Annotations: Chapter 4

Students Name

Institutional Affiliation

Course

Date

Why America Was Conquered by Europeans and Not by Africans or Asians

Europeans conquered America because it is believed that they were modern, progressive, and venturesome than Asians and Africans in the late middle ages. They had superior technology with an advanced economy that made it possible for them to conquer the world. It is true because that is precisely how it happened (180).

When conquering the world, Europeans had one crucial advantage of accessibility. At the time, America was easily accessible from the ports like the Iberian. Also, the sailing and prevailing winds in the North Pacific helped the sailors get to America because they went against the somewhat stormy winds that helped explores transverse the world with ease (182).

Why the Conquest Was Successful

It is true that America conquered Europe successfully and became important in the rise of capitalism after the first contact in 1492. While Europeans had no unique advantage over Africans and Asians, in terms of social, ideological or materials, the diseases and pandemics caused depopulations in the northern hemisphere. The diseases introduced to America by Europeans weakened the natives making it possible to conquer them with ease (183).

Also, the conquest was successful because Europeans had a considerable advantage in terms of military technology. Their weapons were advanced compared to those of the natives and far much lethal. They had guns that made their military capability superior tat wiped more than three-quarters of the entire population that helped them overcome the resistance (184).

Colonialism and Capitalism in The Sixteenth Century

In the Americas, enterprise from the beginning was all about accumulation and gaining profit. All individuals in Europe focused on making money for themselves or their countries. The leading group was that of merchants and industrialists: the precapitalist class. The class gained profits from American enterprise and invested in Europe by developing commercial agriculture and buying land, and developing industries like shipbuilding and refineries (188).

Reference

Blaut, J. M. (1993). *Geographical diffusionism and Eurocentric history*. New York Guilford Press.