

# DOCUMENTARY "SPAIN: THE FIRST GLOBALIZATION"

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## Multidisciplinary Teaching Guide for Middle School and High school Students

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Innovation Programs and Teacher  
Training

**Spain: The First Globalization** puts the focus on examining and divulging certain truths about our complex and exciting history. The documentary offers new texts about this period in history that was initiated with the reign of the Catholic Kings. The discovery of America and the subsequent evolution of Spanish history, dismantling the black legend.

Imagen: López Li Films

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## DESCRIPTION

The documentary "Spain, the first globalization" allows us to analyze from a multidisciplinary perspective a period in Spanish history. In order to reach Asia, it was necessary to integrate knowledge from various disciplines. The exchange that it involved permitted access to scientific innovations, new urban, economic and cultural structures that surpassed the limits of what was known in Western Europe. These influences shaped our character and historical evolution.

This guide aims to be a useful material for teachers to analyze and reflect with students on what these three centuries of exchange meant, not only from the point of view of history, but also integrating everything that this expansion of Spain meant on a global level across the sea.

## OBJECTIVES

- Analyze the history of Spain by dismantling the *black legend*.
- Discuss how the discovery of America and trade with the East influenced the configuration of the world today.
- Investigate the scientific advances that were necessary to travel across the sea.
- Reflect on the mutual influences that occurred between the peninsula and the territories discovered by Spain from a global perspective.
- Identify the sociopolitical framework that existed in the fifteenth century and how it evolved in later centuries.

## CONTENTS

- The first harpsichord in China
- The music of *roundtrip songs* (*músicas de ida y vuelta*)
- The forge of an empire
- Letter from Juan de la Cosa
- Scientific advances
- Biodiversity and evolution
- The Gregorian calendar. Scientific method and knowledge transfer

- Globalization and Mixed races
- The Inquisition
- Technological advances

### RELATED SUBJECTS

- Music
- Natural Sciences
- Geography and History
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Religion
- Technology
- Math
- Language

### KEY COMPETENCIES

- CCL linguistic communication
- Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology  
FCTC
- CD Digital Competence
- Learn to learn CPAA
- Social and civic competences CSC
- Sense of initiative and entrepreneurial spirit SIE
- Cultural Expressions and Awareness CEC

## Before Watching...

### Research and reflect...



- What did the **discovery of America** mean, from a historical, economic and cultural point of view?
- What does the **black legend** of the Spanish empire consist of?
- What **knowledge** was needed to accomplish this voyage?
- Expedition of **Magellan and Elcano**. What did it mean for Spain in all aspects?

## THE FILM

Full duration 59´

## AFTER WATCHING

This guide raises topics for reflection with the students, based on the concepts addressed in the documentary.

## MUSIC



### The first harpsichord in China

At the end of the 16th century, an important cultural, scientific and artistic exchange took place between Europe and China. The communication of great importance for all humanity between the Ming Empire and the Habsburg also takes place in the musical field.

A harpsichord is given as a present, along with two clocks, to Emperor Wan Li of the Ming dynasty. Diego de Pantoja will be in charge of teaching how to play the first keyboard instrument in the Chinese court.

It was "(...) a musical instrument with steel strings, which was placed on a table. Its register had forty sounds, with three octaves from low C upwards, plus a fourth degree interval (...). As Emperor Wan Li wanted to know the properties of this musical instrument, he sent four eunuch musicians to learn the technique of its interpretation from the priests (...). "Then Pantoja put his newly acquired skill to use and went daily to the palace to teach. As the result of the apprenticeship was going to determine the future of the four musicians, they showed great respect towards their teacher, so before classes began, the four students insisted on holding a greeting ceremony for the new teacher. In the ceremony they begged Father Pantoja to teach them patiently and not to be annoyed if they learned slowly. Then, they did the same for the harpsichord as if it were a human being. The apprenticeship lasted more than a month." (Zhang, 1997, 41-45).

In this court where the emperor requested that 'Chinese themes with Western instruments' and 'Western themes with Chinese instruments' be played, we have an interesting sample of miscegenation, a sonic encounter between East and West.

## ACTIVITIES

### Reflect on...

Was there a **fusion** between Western and Eastern Music? What did that **miscegenation** consist of?

### Research...

How as it possible to introduce this instrument at that time? What was the reason and who tried it?

What was the music like in Emperor Wan Li's court from 1600 to 1615?



## The *ida y vuelta* music

Called *cantes de ida y vuelta*, a style of flamenco originating from Latin American popular music. Also considered in this group: *the flamenco milonga*, *the vidalita*, *the rumba*, *the Colombian*, *the petenera* and *the guajira*, among others.

Thus, flamenco singing became enriched with elements of folklore from Central and South America, countries with which Andalusia has had close contact since the 16th century are found, through the ports of Cádiz, a suitable and strategic hub for transatlantic maritime trade.

The expression *ida y vuelta* has to do with the ancient belief that these styles had come to America through Spanish emigrants and there they were transformed and with their return and the return to the origins of their descendants, the various styles were formed. The reality: it is about American folkloric airs seasoned with elements of Andalusian folklore brought by the discoverers of South America. The guitar accompanies the *cante de ida y vuelta*, giving it that special and unmistakable air of the cross between popular Spanish and American forms.

The *Havana dance* or *Havana* is also a dance that has a hint of American origin, specifically, Cuban, that arises from the adaptation of black-influenced rhythms to a European dance, the *contradanza*, very popular in dance halls in 16th-century Europe.

Again, another fusion and example of the *ida y vuelta* musical genre that proliferated between Spain and the American colonies at that time. Its distinctive element is the use of the tango or habanera rhythm on the bass, which became a rhythmic cliché.





## ACTIVITIES

**Listen to the la habanera concertante de la zarzuela “La verbena de la Paloma” by Tomás Bretón.**

Appear the expressions: “mantón de manila” y “vestido chiné”.

### Reflect on...

The **relationship** that exists between the previous **expression** with the context described in the documentary.

The reason why the Género Chico became so popular.

### Research...

What other **ida y vuelta** songs exist?

What is the origin of the **guajira**?

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## SOCIAL SCIENCES

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### The forge of an empire

The past cannot be read from the present point of view, but history, as a *magister vitae*, helps to understand and interpret past events.

The 16th and 17th centuries constitute, in the words of the historian Domínguez Ortiz, the forge of the Spanish empire (Domínguez Ortiz, 2007) and this is the backbone of the documentary. The fact that the first world empire that was established had a Spanish stamp caused the great European powers to create a 'black legend' that is perpetuated to this day and that is still being revised in the history of Spain (51'-54'). ).

Isabel de Castilla initiated an expansionist policy that the link with the Habsburgs will reinforce by seeking new channels through Asia and America. The overseas expeditions in search of a more profitable route to the Indies changed the shape of the known continents up to that time. For Castilla, it meant avoiding

Turkish attacks on the spice route by land and confronting Portuguese interests to the west. The expeditions to Colombia were the first of them all. The expeditions that followed and would lead the way for important milestones such as the discovery of the Isthmus of Panama by Nunez de Balboa as well as Magellan and Elcano's circumnavigation .

Commercial relations acquired an exponential increase in geographical and economic terms with the exploitation of American raw materials and the exchange of manufactured products with China. To regulate foreign trade, the Casa de Contratación was created in 1503, which also served to promote maritime expeditions. Felipe II would depend on American silver, coming mainly from Zacatecas and Potosí, the pillar of his foreign policy (Pérez, 1998).

In the artistic and cultural sphere, the 16th century saw the greatest exchange between East and West in Europe thanks to Spanish expansionism. This initial relationship materialized in the foundation, throughout the 16th and 17th centuries, of universities in the main cities of overseas possessions in an attempt to extend higher education (Peset and Hernández Sandoica , 1990).

The economic elites of the Hispanic Monarchy showed an interest in the oriental art of the Ming dynasty. Following the tradition of the Chinese ivory carvings, in the religious sculptures of ivory in the Philippines the oriental manufacture will be guessed. On the other hand, the Castilian Renaissance architecture was transferred to the civil and religious buildings of the overseas possessions in an attempt of urban assimilation; this is how it can be guessed in the orthogonal plot in the new cities founded by Spain.



### Letter from Juan de la Cosa

The fact that in 1500 the map of Juan de la Cosa could already be drawn is a spectacular achievement. " Months after Elcano's return, we already have a map on the table, but the following year, in 1523, Nuño García de Toreno made the first map in which the American continent and the Pacific ocean are already included. Pacific, that is, a map as

*we find it today. The world map that we have today "* (José M. Moreno Martín, 49'46"-50'05").



## ACTIVITIES

### Reflect on...

Who is **Juan de la Cosa**?

What **territories** are represented in this map and why?

**Where** are you on this map now? What characteristics do you see?

What differences are there between these historical concepts: **¿vicerealty, overseas territory y colonialism?**

Has your idea about **expeditions, colonization** and the **Spanish empire** changed at all after watching the documentary?

What characteristics of the **Renaissance** can be seen in the video?

### Research...

What institution was created to regulate **commerce with the Indies?** (16')

What was **Pedro de Medina** contribution to the expeditions in the 16th century?

To what extent did the **conquest of Granada** take part in the first globalization?

What were **Hernán Cortés** achievements and failures? (33'-36')

## NATURAL SCIENCES



### Scientific advances

High-altitude navigation requires the application of scientific knowledge of astronomy and the use of instruments, such as the astrolabe and the compass, in order to define routes based on the position of the stars.

For the training of sailors, books such as *El Arte de Navegar* by Pedro de Medina (Valladolid, 1545), which collect all the available information on cosmology for its application to Nautica, are widely distributed throughout Europe and are translated into other languages. .

At the same time, the difficulties that ships face on their routes and the new knowledge that is being produced at that time, raises new questions and technical challenges that contribute to the scientific revolution.

The search for answers to new questions and needs takes place in institutions such as the University of Salamanca, where great discoveries are made in various areas such as physics and medicine.

### ACTIVITIES

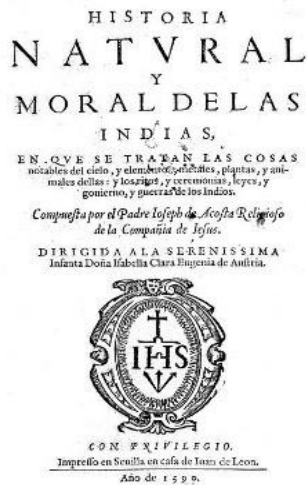
#### Reflect on...

Por qué se considera necesario difundir el **conocimiento científico y técnico**

#### Research...

¿Qué **avances científicos**, mencionados en el documental, se habían producido en España? ¿Cómo se transmitió este conocimiento en América?

A nivel científico, ¿qué **hallazgos atribuidos años y siglos después** ya habían sido descubiertos por científicos de la USAL? (55'50"-57'56")



## Biodiversity and evolution

Each historical period is characterized by some knowledge, beliefs and wisdom that are accepted and define the scientific disciplines.

As a consequence of the knowledge of the biodiversity of the living beings of the American continent, in addition to the modification of eating habits and the increase in the trade of natural products such as spices, during the 16th century there was a great boom in natural history, which initially focuses on the description and collection of specimens in the expeditions to the new continent.

This new knowledge is compiled in numerous treatises and, furthermore, in some of them, such as *the Natural and Moral History of the Indies*, by José de Acosta (1590), explanations for the distribution of species begin to be sought.

He wonders how some animals that are also in Europe have reached America and, on the contrary, there are others that are only in America and, to explain these differences and similarities between the two continents, he introduces evolutionary approaches that are opposed to religious beliefs. of the time.

## ACTIVITIES

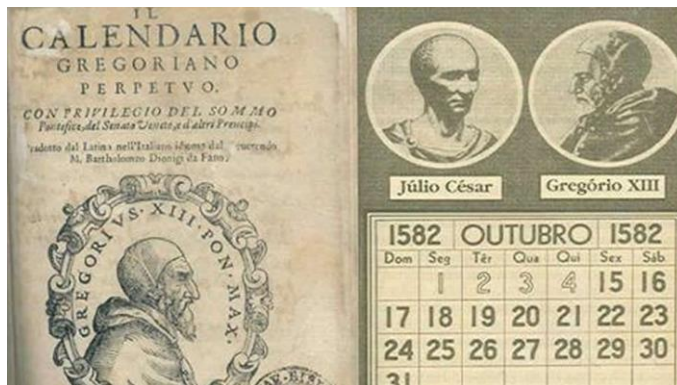
### Reflect on...

The difficulty to explain evolution not knowing **genes** or **mechanisms of inheritance**

### Research...

Why was the discovery of new animal and plant species that were very different to what was in Eurasia so important and put divine creation, the flood and noah's arch in doubt and contributing to the development of evolutionary theories and Darwinism?

## MATHEMATICS AND ECONOMICS



### The Gregorian calendar. Scientific method and knowledge transfer

The Gregorian calendar is considered the basis for the establishment of the civil year throughout the world, including countries with an ecclesiastical or religious year different from the one established in the Gregorian reform of the 16th century with the *Inter Gravissimas bull* at the University of Salamanca in 1582.

It is one of the key elements in the history of Globalization, because it proposes what the Salamanca Academy establishes for the reform of the calendar. The calendar, which until then had served Western humanity, had been the Julian Calendar, established by Julius Caesar, signed by him, and it was from the year 46 BC (Ana María Carabias Torres, 18'00"-18'28"). The reform of the Julian calendar had also begun precisely at the University of Salamanca. There a series of computations are made to fix the chronological gap (Ricardo Andrés Uribe, 18'30"-18'38").

### ACTIVITIES

#### Reflect on...

¿Why did they change the **Julian calendar** to the Gregorian calendar?

¿What is the difference in the **average length** of the Julian year with the Gregorian year?

#### Research...

What **Spanish Mathematician** wrote the **Compendium** that adopted the calendar reform September 14, 1580 to the Julian Thursday October 4. What day followed in Gregorian calendar? How many days disappeared from the calendar?

What role did the **Salamanca Academy** play in the creation of the Gregorian calendar?

## PHILOSOPHY and ETHICS

### Globalization and miscegenation



Pintura de castas s XVIII. Anónimo. Museo de América

The discovery of a New World presented new problems and needs in overseas lands, to which answers were provided through new laws and from institutions such as the University of Salamanca, when it reaches its maximum splendor.

In addition to the training of students who will work at the service of the court, philosophers and theologians delve into the relationship with the indigenous population, evangelization, trade, etc.

Among the latter, Francisco de Vitoria stands out, considering the *Ius gentium* (law of nations) that both Spaniards and indigenous people can avail themselves of the same law, since it considers the person worthy just for the fact of being one.

At the same time, for the government of the new territories, in which cities, universities, missions, etc. are created and developed. new norms are being elaborated that are compiled, revised and promulgated in laws such as those of Burgos (1512), the New Laws (1542) and the Laws of the Indies (1680).

Since 1514, by Royal Decree of Fernando el Católico, marriages between European subjects and subjects from America have been allowed. Spanish and indigenous unions take place and, from the arrival of Spanish women to America, a fusion takes place, not only biological, but cultural.

Meanwhile, in Europe, the power of the empire arouses the concern of other nations, which use, among other weapons, propaganda, disseminating distorted and decontextualized information of historical events, thus generating the *black legend*.



Spanish and mestizo s. XVIII Miguel Cabrera Mexico Museum of America Madrid

## ACTIVITIES

### Reflect on...

The importance of **laws** and **legal framework** in society.

### Research...

In the documentary it mentions in various occasions the word “**mixed race**” in relationships between Spain, China and the Aztecs. What exactly does this concept mean and what specific examples?

What role did **the woman** play in this historical stage? What were the prevailing ethical values of the epoch?

How did they establish propaganda as a political weapon? How was it articulated in this specific time? What **role did Luther play** in that propaganda?

¿How do you interpret the last phrase in the documental “Now more than ever, **the fight for the past is the fight for the future?**”



Engraving from *The History of the New World*, by M. Girolamo Benzoni, 1563.



## RELIGION

The Christian religion was very present in the cultural evolution of the new Hispanic territories in the Americas. In a process of evangelization, the inhabitants of the new possessions were integrated into the Viceroyalties, with the same rights and duties as the rest of the subjects of the Hispanic Monarchy.



### The Inquisition

The Spanish Inquisition or Tribunal of the Holy Office of the Inquisition was an institution created by means of a bull issued by Pope Sixtus IV at the request of the Catholic Monarchs, in the year 1480, in order to combat heresies and preserve the orthodoxy of the Catholic faith in their territories, including overseas.

From the persecution of Jews and Muslims carried out in Spain during the fifteenth century, many members of these communities chose to convert to Christianity to avoid death or exile. In this context, the Spanish Inquisition was established to control that the conversions were real and that the new Christians did not deviate from the dogma. In Protestant countries, where the Inquisition was rejected, religious dissidence ended up being converted and judged as a State crime.

The Protestant Reformation, which used the printing press to spread a new religious current, was used by the German and Dutch princes to channel the path towards independence from the Spanish Empire.

## ACTIVITIES

### Reflect on...

What is your opinion of the ideal **evangelizing without conquering** that is presented in the documentary. Is it possible?

What is the real reason for starting the **Spanish Inquisition**? (21'26"-21'47")

What is the start of **Religious Dissidence crime**? Is it in some way currently in forced?

### Research...

Where was the **Inquisition founded**? ¿Did only the Spanish Inquisition exist?

¿Where does the Philippine tradition **God of Water** come from?

¿Cuál es el inicio del **delito de disidencia religiosa**? ¿Siguen en vigor de algún modo actualmente?

## TECHNOLOGY



### Technological advances

The American silver offered by Spain, used in China and what it meant for relations between East and West as a pattern of exchange, engine of globalization and the beginning of important changes in the world economy, finds its parallel today in the role of technology and of electronics as China's economic currency with the West.

The cartography of the time that was being created at the same time that the conquerors were navigating the coasts and collecting information in the Royal Register, turned Seville into one of the most cosmopolitan cities of the time, where important information was located for explorations in archives such as the Indies and the Casa de Contratación.

The captains who came and went to this city-port had knowledge of cartography and technologies applied to navigation. Starting from the circumnavigation of Magellan and Elcano, the geometric plot of parallels and meridians that will determine the longitude and latitude on the maps is configured.

At the same time, in the shipyards they adapted and designed ships to sail in the vast oceans.

A new *world map* is a consequence of new devices and technological advances in naval architecture and navigation techniques of this period of discoveries; conquest of space and time that opens paths to communication to this day.



Examples of these technological advances are: the caravels, perfected ships to house a greater quantity of merchandise through new ship construction systems that take into account the studies of currents, physical laws, the rhythms of the sun and the moon; the compass; the astrolabe; navigation charts; magnetic declination; the vials; hourglasses...

## ACTIVITIES

### Reflect on...

What was basis of orientation navigation on in the 15th century? How do we actually navigate with GPS?

Compare the relevance of the first circumnavigation of the world with landing on the **moon**.

### Research...

¿How long did it take to reach America and return **sailing** and compare to boats powered by **steam** or a **motor**,

¿What were the technological innovations at the time that made progress in navigation possible?

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## SPANISH LANGUAGE

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PHOTOGRAPH BY MERALD CLARK, STONE INTERCHANGES IN THE BAHAMA ARCHIPELAGO



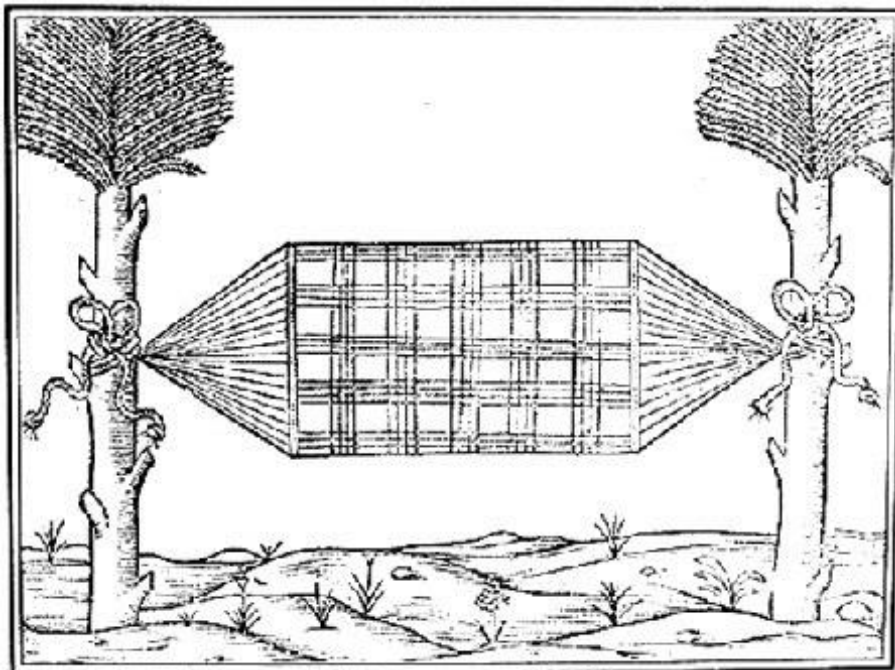
## Worlds, new words

When the conquerors arrive in America, they discover a new continent with new animals, plants, food, people, tools, customs... To designate this new reality, they need new words that they learn from the American indigenous peoples.

Upon their return to Spain, the sailors bring with them products from the New World and, with them, their names. This is how indigenism or Indo-Americanisms entered the Spanish language from numerous native languages (Aimara, Guaraní, Nahuatl, Quechua, Taíno...). This new lexicon is immediately reflected in the literary language, and its use gives prestige. Indigenisms appear in texts by the best writers of the time such as Cervantes, Calderón or Lope de Vega.

From Spanish, indigenous words are transmitted to other languages such as English, French or Italian. The natural use that the Spaniards gave to these indigenisms means that some words of an American language spread to other areas of the same continent, as occurs with Taino terms that spread and were incorporated into the Caribbean language.

Over time, some of these words disappear, but others are preserved despite the discoverers finding synonyms for those words in already known languages. Sometimes, both terms are preserved, as is the case of pineapple (Spanish term) and pineapple (from Guaraní).



*Hammock used according to an engraving of the General and Natural History of the Indies, by Fernández de Oviedo (Seville, 1547)*

## ACTIVITIES

### Reflect on...

The importance of **loanwords** in the Spanish language. Has there been loanwords incorporated in our language from other languages?

Search for different ways a language has to add new terms to its vocabulary.

### Research...

The Spanish society from that epoch are used to traveling for commercial or military reasons. As a result, the new population consist of noblemen, clergy, and educated people which is unusual for the epoch. **Would this peculiarity have any linguistic consequences?**

**Francisco Cervantes de Salazar**, in his chronical of the New Spain picked up a multitude of indoamericanisms or indigenism from the new lands that make reference to many areas of life. Can give examples of indigenism and what language it came from? What interesting discoveries did you find when you realized that some words were not originally Spanish?



*Tapioca and corn, according to drawings from 1648 and 1556*

## To continue reflecting...

### Reflect on...

- Why did China contact Austrias? Why do the Chinese know the Castilians?(56"-2'22")
- ¿What did the Spanish and Chinese empire mutually contribute to each other? (2'28"-3'50", 1:04'10"-1:04'25", 1:06'53"-1:09'18")
- Explain why one talks of "**globalization**" during the Spanish empire? (3'55"-4'26" y 5'22"-6'05")
- Why is Isabel the Catholic queen so important? (13'05"-13'28")
- What role did the **protestantism** played in the creation of the **Black Legend**? (25'14"-30'17") Why do they continue to perpetuate this "Black Legend"? (52'20"-53'48")
- Why the conquest of America is not considered **colonialism**? (53'50"-1:39')
- At a scientific level, what findings attributed years and centuries later had already been discovered by scientists from the **University of Salamanca**? (55'50"-57'56")
- Give an example of how the Spanish favored the **American Indians**? (1:26'-1:28')
- If the **Julian calendar** is a relevant milestone, why is it not a fact that known by the general public?
- How would you interpret the last phrase that is said in the documentary? "**Now more than ever the fight for the past is a fight for the future**"?

## To further investigate...

### Research...

- Where did the symbol for the **dollar** come from?
- Where did they make **Manila Shawls**
- ¿How were witches punished in the **inquisition**?

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