

# Cultural diffusion



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Cultural Diffusion Throughout history cultural diffusion has occurred all around the world, and even in today's society. We have all been diffused in one way or another be it by eating another cultures food such a Chinese food in the United States or by the intermarriage of two cultures. Cultural Diffusion is the process in which cultural qualities are being transferred from one society to another through, conflicts, movements, trade, and or other types of relations.

There are three different types of cultural diffusion, direct diffusion, forced diffusion, and indirect diffusion. Direct diffusion is when two cultures are close to each other ending in intermarriage, trade, and warfare. Forced diffusion, is one culture conquering another culture and forces them to acquire there customs. Indirect diffusion is when cultures traits are passed to another's culture through a person, with out one another ever being in contact. These types of cultural diffusion have shaped the world we know today. As Mrs. Mancini says ??? The situations that are occurring today happened backed then, for example we are poor today and back then we were poor too.

??? Two examples of cultural diffusion are: the intermarriage of Fernando of Aragon and Isabel of Castile in the country of Spain, and also, the scientific revolution which occurred all throughout Europe. These are only a few examples of cultural diffusion however; there are so many more examples because in today's society everything is culturally diffused with one another. The Scientific revolution began in the seventeenth and eighteenth century. The Scientific Revolution was the most far wide well-known transformation known today. The Scientific revolution is known for natural

sciences and technologies. However, the scientific revolution is also known for the change in point of view on a variety of subjects, and it also was altered in their art such as; paintings, sculpture, and architecture.

As you can tell so far the minds of the people during this age has completely transformed. The change in thought started to occur in the beginnings of the scientific revolution. The scientific revolution started to occur slowly through out time and in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries it began to speed up. Aristotle was the first to start questioning and realizing why the way things were. He would question things in a series of stages: a) examining what everyone else had said about the topic, b) making several observations, and lastly, c) deriving either universal or possible principles on the topic from both letters a and b.

This manner of thinking is called empirical thought. Aristotle's idea became in to empirical science and then it also became empirical investigations. There were many grand scientists during this age such as: Nicolaus Copernicus, Tycho Brahe, Johannes Kepler, Galileo Galilei, and Isaac Newton. These great scientists shaped the world of science as we now know it. These are the people we study in our text books and who we aspire to be. Nicolaus Copernicus was the first great astronomer to challenge the Ptolemaic universe.

The Ptolemaic universe was a theory on how the earth moved which was believed for hundreds of years before Nicolaus Copernicus stopped him. Copernicus published *On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres*, this book challenged the idea of the Ptolemaic Universe, and stated the simplest

explanations??™ possible to solve this predicament. His explanations are almost accurate to today??™s system, the suns in the center, and planets make circular orbits around the sun. Tycho Brahe was one of the mathematicians trying to prove the Ptolemaic universe. Brahe opposed the Copernicus Universe, since he was the one who to a great extent influenced them to adopt the Ptolemaic universe.

Although he lead a boring occupation trying many different calculations, his life was fairly interesting. He lost his nose syphilis, and he also was a heavy drinker. One night he was invited to dinner by a prince and he was drinking heavily, in those times you were not allowed to be excused unless a higher rank was excused first so he waited in his seat until his bladder exploded. Johannes Kepler took pieces from the Copernicus??™s universe and made his own universe the Keplerian universe. In the Keplerian Universe, the planets orbited around the sun and remained in their orbital paths; however, they were elliptical orbitals rather than circular orbitals.

He made his new model with the ideas of Copernicus model and Brahe??™s calculations. He is known for his eponymous laws of planetary motion. Galileo Galilei was an Italian physicist, mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher who played a foremost role in the scientific revolution. His achievements include the first organized studies of evenly accelerated movement, and improvements to the telescope and resulting astronomical observations.

Isaac Newton was an English physicist, mathematician, astronomer, natural philosopher and alchemist. His piece *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia*

Mathematica, published in 1687, described universal gravitation and the three laws of motion, laying the foundation for classical mechanics. He showed that the movements of matter on Earth which are governed by the similar position of natural laws by representing the stability between Keplers laws of planetary motion and his theory of gravitation, therefore advancing in the scientific revolution.

As I said this above, these great scientists shaped the world of science as we now know it today. The Catholic Monarchs is the title of Queen Isabella I of Castile and King Ferdinand II of Aragon. The name of “ Catholic King and Queen” was bestowed on them by the Pope Alexander VI. Isabella of Castile and Ferdinand II of Aragon were married which united the kingdom of Spain. By the marriage of the Catholic Monarchs they diffused together to kingdoms of Castile and Aragon and became one. Isabella, was named heir to the throne of Castile by her half-brother Henry IV of Castile, she became Queen in 1469. Her husband Ferdinand became the King of Aragon in 1479, and their marriage unified the two kingdoms.

They were strong leaders who worked to unify Spain. This was mostly achieved after the capture of Granada in 1492. The birth of Isabella??™s son in 1478 consolidated the political solidity as it meant a clear line of succession in favor of the Spanish throne. Their marriage made it possible for the kingdom of Spain to have its first heir since the two kingdoms have been united.

In 1476 the Catholic Monarchs recognized royal power in Spain. They created an assembly named the Holy Brotherhood. These men were used as an

official police force in Spain. The Catholic Monarchs also created the Royal Council, and appointed chief judges to run the towns and cities. This founding of royal authority is known as the appeasement of Castile, and is a vital step to the formation of one of Europe's first strong nation-states.

Ferdinand and Isabella were well-known for being the monarchs of the newly-united Spain in the modern-day era. They authorized the journey of Christopher Columbus, which brought information of the New World to Europe. The colonies Columbus established and conquests in the Americas in the decades to come would lead to a great arrival of wealth into Spain, filling the reserves of the new state that would prove to be the authority of Europe for the next two centuries. In Conclusion, cultural diffusion is the process in which cultural qualities are being transferred from one society to another through, conflicts, movements, trade, and or other types of relations. In the Scientific Revolution we came about many great scientists and viewpoints, and without us knowing it has shaped the world we live in today. In the Inter-marriage of Spain we learned the Catholic monarchs have resulted in the unification of once alienated countries.

Cultural Diffusions can happen in any moment in time, this does not only happen in the history it can happen in the present as well. Bibliography Hooker, Richard. "The Scientific Revolution." (1996). Washington State University. 19 Sept.

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