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, the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit. 117,922 active editors 6,999,230 articles in English The first UK Phantom on a test flight in 1968 From 1968 to 1992, the United Kingdom used the McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II as one of its principal combat aircraft. The Phantom was procured to serve in both the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm and the Royal Air Force (RAF) in several different roles. Most Phantoms operated by the UK were built as a special batch containing a significant amount of British technology. Two variants were initially built: the F-4K was a carrier-based air-defence interceptor for the Fleet Air Arm, while the F-4M was initially used by the RAF for tactical strike and reconnaissance, before transitioning to an air defence role in the 1970s. In the mid-1980s, a third Phantom variant was obtained when fifteen former US Navy F-4J aircraft were purchased to augment the UK's air defences. Although the Fleet Air Arm ceased using the Phantom in 1978, the RAF retained it until 1992, when it was withdrawn as part of a series of post-Cold War defence cuts. (Full article...) Recently featured: Transportation during the 2024 Summer Olympics and Paralympics Rhine campaign of 1796 Chinese characters Archive By email More featured articles About The aftermath of the Kirkby train crash ... that the train driver in the Kirkby train crash (pictured) was found to have been using his mobile phone before the collision? ... that a tour promoting the EP For Your Validation sold out in ten minutes? ... that Gammarelli, the official tailor of the pope, is one of the oldest family-run businesses in Europe? ... that despite being named in college as the best at his position in the U.S., football player Buster Maddox only appeared in one NFL game? ... that the Doctor Who episode "Lux" is set in Miami, Florida, despite being filmed in Penarth, Wales? ... that Jean-Mohammed Abd-el-Jalil, a Moroccan Franciscan friar, was permitted by the Pope to keep "Muhammad" as his baptismal name? ... that Robert Mugabe's motorcade was known for speeding and killing people? ... that Elizabeth Holtzman's opponent ran an ad saying "maybe I'd like to have her as a daughter, but not as a DA" before her election as the first female Brooklyn District Attorney? ... that fighter pilot Morton D. Magoffin made pilots in his group sprint around an airfield for not saluting him? Archive Start a new article Nominate an article Nicușor Dan Author Banu Mushtaq and translator Deepa Bhasthi win the International Booker Prize for Heart Lamp: Selected Stories. Nicușor Dan (pictured) is elected as president of Romania. In the Portuguese legislative election, the Democratic Alliance wins the most seats in parliament. Austria, represented by JJ with the song "Wasted Love", wins the Eurovision Song Contest. A tornado outbreak leaves at least 27 people dead in the Midwestern and Southeastern United States. Ongoing: Gaza war M23 campaign Russian invasion of Ukraine timeline Sudanese civil war timeline Recent deaths: Jim Irsay Yury Grigorovich Yuri Vladimirov Colton Ford Werenoi Benjamin Ritchie Nominate an article May 27 Manchu Prince Dorgon 1644 – Manchu regent Dorgon (depicted) defeated rebel leader Li Zicheng of the Shun dynasty at the Battle of Shanhai Pass, allowing the Manchus to enter and conquer the capital city of Beijing. 1799 – War of the Second Coalition: Austrian forces defeated the French Army of the Danube, capturing the strategically important Swiss town of Winterthur. 1954 – The security clearance of American nuclear physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, head of Project Y, was revoked. 1967 – Australians voted overwhelmingly to include Indigenous Australians in population counts for constitutional purposes and to allow the federal government to make special laws affecting them in states. 1997 – A destructive F5-rated tornado tracked through a subdivision of homes northwest of Jarrell, Texas, killing 27 people. Diego Ramírez de Arellano (d. 1624)Julia Ward Howe (b. 1819)Cilla Black (b. 1943)Gérard Jean-Juste (d. 2009) More anniversaries: May 26 May 27 May 28 Archive By email List of days of the year About Anemonoides blanda, the Balkan anemone, Grecian windflower, or winter windflower, is a species of flowering plant in the family Ranunculaceae. The species is native to southeast Europe and the Middle East. It grows up to 10 to 15 centimetres (4 to 6 inches) tall and is valued for its daisy-like flowers, which appear in early spring, a time when little else is in flower. The flowers are found in various colors and are radially symmetrical, containing seven or more sepals and petals. This purple A. blanda flower was photographed in Bamberg, Germany. Photograph credit: Reinhold Möller Recently featured: Bluespotted ribbontail ray Black Lives Matter art Germanicus Archive More featured pictures Community portal – The central hub for editors, with resources, links, tasks, and announcements. Village pump – Forum for discussions about Wikipedia itself, including policies and technical issues. Site news – Sources of news about Wikipedia and the broader Wikimedia movement. Teahouse – Ask basic questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Help desk – Ask questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Reference desk – Ask research questions about encyclopedic topics. Content portals – A unique way to navigate the encyclopedia. Wikipedia is written by volunteer editors and hosted by the Wikimedia Foundation, a non-profit organization that also hosts a range of other volunteer projects: CommonsFree media repository MediaWikiWiki software development Meta-WikiWikimedia project coordination WikibooksFree textbooks and manuals WikidataFree knowledge base WikinewsFree-content news WikiquoteCollection of quotations WikisourceFree-content library WikispeciesDirectory of species WikiversityFree learning tools WikivoyageFree travel guide WiktionaryDictionary and thesaurus This Wikipedia is written in English. Many other Wikipedias are available; some of the largest are listed below. 1,000,000+ articles العربية Deutsch Español فارسی Français Italiano Nederlands 日本語 Polski Português Русский Svenska Українська Tiếng Việt 中文 250,000+ articles Bahasa Indonesia Bahasa Melayu Bân-lâm-gú Български Català Čeština Dansk Eesti Ελληνικά Esperanto Euskara עברית Հայերեն Magyar Norsk bokmål Română Simple English Slovenčina Srpski Srpskohrvatski Suomi Türkçe O'zbekcha 50,000+ articles Asturianu Azərbaycanca [illegible] Bosanski کوردی Frysk Gaeilge Galego Hrvatski ქართული Kurdî Latviešu Lietuvių [illegible] Македонски [illegible] Norsk nynorsk [illegible] Shqip Slovenščina [illegible] اردو Retrieved from " 2 This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources: "1644" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (August 2016) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Calendar year Years Millennium 2nd millennium Centuries 16th century 17th century 18th century Decades 1620s 1630s 1640s 1650s 1660s Years 1641 1642 1643 1644 1645 1646 1647 vte July 1: The Battle of Colberger Heide is fought between Sweden and Denmark-Norway off of the German coast. July 2: Parliament wins control of northern England from King Charles in the Battle of Marston Moor. 1644 by topic Arts and science Architecture Art Literature Music Science Leaders State leaders Colonial governors Religious leaders Birth and death categories Births – Deaths Establishments and disestablishments categories Establishments – Disestablishments Works category Works vte 1644 in various calendarsGregorian calendar1644MDCXLIVAb urbe condita2397Armenian calendar1093ԹՎ ՌՂԳAssyrian calendar6394Balinese saka calendar1565–1566Bengali calendar1050–1051Berber calendar2594English Regnal year19 Cha. 1 – 20 Cha. 1Buddhist calendar2188Burmese calendar1006Byzantine calendar7152–7153Chinese calendar癸未年 (Water Goat)4341 or 4134 — to —甲申年 (Wood Monkey)4342 or 4135Coptic calendar1360–1361Discordian calendar2810Ethiopian calendar1636–1637Hebrew calendar5404–5405Hindu calendars - Vikram Samvat1700–1701 - Shaka Samvat1565–1566 - Kali Yuga4744–4745Holocene calendar11644Igbo calendar644–645Iranian calendar1022–1023Islamic calendar1053–1054Japanese calendarKan'ei 21 / Shōhō 1(正保元年)Javanese calendar1565–1566Julian calendarGregorian minus 10 daysKorean calendar3977Minguo calendar268 before ROC民前268年Nanakshahi calendar176Thai solar calendar2186–2187Tibetan calendar阴水羊年(female Water-Goat)1770 or 1389 or 617 — to —阳木猴年(male Wood-Monkey)1771 or 1390 or 618 1644 (MDCXLIV) was a leap year starting on Friday of the Gregorian calendar and a leap year starting on Monday of the Julian calendar, the 1644th year of the Common Era (CE) and Anno Domini (AD) designations, the 644th year of the 2nd millennium, the 44th year of the 17th century, and the 5th year of the 1640s decade. As of the start of 1644, the Gregorian calendar was 10 days ahead of the Julian calendar, which remained in localized use until 1923. Calendar year It is one of eight years (CE) to contain each Roman numeral once (1000(M)+500(D)+100(C)+(-10(X)+50(L))+(-1(I)+5(V)) = 1644). Kolumna Zygmunta erected. January 22 – The Royalist Oxford Parliament is first assembled by King Charles I of England.[1] January 26 – First English Civil War: Battle of Nantwich – The Parliamentarians defeat the Royalists, allowing them to end the 6-week siege of the Cheshire town.[2] January 30 Dutch explorer Abel Tasman departs from Batavia in the Dutch East Indies (modern-day Jakarta in Indonesia) on his second major expedition for the Dutch East India Company, to map the north coast of Australia. Tasman commands three ships, Limmen, Zeemeeuw and Braek, and returns to Batavia at the beginning of August with no major discoveries. Battle of Ochmatów: Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth forces under hetman Stanisław Koniecpolski secure a substantial victory over the horde of Crimean Tatars under Tugay Bey. February 5 – The first livestock branding law in America is passed in Connecticut.[3] March 24 – Roger Williams is granted an official grant for his Rhode Island Colony from the Parliament of England, allowing the establishment of a general assembly. April 18 – Opchanacanough leads the Powhatan Indians in an unsuccessful uprising against the English at Jamestown. Although 300 of the English colonists are slain, the settlers pursue Opchanacanough, who is imprisoned in Jamestown for the rest of his life.[4] This is the last such Indian rebellion in the region. April 25 – A popular Chinese rebellion led by Li Zicheng sacks Beijing, prompting Chongzhen, the last emperor of the Ming dynasty, to commit suicide. May 6 – Johan Mauritius resigns as Governor of Brazil.[3] May 25 – Ming general Wu Sangui forms an alliance with the invading Manchus and opens the gates of the Great Wall of China at Shanhaiguan Pass, letting the Manchus through towards the capital Beijing. May 26 – Battle of Montijo: The Kingdom of Portugal is victorious over Habsburg Spain, in the first major action between the two nations during the Portuguese Restoration War. May 27 – Battle of Shanhai Pass: The Manchu Qing dynasty and Wu Sangui gain a decisive victory over Li Zicheng's Shun dynasty. June 3 – Li Zicheng proclaims himself emperor of China. June 6 – The invading Qing army, with the help of Ming general Wu Sangui, captures Beijing in China, marking the beginning of Manchu rule over China proper. June 11 – During the English Civil War, Prince Rupert and his men take Liverpool Castle.[5] Liverpool is later reclaimed by Sir John Moore. July 1 – Torstenson War: Battle of Colberger Heide – The Dano-Norwegian and Swedish fleets fight a naval battle off the coast of Schleswig-Holstein. The battle is indecisive but represents a minor success for the Dano-Norwegian fleet. July 2 – English Civil War: Battle of Marston Moor – The Parliamentarians crush the Royalists in Yorkshire, ending Charles I's hold on the north of England.[6] September 1 – English Civil War: Battle of Tippermuir – Montrose defeats Lord Elcho's Covenanters, reviving the Royalist cause in Scotland. September 2 – English Civil War: Second Battle of Lostwithiel (in Cornwall) – Charles I and the Royalists gain their last major victory.[7] September 15 – Pope Innocent X succeeds Pope Urban VIII, becoming the 236th pope.[8] October 1 – The Jews of Mogilev, Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth, are attacked during Tashlikh. November 8 – The Shunzhi Emperor, the second emperor of the Qing dynasty, is enthroned in Beijing after the collapse of the Ming dynasty as the first Qing emperor to rule over China proper. November 23 Battle of Jüterbog (December 3 New Style): Sweden's forces defeat those of the Holy Roman Empire. Areopagitica, an appeal for freedom of speech written by John Milton, is published in London. November – The Castle of Elvas in Portugal resists a 9-day siege by the Spanish during the Portuguese Restoration War. December 8 (December 18 New Style) – As Christina comes of age, she is made ruling queen of Sweden. December – Bubonic plague breaks out in Edinburgh (Scotland). A Spanish officer is murdered in St. Dominic's Church, Macau during mass by colonists loyal to Portugal during the Portuguese Restoration War. Sigismund's Column is erected in Warsaw to commemorate King Sigismund III Vasa, who moved the capital of Poland from Kraków to Warsaw in 1596. Philosopher René Descartes publishes Principia Philosophiae (Principles of Philosophy) in Amsterdam. The opera Ormindo is first performed in Venice (music by Francesco Cavalli, and libretto by Giovanni Faustini). The West India Company[which?] displays greater interest in profit than in colonization.[vague] Thomas Britton Veit Hans Schnorr von Carolsfeld Otto Mencke Henry Winstanley Henrietta of England January 9 – Robert Gibbes, English-born landgrave in South Carolina (d. 1715) January 10 Louis François, duc de Boufflers, Marshal of France (d. 1711) Celestino Sfondrati, Italian Catholic cardinal (d. 1696) January 11 – Hayashi Hōkō, Japanese philosopher (d. 1732) January 14 – Thomas Britton, English concert promoter (d. 1714) January 18 – John Partridge, English astrologer (d. 1708) January 23 – Jonas Budde, Norwegian army officer (d. 1710) January 25 – Antoine Thomas, Jesuit missionary priest and astronomer (d. 1709)[9] January 26 – Thomas Boylston, American colonial doctor (d. 1695) February 2 Isaac Chayyim Cantarini, Italian rabbi (d. 1723) Johannes Hancke, German writer (d. 1713) February 7 – Nils Bielke, member of the High Council of Sweden (d. 1716) February 8 – Pierre de La Broue, American bishop (d. 1720) February 12 – Jakob Ammann, Swiss founder of the Amish sect (d. 1712) February 24 – Maria Elisabeth Lämmerhirt, German mother of Johann Sebastian Bach (d. 1694) March 1 – Simon Foucher, French polemicist (d. 1696) March 15 – Veit Hans Schnorr von Carolsfeld, German iron and cobalt magnate (d. 1715) March 21 – Sir Walter Bagot, 3rd Baronet, English politician (d. 1704) March 22 Otto Mencke, German philosopher and scientist (d. 1707) Sir James Rushout, 1st Baronet, English politician (d. 1698) March 25 – Heinrich von Cocceji, German jurist from Bremen (d. 1719) March 31 – Henry Winstanley, English engineer (d. 1703) April 6 – António Luís de Sousa, 2nd Marquis of Minas, Portuguese general, governor-general of Brazil (d. 1721) April 7 Nathaniel Johnson, American politician (d. 1713) François de Neufville, duc de Villeroy, French soldier (d. 1730) April 11 – Marie Jeanne Baptiste of Savoy-Nemours, Duchess of Savoy (d. 1724) April 17 – Abraham Storck, Dutch painter (d. 1708) April 21 – Conrad von Reventlow, Danish statesman, first Grand Chancellor of Denmark (d. 1708) May 2 – Robert Cotton, English politician (d. 1717) May 4 – Juan Caballero y Ocio, Spanish priest remarkable for lavish gifts to the Catholic Church and charity (d. 1707) May 5 – Sir Richard Newdigate, 2nd Baronet, English landowner (d. 1710) May 26 – Michael Ettmüller, German physician (d. 1683) June 2 – William Salmon, English medical writer (d. 1713) June 7 – Johann Christoph Volkamer, German botanist (d. 1720) June 16 – Henrietta Anne Stuart, Princess of Scotland, England and Ireland and Duchess of Orléans (d. 1670)[10] June 17 – Johann Wolfgang Franck, German baroque composer (d. 1710) July 2 – Abraham a Sancta Clara, German Augustinian friar (d. 1709) July 4 – Josceline Percy, 11th Earl of Northumberland, English noble (d. 1670) July 7 – Joan Geelvinck, Dutch politician (d. 1707) July 10 – Miguel Bayot, Spanish Catholic prelate, Bishop of Cebu (from 1697) (d. 1700) July 22 – Peter Drelincourt, Irish chaplain (d. 1722) August 6 Christian Ernst, Margrave of Brandenburg-Bayreuth (1655–1712) (d. 1712) Louise de La Vallière, French mistress of Louis XIV of France (d. 1710)[11] August 12 – Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber, Bohemian composer and violinist (d. 1704) August 28 (bapt.) – Gilles Schey, Dutch admiral (d. 1703) August 29 – Anne Bourdon, nun in New France (d. 1711) August 30 – Thomas Tufton, 6th Earl of Thanet, English politician (d. 1729) September 3 – Richard Newport, 2nd Earl of Bradford, English politician (d. 1723) September 6 – Juan Bautista Cabanilles, Spanish composer (d. 1712) September 11 – Jacob Rotius, Dutch painter (d. 1681) September 22 – Jacques Échard, French Dominican, historian of the Order (d. 1724) September 25 – Ole Rømer, Danish astronomer (d. 1710) October 1 – Jean Rousseau, French viol player (d. 1699) October 2 – François-Timoléon de Choisy, French abbé, author and cross-dresser (d. 1724) October 3 – Adriaen Frans Boudewijns, landscape painter (d. 1719) October 12 – Christopher Sandius, Dutch Arian writer (d. 1680) October 13 – Sipihr Shikoh, Mughal Emperor (d. 1708) October 14 – William Penn, English Quaker and founder of Pennsylvania (d. 1718) October 26 – Mathias Steuchius, Swedish archbishop (d. 1730) November 23 (bapt.) – Cornelia van der Gon, Dutch art collector (d. 1701) December 8 – Maria d'Este, Italian noble (d. 1684) December 9 – Robert Kirk, Scottish folklorist, Bible translator, Gaelic scholar (d. 1692) December 23 – Tomás de Torrejón y Velasco, Spanish composer, musician and organist (d. 1728) December 25 – Walter Scott, Earl of Tarras, Scottish nobleman (d. 1693) December 29 – Philips van Almonde, Dutch Lieutenant Admiral (d. 1711) Matsuo Bashō, Japanese poet (d. 1694) Pietro Erardi, Maltese chaplain and painter (d. 1727)[12] Antonio Stradivari, Italian violin maker (d. 1737)[13] Pope Urban VIII Johannes Wtenbogaert January 20 – Stefano Amadei, Italian painter (b. 1580) January 30 – William Chillingworth, controversial English churchman (b. 1602) January 31 – Georg II of Fleckenstein-Dagstuhl, German nobleman (b. 1588) February 28 – Guru Har Gobind, the Sixth Sikh Guru (b. 1595) March 15 – Countess Louise Juliana of Nassau, Regent of Bohemia (b. 1576) March 24 – Cecilia Renata of Austria, Queen of Poland (b. 1611) March 29 – Lord John Stewart, Scottish aristocrat, Royalist commander in the English Civil War (b. 1621) April 2 – Diego Salcedo, Spanish bishop (b. 1575) April 10 – Reverend William Brewster, English Pilgrim leader (b. 1567) April 25 – Chongzhen, last Ming Emperor of China (suicide) (b. 1611) April 28 – Zsófia Bosnyák, Hungarian noblewoman (b. 1609) May 26 – Alfonso III d'Este, Duke of Modena, Italian noble (b. 1591) June 17 Anne de Montafié, Countess of Clermont-en-Beauvaisis, French countess (b. 1577) John of St. Thomas, Portuguese philosopher (b. 1589) July 4 – Brian Twyne, English archivist (b. 1581) July 7 – Hedwig of Hesse-Kassel, countess consort of Schaumburg (b. 1569) July 16 – Giovanni Biliverti, Italian painter (b. 1585) July 25 – Amar Singh Rathore, Rajput nobleman affiliated with the royal house of Marwar (b. 1613) July 29 – Pope Urban VIII (b. 1568)[14] August 25 – Johann Heinrich Alting, German Lutheran theologian (b. 1583) September 4 – Johannes Wtenbogaert, Dutch leader of the Remonstrants (b. 1557) September 7 Guido Bentivoglio, Italian statesman and historian (b. 1579)[15] Ralph Corbie, Irish Jesuit (b. 1598) September 8 John Coke, English politician (b. 1563)[16] Francis Quarles, English poet (b. 1592)[17] October 6 – Elisabeth of France, queen of Philip IV of Spain (b. 1602) October 19 – Johann Friedrich, Count Palatine of Sulzbach-Hilpoltstein (b. 1587) October 30 – Jorge de Cárdenas y Manrique de Lara, Spanish noble (b. 1584) November 6 – Thomas Roe, English diplomat (b. c. 1581) November 10 – Luis Vélez de Guevara, Spanish writer (b. 1579) November 20 – Nathaniel Foote, American colonist (b. 1592) November 24 – Deodat del Monte, Flemish painter, architect (b. 1582) December 20 – Albert IV, Duke of Saxe-Eisenach (from 1640) (b. 1599) December 23 – Sir Alexander Carew, 2nd Baronet, English politician (b. 1609) December 28 – John Bankes, Attorney General and Chief Justice to King Charles I of England (b. 1589) December 30 – Jan Baptist van Helmont, Flemish chemist (b. 1577) ^ Braddick, Michael J. (2015). The Oxford handbook of the English revolution. Oxford, UK; New York: Oxford University Press. p. 103. ISBN 9780199695898. ^ Coward, Barry (1994). The Stuart age: England, 1603-1714. London New York: Longman. p. 223. ISBN 9780582067226. ^ a b "What Happened In 1644". hisdates.com. Retrieved March 3, 2016. ^ Edward S. Ellis, et al., The People's History of the World; Including Two Volumes on the Races of Mankind, Volume 5: United States (Chicago: The History Publishing Association, 1902) p. 127 ("The second outbreak occurred April 18th, 1644... Opechankano was taken prisoner, and died in Jamestown while a captive") ^ "Rupert, Prince", by Charles Harding Firth, in The Dictionary of National Biography, Volume 17 (Oxford University Press, 1922) p. 408 ("Rupert returned to Wales.. Defeating the parliamentarians at Stockport, he forced his way into Lancashire, stormed Bolton on 28 May, and captured Liverpool on 11 June", quoting Ormerod, Civil War Tracts of Lancashire, p. 187) ^ Levene, Mark (1999). The massacre in history. New York: Berghahn Books. p. 93. ISBN 9781571819345. ^ Jeremy Black (1996). The Cambridge Illustrated Atlas of Warfare: Renaissance to Revolution, 1492-1792. Cambridge University Press. p. 80. ^ Levillain, Philippe (2002). The papacy : an encyclopedia. New York: Routledge. p. 801. ISBN 9780415922289. ^ Walle, Willy (2003). The history of the relations between the Low Countries and China in the Qing era (1644-1911. Leuven, Belgium: Leuven University Press Ferdinand Verbiest Foundation. p. 90. ISBN 9789058673152. ^ Lowther, Kenneth (1979). Dartmoor, Exeter... London: Ward Lock. p. 35. ISBN 9780706357929. ^ Dumas, Alexandre (1998). The Vicomte de Bragelonne. Oxford New York: Oxford University Press. p. 674. 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Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources: "16th century" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (September 2022) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Millennia 2nd millennium Centuries 15th century 16th century 17th century Timelines 15th century 16th century 17th century State leaders 15th century 16th century 17th century Decades 1500s 1510s 1520s 1530s 1540s 1550s 1560s 1570s 1580s 1590s Categories: Births – Deaths Establishments – Disestablishments vte The world map by the Italian Amerigo Vespucci (from whose name the word America is derived) and Belgian Gerardus Mercator shows (besides the classical continents Europe, Africa, and Asia) the Americas as America sive India Nova', New Guinea, and other islands of Southeast Asia, as well as a hypothetical Arctic continent and a yet undetermined Terra Australis.[1]The 16th century began with the Julian year 1501 (represented by the Roman numerals MDI) and ended with either the Julian or the Gregorian year 1600 (MDC), depending on the reckoning used (the Gregorian calendar introduced a lapse of 10 days in October 1582).[1] The Renaissance in Italy and Europe saw the emergence of important artists, authors and scientists, and led to the foundation of important subjects which include accounting and political science. Copernicus proposed the heliocentric universe, which was met with strong resistance, and Tycho Brahe refuted the theory of celestial spheres through observational measurement of the 1572 appearance of a Milky Way supernova. These events directly challenged the long-held notion of an immutable universe supported by Ptolemy and Aristotle, and led to major revolutions in astronomy and science. Galileo Galilei became a champion of the new sciences, invented the first thermometer and made substantial contributions in the fields of physics and astronomy, becoming a major figure in the Scientific Revolution in Europe. Spain and Portugal colonized large parts of Central and South America, followed by France and England in Northern America and the Lesser Antilles. The Portuguese became the masters of trade between Brazil, the coasts of Africa, and their possessions in the Indies, whereas the Spanish came to dominate the Greater Antilles, Mexico, Peru, and opened trade across the Pacific Ocean, linking the Americas with the Indies. English and French privateers began to practice persistent theft of Spanish and Portuguese treasures. This era of colonialism established mercantilism as the leading school of economic thought, where the economic system was viewed as a zero-sum game in which any gain by one party required a loss by another. The mercantilist doctrine encouraged the many intra-European wars of the period and arguably fueled European expansion and imperialism throughout the world until the 19th century or early 20th century. The Reformation in central and northern Europe gave a major blow to the authority of the papacy and the Catholic Church. In England, the British-Italian Alberico Gentili wrote the first book on public international law and divided secularism from canon law and Catholic theology. European politics became dominated by religious conflicts, with the groundwork for the epochal Thirty Years' War being laid towards the end of the century. In the Middle East, the Ottoman Empire continued to expand, with the sultan taking the title of caliph, while dealing with a resurgent Persia. Iran and Iraq were caught by a major popularity of the Shia sect of Islam under the rule of the Safavid dynasty of warrior-mystics, providing grounds for a Persia independent of the majority-Sunni Muslim world.[2] In the Indian subcontinent, following the defeat of the Delhi Sultanate and Vijayanagara Empire, new powers emerged, the Sur Empire founded by Sher Shah Suri, Deccan sultanates, Rajput states, and the Mughal Empire[3] by Emperor Babur, a direct descendant of Timur and Genghis Khan.[4] His successors Humayun and Akbar, enlarged the empire to include most of South Asia. Japan suffered a severe civil war at this time, known as the Sengoku period, and emerged from it as a unified nation under Toyotomi Hideyoshi. China was ruled by the Ming dynasty, which was becoming increasingly isolationist, coming into conflict with Japan over the control of Korea as well as Japanese pirates. In Africa, Christianity had begun to spread in Central Africa and Southern Africa. Until the Scramble for Africa in the late 19th century, most of Africa was left uncolonized. For timelines of earlier events, see 15th century and Timeline of the Middle Ages. Mona Lisa, by Leonardo da Vinci, c. 1503–1506, one of the world's best-known paintings 1501: Michelangelo returns to his native Florence to begin work on the statue David. 1501: Safavid dynasty reunifies Iran and rules over it until 1736. Safavids adopt a Shia branch of Islam.[5] 1501: First Battle of Cannanore between the Third Portuguese Armada and Kingdom of Cochin under João da Nova and Zamorin of Kozhikode's navy marks the beginning of Portuguese conflicts in the Indian Ocean. 1502: First reported African slaves in the New World 1502: The Crimean Khanate sacks Sarai in the Golden Horde, ending its existence. 1503: Spain defeats France at the Battle of Cerignola. Considered to be the first battle in history won by gunpowder small arms. 1503: Leonardo da Vinci begins painting the Mona Lisa and completes it three years later. 1503: Nostradamus is born on either December 14 or December 21. 1504: A period of drought, with famine in all of Spain. 1504: Death of Isabella I of Castile; Joanna of Castile becomes the Queen. 1504: Foundation of the Sultanate of Sennar by Amara Dunqas, in what is modern Sudan 1505: Zhengde Emperor ascends the throne of Ming dynasty. 1505: Martin Luther enters St. Augustine's Monastery at Erfurt, Germany, on 17 July and begins his journey to instigating the Reformation. 1505: Sultan Trenggono builds the first Muslim kingdom in Java, called Demak, in Indonesia. Many other small kingdoms were established in other islands to fight against Portuguese. Each kingdom introduced local language as a way of communication and unity. 1506: Leonardo da Vinci completes the Mona Lisa. 1506: King Afonso I of Kongo wins the battle of Mbanza Kongo, resulting in Catholicism becoming Kongo's state religion.Battle of Cerignola: El Gran Capitan finds the corpse of Louis d'Armagnac, Duke of Nemours 1506: At least two thousand converted Jews are massacred in a Lisbon riot, Portugal. 1506: Christopher Columbus dies in Valladolid, Spain. 1506: Poland is invaded by Tatars from the Crimean Khanate. 1507: The first recorded epidemic of smallpox in the New World on the island of Hispaniola. It devastates the native Taíno population.[6] 1507: Afonso de Albuquerque conquered Hormuz and Muscat, among other bases in the Persian Gulf, taking control of the region at the entrance of the Gulf. 1508: The Christian-Islamic power struggle in Europe and West Asia spills over into the Indian Ocean as Battle of Chaul during the Portuguese-Mamluk War 1508–1512: Michelangelo paints the Sistine Chapel ceiling. 1509: The defeat of joint fleet of the Sultan of Gujarat, the Mamlûk Burji Sultanate of Egypt, and the Zamorin of Calicut with support of the Republic of Venice and the Ottoman Empire in Battle of Diu marks the beginning of Portuguese dominance of the Spice trade and the Indian Ocean. 1509: The Portuguese king sends Diogo Lopes de Sequeira to find Malacca, the eastern terminus of Asian trade. After initially receiving Sequeira, Sultan Mahmud Shah captures and/or kills several of his men and attempts an assault on the four Portuguese ships, which escape.[7] The Javanese fleet is also destroyed in Malacca. 1509: Krishnadevaraya ascends the throne of Vijayanagara Empire. Afonso de Albuquerque 1509–1510: The 'great plague' in various parts of Tudor England.[8] 1510: Afonso de Albuquerque of Portugal conquers Goa in India. 1511: Afonso de Albuquerque of Portugal conquers Malacca, the capital of the Sultanate of Malacca in present-day Malaysia. 1512: Copernicus writes Commentariolus, and proclaims the Sun the center of the Solar System. 1512: The southern part (historical core) of the Kingdom of Navarre is invaded by Castile and Aragon. 1512: Qutb Shahi dynasty, founded by Quli Qutb Mulk, rules Golconda Sultanate until 1687. 1512: The first Portuguese exploratory expedition was sent eastward from Malacca (in present-day Malaysia) to search for the 'Spice Islands' (Maluku) led by Francisco Serrão. Serrão is shipwrecked but struggles on to Hitu (northern Ambon) and wins the favour of the local rulers.[9] 1513: Machiavelli writes The Prince, a treatise about political philosophy 1513: The Portuguese mariner Jorge Álvares lands at Macau, China, during the Ming dynasty. 1513: Henry VIII defeats the French at the Battle of the Spurs. 1513: The Battle of Flodden Field in which invading Scots are defeated by Henry VIII's forces. 1513: Sultan Selim I ("The Grim") orders the massacre of Shia Muslims in Anatolia (present-day Turkey). 1513: Vasco Núñez de Balboa, in service of Spain arrives at the Pacific Ocean (which he called Mar del Sur) across the Isthmus of Panama. He was the first European to do so. 1514: The Battle of Orsha halts Muscovy's expansion into Eastern Europe. 1514: Dózsa rebellion (peasant revolt) in Hungary.Martin Luther initiated the Reformation with his Ninety-five Theses in 1517. 1514: The Battle of Chaldiran, the Ottoman Empire gains decisive victory against Safavid dynasty. 1515: Ascension of Francis I of France as King of France following the death of Louis XII. 1515: The Ottoman Empire wrests Eastern Anatolia from the Safavids after the Battle of Chaldiran. 1515: The Ottomans conquer the last beyliks of Anatolia, the Dulkadirs and the Ramadanids. 1516–1517: The Ottomans defeat the Mamluks and gain control of Egypt, Arabia, and the Levant. 1517: The Sweating sickness epidemic in Tudor England.[10] 1517: The Reformation begins when Martin Luther posts his Ninety-five Theses in Saxony. 1518: The Treaty of London was a non-aggression pact between the major European nations. The signatories were Burgundy, France, England, the Holy Roman Empire, the Netherlands, the Papal States and Spain, all of whom agreed not to attack one another and to come to the aid of any that were under attack. 1518: Mir Chakar Khan Rind leaves Baluchistan and settles in Punjab. 1518: Leo Africanus, also known as al-Hasan ibn Muhammad al-Wazzan al-Fasi, an Andalusian Berber diplomat who is best known for his book Descrittione dell'Africa (Description of Africa), is captured by Spanish pirates; he is taken to Rome and presented to Pope Leo X. 1518: The dancing plague of 1518 begins in Strasbourg, lasting for about one month. 1519: Leonardo da Vinci dies of natural causes on May 2.Europe at the time of the accession of Charles V in 1519 1519: Wang Yangming, the Chinese philosopher and governor of Jiangxi province, describes his intent to use the firepower of the fo-lang-ji, a breech-loading Portuguese culverin, in order to suppress the rebellion of Prince Zhu Chenhao. 1519: Barbary pirates led by Hayreddin Barbarossa, a Turk appointed to ruling position in Algiers by the Ottoman Empire, raid Provence and Toulon in southern France. 1519: Death of Emperor Maximilian; Charles I of Austria, Spain, and the Low Countries becomes Emperor of Holy Roman Empire as Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor (ruled until 1556). 1519–1522: Spanish expedition commanded by Magellan and Elcano are the first to Circumnavigate the Earth. 1519–1521: Hernán Cortés leads the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire. Ferdinand Magellan led the first expedition that circumnavigated the globe in 1519–1522. 1520–1566: The reign of Suleiman the Magnificent marks the zenith of the Ottoman Empire. 1520: The first European diplomatic mission to Ethiopia, sent by the Portuguese, arrives at Massawa 9 April, and reaches the imperial encampment of Emperor Dawit II in Shewa 9 October. 1520: Vijayanagara Empire forces under Krishnadevaraya defeat the Adil Shahi under at the Battle of Raichur 1520: Sultan Ali Mughayat Shah of Aceh begins an expansionist campaign capturing Daya on the west Sumatran coast (in present-day Indonesia), and the pepper and gold producing lands on the east coast. 1520: The Portuguese established a trading post in the village of Lamakera on the eastern side of Solor (in present-day Indonesia) as a transit harbour between Maluku and Malacca. 1521: Belgrade (in present-day Serbia) is captured by the Ottoman Empire. 1521: After building fortifications at Tuen Mun, the Portuguese attempt to invade Ming dynasty China, but are expelled by Chinese naval forces. 1521: Philippines encountered by Ferdinand Magellan. He was later killed in the Battle of Mactan in central Philippines in the same year. 1521: Jiajing Emperor ascended the throne of Ming dynasty, China. 1521: November, Ferdinand Magellan's expedition reaches Maluku (in present-day Indonesia) and after trade with Ternate returns to Europe with a load of cloves. 1521: Pati Unus leads the invasion of Malacca (in present-day Malaysia) against the Portuguese occupation. Pati Unus was killed in this battle, and was succeeded by his brother, sultan Trenggana. 1522: Rhodes falls to the Ottomans of Suleiman the Magnificent.[11]Sack of Rome of 1527 by Charles V's forces (painting by Johannes Lingelbach) 1522: The Portuguese ally themselves with the rulers of Ternate (in present-day Indonesia) and begin construction of a fort.[9] 1522: August, Luso-Sundanese Treaty signed between Portugal and Sunda Kingdom granted Portuguese permit to build fortress in Sunda Kelapa. 1523: Sweden gains independence from the Kalmar Union. 1523: The Cacao bean is introduced to Spain by Hernán Cortés 1524–1525: German Peasants' War in the Holy Roman Empire. 1524: Giovanni da Verrazzano is the first European to explore the Atlantic coast of North America between South Carolina and Newfoundland. 1524: Ismail I, the founder of Safavid dynasty, dies and Tahmasp I becomes king.Gun-wielding Ottoman Janissaries and defending Knights of Saint John at the siege of Rhodes in 1522, from an Ottoman manuscript 1525: Timurid Empire forces under Babur defeat the Lodi dynasty at the First Battle of Panipat, end of the Delhi Sultanate. 1525: German and Spanish forces defeat France at the Battle of Pavia, Francis I of France is captured. 1526: The Ottomans defeat the Kingdom of Hungary at the Battle of Mohács. 1526: Mughal Empire, founded by Babur. 1527: Sack of Rome with Pope Clement VII escaping and the Swiss Guards defending the Vatican being killed. The sack of the city of Rome considered the end of the Italian Renaissance. 1527: Protestant Reformation begins in Sweden. 1527: The last ruler of Majapahit falls from power. This state (located in present-day Indonesia) was finally extinguished at the hands of the Demak. A large number of court