Ms. Dobbs HWH U3: Exploration: Spanish & Portuguese (15, 2)

**Ruling the Spanish Empire:**

* Land from California to South America
  + Split into 4 provinces
* Provinces ruled by viceroys (like governor) / had others to help
  + Council of the Indies looked over all areas
* Christianity played big role – Catholic
  + Missionaries try to convert natives
  + Church authority grew
  + Natives forced into religion & European culture
* Strict control over trade – colonies only trade w/Spain
  + Silver & gold = major resource & lots of money for Spain
  + Sugar cane became big cash crop ($ maker)
    - Set up plantation system
* Encomienda – forced labor from natives / used for farming, mining, etc…
  + Brutal conditions – beat, killed, diseases, starvation…
  + Decline in native population
  + Priests against this - De Las Casas condemned it & wrote to king to stop it
    - New laws outlawed native slavery/abuse
    - Natives became peons – workers / performed labor to payoff “debts”
* Eventually turned to African workers/slavery by 1530s
  + Urged by de Las Cases (later regretted this)
  + Furthered the slave trade
  + Sugar demand led to need for more slaves/workers
  + African slave population eventually outnumbered Europeans

**Colonial Society & Structure:**

* Blended cultures AKA cultural diffusion!!!
  + New social structure created
  + New foods, animals, styles, arts, religions
* Social classes
  + Peninsulares – Spanish born people
  + Creoles – born in America w/ Spanish born parents
  + Mestizos – native + European mix
  + Mulattoes – African + European mix
  + Natives & Africans at bottom
* Education important
  + Wanted educated priests
  + Built universities – only men could attend
  + If women wanted education they had to join a convent

**Portuguese & Brazil:**

* Settling Brazil
  + Native population way ↓ bc of diseases from Europeans
  + Land grants to Portuguese nobles
  + Economy based on cattle, cash crops, harvesting brazil wood
  + Used plantation system – forced labor (natives) & African slavery
    - Blended cultures
  + Strict control of trade – only trade with Portugal
  + Others (English, Dutch, French…) jealous of their power/wealth & wanted resources
    - Smuggled goods & robbed ships using pirates
    - Privateers – government approved/backed pirates