

THE CATHOLIC MONARCHS

THE CATHOLIC MONARCHS

CASTILE AND ARAGON DURING THE 15TH CENTURY

During the first half of the 15th century, the Iberian Peninsula was divided into five large territories: the Crown of Castile, the Crown of Aragón, the Kingdom of Navarre, the Kingdom of Portugal and the Islamic Kingdom of Granada.

The Crown of Castile was marked by continuous revolts of the nobles in the 15th century. When King Henry IV died in 1474, the Castilians were divided between the supporters of his daughter Juana *La Beltraneja* and the supporters of her sister Isabella. Isabella was finally proclaimed Queen of Castile after five years of civil war.

In 1469, Ferdinand, son of the King of Aragón, married Isabella. Ten years later, in 1479, when Isabella became Queen of Castile and Ferdinand King of Aragón, the two crowns were united. Isabella and Ferdinand, the Catholic Monarchs, governed their territories together, but each kingdom had its own laws and institutions. It was a dynastic union.

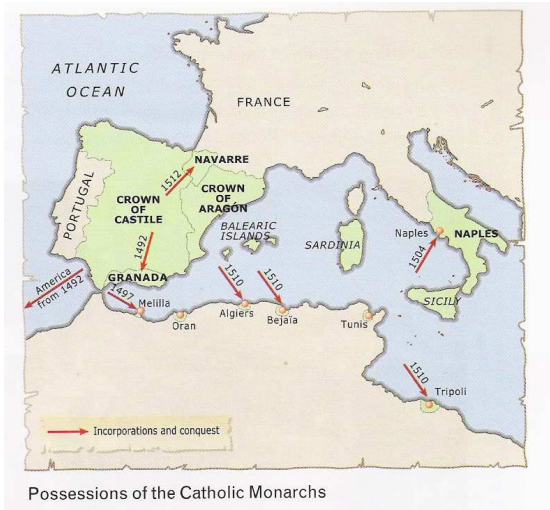
1. Answer these questions:

- a. Which territories was the Iberian Peninsula divided into during the first half of 15th century?
- b. What happened when King Henry IV died in 1474?
- c. What two factions were there in the civil war of Castile?
- d. Who was proclaimed Queen of Castile in 1479?
- e. When did Ferdinand and Isabella get married?
- f. Why was this marriage called a dynastic union?

2. THE DOMESTIC POLICY OF THE CATHOLIC MONARCHS. Match each institution with its translation in Spanish and its function.

Holy Brotherhood	Ejército profesional	They were formed by specialists in laws (jurists)
Councils	Hacienda Real	It controlled the tax collection
Professional army	Santa Hermandad	A big group of soldiers controlled by the monarchs
Corregidores	Consejos	A police force that fought against the bandits.
Royal Treasury	Corregidores	Civil servants who directed town hall meetings.

3. THE TERRITORIAL EXPANSION

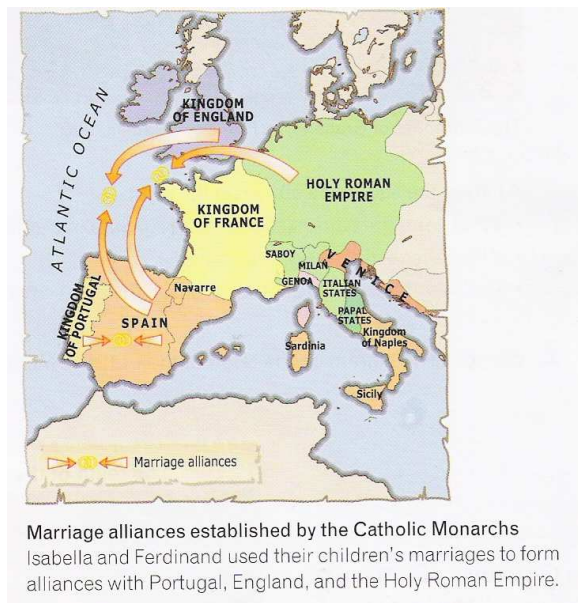


Look at the map and answer the following questions:

- Which kingdoms did the Catholic Monarchs add to their dominions inside the Peninsula?
- What Italian kingdom did they conquer?
- Which places did they occupy in the north of Africa?

4. THE MARRIAGE ALLIANCES

With the information of the map and the text on page 137 of your book, complete these sentences about the marriage alliances made by the Catholic Monarchs:



- To make an alliance with England, the traditional enemy of France, they married their daughter _____ to the King _____.
- They organised the marriage between their older daughter, _____, and the King of Portugal.
- However, the alliance that eventually would be essential for the future of Spain was made with the emperor Maximilian. The Spanish Princess _____ married Prince Philip the Handsome. One of their children, _____, would be the future King of Spain.

5. THE RELIGIOUS UNITY. True or false? Correct the false information:

- The monarchs tolerated Muslims and Jews in their kingdoms and didn't take any measures against them.
- The monarchs established the Tribunal of the Inquisition in Spain to fight against the enemies of the Catholic religion.
- The Jews were expelled from Spain in 1494.
- Muslims who converted to Christianity were called Mudejars.