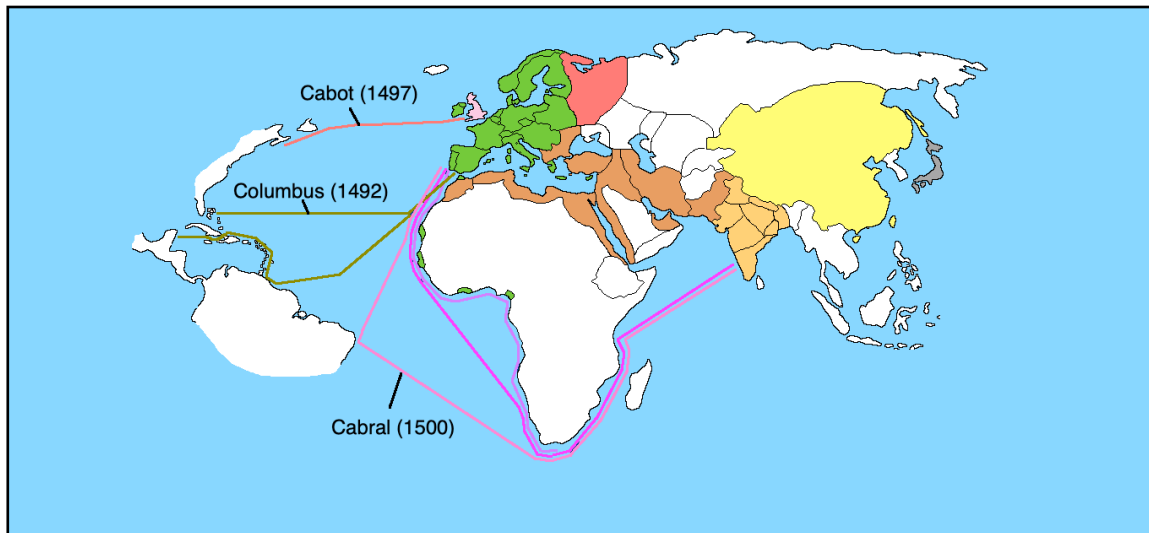


C. The Rise of the Europe of Nations

1. One way to think of the timeline is that Europe is the “trunk,” while the Anglosphere, America, and the Iberosphere are “branches,” and Greco-Roman civilization is the “roots” of the *family tree* of Western civilization.
2. Europe became the trunk with the **Fall of the Roman Empire** in **476 AD**. Rome had already conquered Greece, but now they were both attacked by Asians called the “Huns.”
3. Luckily a tribe called the “Franks” helped to defeat the Huns, and it was the Franks who became the leaders of Europe in **476 AD**. They built an empire that later broke into the two important countries, France and Germany.
4. Other tribes called the Angles and Saxons, and later the Normans, settled in England, making it a separate country.
5. Meanwhile the tribes of Iberia (Spain and Portugal) were fighting another invasion of Europe by the Muslims which began in **711 AD**. It was known to them as the “Reconquista” (which means “reconquest”) and it lasted nearly 800 years! Only in **1492** did the Reconquista end.
6. By this point Europe had become a cultural block of separate nations (i.e. people with a long history, and different languages and traditions that gave them a sense of belonging together, but also separate from each other).

D. The Age of Discovery

1. The reason why there are different blocks in the same “family” of cultures is that the different nations of Europe engaged in a unique contest to explore the world during the period known as the *Age of Discovery*.
2. The main goal of the explorers and their royal patrons during this time was to find an efficient trade route to Asia, especially China.
3. Christopher Columbus was the most important of these explorers, because he tried to reach Asia by going west from Europe, and instead discovered America in **1492**.
4. Soon the other nations sent explorers to see if they could actually reach Asia. England sent an explorer named John Cabot in **1497**. Portugal sent an explorer named Pedro Alvares Cabral in **1500**, who discovered what is today Brazil (where Portuguese is spoken instead of Spanish as a result).
5. The efforts of these explorers can be seen on the following map. They had found a huge new area for Western Civilization to spread.



The voyages of Columbus (1492 and later), Cabot (1497), Cabral (1500) and others collectively revealed the scope of the “New World,” which European civilization would soon colonize.

E. Mexico and the Bolivarian Iberosphere

1. Following the discovery of the Americas by Columbus in **1492**, it became clear that there were actually civilizations in Mexico (the Aztecs and Mayans) and Peru (the Incas).
2. When it was learned that these empires had a lot of gold and silver, Spanish adventurers known as “conquistadors” (“conquerors”) set out to conquer them and take it.
3. The Aztec empire of Mexico was conquered by conquistador Hernan Cortes. The Inca emperor was conquered by Francisco Pizarro.
4. For nearly three hundred years after that, the Iberosphere was like a copy of Europe. Military conquerors owned the land, and they forced other people, including slaves from Africa to work for them.
5. Then Spain and Portugal were conquered by the famous French general Napoleon. The military rulers of the Iberosphere, called “caudillos” (“strongmen”), decided to take advantage of the situation and make themselves independent of their mother countries in the **Iberian-American Wars of Independence (1808-33)**.
6. The most famous caudillos were Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna in Mexico, Simon Bolivar in Venezuela, and Prince Pedro I in Brazil.
7. The new culture of the Iberosphere is called “Bolivarianism,” which is named after Simon Bolivar. The motto of that culture was perfectly stated by Prince Pedro I in his *Cry of Ipiranga*: “Independence or death!”
8. What the *Cry of Ipiranga* reveals, unfortunately, is that unlike the American Revolution, where the motto was “Give me *liberty*, or give me death!” the **Iberian-American Wars of Independence (1808-33)** did not believe in liberty as much as the United States.

- 9. Independence itself has always been the main priority of this cultural group, with some countries like Cuba and Venezuela especially independent, and others like Mexico and Panama accepting closer relations to the United States.
- 10. Unfortunately, in modern times, the focus of *Bolivarianism* has mainly been to avoid become too connected to America. This is because America is a very bossy *world police power*. It even helped a new generation of caudillos to create military dictatorships in the Ibersphere to prevent the rise of communism there.
- 11. The people of the Ibersphere remember this time, and they still want to stay separate from the *America-centric* world.
- 12. Here is our full timeline so far:

