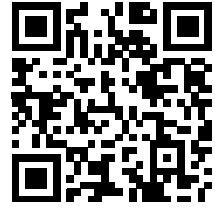


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Discovering New Lands



During the Age of Discovery, many European _____ set sail to find new lands and trade routes. Christopher _____ is one of the most famous figures from this era. In 1492, he embarked on a voyage across the Atlantic Ocean, aiming to find a faster route to Asia. Instead, Columbus landed on an island in the _____, marking the beginning of Europe's exploration of the Americas. Another notable explorer, Vasco da _____, reached India by sea in 1498, opening a direct trade route between Europe and Asia.

These journeys were not only about finding new routes but also about claiming _____ for the explorers' home countries. The Spanish and the Portuguese were among the most successful in establishing colonies. In South America, the Spanish conqueror Hernán _____ defeated the Aztec Empire, while Francisco Pizarro overcame the _____ Empire.

The impact of these explorations was profound. New crops like _____ and tomatoes were introduced to Europe, while horses and wheat were brought to the Americas.

This exchange of goods and ideas is known as the _____ Exchange.

However, the Age of Discovery also had darker aspects. European settlers brought diseases to the _____ peoples, leading to significant declines in their populations.

Moreover, the demand for labor in the new colonies fueled the transatlantic _____ trade.

Despite these issues, the Age of Discovery was a key period that reshaped the world. It led to the globalization of _____ and the interconnection of diverse cultures, effects that are still evident today.

Columbian slave explorers Inca trade Columbus Cortés Caribbean
territory indigenous potatoes Gama