A Thesis and Outline on how the Discovery of America Changed the world

Name

Institution

Date

Thesis statement

The discovery of the new world played a vital role in the rapid economic, social, and political changes across the world as it led to the discovery of new markets and sources of raw materials, nevertheless the benefits of the discovery have been eclipsed by the unjust and inhumane consequences witnessed during the conquest era.

Outline

1. Introduction

The discovery of the America, known as the Columbian exchange had a huge impact on the world’s social, political, and economic structures. It facilitated the introduction of new crops and ways to cultivate land. However, the Europeans also introduced new diseases to Native Americans which had adverse effects on the populations of the locals. Therefore, the Columbian exchange had both positive and negative effects on the societies that were directly affected.

1. Several aspects demonstrated the interactions between the old and the new worlds.
2. The new world introduced new crops to the old one. The introduced food crops, such as white potatoes, manioc, and maize became vital in the diets of the persons who lived in the Americas.
3. The surplus agricultural and mineral products were exported to overseas nation, such as China which, in turn, began showing interest in Europe. Therefore, the discovery of America marked the beginning of the international trade.
4. The contact between Europeans and Native Americans exposed the latter to new disease they had not developed resistant to, such as small pox and chicken pox. The new illnesses decreased their population, thereby forcing the Europeans to seek slave labor for their agricultural activities.
5. The discovery of the new world by Columbus affected several groups immensely. These groups include;
6. Africans
7. Slave trade separated family members, leading to changes in gender roles.
8. Many Africans died during the slave trade, especially while on transit to their masters.
9. Native Americans
10. They lost their lands to European settlers
11. Many of them died during the conquest wars. Also, the new diseases which came with Europeans lowered their population significantly.
12. Women in the European colonies
13. Some of them were subjected to gender and abuse violence. The discovery of America enhanced misogyny in some of the colonies.
14. They witnessed division of labor based on their gender. In some colonies, women were required to perform household chores while men attended to plantations.
15. Major global trading powers
16. They had access to many commodities of trade which ranged from slaves to agricultural yields.
17. The new trade routes that were discovered during this era increased market opportunities.
18. Men who lived in the colonies
19. The balance of power shifted as they were treated equally to women
20. They lost their liberty and freedom as they were required to provide free labor, thereby being subjected to inhumane activities.
21. The discovery of new global trade routes due to the discovery of America had several effects on the lives of average Americans working in the colonies.
22. The lives of African Americans changed as they had to spend most of their time in plantations
23. Native Americans lost their lands, thus became laborers.
24. The status of women in some colonies changed as they were required to provide labor in plantations.
25. The occupation of landowners changed as the differences between them and other members of the society emerged.
26. A new pattern of eating habits emerged.

References

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