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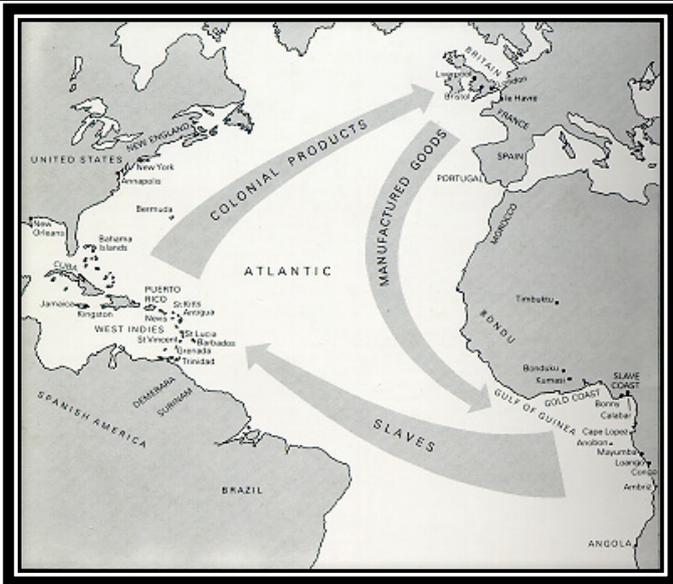
BLOCK:

PORTUGUESE EMPIRE-BUILDING: CHRISTIANITY OR WEALTH?

CENTRAL HISTORICAL QUESTION:
TO WHAT EXTENT DID PORTUGAL HAVE A SOCIAL MOTIVATION FOR BUILDING THEIR EMPIRE?"

DIRECTIONS: Read the following secondary & primary source documents and respond to the guiding questions. When finished, complete the claim statement graphic organizer.

DOCUMENT A: A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE



The trans-Atlantic slave trade was the largest long-distance coerced movement of people in history and, prior to the mid-nineteenth century, formed the major demographic well-spring for the re-peopling of the Americas following the collapse of the Amerindian population. Cumulatively, as late as 1820, nearly four Africans had crossed the Atlantic for every European, and, given the differences in the sex ratios between European and African migrant streams, about four out of every five females that traversed the Atlantic were from Africa. From the late fifteenth century, the Atlantic Ocean, once a formidable barrier that prevented regular interaction between those peoples inhabiting the four continents it touched, became a commercial highway that integrated the histories of Africa, Europe, and the Americas for the first time. Slavery was a cheap form of labor, and with the decline of the Amerindian population, labor from Africa formed the basis of the exploitation of the gold and agricultural resources of the export sectors of the Americas, with sugar plantations absorbing well over two thirds of slaves carried across the Atlantic by the major European and Euro-American powers. For several centuries slaves were the most important reason for contact between Europeans and Africans.

SOURCE: Hugh Thomas, *"The Slave Trade,"* 1997

Trans-Atlantic Imports by Region 1450-1900		
Region	Number of slaves accounted for	%
Brazil	4,000,000	35.4
Spanish Empire	2,500,000	22.1
British West Indies	2,000,000	17.7
French West Indies	1,800,000	14.1
British North America and United States	500,000	4.4
Dutch West Indies	500,000	4.4
Danish West Indies	28,000	0.2
Europe (and Islands)	200,000	1.8
Total	11,328,000	100

SOURCE: Data derived from, *"The Slave Trade,"* Hugh Thomas, 1997.

1.) According to the secondary source document, why was slavery practiced and who imported the most amount of slaves between 1450 and 1900?

DOCUMENT B: PORTUGUESE PRIESTS BAPTIZING WEST AFRICANS



SOURCE: Fortunato da Alemandini, 1687. *Portuguese Christian Missionary Priests Baptizing Africans*, engraving based on the accounts of Portuguese Christian missionary, Giovanni Cavazzi, 1687. The Christian Missionaries of Portugal would join the Portuguese explorers and colonists and their **original purpose** was to converting indigenous people (Native Americans in America & Native Africans in Africa) to Christianity.

2.) How does this image portray the Portuguese? What is the central Portuguese motivation that is inferred from this image?

3.) How does this image portray the West Africans of the Congo?

DOCUMENT C: PORTUGUESE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY PRIESTS BAPTIZING THE WEST AFRICAN QUEEN, NJINGA OF NDONGO (MODERN DAY CONGO)



SOURCE: Fortunato da Alemandini, 1687. *Portuguese Christian Missionary Priests Baptizing Queen Njinga of Ndongo*, engraving based on the accounts of Portuguese Christian missionary, Giovanni Cavazzi, 1687. Giovanni Cavazzi worked in West Central Africa during the mid 17th century. While in Africa he did several watercolors of the peoples of Congo and Angola. Engravings were made from his paintings by Fortunato da Alemandini to illustrate a book Cavazzi wrote about Africa. This book was first published in 1687.

4.) How does this image portray the power of the Portuguese?

5.) Why would Cavazzi want an image of the Portuguese baptizing, or converting the West African Congolese Queen, Njinga?

DOCUMENT D: KING OF PORTUGAL OUTLAWING ENSLAVEMENT OF CHINESE (MODIFIED)



“I have given you specific orders concerning business with China, and making sure that no Chinese are taken captive...as it is an issue about which they get very upset... I want it to be declared that they cannot and should not be made captive.”

SOURCE:, King Philip III, 19 February 1624, King Philip of Portugal forbade the enslavement of the Chinese after complaints from the people of the Qing Empire.

6.) What does Portuguese King, Philip III's quote imply about the Portuguese's empire building strategy of slavery?

7.) Why would Philip III be concerned with whether the Chinese get upset or not? What might this imply about their empire building motivation?

DOCUMENT E: PORTUGUESE COLONIST COMPLAINING OF KING PHILIP II'S OUTLAW OF JAPANESE ENSLAVEMENT (MODIFIED)



...“Our King orders that we should buy none of them....But these people are accustomed to sell their own children, and to other non-Christians like themselves! Therefore, surely it is lawful for us (Christians) to buy them, since those who are bought *become* Christians and are now so.

SOURCE:, 1605, A Portuguese Christian missionary in India complaining about King Philip II's outlaw of the enslavement of Japanese people.

8.) How does this quote from a Portuguese Christian missionary problematize their **original purpose** to convert non-Christians to Christianity?

DOCUMENT F: DENOUNCING THE PORTUGUESE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES PRACTICE OF ENSLAVING PEOPLE THEY WERE CONVERTING TO CHRISTIANITY (MODIFIED)



“...The barbaric behavior of the missionaries will be seen as an abominable absurdity that will make the Christian religion appear awful throughout Europe if we treat the Sacrament of Baptism, which, by the power of Christ, saved us (Christians) from the captivity of guilt, now is simply a doorway or trick for entering slavery.”

SOURCE: Sebastião José de Carvalho, AKA “The Marquis of Pombal,” 1755. Sebastio was a high-ranking Portuguese government official who was the “Marquis of Pombal,” which was essentially the Portuguese King’s close advisor. Sebastio is denouncing the Christian Portuguese Missionaries who had promised to protect and convert to Christianity all the native people that Portugal encountered during the expansion of their empire.

9.) What does de Carvalho’s statement on the behavior of the Christian missionaries imply about Portugal’s primary motivation for building & maintaining their empire?

DOCUMENT G: BACKGROUND ON BRAZIL & THE SLAVE TRADE

Brazil

Brazil was the center of the slave trade carried on under the Portuguese flag, both before and after Brazilian independence in 1822, and Portugal was by far the largest of the national carriers. Brazil dominated the slave trade in the sense that Rio de Janeiro and Bahia sent out more slaving voyages than any port in Europe, and certainly many times more than did Lisbon. Over nearly three centuries between 1560 and 1850, Brazil was consistently the largest destination for slaves in the Americas. Almost all the slaves coming into the region came from just two coastal areas in Africa: the Bight of Benin and West-central Africa.

10.) How does this information impact the question of Portugal’s motivation for building an empire?

CLAIM STATEMENT GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

DIRECTIONS: Create a claim statement (one sentence) & complete the graphic organizer in response to the central historical question:

“TO WHAT EXTENT DID PORTUGAL HAVE A SOCIAL MOTIVATION FOR BUILDING THEIR EMPIRE?”

CLAIM STATEMENT:

EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT CLAIM STATEMENT:

Cite at least three or more documents to support your claim.

DOCUMENT(S):

DOCUMENT(S):

DOCUMENT(S):