Spanish Empire  
   
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The Spanish Empire, sometimes referred to as the Hispanic Monarchy or the Catholic Monarchy, was a  
colonial empire that existed between 1492 and 1976. In conjunction with the Portuguese Empire, it  
ushered in the European Age of Discovery. It achieved a global scale, controlling vast portions of the  
Americas, Africa, various islands in Asia and Oceania, as well as territory in other parts of Europe. It  
was one of the most powerful empires of the early modern period