

Annotated Timeline of Spanish History

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This timeline is compiled from many sources available on the Internet and in print. Many of the dates varied among the sources by anywhere from 1 to 5 years. I have tried to use the dates as they were most commonly listed in the sources I used. My resource list appears at the end of this document.

This timeline will continue to expand. Please check back online to view updates.

www.geocities.com/stanza693/Timeline.doc

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Spanish History BC



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- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1100 | Phoenicians found Gádir (modern Cádiz)
----Note: I have also seen this in books as being as late as 800 B.C. |
| 9 th Century | First Celtic invasion |
| 750 – 500 | Empire of Tartessos
----Some believe that this empire contains the city of Tarshish mentioned in the Bible accounts. Tartessos was in the south of Spain and possibly grew up around the rich metals available in that area as it is famed for its metalworking. |
| 600 | Second Celtic invasion |
| 6 th Century | Greek colonization begins at Emporió (modern Ampurias) |
| 500 | Carthaginians destroy the empire of Tartessos in al-Andalus |
| 246 – 146 | Guerras Púnicas (Punic Wars)
1 st Punic War from 264 – 242 B.C. (Victory = Rome)
2 nd Punic War from 218 – 201 B.C. |

3rd Punic War from 149 – 146 B.C. **Took place in Carthage on African coast

- 237 – 218 Carthaginian conquest
- 228 Found Cartago Nova (modern Cartagena)
- 219 Aníbal (Hannibal) conquers Saguntum



- 218 Romans enter by sea in response to Hanibal's attack of Saguntum, an ally
- 209 Romans conquer Nova Cartago, a Carthaginian city
- 205 Romans conquer Cádiz, which ends Carthaginian rule in the peninsula
- 197 Spain was divided into 2 provinces by the Romans (Hispania Citerior, Hispania Ulterior)
- 60 César (Caesar) named Pretor of "Spain"
- 27 Hispania Ulterior further divided by Augustus

Spanish History AD (Anno Domini)

- 4 Séneca born in Córdoba
- 38 Augusto incorporates Hispania into the Roman Empire
- 40 The apostle James visits?? (St. James is the patron of Spain)
This is according to tradition; however, evidence is slim in the written histories. His tomb was supposedly found in Galicia and became the site of the pilgrimages to Santiago de Compostela. According to the biblical accounts James was martyred in Jerusalem.
- 58 The apostle Paul visits??
- 61 – 67 Evangelism of the peninsula by the 7 Bishops of Peter

98 – 117	Reign of Trajano (First “Spaniard” to be emperor of Rome)
212	Roman citizenship granted to all residents by Caracalla
3 rd cent. (end)	Diocletian reorganizes all of Hispania into 5 provinces (Tarraconensis, Gallaetia, Lusitania, Baetica, Cartaginensis)
early 300s	Council of Iliberis (modern Elvira) requires the clergy be celibate
325	Osio (de Córdoba) presides at First Council of Nicaea
385	Prisciliano (Galicia): first Christian martyr burned
400	First Council of Toledo

Alta Edad Media



409	Invasion of the “Barbarians” (Suevi, Alans, Vandals) Suevi settle in Gallaetia Alans settle in Lusitania/Cartaginensis Vandals (Siling tribe) settle in Baetica
414	Invasion of the Visigoths ----During this time until 476, the Visigoths were allied with the Romans.
467 – 485	Reign of Euric ----Established a rule of law in his name about 475. It was published in Latin. ----Ran his kingdom from Toulouse. His son, Alaric II, ran the kingdom from 485 to 507 when he was defeated in Gaul by Clovis (Merovingian king) which ended the kingdom of Toulouse and forced the Visigoths farther into Spain.
534	Byzantine reconquest of the Balearic Islands under Emperor Justinian ----Enters Spain at the request of Athanagild of the Visigoths and remain in the south

and east coastal regions

- 551 Visigoth kingdom of Toledo
- 570 – 636 St. Isidore of Seville
----Writes chronicles of the Visigoth era
- 572 – 586 Leovigild, King of Visigoths
----Co-rules with his brother Liuva from 568 to 572
----Issues coinage, revises Euric's legal code, attempts peninsular unification
----580 convoked a synod of Arian bishops in an attempt to convert Catholic subjects
- 587 Recared's conversion to Catholicism
----Recared was the younger son. Leovigild's first son, Hermenegild, who was duke of Baetica and married to a Frankish princess, was jailed and killed for his Catholic faith. The Catholics call him a martyr; the Visigoths, a rebel.
- 589 King Recared declares Catholicism official religion after the 3rd Council of Nice
- 612 First decrees against the Jews by King Sisebut
- 621 Byzantines expelled; Swintila (general under Sisebut) becomes the first Visigoth to rule the whole of Spain
- 633 The 4th Synod of Toledo takes the right to confirm elected kings.
Jews are obliged to be baptized
- 636 5th Synod
- 638 6th Synod
- 646 7th Synod – affirms the right for ecclesiastical censure
- 653 8th Synod – declares law of treason & that king must uphold laws, but w/mercy
- 654 Liber Judiciorum
----Started by Khindasvinth and finished by his son Reccesvinth, this compilation of laws was the first code to apply to all occupants of Spain whether Roman or Visigoth
- 694 17th Synod of Toledo responds to Egica's accusations against the Jews or treasonous contact with the Jews and Muslims in North Africa by depriving them of property and consigning them to virtual slavery.
- 710 Reign of Rodrigo, duke of Baetica, who was opposed by Witzia (previous king) who had appointed his son Akhila as successor. Rodrigo's allies, however, controlled the royal city of Toledo.
----Witzia may have sent for Muslim assistance to remove Rodrigo???
----Mysterious figure: Count Julian



- 711 Muslim invasion
 ----Scout force arrives in July, 710, commanded by Tarif ibn Malluq
 ----Berber, Tariq ibn Ziyad arrived with 7000 men in April 711. He waited in Algeciras for more troops before engaging Rodrigo in battle in July 711. Part of Rodrigo's troops led by Witzia's sons abandoned him which led to his defeat.
- 712 Muza ben-Nosair completes the Muslim conquest.
- 718 Victoria de los Cristianos begins the Reconquista
 Don Pelayo, 1st king, founds the Spanish Monarchy
 ----He is a Visigoth. His defeat of the Muslim army at Alcama in the Covadonga area begins the Christian reconquest.
- 721 – 725 Covadonga
- 721 Pelayo en Cangas
- 739 Alfonso I, King of Asturias
- 750 The Christians occupy Galicia
- 755 Abd el Rahman I, independent emir
 ----He is an Umayyad prince who fled from Abbasid slaughter in 750 and then joined with the Yemenies tribe and defeated the Abbasid governor to become emir.
- 785 Work begins on the Mosque at Córdoba
- 791 Alfonso II, King of Asturias in Oviedo
- 800 Ptolemy's "Geography" translated in Arabic
- 801 Louis the Pious' reconquest of Barcelona
- 830's? First mentions of the tomb of St. James in Compostela

- 832 Foundation of the Earldom of Aragón
- 835 First ruler of Navarra, Sancho Iñigo Arista
- 850 Ordoño I, King of Asturias in Oviedo
Beginning of repopulation
Rise of the county of Castile
- 866 Creation of the reign of León
Alfonso III the Great, King of Asturias
- 874 First independent count of Barcelona, Wifredo el Velloso
- 910 – 914 First king of León: García I
- 914 – 924 First king of Galicia: Ordoño I
- 929 Abd-al-Rahman III proclaimed caliph, the caliphate of Cordoba
-----He was another Spanish Umayyad. This action restored and expanded the emirate. It also helped to strengthen the peninsular kingdom. It also began the consolidation of trade routes.
- 930 (943) Independence movement begins, origin of the “national” monarchies
- 946 The county of Castile independent
- 961 Castile becomes an independent kingdom
- 978 – 1002 Al-Mansur Ibn Abi Aamir



- 1031 End of Caliphate. The kingdoms of “taifas”
 ----Ta’ifas means “petty kingdoms” and has come to be a modern synonym for the ruin generated by the fragmentation and disunity of the peninsula. There were 39 successors to the caliphate that together bear the name “Ta’ifas”. This happens again & again in history.
- 1035 First king of Castilla, Fernando I
- 1037 Fernando I unifies Castilla and León
- c. 1040 First examples of “Spanish” literature, “Las Jarchas”
- c. 1043 Ruy Diaz Vivar, “El Cid”, is born
- c. 1058 The “Usatges” of Barcelona
- 1072 Alfonso VI takes oath in Santa Gadea (modern Burgos)
- 1080 Council of Burgos – Mozarabic rites.
 Cluny in Spain
- 1085 Alfonso VI crowns himself “Imerator Toletanus”
 Conquest of Toledo
- 1086 Invasion of the Almoravids
 ----Rather than an invasion, the Almoravids come at the request of the Muslim kings in Granada, Seville, and Badajoz, to help stop the Christian advance.
- 1093 Alfonso VI creates Earldom of Portugal for his daughter Teresa as a wedding gift
- 1094 El Cid conquers Valencia
- 1099 Death of El Cid
- 1095 Portugal becomes independent earldom
- 1102 Almoravids take Valencia
- 1104 Alfonso I unites Navarra and Aragón
- 1118 Alfonso I conquers Saragossa (modern Zaragoza)
- 1128 Construction of the cathedral at Santiago
- 1135 Alfonso VII, emperor
- 1137 Aragón and Cataluña form one kingdom

- c. 1140 "Poema de Mio Cid"
- 1143 Portugal becomes a kingdom, 1st king: Alfonso Enríquez
- 1146 Invasion of the Almohads
- 1158 – 1214 Alfonso VIII, King of Castile (Castile and Leon again separated)
- 1162 Fernando II de León takes Toledo; becomes King of Spain (first use of that title)
- 1162 – 1196 Alfonso II, King of Aragon
- 1163 "Constitution of the Cortes" written in Aragón
First Parliament born in Europe
Alfonso II de Cataluña unites Cataluña and Aragón
- 1164 Order of Calatrava founded (1st Military Order)
- 1188 First meeting of the Cortes of Castile
- 1195?-1264? Gonzalo de Berceo "Libro de Alexandre"
- 1208 First university founded in Palencia by Alfonso VIII of Castilla
- 1212 Decisive Christian victory over the Muslims in the battle of Las Navas de Tolosa
-----This was a joint effort of Alfonso VIII of Castile, Sancho VIII of Navarre, Pedro II of Aragon and some troops from Portugal and Leon.
- 1217 - 1252 Fernando III, king of Castile and Leon
1230 unites Castile & Leon
- 1218 University of Salamanca founded by Alfonso IX of León
The university's website is <http://www.usal.es/web-usal/Ingles/index.html>
- 1224 Invasion of the Banu Marins

Baja Edad Media

- 1229 Jaime I of Aragon, the Conqueror, reconquers Mallorca
- 1230s "Libro de Apollonio"
- 1235 Introduction of the Inquisition by San Raimundo de Pañafort
- 1236 Conquest of Cordoba
Lucas de Tuy's "Crónica"
- 1241? Romance version of "Liber Judiciorum" = "Fuero Juzgo"

- 1248 Conquest of Seville
- 1250s “Poema de Fernán González”
- 1252 – 1284 Alfonso X, the Wise. “The Siete Partidas”
- 1257 Alfonso X elected sovereign of German Empire, but doesn’t arrive for coronation
- 1284 Alfonso X deposed and rule passes to his son, Sancho IV



- 1300 University at Lérida founded
- 1309 Fernando IV takes Gibraltar
- 1312 – 1350 Alfonso XI
- c. 1335 Don Juan Manuel’s “Conde Lucanor”
- 1340 Moslem invasion defeated by Alfonso XI
- c. 1350 Sem Tob, “Proverbios Morales”
- 1369 Enrique de Trastamara murders his half brother, Pedro I the Cruel and rules as Enrique II which founds the Trastamara line
- 1388 Hereditary title of Prince of Asturias coined
- 1391 Anti-Jewish pogroms
- 1400? Expedition to the Canary Islands
- 1401 “La Table de Cambio”: First public bank opens in Barcelona

- 1409 Sicily becomes part of the Crown of Aragon
- 1412 Compromise of Caspe makes the regent of Castile the king of the Crown of Aragon (Fernando de Antequera)
- 1440 Civil War in Castile. Alvaro de Luna
- 1442 Naples under Aragonese rule (Alfonso V)
- c. 1445 Cancionera de Baena
- 1462 – 1472 Civil and remença wars in Catalonia
- 1464 Enrique IV of Castile disinherits his daughter Juana “la Beltraneja”; his sister, Isabel, new heir
- 1465 The farce of Avila
- 1469 Marriage of Fernando II (Ferdinand) and Isabel I (Isabella)
- 1470s “Coplas de Mingo Revulgo”
- 1473 First printing press brought to Spain
- 1474 Isabel I becomes Queen of Castilla
Civil war between Juana la Beltraneja and Isabel I over the throne
First book printed in Valencia, a collection of Catalan poems to the Virgin
- 1476 Isabel I triumphs over Juana la Beltraneja
Jorge Manrique’s “Coplas por la muerte de su padre”
The Santa Hermandad organized in Castile
- 1478 The new inquisition in Castile
- 1479 Fernando II becomes King of Aragón
Official union of Fernando II (Ferdinand) and Isabel I (Isabella)
- 1484 The Inquisition in Aragon
- 1485 Cristobal Colón (Christopher Columbus) arrives in Huelva
- 1490 Publish dictionary “Universal Vocabulario” (the oldest dictionary preserved)

Edad Moderna

- 1492 Surrender of the last Moorish reign at Granada (January 2)
Edict of Expulsion of the Jews (March 31)
--read a translation of this at www.sephardicstudies.org/decreed.html
Colón leaves from Palos de la Frontera (August 3)
Colón “discovers” the New World (October 12)
“Arte de la lengua castellana”, 1st grammar published by Antonio de Nebrija
“Amadís of Gaula”, a popular chivalric novel compiled by Garcí Rodríguez de Montalvo
- 1494 Colón founds “La Isabela” in modern Haiti
Pope Alejandro VI bestows the title “Los Reyes Católicos” on F&I
Treaty of Tordesillas divides the New World between Spain and Portugal
- 1495 – 1497 Spanish intervention and war in Italy
- 1496 Double marriage of Infante Juan and Infante Juana to the Hapsburg heirs:
Archduke Phillip (Philip the Fair or Philip of Flanders) and Margaret of Burgundy
- 1499 “La Celestina” published, written by Fernando de Rojas
- 1500 First map of the New World
- 1501 – 1504 More war in Italy
- 1502 Expulsion of the Jews and Moriscos
- 1504 Isabel I dies and crowns passes to Juana la Loca
- 1506 Death of Philip the Fair consort of Juana la Loca
Death of Christopher Columbus
- 1507 Cardinal Francisco Jiménez de Cisneros becomes Castilian regent
- 1510 Fernando II takes back the crown of Castile as regent/administrator
- 1512 Total union with the occupation and integration of Navarre into the Spanish crown
Ponce de León discovers Florida
- 1513 Balboa reaches the Pacific

Casa de Asturia



- 1516 Death of Fernando II leaves Cisneros as regent again
- 1517 Carlos I comes to power at age 17
- 1519 Carlos I becomes Carlos V emperor of Germany (Sacro Imperio Romano)
- 1519 – 1522 Magellan’s journey around the world, completed by Juan Sebastián del Cano
- 1519 – 1521 Cortés takes Mexico
- 1520 – 1521 Revolts in Castile (Comuneros) and Valencia (Germanías)
- 1524 – 1534 Pizarro takes El Péru
- 1529 – 1539 Alvaro Cabeza de Vaca explores from Florida to California
Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada conquers Colombia
Almargo leads expedition to Chile
- 1531 Servet discovers cardiovascular flow
- 1539 – 1542 Hernando de Soto explores America
Francisco de Orellana navigates the Amazon
Francisco Vázquez Coronado explores the Grand Canyon / Colorado River
- 1542 “Leyes Nuevas” is a new compilation of Castilian law
- 1545 – 1563 Counter Reformation
- 1545 First Spanish index of forbidden books
- 1546 Fray Bartolomé de las Casas publishes his “Declaration on the Rights of the Indians”

- 1550 Debate about the lawfulness of waging war on the New World in order to enslave the natives; Bartolome de las Casas and Sepúlveda
- 1554 “El Lazarillo de Tormes” published
- 1556 Carlos I abdicates
Phillip II becomes king of Spain
- 1557 Phillip II suspends payment to bankers; Spain bankrupt
- 1571 Naval victory over the Turks at Lepanto
- 1580 Portugal is annexed by Spain
- 1588 The sinking of the Armada
- 1596 A second armada sails on England
- 1598 Death of Phillip II
Phillip III succeeds to the throne
- 1599 Part one of “La vida de Guzmán de Alfarache” published, written by Mateo Alemán
- 1604 Part two of “La vida de Guzmán de Alfarache” published
- 1605 Part one of “El Ingenioso hidalgo Don Quixote de la Mancha”
- 1609 Expulsion of the Moriscos

Special Vocabulary

Infante	The heir to the throne or immediate member of the royal family
Latifundia	Large land holdings of a great lord or Military Order; roots in Roman era
Mesta	The Sheep herders Guild
Morisco	A Muslim who converts to Christianity; usually kept their own dress, diet, and language
Mozarab	A Christian living under Moorish rule
Mudejar	A Muslim living under Christian rule but still practicing Islam

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