



FERDINAND MAGELLAN AND SEBASTIÁN ELCANO

By: Samuel Parejo Pinto (3°ESO B)

INTRODUCTION

- Fernando de Magallanes, also known as Hernando de Magallanes, was a Portuguese military man, explorer, sailor and navigator from noble lineage. He was named advanced and naturalized Spanish by the Spanish Crown and captain-general of the "Armada for the discovery of spices" and commander of the Order of Santiago.

FERDINAND MAGELLAN'S FIRST TRAVELS

- In March 1505, at the age of twenty-five, he enlisted in the Indian Navy. In the fleet of 20 ships sent to install Francisco de Almeida as the first viceroy of India. Although his name does not appear in the chronicles, it is known that he remained there for eight years and that he was in Goa, Cochin and Queloa. He participated in various military actions, including the naval battle of Cananor (Kerala), where he was wounded, and in the decisive battle of Diu. In 1509 he set out on the first expedition to Malacca commanded by Diogo Lopes de Sequeira, together with Francisco Serrão, his friend and possibly cousin.⁴ Arrived in Malacca in September, they were victims of a conspiracy, and the expedition ended up in flight leaving behind nineteen prisoners. . Magellan played a crucial role in alerting Sequeira and saving Serrão, who had disembarked, acts that earned him honours and a promotion.

FERDINAND MAGELLAN'S FIRST TRAVELS

- At the service of the new governor, Afonso de Albuquerque, he participated together with Serrão in the conquest of Malacca in 1511. After the conquest of the city, the paths of the friends parted: Magellan, promoted, with a rich booty and in the company of a slave acquired in Sumatra, Henry of Malacca, returned to Europe. Serrão set out on the first expedition sent to the "spice islands", the Moluccas. There he remained and married a woman from Amboina, becoming a military advisor to the Sultan of Ternate.

START OF THE TRIP

- On August 10, 1519, the squad of five ships left Seville, led by Fernando de Magallanes that, descending the Guadalquivir, reached Sanlúcar de Barrameda (Cádiz). During the following weeks, the squad was finished supplying, and they resolved other issues. While Magellan himself made a will in Seville on August 24, naming heirs to his son Rodrigo and the children to give birth to his wife, whom he left pregnant.¹⁰ On September 20, the expedition finally set sail from Sanlúcar, intending to find the maritime passage towards the territories of the East Indies and look for the way that, always travelling through Castilian seas (according to the Treaty of Tordesillas), would reach the islands of the spices, which was the so-called westward route that Christopher Columbus had already sought.

DEATH OF MAGELLAN IN THE PHILIPPINES

- Looking for the Moluccas, Magellan and his people arrived at the island of Cebu, belonging to the archipelago that later would be known as "Philippine Islands" in honour of Felipe II. They had reached the Far East, fulfilling the project of Christopher Columbus. Magellan perished on April 27, 1521, at the Battle of Mactan, fighting a Cebuana tribe led by the Lapulapu tribal chief. On the Philippine island of Mactan.

JUÁN SEBASTIÁN ELCANO

- He was a Spanish sailor who completed the first round the world in the Magallanes-Elcano expedition when he was at the head of the tour after the death of Fernando de Magallanes.
- He was born on an unknown date, probably around 1486, in the town of Guetaria, province of Guipúzcoa.

THE RETURN TRIP, CAPTAINED BY ELCANO

- He had the problem of returning to Spain with what was left of the expedition, without knowing the way back through the Pacific, and it seemed crazy to try, so he chose to sail the Portuguese seas to the west, bordering Africa on known routes and with the possibility of making washes. Enrique de Malaca (a slave that Magellan had acquired on a previous trip) continues to be part of the expedition and may have been the first person to circumnavigate the globe when the expedition reached Malacca.

ARRIVAL IN SPAIN

- After crossing the Indian Ocean and going around Africa, he was the first European to complete the circumnavigation of the globe, since he managed to complete the expedition and reach the port of departure, Sanlúcar de Barrameda, on September 6, 1522, in the Nao Victoria, along with 17 other survivors, was the achievement of an impressive feat for the time.
- Elcano, eager to get to Seville, barely stopped at Sanlúcar de Barrameda. On the same day of arrival, he took a boat at his service to tow the Victory down the Guadalquivir to Seville, due to the poor condition of the ship. The officers of the Casa de la Contratación de Indias in Seville prepared a boat with 12 oars, loaded with fresh provisions. At the dock, the city authorities and the members of the full House of Contracting were waiting, along with a large audience that contemplated the arrival of the rickety ship.

THE SECOND EXPEDITION TO THE MOLUCCAS

- After granting a will on July 26, 8 being already very ill but healthy of mind and natural judgment, he died of scurvy on August 4, 1526, aboard the ship Santa María de la Victoria, another ship different from that with the one that completed the circumnavigation of the world, but with the same name, when he participated in the expedition of García Jofre de Loáísa to the Moluccas. At that time, among the witnesses who signed his will was another famous Spanish sailor, Andrés de Urdaneta.
- There is also the version that states that Elcano did not die of scurvy, but intoxicated when consuming a large fish, probably barracuda "with teeth like a dog" (Andrés de Urdaneta), "and all the main men who ate with him also died, almost in time of 40 days "(Juan de Mazuecos). According to this hypothesis, he died of ciguatera.