



TANTO MONTA

Case of Ferdinand & Isabella 1470-1516

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ABOUT THIS BOOK

The initial sections of this book provide all the information necessary to set up the two different scenarios provided with the game. The following sections present comments and notes by the designer, as well as historical explanations that allow you to immerse yourself further in the setting of the game—the Age of Exploration.

Getting Started

We recommend that players who are not familiar with Europe during the Age of Exploration begin with a look at the section “The Game as History” before their first game; this will give them a general idea of the events that took place in Europe during the period depicted in the game. The other historical sections, such as “Characters in *Tanto Monta*” or “Notable Battles”, can be read as the corresponding characters or events appear in the game.

All players should read the rules. Then use the 1470 Scenario setup instructions (found in the “Scenarios” section below) and play a few turns to familiarise yourself with the mechanics of the game. In this scenario, the civil wars in Castile and Aragon have just begun, while Portugal has begun the struggle for control of North Africa against their Muslim opponent, making it easy to learn the basic procedures for unit construction, movement and combat.

Once the basic mechanics are understood, players can jump into either of the two scenarios, depending on how much time they have available for play. Here are some estimates of how long it will take to play a game (assuming everyone is already familiar with the rules), estimating between 45 minutes and 60 minutes per turn:

- 1470 scenario (7 turns): 6-7 hours
- 1490 scenario (4 turns): 3-4 hours

SCENARIOS

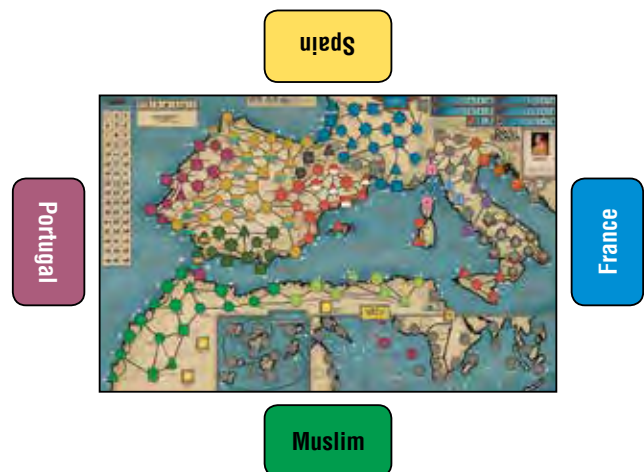
The first section below provides general guidelines that are useful when setting up any of the scenarios. Then, the two scenarios included with *Tanto Monta* are presented in order of length, from the longest to the shortest.

Setup Guidelines

The two scenarios of the game are prepared as indicated below. The only differences are in the unit locations and the initial number of cards for each power.

Map and Player Card Layout

Place the board on the table, within reach of all players. The player cards are placed around the map in Impulse Order, so players can easily remember the order in which players take their moves. The following configuration of power cards is especially recommended:



At Start Unit/Player Card Setup

Set up the game one power at a time, using the setup tables for each power provided in the 1470 Scenario or 1490 Scenario instructions below. The setup table for each power lists the units that appear on the map and specifies the placement of all markers that start the game on that nation's Player Card. The setup information also lists the placement of markers and counters on the various off-map charts used in *Tanto Monta*.

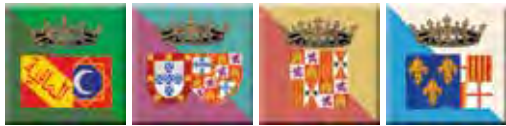
Force Pool Setup

Land and naval units for each power that do not appear on the map at start should be placed next to each Player Card to create a pool of available forces that may be constructed during play. Unused minor power and neutral units should be placed in a separate pile.

Marker Setup



Turn Marker: The Turn Track can be found in the upper-left corner of the map. Place the "Turn" marker in the Turn 1 or Turn 4 box of the Turn Track, as specified in the Game Length section of the scenario.



VP Markers: Place each player's color-coded "VP" marker in the proper box of the Victory Track (located on the left edge of the map) according to the initial VP count specified for the scenario.



Royal Wedding Table: Place the counters for the Catholic Monarchs' children and suitors in the appropriate space if playing the 1490 scenario as specified in the scenario instructions.



Diplomacy Chart: In each scenario, several wars are underway; place a marker on the "At War" side in the appropriate box of the Diplomacy Chart (located below the Royal Wedding Table) to mark each of these conflicts. There are also several powers that start each scenario allied to each other. Place a marker on the "Allied" side in the appropriate box to mark each of these alliances.

The Exploration Map: Place the Cartography VP counters in appropriate ocean zones of the Exploration Map as specified in the scenario instructions.

Setup Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in the setup tables for the scenarios:

Abbreviation	Meaning	Sample
HCM	Hexagonal Control Marker	
TCM	Triangular Control Marker	
SCM	Square Control Marker	



1470 Scenario (7 turns)

Description

This scenario is the longest version of the game, covering the first 47 years of the Age of Discovery.

Game Length

7 Turns: Turn 1 (1470) to Turn 7 (1516).

All 7 turns of the game are played:

- Turn 1 from 1470-1475 (6 years)
- Turn 2 from 1476-1482 (7 years)
- Turn 3 from 1483-1489 (7 years)
- Turn 4 from 1490-1496 (7 years)
- Turn 5 from 1497-1503 (7 years)
- Turn 6 from 1504-1510 (7 years)
- Turn 7 from 1511-1516 (6 years)

The scenario begins when Isabella was named heir to the crown of Castile and ends with the death of Ferdinand, the last of the Catholic Monarchs to die.

Setup



Muslim Player

Separate from your force pool the following North African, Nasrid, and Ottoman units that do not become available until later in the game:

- One North African regular of value 2 another of value 1; two North African militia counters of value 1; and one North African naval squadron (received as reinforcements at the start of Turn 4 when the home spaces of the Sultanate of Tlemcen enter play).
- One Nasrid regular counter of value 4 (added with event MULEY HACÉN SEIZES ZAHARA).
- Four Ottoman regulars (added with event OTTOMANS SEIZE OTRANTO).
- Four Ottoman regulars and three North African corsairs (added with event ALGIERS REGENCY).
- Three Ottoman regulars and three Ottoman naval squadrons with crossed swords symbols (added with event OTTOMAN- VENETIAN WAR).

Player Card

- Fortresses: 2.
- Warehouse: One 2 CP caravan resource.
- VP Gains by Corsairs: Marker in “Start” box.
- North African Home Keys: Tlemcen, Algiers. Place HCM on both of these to indicate they are not yet available for placement (entering play with the Sultanate of Tlemcen and ALGIERS REGENCY respectively).
- Other SCM: 4.
- VP Marker: Granada 1VP.
- VP Marker: Anfa 1VP.

Nasrid Kingdom of Granada:

- Granada: El Zagal, 1 regular, 1 cavalry, SCM.
- Almeria: 1 regular, SCM.
- Malaga: 1 regular, 1 naval squadron, SCM.
- Sohail: Muley Hacén, 2 regulars, 6 militia.
- Loja: 1 cavalry.

Sultanate of Fez:

- Fez: Ibn Yahya, 2 regulars, 2 militia, SCM.
- Tangier: 2 regulars, SCM.
- Tetouan: 1 cavalry.
- Marrakech: 2 militias, SCM.
- Alcácer Quibir: 1 regular.
- Anfa: 2 regulars, 1 cavalry.
- Agadir: 1 cavalry, 1 regular.
- Melilla: 3 naval squadrons, Kemal Reis (naval leader value 2).
- 2 random caravan Resource markers in their respective Fez and Marrakech boxes on the map.

Receive during Card Draw Phase:

- Nasrid Home Card: THE ALHAMBRA OF GRANADA.
- North African Home Card: SULTANATE OF FEZ.
- 4 cards dealt from deck (Ruler’s Charisma).

**Portuguese Player****Player Card:**

- Fortresses: 2.
- Warehouse: One 2 CP naval resource.
- Other SCM: 4.

Kingdom of Portugal:

- Lisbon: Joao II, 2 regulars, 2 militia, Lion of Seas (naval leader), 2 naval squadrons, SCM.
- Coimbra: SCM.
- Oporto: 1 militia, SCM.
- Faro: 1 militia.
- Trujillo: 1 cavalry.
- Plasencia: Afonso V, 1 regular, 2 militia, 1 cavalry.
- Ceuta: 4 regulars, SCM.
- Arzila: 2 regulars, HCM.
- Sala: HCM.
- Mazagán: 4 militia, HCM

Beltranejos faction:

- Toledo: A. Carrillo, 1 regular and 1 militia, SCM.
- Jerez: 2 militia, 1 cavalry.
- Plasencia: 2 militia, SCM.
- Villena: 1 militia.
- Toro: Pacheco, 2 regulars, SCM.
- Burgos: 1 militia.

Receive during Card Draw Phase:

- Portugal Home Card: THE OVERSEAS KINGDOM.
- Beltranejos Home Card: JOANNA LA BELTRANEJA.
- 5 cards dealt from deck (Ruler’s Charisma).

**Spanish Player**

Separate from your force pool the following Aragonese and Castilian units that do not become available until later in the game:

- Four Castilian regulars from the Military Orders: two from the Order of Santiago and two from the Order of Calatrava (added with the event CARDINAL CISNEROS REGENT).
- One Aragonese regular and one Spanish naval squadron with the crossed swords symbol (added with the event OTTOMAN- VENETIAN WAR).

Player Card:

- Fortresses: 2.
- Warehouse: One 2 CP naval resource.
- Other SCM: 9.

Crown of Aragon:

- Zaragoza: Ferdinand, 4 regulars, 4 militia, 1 cavalry. SCM.
- Valencia: John II, 2 regulars, 4 militia, 1 cavalry, 1 siege artillery, SCM.
- Gerona: 2 regulars.
- Mallorca: 1 regular.
- Denia: Bernat (naval leader), 2 naval squadrons.
- Messina: 1 regular.
- Cagliari: 1 regular.
- Palermo: 1 regular.

Crown of Castile:

- Valladolid: Isabella, 2 regulars, 2 militia, 1 cavalry, SCM.
- Segovia: 2 regulars, SCM.
- Seville: Mendoza, 2 regulars, 2 militia, 1 cavalry, 1 naval squadron, SCM.
- Gibraltar: 4 regulars, SCM.
- Cartagena: 1 regular.
- Calatrava: 1 cavalry.
- Fuenterrabía: 2 regulars.
- León: 1 regular.
- Corunna: 1 naval squadron.
- Lanzarote: 1 regular, HCM.
- Fuerteventura: 6 regulars, HCM.
- La Gomera: 4 militias, HCM.
- El Hierro: 1 militia, HCM.

- Guadalajara: La Mesta marker.

Receive during Card Draw Phase:

- Aragon Home Card: CROWN OF ARAGON.
- Castile Home Card: SEED OF AN EMPIRE.
- Spain Home Card: TANTO MONTA.
- 4 cards dealt from deck (Charisma of Isabella).
- Variable number of cards dealt from deck for Aragon (see 20.6).



French Player

Player Card:

- Fortresses: 2.
- Warehouse: One 2 CP naval resource.
- England Garrison: 6 regulars, 2 cavalry, 1 siege artillery, 1 naval squadron, and Casanova naval leader.
- Other SCM: 6.
- VP Marker: Roussillon 1VP marker.
- +1 Card marker for Roussillon.

Principality of Catalonia:

- Barcelona: 4 regulars, SCM.
- Gulf of Lion (sea zone): 1 naval squadron.
- Lérida: 2 militias.
- Ampurias: 1 cavalry.
- Vic: Roger, 2 regulars, 2 militias, 1 cavalry.
- Narbonne (France): 1 regular.

Kingdom of France:

- Paris: Tremoille, 4 regulars, 4 militia, 1 cavalry.
- La Rochelle: 1 regular.
- Orleans: SCM.
- Bordeaux : 1 militia, 1 naval squadron, SCM.
- Bayonne: Albret, 1 regular, 2 militia.
- Lyon: 1 militia, SCM .
- Narbonne: Anjou, 1 militia.
- Marseille: 2 regulars, SCM.
- Gulf of Lion (sea zone): 1 naval squadron.
- Perpignan: HCM.
- Ceret: HCM.

Receive during Card Draw Phase:

- France Home Card: THE POWER OF THE CROWN.
- Catalonia Home Card: COUNCIL OF THE PRINCIPALITY.
- Papacy Home Card: PAPAL BULL.
- 4 cards dealt from deck (Ruler's Charisma and +1 Card marker).
- Variable number of cards dealt from deck for Ruling Houses (see 20.7, Consolidating the Power of the Monarch).
- After Turn 1 cards are dealt: WAR AGAINST BURGUNDY: Place this Foreign War card on the map and add to the card: Louis XI, 6 militia, 2 regulars, 2 cavalry. Opposed by 7 independent regulars, plus now place a -1 Card marker on the French Player Card.

Minor and Independent Powers

Papal States:

- Rome: 4 regulars, 1 naval squadron (this deployment is repeated at a minimum each time a new Pope arrives and reverts to neutral) and French SCM.
- Ravenna: 1 regular (this deployment is repeated at least every time a new Pope arrives and reverts to neutral) and French TCM.
- Ancona: French HCM.
- Place a French HCM on the board below the picture of Paul II.

Guanche natives:

- Galdar: 1 Guanche.
- Telde: 1 Guanche.
- Acentejo: 2 Guanche.
- Benahoare: 1 Guanche.
- Taoro: 1 Guanche.

Kingdom of Navarre:

- Pamplona: 2 regulars.
- Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port: 1 regular.

Republic of Venice:

- Venice: 3 regulars, 2 naval squadrons.
- Zara: 2 regulars.

Republic of Genoa:

- Genoa: 3 regulars, 1 naval squadron.
- Bastia: 1 regular.

Republic of Florence:

- Florence: 3 regulars.

Kingdom of Naples:

- Naples: 2 regulars.
- L'Aquila: 1 regular.
- Atella: 1 regular.

Independent Cities:

- Milan: 8 regulars.
- Metz: 4 regulars.
- Ragusa: 5 regulars, 1 naval squadron.
- Tunis: 4 regulars, 1 Djerba corsair (in its specific box).
- Modena: 3 regulars.
- Nice: 2 regulars.

Exploration Map

- Place the 1VP Cartography counters in the boxes of each of the 10 Ocean Zones with the numbering or letter of its corresponding Zone (note that there are two such markers for Zones 1-4 and A and B, with just one marker for the others).

Wedding Table

Does not come into play until Turn 3 (or Turn 2 if the Peace of Alcaçovas event is played).

French Consolidation of Power Track

Place the noble houses' loyalty and IVP markers in the boxes indicated:

- Bourbon: loyalty marker in the starting box (one with coat of arms only); IVP marker in "5" box.
- Orléans: loyalty in "1" box; IVP marker in "5" box.
- Foix-Navarre: loyalty marker in the starting box.
- Alençon: loyalty marker in the starting; IVP marker in "5" box.
- Anjou: loyalty in "1" box; IVP marker in "5" box.
- Armagnac: loyalty in "2" box; IVP marker in "5" box.

Diplomacy Chart

There is no diplomatic phase on turn 1 but the initial situation is as follows:

- Portugal and Sultanate of Fez at war.
- Portugal and Spain at war.
- Portugal and France allied.
- Spain and France at war.
- Papacy allied to France.

Additional At War states and alliance are as pre-printed on the chart.

Diplomatic Influences on Minors

The default influence markers are placed in the shaded boxes of each power's home colour. If there is none, place them in the "Start" box at the top of each column.

Victory Points

The VP markers for the different players are initially placed as follows:

- Muslim: 15 VP.
- Portugal: 15 VP.
- Spain: 13 VP.
- France: 17 VP.



1490 Scenario (4 turns)

Description

This is the shorter scenario which covers the final years of the reign of the Catholic Monarchs, from 1490 to 1516 (27 years), omitting the first 3 turns of the game. It starts in 1490—when the war in Granada is about to end and America is about to be discovered—and ends with the death of Ferdinand, the last of the Catholic Monarchs to die.

Game Length

4 Turns: Turn 4 (1490) to Turn 7 (1516).

The final four turns of the game are played:

- Turn 4 from 1490-1496 (7 years)
- Turn 5 from 1497-1503 (7 years)
- Turn 6 from 1504-1510 (7 years)
- Turn 7 from 1511-1516 (6 years)

Setup



Muslim Player

Separate from your force pool the following North African and Ottoman units that do not become available until later in the game:

- Four Ottoman regulars and three North African corsairs (added with event ALGIERS REGENCY).
- Three Ottoman regulars and three naval squadrons with crossed swords symbols (added with event OTTOMAN-VENETIAN WAR).

Player Card:

- Ruler Card: #26 EL ZAGAL SEIZES POWER.
- Fortresses: 2.
- +1 Card marker for Gibraltar.
- Warehouse: One 3 CP caravan resource.
- VP Gains by Corsairs: Marker in "Start" box.
- North African Home Keys: Algiers. Place HCM on it to indicate that it is not yet available for placement (entering play with the ALGIERS REGENCY event).
- Other SCM: 5.

Cover Art:

The Capitulation of Granada by Francisco Pradilla y Ortiz (1882)

- VP Marker: Headline Event 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Granada 1VP.
- VP Marker: Otranto 2 VP.
- VP Marker: Zahara 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Gibraltar 2 VP.

Nasrid Kingdom of Granada:

- Granada: El Zagal, 4 militia, 2 cavalry, SCM.
- Almeria: 1 regular, SCM.
- Zahara: 1 cavalry, TCM.
- Loja: Boabdil, 2 regulars, 2 militia, 2 cavalry.

Sultanate of Fez:

- Fez: Al-Burtugali, 2 regulars, 2 militia, 1 cavalry, SCM.
- Tangier: 4 regulars, SCM.
- Tetouan: 1 cavalry.
- Marrakech: 2 militia, SCM.
- Alcácer Quibir: 1 regular.
- Agadir: 1 cavalry.
- Melilla: 3 naval squadrons, Kemal Reis (naval leader value 2).
- Tlemcén: 1 regular, SCM.
- Oran: 1 militia.
- Bejaia: 1 militia.
- Otranto: 4 Ottoman regulars, HCM.
- Built Naos Box: 1 Nao (C0-P2).
- 3 random caravan Resource markers in their respective Fez, Marrakech, and Tlemcén boxes on the map.

Received during Card Draw Phase:

- Nasrid Home Card: THE ALHAMBRA OF GRANADA.
- North African Home Card: SULTANATE OF FEZ.
- North African Home Card: BARBARY PIRATES OF TLEMCÉN.
- 6 cards dealt from deck (Ruler's Charisma and +1 Card marker).



Portuguese Player

Player Card:

- Ruler Card: #20 JOAO II, KING OF PORTUGAL.
- Fortresses: 2.
- Warehouse: One 3 CP naval resource.
- Other SCM: 4.
- VP Marker: Beltranejos Support 2VP.
- VP Marker: Headline Event 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Anfa 2 VP.
- VP Marker: Alcaçovas 3 VP.
- VP Marker: Ocean Zone 1 Cartography 1 VP.

Kingdom of Portugal:

- Lisbon: Joao II, 2 regulars, 2 militia, Lion of Seas (naval leader), 3 naval squadrons, SCM.
- Oporto: 1 militia, SCM.
- Coimbra: 1 regular, SCM.
- Evora: 1 cavalry.
- Faro: 1 cavalry.

- Ceuta: 4 regulars, SCM
- Asilah: 2 regulars, HCM
- Sala: HCM.
- Anfa: Braganza, 1 regular, 1 militia, 1 cavalry, HCM.
- Mazagan: 2 militia, HCM.
- Cape Verde (Ocean Zone 1): Settlement, HCM, 1 random naval Resource marker, 1 Nao (C0-P1).
- Built Naos Box: 1 Nao (C1-P1).

Beltranejos faction:

- - Plasencia: Pacheco, 2 regulars, SCM.
- - Toro: 1 regular, SCM.

Received during Card Draw Phase:

- Portugal Home Card: THE OVERSEAS KINGDOM.
- Beltranejos Home Card: JOANNA LA BELTRANEJA.
- Portugal Home Card: PORTUGUESE EXPLORATIONS.
- Papacy Home Card: PAPAL BULL.
- 5 cards dealt from deck (Ruler's Charisma).



Spanish Player

Separate from your force pool the following Aragonese and Castilian units that do not become available until later in the game:

- Four Castilian regulars from the Military Orders: two from the Order of Santiago and two from the Order of Calatrava (added with the event CARDINAL CISNEROS REGENT).
- One Aragonese regular and one Spanish naval squadron with the crossed swords symbol (added with the event OTTOMAN- VENETIAN WAR).

Player Card:

- Fortresses: 2.
- Warehouse: One 3 CP naval resource.
- Other SCM: 6.
- VP Marker: Headline Event 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Successful Wedding 1 VP.

Crown of Aragon:

The Principality of Catalonia has surrendered so all its home spaces are considered Aragonese home spaces.

- Zaragoza: Ferdinand, 2 regulars, 4 militia, 1 cavalry, 1 siege artillery, SCM.
- Gerona: 2 regulars.
- Valencia: 1 militia, SCM.
- Barcelona: 1 militia, SCM.
- Denia: Bernat (naval leader), 3 naval squadrons.
- Ampurias: 1 cavalry.
- Mallorca: 1 regular.
- Cagliari: 1 regular.
- Palermo: 1 regular.
- Messina: 1 regular.
- Ceret (Roussillon): HCM.

Crown of Castile:

- Fuenterrabía: 1 regular.
- Burgos: HCM.
- Valladolid: Mendoza, 2 regulars, 1 militia, SCM.
- Atienza: HCM.
- Segovia: 1 regular, SCM.
- Toledo: Duke of Alva, 6 regulars, 2 militia, SCM.
- Trujillo: 1 cavalry TCM.
- Seville: Great Captain, 4 regulars, 1 militia, 1 cavalry, SCM.
- Setenil: HCM.
- Alhama: 1 Alhama marker, 1 militia, HCM.
- Sohail: HCM.
- Gibraltar: 2 regulars, SCM.
- Malaga: 2 regulars, SCM.
- Cartagena: 1 regular.
- Villena: HCM.
- Lanzarote: HCM.
- Fuerteventura: HCM.
- La Gomera: HCM.
- El Hierro: HCM.
- Real de las Palmas: 4 militia, HCM.
- Telde: 2 regulars, 1 cavalry, HCM.
- Built Naos Box: 1 Nao (C0-P1).
- Arevalo: La Mesta marker (space controlled by Beltranejos).

Received during Card Draw Phase:

- Aragon Home Card: CROWN OF ARAGON.
- Castile Home Card: SEED OF AN EMPIRE.
- Spain Home Card: TANTO MONTA.
- 4 cards dealt from deck (Charisma of Isabella).
- Variable number of cards dealt from deck for Aragon (see 20.6).

**French Player****Player Card:**

- Ruler Card: #18, CHARLES VIII KING OF FRANCE.
- Fortresses: 2.
- Foreign Wars: -1 Card marker (Brittany).
- Warehouse: One 3 CP naval resource.
- Other SCM: 7.
- Treaty Boxes: The Treaties of Etaples and Barcelona are signed. Place the played Maximilian event marker in the Senlis box.
- VP Marker: Headline Event 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Orleans 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Anjou 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Beltranejos Support 2 VP.
- VP Marker: Metz 1 VP.
- VP Marker: C. Remences 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Burgundy War 1 VP.
- VP Marker: Barcelona 1 VP.
- +1 Card marker for Roussillon.
- North Sea Trade Box: place a North Sea marker.
- The garrison box with England is empty and no longer in effect.

Kingdom of France:

- Paris: Charles VIII, Albret, 6 regulars, 4 militia, 2 cavalry, 2 siege artillery.
- War Card against Brittany: Tremoille, 3 regulars, 4 Militia, 1 cavalry. Opposed by 5 Independents regulars and 1 Castilian militia.
- La Rochelle: 1 regular.
- Orleans: 1 militia, SCM.
- Metz: 2 regulars, SCM.
- Bordeaux: 1 militia, SCM.
- Bayonne: 1 regular.
- Auch: 1 regular.
- Lyon: 1 militia, SCM.
- Perpignan: 2 regulars, HCM.
- Avignon: 1 regular.
- Marseille: Casenove (naval leader), 4 regulars, 2 naval squadrons, SCM.
- Built Naos Box: 1 Nao (C0-P0).

Received during Card Draw Phase:

- France Home Card: THE POWER OF THE CROWN.
- France Home Card: THE RISE OF FRANCE.
- 2 cards dealt from deck (Ruler's Charisma with the +1 Card and -1 Card markers cancelling each other out).
- Variable number of cards dealt from deck for Ruling Houses (see 20.7, Consolidating the Power of the Monarch).

Minor and Independent Powers**Papal States:**

- Rome: 4 regulars, 1 naval squadron (this deployment is repeated at a minimum each time a new Pope arrives and reverts to neutral) and Portuguese SCM.
- Ravenna: 1 regular (this deployment is repeated at least every time a new Pope arrives and reverts to neutral) and Portuguese TCM.
- Ancona: Portuguese HCM.
- #27 INNOCENT VIII, POPE card and a Portuguese HCM on the Papal ruler space on the map.

Guanche natives:

- Galdar: 1 Guanche.
- Acentejo: 2 Guanches.
- Benahoare: 1 Guanche.
- Taoro: Bencomo, 3 Guanches.

Kingdom of Navarre:

- Pamplona: 2 regulars.
- Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port:: 1 regular.

Republic of Venice:

- Venice: 3 regulars, 2 naval squadrons.
- Zara: 2 regulars.

Republic of Genoa:

- Genoa: 3 regulars, 1 naval squadron.
- Bastia: 1 regular.

Republic of Florence:

- Florence: 3 regulars.

Kingdom of Naples:

- Naples: 2 regulars.
- L'Aquila: 1 regular.
- Atella: 1 regular.

Independent Cities:

- Milan: 8 regulars.
- Ragusa: 5 regulars, 1 naval squadron.
- Tunis: 4 regulars, 1 Djerba corsair (in its specific box).
- Modena: 3 regulars.
- Nice: 2 regulars.

Exploration Map

- Place the 1VP Cartography counters in the boxes of each of the 10 Ocean Zones with the numbering or letter of its corresponding Zone—except one of the two markers for Ocean Zone 1 which is already on the Portuguese Player Card.

Cards in Play

Before starting this scenario, the following cards must be removed from the game:

- # 9 COUNCIL OF THE PRINCIPALITY
- #15 SIXTUS IV, POPE
- #22 MULEY HACÉN SEIZES ZAHARA.
- #23 OTTOMANS SEIZE OTRANTO.
- #30 TREATY OF ETAPLES
- #66 ABENCERRAJES, INFLUENCE OR TREACHERY
- #68 ARMAGNAC REBELS
- #100 ANDALUSIAN NOBLES SEIZE ALHAMA.
- #102 CATALAN REMENCES, PERE JOAN SALA
- #106 PEACE OF ALÇAÇOVAS
- #118 TREATY OF BARCELONA

All other cards in the deck that come into play on Turns 1, 2, 3, and 4 are available in this scenario. Be sure to add the cards, leaders, etc. that come into play at the start of Turn 4 during the first Card Draw Phase.

Wedding Table

- Place John of Asturias and Joanna of Castile in their boxes.
- Place Isabella of Asturias and Afonso of Portugal in the “Married” box.
- Place Manuel I, Margaret of Austria and Philip the Fair in their suitor boxes.
- Add a Spanish control marker to mark the Dynastic Alliance with Portugal (for the current marriage).

French Consolidation of Power Track

Place the noble houses’ loyalty and 1VP markers in the boxes indicated:

- Bourbon: loyalty marker in the starting box (one with coat of arms only); 1VP marker in “5” box.
- Orléans: loyalty in “5” box.
- Foix-Navarre: loyalty marker in the starting box.
- Alençon: loyalty marker in the starting; 1VP marker in “5” box.
- Anjou: loyalty in “5” box.
- Armagnac: loyalty in “2” box; 1VP marker in “5” box.

Diplomacy Chart

Indicate these diplomatic states on the chart:

- Nasrid Kingdom at war with Spain.
- Portugal and Sultanate of Fez at war.
- Portugal and Spain are fighting a “War at Sea”.
- Papacy allied to Portugal.

Additional At War states and alliance are as pre-printed on the chart.

Peace of Alçaçovas has been in effect since Turn 3. Place the Alçaçovas in Force marker in a Treaty box on its Turn 2 side. Also:

- Place a “Portugal no Canaries” Alçaçovas marker in the Canary Islands Sea Zone.
- Place a “Spain no settlements” Alçaçovas marker Ocean Zones 1 and 2.

Diplomatic Influences on Minors

The default influence markers are placed in the shaded boxes of each power’s home colour. If there is none, place them in the “Start” box at the top of each column.

Victory Points

The VP markers for the different players are initially placed as follows:

- Muslim: 23 VP
- Portugal: 23 VP
- Spain: 21 VP
- France: 21 VP

EXAMPLE OF PLAY

This section presents an example of the action at the start of a 1470 Scenario game. Each step in the Sequence of Play for a turn is discussed in turn, even steps that can be skipped this early in play. New players are encouraged to set up this scenario and play along to become acquainted with *Tanto Monta* play.

TURN 1

1. Card Draw Phase.

Add leaders and naval units: As it is the first turn, all units and naval units have already been positioned on the map.

Add suitors and children of the Catholic Monarchs: None are added until Turn 3.

Add 1 Fortress markers to Player Cards: All players start with 2 fortress markers on their Player Card during setup. In later turns, players who have used Fortresses in previous turns may replenish one at this time if a box is vacant.

Place the *Mesta* marker: This marker was deployed in Guadalajara during setup. In later turns, a random die roll determines which of six Castilian home spaces it is placed into.

Receive Home cards for the turn and award PAPAL BULL: Each player receives the home cards available for this turn (two for each player except the Spanish player who receives three). For ease of lookup, the Home cards gained in this first turn of the scenario are listed in the setup instructions.

Since France starts the 1470 Scenario allied with the Papacy, the PAPAL BULL card is assigned to the French hand, which looks like this so far:



Add new cards to deck: Since this is the first turn of the game, all non-Home cards (other than PAPAL BULL and SULTANS OF FEZ, WATTASID DYNASTY) that do not have a “Turn X” designation are included in the deck. In later turns, all cards in the discard pile are reincorporated back into the deck and combined with (a) the cards that were not dealt during the previous turn, and (b) the new cards entering play to for the upcoming turn.

Shuffle the deck and deal the cards: After the deck is shuffled, each player receives cards based on the Charisma of their ruler, the presence of +1 Card or -1 Card markers, controlling certain spaces, and from die rolls performed by the Spanish and French players. Let’s look at exactly how this breaks down in our sample game.

The Muslim player receives 4 cards for their Ruler’s Charisma, which are added to the two Home cards for a total of 6 cards:

- #1 THE ALHAMBRA OF GRANADA (Nasrid Home Card)
- #2 SULTANATE OF FEZ (North African Home Card)
- #46 SURPRISE ATTACK (Combat Card)
- #47 ADMIRALTY (Response Card)
- #55 SABOTAGED PORT ENTRANCE (Response Card)
- #69 CITY STATE REBELS

The Portuguese player receives 5 cards for their Ruler’s Charisma, which are added to the two Home cards for a total of 7 cards:

- #3 OVERSEAS KINGDOM (Portugal Home Card)
- #4 JOANNA LA BELTRANEJA (Beltranejos Home Card)
- #70 CONSOLIDATION OF POWER
- #71 THE DESERT, INSUFFICIENT SUPPLIES
- #84 NASRID RAIDS
- #85 PEASANT REVOLTS
- #86 POISONED WINE

The Spanish player receives their 3 Home cards plus 4 cards from the deck for the Charisma of Isabella (Castile). Additional cards from the deck are received for Aragon (20.6): on Turn 1 this is two cards plus possible additional cards based on rolls for four controlled spaces. Since this is an odd-numbered turn, those checks are for these kingdoms:

- Valencia (4-6 to give card)
- Catalonia (3-6 to give card)
- Mallorca (6 to give card)
- Sardinia (5-6 to give card)

However, this check is only possible if you control the most important space in each kingdom and in this case—Aragon does not control Barcelona—so there is no check for Catalonia.

The rolls are: 4 (Valencia), 6 (Mallorca) and 1 (Sardinia) so 2 additional cards are received for Valencia and Mallorca. Therefore, the hand of cards received by the Spanish player is 8 cards from the deck plus the 3 home cards for a total of 11 cards:

- #5 TANTO MONTA, MONTA TANTO (Spain Home Card)
- #6 SEED OF AN EMPIRE (Castile Home Card)
- #7 CROWN OF ARAGON (Aragon Home Card)
- #17 WAR IN BRITTANY, MAD WAR (Mandatory Event)
- #56 SACK (Response Card)
- #57 SEA FOG (Response Card)
- #59 TORRENTIAL RAINS (Response Card)
- #63 MILITARY HIGHLIGHTS (No Event)
- #68 ARMAGNAC REBELS
- #73 DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE
- #79 HOLY WAR

The French player receives 3 cards for the Charisma of Louis XI and 1 card for control of Perpignan in Roussillon. Additional cards may be received for the support of the different Noble Houses. A die is rolled for each noble house and a card is awarded if the roll is less than or equal to that house’s loyalty. On Turn 1 those rolls are:

- House of Armagnac (1-2 to give card)
- House of Orléans (1 to give card)
- House of Anjou (1 to give card)

This check is possible if you control the most important space of each noble house. The rolls are: 4, 6 and 6 so France will not receive additional cards for the noble houses. Therefore, the hand of cards the French player receives will be 4 cards plus the 2 home cards, plus PAPAN BULL for a total of 7 cards:

- #8 POWER OF THE CROWN (France Home Card)
- #9 COUNCIL OF THE PRINCIPALITY (Catalonia Home Card)
- #72 DIPLOMATIC MOVEMENTS
- #80 ITALIAN RENAISSANCE
- #81 KINGDOM TRIBUTE
- #93 SETTLEMENT SURRENDERED
- #130 PAPAN BULL (Papacy Home Card)

Return discarded resources to pool; deal new resources: As it is the first turn of the game, all resources not explicitly allocated during setup are in the pool. If later turns, the resources discarded in the previous are added to the pool; players with captured leaders in their dungeons gain random naval resources that award CP; and players with settlements and caravans replenish any such locations that are empty.

2. Diplomacy Phase.

On Turn 1 there is no Diplomacy Phase, so this entire phase is skipped. In all later turns the full Diplomacy Phase occurs, including segments for Negotiation, Ransom, and War declarations.

3. Spring Phase.

Headline Event Segment: Each player plays two cards from their hand hoping to trigger the event on the first card they selected. The CP value of the second card played is used to determine each player's rank in this competition for the Headline Event. Do not use the CP value of the first card in determining this rank; this first card is the one whose event may be triggered in this phase. Let's review each player's hidden choices made prior to revealing their selected cards to the rest of the players. Remember that the event of the fourth-place player will not trigger.

The Muslim player decides to play THE ALHAMBRA OF GRANADA as the first card to recruit units in the Sohail space for the impending siege of Gibraltar. As a companion card (the one that determines placement), SABOTAGED PORT ENTRANCE (4 CP) is selected, hopefully strong enough for one of the top three slots to ensure that the Home card will trigger.

The Portuguese player plays POISONED WINE as the first card, thinking to affect Isabella or Ibn Yahya—removing either one for the turn would be a huge assist in the anticipated Portuguese battles. A 4 CP card—THE DESERT, INSUFFICIENT SUPPLIES—is chosen as support.

The Spanish player knowing that he fighting on several fronts—especially against France who will support the Catalan rebels and also try to gain 2 VP by joining with Portuguese forces in Burgos or Vitoria—decides that the best thing is a diversionary action. The idea is to play the Mandatory event WAR IN BRITANNY, MAD WAR with the idea of removing numerous French units from the map to lessen the danger. Remember that Mandatory Events can be played as the first card for a Headline Event but never as the support card. For support Spain chooses HOLY WAR (4 CP) card.

Finally, the French player decides, knowing that France is currently in first place, meaning they will lose ties in CP to all three other

players. With this in mind they play PAPAN BULL (5 CP) as support (normally it is a 6 CP card but note that as listed on the card itself, it only provides 5 CP as Headline Event support). For the event to trigger, the Catalonia Home Card is selected; this provides 3 CP of reinforcements and an extra card draw.

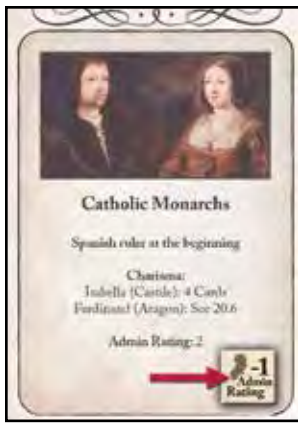
All players now make their cards public, and the ranking is as follows:

- 1st France with 5 CP
- 2nd Spain with 4 CP (only 13 VP, in last place)
- 3rd Muslim with 4 CP (15 VP, 1st in Impulse Order)
- 4th Portuguese with 4 CP (15 VP, 2nd in Impulse Order)



The French player therefore wins the Headline Event, and boosts the French score by 1 VP (a 1 VP Headline Event marker is placed on the French Player Card). The Home Card is then executed: France gains a card draw from the deck and constructs 1 militia and 1 regular with Roger in Vic. The Home Card is placed face down at the bottom of the French Player Card; PAPAN BULL is discarded (next to the discard pile is best so it can be easily retrieved at the start of the next turn).

The runner-up is the Spanish who will gain 1 VP from the Headline event if they can roll a 5 or higher on a single die. However, the roll is only a 4—to earn that VP, Spain must use one of their Admin Rating points as a modifier to the roll. They do so, placing a -1 Admin Rating marker on the ruler image on their Player Card. A 1 VP Headline Event marker is placed on the Spanish Player Card and the Spain VP marker advances on the Victory Points Track.



Spain then executes the WAR IN BRITTANY, MAD WAR Mandatory Event, opening a new front against the French. France is forced to take troops to Brittany; so Albret from Bayonne and the 4 militia and 4 regulars from Paris move there. Now the Spanish use the 3 CP that the mandatory event grants (something that is even true in the Headline Event Phase!) All of these CP are used to add militia: two Castilian militia reinforcements to the war in Brittany and 1 Castilian militia is added in Vitoria. HOLY WAR is discarded (but the Mandatory Event remains in play).

As compensation Portugal is allowed to move any player's influence marker one space forward or backward in any minor country column (including the Papacy). Portugal decides to advance its own Papal influence marker. Finally, both cards played are discarded.



Naval Squadron Transfer Segment: As there are no explored Ocean Zones, this segment is skipped.

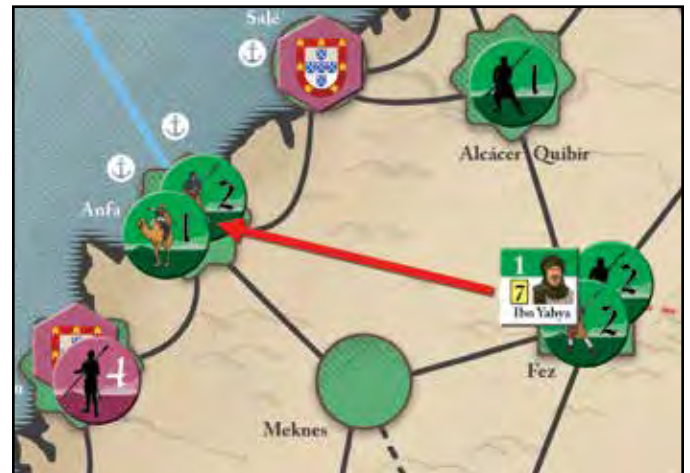
Troop Deployment Segment: Each player now moves a single formation for each major power under their control. The formation must start from a home key and move to a controlled space, following the rules for spring deployment.

The Nasrid moves El Zagal and 1 regular from Granada to Sohail, joining his brother Muley Hacén for the Gibraltar campaign.



The third qualified player is the Muslim, who no longer has the option of earning VP for the Headline Event, but does trigger their event (the Nasrid Home Card). The first option from the event is used to recruit 4 Nasrid regulars into the Sohail space. SABOTAGED PORT ENTRANCE is discarded; the Home Card is placed face down at the bottom of the Muslim Player Card.

The North African power moves Ibn Yahya and the units in Fez to Anfa on the coast.



Now, the Portuguese player—who came in fourth—is declared the loser of the Headline Event and will *not* run the event they chose.

Portugal, seeing the North African deployment, decides to send Joao II with 2 militia and 2 regulars from Lisbon to Asilah. This movement is possible because there are no enemy naval squadrons

in ports adjacent to the Gulf of Cadiz (the Spanish naval squadron in Seville is cut off from access to the sea because Jerez is in the hands of the Beltranejos).



The Beltranejos make their spring deployment from Plasencia. Note that there is the Portuguese leader Afonso V who, as the colour of his counter indicates, can move both Portuguese and Beltranejos units in the same formation. In addition, despite moving a Portu-

guese leader and units, the fact that at least one of those moving is Beltranejos means that starting their movement from a Beltranejos key is considered a Beltranejos spring deployment. From Plasencia all units move through the Portuguese spaces into Toro and then into Burgos.



Castile and Aragon are now deployed. Ferdinand sets off with all his troops from Zaragoza to Tarragona, where he plans to meet his father John II, who intends to come from Valencia during the action phase (it looks like the Catalan campaign is going to be interesting).



Castile decided to move Mendoza, 2 regulars, 2 militias and 1 cavalry from Seville to Valladolid, leaving only the garrison of the naval squadron in Seville. Isabella now will have a better chance of confronting Afonso V, who moved to Burgos.



The Catalans, who only control Barcelona as a home key, could only make a move that starts in that space. Given Ferdinand’s movement this does not seem like a good idea, so they defer from making a spring move. The French deploy from Paris with Tremoille and the remaining cavalry reaching Bayonne.



This ends the troop deployments; we move on to the Action Phase.

4. Action Phase.

In this phase each player in Impulse Order (so Muslim, Portuguese, Spanish and French) plays one card in turn. Let’s look at the first round of such card plays. The Action Phase continues until four players in a row “Pass”.

Muslim: Round 1



Plays CITY STATE REBELS for 5 CP. The first two CP are used to construct 2 militia in Sohail to reinforce the Nasrid army that is about to besiege Gibraltar. For 1 more CP, the stack in Sohail moves to Gibraltar, starting that siege. Spain indicates that the Castilian forces will retreat into the city. Remember that—although there is no state of war between the Nasrid and Spanish—a special rule allows units of both powers to fight over control of this one space. With the remaining 2 CP, the Muslim recruits 1 North African militia at Anfa and moves the entire formation in Anfa to Mazagan where the 4 Portuguese militia also decide to take refuge behind the walls.

Portugal: Round 1



The Portuguese player decides to play the Beltranejos Home Card JOANNA LA BELTRANEJA for the portion of that event that allows rolling dice to see if reinforcements arrive.

Portugal chooses to roll for Beltranejos Home spaces that are controlled but unoccupied: Trujillo, Plasencia, Atienza, Arevalo, Sanabria, and Tui. The respective die rolls are 5, 6, 4, 4, 1, and 2. Portugal adds 1 militia at Trujillo, 1 regular at Plasencia, and Atienza and Arevalo are rerolled. The initial rerolls are 4 and 1 which indicate that Atienza repeats again and Arevalo

gets nothing. Finally, a 1 is rolled for Atienza so it receives no reinforcement. Now the Portuguese player gets 4 CP and decides to use it to construct new units.

IMPORTANT NOTE: CP spent from a Home card on actions marked by an asterisk on the Player Card must pertain to units of that specific power. So only Beltranejos units can be constructed with these 4 CP.

Cost	Available actions
1*	Move formation in clear (Continuous connection)
2*	Move formation over pass (Dashed connection)
1*	Recruit Militia infantry
2*	Recruit Regular infantry
3*	Recruit Cavalry
1*	Assault fortified space
1*	Fight foreign war
1	Control strategic space (only occupying)
1	Control unfortified space (occupying or adjacent)
1	Remove unrest marker (occupying or adjacent)
1	Naval move (units controlled by only 1 Major Power)
2(3)	Initiate piracy (3 after Tordesillas against Spain)
2+	Naval transport
2	Build naval squadron on main map
1	Build/Send naval squadron to exploration map
2	Build Nao
1	Diplomatic influence on Italian minor powers
1 or 2	Diplomatic influence on Papacy or Navarre
3	Build Fortress (Main Map)
2	Build Fortress (Settlement)

* These Actions, if carried out with Home Cards, are limited to units of their specific Power (see 6.1).

Portugal decides to recruit 4 militias: one in Plasencia, another in Arévalo, and 2 more with Afonso V in Burgos.



Spain: Round 1

After the advances of the Portuguese and Beltranejos, the situation of Isabella and her troops in Castile is delicate. Isabella is threatened from three different areas (Burgos, Toro, and Arevalo) and is in serious danger of being immobilised, because if she goes to one of them, the others can cut off her retreat and turn her advance into a disaster. Meanwhile, in Aragon, Ferdinand awaited the arrival of his father John II from Valencia to begin the Catalan campaign. After a few minutes of analysing the situation and the cards in his hand, our Spanish player decides that the Catalan campaign must wait at least one more round, and Spain opts to try the unexpected with a move that might counter the threats to Isabella.



Playing this card as an event advances Spain's influence marker on Navarre by 1 space. Now that his influence marker on Navarre is more advanced than the rest of the players—and he is also playing an event card that allows Navarre's diplomatic status to be resolved—he allies with this minor power automatically.



Now, Navarre's spaces and units pass to Spanish control, giving a respite to Isabella and at the same time threatening France's strategic space of Auch (seat of the noble house of Armagnac). In addition, Navarre awards Spain with 2 VP for a key and strategic space (Pamplona and Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port).



After executing the event, the Spanish player decides to extend the impulse by playing a naval resource counter in the Spanish warehouse. It is a 2 CP resource: 1 Aragonese militia is constructed in Zaragoza and 1 Castilian militia is added at Vitoria, thus ending his impulse.

French: Round 1

Given these new threats and foreign war, the French player decides to take a more cautious stance. France uses the card SETTLEMENT SURRENDERED for CP and recruits 2 militias: 1 in Auch and 1 in Narbonne. Anjou spends the last 2 CP moving his formation through the eastern Pyrenees to Ampurias in aid of the Catalans.



The Muslim will now start the second round of the Action Phase. The four players will continue to play cards in this manner until all four players have passed in consecutive impulses. They will then go through the winter, weddings, and victory determination phases, before completing the first turn of the game.

DESIGNER'S NOTES

When setting out to design a third game in Ed Beach's *Here I Stand* and *Virgin Queen* series, I made myself a goal to add novel elements that would distinguish this volume—making it something more than a copy of what already existed, but in a different era. Here are my designer's notes that outline some of those changes and highlight how they fit well for this slightly earlier historical period.

TACTICS FOR EACH PLAYER

Let's start our journey with a look at each player's historical situation as play begins. I will include notes and clues based on the historical context of the moment, while still strongly encouraging all players to explore deeper strategies as they learn the game in its full depth. Remember that it is very important to study how each power obtains VP (the summaries on the Player Aids should be invaluable references in this regard).

Muslim Player: On 21 August 1415, the Portuguese take the North African city of Ceuta in a surprise attack. Many now regard this conquest as the beginning of the European era of colonialism. For the Muslim world, the loss of this crucial port city clearly represents a turning point: before this time, it had always been the Muslim kingdoms of Africa that had invaded European lands. Over the next fifty years the Marinid Sultanate dissolves, and no new Muslim power is able to assert itself in the Maghreb. Wars break out between the breakaway clans and tribes. Although nominally the sultanates of Fez and Tremecén share control of these lands, in practice the power of these sultanates does not extend to the Atlantic coast. Portugal thus is able to gain control of several cities along this shoreline. Will the Portuguese continue to dominate these North African port cities? If so, will they stifle the Arab caravan trade across Africa and ensure the security of their new Portuguese settlements further down the West African coast?



An even more serious threat faces the Muslim peoples of the Iberian Peninsula. Here the Nasrid kingdom of Granada is trying to survive despite being outnumbered by the Christian powers on the peninsula. The loss of Gibraltar to Castile in 1462 isolates the Nasrids from possible help from their sister kingdoms in Africa. This is the challenge faced by the Muslim as the game opens. Soon, due to a Mandatory event, the impetuous Nasrid ruler Muley Hacén will take his revenge on Castile and seize the Andalusian fortress city of Zahara. This brazen act of war brings on open war with Spain. Will this conflict become the final campaign leading to the conquest of the last Muslim strongholds in Iberia?

To avoid this fate as a Muslim player, you must find some way to reconnect your segmented lands and reassert dominance over the trade and seas of the western Mediterranean and northwest Africa. On land, your strong cavalry can help you fight fierce defensive wars against Christian attempts to drive you back to the sea. At the same time, look for ways to gain VP and plunder on the seas through piracy. Finally, know that the rise of the Ottoman Empire in the eastern Mediterranean can give you a big assist at the end of the game. The corsair leader Barbarossa arrives as the Algiers Regency is established; additional Ottoman support may also come in southern Italy and behind a successful war with Venice.



What other considerations are important for a Muslim player?

- Both caravan and naval resources provide VP, units, cards and CP—very valuable aids indeed.
- You have more naval squadrons in your force pool than any other player in the game. Don't hesitate to challenge for dominance of the seas.
- Remember that your most feared weapon should be piracy. With it you can destroy rival naval squadrons, earn VP, steal resources and cards, especially with your BARBARY PIRATES Home card. Like all players, you can earn up to 6 VP for piracy with your naval squadrons on the Main Map and Naos on the Exploration Map. But you also possess a corsair fleet that allows you to pirate any power—not just those you are at war with. With these corsairs you can gain up to 12 additional VP.
- You have three powerful home cards, two of which can be used each turn. Your NASRID Home Card can give you a VP for holding Granada or can be used to strengthen the Nasrid kingdom's defences. The SULTANATE OF FEZ Home Card has great diplomatic power: it allows you to influence minor powers or declare an unexpected war in the Action Phase. On Turn 4 you get the last home card: BARBARY PIRATES OF TLEMCEM. This card allows for various combinations of naval movement, piracy, unit building, and transferring caravan resources directly into your hand.
- You can consider attacking the papal city of Rome. Conquest gives you 5 extra VP, although it can bring all Christian powers into line against you.
- When the game reaches Turn 5, try to trigger the Ottoman-Venetian foreign war. You are likely to win this fight, and victory here gives you 2 more VP and up to 3 more squadrons with which to dominate the seas.

Portuguese Player: On 29 May 1453, the great city of Constantinople falls to the Ottoman Turks. European trade with the East is significantly disrupted, causing spice and silk prices to soar across the Mediterranean. Portugal, a land nestled in the Atlantic, has perfected the design of ocean-going caravels and has spent the last few years exploring the coast of West Africa. Seeking new access

to markets in India and China, the Portuguese are ready to push further around the African coast and build on the earlier work of their prince, nicknamed Henry the Navigator. Henry's navigator-training program, established in the town of Sagres in the far southwest of Portugal, improves Portuguese shipbuilding and cartographic techniques. Archipelagos such as Madeira and the Azores are soon discovered in the Atlantic. New routes are established that take advantage of the winds of the open ocean, thus avoiding the limitations faced by expeditions that have to hug the coast. Surely voyages will soon reach the southern tip of Africa—and Portugal should get there before anyone else.



In the Portuguese court, trade once again becomes the focus of attention. Of special interest are the overland caravans, rich in gold, ivory, and spices, which cross Africa and head for the port cities of present-day Morocco. The surprise Portuguese attack on Ceuta in 1415 provides a base of operations against the Muslim Kingdom of Fez in North Africa. Portugal seeks control of several of these Atlantic coast cities to secure a greater share of the wealth of these African trade routes.

And so, playing as the Portuguese, you can receive a steady supply of VP for control of Muslim ports whenever the Mandatory event PORTUGAL, MASTER OF THE ATLANTIC triggers (using a mechanic similar to the MASTER OF ITALY card in *Here I Stand*). Control of seven North African Atlantic ports earns the maximum bonus of 3 VP.

Even more significant VP and riches can come from opening the route to India. The Exploration Map provides a variety of benefits in the form of Naval resources. Additionally, opening each new zone on this map allows you to earn points for settlements and advances in cartography. Focus on these voyages to ensure the Portuguese and their possessions advance as quickly and lucratively as they did historically.



Along the land border with the kingdom of Castile, the Portuguese must also be on alert. Historically they wanted to keep Castile weak for that guaranteed Portuguese security. Just as the game opens, when Isabella is disinherited by her brother (the King of Castile), a civil war for the throne of Castile arises between the supporters of Isabella and those of Joanna, the King's daughter. Joanna, nicknamed La Beltraneja, is offered as a wife

to her uncle, King Alfonso V of Portugal, to ensure Portuguese support of the Beltraneja faction. Therefore, from the beginning of the game Portugal and the Beltranejos are in an immediate fight with Castile and Isabella's Aragonese allies in the Castilian civil war. Over the first several turns of the game (before Castile is able to convince Portugal to drop support for the Beltranejos with the event PEACE OF ALCAÇOVAS), each territorial gain you can achieve in Castile will award you bonus VP, in addition to the 3 VP gained for the peace itself. Even once this peace is signed, the now independent Beltranejos (still controlled by the Portuguese) can be reinforced through the Beltranejos Home Card and serve as a thorn in the side of Spain (and a source for a few additional VP for Portugal).

What other considerations are important for a Portuguese player?

- Portugal has significant advantages over the other powers on the Exploration Map. Portuguese Naos are the most numerous in the game and the most competitive, with excellent crew and piracy ratings. Specific event cards can reduce exploration costs and improve Portuguese die rolls as well. Portugal is the only power with a Home Card (PORTUGUESE EXPLORATIONS) that allows you to return Naval resources directly to your hand without the usual winter return procedure.
- The other Portuguese Home Card, OVERSEAS KINGDOM, is normally used to build naval units and execute naval movements. However, its second ability is to reinforce Portuguese possessions in the home spaces of other powers, something that can be especially useful when fighting the Muslim player for control of the North African coast.
- Although only the Exploration Map zones of the West African coast are available for the first few turns, as soon as the mandatory event OVERSEAS VOYAGES is played, the passage around the Cape of Good Hope opens up. When Vasco da Gama arrives with his highly valued Nao, make sure he sails all the way to India for extra VP, riches and glory!

A successful career with the Portuguese in *Tanto Monta* is built on their explorations and the riches that come to them from their settlements. But be sure to keep an eye on developments in Iberia and North Africa. Only by successfully using your overseas riches to dominate sections of the main map can you keep the other powers at bay and emerge victorious.

Spanish Player: *Tanto Monta: The Rise of Ferdinand and Isabella* shows us the difficulties faced by the Catholic Monarchs and how they managed to emerge victorious despite facing enemies on three fronts. The player assuming leadership of Castile and Aragon—who we will refer to as the Spanish player—faces the following simultaneous challenges, all based on the history of these times:

- Castile was engaged in civil war—the War of Castilian Succession—a fight to inherit the throne between Isabella and the previous king's daughter, Joanna la Beltraneja. Aragon supported Isabella in her claim to the throne, while Portugal supported Joanna. This puts the Spanish player in the situation where just one of their powers (Castile) has to hold off the combined forces of both the Portuguese and Beltranejos powers.
- Meanwhile, Aragon was in continuous conflict with France over control of Roussillon (just north of the Pyrenees). However, neither the Aragonese nor French monarch entered

this period in a position of strength. For years, the Crown of Aragon had been fighting a civil war in the Catalan region, where local oligarchs raised open rebellion against the power of the monarch. Nearly exhausted by the time the game opens, the Principality of Catalonia recruits external support in the person of René of Anjou, who comes to their aid with the blessing of the French king.

- And then before long—hopefully after the civil war in Catalonia is settled—these two powers will clash in Italy. The scene of that conflict should be the southern end of the Italian peninsula: for it was there in history that the Great Captain duelled directly with France. This showdown is especially likely after the territory of Naples is divided between these two powers (which occurs in game after the death of the Neapolitan leader Ferrante, typically on Turn 4).
- The Reconquest of Granada is another primary objective for the Catholic Monarchs. If by the end of Turn 5 they have failed to conquer the Nasrid kingdom, they lose 1 VP per turn. When the reconquest is finished, they will gain three benefits: 1 bonus VP, the end of the 1 VP loss per turn, and all Nasrid home spaces become Castilian home spaces.
- Finally, the Spanish player should also use their Castilian forces to conquer the Canary Islands. Success here provides a solid base for crossing the Atlantic in search of a new western route to the Spice Islands of the Orient.



So, what should a Spanish player consider when trying to face so many challenges?

- Every turn you have 3 very strong Home cards and you can play all three. The TANTO MONTA, MONTA TANTO card is perhaps the most powerful Home card in the game, allowing you to retrieve a card from the discard deck among other options. If you choose to play it for operations, it provides 6 CP. It also is the only Home card not tied to a specific power, thus making it very versatile.
- Try to knock either the Beltranejos or Catalans from the game as soon as possible to relieve some of the early pressure on your position.

- Carefully plot the routes from ports to the Mesta marker each turn to ensure you maximize your gain of extra resources.
- Remain aware of the critical spaces that Aragon must control to earn cards each turn; that kingdom does not enjoy the fixed 4 Charisma that Castile does.
- Beware the death of Isabella (Turn 5) since this event will reduce the cards from Castile down to 2 (at least until the arrival of Cardinal Cisneros).
- Remember to marry off Ferdinand and Isabella's children in the second half of the game, hopefully gaining the maximum number of VP by isolating France.
- Finally, take advantage of the possibilities offered by the Exploration Map. The Spanish Naos are the second best in the game, almost as numerous as those from Portugal. Christopher Columbus' fleet makes discovery of the New World much easier, especially if five islands in the Canary Islands are controlled.



French Player: The French position is similar to that of the other three players, for France also consists of both a major power and a weaker secondary one. For France this secondary power is the Catalan rebellion against Aragon.

As the game opens in 1470, Charles VIII is born, a ruler who will soon develop into the most charismatic monarch of the time. However, on Turn 1 Louis XI is still on the throne. Louis carries the nickname of “Spider” for his ability to weave conspiracies against those who oppose him. Initially, the French goals are threefold: end the Hundred Years War with England, strengthen the monarchy, and settle France's conflicts with Burgundy, Brittany, and Maximilian of Austria.

A fragile ceasefire had been in place with England in the north for some years, although no treaty had yet been signed to officially end the long war. Look for the TREATY OF ETAPLES as the sign that your troops facing England can be released into service elsewhere. Next, France must overcome the instability caused by the accumulation of wealth and power by the great French noble houses. Only once the power of the realm has been further consolidated with the king can France defeat Burgundy and Brittany (independent powers against whom several conflicts were fought during this period). Finally, remember that Maximilian of Austria, Holy Roman Emperor, will not waste any opportunity to weaken France's position. It is Maximilian who probably serves as France's greatest single foe.



The French kings in Tanto Monta: Louis XI, Charles VIII, and Louis XII

Are there any additional French concerns? Why yes, Aragon is attempting to capture the province of Roussillon on France's southern border. Similarly, France has a stake in the bitter civil war in Aragon, supporting those who want to establish an independent principality in Catalonia. By the beginning of the game this civil war has reached its final phase, with the royalists in the ascendancy and the rebel army clearly weaker. This desperate situation leads the rebels to seek French aid; in response France sends the French nobleman René of Anjou who is given promises to be placed on the Catalan throne. The French army that accompanies Rene to Catalonia gives the rebellion a fighting chance.

So how should a French player proceed? First, focus on defending Barcelona. If that key is in Spanish control in the Victory phase of any turn, the Catalan power surrenders. However, each turn that you successfully hold this key nets you 1 VP. Putting up a fight here is certainly worthwhile: when the Catalans surrender you maintain control of spaces with French control markers and you earn 1 VP for every two Catalan spaces that surrender to the Spanish.

France starts Turn 1 allied with Portugal and both players fighting against Castile and Aragon. As you share common enemies, it is smart to coordinate your efforts (though you will have to do so in front of the other players since there is no Negotiation Phase on Turn 1). In the western Pyrenees you have a force under the leader Albret already on the border with Castile. Consider a raid south to meet Portuguese units at Vitoria or Burgos so you can both gain 2 VP.



What other considerations are important for the French player?

- France has many military fronts to cover. Try to clean up these early conflicts so you can make your move on Italy as soon as possible. A successful Italian campaign is needed to gain the large VP awards needed for victory. You will need to sign the

treaties with England, Maximilian, and Aragon to gain absolute freedom to dominate Italy.

- The French fleet is not one of the largest in the game, but it is important enough to stand up to any enemy. After the peace with England, use Casenove and his "Letter of Marque" ability to gain important VP in piracy actions.
- The situation inside France is complicated at the start of the game, as your hand size will depend not only on the charisma of your ruler, but also on the support the French monarch is able to obtain from the great noble houses. Spend CP to bring these houses into a more favourable situation for your campaigns.
- The French player must be aware that his options on the Exploration Map are fewer than those of Portugal or Spain but this is compensated by trade in the Mediterranean and North Sea which can award Naval resources. Investing in the development of the North Sea trading fleet and in alliances with the smaller countries that control trade in the Mediterranean gives you a better chance of success.
- Several events especially favor the French. If you don't draw ITALIAN RENAISSANCE or NATURAL DISASTERS you may instead want to negotiate to ensure they do get played as an event.

Although France may appear a bit distracted at first, when it wakes up, it is a furious lion with a formidable army out to conquer Italy. Do not underestimate the French!

TYPES OF UNITS

Tanto Monta includes several new unit types, each with special characteristics that bring new abilities to their formations in movement or combat.



Cavalry: *Tanto Monta* sits within the transition between the late Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Although the dominance of cavalry is soon to end with the arrival of firearms, at the moment they still represent an army's best shock troops. Cavalry's decisive role in battles of this period is represented in the game by their ability to initiate a cavalry charge. Balance this against the high cost of creating these elite units.



Regulars: The monarchs of this period have begun to realise the importance of having their own army, thus reducing their dependence on troops loyal to individual nobles (that would disperse out of their army each winter). These early professional armies gained in effectiveness as they underwent better training, gained new weaponry, and benefited from experience in combat. In the game, regular units thus provide an extra boost in combat (like the one awarded from cavalry).



Militia: Militia is the other infantry unit, cheaper than regulars, but also more volatile and somewhat less effective. Players familiar with the other games in the series may identify them as "Mercenaries;" if so, they are partly right. However Militia are less affected by event cards than the mercenaries in the previous two games, but suffer from poor combat effectiveness and the fact that they are subjected to die rolls in winter that can cause them to disband. Use these units whenever you need to quickly augment your forces, but not if you need to count on units in that locale long-term.



Siege Artilleries: Artillery is the final new unit type, possessed by France and Aragon alone. These units are invaluable in assaults; remember that they do not count against formation size limits.

HOME CARDS



Home cards are of utmost importance for every power. Let's analyse each of them here and I will also include the PAPAL BULL which behaves similarly to a Home card in most respects.



SULTANATE OF FEZ: The Muslim player has this powerful card available from the start of the game. It has two associated events and 5 CP. The first event lets you both recruit more units than normal (for this CP value) and allows you to trigger a resolution of minor power diplomatic status—something other powers could pay you to time in their favor. The second event is no less important as it allows you to declare war on another major power in the Action Phase and (except against the Spanish) take 4 CP of actions immediately.

Phase and (except against the Spanish) take 4 CP of actions immediately.



THE ALHAMBRA OF GRANADA: The Muslim player has this card available from the start of the game. It has three associated events and 5 CP. This card can be removed from the game if the Nasrid Kingdom is conquered. The first event allows 4 regulars or cavalry to be obtained, allowing the Nasrid to quickly reinforce any home space. The second event forces the attacker to reroll with 3 less dice when an opponent assaults a Nasrid-controlled fortified space. With the last event, the Muslim player can immediately gain 1 VP—though he must control Granada to use this event.

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BARBARY PIRATES: The Muslim player has this card available from the start of Turn 4. It has two associated events and 5 CP. The first event grants up to 7 CP to use for naval movement and piracy. Importantly, with this event the Muslim player does not place piracy markers on the main map, giving him the option to repeat piracy in those zones later in the turn (as he cannot repeat piracy in the same zone in the same impulse). The second event brings a caravan resource into the Muslim player's hand immediately and allows the recruitment of several new units.

The second event brings a caravan resource into the Muslim player's hand immediately and allows the recruitment of several new units.



moment's notice.

The Overseas Kingdom: The Portuguese player has this card available from the start of the game. It has two associated events and 5 CP. The first event provides a Nao, 2 militia, and a naval squadron but also allows a pair of naval movements—a card that promotes early voyages of exploration. With the second event, Portugal is allowed to recruit forces in non-home spaces and then gain 2 CP of actions. This card is usually used to provide forces in Africa at



JOANNA LA BELTRANEJA: The Portuguese player has this card available from the start of the game. It has two associated events and 5 CP. This card can be removed from the game if the Beltranejos faction is conquered. With one of its events the Portuguese player immediately gains 1 VP as long as the Beltranejos still possesses one home key. The second event is tremendously useful, allowing the Portuguese player to recruit quite a few units and gain 4 additional CP. Overall this card allows this player to choose between gaining VP or presenting significantly greater resistance to the Spanish advance.



PORTUGUESE EXPLORATIONS: The Portuguese player has this card available from the start of Turn 4. It has two associated events and 5 CP. The two events on this card are both related to the Exploration map. One allows you to construct both Naos and naval squadrons (moving them immediately), while the second allows you to return resources from settlements in the Action Phase and refill them—so you can be guaranteed to receive certain resources without fear of plunder. A great way to return naval resources that award VP or to bail you out of a predicament!



TANTO MONTA, MONTA TANTO: The Spanish player has this card available from the start of the game. It has two associated events and 6 CP. This home card is perhaps the most powerful card in the game, similar in effect to the Home cards of the Hapsburg and Protestant players in *Here I Stand*. Transferring Ferdinand to any Spanish home space and executing 5 CP represents the warrior abilities of the Spanish king. The other half flips this and represents Isabella's diplomatic skills—allowing you to retrieve a card from the discard pile to keep or play.



SEED OF AN EMPIRE: The Spanish player has this card available from the start of the game. It has a single associated event and 5 CP. This event allows the highest CP value of units to be recruited—and not only in the Castilian home spaces of Castile—but up to 3 can be recruited in the Canary Islands. With this card Castile is guaranteed a chance to quickly recruit quality units, especially if forces are needed immediately to complete the conquest of the

Canaries.



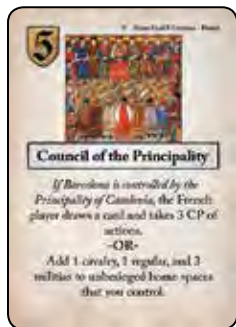
CROWN OF ARAGON: The Spanish player has this card available from the start of the game. It has two associated events and 5 CP. With the first event you will be able to recruit up to 4 units, with a considerable saving in CP. It is the other event—where Spanish units (even Castilian) can move during the Action Phase using the rules for Spring Deployment—that provides particularly interesting options to the Spanish player. This event reflects Aragon’s ability

to project power across the Western Mediterranean as long as they are moving forces to defend legitimate Aragonese interests.



POWER OF THE CROWN: The French player has this card available from the start of the game. It has two associated events and 5 CP. The first event recruits units and increases the loyalty of a French noble house. The second event can negate the advantage the Spanish has of retrieving a card from the discard deck with the TANTO MONTA, MONTA TANTO Home card. The threat of this cancellation is typically a thorn in the side of Spain, who will have

to wait patiently for this card to be played so as not to risk seeing their Home card cancelled by the French.



THE COUNCIL OF THE PRINCIPALITY: The French player has this card available from the start of the game. It has two associated events and 5 CP. This card can be removed from the game if the Catalan faction is conquered. The first event allows the French player to draw a new card and still spend 3 CP—always at least a break even trade (since each card in the game provides at least 2 CP). The second event recruits more units than would typically be provided from 5 CP (like the other Home cards).



THE RISE OF FRANCE: The French player has this card available from the start of Turn 2. It has two associated events and 5 CP. The first event allows France to recruit units wherever a French leader is present, even if under siege, an ability that often provides reinforcements just in the nick of time. The second event allows France to move units from a Home key to a controlled space in Italy (while converting spaces on that peninsula into allied spaces

for the turn). This second event matches the Aragonese transport abilities from CROWN OF ARAGON, ensuring that the fight for Naples is evenly matched.



PAPAL BULL: This card has 2 associated events and 6 CP. PAPAL BULL is a strong card that starts each turn in the hand of the Christian player who controls the Papacy. The two events force all the other players in the game to think long and hard about any sort of alliance between a Christian power and the Muslim. However even if you choose not to trigger one of the events, the 6 CP card intrinsic to the card is itself very powerful, ensuring a very strong

impulse whenever it is played.

CARDS AND RESOURCES

I was inspired to build on the treasure mechanic from *Virgin Queen* to create an even more nuanced resource game in *Tanto Monta*. I felt that emphasizing the feel of the Age of Discovery would be the right move to add a new storytelling formula to the game as a replacement for religious warfare. If this series of games is characterised by anything, it is to make the player live a journey through time, an immersion in the era, living its most important events, battles and events in such a way that when you play the game you feel as if you were transported to that time.

The resources abstractly represent the wealth that the kingdoms acquired from various means. For playability I decided to group them into two types: naval resources and caravan ones. The minimum reward for a resource is the equivalent of 2 CP, either as an award of the CP themselves, their equivalent in military units, or from drawing a card (the minimum value of which is always 2 CP).



I decided to make them more numerous and easier to obtain than in *Virgin Queen*. They can come into players’ hands through events, returns from settlements, rewards for captive leaders, or trade rolls on different tables depending on the player or control of certain spaces. I also wanted there to be fewer restrictions on the choice of what type of action can be played with CP from resources. Resource play is not penalized if played after the execution of a normal event, after a Home Card, or after a Mandatory event. If they are played after the use of CP in any other type of card, repeating an action incurs a penalty of 1 CP. Use your resources wisely and you will be

able to take bolder and more daring actions than your opponents. And don't forget that resources can be a considerable source of VP.

With respect to cards, the biggest change from previous games in the series is that there are no 1 CP cards. (I love *Here I Stand* except when I get a hand with three 1 CP cards!) In *Tanto Monta*, the CP range is about 1 CP higher in general, ranging between 2 and 6 CP. It is also very common for the cards to have two or three ways of executing the event, something that helps prevent seeing similar event card usage for several turns in a row.

I also wanted to make sure there were plenty of cards that can be played on behalf of another player, so that card play could be an important diplomatic bargaining chip. Emphasizing diplomatic possibilities was even more important here—in a game with two fewer players—where the interests of the players are often very closely tied and therefore in conflict more often.

Let us now look at some of the cards in *Tanto Monta* that bring new wrinkles to the series (Response cards in particular), making clear what the intended use is for each one:



#51 LEADERSHIP (2nd option): This option will not be used often, but it gives a player in desperate straits the ability to sacrifice a leader for the remainder of the game and turn a defeat into a victory. It is played after seeing the results of the die rolls and can be of great utility in those most critical situations.



#52 MASTER OF SIEGE ARTILLERY (2nd option): With this option, players can allow an assault to be conducted at any time, interrupting the sequence of play. Furthermore, they can have an assault conducted by any player, not just the player playing the card. However, the assault must satisfy the necessary LOC and blockade requirements (differentiating it from TREACHERY).



#55 SABOTAGED PORT ENTRANCE: This is another card that triggers an immediate assault on an already besieged space (this one must be a port). It does allow assault even if enemy naval presence in the port or adjacent areas would prevent such an assault under normal conditions.



#58 STRATEGIC FORESIGHT: How many times have you wished you could act before your opponent did in the previous games of the series? With this card you will have the opportunity to do so, and—although you will never be able to link two consecutive impulses—you will be able to reinforce spaces in danger or attack before your opponent moves.



#60 THE HOLY INQUISITION: With this card, the upcoming impulse by any of the three non-Muslim powers is skipped. That skipped player does not play a card just as if they have “Passed”. Players will find this to be a useful tool between allies, allowing coordinated play between the allied players against a strong opponent.



#74 ESPIONAGE: This should be another card that is talked about a lot. Option 1 is played just before the **Headline Event** to see the hand of an opponent and to exchange one of their cards for the **ESPIONAGE** card. The opponent will have to play **ESPIONAGE** as 4 CP of support for their **Headline Event** or as their first card in the **Action Phase** (as just 2 CP). This is likely to be a card play that your opponent won't forget for several turns! The second option also allows you to see your opponent's hand and improve the quality of your hand of cards considerably (very useful when you get a hand of cards that doesn't suit you at all).



#80 ITALIAN RENAISSANCE: Want to play two impulses in a row? With this event you can do just that, thanks to the bold new vision of the world spreading across Europe from Italy. As the gateway to these Italian ideas, France gains even more from this card, possessing the option to gain a VP if they are willing to lower the influence of the Crown on their noble houses (since they have unleashed these fresh ideas on the nobility).



#81 KINGDOM TRIBUTE: With this card you receive two more cards for immediate use in exchange for getting one less next turn, similar to the **FUGGERS** event in *Here I Stand*. However, here the player has the option of viewing an additional card to improve their hand (since one is discarded, only two cards are the net return for this turn). However, you will receive **Unrest** from your opponents if you push to gain the greater reward. Don't lose sight of the fact the resource awarded with the third option can score you VP or an additional card, potentially making it very profitable.



#88 RISE OF UNIVERSITIES: Just a flat-out powerful card. If used for CP, it is one of the few 6 CP cards. The event however is also terrific. With it, you can immediately receive 1 VP and 4 CP or—if you feel like gambling—you can hope to play the event a second time for the possible gain of 3 VP. With this second option you still receive 3 CP of actions and place a development marker in your University box on your Player Card, showing that you are ready to receive the larger VP award if you play the event again. Each player will choose to be conservative or a risk-taker with this event...



#89 ROMAN CURIA: The Papacy is a unique minor power, almost certainly the one that plays the most significant role in the game. Its diplomatic status is assessed each time a new pope arrives but can also be triggered with this card. The second event option allows you to deactivate the Papacy—potentially a move which will benefit the Muslim player greatly.



#91 HENRY THE NAVIGATOR: This is a critical card for the Portuguese player in the first two turns of the game as the event provides important advantages to start explorations earlier than expected and with more freedom. Note that the player who plays the event gains more CP from the event than for playing the card just for CP, making this card an interesting diplomatic asset if you can strike a deal with Portugal.



#100 ANDALUSIAN NOBLES SEIZE ALHAMA: This event allows the Spanish player to recruit Castilian militias in this Nasrid home space before the Nasrid kingdom has been conquered. A marker is placed on the map to remind you of this new property of the space. Remember that this is the only way the Spanish will be able to recruit units in the Nasrid home spaces before their surrender.

Once the Nasrid kingdom has surrendered, then and only then will those spaces be considered Castilian home spaces for the rest of the game.



#117 THE PLAGUE: With this card you can pin units of your opponents during the turn in play since they risk losing them if they try to leave a Plague space. What's more, the Plague prevents new units from entering those spaces. Players can experiment with a host of different uses for this event.



#121 CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS DISCOVERS THE NEW WORLD: The Spanish player has the option of emulating Columbus' arrival in America with his special Christopher Columbus ship. But a few bad rolls can make this impossible. Don't worry, with this card you have another chance to get to the New World for the juicy 2 VP award. Whether you got there with a different ship than Columbus (and therefore only earned 1 VP) or another player got there before you, with this event you lock in the full 2 VP. In addition, you get a +1 bonus on the resource returns roll from that sea zone.



#126 VASCO DA GAMA ARRIVES IN INDIA: The Portuguese player has the option of emulating da Gama's arrival in India with his special Vasco da Gama ship. But a few bad rolls can make this impossible. Don't worry, with this card you have another chance to get to India for the juicy 2 VP award. Whether you got there with a different ship than da Gama (and therefore only earned 1

VP) or another player got there before you, with this event you lock in the full 2 VP. In addition, you get a +1 bonus on the resource returns roll from that sea zone.

SPECIFIC PLACES

For our final section of these notes, let's discuss some key locations especially relevant to this historical time.

SAGRES: Prince Henry, nicknamed "The Navigator," founded a school at Sagres in the mid-15th century in order to improve Portugal's exploration capability. The school focused on improving shipbuilding, navigation techniques, and inventing devices to aid maritime orientation and cartography. Current scholarship has thrown into doubt whether or not this school ever existed as a physical place. In theory its location was in the south of Portugal in the vicinity of Cape St. Vincent at the so-called fortress of Sagres. However perhaps the School of Sagres was just a current of thought made up of the personalities, scientists and technicians that surrounded Prince Henry and the monarchs that followed in later years. Whichever theory is correct, there is no doubt that the school of thought was of great importance to advances in Portuguese navigation, enabling that smaller, sea faring nation to reach the ends of the earth.

In the game, you will find the physical fortress in the south-west of Portugal, at its location at Cape St. Vincent. In addition, there is a card with its associated event that gives Portugal an early jump start on exploration.

JEREZ: The city of Jerez played a critical role during this period as the seat of the Chancillerías and Audiencias of Castile (Supreme Court of the time), which made it the main town for this area (dominant over smaller towns such as Sanlúcar de Barrameda at the mouth of the Guadalquivir). In addition, the Catholic Monarchs decided to create a royal port in this region to avoid being dependent on ports (such as Cadiz) in the hands of influential nobles. Thus, a new port called Puerto Real was created on the coast, also belonging to the district of Jerez—this new town has survived to the present day. In the game the Jerez space represents both the town of Jerez itself and the new port facilities at Puerto Real and Sanlúcar.

VIZCAYA: This area in the north of Spain is not named after a municipality but after a territorial demarcation. This is deliberately done to represent the various ports in the area that maintained their commercial relations with the wool trade.

CEUTA, GIBRALTAR, and TANGIER: These three spaces control the Strait of Gibraltar and therefore in the game all three ports have access to both the Gulf of Cadiz and the Alboran Sea. A white dashed line with port symbols at each end is included on the map to remind players of this unique characteristic. In order to sail from one sea zone to the other you must either control one of these spaces or have a player who controls one of them allow you to pass during that turn.

Control of the Strait of Gibraltar was of vital importance, especially for the Nasrid Kingdom of Granada, as it was the umbilical cord linking it to the rest of the Muslim world. Years before the start of the game, the Nasrid lost control of Gibraltar and thus the easy passage to North Africa. Numerous attempts were made to retake it and on several occasions Gibraltar did in fact change hands between the Castilians and the Nasrid. In the end, the Castilians managed to keep it, but if it had been the Nasrid who had succeeded, it is possible that the history of the Nasrid Kingdom would have been quite different. To give Gibraltar this "vital importance" to the Muslim player, its conquest before the start of the Granada War provides special advantages for the rest of the game.

OTRANTO, ATELLA, and L'AQUILA: After the death of Ferrante of Naples (a Mandatory event required by the end of Turn 4), the Kingdom of Naples ceases to exist as a minor power and its spaces become independent spaces. When this happens, the spaces of Atella and L'Aquila, respectively for the Spanish and French players, have a special feature for the Winter Phase. In both spaces, each player can winter with a single formation of the maximum size for a single leader. This allows the Italian front to take on importance and makes it easier for players to have units at their disposal in such distant lands. Beware though, if the Otranto space is controlled by the Muslim player it has the same Winter Phase capability—a third player can be added into this fight for southern Italy!

PISA, SEVILLE, VALENCIA, and RAGUSA: Deciding whether to make each of these four spaces a port became an interesting puzzle during *Tanto Monta* development. Many players may wonder why Valencia is not a port space and, for example, Pisa is. We have to go back to the years that the game covers: the end of the 15th century and the beginning of the 16th century. At that time, Valencia did not look out over the coast. It is true that it had an inlet 3 km from the city, where ships anchored at a distance or small fishing boats moored; however it did not have significant port facilities. It was in the last part of Ferdinand's reign that investment and work began on what was to become the future port of Valencia. Pisa at this time was controlled by Florence and connected to the major port of Livorno. I decided to name the space Pisa in recognition of its historical importance but make it a port to recognize the maritime presence provided by Livorno. As for Seville, a river port located 100 km inland, it had access to the sea through the mouth of the Guadalquivir River. It was necessary to control this mouth, and in the game, this is represented by the space of Jerez. Finally, Ragusa on the Adriatic coast remained a small independent city-state with strong dependencies on its trade across the eastern Mediterranean. It was a natural port with strong defences—the reason why naval squadrons defend here with an extra die.

NASRID HOME SPACES: Obviously the Reconquista is a central theme in the game. I wanted to be sure to correctly represent this struggle with its displacement of the Muslim population as the Christians advanced in their conquests. When a Nasrid town surrendered, its inhabitants were occasionally put to the sword, but most often they were invited to flee with some basic belongings while new Christian settlers were brought in from other towns in Castile to occupy the city. However, these new arrivals did not take root quickly, often due to Muslim attacks that destabilised this resettlement process.

I decided to represent this phenomenon in the game as follows. When a Nasrid home space passes into the control of the Spanish player, the Spanish player places a special Spanish control marker (this is a marker inside the Spanish coat of arms with the Nasrid coat of arms in smaller size). Such a marker indicates that the Muslim population is expelled and replaced by newly arrived, but not yet stable, Christians. This special marker remains there until the victory phase when it is exchanged for a normal Spanish marker, representing a firm Christian presence. If the Muslim player regains that space while the special marker is still present, that marker is removed, meaning that the Christian settlers have fled and a Muslim population has returned.

If in a later turn a space with a normal Spanish control marker is recovered by the Nasrid, in addition to removing the Spanish marker from that space, a Nasrid marker is added. This state indicates

that the space is under Nasrid control but is no longer providing the abilities of a home space. Historically this town is ruled by a Nasrid military garrison, but the Nasrid civilian presence has not returned. The only way the Nasrid can recover the home properties is through a Morisco revolt, representing a more widespread uprising and movement of the Muslim population. Having said all this, Nasrid keys never lose their home space abilities.

Can the Spanish recruit in the Nasrid home spaces now controlled by Spain? The answer is no, except if the Nasrid kingdom has surrendered. The only way the Spanish will be able to recruit units in the Nasrid home spaces prior to their surrender is through the event **ANDALUSIAN NOBLES TAKE ALHAMA** and this will only allow the Spanish to recruit militia in that space (see the explanation of this card above). Once the Nasrid kingdom has surrendered, then and only then will Nasrid home spaces be considered Castilian home spaces for the rest of the game.

THE GAME AS HISTORY

This section outlines the history of the rise of Ferdinand and Isabella organized into the seven turns represented in the game. A few notes about the presentation:

- People and events represented directly in the game are highlighted in bold when they first appear.
- Historical events or characters that will be in place for a span of years have those years shown in parentheses after the event.
- Placenames that are too small to be represented on the map are often followed by the name of the province in parentheses.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In the 15th century, there were many signs that Europe was ending the long lethargy of the Middle Ages. Johannes Gutenberg's invention of the printing press promised to revolutionize the transmission of culture and the possibilities for learning. In 1453, the Ottoman Turks conquered Constantinople after several attempts, thus eliminating the last vestige of the Byzantine Empire. The resulting flight of Greek scholars to Italy was an added stimulus for the intellectual renaissance that was taking place in the north of the Italian peninsula and flooding the rest of Europe via France. On the European continent, the Hundred Years' War was coming to an end and France was emerging as a future power.

In the Iberian Peninsula, too, the balance of power between the different kingdoms was shifting. Several of the major powers were looking to unite through a marriage alliance. Could the stage be set for the rise of a new power in that corner of Europe?



TURN 1 (1470-1475)

1470

As the game begins, the Portuguese arrive on the uninhabited islands of Sao Tomé and Principe, where they will cultivate sugar cane with slave labor imported from the mainland and where they will build a fort in 1475. They had previously settled on the Cape Verde Islands and established a base there that would become a hub for their future trade in slaves.

At the request of Juan Pacheco and the French ambassadors, Henry IV of Castile, believing that the marriage of his sister **Isabella** violated the Treaty of the Bulls of Guisando of 1468, disinherits her and appoints his daughter **Joanna** heiress and Princess of Asturias (25 Oct 1470). Isabella and her husband **Ferdinand** escape to the

fortress of Dueñas (in the Palencia province) and celebrate the birth of their first child, **Isabella, Princess of Asturias**.

Barcelona is the center of the Principality of Catalonia Generalitat's armed struggle against **King John II of Aragon**. The Generalitat army captures Cadaqués (Gerona).

Cardinal Rodrigo Borgia (the future **Pope Alexander VI**) begins his love affair with Vannozza Cattanei. She will bear Rodrigo Borgia's four officially recognized children (1474-82), including **Cesare Borgia**.

1471

The Portuguese reach Elmina in Ghana, where they procure alluvial gold from local traders, enough riches to help finance an expedition of 30,000 men in 447 ships. This armada takes advantage of the interregnum between the fall of the Marinid dynasty in 1465 and the enthronement of the Wattasid dynasty seven years later to seize Asilah (1471-1549) and Tangier (1471-1661) from the Moroccans. The Portuguese monarch, Afonso V, changes his title from "King of the Algarve" (the Algarve is the southern coast of Portugal) to "King of the Algarves" as Morocco was considered the Algarve on the other side of the sea. A group of exiled Andalusians (Muslims and Jews) led by Ali ibn Rashid al-Alami found Chefchaouen, the "Blue City," in Morocco to defend against Portuguese invasions.

Cardinal Rodrigo de Borgia obtains the Papal Bull of Simancas from the new **Pope Sixtus IV** (1471-1484). This document clears up the remaining issues with the marriage between Ferdinand and Isabella, both the forged dispensation that originally allowed them to marry and the fact that they were second cousins.

Louis XI, King of France, refuses to recognize the rights of Gaston IV, Count of Foix, to the throne of Navarre. In retaliation, Gaston IV allies with his new son-in-law Francis II, Duke of Brittany, and Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy. This alliance is short lived as Gaston IV soon flees back to Navarre to support his wife Eleanor's succession to the Navarrese throne.

The army of the Generalitat captures Berga near Barcelona. At the end of the summer John II of Aragon launches a major offensive obtaining the capitulation of Gerona. John II takes control of Ampurias and defeats the Catalonians at Santa Coloma de Gramenet near Barcelona with his son Ferdinand in command of the army.

1472

Clashes begin between the Duchy of Burgundy and the Valois Dynasty of France.

The Wattasid dynasty is founded by Abu Abd Allah al-Shiekh Muhammad ibn Yahya and comes to power in the Sultanate of Fez. Their immediate challenge will be to displace the Portuguese from the ports they recently captured along the Atlantic coast.

John II, King of Aragon, offering generous terms to those who return to Aragon, receives capitulations from several important Catalan towns including Manresa and Vic. His army then lays siege to the starving city of Barcelona, whose port had been blockaded since the previous year by the fleet of 20 galleys and 16 ships of Admiral **Bernat II de Vilamarí**. On October 16, the Capitulation of Pedralbes is signed (in the monastery of the same name) and ends the Catalan Civil War. All Catalan leaders are pardoned except for **Hug Roger III**.

1473

Louis XI of France attacks Catalonia to secure holdings pledged to him by the Catalonians in return for French support in the civil war. French troops under the command of the Count of Armagnac seize the Val d'Aran and destroy Vielha. Perpignan revolts against the French, and the French garrison withdraw into the Palace of the Kings of Majorca. The King of France reinforces with 20,000 men under the command of Philip II of Savoy.

1474

Henry IV of Castile dies in his palace in Madrid, and his half-sister Isabella I, also called Isabella the Catholic, is proclaimed Queen of Castile and León in the palace of Segovia. Several nobles, including the Marquis of Pacheco, proclaim Joanna la Beltraneja the queen instead. Her uncle Afonso V of Portugal is persuaded to intervene on her behalf. However Beltrán de la Cueva, who is rumored to be the father of “la Beltraneja” and who has been honored several times by Henry IV, sticks with Isabella and serves her faithfully.

Pedro González de **Mendoza** is appointed archbishop of Seville (1473-1482), and confirmed by Isabella I as chancellor of Castile, thus attracting the influential Mendoza family to her side. Isabella I maintains a truce with the Nasrids and forgives them annual tribute payments due to the ongoing disputes over the succession.

In violation of the previous year's treaty and taking advantage of the King of Aragon's difficulties, the King of France invades Roussillon once again.

1475

At the age of thirteen, Joanna “la Beltraneja” leaves her refuge in the castle of Trujillo to marry her uncle Afonso V of Portugal in Plasencia. Then Afonso V proclaims himself King of Castile (1475-79) with the support of the nobles who had welcomed the couple to the city. The War of the Castilian Succession breaks out between Portugal and Castile. In a radical political turn, the **Archbishop** of Toledo, Afonso **Carrillo** de Acuña, sides with the Portuguese. King Afonso V of Portugal occupies the stronghold of Cantalapiedra (Salamanca) which had declared itself in favor of his wife Joanna. Álvaro de Zúñiga and the King of Portugal achieve victory at Baltanás (Palencia). The Portuguese return to Arévalo (Ávila) and settle in Zamora for the winter, failing to provide assistance to the Zúñiga family with their defense of besieged Burgos. Disappointed by this lack of commitment from Portugal, Álvaro de Zúñiga reconciles with the Catholic Monarchs and becomes neutral. A **plague** epidemic ravages Catalonia (1475-76).



TURN 2 (1476-1482)

1476

Nine months of siege under the combined efforts of Isabella I and Alfonso of Aragon culminate in the surrender of the Castle of Burgos. Cardinal Mendoza oversees the final negotiations while Isabella I arrives to accept governor Íñigo de Zúñiga's surrender in person. The Siege of Burgos is regarded as one of the last military engagements to use trebuchets as the use of gunpowder weaponry becomes more prevalent afterwards.

The King of Portugal marches toward Burgos with his army, hoping to meet up with French troops coming south to support Joanna's cause. But that force, captained by Alain of **Albret**, is repulsed in Fuenterrabia. King Ferdinand pursues the Portuguese and subsequently defeats Afonso V in the Battle of Toro. Despite a victorious counterattack by his son and heir Joao, who commanded the Portuguese left wing and defeated the Castilian right wing, the King of Portugal decides to withdraw when he realizes how little support he has in Castile. Afonso V returns to Portugal in June, although he first takes the castle of Vilvestre (Salamanca) and helps the besieged people of Cantalapiedra (Salamanca).

The French armada of the privateer Guillaume de **Casenove** (known in Spain as Columbus “the Elder”) attacks Ribadeo (Lugo) but suffers severe losses. In Lisbon this fleet picks up Afonso V of Portugal, 460 knights, and 2,200 soldiers to take them to Marseille. Off Cape Santa Maria, Casenove defeats four Genoese ships (one of them was named the *Bechalla*) and one Flemish ship. During the battle, the *Bechalla* is set on fire. One of its crew members swims to the Portuguese coast and is taken in by the people of Lagos—his name is **Christopher Columbus**.

The Muslims attack Ceuta and occupy several undefended portions of the city, but are ultimately defeated by Christian reinforcements from Seville (despite the ongoing war between Castile and Portugal). The Aragonese navy pursues the Moorish invasion force back into the Mediterranean.

An expedition of three Spanish caravels reaches the coast of Gambia, where they capture 140 people, including the king of the region. The king was returned during a subsequent expedition to Guinea as ordered by Isabella.

1477

Afonso V of Portugal returns from France disillusioned after failing to gain further assistance in the War of Castilian Succession from Louis XI. Suffering from depression, he abdicates in favor of his son. Nevertheless, Joao II welcomes Afonso home and immediately returns the crown to his father.

Twenty-six Spanish caravels from Palos sail west along the southern coast of Iberia and defeat a combined French and Portuguese naval force near Tavira (Algarve).

On 25 July Seville, the most populous city in Castile at the time with 45,000 inhabitants, witnesses the triumphal entry of Isabella I. She wrests power from the Guzmans, Dukes of Medina-Sidonia, previous lords of the city. Duke Enrique Pérez de Guzmán agrees to hand over the Alcazar, the Jerez Gate, Triana Castle, and all the other Sevillian fortresses in exchange for the promise that Jerez de la Frontera, Constantina, and Alcalá de Guadaíra are returned to him within six months. These cities had been usurped by the Marquis of Cádiz, Rodrigo Ponce de León, who had been fighting for the Beltranejo cause.

Forces loyal to Isabella the Catholic, aided by the townspeople of Chinchilla (Albacete), capture the city's castle, which had belonged to Diego López Pacheco, the Marquis of Villena.

The king of Granada, **Muley Hacén**, attacks Cieza (Murcia) on Easter Sunday with 30,000 infantry and 4,000 horses, wiping out the town defenders.

The Catholic Monarchs decide to intervene directly in the Canary Islands since private initiatives to conquer those islands had stalled. They start by securing the rights to the islands of La Palma, Tenerife, and Gran Canaria for the Castilian crown.

Meanwhile in Catalonia, rebellious serfs, called remences, burn the castle of Calonge (Gerona) and attack the nearby town.

1478

The **Duke of Alva** recovers the castle of Vilvestre (Salamanca) from the Portuguese. Isabella gives birth to her second child and only son, naming him John in honor of his grandfathers, John of Aragon and John of Castile.

The Catholic Monarchs and the ambassadors of Granada agreed to a three-year truce in Seville in exchange for tribute payments to Castile by Muley Hacén.

In the summer, the conquest of the Canary Islands resumes. An expedition led by Juan Rejón with three ships, thirty horsemen, and more than 600 Andalusian infantry sails to Gran Canaria. A military camp named Real de Las Palmas (after the many palm trees in the area) is established which will become the future city of

Las Palmas. The expedition drives off a Guanche attack led by the *guanarteme* (king) of Telde. At the end of the summer, a Portuguese armada lands troops in the bay of Las Isletas and, in alliance with the Guanches, try to expel the Castilians. However Rejón is quick to respond and drives them off as soon as they land. After burning fig trees and crops, the expedition manages to get many natives to come and surrender at Real de Las Palmas.

The future **Philip I the Handsome** of Castile is born in Bruges, Belgium. Hug Roger III of Pallars Sobirà, the last of the independent counts of Catalonia, acquires the barony of Ponts (Lerida).

1479

Christopher Columbus testifies before a court in Genoa about a shipment of sugar he had bought the previous year on the island of Madeira. The next day he embarks on a return trip to Lisbon, where he marries the Portuguese noblewoman Felipa Moniz Perestrelo. Columbus is considered a Portuguese citizen as soon as he is married. His mother-in-law Isabel Moniz supposedly hands him her late husband's papers that contain evidence (corpses and tree trunks of unknown species found in the middle of the ocean) that start him on the path toward his great voyage.

After John II dies in Barcelona, his son Ferdinand II (1479-1516) and daughter-in-law Isabella I (1479-1504) become the king and queen of Aragón, Valencia, Mallorca, Sicily, Sardinia, and Corsica. Additionally, they become the count and countess of Barcelona, Roussillon, and Cerdanya, as well as the duke and duchess of Athens and Neopatria.

Alonso de Cárdenas, the Master of the Order of Santiago, obtains victory over the troops of King Afonso V of Portugal on the banks of the River Albuera (Badajoz). Beatrice of Portugal, Duchess of Viseu, and her niece Queen Isabella sign the Peace of Alcaçovas, which ends the War of Castilian Succession. Both crowns renounce their rights over the other. Portugal also grants ownership of the Canary Islands to Castile, in exchange for the recognition of Portuguese possession of the Azores, Madeira, Cape Verde, and all the lands discovered to the south of the Canary Islands. Castile promises to not sail south of Cape Bojador or undertake new Atlantic ventures, including against the Wattasid kingdom of Fez, which is to be conquered exclusively by Portugal.

Joanna of Castile, the third child of the Catholic Monarchs, is born in Toledo on 6 November.

Abu Abd Allah al-Shiekh Muhammad ibn Yahya, first sultan of the Wattasid dynasty of Morocco (1472-1504), signs a treaty with Castile recognizing exclusive rights over its coasts. Still, this treaty does nothing to stop Portuguese expansionism. **Boabdil**, heir to Muley Hacén, marries Morayma. Morayma's father is Ali Athar, lord of Xagra, governor of Loja (Granada), first steward of the Alhambra, and high constable of the kingdom of Granada.

Perpignan is turned into a military stronghold by the French, who enclose it in powerful walls that continue to be reinforced as control of that city changes hands in the future.

1480

In a strict interpretation of the Peace of Alcáçovas, **King Joao II of Portugal** orders ship captains bound for Guinea to seize any Castilian or foreign ships and to leave their crews to die. This order initiates a “war at sea” between these two powers.

After Afonso V renounces his claim to the Portuguese throne, Joanna “la Beltraneja”, age 18, is given a choice. She can either become a nun or marry Ferdinand and Isabella’s year-old son John when he becomes old enough to consent to the pairing. Joanna chooses to join the Convent of Santa Clara in Coimbra. Isabella I of Castile attends Joanna’s commitment ceremony and expresses her approval.

The Cortes of Toledo recognizes John as the heir to the throne and grants him the title of Prince of Asturias. The Catholic Monarchs send hand-chosen officials to various cities in their empire to strengthen their control. They also defeat the Marquis of Villena and his supporters. The possessions of this marquisate are absorbed by the Crown, leaving Diego López Pacheco only his title and the manor and Castle of Alarcón (Cuenca) (which is now a Paradores hotel).

The Catholic Monarchs send Pedro Fernández de Algaba to the Canary Islands to complete the conquest of the island of Gran Canaria after the failures of Juan Rejón.

Frequent raids between Castilians and Nasrids take place on the border of the present-day provinces of Seville, Malaga, and Cadiz. Ottoman troops sent by Mehmed II land in southern Italy and besiege and conquer Otranto. This action is in retaliation for Aragon’s support of the Knights Hospitallers on the island of Rhodes, a thorn in the side of the Ottomans. As Otranto falls, the Ottomans massacre much of the male populace and enslave women and children. The rest of the kingdom of Naples asks Aragon for assistance against this threat.

1481

Shortly after retiring to a monastery in Sintra, Afonso V of Portugal dies, and the reign of his son Joao II “the Perfect Prince” (1481-1495) begins. Joao II will continue his father’s policy of overseas expansion.

The Inquisition is expanded, and a provincial tribunal established in the Dominican Convent of San Pablo in Seville. The following day the Inquisitors, Miguel de Morillo and Juan de San Martino, send a proclamation backed by the Catholic Monarchs to the Marquis of Cádiz, Rodrigo Ponce de León, and all the vassal lords. The proclamation demands the seizure and delivery of all refugee conversos (Jews who had converted to Catholicism) to the Seville Inquisition. On 6 February, the first Iberian auto-da-fe (act of faith) takes place and six conversos are burned at the stake for allegedly practicing Judaism.

Tenesor Semidán, the last sovereign of the Gáldar province of Gran Canaria, makes an agreement with King Ferdinand to incorporate the island of Gran Canaria into Castile. Tenedor is baptized with the name of Fernando Guanarteme. The conquest of La Palma and Tenerife is entrusted to Juan Rejón, who sets out with troops from Jerez. In the region of Arucas, the governor of Gran Canaria,

Pedro de Vera, backstabs the warlord Doramas even after the latter defeated the Castilian knight Juan de Hoces in single combat (that was supposed to prevent a battle between the natives and the Castilians). The ensuing battle rages for ten days. The governor orders Doramas’ head to be displayed in the fort at Las Palmas.

Muley Hacén seizes Zahara on the border of Granada. He slaughters the garrison there and provokes war with Castile and Aragon. The timing could not have been worse for Granada, as the Catholic Monarchs have just concluded their war with Portugal and strengthened their control over the Spanish nobility.

1482

A Portuguese expedition of 11 ships and 700 men lands at La Mina de Oro on the Gold Coast and begins construction of the São Jorge da Mina Castle (now known as the Elmina Castle), the oldest European building in existence south of the Sahara. The mine produces gold at a rate of 400 kilograms per year, and the trading post becomes an important stop in the Atlantic slave trade. Another Portuguese expedition discovers a river that they name Zaire after the Kikongo word for river. Further up this river (the modern day Congo), the explorers are welcomed by King Nzinga Nkuwu; the Portuguese have established diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Kongo.

Maria of Aragon, the fourth surviving child of the Catholic Monarchs, is born in Cordoba. Unfortunately, her twin is stillborn.

Rodrigo Ponce de León, Marquis of Cádiz, conquers the strategic city of Alhama (Granada), whose fortress had been considered impregnable, but his rearguard is attacked by the Muslims of Ronda (Málaga). Muley Hacén reacts immediately and lays siege to Alhama but is forced to lift the siege when reinforcements arrive under the command of the future Duke of Medina-Sidonia Juan de Guzmán. In return, the Nasrids besiege Arcos (Cádiz). Three months later there is another unsuccessful attack by the Nasrids on the fortress of Alhama. Ferdinand fails in his siege of Loja (Granada), whose governor Ali al-Attar, Boabdil’s father-in-law, manages to make the Castilians flee and abandon their camp and artillery.

Boabdil rebels against his father, the emir of Granada, Muley Hacén, at the instigation of his mother Aixa, who was jealous of her husband’s favor toward his second wife, Zoraida. The **Abencer-rajés** help Boabdil take the Alhambra, and he proclaims himself the 22nd emir with the name Muhammad XII (1482-92). His father and his uncle, **El Zagal** (also known by Abu Abd Allah Muhammad Az-Zaghal), reinforces their position in Malaga.

Reinforcements arrive from La Gomera to help in the conquest of Gran Canaria. Pedro de Vera subdues the Guanches in the southeast corner of the island. The fort he establishes there becomes the city of Telde. Guayarmina Semidán, dissatisfied with the Calatayud Pact, and still considering herself queen of Gran Canaria, joins the military leader Bentejui in the island’s mountainous region. They maintain the last resistance to the Castilian occupation (1482-83).

Hug Roger III, Count of Pallars Sobirà, takes up arms against King Ferdinand once again and occupies Val d’Aran.



TURN 3 (1483-1489)

1483

The Catholic Monarchs send a large army against Malaga. El Zagal, “the Brave,” defeats a large raiding force in the battle of the hills of Cútar in the Axarquía. Boabdil lifts the siege of Alhama de Granada. Pillage expeditions are undertaken from the Christians of Murcia to Vera (Almería) and from the Nasrids under the command of the Abencerrajes de Luque y Baena (Córdoba). Boabdil besieges Lucena (Córdoba), but Diego Fernández de Córdoba y Arellano defeats, captures, and imprisons him. Initially, Boabdil is held in the tower of the castle of Moral, and then is moved to the tower of the Calatrava fortress of Porcuna (Jaén) for a few months. This tower is henceforth known as Boabdil Tower. Boabdil acknowledges his vassalage to Castile, and the kings cede his arms and clothing to Diego Fernández de Córdoba. Boabdil’s famous *jineta* sword, which today is kept in the Army Museum in Toledo, is included in the forfeited equipment.

With his usurper son imprisoned, Muley Hacén returns to his position as emir of Granada and sends ambassadors to Ferdinand the Catholic. However, Ferdinand deems it advisable to make a pact with Boabdil to further aggravate the divisions in the Nasrid kingdom. Boabdil is forced to settle in Guadix (Granada) but is unable to enter Granada. Thus, he settles in Almería with his brother Yusuf. Castilian troops finally conquer Zahara (Cádiz). The Catholic Monarchs found Puerto Real (Cádiz), as they wished to have a royal port close to the kingdom of Granada. They order the reconstruction of an old Roman port, grant it a letter of settlement, and place it under the jurisdiction of Jerez de la Frontera.

Tenesor Semidán speaks with his relative Princess Guayarmina Semidánin (who still considers herself queen of Gran Canaria) and with the resistance leader Bentejuí. She and a few hundred surviving Guanches surrender, but Bentejuí and the faycán (shaman) of Telde commit ritual suicide by jumping off a cliff while shouting “Atis tirma!” (“For my land!”). Gran Canaria is subjugated, despite a partial rebellion in the summer where the natives kill some of the friars and throw them over the Lentiscal cliff.

At the age of 16, Francis I Phoebus (the Navarrese heir) dies at his residence in the castle of Pau (Béarn). His sister Catherine I of Foix, aged 14, is proclaimed queen of Navarre, and Queen Isabella I sends an envoy to propose marriage to her son Prince John. However, this initiative is rejected by Mother Madeleine of

France, who continues to be the regent (1479-94). She is France’s counterweight to Castile in Navarre as she was the sister of King Louis XI.

A new **plague** epidemic breaks out in Catalonia (1483-84). Valencia, which has managed to avoid becoming involved in the numerous civil wars of this century, is now the most prosperous city in Spain. Revolts in Galicia by former supporters of Joanna “la Beltraneja” offer new resistance to Castilian rule.

1484

Christopher Columbus arrives home to find his wife has passed away in his absence, so he returns to Portugal with his son Diego to settle her estate. Around this time, he also fails to convince the Portuguese King Joao II to finance a voyage to the Indies across the Atlantic—although some historians argue that Columbus could have become an agent of Joao II at this time, tasked with diverting the attention of the Catholic Monarchs from the Portuguese route to India.

Isabella I obtains a papal bull from Pope Sixtus IV which limits the movements of Joanna “la Beltraneja” to her convent in Portugal. In defiance, Joanna is still signing her correspondence as “La Reina” (“The Queen”).

Troops of the Catholic Monarchs leave Antequera and conquer Alora. Ferdinand takes the town of Marbella but is forced to surrender the strategic town of Setenil after seven sieges. After the conquest of Gran Canaria, Hernán Peraza the Younger returns to La Gomera with his wife Beatriz de Bobadilla, but uprisings continue to occur on the island (1484-88) due to the repeated abuse of the natives.

In Navarre, the regent Madeleine of France still refuses to let her daughter marry John of Asturias. Instead, with the support of the court of France, she opts to marry her daughter Queen Catherine I of Navarre, aged 16, to the first-born son of the Lord of Albret, John of Albret, aged 7, to keep Navarre from being united with Spain. The marriage contracts are formalized, but the marriage is not celebrated until 1486.

Pere Joan Sala leads the second uprising of the Catalanian peasants, the remences.

The new pope, the Genoese **Innocent VIII** (29 Aug 1484-25 Jul 1492), publishes the bull *Summis Desiderantes Affectibus*, which recognizes the existence of witches. Thus began the witch-hunts that would terrorize Europe for the next two centuries.

1485

El Zagal, brother of Muley Hacén, takes Almería by surprise. He captures his nephew, Yusuf, alive. Under pressure from his wife Zoraida (formerly Isabel de Solís), Muley Hacén has Yusuf executed along with the other rebel leaders.

A brutal campaign begins against the Nasrid kingdom in which towers, villages and castles are destroyed. The main Castilian attack is directed at the important city of Ronda, which capitulates along with all the villages in the highlands. The fall of Ronda prompts El Zagal to return to Granada. Along the way he seizes Castilian forces laden with plunder, takes many prisoners, and is triumphantly welcomed on his arrival in the capital. El Zagal outmaneuvers and dethrones his aging brother Muley Hacén and is proclaimed emir as Muhammad XIII.

The Catholic Monarchs conquer the castles of Cambil and Alhabar (Jaén), employing 6,000 men and artillery on a massive scale. These victories lead to the fall of the entire border sector of Sierra Mágina, whose governor, Sidi Ali Al-Mandari, emigrates with its inhabitants to northern Morocco. Once there, with the permission of the Sultan of Fez, they rebuild the devastated city of Tetouan, turning it into a refuge for Muslims and Jews who are fleeing from Iberia.

An emissary from ibn Yahya, the first Sultan of Fez of the Wattasid dynasty (1472-1504), is sent to the Catholic Monarchs. He asks that the Castilian ships patrolling the Alboran Sea not attack his subjects. The Catholic Monarchs agree as long as ibn Yahya stops any North African reinforcements from arriving to support the Nasrids.

The deposed emir of Granada, Muley Hacén, dies, and according to legend is buried on the highest point of the Sierra Nevada (henceforth called MulHacén) according to his wishes. Before his death he names his brother El Zagal as his heir, causing fighting to break out within Granada between El Zagal's supporters and those of Boabdil. The victories previously won by El Zagal lead King Ferdinand to support Boabdil, his vassal and clearly the weaker of the two.

The remences leader Pere Joan Sala takes the town of Granollers and increases his forces to over 1000 men. When the danger to Barcelona becomes clear, the Aragonese send a strong detachment and defeat Sala in Llerona; he is sent to the capital to be executed. This second rebellion of the remences in Catalonia is over.

1486

The papal bull of Innocent VIII (18 Feb) is issued to Joao II of Portugal permitting the conquest of the kingdom of Morocco. A Portuguese expedition reaches Cape Cross (Namibia), named after the cross they erected there.

Christopher Columbus succeeds in meeting with the Catholic Monarchs in Cordoba. His proposal is passed to a committee, who advise Ferdinand and Isabella to reject it due to grossly underestimated costs. Despite this advice, the Catholic Monarchs provide Columbus with a stipend for the year.

El Zagal manages to stop the civil war within the city of Granada. Boabdil, who had been using Vélez Málaga (Málaga) as his capital since the fall of Almería, moves to Loja (Granada), and renounces his claim to the throne. However he is defeated by a Castilian army there and captured. Boabdil reaches a second pact with King Ferdinand, who wants to reaffirm his loyalty to the Castilian cause. Boabdil is granted the eastern region of Al-Andalus as a vassal; in addition, Ferdinand offers a truce to any territory that rises up in support of Boabdil. Boabdil secretly entered the Albaicín of Granada, a stronghold of his supporters, but civil war breaks out there once again as the rest of the city remains loyal to his uncle El Zagal.

1487

A Portuguese expedition, led by Bartolomeu Dias, sails around the Cape of Good Hope on the southern tip of Africa. A path to the Indian Ocean is now open.

El Zagal moves to prevent the fall of Malaga, the critical main port of the Nasrids. However he is defeated by King Ferdinand at Vélez Málaga and retreats to Guadix. In his absence Boabdil gains access to the Alhambra and now controls Granada.

Boabdil appeals to the Mamluks of Egypt and the Ottoman sultan for assistance. Only the Ottomans respond, sending the naval commander Kemal Reis.

King Ferdinand marches against Malaga with 12,000 knights and 50,000 infantry while the port is blockaded by the Castilian-Aragonese squadron. The city is besieged, conquered, and sacked, and all the inhabitants are put to the sword or enslaved. A "volunteer of the faith", apparently a Tunisian, allows himself to be captured in order to assassinate the Catholic Monarchs, but mistakes another couple for his intended targets. El Zagal tries to help the besieged Malaga by sending reinforcements from Guadix, but they are defeated by the troops of his nephew Boabdil.

Gran Canaria is formally incorporated into the Crown of Castile.

1488

The inhabitants of Safi (Morocco), capital of a small kingdom, ask for the protection of the King of Portugal and become his vassals, abandoning the Wattasid cause.

El Zagal manages to hold onto three key cities: Almería, Baza, and Guadix. He also convinces other towns in the Granada province to abandon his nephew Boabdil and recognize him instead.

Another great plague strikes Aragon (1488-91). The county of Pallars Sobirà falls into the hands of Ferdinand the Catholic, and Hug Roger III flees to France. The Ottoman Turks attack Malta, causing Ferdinand to reinforce the Aragonese defenses of Sicily.

1489

The Treaty of Medina del Campo is signed between the Catholic Monarchs and England. This treaty proposes the marriage of Catherine of Aragon (only 3 years old) to Arthur of Wales (2 years old), the first-born son of Henry VII. The goals are to isolate France and reduce tariffs between England and Spain.

After six months under siege by 50,000 men, Baza surrenders to the Castilians. Powerless, El Zagal capitulates to the Catholic Monarchs and hands over all the towns he possessed. The inhabitants are granted leniency as their mosques begin to be converted into churches.



TURN 4 (1490-1496)

1490

Afonso, the 15-year-old heir to the Portuguese throne, marries Isabella, aged 20, the first-born daughter of the Catholic Monarchs.

El Zagal signs capitulations handing the entire coast of Granada to the Catholic Monarchs. The Catholic Monarchs grant El Zagal the kingdom of Andarax (today Láujar de Andarax in Almería), but he must remain a vassal of Castile.

The Ottoman admiral Kemal Reis makes several raids along the Iberian coast (1490-92), bombarding Elche, Almería, and Málaga and transporting Muslims and Jews who wish to leave to Ottoman territory. Two of the people who leave are Joseph Hamon, who becomes the physician to two Ottoman sultans, and his son Moses Hamon, who becomes the physician to a third, Suleiman the Magnificent. Other Sephardic Jews set up the first printing press in Constantinople in 1493.

The Talavera Commission, well informed about the circumference of the Earth and the distance to the Indies, recommends against Columbus's expedition. Still staying at the monastery of La Rábida (Huelva), Columbus nonetheless receives additional financial support from the Catholic Monarchs and is instructed to return to them for further discussions. At the friary he receives the support of the friar and astronomer Antonio de Marchena, and the pilot and shipowner Martín Alonso Pinzón.

1491

The Portuguese heir Afonso, aged 16, dies when he falls from his horse during a ride on the banks of the Tagus. Afonso's widow, the Infanta Isabella of Aragon, returns to Castile.

King Ferdinand, at the head of an army of 10,000 knights and 40,000 infantry, leaves Alcalá la Real (Jaén) and besieges Boabdil in Granada, the last Muslim stronghold on the Peninsula. Peace negotiations between Boabdil and the Catholic Monarchs culminate in the signing of capitulation clauses on the night of 25 November. The surrender permits the Muslims to maintain their worship and their mosques. Boabdil takes the remains of his ancestors out of the Alhambra and buries them in the mosque of Mondújar (Granada).

El Zagal goes into exile in Fez, but the king in Fez is a friend of Boabdil and promptly imprisons and blinds him. El Zagal will move on to Oran and later Tlemcén, where he dies.

In the Canary Islands, expeditions to seize Benahoare and Tenerife begin.

1492

On 2 January, the 2nd Count of Tendilla enters the Alhambra with his troops, hoists the banner of Castile on the tower of La Vela, and is appointed governor of the Alhambra and captain general of Granada. Later, the Catholic Monarchs receive the homage of Boabdil at the gates of Granada at 3pm, bringing 750 years of Muslim rule to an end. Boabdil leaves Granada with his family, including his young son who had been held hostage since 1483. Boabdil is granted an estate in Andarax (today Láujar de Andarax in Almería).

The Catholic Monarchs accept the Alhambra Decree proposed by the Grand Inquisitor (Tomás de Torquemada) which orders the expulsion of any Jews who do not convert within three months. Some Jews settle in the kingdom of Navarre, while others are received in the kingdom of Fez.

Francisco Maldonado, governor of Gran Canaria, decides to invade Tenerife through the Guanche Kingdom of Anaga. The Guanches kill 40 of Maldonado's men before he is reinforced by Pedro Fernández de Saavedra, who arrived from Lanzarote. Alonso Fernández de Lugo obtains from the Catholic Monarchs the right to conquer the still independent islands of La Palma and Tenerife. He lands with some 900 troops in Tazacorte (west of La Palma) and makes an agreement with 9 of the 12 chiefs on the island. Then he defeats Bentacayse, chief of the province of Tedote, and the Jariguo and Garehagua brothers—who shared power in Tigalate—in the battle of Timibúcar. The final chief, Tanausú, lord of Aceró, is lured out with the promise of a truce and captured.

After another rejection from the Catholic Monarchs, Christopher Columbus leaves Santa Fé (Granada) to pursue financial backing from either France or England. Meanwhile, Luis de Santángel, a royal treasurer, meets with Isabella and convinces her of Spain's future glory should Columbus succeed. After de Santángel contributes much of the funding from his own pocket, the Catholic Monarchs ask Columbus to return. Juan de Coloma, secretary of the Crown of Aragon, formulates the Capitulations of Santa Fé, which grant Columbus immense privileges including: hereditary admiral of everything he discovers, hereditary viceroy and governor general of everything he discovers, a title on merchandise (except for the royal fifth), jurisdiction over commercial lawsuits in the area of his admiralty, and the title of "Don".

The first voyage of Christopher Columbus sets sail from Palos (Huelva) with 120 men, two caravels (the *Pinta* and the *Niña*) and one carrack (*Santa María*). Within the year **Columbus' voyage has discovered the New World** of the Americas: the Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola, and Tortuga.

After the death of the Genoese Innocent VIII, the Valencian Rodrigo de Borgia, known in Italy as Rodrigo Borgia, becomes Pope **Alexander VI** (1492-1503). His close ties to the Catholic Monarchs will surely be of benefit to Spain.

Ferdinand the Catholic survives an attack in the Plaça del Rei in Barcelona.

Confusion over the attacker's nationality spreads throughout the city and causes the population to take to the streets to demand justice. Isabella, afraid of an uprising, prepares to flee with the children. Ferdinand makes an appearance to prove he is still alive, and the

crowds disperse. The culprit, a peasant named Joan de Canyamars, is executed and displayed throughout the city.

France and England sign the **Treaty of Etaples** officially ending the Hundred Years' War, giving France the opportunity to turn its attention elsewhere.

1493

The Catholic Monarchs incorporate all private armies into the Crown, including the Military Orders, now that the Reconquista is over. They also ask Pope Alexander VI for a dispensation from any impediment to the marriage of their children by the second degree of consanguinity, allowing them to freely arrange the most advantageous matches.

Boabdil signs over his possessions in Spain and agrees to go into exile in North Africa with his followers. Boabdil "the Unfortunate" leaves Andarax on his 31st birthday and travels to Fez with his mother Aixa and remaining family. He will live in that capital of the Wattasid Dynasty until 1533.

Upon his return, Columbus travels to Barcelona and is secretly received—to avoid leaks to the Portuguese—by Ferdinand and Isabella at the monastery of Sant Jeroni de la Murtra in Badalona, where Ferdinand is still recovering from the attack in Barcelona.

Alexander VI names his son Cesare Borgia a cardinal. The papal bull *Inter caetera* from Alexander VI grants the Queen of Castile all lands beyond 100 leagues west and south of any of the islands of the Azores or the Cape Verde islands. The Catholic Monarchs summon the Catalan cosmographer Jaume Ferrer de Blanes to Barcelona to commission him to help them set the boundaries with Portugal in the newly discovered lands. Columbus' second voyage begins thanks to financing from nobles from Barcelona.

The **Treaty of Barcelona** with Charles VIII of France leads to peace (1493-95) and the return of the occupied (since 1462) counties of Roussillon, Cerdanya, and Conflent to Aragon. In exchange, Spain will not intervene in the campaign the French plan to carry out in Italy the next year. The King of Spain also agrees not to establish marriage alliances with England or Burgundy without the permission of the King of France.

1494

Alonso Fernández de Lugo, determined to conquer Tenerife, sets off from Gran Canaria with a mixed force of Castilians and native Canary Islanders. The fort that he founds will give rise to the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. Lugo penetrates as far as the Orotava valley (*menceyato* of Taoro) in search of cattle and barley, but on his return he is ambushed and defeated by **Bencomo** in the first battle of the Acentejo ravine.

Columbus discovers Jamaica and confirms the sphericity of the earth by measuring a lunar eclipse on Saona Island (Dominican Republic).

The **Treaty of Tordesillas** (Valladolid) with Portugal establishes that all lands beyond 370 leagues west of the Cape Verde Islands are owned by Spain. This deal leaves much of Brazil to Portugal, who strongly insists on using this greater distance, as opposed to the 100 leagues proposed by the Pope. The treaty will be in force for over 250 years. Spain and Portugal, two kingdoms with a very similar history until now, develop into two very different empires based on the lands granted to them by this document.

Ferrante of Naples dies and is succeeded by his son, Alfonso II (1494-1495). Charles VIII of France, as the great-grandson of Duke Louis II of Anjou, proclaims himself King of Sicily and asks Pope Alexander VI for his investiture. Alexander VI refuses, instead siding with Alfonso. The French invade Italy with 48,000 men and the best artillery in Europe. The First Italian War (1494-98) is underway. Charles VIII forces the Pope to surrender Rome and attacks the kingdom of Naples, an Aragonese protectorate, in violation of the Treaty of Barcelona.

Spread by mercenaries in the service of Charles VIII of France, the first well-recorded epidemic of syphilis in Europe occurs in Naples, where it wreaks havoc due to its high mortality.

1495

King Joao II of Portugal dies and his cousin and brother-in-law **Manuel I** (1495-1521) ascends to the throne.

After five unsuccessful attempts to marry off Prince John, heir to the Catholic Monarchs, John at last marries Margaret of Austria, daughter of Emperor Maximilian. His sister Joanna marries Philip the Handsome, Duke of Burgundy, Margaret's brother and Maximilian I's heir. In Antwerp, the diplomat Francisco de Rojas signs the agreements for both marriages.

Alonso Fernández de Lugo returns to Tenerife with a better prepared and trained army, sent by the Duke of Medina-Sidonia. He rebuilds the fort of Añazo (today Santa Cruz de Tenerife) and erects another in Gracia (next to the present-day San Cristóbal de La Laguna, *menceyato* of Tegueste). He wins the Battle of Agüero against the Guanches, thanks in part to the reinforcements of Fernando Guanarteme (Tenesor Semidán). During the battle 1,700 Guanches are killed, including Bencomo and his brother Tinguaro. Alonso sends Fernando Guanarteme to negotiate with Bentor, Bencomo's son and successor, but the latter refuses only to be defeated by Fernández de Lugo in the Second Battle of Acentejo (future site of the town of La Victoria de Acentejo). Bentor takes refuge with the survivors on the high slopes of Tigaiga (near Los Realejos), where he commits suicide by jumping off a cliff in either January or February 1496.

Complaints about the excesses and ineptitude of Columbus's government lead the Catholic Monarchs to send Juan de Aguado as an investigating judge. Aguado sets sail with four caravels and arrives in Hispaniola to make a report on the situation (1495-96).

In an interview in Alfaró (La Rioja) with King Ferdinand, the kings of Navarre agreed that the main fortresses of Navarre will be entrusted to Ferdinand, who fears that the King of France might extend the war he is waging in Italy to the Pyrenees. Charles VIII tries to neutralize Ferdinand's advances in Navarre by entrusting military posts to Lord Alain de Albret and John of Foix, Viscount of Lautrec.

Alfonso II of Naples, unable to stop the French nor willing to accept the harsh conditions imposed by Ferdinand the Catholic to help him, abdicates in favor of his son Ferdinand II (1495-96). The French occupy Naples and Ferdinand II flees to Messina (Sicily), an Aragonese territory.

In response to the French invasion, the Holy League is formed uniting the duchies of Milan and Venice, the Papal States, Austria and Spain. The Holy League declares war on France (1495-98) and comes to the aid of Ferdinand II. Charles VIII flees back to France, leaving only 10,000 soldiers under Gilbert de Montpensier.

Montpensier is defeated by the Venetians and Milanese at Fornovo and is forced to retreat to Asti (Piedmont). As a result of this defeat, the French king agrees to withdraw his troops from Italy.

Meanwhile in the south, Ferdinand of Aragon sends Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba, who lands in Messina with an army recruited from the veterans of the wars of Granada and Portugal. This army is defeated at Seminara (Calabria) by French armored cavalry and Swiss mercenaries, but the latter soon abandon Italy because they are not paid. Supported by the local population, Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba, who earns the nickname “the Great Captain,” begins a guerrilla war that wipes out the enemy garrisons one-by-one. After Ferdinand II seizes Naples, the French under Montpensier retreat to Atella (Basilicata).

1496

Since the 1493 treaty with France is no longer in force, the marriage of the Catherine of Aragon and the Arthur of Wales is renegotiated on similar terms to those proposed in 1489. By means of the papal bull *Si Convenit*, Pope Alexander VI grants the title of “Catholic” to Isabella I and Ferdinand II (V of Castile) in recognition of their defense of Catholicism. The Catholic Monarchs ratify the double marriage agreement between their children and the children of Emperor Maximilian. Joanna of Castile embarks from Laredo (Cantabria) for Flanders, where her husband, Philip the Handsome, Duke of Burgundy, lives.

Alonso Fernández de Lugo completes the conquest of Tenerife by defeating the Kingdom of Taoro, the richest and most powerful native group on the island.

With the help of the Spanish army of the Great Captain and the Venetian fleet, Ferdinand II recovers the rest of the kingdom of Naples. After a 32-day siege, the last of the French forces surrendered to Gonzalo at Atella (Basilicata).



TURN 5 (1497-1503)

1497

The Queen of Castile will not be able to enjoy her monopoly over the new continent forever. King Henry VII of England finances a voyage by the Italian navigator Giovanni Caboto, called John Cabot by the English. Caboto discovers North America for England (probably southeast Canada, although he may have explored the Maine coastline as well). Caboto only reports back on the bounty of these waters, filled with cod, but neglects to mention the riches

on the mainland. Soon cod-filled fishing boats are returning to English ports but the English crown will ignore the vast continent for almost a century.

Isabella of Aragon and Manuel I of Portugal are married in September. In the same month, the sudden death of her brother, Prince John, leaves Isabella as the heir presumptive of the Crown of Castile. Manuel I sends Vasco da Gama on an expedition with four ships to round Africa and discover an ocean route to India; da Gama will arrive in Calicut, India in May of 1498.

Since the Treaty of Tordesillas included Melilla in the Spanish zone, King Ferdinand orders the conquest of this nest of Barbary pirates in the kingdom of Fez (Morocco) and close to the border of the kingdom of Tlemecén (Algeria). A preliminary reconnaissance determines that an invasion would be very costly. However, the captain general and governor of Andalusia Juan Alonso Pérez de Guzmán y de Rivera, Duke of Medina-Sidonia, asks for permission to conquer Melilla at his own expense. The duke’s regent, Pedro de Estopiñán Virués, sets out from Sanlúcar with 5,000 men and a prefabricated wooden fort. Virués conquers the abandoned city, then defends it from the Muslim counterattack ordered by the enraged Sultan Ibn Yahya.

Charles VIII of France and Ferdinand the Catholic agree to a halt to their fighting in Italy.

1498

Columbus sets out on his third voyage (1498-1500), leaving Sanlúcar de Barrameda (Cádiz) with six ships, 200 colonists, and Francisco Pinzón.

In April, Charles VIII dies in an accident at the age of 27 and is succeeded by his cousin, Louis XII, the Duke of Orleans (1498-1515). Louis XII begins peace talks with Ferdinand of Aragon that culminate in the Treaty of Marcoussis, an agreement to end all current hostilities between France and Spain.

1499

Before his first birthday, the infant Miguel da Paz is sworn in as heir to the Portugal throne in the presence of his father, Manuel I. Miguel had already been sworn in as the heir to Castile, as his mother Isabella of Aragon had died during his birth.

The Rebellion of the Alpujarras (1499-1501) begins in the Kingdom of Granada, largely because the Treaty of Granada is not being respected by the Catholic Monarchs.

The governor of Gran Canaria, Lope Sánchez de Valenzuela, sails to the African coast opposite the Canary Islands as an emissary of the Catholic Monarchs. Spain wants to know if there is room for colonization between the kingdom of Fez and the territories of Guinea, which belong to Portugal. Several political and commercial treaties are signed with local tribal chiefs.

At the wedding of Louis XII of France to Anne of Brittany, the Queen of Navarre, Catherine of Foix, gives the groom five orange trees that she herself had planted in her orchards at the palace of Olite (Navarre). One of these trees is still preserved in the Orangery of the Palace of Versailles.

Kemal Reis leads an Ottoman fleet against the Venetians in the naval Battle of Zonchio. Outnumbering the Venetians roughly 3:1,

Reis achieves victory and kicks off the second Ottoman-Venetian War (1499-1503).

1500

Miguel da Paz, grandson of the Catholic Monarchs, dies in Granada before his second birthday. Joanna of Castile, absent in Flanders, becomes heir to Castile and Aragon. King Manuel I, widowed and now without an heir, marries his 18-year-old sister-in-law Maria, another daughter of the Catholic Monarchs, who will bear him seven sons and three daughters.

On 11 November, the Catholic Monarchs and Louis XII of France ratify the Treaty of Granada. Spain relinquishes its claim to Montpellier, and in exchange, France renounces the counties of Cerdanya and Roussillon. Both rulers agree to divide up the kingdom of Naples, though peace in that end of the Italian peninsula will not last for long.

A coalition of Spanish, Venetian, and French troops under the command of the Great Captain defeat the Ottomans in the siege of the island of Cephalonia. Charles of Hapsburg, the future Hapsburg Charles V, is born in the Prinsenhof in Ghent.

1501

A large expedition under Joao da Nova, the 3rd Portuguese armada to India, sails this year. This voyage discovers the islands of Martin Vaz, Ascension and Saint Helena.

Catherine of Aragon (age 15), youngest daughter of the Catholic Monarchs, marries Arthur of Wales (age 14).

1502

Columbus, deprived of all his posts except that of admiral, and in poor health, leads his fourth and final expedition (1502-1504). This time he searches for the Strait of Malacca to gain access to the spice trade.

A Portuguese expedition with the Florentine navigator and cartographer Amerigo Vespucci onboard finishes exploring the coast of Brazil, reaching as far south as Rio de Janeiro.

The Third Italian War begins, once again over Naples.

1503

The Ottoman-Venetian War ends in an Ottoman victory. The Great Captain defeats the French army at the battle of Cerignola.

Royal decrees grant Seville a monopoly on trade with America and create the House of Trade (1503-1790) in this city, the only one authorized to issue emigration permits to America.

A second voyage to Brazil is undertaken by Gonzalo Coelho and financed by Fernando de Noronha, a Jew from Asturias. De Noronha is a representative of the Fugger bankers in the Iberian Peninsula. The goal is to exploit the precious red dyes of the brazilwood trees found in this land.

Pope Alexander VI dies and is succeeded by Pius III, who dies the month after he is ordained. Julius II succeeds him on 1 November.



TURN 6 (1504-1510)

1504

Isabella I bequeaths her personal patrimony—the Indies, the Canary Islands and the Kingdom of Granada—to the Crown of Castile upon her death. And she does in fact die on 26 November in Medina del Campo. Joanna I of Castile is proclaimed Queen of Castile. Ferdinand the Catholic takes over the regency due to Joanna's absence while she accompanies her husband Philip the Handsome in Flanders.

Ibn Yahya dies and Al-Burtuqali becomes Sultan of Fez.

1505

The King of Portugal sends a seventh armada to India to ensure control of the spice trade. This armada consisted of 21 ships, including one carrying the Portuguese-born Ferdinand Magellan. Fourteen years later Magellan will set sail on a similarly long voyage but will sail west that time (so as not to violate the Treaty of Tordesillas).

The *real de a ocho* (Castilian silver piece of eight) begins to circulate in the New World. This “Spanish dollar” will become standard legal tender in the United States until 1857.

1506

Joanna and Philip the Handsome arrive in Spain. In view of Joanna's incapacity, Philip takes over the regency (as the king consort Philip I). A few months later, he dies in Burgos. Ferdinand II of Aragon (who had been king consort of Castile as Ferdinand V) and Cardinal Cisneros rule the kingdom of Castile for the second time.

Christopher Columbus dies in Valladolid. Suspicions that black slaves are being illegally smuggled into Hispaniola lead the Crown to impose a fine of 1,000 pesos or 100 lashes to anyone caught breaking this law.

1507

The German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller publishes his *Universalis Cosmographia*, the first map that separates the newly discovered lands from Asia and calls them America, in honor of his friend Amerigo Vespucci. For the Spanish and many Europeans it remains “The Indies”.

Martin Luther is ordained as a priest. Césare Borgia dies at the age of 31 in Viana (Navarre) while fighting to avoid capture by Castile.

1508

King Ferdinand convenes the Board of Navigators in Burgos to counter Portuguese advances towards the Spice Islands (now the Molucca Islands, Indonesia). Juan Díaz de Solís undertakes a search for a strait between the Atlantic and the Pacific. Ferdinand the Catholic appoints Amerigo Vespucci as the chief navigator of Castile.

Maximilian I is named Holy Roman Emperor. Michelangelo begins painting the Sistine Chapel. Pope Julius II establishes the League of Cambrai.

1509

Henry VIII is proclaimed king of England shortly after his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. The Battle of Diu between Portugal and Muslim fleets (Ottomans, Mamluks, Sultan of Gujarat, and the Kingdom of Calicut) occurred in the Arabian Sea. The Portuguese navy won a decisive victory, which cut the Arabs and Venetians out of the spice trade.

Ferdinand and King Manuel I sign the Capitulation of Cintra between their respective countries. The treaty establishes that Portugal would desist from conquering the island of Vélez de la Gomera and the rest of the Castilian territories extending eastwards, which were under the jurisdiction of the Sultanate of Fez. This treaty leaves Melilla, already in Castilian hands since 1497, protected from any Portuguese claim. In return, Castile recognizes Portuguese sovereignty over the North African territories between Vélez and Cape Bojador. In addition, the two nations agree that anyone who fails to comply with the terms of the treaty will have to pay a heavy fine.

Castile captures Oran in an expedition financed and organized by Cardinal Cisneros.

1510

The painter Sandro Botticelli, best known for *Spring* and *The Birth of Venus*, dies in Florence. Juan de la Cosa, owner and master of the *Santa Maria*, dies in present-day Colombia, the victim of poisoned arrows. Pedro Navarro conquers Bejaia and Tripoli.

Afonso de Albuquerque of Portugal conquers Goa. Núñez de Balboa founds Santa María la Antigua del Darién (located in Colombia), the first permanent European settlement in the mainland Americas.



TURN 7 (1511-1516)

1511

The *Padrón Real* is created in the Casa de Contratación in Seville, a map of the world that is to be corrected and expanded as new discoveries are made. The Spanish arrive in the Yucatan peninsula. The “First Cry in Favor of Human Rights” is pronounced by Friar Antón de Montesinos in Santo Domingo during his sermon “Ego vox clamantis in deserto”. He proclaims these rights in defense of the indigenous population. Ferdinand the Catholic founds the Audiencia of Santo Domingo, the first court in the New World.

The Portuguese arrive in the Moluccas. Afonso de Albuquerque’s men are the first to purchase nutmeg and cloves from these islands.

The Holy League between Spain, the Holy Roman Empire, and Venice (and later England and Switzerland) is created to counter France. Michelangelo paints *The Creation of Adam*.

1512

The Franco-Ferrarese troops of Gaston II of Narbonne defeat the troops of the Holy League at the Battle of Ravenna during the Italian Wars.

The Sistine Chapel, the most important chapel in the Apostolic Palace in Vatican City, is inaugurated with its vault decorated by the painter Michelangelo.

The Royal Ordinances for the good regulation and treatment of the Indians, better known as the Laws of Burgos, are promulgated. Amerigo Vespucci, Italian navigator in the service of Castile, dies.

The conquest of the kingdom of Navarre by the Castilian-Aragonese troops commanded by the Duke of Alva is quickly accomplished in the summer of 1512.

1513

Bartolomé de Las Casas, chaplain to Pánfilo de Narváez in the conquest of Cuba (1512-13), severely questions the conquest after the massacre of the Caonao River, where his men murder in cold blood the indigenous families who offer them food.

In Navarre, Diego Fernández de Córdoba y Arellano, Marquis of Comares, is appointed the first Viceroy and Captain General of Navarre. The isolation of the kings of Navarre increases further when Ferdinand II signs the Peace of Urtubia with Louis XII. Ferdinand the Catholic renounces his claims to the counties of Foix and Bearn, based on the rights of his wife Germaine of Foix, and the French concede Spanish rule over Naples and withdrew their support for the kings of Navarre.

In Rome, Cardinal Medici is elected as **Pope Leo X** after the death of Pope Julius II.

Juan Ponce de León arrives in Florida. Núñez de Balboa arrives on the Pacific shores of Panama and names that ocean the “South Sea”. Portugal discovers the island of Réunion.

1514

King Ferdinand issues a decree authorizing the marriage of Spanish men to native women. Friar Bartolomé de las Casas renounced his *encomienda* and decides to return to Spain due to the abuses committed against the Indians. His advocacy leads to the New Laws of 1542 abolishing slavery, eliminating *encomiendas*, and establishing that new colonizations must be carried out under religious supervision.

The first multilingual Complutensian Bible is published. Havana is founded on the island of Cuba. Louis XII makes peace with England by marrying Mary Tudor.

1515

Following orders from King Ferdinand the Catholic, three small caravels set sail from the port of Sanlúcar de Barrameda (Andalusia), under the command of Juan Díaz de Solís. At the beginning of 1516, they discover the Río de la Plata, which they called the Mar Dulce (Sweet Sea) because they believed it was a sea with a pleasant taste, and not a river. When they anchor, they erect a cross in a place they called Puerto de Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria and take possession of the land in the name of the king.

Cumana is founded in present-day Venezuela. The future Charles V is declared of age and takes over the government of Flanders. The Great Captain dies at the end of the year. Louis XII of France dies and Francis I succeeds him on the French throne. Aruj Barbarossa attacks Béjaïa and his forces are pursued by a Spanish fleet from the Balearic Islands.

1516

By Royal Decree, Friar Bartolomé de las Casas is appointed Protector of the Indians and begins his work to improve the conditions for the indigenous populations of the Americas. Juan de Solís arrives in present-day Buenos Aires but dies at the hand of the local natives.

Ferdinand the Catholic, King of Aragon, dies in Madrigalejo (Cáceres). Cardinal Cisneros, already regent of the kingdom of Castile, assumes the regency of the kingdom of Aragon. Officially, Joanna is Queen of Castile and Aragon, but in practice Cardinal Cisneros holds the reins of power until the arrival of Prince Charles. In Brussels this new leader is declared Charles I, King of Castile (and the Canary Islands, the North African territories and the American Indies) and Aragon (with Sardinia, Naples and Sicily). These vast holdings are the inheritance of his grandparents, Isabella of Castile and Ferdinand of Aragon. Also known as Charles V, this Hapsburg royal also assumes the inheritance of his grandmother Mary of Burgundy: the Netherlands and Franche-Comté.

The age of Ferdinand and Isabella has at last come to a close. Within a year, the monk Martin Luther will post his 95 Theses detailing his list of complaints against the Catholic Church. The forces set forth by this simple act will soon sweep across Europe.



NOTABLE BATTLES

This section provides an overview of the key battles and sieges that took place during this period, showcasing the various conflicts between the different powers. The events are organized by turn and listed in chronological order based on the year within each turn. For a deeper understanding of the period, cross reference these battles with the section entitled The Game as History.

Turn 1

Battle of Viladamat (1467): Aragonese troops fight against the Catalans who were commanded by the French leader John of Anjou, resulting in a victory for the Principality of Catalonia.

Battle of Santa Coloma de Gramanet (1471): Aragonese troops battle against the Catalans, with the King of Aragon emerging victorious and Barcelona becoming encircled.

Seizure of Asilah and Tangier (1471): Portugal captures these two locations from the Muslims.

Capitulation of Gerona (1471): John II of Aragon retakes the city after a siege.

The Burgundy War begins (1472): The Valois dynasty begins its conflicts with Burgundy.

Fall of Vic and Siege of Barcelona (1473): Aragon captures Vic and besieges Barcelona, which eventually surrenders.

Incursions on Roussillon (1473): France launches strikes through the eastern Pyrenees and takes Perpignan, which was under Aragonese control.

Incursions by Afonso V in Castile (1475): Portugal takes several Castilian towns near Salamanca, Arevalo, and Palencia.

Turn 2

Siege of Fuenterrabía (1476): French troops besiege Fuenterrabía but fail to capture it, preventing the connection between French and Portuguese troops. However, a French fleet commanded by Casenove manages to pick up Afonso V and take him to France.

Battle of Toro and Surrender of Burgos (1476): Burgos surrenders to Isabella and the Isabelline troops defeat the Portuguese and Castilian troops who support Joanna at the Battle of Toro. However, the Portuguese troops under the command of Prince Joao II of Portugal hold their own and even defeat the Isabelline troops

in their battle wing. The battle does not have a decisive outcome, but subsequent propaganda by Isabella's supporters and Afonso V's decision to retreat to towns closer to the border give the impression that the troops of the Catholic Monarchs are victorious.

Siege and Assault on Ceuta (1476): A North African religious leader commands the siege and assault on the city of Ceuta, enters the stronghold, but then is repulsed by the Portuguese defenders.

The Occupation of Beltraneja Towns (1477): Toledo, Jerez, and Villena are occupied by the Catholic monarchs. A Castilian fleet sacks southern Portugal and defeats a combined Franco-Portuguese fleet off Tavira.

Campaign in the Canary Islands (1478): Castilian forces sent by the Catholic Monarchs land in the Canary Islands and establish El Real de las Palmas. The Guanches attack the Castilians, but a Portuguese expedition that arrives to support the Guanches is annihilated by the Castilians (while disembarking) causing many Guanches to surrender.

Battle of Albuera in Badajoz (1479): The Castilian troops under the command of the Master of the Order of Santiago defeat the Portuguese troops again. As a result, the Peace of Alcaçovas is signed at the end of the year.

Taking of Otranto (1480): The Ottomans land in southern Italy with a fleet and take the city of Otranto, intimidating the populace of the city.

Muley Hacén Seizes Zahara (1481): The Catholic monarchs begin the War of Granada, which will last 10 years, after the capture of Zahara by Boabdil's father, Muley Hacén.

Capture of Alhama (1482): The Andalusian commander Ponce de León, with an army of nobles, enters the Nasrid Kingdom and assaults the town of Alhama on his own initiative. The Catholic Monarchs order it to be maintained and reinforced throughout the war to destabilize the Nasrids' rear-guard.

1st Battle of Loja (1482): The Spanish troops are defeated by the Nasrids under the command of Boabdil's father-in-law.

Turn 3

1st Battle for Malaga (1483): The Catholic Monarchs send a large army, commanded by Ponce de León, to capture Malaga. However, the army is defeated by the Nasrids under the command of Boabdil's uncle, who earns the nickname of *Az-Zaghal* ("The Brave") and is thereafter known as El Zagal by the Christians.

Battle of Lucena (1483): Boabdil's troops are defeated and he is captured by the Catholic Monarchs. In exchange for swearing loyalty, he is released and tasked with fighting against his father and taking control of Granada.

Beltranejos Resistance (1483): There is a rebellion in support of Joanna la Beltraneja in Galicia, with some towns and villages declaring themselves in rebellion.

Rebellion on La Gomera (1484): After the pacification of the Canary Islands, a major revolt takes place on the island of La Gomera, where the natives massacre the Castilian settlers.

2nd Battle of Loja (1485): The Castilians are once again repulsed in Loja by El Zagal. The Sultan of Fez proposes an alliance with Castile, wherein Castile will not support or allow the Portuguese

to sail in the Alboran Sea, and in exchange, Fez will not support the Nasrids.

Remences Revolts (1485): In Catalonia, the remences start various revolts under the command of Joan Pere Sola, which will be severely suppressed.

1st Brittany War (1485): A war begins between Brittany and the French monarchy, which seeks to subdue these lands.

3rd Battle of Loja (1486): The Nasrids are defeated, opening the way to Granada.

2nd Battle for Malaga (1487): After several failed attempts to capture the city of Malaga, the Catholic Monarchs make a concerted effort. They send an army of over 50,000 infantry and over 10,000 knights to lay siege to the city and warn its inhabitants to surrender or face the consequences. Despite attempts by the Nasrid forces to break the siege, the city eventually falls after months of siege. Many of the city's inhabitants are put to the sword, but a significant number are rescued by Kemal Reis and taken to North Africa.

Fall of Safi (1488): Portugal takes control of the African coastal town of Safi.

2nd Brittany War (1488): In this second conflict, the French put an end to Breton resistance despite support from Castile.

Surrender of El Zagal (1489): After several defeats, El Zagal surrenders and moves to North Africa. In doing so, he hands over the important cities of Baza, Guadix, and Almeria along with other smaller towns, giving the Catholic Monarchs control of Eastern Andalusia.

Turn 4

Bombardment of Kemal Reis (1490): Kemal Reis and his fleet carry out a bombardment of Denia, Malaga, and Almeria among other places. They also transport the Muslim and Jewish populations to North Africa for the next two years.

Siege of Granada (1491): Ferdinand leads a siege of Granada with over 40,000 soldiers, which lasts until the city surrenders at the beginning of 1492.

Invasion of La Palma (1491): The Castilian forces begin their invasion of the island of Benahoare (La Palma).

Surrender of Granada (1492): Boabdil hands over the city of Granada to the Catholic Monarchs at the beginning of the year.

Invasion of Tenerife (1492): The Castilians attempt to invade Tenerife but are repelled by the indigenous Guanches.

Moorish Rebellion in the Alpujarras (1493): The Moors rebel due to the failure of the Catholic Monarchs to respect the agreements made during the surrender of Granada.

Conquest of La Palma (1493): The Castilians eventually conquer Benahoare (La Palma) after multiple attempts.

Battle of Barranco de Acentejo (1494): The Castilians launch a second invasion of Tenerife, but the Spanish troops are ambushed and defeated by a Guanche leader named Bencomo.

1st Italian War (1494): Charles VIII invades Italy with the aim of claiming the throne of Naples and breaking the Treaty of Barcelona, signed in 1493.

1st Battle of Seminara (1495): The French army, with the aid of heavy cavalry, defeats the Spanish forces. This leads the Great Captain to implement reforms in combat tactics, which will later give rise to the development of the *Tercios*.

Battle of Fornovo (1495): France faces a coalition of troops from Milan and Venice and suffers a defeat, albeit not decisive.

Conquest of Tenerife (1496): Bencomo and his brother are killed at the Battle of La Laguna, leading to the final conquest of Tenerife by the Castilians.

Turn 5

Conquest of Melilla (1497): The Castilians successfully capture Melilla from the Sultan of Fez along the North African coast.

Agadir (1499): The Castilians try to establish a settlement south of Agadir from the Canary Islands, but face resistance from the natives and Portuguese.

Battle of Cerignola (1503): Spanish forces led by the Great Captain engage in a battle with French forces over control of the Kingdom of Naples. The Spanish emerge victorious and establish their dominance in battlefields for the next 150 years.

Battle of Garigliano (1503): The Great Captain successfully defeats the French army in a surprise night attack across the river Garigliano, surrounding the enemy and forcing them to surrender and retreat back to France.

Turn 6

Surrender of Naples (1505): France surrenders Naples to the Spanish under the command of the Great Captain.

Battle of Mers-el-Kébir (1507): Abu Abdallah V orders the capture of the Mers-el-Kébir enclave, which was in Spanish hands since 1505 and served as a center from which the Spanish plundered all the surrounding towns and lands. The Spanish army of 3,000 is defeated by the forces of Tlemcen.

Battle of Diu (1509): This battle is fought between the Portuguese and Muslim fleets for control of the routes to India and results in a Portuguese victory.

Battle of Agnadello (1509): In this battle, the French defeat the Venetians in northern Italy.

Conquest of Oran (1509): Castile takes control of Oran on the orders of Cardinal Cisneros.

Turn 7

Battle of Ravenna (1512): France defeats an alliance of Spanish, Papal, and Venetian forces.

Conquest of Navarre (1512): The Duke of Alva leads a swift raid to take control of Navarre.

Battle of Azamor (1513): Portuguese forces face off against the Sultanate of Fez, with the Duke of Braganza leading the Portuguese to victory.

Battle of Marignano (1515): French and Venetian forces successfully capture Milan.

CHARACTERS IN TANTO MONTA

This section offers a short biography of the main characters that appear in the game. The rulers and military leaders are presented first (by major power in Impulse Order) with the characters not associated with a major power listed at the end.

NORTH AFRICAN

Ibn Yahya (?-1504)



Abu Abdallah al-Sheikh Muhammad Ibn Yahya was the first Wattasid sultan of Morocco. The influential Wattasid family had been viziers to the Marinid dynasty of Fez for decades, and the sultan Abd al-Haqq considered their power a threat to his regime. In 1459, al-Haqq launched a massacre of nearly the entire Wattasid family; Ibn Yahya was one of the only members of his household to survive. In 1465, al-Haqq himself was murdered by sharifs, and Ibn Yahya ultimately emerged as the new Sultan of Fez in 1472. During this time, Portuguese crusaders under King Afonso V had seized Asilah and Tangier.

The new sultan was uneasy on his newly-won throne and responded to multiple external threats with diplomacy. He chose to make treaties with the kingdoms of Castile and Aragon, effectively isolating the Muslim kingdom of Granada during the crisis of the *Reconquista*. Meanwhile, the Portuguese continued to expand their military power on the North African coast. During this period, Ibn Yahya welcomed Jewish deportees into his kingdom as they fled Iberia after the Alhambra Decree of 1492. Likewise, he welcomed Andalusian refugees after the fall of Granada, including their exiled emir Boabdil. However, he struggled to coordinate a united defense against the Portuguese along the Atlantic coast, leaving a troubled kingdom to his son.

Al-Burtuqali (1464-1526)



Muhammad al-Burtuqali was the son of Ibn Yahya and reigned as Sultan of Fez from 1504 until 1526. As a youth, he spent seven years in Portuguese captivity, learning to speak the language of his captors and earning him the epithet *al-Burtuqali* (“The Portuguese”) among Muslims upon his return.

When al-Burtuqali’s father died in 1505, he inherited a kingdom under siege. Portuguese invasions along the Atlantic coast were as much of a threat as were the emergence of zealous religious brotherhoods among the Muslim tribesmen within his nominal domain. The sultan’s direct sway was effectively limited to the regions around Fez and Salé. The Portuguese invaders took advantage of the new sultan’s lack of authority to build *presidios* (“garrison forts”) around Agadir and Tangier. Al-Burtuqali concentrated his military efforts on opposing these invasions from the north. Between 1508 and 1515, he led attacks against the Portuguese-held fortresses of Asilah and Tangier, but was unable to maintain control of these cities. His lack of success prompted a call to holy war among the Sufi brotherhoods and Saadian leaders of Morocco, threatening al-Burtuqali’s power from within and compelling him to fight the Saadian sharifs around Marrakech.

During al-Burtuqali’s conflicted reign, he sent the Andalusian explorer-diplomat al-Hasan ibn Muhammad al-Wazzan on a dip-

omatic mission to the Songhai Empire in Gao south of the Sahara Desert. Al-Wazzan's book *The Geography of Africa* went on to become highly regarded for his firsthand narrative of the interior of Africa and the Maghreb, earning him the Latin epithet *Leo Africanus* among Christian scholars. Upon returning to Fez from another embassy to Istanbul, al-Wazzan was captured by Spanish corsairs and presented to Pope Leo X as a consultant on Turkish affairs. Al-Wazzan converted to Christianity and traveled throughout Italy, publishing his work in Italian in 1526.

Al-Burtuqali spent his later years on military campaigns against the Saadian rebellion in the south. Upon his death in 1526, his power passed first to his son Abu Hasan Ali, and then directly to his brother Ahmad al-Wattasi. The Wattasid dynasty would last until the Saadian sharifs came to power as rulers of Morocco in 1548.

Kemal Reis (1451-1511)



Kemal Reis rose from humble origins in Anatolia to become an admiral of the Ottoman navy. He was recognized as an enterprising commander by Sultan Bayezid II who dispatched him in 1487 with an Ottoman fleet in response to Granada's appeals for assistance against Castile. Kemal Reis plundered the coast of Valencia and the Balearic Isles, marking the first Ottoman venture into the Western Mediterranean. Although he could not prevent the fall of Granada, he continually attacked Spanish ports, including Malaga and Almeria, making off with Christian slaves and transporting Muslims and Jews away from Iberia to relative safety under Ottoman rule.

After the fall of Granada, Kemal Reis returned to the Adriatic Sea to support the Turkish war against Venice. He decisively defeated the Venetian fleet at the battle of Zonchio in 1499, and forced the Venetians to surrender their fortresses at Coron and Modon on the Greek mainland. By 1501, Kemal Reis returned to the Tyrrhenian Sea where he launched raids against Sardinia and Majorca. His expedition against the Christians led him through the Straits of Gibraltar as far as the Canary Islands. His far-ranging exploits may have inspired his nephew Piri Reis while he composed his collection of maps and charts known as *Kitab-ı Bahriye* ('Book of Seafaring'), which was remarkable for its accurate depictions of the Mediterranean and Atlantic coasts, some extending as far as the New World.

By 1507, Sultan Bayezid recalled Kemal Reis to organize the offensive in the Aegean against the piratical Knights of St. John, based on the island fortress of Rhodes. He also coordinated efforts with Egyptian sultans to oppose the growing Portuguese presence in the Red Sea. Kemal Reis perished at sea during a storm off the island of Naxos.

Abu Abdallah V (?-1517)



A Berber sultan of the kingdom of Tlemcen, Abu Abdallah V belonged to the Zayyanid dynasty. His unstable kingdom was intermittently a vassal state to the rulers of Fez, Spain, and the Ottomans. Abu Abdallah attempted to fill his coffers by encouraging corsairs on the North African coast, a stratagem which drew ire from Muslim and Christian rulers alike. Upon the command of Cardinal Cisneros, Spanish forces invaded North Africa in 1505 and seized the port of Mers-el-Kebir near Oran to hinder these corsairs. In 1507, Abu Abdallah

ambushed and overwhelmed the Spanish leader Pedro Navarro at Mers-el-Kebir. However, the sultan's victory against the Christians was short-lived, and the Spanish reorganized to capture the port of Oran itself in 1509. By 1512, the sultan had lost most of his authority and decreed Tlemcen to be a vassal state of Spain. Meanwhile, the Barbarossa brothers were making Algiers into a haven for Barbary corsairs, and Aruj Barbarossa briefly captured the city upon the sultan's death in 1517. The Spanish counterattack would lead to Aruj's own death in the following year.

Aruj Barbarossa (1474- 1518)



The eldest of four brothers from Albania, Aruj was nicknamed 'Barbarossa' for the color of his beard. His military and political influence laid the foundation for coordination between the sultans of Istanbul and Algiers. Working hand in hand with the Ottomans for men and supplies, he led a ruthless band of corsairs along the Barbary Coast, gaining wealth and notoriety for being as courageous as he was cruel. During the bombardment of Bejaia in 1512, Aruj lost his left arm to Christian cannonfire. He viciously sacked Algiers in 1516, seized control of the city and declared himself sultan. In the summer of 1517, Aruj ambitiously led a force of Ottoman Janissaries to victory over the Sultan of Tlemcen and seized the port of Tenes. With his younger brother Kheir ed-Din, Aruj terrorized the North African coast and imposed heavy tribute upon the local Berber governors. This action drove exiled leaders from Tlemcen to form a temporary alliance with Spain, and Aruj sensed the tide turning against him. He was captured near Chabat al Laham while attempting to return to his center of power in Algiers, and Spanish soldiers executed him and displayed his head in Oran. His brother Kheir ed-Din (*Hayreddin*, "Best of the Faith") would go on to become the infamous Barbarossa of *Here I Stand*, dyeing his beard red with henna in his brother's memory.

NASRID

Muley Hacén (1436-1485)



Muhammad X was known among Granadans as Abu'l-Hasan Ali, and to the Castilians as Muley Hacén ('Muley' is derived from Arabic for 'My Lord'). His reign began in bloodshed against his own father, who had ordered the execution of all the family members of the noble house of the Banu Serraj, also known as the *Abencerrajes*. Muley Hacén deposed his father in 1465, while the surviving members of the Abencerrajes took refuge with the Castilian border lords. As emir of Granada, he was consistently belligerent towards the Catholic Monarchs, and famously refused to offer them tribute. By 1481, the emir launched a daring attack on the Castilian-held fortress of Zahara, slaughtering the defenders and leading the Christian inhabitants into captivity. This hostile act provided the *casus belli* that Ferdinand sought in order to launch the *Reconquista*.

Muley Hacén was equally notorious for his dissolute lifestyle, which caused strife within his own household. His wife Aixa, a powerful Nasrid princess in her own right and Boabdil's mother, quarreled with Muley Hacén's Christian concubine, Zoraya. The emir's new favorite was reputedly the source of jealousy and bitterness for Aixa, as well as fear for the legitimacy of her children. When her husband departed Granada to quell the sudden assault on Alhama, Aixa seized her opportunity. In 1482, Aixa fled Granada

to Gaudix and there proclaimed her son Boabdil as Muhammad XI, with his vizier Aben Comixa and the support of the Abencerrajes. Compromised by the fighting on the frontier, Muley Hacén could not respond effectively to the coup.

In the closing years of his contested rule, Muley Hacén declined in health and power. He managed to maintain his authority with support from his brother El Zagal in Malaga, then he took control of Granada in 1483 while Boabdil was held captive after his defeat at the Battle of Lucena. Boabdil was released afterwards, a move which set him against his own father. For the next two years, the Nasrid kingdom was under divided rulership driven by partisan dissent. Before his death, Muley Hacén fell blind in a fit of epilepsy and ceded his authority to El Zagal. Deposed and disgraced, legend says that he was buried on a mountain peak overlooking his former kingdom, now known as the Mulhacén in his memory.

El Zagal (1445-1500)



El Zagal ('The Brave') is the epithet for Abu Abdallah Muhammad, the brother of Muley Hacén. He was celebrated as a fierce warrior and was named governor of Malaga by his brother in 1470. When Muley Hacén was ousted in 1482, El Zagal remained loyal and offered his brother shelter and military support. During the period that Boabdil was held captive by the Catholic Monarchs, El Zagal helped restore Muley Hacén to the throne in Granada. The veteran soldier became popular with the residents of Granada who distrusted Boabdil's loyalty and saw his uncle as the best leader to defend them from the Christian invasion.

After Muley Hacén's health deteriorated, El Zagal proclaimed himself the new emir of Granada and took the title Muhammad XII. He faced a war on two fronts: his nephew Boabdil was fighting fiercely with his partisans in Granada itself, while the Christian armies remorselessly tightened their control over the Andalusian countryside. Unable to concentrate his forces and still retain control of the kingdom, El Zagal struggled against fearsome odds to keep the Castilians at bay. By 1489, he was persuaded by the governor of Baza to capitulate and become a vassal of Spain. He was permitted to depart in safety for North Africa, where sources claim that he was apprehended by the Sultan of Fez and cruelly blinded. His last years were spent in exile, and his tomb is believed to be in Tlemcen.

Boabdil (1459-1533)



Few leaders of Islamic Spain are as controversial as Boabdil. This Castilian epithet is an adaptation of his Muslim name, Abu Abdallah Muhammad. Boabdil came to power when the Nasrid dynasty was struggling with internal feuds as well as facing a growing threat from Castile on their borders. The marriage of Ferdinand and Isabella united most of Catholic Spain, while Boabdil's father Muley Hacén seized power on the back of a political coup against the Abencerrajes. These disputes continued within Muley Hacén's own harem, and Boabdil's forceful mother Aixa (also known as Fatima) brought Boabdil to adulthood in an atmosphere of suspicion and treachery within the Alhambra.

Boabdil's mother was increasingly fearful of her husband's beautiful concubine, Zoraya. Originally a Christian slave named Isabel de Solis, Zoraya gave birth to two sons to Muley Hacén, posing

a direct threat to the legitimacy of Aixa's own children. On the same day that Muley Hacén defeated Castilian forces at Loja in 1482, Boabdil was taken from Granada to the neighboring town of Gaudix and there acclaimed as emir Muhammad XI. At this time, he was popular as a charismatic and cultured young man, and he had wide support against his own father, who was considered harsh and allegedly controlled by his concubine.

Boabdil immediately mustered a significant Muslim force, which he led across the Castilian border to attack Lucena in 1483. Unfortunately for the new emir, he was captured during the battle and held hostage by King Ferdinand, permitting Muley Hacén to return to the Alhambra and briefly reassert his authority with the support of his brother El Zagal. Ferdinand offered to release Boabdil with promises to support his claim if he agreed to act as a vassal to the Catholic Monarchs. These compromises sowed the seeds of further discord between father and son. After Muley Hacén died in 1485, the Nasrid kingdom was divided between Boabdil's followers and those of his uncle, El Zagal.

Over the following years, Boabdil struggled to oppose his uncle for power, as well as negotiate terms for the continued existence of his kingdom. He called a truce with El Zagal and sought outside assistance from other Muslim states. None answered the call directly, although the Ottoman Sultan Bayezid II eventually authorized Kemal Reis to lead a Turkish fleet westward. This naval support came too late, for the Catholic army had captured the ports of Malaga in 1487 and Almeria in 1489, cutting off Granada from any hope of supplies or military assistance.

By 1490, Granada stood alone as the final bastion of Muslim rule in Iberia. Although Boabdil had recovered his authority in the Alhambra after his uncle's surrender in Almeria, he was caught between his assurances to the Catholic Monarchs and his duty as a Muslim sovereign. As the siege of Boabdil's city grew increasingly harsh in 1491, Granadan leaders called upon Boabdil to seek terms of surrender with the Catholics. On January 2, 1492, Boabdil handed over the keys of the Alhambra to Ferdinand and Isabella, thus ending over 700 years of Muslim independence in southern Spain. He was granted safe departure from his former kingdom with his family and possessions. According to popular legend, on his final departure from Granada he turned to look back upon his city with a sigh, while his stern mother Aixa bid him, "Weep like a woman for the kingdom you could not defend as a man." Boabdil spent his final years as a guest of the Sultan of Fez until his death in 1533.

PORTUGAL

Afonso V (1432-1481)



Born in Sintra near Lisbon, Afonso V was the son of King Duarte of Portugal and Eleanor of Aragon. Afonso became king when he was six years old, beginning a reign that would last for 43 years. In spite of his obsession with medieval pomp and extravagance, his efforts at home and abroad shaped much of Portugal's growth as an international and maritime power.

Afonso's military adventures in North Africa earned him the nickname *O Africano* ("The African"). Pope Nicolas V granted him authority over all Christian conquests along the coast of Africa and exempted him from a ban on slavery over "Saracens, pagans, and other non-believers". When Pope Calixtus III called

for a crusade against the rising tide of the Ottoman Turks, Afonso mustered a squadron of 220 vessels to fight against the Moors. With Ceuta already under Portuguese control, Afonso's first expedition against Morocco in 1458 captured Alcácer Quibir and attempted to secure Tangier. Over the following decade, Portuguese crusaders struggled to capture and retain Tangier while expanding influence on the Atlantic coast. Eventually, in 1471, Portuguese forces successfully assaulted Asilah, causing the Muslim garrison of Tangier to panic and flee. Afonso's forces occupied Tangier unopposed, and Afonso commissioned the Pastrana Tapestries to celebrate his African exploits. Afonso now claimed governance over Portugal and its African possessions, henceforth known as the 'Kingdom of the Algarves.'

Afonso's military ambitions were at the expense of Portuguese explorations farther afield. As king, he was a liberal patron of the arts and founded the first royal library in his palace in Lisbon. He also transferred lands, offices, and privileges to the Portuguese elite, in particular to the Duke of Braganza. This dissolution of the royal estate led his son and successor João II to complain later that he had been left with only the king's highways.

While Portugal was expanding its control in Africa, Afonso became involved in dynastic entanglements with Castile. Afonso's sister had married Henry IV of Castile in 1455, and their daughter Joanna became Henry's heir when he died in 1474. Although the parentage of the Infanta Joanna was suspected to belong to Beltrán de la Cueva, Afonso intervened to defend her claim to the crown of Castile and betrothed himself to his niece. After a papal dispensation approved this marriage, Afonso made an alliance with France to support his claim against Henry's sister, Isabella. However, most of the populace of Castile believed that Joanna was illegitimate and that Isabella was the rightful heir. In 1476, Afonso's army marched across the Douro River and clashed with Isabella and her supporters at the Battle of Toro. Although the result of the battle was in doubt, King Afonso fled the battlefield. This outcome confirmed popular support for the legitimacy of Isabella and new husband, Ferdinand. Afonso journeyed to France in hopes of gaining assistance from King Louis XI, but in vain. By 1479, Afonso accepted the terms of the Treaty of Alcaçovas and conceded his claim in Castile to the Catholic Monarchs. Princess Joanna was sent to a convent in Portugal.

During his father's year abroad in France, Prince João declared himself regent. Afonso's return to Portugal empty-handed led him to abdicate in favor of João and retire to a monastery in Sintra where he had been born. He died in melancholy a few years later, and João II succeeded to the Crown of Portugal and the Kingdom of the Algarves.

João II (1455-1495)



King João II was a harsh but competent ruler. He governed as regent of Portugal during his father's reign, but unlike King Afonso, he preferred to concentrate power in his royal person, as well as encouraging overseas expansion. His ruthless nature posthumously earned him the sobriquet of "The Perfect Prince" as an example of Machiavelli's ideal ruler. To the Catholic Monarchs, he was referred to merely as *El Hombre* ('The Man').

Before his ascension, Prince João accompanied King Afonso to Africa, taking part in the siege of Asilah and the capture of Tangier in 1471. When Afonso had become embroiled in matters of Castil-

ian succession, João helped finance his father's campaign as well as joining the fight on the Spanish borders. Once becoming king in 1481, João turned away from Afonso's indulgent policies toward the elite and took steps to centralize royal authority, leading to a conspiracy of nobles led by the Duke of Braganza. João apprehended the Duke in 1483 and had him beheaded for treason in Évora. Later that year, João stabbed and killed his own cousin Diogo, the Duke of Viseu, under suspicion of another conspiracy. His behavior was marked across Europe as brutal but effective.

João inherited a kingdom bankrupted by his father's military ambition and royal largesse. To fill his coffers, he increased royal sponsorship toward Atlantic exploration. Funded by African gold from mines along the Guinea Coast, João's reforms made Portuguese coinage the soundest currency in Europe, and each year saw greater returns on his maritime investments. João missed one opportunity by declining to finance the westward exploration of Christopher Columbus. When Bartolomeu Dias made the passage around the Cape of Good Hope in 1488, it inaugurated a race to the Indian Ocean that changed the trade of eastern spices in Europe, previously monopolized by Venice. In turn, the Portuguese navy became one of the most technologically advanced nautical forces afloat to defend these valuable trade routes.

João was competitive with the Catholic Monarchs for power and wealth, but these kingdoms made an attempt to reconcile after the disastrous War of Castilian Succession by betrothing the heirs of both kingdoms; João's son Prince Afonso was betrothed to Isabella's eldest daughter. Their long-awaited wedding was celebrated by both kingdoms in 1490, but their marriage was brief. In the following year, the Portuguese prince fell from his horse and died soon afterwards. Both kingdoms mourned, not only for Prince Afonso's untimely death, but for young Isabella, now a young widow.

After his son's death, King João wrestled with the problem of succession. His cousin Manuel, son of the murdered Duke of Viseu, was next in line to inherit the crown, but João distrusted Manuel's faction and attempted to elevate his illegitimate son Jorge instead. He was obstructed in this effort by the Spanish pope, Alexander VI. In 1494, King João negotiated the Treaty of Tordesillas with Spain, paving the way for the division of Spanish and Portuguese colonization in the New World.

After the Alhambra Decree expelled the Jews from Spain in 1492, King João temporarily welcomed Jewish exiles into Portugal for a steep entrance tax. Failure to pay new taxes became a pretext for the seizure of Jewish children, some of whom were sent to their deaths overseas in Sao Tomé. Many Jewish parents were forced to convert to Christianity to keep their families intact. João II died in Alvor at the age of 40, a somewhat sad and lonesome figure. His wife Eleanor of Viseu welcomed her brother Manuel I to the throne of Portugal.

Jaime I of Braganza (1479-1532)



As 4th Duke of Braganza, Jaime I belonged to the wealthiest noble house in Portugal and had nearly equal wealth and stature to the king himself. Under King João II, the noble house had fled to Castile in 1483 after a failed conspiracy to place the Duke of Viseu on the throne. As son of the Duke of Viseu, King Manuel I was more favorable toward the Braganzas and allowed them to return from exile in 1498, restoring their lands and honors. At the time, Jaime was a young aristocrat of nineteen.

Jaime had been a child of four when his father Duke Fernando II was executed for treason in Évora. Having grown up in Castile, he was welcomed home by the king and, as a royal nephew, briefly became Manuel's heir. Later, Jaime married Leonor Perez de Guzmán, daughter of the Duke of Medina-Sidonia, however their marriage was only one of convenience. When the alliance ceased to benefit him, Jaime arranged to have Duchess Leonor discovered in an adulterous affair and had the lovers murdered in revenge. To atone for this crime and avoid imprisonment, King Manuel demanded that Duke Jaime finance and command a fleet to conquer the Moroccan stronghold of Azamor on the Atlantic Coast. With a force comprising 25,000 knights and 400 ships, Jaime completed this conquest in 1513 and returned heroically to Portugal. He remarried Joanna de Mendoza and sired eight children with her before his death in 1532. His descendants became leading members in overseas trade as well as the clergy.

Manuel I (1469-1521)



Manuel's ascension to the throne was an unlikely one. He outlived four older brothers, as well as bypassing João's natural son Jorge, to be named as the king's successor in his will and acclaimed King of Portugal in 1495. He married the eldest daughter of Queen Isabella, the widow of his cousin Afonso, and reopened the potential for a united Iberian kingdom. Manuel also inherited the beneficial policies of exploration set in motion by his predecessor, catapulting Portugal onto the international stage as a premiere maritime and mercantile nation. All of these strokes of fortune endowed Manuel with the nickname *O Venturoso* ("The Fortunate"), although his commercial success earned him the contempt of other European nations and prompted King Francis I of France to dub Manuel *Le Roi Epicier* ("The Grocer King").

Portuguese colonies in Africa, including the lucrative gold mines along the Guinea Coast, had already delivered major financial gains, but it was the spice trade in nutmeg, pepper, cloves, and cinnamon that forged Manuel's overseas empire. The successful return voyage of Vasco da Gama in 1499 sent shock waves through the Muslim-dominated trade routes of Asia. Meanwhile, Pedro Alvarez Cabral had led Portuguese explorers in establishing settlements in South America. At home, Manuel extended a generous pardon to the Braganza family, which had opposed the anti-seigneurial policies of João II. Manuel's first queen, the less fortunate Isabella, died in childbirth, and their only child, Miguel de la Paz, died in infancy. Manuel remarried Isabella's sister Maria of Castile, and their son João III would eventually succeed to the Portuguese crown. In all affairs, Manuel demonstrated his Christian piety by investing his nation's new wealth in delivering Portuguese missionaries around the globe. Meanwhile, he expelled or forcibly converted Jews and Muslims within his country.

Manuel continued his cousin João's policy of centralized government, and the royal court became increasingly lavish and elaborate. The wealth brought from overseas could be distributed in the form of honors among the nobility, and the king rarely convened the Portuguese *Cortes* (assembly of nobles). Furthermore, the allure of gaining wealth and station lured many adventurous *fidalgos* (noblemen) to the court in search of royal patronage, including the ambitious Afonso de Albuquerque. Restless nobles and courageous courtiers could seek fame and fortune abroad while remaining useful to the crown. For his own part, King Manuel remained aloof

from diplomatic entanglements and practiced a cautious neutrality with Spain, France, England, and the Papacy. For all these reasons, Manuel's reign was considered Portugal's golden age, a period shaped by growing colonial wealth as well as a renaissance in architecture, literature, and naval technology. His death at the age of 52 was brought on by the onset of the black plague. His son João III would continue to expand the overseas empire that Manuel had cultivated.

Afonso de Albuquerque, Lion of the Seas (1453-1515)



Afonso de Albuquerque started his impressive career as an ambitious *fidalgo* to the Portuguese crown. His early services to the Portuguese monarchs led him on military expeditions to North Africa in 1471, Castile in 1475, and southern Italy in 1481. After the ascension of Manuel I, Afonso followed the nautical advances of previous Portuguese explorers such as Vasco da Gama to lead an expedition around the Cape of Good Hope into the Indian Ocean. His first voyage returned to Lisbon in 1504. Encouraged by Afonso's success, Manuel empowered him to return to India as viceroy, establishing Portuguese fortresses at key naval passages at Mozambique and Hormuz. By 1509, Afonso had taken up administration in Goa and dominated trade routes there, earning the epithets "Caesar of the East," "the Portuguese Mars," and "Lion of the Seas." He was the first European to establish a settlement in Asia since Alexander the Great.

Afonso's aggressive tactics expanded Portuguese control in the east and earned him as many allies as enemies. He was famous for his ferocity in battle and cunning in diplomacy. Under his governorship, Afonso subdued Goa, conquered Malacca in Malaysia, and transformed the Indian Ocean into a Portuguese *mare clausum*. He went on to establish diplomatic contacts with numerous kingdoms in India, Ethiopia, Thailand, and China. All of these efforts wrested the wealth of the spice trade from Muslim and Venetian merchants and altered the flow of resources throughout Europe and Asia. Afonso fell short of capturing the Turkish stronghold at Aden, but he led the first European fleet through the Bab el-Mandeb strait, threatening Suez and alarming the Muslim world. Afonso's successes abroad earned him the envy and enmity of Portuguese nobles at home, and Manuel soon became wary of his *fidalgo's* growing power. In 1514, the king sent orders that Afonso be replaced as viceroy by his political opponent, Lopo Soares de Albergaria. In 1515, Afonso died in Goa before his replacement could arrive, but his campaigns earned him international repute and established Portugal as the world's first global empire.

BELTRANEJOS

Archbishop Carrillo (1410-1482)



Alfonso Carrillo de Acuña was the forceful archbishop of Toledo and played an influential role in the lives of the rulers of Castile. During the reign of King Henry IV, Carrillo's proud and ambitious personality grew in power and influence. He was a supporter of the Castilian nobleman Juan Pacheco, 1st Marquis of Villena, who had become the king's closest confidant. When Juan was replaced as Henry's favorite by Beltrán de la Cueva, the archbishop sharply criticized the king. Carrillo grew to support Isabella, the king's half-sister, and advocated for her marriage to Prince Ferdinand of Aragon in spite of Ferdinand's dislike of the prelate.

Their marriage ceremony in Valladolid in 1469 was arranged by Carrillo and conducted under his auspices, although King Henry opposed and resented the pact.

Although Carrillo had proven his loyalty to Isabella, she made a deal with Rodrigo Borgia (later Pope Alexander VI) to name Carrillo's rival, Pedro González de Mendoza, as a Spanish cardinal and the archbishop of Seville. After having spent his personal energy and substantial costs to empower the royal heirs, Carrillo was deeply offended and humiliated not to receive this ecclesiastical honor. He left Isabella's side and restored his loyalty to King Henry, who died soon afterward. The archbishop became a staunch supporter of the Infanta Joanna as Henry's choice of heir. He fought with the Portuguese forces at the Battle of Toro to support her claim to the crown. Defeated and disgraced by the war's end, Carrillo was compelled to accept royal garrisons in the Castilian fortresses under his control. He died in 1482 under semi-imprisonment in the archiepiscopal palace in Alcalá de Henares, and his rival Cardinal Mendoza inherited the archbishopric of Toledo.

Diego Pacheco (1447-1529)



Diego López de Pacheco was a powerful Castilian nobleman and fervent supporter of Joanna la Beltraneja in the War of Castilian Succession. His father Juan was a confidant of King Henry IV, who created Juan the 1st Duke of Escalona and Marquis of Villena; Diego inherited these patrimonies when Juan died in 1474. He was present at the death of King Henry a few months later. At that time, Diego became the personal protector of the Infanta Joanna, who at the age of thirteen claimed to be the rightful queen. Pacheco led this faction of Castilian nobles, allied closely with Archbishop Carrillo who had surprisingly abandoned Isabella's side, and coordinated plans for aid from King Afonso V of Portugal. After the Castilian victory at the Battle of Toro, Pacheco sought a royal pardon from Isabella in exchange for his fealty. He was permitted to retain the title of marquis, but his lands became property of the Crown. He was also denied the title of Grand Master of the Order of Santiago which his father had held before him.

After the war, Pacheco served the Catholic Monarchs during the Reconquista, where he was named Captain General of the Frontier and fought during the siege of Granada in 1490. He also became a patron of the arts and an admirer of the writings of Desiderius Erasmus. In 1519, Emperor Charles I of Spain (later Emperor Charles V) awarded him a knighthood in the Order of the Golden Fleece.

CASTILE

Isabella (1451-1504)



Isabella I of Castile was Queen of Castile and León (1474-1504) and of the Crown of Aragon (1479-1504). Also known as Isabella the Catholic, she was only three years old when her brother Henry IV took the Castilian crown (1454).

In 1468 Henry IV, in the pact of the Toros de Guisando, recognized Princess Isabella as heir to the throne thereby depriving his own daughter, Princess Joanna, of her inheritance rights. Isabella's advisors agreed to her marriage to Prince Ferdinand of Aragon, the first-born son of John II of Aragon. Their marriage was celebrated in secret on 19 October 1469 in Valladolid. Upset by this unap-

proved marriage, Henry IV of Castile decided to disinherit Isabella and reinstate Joanna la Beltraneja, who was married to Afonso V of Portugal, as his heir.

As a result, on the death of King Henry IV (1474), one faction of the nobility proclaimed Isabella sovereign of Castile, while another recognized Joanna la Beltraneja (1475). This led to the start of a bloody civil war. Despite the Portuguese monarch's support for the Beltraneja, the conflict of succession was decided in favor of Isabella.

On the economic front, Isabella restored the public finances by instituting a strict tax system and encouraging the farming of sheep and the wool trade. She also capitalized on Castile's military and expansionist tradition with the conquest of the Nasrid kingdom of Granada, the last Islamic stronghold on the Peninsula (1492), and the war against the North African Muslims, from whom she seized Melilla (1497). However, the greatest achievement of Isabella's foreign policy was undoubtedly her support for the expedition that would culminate in the exploration of America by Christopher Columbus (1492).

In religious matters Isabella carried out profound ecclesiastical reform with the help of Cardinal Cisneros, created the tribunal of the Inquisition to watch over Catholic orthodoxy (1478), and completed the process of religious unification with the expulsion of the Jews (1492) and the Mudejars, Muslims who remained in Iberia after the *Reconquista* (1502).

Isabella died in 1504 at age 53, her health having been in decline after the deaths of her mother in 1496, her son John of Asturias soon after his marriage in 1497, and her daughter Isabella in 1498.

Mendoza (1417-1479) (1438-1500)



This leader counter represents the powerful Mendoza family, in particular Diego and his son Íñigo.

Diego Mendoza remained loyal to Henry IV. When Diego died in 1479, his son Íñigo succeeded him in his titles and remained loyal to the crown. He took part in the war of Granada and was particularly active in the campaign of 1486, participating in the conquest of Loja, Álora, and Moclín.

Great Captain (1453-1515)



Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba was a Castilian military leader born in the castle of Montilla, then belonging to the Lord of Aguilar, who was in the service of the Catholic Monarchs.

Loyal to Isabella's cause, he began his military career in the War of the Castilian Succession. In the battle of Albuera against the Portuguese (1479), he received commendation as one of the most notable warriors in the ranks of the Order of Santiago.

It was during the ten-year Conquest of Granada where Gonzalo demonstrated his excellence as a soldier. In the siege of Tájara, he showed practical ingenuity in devising a siege machine made from the doors of the houses that protected the advance of the troops. His reputation became greater after the captures of the towns of Íllora and Montefrío; in each he commanded the assault corps and was the first to climb the wall in sight of the enemy. A spy and negotiator, he took charge of the final negotiations with the Nasrid monarch Boabdil for the surrender of Granada at the beginning of 1492.

In 1495, 6000 infantry and 700 cavalymen embarked with Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba to challenge Charles VIII's French conquests

in southern Italy. The expedition landed at Messina and joined Ferdinand II, the newly-crowned King of Naples in Calabria. This allied army suffered defeat at the hands of the French at the Battle of Seminara. Gonzalo was able to lead the Spanish cavalry in a successful delaying action that allowed the allied army to regroup at Messina. The lessons learned in fighting the French heavy cavalry and Swiss pikemen at Seminara, Gonzalo's one losing battle, encouraged him to reform the Spanish military and develop new fighting formations that were the precursors of the dreaded Spanish *Tercios*.

Charles VIII then moved north (away from Naples) with much of his army to protect his supply lines. In response, the Spanish sailed to Naples to set up a siege. Montpensier, Charles VIII's lieutenant in Naples, decided to leave the city walls to prevent the landing. The people of Naples, seeing the French troops leaving, revolted against the French. The few remaining Frenchmen had to take refuge in Castel Nuovo and Castel dell'Ovo. A French fleet appeared with 2000 reinforcements, but decided not to engage the Spanish fleet and instead landed its men at Livorno. Montpensier was forced to retreat to Salerno, and Naples fell to the Spanish. After a three-year campaign, the Spanish troops returned to Spain in 1498, leaving the Kingdom of Naples in the hands of their allies. In this campaign Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba had earned his nickname of *El Gran Capitan* ("The Great Captain") and the title of Duke of Santángelo.

In 1500, Ferdinand II of Aragon and Louis XII of France signed a secret treaty (the Treaty of Chambord-Granada) dividing up the Kingdom of Naples. The King of Spain ordered the Great Captain to occupy the region given to Spain, although he had to fight to subdue Taranto, which did not surrender until 1502.

By the summer of 1502 this partition of Naples began to fall apart over the disposition of three provinces that had not been clearly delineated in the treaty. When reinforcements arrived, the Great Captain went on the offensive, winning the battle of Ceriñola and demonstrating the potential of his new formations that merged pikemen, arquebusiers, and swordsmen.

Louis XII reinforced his army with another large army under the command of Marshal Louis II de la Trémoille (30,000 troops, including 10,000 horsemen and numerous artillery). On the night of 27 December 1503, the Spanish army crossed the Garigliano on a bridge of boats and surprised the unprepared French army in the morning. The next day the Great Captain was ready to assault the heights of Monte Orlando, which overlooked the square of Gaeta, but before the artillery could fire, a messenger from the Marquis of Saluzzo presented himself proposing capitulation. After the battle of Garellano and the capture of Gaeta, the French abandoned Naples. Fernández de Córdoba ruled as viceroy in Naples for the next four years.

On the death of Isabella I of Castile, King Ferdinand echoed rumors accusing Fernandez de Cordoba of appropriating war funds during the Italian conflict. Fearing Gonzalo's rise in power due to the great fame and notoriety he had acquired, Ferdinand removed him from command. Attempting to clear his name, Gonzalo documented his innocence in such detail that to this day in Spain you are presenting "the accounts of the Great Captain" when you go overboard itemizing something. After the death of Queen Isabella and due to his enmity with King Ferdinand II, Gonzalo retired to

Loja. He returned to Granada in early August 1515, where he died on 2 December at age 62.

Duke of Alva (1424-1488) (1460-1531)



This leader counter represents the powerful family of the Dukes of Alva.

García Álvarez de Toledo was one of the Catholic Monarchs' main allies in the War of the Castilian Succession and at the Battle of Toro in 1476. This victory over the Beltranejos enabled the Catholic Monarchs to definitively secure the throne of Castile and the union with Aragon.

Fadrique Alvarez de Toledo, second Duke of Alva, also supported the Catholic Monarchs and was one of the closest friends of Ferdinand II of Aragon. The Castilian nobleman took part in the siege of Granada and in 1514 he conquered Navarre in the name of King Ferdinand.

With the arrival of the Hapsburg Charles V in Spain, Fadrique offered the support of his family, helping to suppress the Revolt of the Comuneros. Following the death of his son, he passed the title to his grandson, the Grand Duke of Alva Fernando Álvarez de Toledo, whose name was a tribute to Ferdinand II of Aragon and who would become the Iron Duke featured in *Here I Stand* and *Virgin Queen*.

Cardinal Cisneros (1436-1517)



Francisco Jiménez de Cisneros studied theology in Alcalá, Salamanca, and Rome. In 1492 Isabella I of Castile chose him as her confessor.

In 1499, following royal orders, he traveled to Granada to personally direct the project of converting the Andalusian Mudejars. These forced conversions had little success, as the Mudejars soon turned against him and waged a guerrilla war in the Alpujarras that did not end until 1502.

After Isabella's death in 1504, Cisneros became involved in mediating disputes between the potential rulers of Castile: Isabella's daughter Joanna of Castile, her husband Philip the Handsome, and Ferdinand II of Aragon. Although initially Philip ruled Castile, his death in 1506 while Ferdinand was in Naples left Cisneros in charge of Spain until Ferdinand's return. In recognition of this work as regent, Ferdinand promoted Cisneros to Grand Inquisitor and made sure he was recognized as a Cardinal by Pope Julius II.

Cisneros' next project was a crusade against the Muslim ports of the North African coast. Using funds from the church, he financed the attacks there that led to the conquest of Oran by 1509. He encouraged Ferdinand to continue those campaigns, but Ferdinand was more interested in further expansion in Italy. In 1516, after Ferdinand's death, Cisneros served once again as regent, ruling Spain for 20 months until the Hapsburg Charles V arrived and became Charles I of Spain.

CROWN OF ARAGON

John II of Aragón (1398-1479)



John of Trastámara ruled Aragon as John II from 1458 until 1479. In 1420 he married Blanche of Navarre, daughter and heiress of Charles III the Noble, and from this union were born Charles, Prince of Viana (1421), Blanche (1424), and Eleanor (1426). Having been widowed in 1441, John took a new wife, the young Jeanne Enriquez. The children of this second marriage were Ferdinand (“The Catholic”), the Infantas Eleanor and Maria (who died early), and Joan of Aragon, who married Ferrante I of Sicily in 1476.

John II collaborated with his brother Alfonso V (then King of Aragon and his predecessor on that throne) in the conquest of Naples, embarking with him for Italy in 1432. With the prolonged absence of Alfonso V, who chose to rule from Naples, John continued to convene the *Cortes* and act as the local ruler of Aragon over the next 15 years.

When Queen Blanche died in 1441, the problem of the Navarrese succession arose, which led to civil war in Navarre. Blanche’s first-born son Charles, Prince of Viana, had been recognized as heir by the Cortes. The kingdom split into two camps: those who supported John and those who supported Charles. These divisions would remain a problem for John for the next 30 years.

In 1458 Alfonso V died, meaning John could rule not only over Navarre but also Aragon, Sicily, and Sardinia. When he assumed the Aragonese throne, John II had just turned sixty-one and was almost blind. The Catalan revolt of 1462-1472 forced him to rally the Aragonese again. The cause of the Catalan uprising was John’s refusal to release Charles, the Prince of Viana, whom he had held prisoner for two months. Released due to the political pressure on John, Charles went to Barcelona where he was enthusiastically received. This first phase of this budding civil war ended with the concord of Villafranca del Panadés, a triumph for the Catalans. Three months later Charles died, perhaps due to foul play (Jeanne Enriquez, John’s new wife, being a primary suspect).

But the concord was only a truce. Charles’ faction received support when the peasants of the remences raised the flag of rebellion to demand abolition of their serfdom. It was not until ten years later in 1472 that the Catalan Uprising would at last be over following the Capitulation of Barcelona. Aragon was victorious but the expenses of this conflict had left the kingdom impoverished.

John II died at the age of eighty and was succeeded in Aragon by his son Ferdinand and in Navarre by his daughter Eleanor, Countess of Foix.

Ferdinand (1452-1516)



Ferdinand II of Aragon (and V of Castile) was born in 1452, the son of John II of Aragon and his second wife, Jeanne Enriquez. This birth came during troubled times, for John II’s rule in Navarre was being challenged by his eldest son from his first marriage, Charles, Prince of Viana. Ferdinand’s father and mother both worked to diminish Charles’ role. When Charles suddenly died under suspicious circumstances in 1461, the Catalan *Generalitat* suspected treachery and rose up against John. These open hostilities developed into the Catalan Uprising against the power of the monarchy, a conflict that

lasted from 1462 to 1472. To help extricate themselves from the difficulties facing the Aragonese royal family, Ferdinand and his father decided that it was in their best interests to arrange a marriage between the young Aragonese prince and the Infanta Isabella of Castile, who were married in 1469.

Although the situation in Aragon eased with the end of the Catalan Uprising, the situation in Castile worsened following the death of Henry IV in 1474. The War of Castilian Succession pitted Joanna la Beltraneja, daughter of Henry IV, against Ferdinand’s new wife Isabella, who was the sister of the late king. This civil war was a fight to determine whether the Iberian Peninsula was to align into a Portuguese-Castilian or a Castilian-Aragonese bloc. The conflict concluded with a complete victory by Ferdinand and Isabella in 1479. In that same year Ferdinand was proclaimed king of the territories of the Crown of Aragon following the death of his elderly father John II.

During their reign, Ferdinand and Isabella successfully concluded the *Reconquista* of Granada between 1482 and 1492. For Christendom this success helped soften the blow of the loss of Constantinople to the Turks in 1453. The sponsorship of the voyages to America by Christopher Columbus starting in 1492 can also be attributed to their reign.

Finally, the Catholic Monarchs developed a foreign policy that directly confronted France, in part by arranging diplomatic marriages of their children to members of dynasties from Portugal, England, and the Germanic Empire. These unions through marriage would have lasting consequences: confrontations between the Hapsburg/Spanish empire with France would be constant over the next two centuries. The return of the counties of Roussillon and Cerdanya, the incorporation of the kingdom of Naples, and the annexation of Navarre were additional achievements that can be credited to Ferdinand and Isabella during their reign.

The death of Queen Isabella in 1504 led to the regency of Ferdinand II in Castile until 1506; this leadership was opposed by Philip I of Castile (also known as Philip the Handsome), who was supported by the Castilian nobility. In 1516 Ferdinand II died in Madrigalejo, naming his grandson Charles (the future Hapsburg Charles V) as his successor, with Cardinal Cisneros as regent in Castile until his arrival.

Bernat (1471-1512)



Bernat II of Vilamari was the son of the Admiral of the Crown of Aragon. After the death of his father in 1463, Bernat led the Aragonese navies over a forty-year career. In 1471 he commanded the squadron that blockaded the port of Barcelona, forcing the port’s capitulation and leading to the end of the Catalan uprising. In 1481 he served as captain general of the galleys in the coalition force that reconquered Otranto from the Ottomans, and he also led several galleys from Naples in the campaign against Granada. Between 1494 and 1495 he led naval forces near Naples in the campaigns against Charles VIII of France.

KINGDOM OF FRANCE

Louis XI (1423-1483)



Louis XI, son of Charles VII and Marie of Anjou, was born on 3 July 1423 in Bourges. He was nicknamed “The Cunning” and “The Spider” for his political maneuvers at court to consolidate the power of the crown. Charles’ daughter Mary married Maximilian I of Habsburg, the emperor’s son. With his empire right on their eastern border, Maximilian fiercely defended his Burgundian holdings and became a foreign policy adversary for France.

Finally, in 1482, an agreement was reached (Treaty of Arras). The King of France retained the Duchy of Burgundy, while Flanders and the Low Countries were left to Maximilian I. This treaty greatly diminished the power of Burgundy and was a victory for France, for France regained Anjou on the death of René of Anjou and then Provence in 1481.

For most of his reign, Louis consolidated the power of the Crown, using bribery, diplomacy, intrigue, treachery, and sometimes war. By consolidating his authority, he laid the foundations for absolute monarchy in France; by encouraging industry and trade, he increased the wealth of the country. Louis XI died at Plessis-les-Tours on 30 August 1483 and was succeeded by his son Charles VIII.

Alain of Albret (1440-1522)



Alain of Albret, known as the Great, was a French nobleman who was a prominent figure on the French political and military scene in the 15th century.

Following the death of his wife, Alain subsequently presented himself as a candidate for the hand of Anne of Brittany, daughter of Francis II, Duke of Brittany. This attempt to seize control in Brittany and free that province from France is the conflict known as the Mad War. His intrigues did not succeed, and Albret was defeated in 1487 without being able to bring reinforcements to the Duke of Brittany.

Alain of Albret died in 1522. His daughter Charlotte of Albret married Cesare Borgia in 1500. His great-granddaughter Jeanne III of Navarre married Anthony of Bourbon. Jeanne was the mother of King Henry IV of France and through that line, Alain of Albret is the ancestor of the current branches of the House of Bourbon.

Louis II de la Tremoille (1460-1525)



Louis II de la Trémoille commanded French troops in the wars against Brittany and Burgundy. He was one of the primary French generals in the conquest of Lombardy for Louis XII. Over the course of his career, he would serve under three French monarchs, ending his service in the armies of Francis I. In 1485 he married Gabrielle de Bourbon, daughter of Louis I, Count of Montpensier, and he would later marry the daughter of Cesare Borgia. He was defeated and wounded fighting against Swiss mercenaries at Novara in 1513 but redeemed his reputation by raising the siege of Marseilles against Charles Bourbon in 1523. He was captured and mortally wounded at the Battle of Pavia in 1524.

Charles VIII (1470-1498)



Louis XI’s son Charles was born on 30 June 1470 at the chateau of Amboise in the Loire Valley. He was the first French leader who would attempt to project French power onto the Italian peninsula.

To free France for such a campaign, Charles first made peace with England in the 3 November 1492 Treaty of Etaples. Then he bargained with Spain and in the 19 January 1493 Treaty of Barcelona, he returned the counties of Roussillon and Cerdagne to Ferdinand the Catholic. Finally, on 23 May of the same year, he concluded the Treaty of Senlis with the Duke of Burgundy (Maximilian I of Austria). Having given up lands to Spain and Burgundy, Charles was now ready for an invasion of Italy, one that served as the start of the Italian Wars that lasted until 1559.

In October 1494, Charles’ French army entered Italy through the Alpine passes, and marched through Florence and Rome, and continued on to Naples (22 February 1495). The speed and strength of the French forced the usually divided Italian states to unite. The League of Venice was formed and included Venice, the Papacy, and Milan. Threatened from the rear, Charles VIII retreated north in haste. He was forced into battle at Fornovo (6 July 1495), a battle which he won.

Back in France, he prepared his revenge. But before he could complete his second venture, he died in Amboise on 8 April 1498, after accidentally bumping his head on a beam in his childhood chateau.

Guillaume de Casenove-Coullon (?-?)



Guillaume de Casenove was a famous Gascon corsair in the service of France. Casenove harassed Spanish and Portuguese shipping along the Atlantic and Cantabrian coasts, as well as naval forces in the English Channel. Until Casenove’s appearance, the French navy had never been considered a feared enemy. His raids reached Cadiz and the Strait of Gibraltar, where the Genoese and Portuguese were his main targets. The King of Portugal, an ally of England and therefore an enemy of France, undertook several unsuccessful ventures to destroy him. Later, after the Portuguese allied with France, Casenove’s objectives changed and the Spanish, especially the Basques, became his main target. He came to the aid of Ceuta, while it was under attack by the Castilians, and commanded the French fleet in the Mediterranean for many years.

Louis XII (1462-1515)



Louis XII was born in Blois on 27 June 1462, as heir to the title of Duke of Orleans. When Charles VIII was proclaimed king in 1483 at the age of only 13 (with his oldest sister Anne de Beaujeu as regent), Louis joined forces with the Duke of Brittany, Maximilian I of Austria, and Richard III of England to attempt to wrest power from the Beaujeus. However, this Mad War in Brittany (1485) ended quickly with Louis’s defeat.

On the death of Charles VIII on 8 April 1498, the Duke of Orleans ascended the throne as Louis XII. He ensured peace within France, reduced taxation, promoted economic development, and by the great Ordinance of 1499 initiated the revision and codification of legal customs.

In his foreign policy, he married the widow of the Duke of Brittany (Anne) to definitively annex Brittany to France. Milan was the initial focus of his efforts in Italy; he hoped to use it as a base to launch a new attack on Naples. He achieved success with the conquest of Milan in 1499 and victory at Novara in 1500. However, his efforts to secure Naples would never reach fruition. The French were defeated and expelled from this kingdom by Gonzalo de Córdoba, the Great Captain, between 1503 and 1504.

Louis went on to rule France until his death in 1514, apparently due to a severe case of gout. Since Salic Law would not allow his daughter Claude to inherit the throne, his son-in-law Francis I then became the next king of France.

PRINCIPALITY OF CATALONIA

John of Anjou (1424-1470)



After the suspicious death of Charles, Prince of Viana, the Catalan revolt against John II of Aragon needed some royal figure to rally around, even if that person were no better than a pretender to the throne. René, Duke of Anjou and Count of Provence, had a remote claim as the grandson of John I of Aragon. So, in 1466, the *Generalitat* of Catalonia offered the crown of Aragon to René. He accepted but being too old for active military campaigning, sent his son John to Catalonia. John of Anjou was quickly named as Prince of Gerona, making him heir to the throne.

The military campaigns that ensued were confused affairs that sawed back and forth from the Pyrenees to Barcelona. An early vanguard of the Angevin army reached Barcelona in early 1467 and was widely acclaimed by the suffering inhabitants of the city. The full Angevin army crossed the Pyrenees a few months later. John of Anjou led them first to siege Gerona, a stronghold supporting John II in northern Catalonia.

That siege was abandoned late in the summer due to the threat of a royalist relief army under the command of the young Prince Ferdinand (age 15). Fearing entrapment, John of Anjou broke camp and on 3 September entered Barcelona. The campaigns continued for three more years until 1470, when John of Anjou died suddenly in Barcelona, perhaps the victim of a poisoning. His death left the army of the Principality of Catalonia without a lieutenant; over the final two years of the civil war Catalonia gradually lost ground to the royalist army, eventually leading to their final surrender at Barcelona.

Hug Roger III of Pallars Sobirà (1430-1508)



The county of Pallars Sobira can be found in the northwest corner of Catalonia, with the Pyrenees running along its northern border (it was the site of a Tour de France stage in 2016). Hug Roger III was the last Count of Pallars Sobira and the choice of the *Generalitat* of Catalonia to lead their military forces in the Catalan Civil War (1462-1472).

In May 1462, Roger and his army left Barcelona for Gerona with the aim of putting an end to the Remences revolt (peasants who were hoping for Aragonese royal support against the Catalonians). They also hoped to seize Queen Juana and Prince Ferdinand, who were both in that city. Gerona welcomed Roger with open arms, forcing Juana and Ferdinand to flee to the citadel, where they were under siege for two months before being rescued by a French army.

In February 1465, the Battle of Calaf took place, a royalist victory. Several rebel captains, including Hugo Roger, were taken prisoner. King John II decided to spare their lives. However, Hug Roger broke his word not to take up arms again after his release. For the rest of his life, he continued to work against the Aragonese monarchy, seeking support from France and even fighting in the French army. Eventually he was captured in Naples by the Great Captain. This time he did not escape: sentenced to life imprisonment in the castle of Xátiva near Valencia, he died there without descendants.

INDEPENDENTS

Maximilian of Austria (1459-1519)



Maximilian I of Habsburg or Austria, was the Archduke of Austria and Emperor of Germany. He succeeded his father, Emperor Frederick III, in 1493.

Maximilian's marriage in 1477 to Mary of Burgundy, heir to Charles the Bold, brought the Netherlands and Franche-Comté under the patrimony of the House of Habsburg. To achieve this, he had to sign the Treaty of Arras with France in 1482, which divided the Burgundian dominions between Austria (Netherlands and Franche-Comté) and France (Picardy and Burgundy) after the death of his wife in the same year. Maximilian was often at odds with France over various border disputes.

Maximilian's marriage policy allowed him to further expand the Habsburg territorial patrimony. He incorporated the kingdoms of Castile and Aragon into the family by arranging for his son, Philip the Handsome, to marry the daughter of the Catholic Monarchs, Joanna the Mad, in 1496. He also secured the inheritance of Hungary and Bohemia by arranging the double marriage of his children Ferdinand and Mary to the children of the King of Hungary through the Treaty of Vienna in 1515.

With his second marriage to Ludovico Sforza's niece, Maximilian acquired rights to the Duchy of Milan. He laid the foundations of Habsburg power in Europe, amassing a colossal inheritance for his grandson, Charles V.

Cesare Borgia (1475-1507)



Cesare Borgia, also known as Duke of Valentinois, was an Italian ecclesiastic and politician, and a prominent member of the house of Borgia, known for his ambition, intelligence, and unscrupulous political tactics. Born in Rome around 1475, Cesare was the son of Rodrigo Borgia (who would later become Pope Alexander VI) and his mistress, Vanozza dei Cattanei.

His education was initially oriented towards a religious career and thanks to the papal bull of 1480, by which his father freed him from the stain of illegitimacy that weighed on him, he was able to accumulate all kinds of ecclesiastical offices and dignities from a very young age. In 1492 he was appointed archbishop of Valencia and a year later attained the rank of cardinal. Although he was born in Italy, where he spent most of his life, both his family and his cultural background had essentially Spanish roots.

Despite his religious background, Borgia renounced his cardinalate in 1498 and turned his attention to directing the political affairs of the papacy. He used all means necessary, including treachery and assassination, to secure the power of the Borgias. In 1498, Borgia

made an alliance with Louis XII of France and married Charlotte of Albrecht, sister of John of Navarre. The following year, he began the conquest of several territories in central Italy.

In 1500, Borgia's reputation for ruthless tactics was cemented by his involvement in the killing of his sister Lucrezia's second husband, Alfonso of Aragon. He also planned to eliminate the Orsini family in 1503, but after the sudden death of Alexander VI, the new pope and Borgia's main enemy, Julius II, forced him to change his plans.

After seizing his possessions in Romagna, Julius II had Borgia imprisoned and sent him to Spain, first to the castle of Chinchilla, near the city of Valencia, and later to Medina del Campo. He escaped in 1506 and entered the service of his brother-in-law, the King of Navarre. Borgia died in 1507, near Viana, as a result of wounds received in a local scuffle with Navarrese rebels.

Despite his infamous reputation, Borgia was respected for his military prowess and ability to make strategic decisions. He had an ambitious and contradictory personality, combining a desire for power with a love of the arts. Machiavelli considered him to be the perfect Renaissance prince due to his qualities, which were essential for success during that period.

Bencomo (1423-1495)



Bencomo, the Guanche leader and king of Taoro, was a key figure in the European conquest of Tenerife in the late 15th century. He was the most powerful *mencey* on the island and played a significant role in directing the resistance of the island's indigenous people against the invading forces led by Alonso Fernández de Lugo.

Bencomo was born to a noble Guanche family and grew up in the Taoro kingdom, where he eventually became king. He was known by the Europeans as the *Gran Rey*, or Great King, and by his own people as *quebehí*, meaning 'highness'. When Lugo and his army arrived on the island in May 1494, Bencomo was prepared to defend his land and people.

A meeting was held between Lugo and Bencomo, during which the conquistador offered friendship, conversion to Christianity, and submission to the Catholic Monarchs. Bencomo accepted the first but was surprised by the second and offended by the third, leading to hostilities between the two sides. Bencomo retreated to his territory, where he enlisted the help of other *menceys* on the island.

Bencomo led the Guanche forces in a number of clashes with the conquistadors, including the *Matanza de Acentejo* at the end of May. In this battle, he planned to encircle the Castilians in the Acentejo ravine, with himself leading the bulk of the Guanche forces that would attack the vanguard, while his brother Tinguaro led a group of three hundred warriors to split the invading army in two. Nearly 2,000 Guanches died in the battle. However they were successful in expelling the Castilians from the island and inflicting equally severe losses on the Castilian forces.

In 1495, the conquistadors returned, and Bencomo once again gathered his forces to face the invasion. The Battle of La Laguna took place on 14 November, during which Bencomo led his troops in three parts. After hours of fighting, the conquistadors emerged victorious, leaving Bencomo dead on the battlefield and his brother badly wounded.

After the Battle of La Laguna, there was a Second Battle of Acentejo where the Guanches were defeated again. The Castilian victory in this Second Battle of Acentejo was an important step in the conquest of the Canary Islands by the Castilians. Tenerife passed into the hands of Castile. Despite his ultimate defeat, Bencomo is remembered as a brave and respected leader who fought to defend his people and their way of life against the invading Europeans.

POPES

Paul II (1417-1471) (Papacy 1464-1471)



Paul II, born Pietro Barbo, was elected as the pontiff at the conclave of 30 August 1464, with a pledge to bring about major reforms in the Holy See, including abolishing nepotism, improving customs, waging war on the Turks, and convening an ecumenical council within three years. However, during his short seven-year pontificate, he failed to fulfil these promises, which led to losing the confidence of the College of Cardinals. Initially, he wanted to be called Formosus II, as he was fond of himself, but the cardinals convinced him to choose another name, Paullus, and to avoid being narcissistic.

Stefano Infessura, the chronicler, portrayed Paul II as a person who opposed the humanists, but who loved splendour and popular entertainments such as the carnival festival. The pontiff ordered all celebrations to be held in Piazza Venezia to highlight the importance of the new palace, which he had commissioned. Despite this, he was known for his sense of fairness. He reformed the municipal administration and fought against bribery within the official Church. During his papacy, he established the celebration of the jubilee every twenty-five years. However, he had a reputation for resolving few of the issues that came before him, as he believed that it was better not to change things, in case they became worse. A lover of luxury and pleasure, he was also a great patron of the arts and aspired to make Rome the most beautiful city in the world.

Paul II tried to organise a crusade against the Turks and even levied a tax on the allied nations, but it failed due to a lack of enthusiasm. Additionally, John II of Aragon requested a papal bull to legitimise the marriage between Ferdinand and Isabella, but the request was denied on the grounds that another had already been granted to Henry IV, authorising Isabella's marriage to Afonso V of Portugal. This decision was partly due to the good relationship between the pope and the French king, Louis XI, who was at odds with the king of Aragon over disputes in the border territories.

Sixtus IV (1414-1484) (Papacy 1471-1484)



Like many popes of his time, Sixtus IV was notorious for engaging in nepotism. He appointed over 25 nephews and relatives to positions of authority and income, including eight cardinals.

He even arranged marriages for some of his nephews, including two to illegitimate princesses of Naples, one to the heiress of the Duchy of Urbino, and another to the Sforzas of Milan. This happened so rapidly and within such a short time that no one was able to keep track of the number of his relatives in positions of power.

After expanding the territory of the Papal States, his nephew Girolamo Riario led an unsuccessful assassination attempt against Lorenzo the Magnificent and his brother, which is known as the Pazzi conspiracy (1478).

Additionally, Sixtus IV convinced Venice to attack Ferrara, as he wanted the latter territory for another of his nephews. The Italian princes, angered by these actions, formed an alliance to pressure him into declaring peace, which greatly annoyed Sixtus IV.

Despite his controversial actions, Sixtus IV played a significant role in the Renaissance by commissioning a team of artists to work on the Sistine Chapel in Rome, which was subsequently named after him.

Innocent VIII (1432-1492) (Papacy 1484-1492)



At the conclave of cardinals on 29 August 1484, Giovanni Cybo was elected as pope. One of his earliest initiatives was to organize a crusade against the Turks, but his appeal to Christian monarchs was fruitless due to their internal conflicts.

He was sympathetic to the Aragonese faction, whose chief representative in the Curia was Cardinal Rodrigo Borgia (the future Pope Alexander VI). Like his predecessor, he continued to support the Inquisition in the kingdoms of Castile and Aragon.

However, there were significant disagreements with the Spanish crown (Castile-Aragon) due to the intrigues caused by two bishops accused of heresy: Juan Arias Dávila, bishop of Segovia, and Pedro Aranda, bishop of Calahorra. In the same year, Innocent granted the Castilian ambassador, Íñigo López de Mendoza y Quiñones, *el Gran Tendilla* (1440-1515), the continuation and extension of the Bull of Crusade as financial assistance in their wars against the Nasrid kingdom of Granada.

Despite his accomplishments, Giovanni Cybo practiced nepotism, even appointing Giovanni de Medici, the brother of his daughter-in-law, as a cardinal at the young age of 13. With his finances always in dire straits, he resorted to the unsavoury practice of creating new positions and selling them to the highest bidder. Due to insufficient punishment for crime, insecurity plagued Rome during his pontificate.

Alexander VI (1431-1503) (Papacy 1492-1503)



Rodrigo de Lançol y Borgia, also known as Rodrigo Borgia, was a member of the Borgia family and served as Pope from 1492 to 1503. Born in Játiva, Valencia, in 1431, he rose quickly through the ranks of the Catholic Church, thanks in part to the patronage of his uncle, Pope Calixtus III (Alfonso Borgia).

After the death of his uncle, Rodrigo Borgia returned to the Iberian Peninsula and held various high-ranking positions, including Bishop of Barcelona and Archbishop of Valencia, before being appointed Pope in 1492. However, his papacy was controversial, due in large part to his licentious and immoral lifestyle. He fathered four children with his best-known mistress, Vanozza Catanei, including Cesare and Lucrezia Borgia.

As Pope, Alexander VI engaged in extreme nepotism, using the resources of the Church to enrich his family and place his eight illegitimate children in positions of authority. While his actions may

seem abominable by today's standards, they were not uncommon at the time.

In his role as ruler of the Papal States, Alexander VI had to defend their independence against the French threat. To accomplish this, he formed the League of Venice in 1495, which brought together the leaders of Milan, Venice, Austria, and Spain in an alliance. In exchange for military support, the Catholic Monarchs of Spain received the *Alexandrian Bulls* from Alexander VI in 1493. These bulls reserved the lands discovered in America for Spain and extended the patronage of the Crown over them, with the Spanish being favoured by the drawing of a demarcation line that ignored the claims of the Portuguese.

Later, the Pope would reverse his alliances, relying on Charles VIII of France to provide Romagna for his son Cesare Borgia and to subdue the Roman aristocracy. This allowed him to maintain the independence of the Papacy from France and Spain, both of which were vying for control of Italy at the time.

Alexander VI can be considered a prototype of the Renaissance prince, combining his luxurious and corrupt lifestyle with the protection of science and the arts and a certain degree of tolerance. For example, he gave refuge to many Jews expelled from Spain and was a patron of Michelangelo, commissioning the famous *Pietà*.

Julius II (1443-1513) (Papacy 1503-1513)



Giuliano della Rovere, the future Pope Julius II, was born in Albisola, Italy, in 1443. He was a Franciscan priest and was made a cardinal when his uncle became Pope Sixtus IV. Before he ascended to the papal throne in 1503, he had fathered three illegitimate daughters and amassed a fortune.

As Pope, he was determined to regain the political independence of the Holy See through active diplomacy, which led him to enter fully into the complex political and military game for control of Italy. After removing Cesare Borgia from power, he joined the League of Cambrai in 1508, which included France, the German Empire, Mantua, Ferrara, and Spain, in an effort to seize the territories of Venice.

The French victory at the Battle of Agnadello made it clear that France had become the strongest power in Italy. To rectify this, Pope Julius II allied with Ferdinand the Catholic, Maximilian of Habsburg, Switzerland, and Venice itself, to attack the French. They defeated the French army at the Battle of Ravenna and expelled them temporarily from Milanese territory.

Like many Renaissance popes, Pope Julius II was a patron of the arts and protected great artists such as Michelangelo (whom he commissioned to fresco the Sistine Chapel), Donato Bramante, and Raphael Sanzio.

Leo X (1475-1521) (Papacy 1513-1521)



Giovanni di Lorenzo de Medici, also known as John de Medici or de Medici, was born in Florence in 1475 and passed away in Rome in 1521. He served as Pope of the Catholic Church from 1513 to 1521. During his papacy, Leo X transformed Rome into a thriving cultural center and strengthened the papacy's influence in Europe. However, he failed to fully

grasp the magnitude of the Lutheran movement, which ultimately led to the further division of Western Christendom.

Leo X was the second son of Lorenzo de Medici the Magnificent, the ruler of Florence. As was customary for his family, he pursued an ecclesiastical career and was appointed as a cardinal in 1492. Upon the death of Pope Julius II in 1513, he was elected as pope, largely due to the desire of the Roman Curia to secure the support of Florence. Leo X appointed members of his family to ecclesiastical positions, thereby consolidating the power of the Medici.

In the field of art, Leo X continued the work of Julius II and attracted prominent artists and intellectuals to Rome. He commissioned the likes of Raphael and Michelangelo to work in the Vatican and Florence, and oversaw the completion of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and the expansion of the Vatican Library. It is worth noting that Pope Leo X had an unusual pet, an elephant named Hanno, which was gifted to him by King Manuel I of Portugal at his coronation.

OTHER CHARACTERS

Prince Afonso (1475-1491)



Afonso, son of João II of Portugal, was the king's only legitimate son with Eleanor of Viséu. Born in Lisbon in 1475, he was groomed as primary heir to the crown of Portugal. The African island of Príncipe ('Isle of the Prince') was named in Afonso's honor. Unfortunately, the prince's promising life was cut tragically short.

After the War of Castilian Succession, King Afonso V reluctantly signed the Peace of Alcaçovas with the Catholic Monarchs. As a part of this diplomatic arrangement, young Afonso was pledged to wed Princess Isabella of Spain upon reaching a suitable age in exchange for an extravagant dowry from Castile. Although the prince was only five and the princess only ten years of age at the time of this arrangement, the hopes of peninsular unity were squarely placed upon the success of this betrothal. Soon afterward, King Afonso took up monastic life, and João II sent his son to come of age in Moura near the Castilian border under the protection of Duchess Beatrice of Viséu, the king's mother-in-law and maternal aunt to Queen Isabella. During this time, the princess Isabella spent three years in Portugal with her young fiancé; in exchange, Beatrice's son Prince Manuel was sent to live in Castile as a royal hostage. During this period, the young heirs became fond of each other, and both kingdoms hoped for a mutually beneficial marriage.

When Prince Afonso had reached the age of fifteen in 1490, the royal marriage took place by proxy in Seville. Following these preliminary celebrations, Spanish and Portuguese grandees escorted the bride from Castile to the Portuguese town of Évora, where lavish wedding festivities had been planned by King João. The young Isabella was greeted en route with great enthusiasm by the people of Portugal, and she showed heartwarming affection for her new husband. It was therefore a shocking disaster when, on a sportive horseback ride on July 12, 1491, Afonso's horse stumbled on the banks of the river Tagus. The prince fell. Queen Eleanor and Princess Isabella raced to the scene but there was nothing to be done. The people of both nations deeply grieved the loss of the prince and heir, but none more than his newly-wedded wife Isabella. Her profound heartbreak caused her to cut off her golden hair and virtually starve herself in private mourning. The expectation of a single Iberian kingdom under Afonso's future reign was brought to a sor-

rowful conclusion, and his body was laid to rest in the monastery of Santa Maria de la Victoria.

Antonio de Nebrija (1444-1522)

The work of Antonio de Nebrija is mentioned on Card #64, EPHEMERIS 1492.

Antonio Martínez de Cala y Jarava was born in Lebrija (Seville). Upon the publication of his first work in 1481 (*Introduction to Latin*), he adopted the name by which he is now known – Antonio de Nebrija (an alternate spelling of his home town).

Nebrija learned basic Latin while still living in his home village. At age 14 he enrolled in the University of Salamanca, studying mathematics, philosophy, law and theology. Five years later he earned a scholarship to study at the Spanish college of San Clemente in Bologna. Returning to Spain, he soon took a role as a lecturer at the University of Salamanca. He gave two lectures a day for five years: one on Eloquence and the other on Poetry. When the chair of Grammar became vacant in 1476, he competed for it and won the competition.

The publication of *Introduction to Latin* attracted the attention of Juan de Zúñiga, who gave Nebrija the necessary financial support to leave the university and pursue his own research. It was a period of feverish activity, during which Nebrija published the *Latin-Spanish Dictionary* (1492), the *Spanish-Latin Vocabulary* (ca. 1495) and the *Grammar of the Castilian Language* (1492). He dedicated this last book to Queen Isabella and extolled the usefulness of this grammar for spreading the Castilian language throughout the new lands of the Empire. Thus, Antonio de Nebrija can be credited as both the most influential humanist in Spain and as the first scholar to produce a modern grammar of a vernacular language.

Arthur of Wales (1486-1502)



Arthur was the eldest son of Tudor king Henry VII of England and his wife Elizabeth of York. The son was named after the King Arthur of British legend and to emphasize the Tudor family's Welsh ties. At the age of 3, Parliament formally named Arthur as the Prince of Wales, heir to the English throne. That same year, he was betrothed in a diplomatic marriage to Catherine of Aragon.

The actual arrival of Catherine in England occurred in 1501, with the wedding occurring on 9 November of that year in St. Paul's Cathedral. Less than five months later, Arthur and Catherine both came down with "a malignant vapor coming from the air." Catherine recovered; Arthur did not, dying at age 15. It would be Arthur's younger brother, Henry, who would instead inherit the throne of England after their father's death.

Bartolomé de las Casas (1484-1566)



Born in Seville, Las Casas was an early Spanish traveler to the Caribbean, arriving in 1502, just ten years after Columbus's first voyage. He served as the chaplain for the expedition that conquered Cuba, witnessing numerous Spanish atrocities against the native Ciboney and Guanahatabey peoples. In response, Bartolomé de Las Casas began a campaign to defend the human rights of the native population. He renounced the lucrative *encomienda* granted to him by the governor of Cuba, calling out this Castilian institution as a form of hidden slavery.

He returned to Spain in 1515 to appeal directly to King Ferdinand to end the abuses. On Christmas Eve, Las Casas met with Ferdinand (who was already ill), and received agreement that they would discuss it further at a later date. That day never came: Ferdinand died less than a month later. Las Casas would go on to advocate on behalf of the indigenous population of the Americas for the next 50 years, documenting his version of the Spanish conquests in extensive writings.

Catherine of Aragon (1485-1536)



The fifth and last daughter of the Catholic Monarchs, Catherine is the most famous of them all and the one who has given rise to the most films and television series. Catherine was betrothed to the oldest son of Henry VII of England, Arthur, at the age of 3. The deal, ratified as the Treaty of Medina del Campo included an enormous dowry of 200,000 crowns. In 1501, at age 15, she sailed for England, never to see her native Spain again. The marriage to Arthur was short-lived however. He died of an infection less than 5 months into the marriage.

Both Ferdinand and Henry VII saw the benefits of maintaining the Spanish-English alliance; soon the new plan was to marry Catherine to the new heir to the throne, Henry. However, he was 5 years younger than she, so the wedding was not scheduled to occur for several years. In addition, marrying your brother's widow was not considered proper practice, so a papal dispensation was obtained to officially remove this "impediment of affinity."

After their marriage in 1509, Catherine was able to bear Henry a son, but the boy died in his second month. By 1516, Catherine, who had been pregnant at least five times previously, finally gave birth to a healthy child, the princess Mary. But no male heir was forthcoming. By 1521, Henry had given up hope that Catherine would be able to produce the male heir that the Tudor dynasty, fresh from the succession crises of the War of the Roses, so desperately needed. He began keeping a series of mistresses and finally, in 1527, he asked Clement VII to annul their marriage. Clement would stall for 6 years without giving a response. Finally Henry had Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, perform the annulment in 1533 so that Henry's secret marriage to Anne Boleyn could be made official. Catherine was removed from court and separated from Mary. To prevent an appeal to Rome, Henry had Parliament pass the Act of Supremacy, which made the King head of the church in England, rather than the Pope. Despite repeated entreaties, Catherine would never acknowledge the annulment, referring to herself as the queen until she died in 1536.

Christopher Columbus (1451-1506)



Columbus's origins are uncertain because his best biographer, his own son, concealed his father's plebeian origins. An experienced Genoese sailor from the age of 14, he arrived in Portugal in 1476, shipwrecked in a Genoese fleet that was attacked and almost destroyed at Cape St Vincent by the French corsair Guillaume de Casenove-Coullon. He settled in Lisbon, where he continued as a commercial agent.

A multitude of theories have been put forward as to how Columbus came up with the idea of travelling west to India. Possible explanations suggest that he may have taken early steps toward it with a voyage to Iceland or that he could have heard much in

Lisbon of Portuguese voyages to Madeira and Cape Verde. One very likely contributing factor were documents in the possession of the Portuguese sea captain Bartolomeu Perestrelo—Columbus' deceased father-in-law. These records of voyages in the service of Prince Henry the Navigator contain reports of flotsam and jetsam washed up on the sea and not from the old world. At an unknown date, Columbus presented his project of a western route to India to the Portuguese King Joao II. Examined by the Board of Mathematicians, his proposal was rejected, probably for two reasons: that nation's concentration of effort on their newly opened African route to the Indian Ocean, and the likely fact that Columbus was miscalculating the distance to Asia.

Outraged by this repulse, Columbus moved to Palos in Andalusia and started to lobby the Catholic Monarchs for support for his enterprise. Finally in 1492, with the conquest of Granada complete, Ferdinand and Isabella signed the Capitulations of Santa Fe, which allowed Columbus to set sail in search of new Atlantic routes. Columbus gained two ships from the shipowners Quintero and Niño, and a third from the cartographer Juan de la Cosa, who renamed his ship as *Santa María* and joined the voyage as master.

The small fleet departed from Palos on 3 August 1492. Columbus sailed first to the Canary Islands, restocking at La Gomera. Sailing west without sighting land for 31 days, the expedition finally spotted immense flocks of birds on October 7. Four days later the lookout on the *Pinta* spotted land: an island in the present-day Bahamas named Guanahani by the native Taino population. The voyage continued, skirting Cuba and finding Hispaniola, where the *Santa María* ran aground and had to be abandoned.

In January, Columbus's two ships sailed for home. Although briefly detained by the Portuguese in both the Azores and at Lisbon, Columbus made it back to Palos on 15 March 1493. The Catholic Monarchs received Columbus in Barcelona with a hero's welcome. Word of his voyage spread rapidly. He would follow this up with three additional voyages, discovering all the Antilles and even the mouth of the Orinoco River in Venezuela. A few days after his fourth voyage, Columbus's patroness—Queen Isabella—died. Columbus would end up fighting the Crown of Castile for his share of the riches of the Americas: lawsuits that continued way beyond his death in 1506.

Ferrante of Naples (1423-1494)



Ferdinand was the only son (illegitimate) of Alfonso I of Naples. Known as Ferrante from a young age, he was appointed as the lieutenant general of the realm at the age of just 15. Thus began Ferrante's career in defense of Naples, a role that would see him fight the Papacy, Venice, France, and the Ottoman Empire.

In 1458 Ferrante succeeded Alfonso as King Ferdinand I of Naples. His rule was threatened by a revolt to place John of Anjou on the throne (1460-1464), an Ottoman invasion (1480), and several wars with and against other Italian city states. A skilled statesman, Ferrante provided stability for Naples during his 35-year reign. Ferdinand I died when he was about to face yet another grave threat: the invasion of Italy and drive toward Naples initiated by Charles VIII of France.

Henry the Navigator (1394-1460)



Born in Porto on 4 March 1394, Henry was the third son of Joao I, the first ruler of the Aviz dynasty on the Portuguese throne. Henry was educated in literature, politics, and war, and became a great promoter of the sciences, especially ocean navigation and astronomy.

In 1415 Joao I launched an expedition to North Africa, specifically targeting the port of Ceuta on the southern side of the strait of Gibraltar. This expedition marked the beginning of the expansion of the Portuguese empire. Joao I placed his 200 ships and nearly 50,000 men at the disposal of his son Henry, who was just 21 years old. A week after the armada arrived, Ceuta was in Portuguese hands, its main gate having fallen to an assault led by Prince Henry.

On his return to Portugal in 1416, Henry began to plan further exploration of the coast of Africa, using funds he controlled from his appointment as Grand Master of the Military Order of Christ. In 1416, with help from his brother the Infante Pedro, Duke of Coimbra, he founded in the Algarve, near Cape Sagres, one of the first astronomical observatories in Europe and the famous Nautical Academy of Cartography and Navigation and Shipbuilding Techniques. This school brought together scholars, cosmographers, and navigators: it was here that the caravel was perfected and the Portuguese expeditions to the West African coast and across the Atlantic were planned. The goal was to find an ocean-going trade route east to secure a trade in the spices of the Orient.

From that time onwards, Henry “the Navigator” took up residence in Sagres, next to the Academy, which he liked to attend to learn about new discoveries and discuss nautical advances with seafarers. Although he died in 1460 (before the start of our game), the impact of the advances from Sagres were felt for decades afterwards.

It is interesting to note that some historians argue that the School of Sagres did not exist as a specific physical place where these lessons and advances in the knowledge of navigation took place. Rather, they argue that it was the overall emphasis on nautical advancement that took place across Portugal that led to that nation’s maritime successes. Either way, it was through the efforts of Prince Henry that Portugal jumped out to the clear, early lead in the Age of Exploration.

Henry VIII (1491-1547)



Henry was the second son of Henry VII of England and just nine years old when his elder brother Arthur married Catherine of Aragon, youngest daughter of the Catholic Monarchs. However, when Arthur died unexpectedly just five months into the marriage, a new plan was needed to preserve the alliance with Spain (and to retain Catherine’s large dowry in the English treasury).

In 1509 Henry VII died, leaving the throne of England to his second son. The new king would need to marry; the solution to all these issues was to declare Catherine’s marriage to Arthur null and void. Within two months Henry VIII married Catherine of Aragon, five years his senior. During their marriage, Catherine gave birth six times, but only a daughter (Mary) survived longer than two months.

Tired of having no male offspring, Henry needed to consider other means for obtaining a male heir to the English throne. Thus begins

the famous story of Henry VIII’s wives, in his eternal search for a healthy male heir to succeed him on the throne, as recounted in the game *Here I Stand*.

Isabella, Princess of Asturias (1470-1498)



Isabella was the eldest child of Ferdinand and Isabella, so the heir to the Castilian throne until her brother John was born. For the first nine years of her life, her family was embroiled in the Castilian Civil War. The Peace of Alcáçovas that ended that conflict included the provision that Isabella would marry Afonso of Portugal, heir to the Portuguese crown and five years younger than Isabella.

Eleven years later, the couple was old enough to marry. They soon fell in love and Isabella, who had spent time in Portugal during her childhood, was a popular figure at court. But this happy time lasted for less than a year. In July 1491, Afonso died in a riding accident. Isabella returned to Castile heartbroken.

Isabella vowed to become a nun, but her parents welcomed the chance for a new diplomatic marriage. In 1496, Isabella agreed to marry Manuel I of Portugal, the new king of that neighboring country. Believing that Portugal’s refusal to expel the Jews had been an evil portent that had doomed her first marriage, Isabella insisted that Manuel take that step during his reign.

On 4 October 1497, her brother John Prince of Asturias, died, making Isabella heir to the throne of Castile once again. Isabella and Manuel returned to Castile to be declared the presumptive heirs of what could become a united Portuguese/Spanish kingdom. Within a year, Isabella gave birth to her only child, a son, Miguel de la Paz. Sadly she did not survive this birth and Miguel died before he reached the age of two. The dream of a united Iberian kingdom perished with the two of them.

Joanna la Beltraneja (1462-1530)



Joanna was a princess of the Castilian court, born while Henry IV of Castile was married to his wife Joan of Portugal. Henry IV was not a popular king, and his opponents accused Joanna of being illegitimate, based on rumors of the king’s impotence. She soon was being referred to by the nickname “la Beltraneja,” implying that Joanna was actually the daughter of the favorite Beltran de la Cueva.

As the only child of Henry IV, Joanna was declared the heir to the Castilian throne. However, if she was illegitimate, then the title of Princess of Asturias should have belonged to Henry’s sister, Isabella. In fact in the Pact of the Toros de Guisando (1486), Henry IV did revise the order of succession to make Isabella his heir. But the mercurial monarch reneged on his promise following Isabella’s marriage to Ferdinand II of Aragon (1469) and, in 1470, once again recognized Joanna as the legitimate heir.

When Henry died four years later, a civil war broke out in Castile between Isabella’s supporters and those of Joanna, the latter supported by the King of Portugal, Afonso V, who married the Beltraneja. After her supporters were defeated, the Peace of Alcáçovas (1479) forced Joanna to go into seclusion in a convent in Coimbra. She left a few years later to settle in Lisbon, where she remained until her death, calling herself Queen of Castile.

Joanna I of Castile (1479-1555)



Joanna was born on 6 November 1479, the third child and second daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella. In 1492, behind France's back, negotiations began between the Catholic Monarchs and Maximilian I for the marriage of the latter's son, Archduke Philip, to a Spanish infanta. In 1495, a double marriage was arranged between Philip and his sister, Margaret, with the Infanta Joanna and Prince John, children of the Catholic Monarchs. Joanna and Philip were married in Flanders the next year. From the time of her marriage forward, Joanna began to develop a reputation for mental health issues, likely exacerbated by her husband's infidelities and her obsessive love for him.

After the deaths of her siblings, Prince John in 1497 and Isabella in 1498, and her son Michael in 1500, Joanna became heiress of Castile and Aragon. To be confirmed by the *Cortes*, she left Brussels for Spain with her husband. They passed through Toulouse, Medina, and Madrid, and entered Toledo on 7 May. On 22 May they were sworn in as princes of Castile and León in the Main Church of Toledo, in the presence of the Catholic Monarchs.

Queen Isabella died on 26 November 1504, bringing into question the Castilian succession. Rule should have fallen to Joanna as the new queen. Philip and Joanna were in fact sworn in as rulers, but Ferdinand II declared that his daughter was not competent to rule based on her mental condition. Ferdinand started to rule as regent. Only after Philip and Joanna appeared with an army in Castile did Ferdinand back down. However, Philip died a few months later, making it easy for Ferdinand and the Castilian nobility to sideline Joanna once again. Ferdinand ruled as regent until his death; Cardinal Cisneros then established a brief regency while Spain awaited the arrival of Joanna's son, the Hapsburg Charles V. Joanna would go on to live to the age of 75 but spent the final four decades of her life confined in the royal palace in Tordesillas.

John, Prince of Asturias (1478-1497)



John was the second child and first son of Ferdinand and Isabella, born in Seville eight years after his older sister Isabella. With the conclusion of the Castilian Civil War a year later, Joanna la Beltraneja was given the choice to either marry John when he came of age or enter a convent. She chose the latter.

John was soon sworn in as heir to the Castilian and Aragonese kingdoms. He witnessed many of the campaigns of the war against Granada and the capture of that city. He was present in Barcelona for the grand reception for Columbus on his return from the Caribbean. In 1495 two marriage deals were arranged with Emperor Maximilian I: John would marry Margaret of Austria, while his younger sister Joanna would marry Maximilian's son Philip. In April 1497 his marriage to Margaret was celebrated in Burgos with sumptuous festivities. The couple soon fell in love; Margaret's fun-loving nature was contagious. Sadly the prince, who was not of a very strong constitution, died later that same year—perhaps of tuberculosis, perhaps of overexertion.

Lorenzo the Magnificent (1449-1492)



Lorenzo di Piero de Medici was born in Florence, a grandson of the famous Cosimo de Medici, and the eldest male child in his family. At the age of twenty, he took charge of the Medici holdings upon the death of his father. He quickly assumed leadership of Florence, arranging convenient marriages, and paying off members of the city council to do his bidding.

Florence's major political adversaries at this time were the Papacy and the Kingdom of Naples. Once he had secured peace with these foes through a personal mission to Naples in 1480, Lorenzo worked to keep the peace in northern Italy and avoid invasion by major powers such as France and the Ottomans.

As a patron of the arts, he supported artists of the stature of Botticelli, da Vinci, and Michelangelo, among others. His descendants from his marriage to Clarice Orsini included the Popes Leo X and Clement VII and the French queen Catherine de Medici.

Margaret of Austria (1480-1530)



Margaret of Austria was born in Brussels, the daughter of Maximilian of Austria (the future Holy Roman Emperor) and Mary of Burgundy. In 1483 she was betrothed to the future Charles VIII of France as part of the Treaty of Arras, but her engagement was broken off eight years later when he took Anne of Brittany as his wife. In 1497 she married John of Asturias, though he died less than a year into their marriage.

In 1507, Maximilian I granted Margaret, now a widow twice over, the regency of the Low Countries during the minority of Charles V. The following year, she took part in the creation of the League of Cambrai, which united Maximilian I, Louis XII of France, Ferdinand the Catholic, and Pope Julius II against Venice. Her politics leaned in favor of England, as she led the Anglophile party in Brussels against France.

In 1515 she retired to Mechelen, but two years later Charles V again entrusted her with the government of the Low Countries. Margaret imposed heavy taxes to support the monarch's policies and saw her dominions extend to the north-east. A skilled negotiator, she intervened in the imperial election in 1519 and acted as the emperor's mediator at the Ladies' Peace of 1529. Margaret of Austria died in Mechelen in the Spanish Netherlands on 1 December 1530, while still governor.

Maria of Aragon (1482-1517)



The fourth daughter of the Catholic Monarchs was Maria of Aragon. She married Manuel I of Portugal after the death of her older sister Isabella, a continuation of Ferdinand and Isabella's plan to unite the Iberian Peninsula. This marriage was a happy one, producing ten children. One of their sons become King Joao III of Portugal who reigned for over 35 years. One of their daughters was Isabella of Portugal, who married the Hapsburg Charles V (thus making Maria the grandmother of Philip II).

The Catholic Monarch's plan to unite the peninsula would not bear fruit until Philip II was on the Spanish throne. In 1580, during a Portuguese succession crisis caused by the death of the young King Sebastian while fighting in Morocco, Philip II asserted his claim to the Portuguese throne as a descendant of Manuel I. The kingdoms would remain united for 60 years.

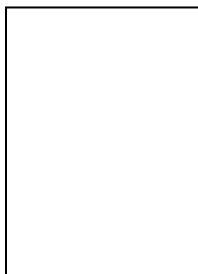
Niccolò Machiavelli (1469-1527)



A Florentine by birth, Machiavelli entered the civil service in the city of his birth at the age of 25 and for eighteen years traveled to the courts of France, various German states, and other Italian city-states on diplomatic missions for the republic of Florence. When the Holy League of Julius II expelled the French from the Italian peninsula in 1512, the Medici family assumed power in Florence. Machiavelli and many other republican officials were arrested or banished. Forced to retire from public life, Machiavelli devoted himself to literature, history, music, poetry, theater and, above all, political philosophy. His most famous work is *The Prince*, a veritable manual on how to become a ruler and how to stay in power. The book's general feeling that "the end justifies the means" has given rise to the adjective "Machiavellian" to describe any ruthless politician.

The Medici rule ended with the Sack of Rome. Machiavelli hoped to return to positions of administration, but died shortly after returning to the city. At the time, *The Prince* was circulating informally, as it would not be published until ten years later.

Pere Joan Sala (?-1485)



Leader of the feudal peasants of Catalonia, the remences. Sala fought on the side of John II during the first uprising of the remences early in the Catalan Civil War. Disappointed that the king had not improved the state of the peasantry despite their support for his cause, he became even more radical in his next uprising.

That new campaign started in 1484 in response to a government campaign to seize property from peasants in arrears. Sala's forces, numbering just a few hundred men, attacked the government forces. Several towns fell to Sala's band, and he was reinforced with new recruits. Finally, after several larger battles against royal armies that numbered over 1000 men, Sala suffered a resounding defeat. He was captured and put to death four days later. For six months he had terrorized Catalonia, but at last his revolt had come to an end.

Philip I (Philip the Handsome) (1478-1506).



Philip was born in Bruges during the reign of his grandfather, Frederick III, Holy Roman Emperor. When Frederick died, the new Emperor Maximilian I (Philip's father) put fifteen-year-old Philip in charge of the Netherlands, while Maximilian ruled the remaining Holy Roman lands. To check the growing power of France (as evidenced by Charles VIII's 1494 invasion of Italy), Maximilian decided to ally with Aragon. Philip would marry Joanna of Castile while his sister Margaret would marry John, Prince of Asturias.

Soon after Philip's marriage in 1496, the inheritance of the throne of Castile was thrown into turmoil. John, Prince of Asturias, died soon after his marriage, and Joanna's elder sister Isabella died in childbirth. Suddenly the Castilian succession fell to the third child Joanna, giving Philip and the Hapsburg family a sudden chance to gain power in Iberia.

Philip's relations with his father-in-law Ferdinand II of Aragon were poor, complicating the transfer of power to Joanna and Philip after Isabella's death in 1504. Although Ferdinand proclaimed those two to be the official rulers of Castile, Ferdinand remained regent while they were still in Flanders. For almost two years a confusing power struggle played out, with Philip and Ferdinand wrestling for power and pushing Joanna to the fringes based on claims that she was mad and incapacitated. Finally, Philip the Handsome arrived in Corunna in 1506 at the head of a German army and rallied the disgruntled Castilian nobles around him; in order to avoid war, Ferdinand withdrew as regent of Castile and retired to Aragon.

Philip the Handsome was now Philip I of Castile by virtue of his marriage to Joanna. But his reign lasted only two months, for he died in September 1506.

His son Charles V would be next up to rule Spain.

Vasco da Gama (1469-1524)



Vasco da Gama was born in Sines, a seaport on the southwestern Portuguese coast. In 1492 he earned the trust of King Joao II by successfully seizing French ships in retaliation for their raiding of Portuguese commerce. This earned him a commission to lead an upcoming expedition across the Indian Ocean.

Da Gama's first expedition, consisting of four ships and 170 men, left Lisbon on 8 July 1497. By November they passed the Cape of Good Hope, which had been discovered in 1488 by another Portuguese navigator, Bartolomeu Dias. The expedition stopped at Malindi, on the east coast of Africa, where Vasco da Gama obtained a guide who allowed him to continue his route east. Around 20 May 1498, they reached the city of Calicut (now Kozhikode), located on the Malabar coast, in south-west India. However, his meager cargo failed to impress the local authorities.

On 18 September 1499 the fleet was back in Lisbon, where Vasco da Gama was feted with praise and honors. His voyage had inaugurated a new route to Asia and the Spice Islands, an alternative to the Silk Road, which since the 2nd century BC had been the primary connection between East Asia and the Mediterranean.

In 1502 da Gama, who had been given the title of admiral of India, was ordered to lead a new armada to India, hopefully one that could finally secure a permanent Portuguese base on the Malabar coast. A successful sea battle at Calicut led to Portuguese dominance over the region. Da Gama then left India and returned to Portugal in 1503 with a large cargo of spices.

It wasn't until 1524—after an interlude of nearly 20 years—that da Gama sailed to India for a final time. Sadly this time he died in Cochin, south of Calicut, within three months of his arrival.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this game to my two children Cristina and Miguel who have not only accompanied me during its development but have also seen the project grow with enthusiasm and encouraged me to choose to publish it with a publishing house. Kisses to both of you, you are the greatest.



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