from Mexico City to Zacatecas and then to New Mexico were fueled by the "rush of gold" to open up the frontier lands of the Chichimecas.
- <u>https://www.youtube.com/wa</u> <u>tch?v=y8kEM-RKaek</u>





# SOUTH AMERICAN COLONIAL INDUSTRY

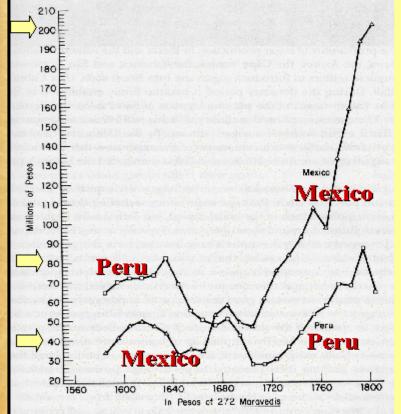


Spanish America (Hoberman and Socolow, xiii)

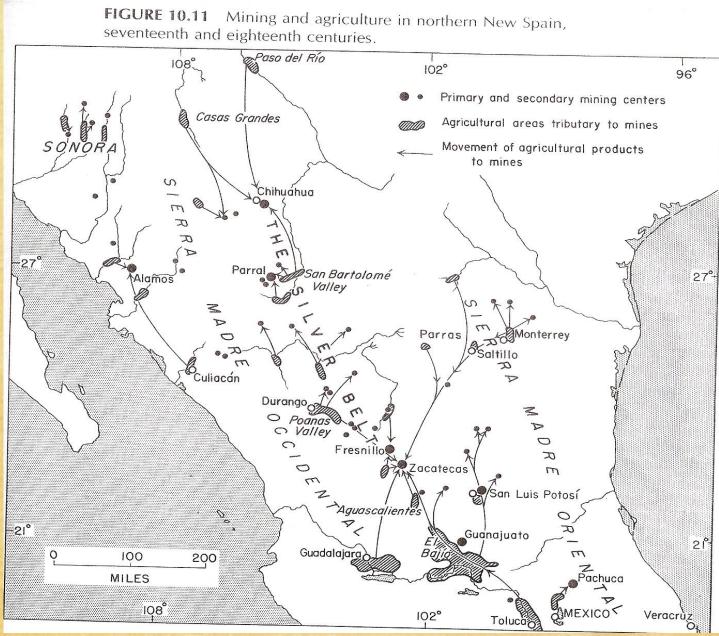
- Only 1 main source of silver, Potosí district
- Seven clusters of trade and commercial agriculture: Lima, Upper Peru Caracas, Bogotá-Cartagena, Quito, Santiago, Río de la Plata
- \*Textiles: Quito, Lima, Popayán, Cuzco, La Paz, Santiago, Tucuman

## **SILVER PRODUCTION**

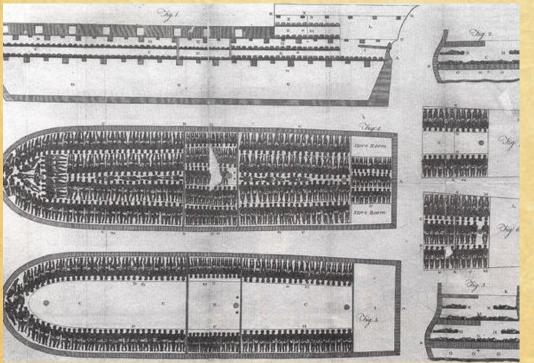
Registered Silver Production, 1580-1800: Mexico's 18th c. boom outstripped Peru's 16th c. (Burkholder and Johnson, p. 139)



- Peru, 3 phases:
  - 16th c. boom, -1620
  - 17th c. decline, -1720
  - 18th c. recovery, 1720+
- Mexico, 4 phases:
  - 16th c. boom, -1610
  - 17th c. dip, 1630-70
  - 17th c. recovery
  - 18th c. boom, 1720+
- Why 18th c boom?
  - New strikes, more areas
  - Cheaper mercury, taxes
  - More investment



 When the Spaniards realized that they lacked an adequate amount of labor to work the mines and fields, they resorted to a practice they already knew- black slavery. Importation of slaves began in 1527. 100,000 to 200,000 slaves were imported into Mexico during the entire Colonial Era and possibly 12.5 million in total to the New World. "Most went to the areas that depended heavily on the plantation economy" and most were male slave between the ages of 15 and 20 years of age. (Keen 1996:116).



# African Slavery

## **BRAZIL: SUGAR & SLAVES**

King distributed land as estates to European landowners

- Provinces overseen by Captain-Generals ruling almost as feudal lords
- Colonial court resides in Salvador

#### Portuguese empire in Brazil dependent on sugar production

- Colonial Brazilian life revolved around sugar mill, or engenho
- Engenho combined agricultural and industrial enterprises
- Sugar planters became the landed nobility
- Brazil was the first European sugar plantation colony and a model for others

#### Growth of slavery in Brazil in North, along coast

- Native peoples of Brazil were not cultivators
  - They resisted farm labor and Smallpox, measles reduced Indian population
- Imported African slaves
  - For cane, sugar production after 1530
  - High death rate, low birth rate
  - Constant demand for slaves
  - Roughly, every ton of sugar cost one human life

#### A Golden Age

- As interior was settled, gold was discovered
- A land rush and gold rush ensued which open up the interior
- Settlement of the Interior and Southern Plains
- Ranching becomes common to support mining and sugar plantations
- Church controlled missions protect Indians in communal living











Salta ntuas con Mulata. Lobo.

12

7

11

15

Chino con India Salta ahas.

Albarazado con Negra

# **Mestizo Caste System**



Español con India Mestizo.



9

Mulato con Española. Morisco.

Morisco con Española Chino.

10



Lobo con China Ceibara.





Gibaro con Mulata



Calpanulato con Canbula Tenteen ektire,

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India

Canbulo con India. Sanbaigo.

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## **The Casta System**

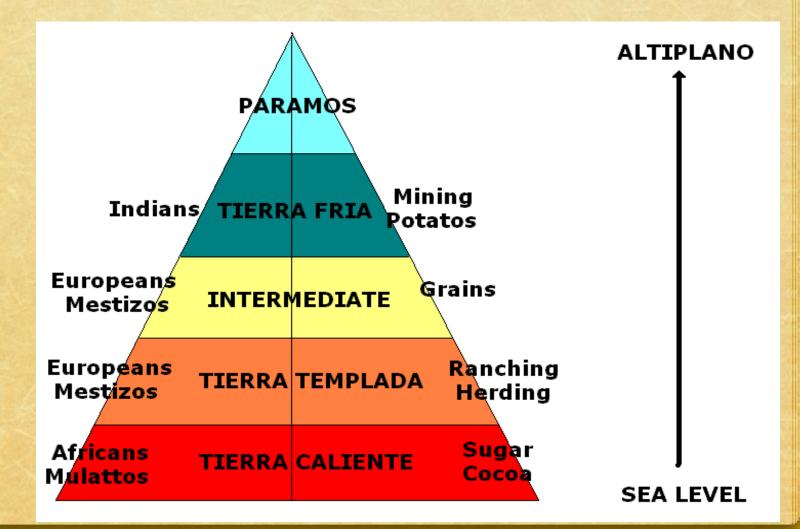
 This was a legal system that distinguished Mexico's population based on race and gave or denied legal rights to individuals based on their status. At the top of the social pyramid were the "peninsulares" or people born in Spain. Below them, were the "criollos" or people of full Spanish descent but born in the New World. Below these two, were the "mestizos" or new race of Spanish and Indian blood. Needless to say, they were considered inferior to the upper classes but not as bad as the Indians and African slaves below them. According to Keen, the mestizo population did not really become a substantial group until after the 1750's. Nearly 50 different racial castes were recognized in Mexico and Guatemala by the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Keen 1996:248)



## **MULTIRACIAL SOCIETIES**

- In Spanish and Portuguese settlements, mestizo societies emerged
  - Peoples of varied ancestry lived together under European rule
  - Peninsulares were European born who dominated government, society
  - Creoles were American born Europeans who ran economy, few rights
  - Mestizo: Mixed descent of Spanish and Portuguese men, native women
    - Many distinctions based on color, heritage
    - Society of Brazil more thoroughly mixed: mestizos, mulattoes, zambos
- Typical social and racial hierarchy in Iberian colonies
  - Strict hierarchy
  - Whites (peninsulares and criollos) owned the land and held the power
  - Mixed races (mestizos and zambos) performed much of the manual labor
  - Africans and American natives were at the bottom
- North American societies
  - Greater gender balance among settlers allowed marriage within own groups
  - Relationships of French traders and native women generated some métis
  - English disdainful of interracial marriages, going "native"
  - Cultural borrowing: plants, crops, deerskin clothes, words, ideas of nature

### SOCIAL HIERARCHY BASED ON RACE, ELEVATION, ECONOMICS



## La Otra Conquista

### Religion – Virgen de Guadalupe & Tonantzin

 In 1531, a humble Indian named Juan Diego claimed to have seen an image of the Virgin miraculously coming to bless and heal her suffering people. The Virgen quickly became a symbol of salvation for the oppressed.





The goddess Tonantzin shares characteristics with similar <u>Mesoamerican</u> divinities <u>Cihuacoatl</u> and <u>Coatlicue</u>, all of whom may have been drawn from common origins. The first Bishop of Mexico, Juan de Zumarraga, was the one that built the church on her behalf but ironically, in a letter he wrote on June 1531, he boasted that he had destroyed "more than 500 temples and 20,000 Aztec idols" (Vigil 1980:50).

### **RELIGIONS IN THE AMERICAS**

- Spanish missionaries introduced Catholicism
- Mission schools and churches established
- Missionaries recorded languages, traditions
- Catholic Church attracted many converts
- Church taught Indians skills: farming, herding
- Church became protector of Indians
- Virgin of Guadalupe
  - 1451 Virgin appears to Juan Diego, an Indian
  - Virgin shown as crushing signs of Aztecs
  - Became a national symbol of Mexica people
- French and English missions less successful
  - North American populations not settled or captive
  - English colonists had little interest in converting indigenous peoples
  - French missionaries worked actively, but met only modest success
  - Jesuits, Franciscans successful with Iroquois, S. American Indians
- Native religions survived often underground, disguised



## **THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

- Catholic Church and Royal Government were allies
  - Church often functioned as a branch of the government
    - Established churches, schools in towns, frontier areas
    - Ran many of the social, intellectual activities of the colonies
  - Catholic orders converted the Indians
    - Settled the Indians in protected missions
    - Introduced farming, herding, industry to Indians
- Missionaries replace by Church Hierarchy
  - Bishops, parishes established in towns, country
  - Crown nominates only supporters to church positions
  - Monasteries, convents organized
- Church stimulates intellectual growth
  - Needs artists, architects to build, beautify churches
  - Printing presses tended to do mostly Church business
  - First universities (Mexico City, Lima) organized, run by clergy
    - Produced bureaucrats for empire, clergy for church
    - First universities in the Americas before Yale, Harvard
  - Sister Juana Ines de la Cruz
    - Mexican poet, musician, author, social thinker
    - Joined Church and became great theologian and social thinker

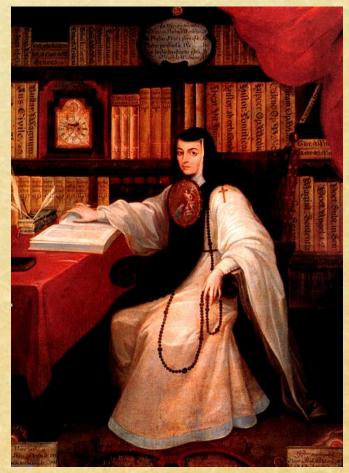
t.

Protestants, Jews, Heretics, Dissenters persecuted to maintain Orthodoxy

### Sor Juana Inez de La Cruz

An infant genius at Latin and Greek, she was taken to court as a little girl to be a pet of the Viceroy's wife. In adolescence she decided her best plan was to enter a convent. Rich women intellectuals lived well in convents; they could own art work,

libraries, have private suites with servants. If they didn't care for men, they had it made, and in some convents secret assignations with men weren't unknown. Sor Juana lived well, with an enormous library, until she was 40. She was a very successful, much admired poet and playwright. Unfortunately, she rubbed her religious superiors the wrong way (probably by exhibiting her superior abilities), and the bishop criticized her for intellectual pride.



 Syncretism= a process by which by different cultural elements are combined into an entirely new system. Religion is often seen as the other arm of the Conquista.



Some anthropologists believe that Our Lady of **Guadalupe** (an indigenous manifestation of Christ's mother Mary and patroness of Roman Catholic Mexico) is a syncretic and "Christianized" Tonantzin. Mexico City's 17th-century **Basilica of Guadalupe**--built in honor of the virgin and perhaps Mexico's most important religious building-was constructed at the base of the hill of Tepeyac, believed to be a site used for pre-Columbian worship of Tonantzin.

### CENTRAL AMERICAN COLONIAL INDUSTRY

### Mining, commerce and agriculture: New Spain/Caribe 17-18th centuries



Hoberman and Socolow, xii and--**\*textile** mills (obrajes): Puebla Tacuba Querétaro Guadalajara Oaxaca Guatemala

Source:

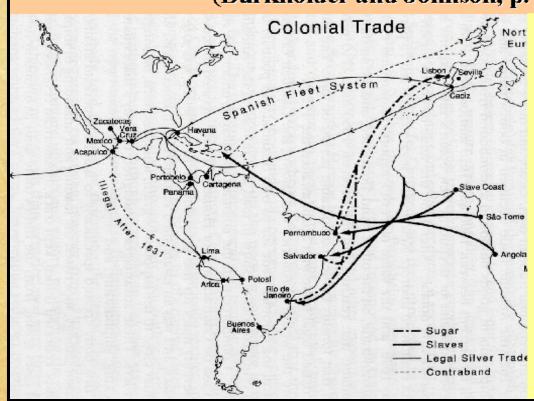
# **Spanish Galleons**

Started in 1565 until the War of Independence. One or two ships would travel between Mexico and the Phillippines under heavily protected "armadas". These new large ships, could carry up to 1,000 people and carried spices, porcelains, ivory and silk from Asia and in return they would carry back silver from the mines in Mexico to pay for these goods. From Acapulco, they would carry the goods by land to the port of Veracruz and sail to Spain. The trip from Manila and Mexico took approximately 4 to 7 months.



# **COLONIAL TRADE**

Carrera de Indias (colonial convoy system): bullion from colonies, merchandise from Spain (often from N. Europe): (Burkholder and Johnson, p. 144)



- 17th c. decline
  1600-: 6,573 ships
  1650-: 1,835
- Intrusions:
  Dutch (1590)
  English (1655)
  French (1665)
- End of great fleets (1748, 1776)
- Opening of ports (1764, 1778)



### **IBERIAN INDUSTRY & COMMERCE**

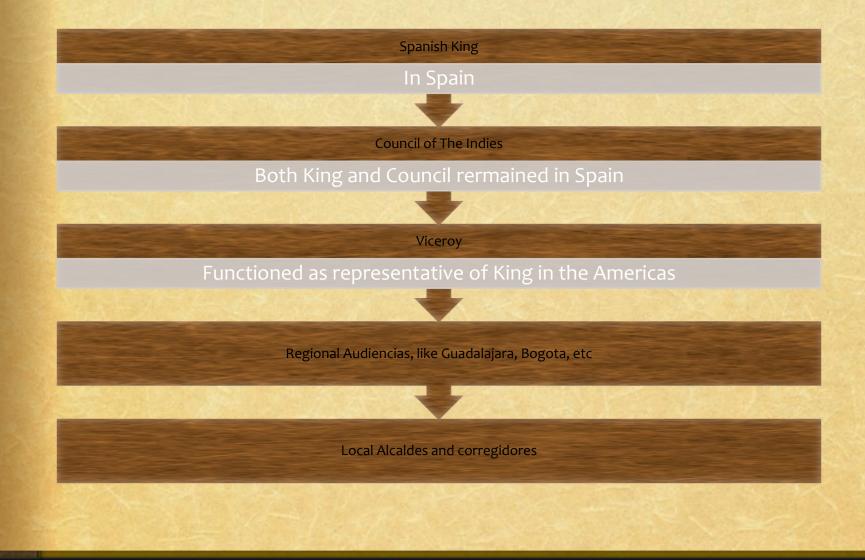
- Americas became self-sufficient for needs
  - Foods, textiles, tools produced locally
  - Luxuries imported
  - Raw materials, minerals exported
- Trade was mercantilistic
  - Spanish government regulated trade
  - Trade routed through Spain: Cadiz, Seville
  - Only Spanish merchants could carry goods to Spain
  - All manufactures, imports had to come from Spain
  - Only Spaniards could sell products in Americas
  - Galleon convoys organized to protect, carry trade
    - Ports to Spain: Veracruz, Cartagena, Havana
    - Ports to Manila, China: Acapulco
- Textile Industry
  - Woolens developed from sheep ranching
  - Leather industry developed from cattle
  - Cotton produced locally by Indians also woven





Portugal had similar guidelines except English, Dutch had encroached

### **Colonial Power Structure**





### Spain sent the first Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza on November 1535

He ruled until 1550. He became viceroy in 1535 and governed for 15 years, longer than any subsequent viceroy. On his arrival in New Spain, he found a recently conquered colony beset with Indian uprisings and rivalry among the conquerors. His difficult assignment was to govern in the king's name without making an enemy of Hernán Cortés, whom Emperor Charles V (King Charles I of Spain) and the Council of the Indies judged too rough to be made a duke and given any higher post than the Captaincy-General of New Spain, a post for which he was well suited. He was also directed to increase royal revenues and regulate the affairs of the Indians.

### **THE COLONIAL MAP**



### THE CRISIS OF THE

### **18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

- Shifting Balance of Trade and Politics
  - Spanish model outmoded, Spanish hold on Americas not secure
  - Increasing wars, competition from Northern Europeans
    - French seize Santo Domingo, some lesser Antilles, Mississippi Valley
    - English seize Jamaica, Bahamas, some lesser Antilles, E. North America
    - Dutch seize Aruba, other lesser Antilles
  - Failure of Spanish central administration to control colonies
  - Decline of Spanish industry, merchants, treasure fleets
- War of Spanish Succession: First World War!
  - Last Hapsburg king dies, sparks war
  - Empire willed to French king
  - English, Dutch refuse to accept agreement
  - French obtain Spain, colonies but lose much
  - English merchants to operate out of Seville
  - English to supply slaves to Spanish Americas (asciento)
  - English even get to send one ship a year to Americas to collect silver



## **IBERIAN REFORMS**

- Bourbon kings of Spain initiate reforms
  - King moved by economic nationalism, need for centralization
    - Better administration, new jurisdictions created
    - Reforms for material improvement not social, political revolution
    - Opened whole new regions to development; new technologies
    - Monopolies, royal charters granted; liberalized trading guidelines
  - Crushed opposition such as Jesuits
  - Better defense, military arrangements created including local units
  - New colonists settled in areas: California, Chile, Texas
- Pompal reforms in Portugal effect Brazil
  - Wanted to break English hold on Portugal, Brazil
  - Pursued mercantilism, autocratic reform from top down
  - Brazil became the centerpiece of his reforms
    - Vigorous, honest colonial administrators
    - Monopolies created to exploit areas
    - Large importation of slaves began to increase production
    - Cotton, cocoa produced introduced
    - Restricted Church influence so he could use Indians as slaves
    - Encouraged immigration of Europeans, women to Brazil

# **REACTION, REVOLTS**

- Resistance to European rule by indigenous people not new
  - Various forms of resistance: rebellion, indolence, retreat
  - Difficult for natives to register complaints
- 18<sup>th</sup> Century: Rapid Population, Economic Growth
  - Declining morality, increasing fertility
  - Increasing immigration from Europe
  - Thriving slave trade
  - Increased demand for American goods, products
  - Increased influence, wealth of Europeans born in Americas
- Americans began to resent distant control
  - Local born Americans demand greater say in their own future
  - Urban riots, boycotts over foreign controls
  - Tax revolts
  - Slave revolts not uncommon
  - Revolts against mercantilist policies, controls
    - Spanish: tobacco, liquor, taxes led to Comunero Revolt in 1781
    - Tupac Amaru led Indian revolt in Peru in 1783
    - Lead up to the American Revolution: many Acts and then actual rebellion