

THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE



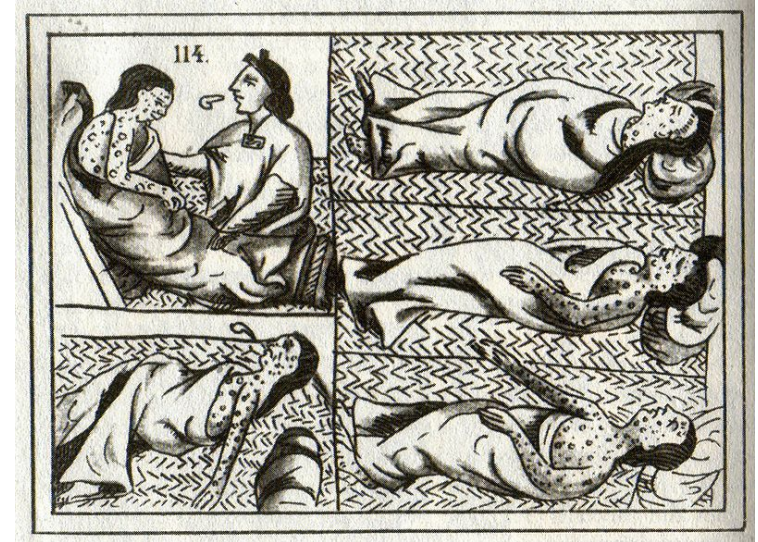
What Is It?

- ❑ **Columbian Exchange** = The transfer of **peoples, animals, plants and diseases** between the New and the Old Worlds
- ❑ Occurred after the European invasions of the Americas
- ❑ Different from other “exchanges”
 - ❑ Began contact and transfers where none had existed before
- ❑ Brought both **disaster** and **new opportunities**



Exchange #1: Disease

- Diseases were the first and most significant exchange
- **Europeans** brought diseases they didn't know they had
 - **Had built immunities** to diseases like **smallpox**, measles, tuberculosis, etc.
- **Native pop didn't have immunities** → 10s of millions die (↑90%)
- **Syphilis** was spread from Americas to Europe (approx. 5 mil. die)



Quick Summary

- ▣ Pretend that your partner has been in the bathroom for the last 2 slides, and needs a quick summary to catch them up on what they missed.
 - ▣ Partner A: Summarize as much as you can in 20 seconds
 - ▣ Wait till you hear “Switch” then,
 - ▣ Partner B: In 20 seconds, fill in the details that Partner A missed
 - ▣ Be prepared to share out key points with the class
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Exchange #2: Plants

- ❑ Changed the diet of peoples in both hemispheres
- ❑ From **Americas** → **Europe** (and then to Africa, Asia)
 - ❑ **Maize, potato**, beans, squash, tomato, chilies, chocolate
- ❑ From Europe/Africa/Asia → Americas
 - ❑ **Wheat**, grapes, rice, bananas, **sugar cane**
- ❑ Variety of veggies, fruit → **world pop. doubles by 1850**



Exchange #3: Animals

- Domesticated animals from Europe = **HUGE impact**
 - Cows, pigs, horses, goats, sheep
- No natural predators in Americas → escaped animals became wild and multiplied rapidly
 - Dramatic changes to environment
- **Horse = largest impact**
 - Native Americans captured wild horses → Buffalo hunting from horseback



Think-Pair-Share

- At the bottom of your notes, answer the following question:
 - **Between the “Old” World and “New”, which side do you think benefited the most from the Columbian Exchange? Why?**
 - You’ll have 3 min. to write down your answer, then share out with your table partner
 - Be prepared to share with the class
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