Amazing! An Inca plant in bloom!
HERGE

THE ADVENTURES OF

TINTIN

TINTIN IN THE CONGO
“As soon as I arrived in the Indies, in the first island which I found, I took some of the natives by force, in order that they might learn and might give me information of whatever there is in these parts. And so it was that they soon understood us, and we them, either by speech or by signs, and they have been very serviceable. At present, those I bring with me are still of the opinion that I come from Heaven, for all the intercourse which they have had with me. They were the first to announce this wherever I went, and the others went running from house to house, and to the neighbouring towns, with loud cries of, "Come! Come! See the men from Heaven!" So all came, men and women alike, when their minds were set at rest concerning us, not one, small or great, remaining behind, and they all brought something to eat and drink, which they gave with extraordinary affection”
Christopher Columbus:
“Letter to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, 1493”
“West Indies”

• “The Indians of this island are its riches, for it is they who dig and produce the bread and other food for the [Spanish] Christians and get the gold from the mines, and perform all the services and labor of men and of draft animals.”
Spaniards considered Native Americans as

- “naturally lazy and vicious, in general a lying, shiftless people [whose] chief desire is to eat, drink, heathen idols, and commit bestial obscenities”
Lecture 9  Early Modern Interconnected Global  
(1500-1800 C.E.)
European and Native Encounters
• “Americas”

Amazons, Savages, and Machiavels: Travel and Colonial Writing in English, 1550-1630: An Anthology
Diego Velázquez (1465-1524)

• Led the conquest of Cuba
• In charge of Charles V

• 1518 expedition
• “bearded hostile men are coming across the sea in great ironic ships; they carry iron slings which spit out burning fire”
Conquistadors
Conquistadors

• “Conquerors”: Soldier adventurers professional warriors, the most feared in Eurasia

• both reference to Portuguese and Spanish Empires

  Military techniques: firearms; cavalry
  GUNS

Mostly Castilians, but also Greeks, Italians...
Horse
Hernán Cortés (1485-1547)
• Linguistically talented.
• Helped encounters between Hernan Cortes and indigenous people of Mexico.

• Classic colonialist tactic: Use of native informer or mediator.
• “La Malinche” Traitor.
Conquest of Mexico 1518-1520

- February 1519 open mutiny; after landing in Cuba to acquire more forces (horses and soldiers), he left for Yucatan Peninsula
- 1519 Cortes scuttling his own fleet
Conquest of Tenochtitlán (1521)
Maya: the location of towns and cities according to its star constellations
Moctezuma II (1466-1520)
Quetzalcoátl
(Feathered serpent deity)
November 8, 1519

- Aztec calendar: 1519 celestial influence; a thunder bolt from the Sun God
H. Cortés admits

- Spanish “suffer an affliction of the heart which can only be cured by gold.”
The Broken Spears: The Aztec Account of the Conquest of Mexico, c. 1540

• “The Spaniards Reveal Their Greed”

• “The Spaniards immediately stripped the feathers from the gold shields and ensigns. They gathered all the gold into a great mound and set fire to everything else, regardless of its value.”
Francisco Pizarro (1529-1541)

• 1476 born: Illiterate; soldier
• 1509 arrives Americas
• 1526 from Panama to the unexplored lands in the south
• Conquered the Inca Empire
• 150 soldiers
• 1530: crossed Panama to the Pacific coast
Conquest of the Incas
Atahualpa

(1497–29 August 1533)
Atahualpa at Cajamarca (1532)
August 29, 1533
execution
“Indian”: naked, shy, wearing skirts
Cortés outside of Tenochtitlan (1671)
The meeting of Cortés and Moctezuma (1724)
Clothes
Temp worker sent home unpaid from PwC job 'for not wearing high heels'
• Alterity: the state of being other

• Identity: the state of being oneself

• Conquest!!!
Bartolomé de las Casas (1484 - 1566)

- “European Views of Native Americans”
  p. 360-361

16.1 cannibalism
Accounts of Japan: John Saris and Arthur Hatch

THE VOYAGE OF CAPTAIN JOHN SARIS TO JAPAN, 1613.

LONDON: PRINTED FOR THE HARLIOU SOCIETY.
Emergence of “Race” as a category?

- Read “From White to Yellow: The Japanese in European Racial Thought, 1300-1735.” (p. 369)

  “Cognitive impediment”

- “Language is tightly associated with the resurgence of racial thinking during the Phase of Observation”

- 16th century Europeans were “prone to looking for similarities rather than differences in appearances” (p. 371)
18th century: Race as a category
19th century
20th century
I'm Asian and I suck at MATH
“Black Legend”

• Spanish repression of Native Americans: religions, execution of rebels and forced labor.

• 1545: Maya Yucatan
1625, Native American writer in Peru

• “In the mines, Indian women are made into concubines, daughters of Indian men are kidnapped. In the villages, [Spanish men convert] single women, married women, all women into prostitutes. Parish priests have concubines. There is no one who takes these women’s side.”
Bartolomé de las Casas (1474-1566)
Indians are Humans
Translated into English
B De Las Casa
The Devastation of Indies, 1555
Las Casas, the Destruction of the Indies

- English criticized Spanish cruelty
- Saw the “black legend” as an extension of Europe’s religious wars.

- Page 343

- Provinces of New Spain: Spaniard’s, while hunting,

“tooke a little sweet Babie which hee bereaved the mother of, and cutting off from him the armes and the legges, chopped them in small gobbets, giving to every Dogge his :Liverie or part therefore, by and by after these morsels thus dispatched, he cast the rest of the bodie or the carkasse to all the kenell together.”
Richard Eden 1555

The Decades of the Newe World, or West India
• “The maners and customers of these Indians, are dyvers in divers provinces. Sum of them take as many wyves as them lyste, and other lyve with one wyfe whome they forsake not without consent of both parties, which chauncetethe especially when they have no chyldren.”
Open dissent

Inca women

“They do not confess, attend catechism classes, or go to mass. Returning to their ancient customs and idolatry, they do not want to serve God or the [Spanish] crown.”
Conversion to Christianity

• Missionaries converted native Americans: superficial Christianity, changing local gods into Christian saints.
• Sometimes changing their economic life too
• Fray Junipero Serra (1713-1784)
  Required semi-nomadic people to live in towns.
Rapartimiento 1542

- Tribute-labor system
- Colonial Forced labor
  Imposed on the indigenous people

Slavery-like condition: low-paid or unpaid labor

*Encomienda*: reward for “services” in
Exchange of security, religion
Gerónimo de Aguilar (1489-1531)

- Franciscan friar
- Translated indigenous texts

Mesoamerican Languages:
Mayan & Nahuatl
1637 Jesuits in Uruguay armed the Indians to fight slave raiders
Mestizo or mestiço
• Martín Cortés (son of doña Marina)
Mulattos

• A mix of African and white or Indian ancestry or both
Mexico-born European

- Europeans “… think that not only the original Indian inhabitants but also those of us who were, by chance, born in (the Americas) either walk on two legs by divine dispensation or that they are hardly able to discover anything rational in us.”
Other European powers

- **French**: seized western half of Hispaniola, center for plantations.
- **English**: Jamaica and Barbados, British Guiana; Trinidad.
- **Dutch**: expelled from Brazil, Dutch Guiana (now Suriname)
Portuguese pushed deep into Brazil for slaves
Early modern Colonial features

• 1. The perception of the “New” land
• 2. The encounter not just with the “enemy” but an unknown “savage”
• 3. Myth of absolute conquest (Cortez and Pizzaro)
• 4. Systematic exploitation
• 5. Global power beyond Eurasia
BUT

- How did Western European conquer the “new world”? 
“Accidental Conquerors”

- 1) Steel
- 2) Guns
- 3) Germs
Eurasian Plagues
Columbian Exchange

- The transportation of diseases, animals, and plants
Between the hemispheres that resulted from European conquest and exploration.

--Native Americans: polio, hepatitis and tuberculosis and syphilis.
Small pox
Hemispheric Epidemic

• 20 million people

• 90% died
Small Pox 1518

- Introduction of devastating epidemics.
- Spanish settlers would raid and enslave the Taíno, which spread disease and killed off more of the indigenous people.
  - By 1540’s declined to a few thousands (from 4 million).
Economy of the Americas

- Monoculture, an economy dependent on the production and export of one chief commodity
- Triangular trade: Americas; Europe; Americas
  1) Tobacco (Cuba; North America)
  2) Furs (North America)
  3) Silver (central America)
  4) Sugar (Brazil, Hispaniola, etc)
Plantation zone

• A group of societies with economies that relied on enslaved African labor; it stretched from Virginia and Kentucky southward through the West Indies and the east coast of Central America to Central Brazil and the Pacific coast of Colombia.
Plantation Societies

- Tropical and subtropical regions.
- 1516 island of Hispaniola (Haiti and Dominican Republic).
- Brazil and the Caribbean.

Products:
- a) Sugar; (b) tobacco; (c) cotton; (d) coffee.

Plantations: a distinct culture.
Sugar “factories”

• The plantations of the Caribbean islands; southeastern North America and coastal South America.
• Relyed on mass production of raw sugar by enslaved workers.
• “without sugar, no Brazil; without slaves, no sugar; without Angola, no slaves.”
Why Sugar?

- Rum (from West Indies for northern America).
- Diet for new cuisine.
Rise of African Slavery as a source of labor

Not the natives: disease and not sedentary cultivators.

- Portuguese plantation managers imported slaves as early as 1530s.
- 1580s height of Portuguese slavery.
- Average age of a slave at a planet: 5 to 6 years.
Post-Encomienda System

- Regulate Native American labor: worked the laborer and protected them in return.
- 1520-1540 total abuse of indigenous people.
- Debt Slavery:
  Spanish landowners advanced loans to native people; the debtors then repaid the loans with their labor, gold or other valuables, though it was never enough.
Slavery Regions for the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

© Alistair Boddy-Evans
Slavery in Africa

- An institution dating back to antiquity.
- War captives, criminals and people expelled from their clans. (Gladiator).
- Islamic slave trade: African slaves for sale since the 8th century.
- European sub-Saharan Africa (15th & 16th centuries): slave traffic was a well-established feature of African society.
European Slavery

• Trans-Atlantic.
• Human Cargoes.
• Began in 1441.
• 1460 Portuguese began to purchase slaves.
• A demand for labor in the western hemisphere.
• Worked as miners, porters or domestic servants.
• Later in the sugar plantations.
• Triangular Trade: (1) Europe: carried horses and European manufactured goods; (2) Africa: took enslaved Africans to Caribbean and American destinations; (3) Americas: upon arrival merchants sold (or traded for sugar) their human cargoes to plantation owners.
Between 1650 and 1860, approximately 10 to 15 million enslaved people were transported from western Africa to the Americas. Most were shipped to the West Indies, Central America, and South America.
Trans-Atlantic Slavery: “The Middle-Passage”

- Enslaved passengers travelled below decks in the worst conditions imaginable.

- Sick slaves: thrown off the vessel.
Kingdom of Kongo: Slave trade network

- 15th to the 17th centuries.
- Relations with Portugal (1483).
- King Nzinga Mbemba of Kongo (reigned 1506-1542): Christianity as the official religion of the state.
- Textiles, weapons, artisans in exchange of Copper, ivory and slaves.
- Kongolese relied on local authorities for the supply of slaves, mostly from east Africa.
Slavery in North America

- 1619 Virginia.
- 1661 Virginia law recognized all blacks as slaves.
- 1680s slaves worked on tobacco and cotton plantations.
- Northern states benefited from building slave vessels.
Slave markets
Conclusion

• Trans-hemispheric encounters: dominations rather than peaceful means of interaction, like trade.

• Led the way for the expansion of capital and labor.