

By: Alejandro Sánchez Acejo



- Fernando de Magallanes was a Portuguese military man, explorer, sailor and navigator of noble lineage.
- He was appointed advance 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.



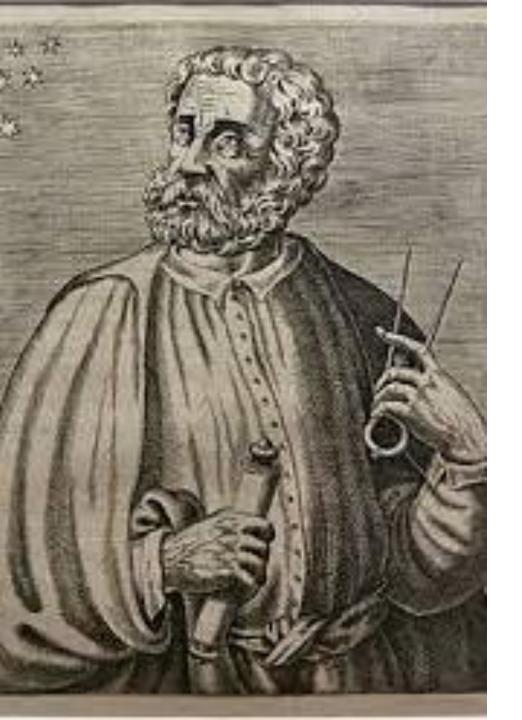
 At the service of Carlos I, he began the expedition in 1519 in which he discovered the natural navigable channel that today receives the name of the Strait of Magellan, making the first navigation of European origin from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, until then called the Sea of the South. This expedition, in which Magellan died, became the first circumnavigation of the Earth when one of his ships, captained by Juan Sebastián Elcano, returned to Spain in 1522.



 He was the son of Rui de Magalhães and Inês Vaz Moutinho. Brother of Duarte de Sousa, Diogo de Sousa, Isabel de Magalhães, Genebra de Magalhães and Aires de Magalhães. Fernando's father, Rui de Magalhães, was a noble knight of the house of D. His brother Aires de Magalhães followed the ecclesiastical career, receiving the subdiaconate in Braga in 1509. Beatriz Barbosa also died shortly after, in March 1522.

 He participated in several military actions, including the naval battle of Cananor where he was wounded, and in the decisive battle of Diu. Magellan played a crucial role in alerting Sequeira and saving Serrão who had disembarked, acts that earned him honors and a promotion.





- At the service of the new governor, Afonso de Albuquerque, he participated together with Serrão in the conquest of Malacca in 1511. Serrão set out on the first expedition sent to the "spice islands", the Moluccas.
- Meanwhile Magellan, after participating in the battle of Azamor, already on duty in that city, was accused of illegally trading with the Moors; When several of the accusations were verified, the job offers ceased as of May 15, 1514. Back in Lisbon, he devoted himself to studying the most recent letters, investigating together with the cosmographer Rui Faleiro a passage to the Pacific through the South Atlantic and the possibility that the Moluccas were in the Spanish zone defined in the Treaty of Tordesillas.

- In 1517 he went to Seville with Rui Faleiro and found in Juan de Aranda, the factor of the Sevillian House of Trade, an important ally for the project he had conceived: giving Spain the possibility of reaching the Moluccas from the west, without crossing seas. reserved for the Portuguese by the Treaty of Tordesillas and, in addition to that, according to Faleiro, proving that the "spice islands" were in the Castilian hemisphere.
- After breaking with Faleiro, Magellan continued to rig the ships that were to leave Seville. Among the few Portuguese sailors were Álvaro de Mezquita, Magellan's first cousin, Duarte Barbosa, cousin of Magellan's wife, Juan Serrano, cousin or brother of Francisco Serrão and Esteban Gómez.

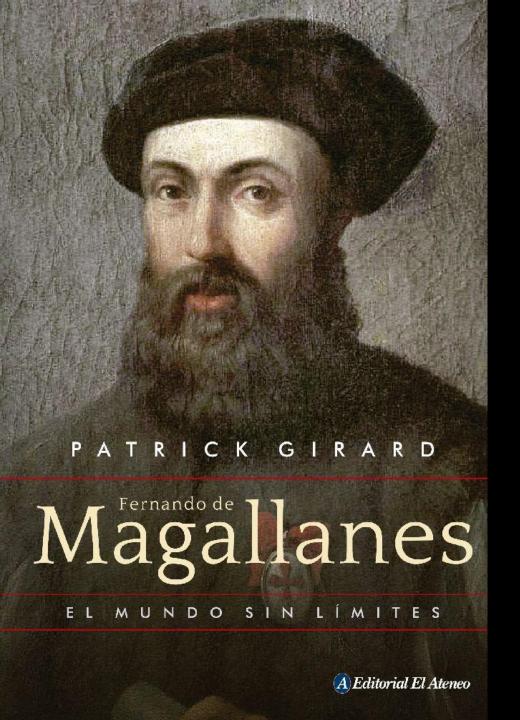


- While Magellan himself made a will in Seville on August 24, naming his son Rodrigo and the children to give birth to his wife, whom he left pregnant, as heirs.10
- On September 20, the expedition finally set sail from Sanlúcar, with the intention of finding the maritime passage towards the territories of the East Indies and looking for the way that, always traveling through Castilian seas, would reach the islands of spices, which was the so-called route to the west that Christopher Columbus had already sought.



- After landing in the Canaries, they passed in front of the islands of Cape Verde and the coasts of Sierra Leone, touching the lands of what is now Rio de Janeiro on December 13, 1519.
- Juan de Cartagena was abandoned ashore, along with the clergyman Sánchez de Reina, when the expedition set sail on August 21, 1520 from the port of San Julián, without anything being known after them. Magallanes appoints Serrano captain of La Concepción and Duarte Barbosa captain of Victoria.





- San Antonio's ship, with Álvaro de Mezquita, went ahead, at which point the pilot Esteban Gómez and the treasurer Jerónimo Guerra deposed Mezquita to retrace the road at night and return to Spain. The ship Concepción under the command of Captain Juan Serrano crosses the channel and waits in vain for the ship San Antonio.
- Fortune made the crossing through the Pacific Ocean, which is baptized with that name because of the calm, to not meet any storm. On the contrary, the misfortune of not finding solid ground for three months.
- Because the crew of the ship that carried the provisions fled back to Spain, famine and scurvy hit its crew, to the point that large coins were paid for a simple rat to devour.



 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 honor 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.



THE END

THANKS!