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Henry Kamen is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society in London and an emeritus professor of the Higher Council for Scientific Research in Barcelona. He is the author of Empire: How Spain Became a Great Power, 1492-1763, as well as several other books on Spain. He divides his time between Barcelona and the United States.

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Kamen, Henry. Empire: How Spain Became a World Power, 1492-1763. Harper Collins: New York, 2003. Henry Kamen, the great contrarian of Hispanist historiography, has in Empire yet another revisionist work to place on the shelf next to his equally iconoclastic treatments of the Spanish Inquisition, Philip II de Habsburg, and Philip V de Bourbon.

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Philip centralized the administration of the Spanish empire in Madrid, initiating a cultural and political golden age for Spain (known in Spanish as the Siglo de Oro) while becoming known as the "Prudent King", and inherited also the Portuguese Empire in 1580.

Spanish Empire - Wikipedia

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Spanish empire was not yet in place, at least not until the final stages of his reign. Bus as soon as Philip II's program of bureaucratization and gradual centralization is in place, Kamen's argument begins to disintegrate. Not only did Spain (and more so, Castile) become the truly dominant force in the empire, but in some

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Hispania was the Latin name which was given to the whole Iberian Peninsula, and after the fall of the Western Roman Empire (476) the Teutonic tribe of Visigoths ended up ruling the whole peninsula until the Islamic conquest (during that time they pushed another Teutonic tribe out—the Vandals – and conquered another one—the Suevi).

Islam in Spain - Wikipedia

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