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**APUSH Period 1 Review**

**1491-1607**

* Early Native Americans arrive on North American continent 🡪 conflicting research
  + Low sea levels exposed a land bridge connecting Eurasia with North America where the Bering Sea now lies between Siberia and Alaska.
    - It is believed that most Native Americans crossed this land bridge.
    - Some evidence claims that small groups may have reached North America with crude boats.
* They evolved into hundreds of tribes, spoke different languages, and practiced different cultures.
* Estimates of the native population in the Americas in the 1490’s vary from 50 million to 100 million people.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Mayans – in Central America** | **Incas – in Peru** | **Aztecs – in Mexico** |
| * Yucatan Peninsula * staple crop = corn | * staple crop = potatoes | * capital city = Tenochtitlán. * Population of Tenochtitlán = 200,000 people (equal to size of largest cities in Europe) * staple crop = corn |
| * highly organized societies, carried on extensive trade, created calendars based on accurate scientific observation * Built elaborate cities and carried on far-flung commerce * They were talented mathematicians. * They offered human sacrifices to their gods. * cultivated crops that provided a stable food supply, particularly corn * created large irrigation systems | | |

**Cultivation of Corn** spread across the Americas from the Mexican heartland. Everywhere it was planted, corn began to transform nomadic hunting bands into settled agricultural villagers 🡪 This was a slow process.

* At the time of European arrival: Only nation-state that existed in North America was the Aztecs.

**Native Americans by Region**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Atlantic Seaboard | Northwest | Southwest |
| * built timber and bark lodgings along rivers * Rivers & Atlantic Ocean provided rich food source | * Along Pacific Coast from Alaska to California * Rich diet based on hunting, fishing, & gathering * carved large totem poles | * modern New Mexico & Arizona * Anasazis, Hokokam, Pueblos * farmed -> used irrigation * lived in caves, under cliffs, & multistoried buildings |

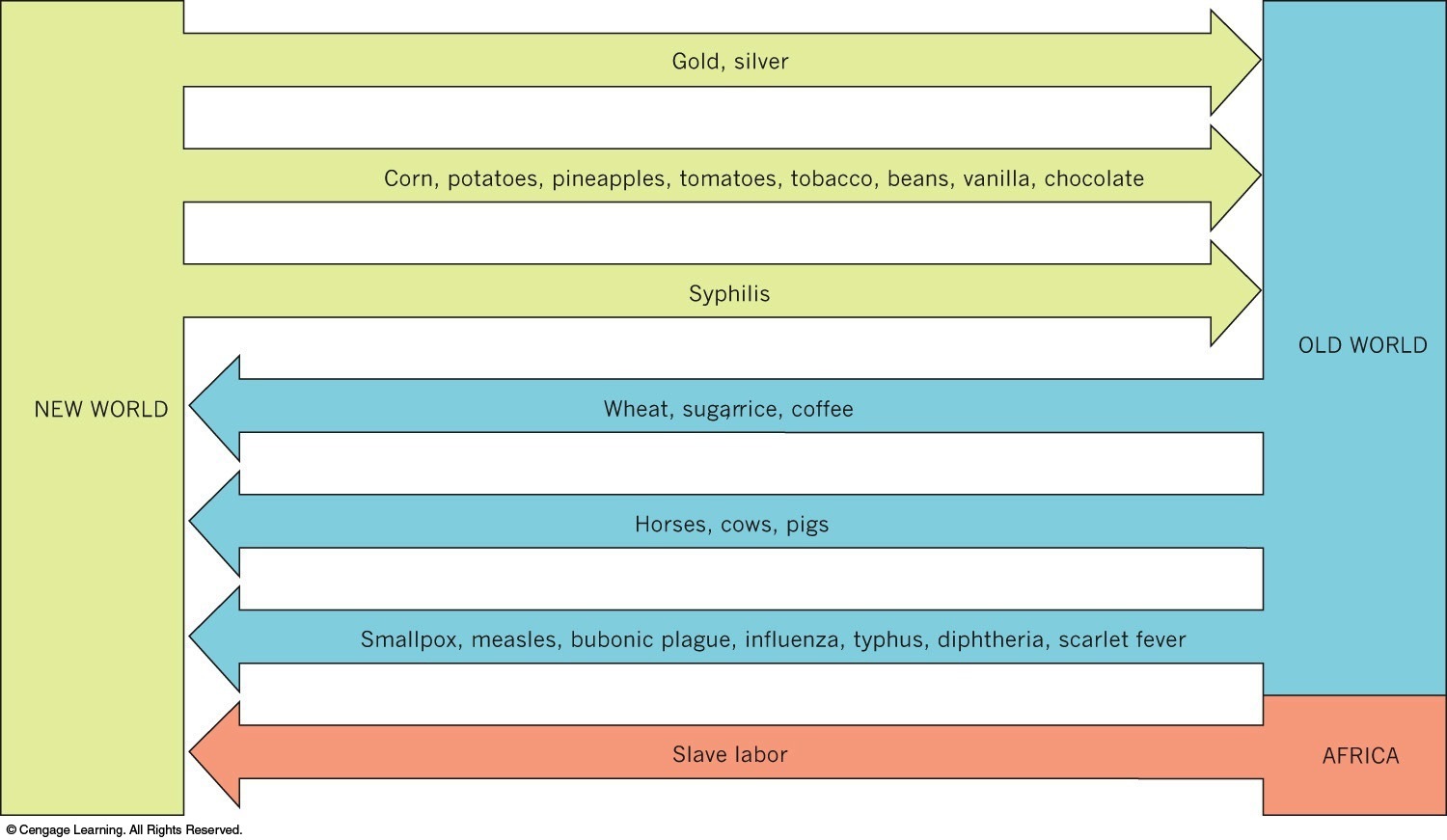
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| --- | --- | --- |
| Northeast | Great Plains | Midwest Settlements |
| * Iroquois Confederation – a political union of 5 tribes   + Seneca   + Cayuga   + Onodaga   + Oneida   + Mohawk * matrilineal * lived in longhouses | * nomadic tribes hunted buffalo * lived in tepees covered in animal skins   OR   * sedentary people farmed & traded * lived permanently in earthen lodges along rivers * raised corn, beans, & squash   HORSES (from Europeans) caused tribes like the Lakota Sioux to move from farming to hunting. | Ohio River Valley   * Mound builders * Adena-Hopewell Culture   Mississippian Settlements   * Cahokia – near present day East St. Louis was largest Midwest settlement at 30,000 inhabitants |

**Three-Sister Farming**

* Three Sisters = corn, beans, & squash
* allowed for higher populations to settle down
* However, by the time of Columbus’ arrival, most people in the Americans lived in semi permanent settlements in groups seldom exceeding 300 people.
  + men were hunters
  + women gathered plants & nuts or grew crops such as corn, beans, and tobacco.

**European Exploration:**

* Norse seafarers from Scandinavia came to the northeastern shore of North America, near present-day Newfoundland, to a spot they called Vinland.
* Europeans were looking for new trade routes to India.
* Christopher Columbus
  + sailed for Spain
  + October 12, 1492, he and his crew landed on an island in the Bahamas.
  + Columbus called the natives “Indians” since he thought he was in India.



**Columbian exchange**

* Europeans brought “Old World” crops and Animals
  + Introduction of horses changed many Native American societies.
* A “sugar revolution” took place in the European diet, fueled by the forced migration of millions of Africans to work the canefields and sugar mills of the New World.
* An exchange of diseases between the explorers and the natives took place.
  + Approximately 90% of Native Americans died from European diseases, especially smallpox

**Treaty of Tordesillas**

* Spain & Portugal both claimed overlapping territory in “New World.”
* Spain secured its claim to Columbus’s discovery in the **Treaty of Tordesillas** (1494)
  + line passed through modern day Brazil. (This explains why they speak Portuguese in Brazil)
  + Portugal got Brazil, Spain claimed rest of the Americas



**encomienda system**

* The Spanish ***encomienda* system** allowed the government to “commend” Indians to certain colonists in return for promise to try to Christianize them.
* Indians had to farm or work in mines.
* Spanish missionary Bartolomé de Las Casas called it “a moral pestilence invented by Satan.”

**asiento system**

* As European diseases reduced native populations, Spanish brought enslaved people from West Africa.

**Reasons for Spanish Exploration:**

* In service of **God**, in search of **gold** and **glory**, Spanish *conquistadores* (conquerors) came to the New World.

**Fall of Aztecs**

* 1519 Cortez tries to capture the Aztec capital at Tenochtitlán.
* Aztec chieftain Moctezuma sent ambassadors to greet Cortés and invite Cortés and his men to the capital city.
* On June 30, 1520, **noche triste** (sad night), the Aztecs attacked Cortés.
* On August 13, 1521, Cortés laid siege to the city and the Aztecs capitulated. The combination of conquest and disease took its toll.

**Fall of Incas**

* 1532: Francisco Pizarro crushed Incas (Peru).

**English Claims**

* Sir Walter Raleigh attempted a settlement at **Roanoke Island**off the coast of North Carolina in 1587.
  + Roanoke’s settlers disappeared

**French Claims**

* Giovanni de Verrazano explored the northeast coast, including NY
* Quebec is 1st permanent French settlement in America
* eventually will explore Mississippi River & establish Louisiana

**Dutch Claims**

* explored the Hudson River Valley
* claimed New Amsterdam (later to be called New York)
* granted a private company, the Dutch West India Company control of the region for economic gain.

**Spanish Claims**

* Florida
  + St. Augustine – permanent colony in 1565
    - Oldest city in North America established by Europeans
* New Mexico
  + Santa Fe was established as the capital of New Mexico in 1610
  + Pope’s Rebellion in 1680 over harsh efforts to Christianize the American Indians drove the Spanish out until 1692.
* Texas
* California
  + established permanent settlements in San Diego (1769) and San Francisco (1776)
  + established missions along the California coast by members of the Franciscan order
    - Father Junipero Serra founded nine missions.

**Relationships between Europeans & Native Americas**

* Spanish
  + Used the Native Americans as labor
* French
  + viewed Native Americans as potential economic and military allies
  + maintained good relations with the Native Americans
  + due to fewer colonies, farms, and towns, the French posed a lesser threat to the N.A.’s
* English
  + Early on (in Massachusetts) they coexisted peacefully
  + relations eventually gave way to conflict and open warfare