

# CITY OF PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL

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July 24, 2020

Philadelphia Historical Commission 1515 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19107

To the Members of the Philadelphia Historical Commission:

Philadelphia should be a leader on dealing with the current atmosphere on Statues, Art and History.

As the nation's first World Heritage City, the birthplace of America, and our first capital, Philadelphia should be setting a precedent in ways to create constructive solutions to the divisive issues at play. We need to look at the people, places and events that molded our history in the context of the time they occurred. As a young country, we have a duty to tell the entire story of our past, the good, the bad and the ugly.

Whether it is a piece of political history or a purely artistic installation, public opinion needs to be taken into consideration. While not every piece of art is created with the intent to elicit emotionally pleasant reactions, we should be cautious of placing structures on display that may encourage an oppressive or hateful attitude. I believe we must create a process through which opinions from constituents regarding public statues, murals or other art installation can be acknowledged and explored.

People have varying opinions on every leader that change with time. What we do today may not be accepted or tolerated 20, 50, or 100 years from now, just as some practices from our past have ended. We should use what we have learned from our past as an opportunity to teach our future. For example, we have a statue of George Washington in from of Independence Hall. He was a Patriot, General and our first President, but he was also a slave owner which makes him a bigot/racist in the eyes of many today. Community leaders Rosalyn McPherson, Michael Coard Esq., Karen Warrington, Emmanuel Kelly and historians led the way on the development and construction of the President's House – Freedom and Slavery in Making a New Nation. They found a way to tell a more accurate story of the history of George Washington's slaves in Philadelphia in addition to our first President's accomplishments. While this type of solution may not work as a compromise in every situation, this one example of how to work with valid concerns from our citizens and still acknowledge the facts of our history.

We have a great opportunity to bring people together instead of being divisive. Do not be afraid to discuss the controversial and sometime brutal truth of our nation's development. We should not try to hide our history, but instead learn from it and not repeat past mistakes. Let's not follow other cities but lead the nation as we have done in the past. In keeping with the mathematical terms, we should be more interested in addition and multiplication instead of subtraction and division.

Sincerely,

Mark Squilla

#### **TESTIMONY OFFERED BY BENNETT LEVIN, PE**

#### BEFORE THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

**JULY 24, 2020** 

Thank you Chairman Thomas for the opportunity to express my opinions on a matter that is of critical importance not only to all Philadelphians but also every person who visits the most historic city in America...

For Background I served as the city's L&I Commissioner from 1992 to 1996

I was also a member of the City's Historical Commission during that time

And prior to becoming the L&I Commissioner I was a member of the Board of Building Standard for 20 years, the final 6 years of which I was its Chairman.

As an appendix, I have attached a copy of my full background

! am very concerned that this commission not decertify or allow the statue of Christopher Columbus to be removed from its current location in Marconi Plaza for several reasons, some of which are rather personal to me.

My paternal grandparents were immigrants that first settled in South Philadelphia. It was truly a melting pot for those who came here in the massive flow of immigrants at the dawn of the last century. Italians came here from Italy and the Irish came here from Ireland and the Jewish immigrants came to South Philadelphia from the bowels of Europe, mainly from the Pale of Jewish Settlement, the land mass between the Black Sea and the Baltic where Catherine the Great exiled the Jews of Mother Russia. They got off the boat at the foot of Washington Avenue and made a life for themselves and their children in the most vibrant neighborhood in the city of William Penn's "Holy Experiment" in Freedom and Tolerance. Each ethnic group learned to respect and live door to door with the others and as a result enriched our entire region with their culture, their customs, and their love for their new country, while all the time retaining the best of what their native heritage had to offer. And, as they assimilated and prospered they then built monuments to that heritage as reflected not only in statues such as the one being discussed today, but also their houses of worship and their social clubs.

A proud Italian immigrant community saved their nickels and dimes and erected a statue to honor the person of Italian descent who ventured forth to discover a new world on behalf of the Queen of Spain. It was a source of pride and the recognition that in their new homeland they paid tribute to one of their native countrymen who had the courage and the tenacity to sail into the unknown and by discovering this continent gave them the opportunity to eventually come here and savory the liberty and freedom that a group of imperfect men stitched together on the hallowed ground between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> on Chestnut Street.

We are all imperfect and who is here to judge any of us. Surely not a mob fed by a long festering movement of unruly anarchists. We are judged solely by our Maker and/or a jury of our peers.

We should not tear down or remove monuments to events or to people of the past, no more than should we burn books. In my lifetime we witnessed book burnings on the streets of a civilized nation with high culture that lead to the darkest days ever recorded in the history of mankind. We also do not erase history. What we do is use research and offer scholarship to add to that body of history and knowledge in order that future generations can be taught, can read, can learn and judge for themselves as to the merits or the defects of those who came before them on their journey to add to the American Experience. If we erase history and if we respond to the mob then what assurance do we have the revisionists will not re-write history to suit their political goals. Rather than tear down or relocate pieces of our history, we need more statues, more memorials and more historical markers so that we can ask the questions, seek the answers and make ourselves better citizens and improve our relationships with those who in some way might differ from each one of us.

A year ago on July 4<sup>th</sup> my wife and I went to Virginia and visited the homes of James Madison and Thomas Jefferson. We stood on the steps of Montpelier and gazed at the Blue Ridge in the distance with the realization that those hills marked the western edge of American in 1776. We saw the slave quarters and we heard the docent's presentation of the good and the bad of James Madison. We then drove to Monticello and took the tour of Jefferson's home. Vivian and I had done the tour 20 years earlier but this time the experience was slightly different. Adjacent to the slave shops was a grave that was unmarked on our prior visit. The grave was of a woman from Philadelphia who happened to be Jewish. She was the mother of Uriah Levy, an American Naval officer and the first Jew to reach the rank of Commodore in the American Navy. He too was a Philadelphian. Why was she buried there? It was a story that was buried with her and hidden from public view because some folks in Virginia could not accept the fact that a Jew who admired Jefferson had bought his home from the ruins of Jefferson's bankrupt estate. The Levy family kept it until the 20<sup>th</sup> Century when it was sold to the Foundation that restored it to today's condition. History is not old and dusty. History is alive and there I always

something new to learn. History cannot and should not be banished, it should be used to inform and to make all of us better people

I have been blessed to have been privileged to have grown up in the City of Philadelphia. I was fortunate to have attended and graduate from Central High School in 1961. It was a most wonderful experience because it was a color-blind lesson in getting along with every race, culture, and religion. We all wanted to succeed and we all helped each other through the rigors at Ogontz and Olney Avenues... And, we learned from each other. We learned things that we might never had known had we not been exposed to each other's cultures. One year ahead of my class (207) was a class that had a most talented black kid who was a wizard on the drums. Jimmy DePriest had a famous aunt whose name I could guarantee almost none of us would not have recognized back then. One afternoon she came to Central and gave us a most wonderful concert. She was Marian Anderson and we learned how she was barred by the DAR from singing at Constitution Hall in Washington and how Eleanor Roosevelt arrange to have her sing at the Lincoln Memorial on Easter Sunday in 1939. It was living history and we all, both Black and White, learned from that experience.

We need to learn from history and make our own choices and decisions. However; we must learn to respect those who erected these monuments. They did so because of their pride in their heritage and love for this city. Sadly, we have neglected to teach American history and Civics in our school, but have chosen to allow the "educational industry" to indoctrinate our children and grandchildren in a culture of grievance.

This Commission is charged with the protection of this city's extensive and proud historical fabric. History is much more than the brick and mortar buildings that find their way before you to be preserved or to be demolished. History is also the footprints that we all leave behind as we participate in the civic life of Philadelphia. It is the culture and the accomplishments of every wave of immigration. It is Mario Lanza and it is Marian Anderson. It is Leon Sullivan and it is Mathias Baldwin, It is William Penn and it is Latrica Mott. It is the Swede, the Irish, the Polish, the Italian, the English, the Jewish, the African and now the new wave of immigrants from Southeast Asia and the Southern Hemisphere that has made Philadelphia not only the one time Workshop of the World, but more importantly the beneficiary of William Penn's vision of tolerance and inclusion. Add to that the proud heritage of the Leni Lenape and the resulting mosaic is rich in color and texture.

This Commission must stand a bulwark against the raging mob and political cowardice. It must protect our buildings, and our monuments. It must protect the memory of all generations of

Philadelphians and their struggle to climb the ladder of success. It must not allow history to be erased, but rather must encourage further scholarship and interpretation. We must not be guilty of tearing down monuments no more than we would be guilt of burning books. We must teach and we must learn and we much respect each other's heritage.

Should I be offended by Christopher Columbus who came to this continent in 1492 on behalf of and in the name of Queen Isabella of Spain? 1492 was not a particularly good year for some of my ancestors who were banished from Spain in that year as the result of actions by the same Queen for whom Columbus set sail. 1492 was the start of the Spanish Inquisition. I am not offended, but rather I am enriched by knowing these things and being reminded of them in the public square

George Washington said it best in his famous letter to the Jewish Congregation of Newport Rhode Island when he said. "It is now no more that toleration is spoken of as if it were the indulgence of one class of people that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights, for, happily, the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens in giving it on all occasions their effectual support." The Jewish Congregation of Newport was populated with the descendants of those who were forced out of Spain in 1492 and who eventually made their way to Brazil and then years later to Rhode Island.

History is too valuable to be placed in a warehouse or behind a curtain. This Commission needs to speak truth to power and needs to make sure that our collective story, the story of all of us, is not re-written by a mob and is enshrined for all to see in the public square.

Re: Columbus Statue Meeting on 7/24/24 ...

Joe Mirarchi <

Sun 7/26/2020 10:31 AM

To: Jon Farnham < Jon.Farnham@phila.gov>

External Email Notice. This email comes from outside of City government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good Morning Director Farnham,

Thanks for the prompt response.

Can you give me the name of 1 female witness who testified from the Human Relations Commission towards the end of the Hearing? Was it the Philadelphia Commission or the Pennsylvania Commission?

I asked around but I am getting different responses.

Also, attached kindly find the Estimate/Proposal which I placed into the record during the Hearing.

I was disconnected while trying to ask for instructions on how to submit it to the Commission so I am submitting it now.

By way of this email, I advise Mr. Bochetto also.

Thank you again for your assistance.

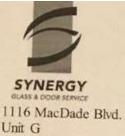
Sincerely, Joe Mirarchi



10=4



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Jesse Blankschen (484) 540-3117 Ext. 105 Jesse@synergyglassanddoor.com

Collingdale, PA 19023

Quote Number: 20-276

Date: 7/15/2020 Attn: Steve Castellano

Job: Christopher Columbus Statue Storefront

Synergy Glass and Door, LLC (hereinafter, "Synergy") proposes to furnish all material, equipment, labor and supervision to complete the above captioned project, only as expressly noted below.

#### Furnish and Install:

YKK 45F1  $(2^{\circ\prime} \times 4.5^{\circ\prime})$  dark bronze storefront framing around existing statue. Includes (1) horizontal per elevation; upper lites to be 9/16" clear tempered laminated glass , and lower lites to be 1" insulated smooth face dark bronze anodized aluminum panels. Also includes (1) piece of 9/16" clear tempered laminated glass on top of storefront.

Concrete base to mount storefront is required and to be supplied and installed by others

Price \$24,400.00

SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS (SEE PAGE 2)

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#### STANDARD EXCLUSIONS:

Bonding, seismic ratings, film, signage, permits, replacement of materials damaged by others, any/all electrical wiring, final cleaning of any products, final keying, protection of materials, off hours work, phased work, use of staircases or cranes to load materials (elevators must be utilized) unless specifically spelled out above, automated closers, automated assist closers, all electronic security hardware unless expressly spelled out above.

#### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

All pricing is quoted in U.S. dollars. This quote includes only those items specifically spelled out above. Omissions, discrepancies, changes should be brought to the attention of Synergy, immediately. This quotation is valid for sixty (60) days. Tax is included and is subject to change at any time. Quotation is based on sizes, quantities, and material as submitted by customer. Any deviation from information supplied will result in revised pricing. Prices and set up charges are based on one job being completed from start to finish. Phased work and off hours work are not included unless specifically specified above. All goods, including those produced to meet an exact specification, shall be subject to tolerances and variations consistent with the usage of trade, regular factory practices and practical testing and inspection methods unless otherwise agreed in writing by Synergy Glass. 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Synergy Glass cannot be held liable for any shortages and delays in delivery through happenings beyond its control (Example: manufacturer's late deliveries, strikes, war, loss, damage, transport delays, etc.). Retention property in goods: Until payment by the customer is received in full by Synergy Glass for the price of the goods, property in the goods shall remain Synergy's. The customer shall hold the goods in a fiduciary capacity for Synergy and shall store them in such a manner, at their own expense, so that they shall at all times be identifiable as goods of Synergy. If the customer shall receive from whosoever any payment in respect of the goods then the customer shall receive and hold such monies on behalf of Synergy and shall without undue delay pay all sums to Synergy Glass in respect of the goods.

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#### **PUBLICATION**

<u>Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem</u>, Carol Delaney, Professor Emerita Stanford University (2011)

#### I. PROFESSOR DELANEY'S QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERTISE

#### Education

1962 Boston University A.B. in Philosophy

1976 Harvard Divinity School, M.T.S.

1984 University of Chicago, Ph.D in Cultural Anthropology

Galler Prize for most distinguished dissertation in the Division of Social Sciences

#### **Employment etc**

1985-87 Harvard University, Asst Director of her department

1987-95 Stanford University, Asst Prof. of Anthropology

1995-2005 Stanford University, Associate Professor

2005 – Stanford University, Emerita

2006-2007 Brown University, Professor, Religious Studies

2007-Present, Brown University, Research Scholar

### **Fellowships and Awards**

- National Endowment for the Humanities, John Carter Brown Library at Brown University, 2004–05
- Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University, 1996–97
- Fellow, Harvard Divinity School, 1992–93
- Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center, 1989–90
- Mark Perry Galler prize for the most distinguished dissertation in the social sciences at the University of Chicago, 1985.
- Fulbright Advanced Research Fellowship, 1984–85
- Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Fellowship, 1981–82
- National Science Foundation, Dissertation Grant, 1981–82
- Fulbright Cultural Exchange Scholar, 1979–80

#### Bibliography

6 Publications (4 Books, 1 book collaborated & 1 collection of essays) Voluminous and Various Articles

#### **Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem (2011)**

# II. PROFESSOR DELANEYS INVESTIGATION, RESEARCH AND FIELD STUDIES ABROAD ON LOCATION RELATED TO THE PRODUCTION OF HER ORIGINAL, ACCALIMED BOOK ON COLUMBUS

In 1999 – was teaching a class: "Millennial Fever" and apocalyptic frenzy Noticed the Toppling of statues and Protests for Indigenous People Readings about Columbus about similar beliefs in 15<sup>th</sup> Century At the time she was not well versed in the History of Columbus

She began research, reading, discussion with staff/fellows at Brown/Stanford

Bibliography of this book contains – 13 pages of sources

Professor Delaney read his (Columbus') diary, his agreement with Queen Isabella, memos, letters, his son's (Ferdinand) and his brother's (Batholomew) writings, his crew members letters and memos, his (Columbus') book of prophesies

#### Field research

Genoa (Place of Columbus' birth)
Preserved documents, sense of city, topograph
Spain

Granada, Alhabra, La Rabitda monastery, Cordoba, Boarded replicas of 3 small ships docked below the monastery Walked 7 km to Palos

Seville – Location of Columbus' 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with sovereigns Location of Biblioteca Columbina

Madrid - Casa de Alba – more documents, direct descendant Simancas – held 500 year old letters written by Columbus Valladolid – house where he died

Signed up for a stint on a ship -3 AM watch, swabbed the decks, hauled sails, tried to calculate distance

Caribbean field trip to all islands

# III. Columbus the whole story

The current "fashionable" view of Columbus as a Villain, a rapist, torturer, marauder is far from the truth and contrary to what the writings reflect. If you would read his diary, memos and letters – [Professor Delaney] did, you would see that he speaks very highly of the natives he

encountered and remained friends with them. Columbus never personally killed any natives and continually admonished his men not to maraud, rape or plunder.

"Judging Columbus from a contemporary perspective rather than from the values and practices of his own time misjudges his motivations and his accomplishments." p. 236

#### **THE MISSION**

"Columbus set forth on his voyage with the intention to deliver letters to the Grand Khan from Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand and to set up a trading post to trade for the gold and spices he had read about in Marco Polo's book. The stated purpose of that trade was to obtain enough gold to finance a crusade to retake Jerusalem from the then Muslim occupiers as a prerequisite to rebuilding the temple for Christ's return before the end of the world (which he believed was imminent (emphasis added)." p. 237

"Columbus did not intend to supplant the native peoples with Europeans or steal their land; later, faced with rebellion, he capitulated to the settlers' demands" p. 237

#### A. Today – Symbol

- a. New View He was responsible for everything that went wrong in the New World. "[H]e is an avaricious sinner who fomented genocide." p. xii
- b. Old View Devout Christian- he became a Franciscan Monk, Great naval Navigator, Founder of the New World attempts were made at canonizing him a saint in the 1800's because it was argued that he brought the Christian faith to half the world

#### B. Delaney's Purpose of Research & Perspective

- a. "not to exonerate Columbus, but to situate him in his cultural context and to shift some of our attention from the man to the religious ideas that motivated him and were widely shared by his contemporaries" p. xiii
- b. "[W]e must consider his world and how the cultural and religious beliefs of his time colored the way he thought and acted."
  - i. He lived in a Catholic World where his faith was not just a moral guide but a worldwide view p. xiii
- c. One cannot judge Columbus with today's standards as they [500 years ago] did not have the same knowledge, moral experience we do today. No different than we are much more advance than we were in 1960 [only 50 years ago] and from our decision making as adults from when we were children or teens, etc..

#### C. Columbus' Goals

- a. This was a Religious Mission
- b. "whole goal was to meet the Grand Khan in China, set up a trading post like Marco Polo, but the profits gained were to be used to fund a crusade

to take back Jerusalem from the Muslim rulers before the end of the world. This was necessary so the Church could be rebuilt, so Christ could come again to save the people. This is in his writings and agreement with Queen Isabella. Also, it is why he kept asking her [Queen Isabella] to send priests to teach and baptize the people. Baptized people could not be enslaved."

# D. The 4 Voyages detailed

#### a. 1st Voyage

- i. 8/3/1492 departed from Palos, Spain to Canary Islands to Hispaniola (Haiti/Dominican Republic) arrived on 10/12/1492
- ii. Came on the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria with 90 total crew members
- iii. They began trading with them (the natives) immediately
  - 1. P. 92 "in order that they would be friendly to us because I recognized that they were a people would be better freed and converted to our Holy Faith by love than by force" *Diario p. 65*
- iv. He was searching for Japan
- v. "The quest for gold ... was relentless. No wonder people reading Columbus's diary conclude that greed was the primary motive behind his quest." He was an agent of the crown and had to repay them to finance future voyages and knew that without this his plan to Jerusalem would come to an end.
- vi. He realized that he needed to learn the language to convert the natives.

#### vii. Caribs were the enemies of those he befriended

- 1. They killed or <u>enslaved natives before Columbus arrived</u> [Columbus DID NOT introduce the institution of Slavery to the Americas!!!
- 2. They dismembered and castrated their enemies
- 3. Thought to be cannibals
- viii. The Santa Maria was wrecked and unable to return with all crew members Columbus was forced to leave 39 men behind with Guacanagari, chief of the natives whom he had befriended over a 90 day stay
- ix. He ordered his men to do no harm to the Indians, "rather ... strive ... to gain their good-will, keeping their friendship and love, so that he should find them as friendly and favourable and more so when he returned." P. 109 Casas quoting Columbus

- x. 1/16/1493, left for Spain with 6 to 10 Indians Purpose:
  - 1. To learn each others languages
  - 2. To instruct them in Christianity
  - 3. Evidence that he found a route across the ocean
  - 4. They were baptized NOT ENSLAVED
  - 5. One became his adopted Godson

# b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Voyage

- i. 9/25/1993 departed with 17 ships and about 1200 men arrived in 21 days (a navigational feat at the time)
- ii. Captured some of the Caribs to return to Spain and rescued and freed those whom the Caribs enslaved
- iii. Discovered many more islands on his way back to his men, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands (Note, American territories today)
- iv. Skirmish at St. Croix with more Caribs who had enslaved Guacanagari's people He put them on his boat and returned them to their homes
- v. Arrived at where he left his 39 men and learned that they were all killed
  - 1. His crew wanted revenge p. 132
  - 2. Columbus refused to exact revenge until he could find out the truth
  - 3. Learned that his men had **defied his orders** and fought amongst themselves, raided villages, raped, kidnapped women, hoarded unreported gold found
  - 4. Rival Chief Caonabo retaliated and killed Columbus' men
  - 5. Columbus' friendship with Guacanagari grew but that relationship along with his settlers began to deteriorate
- vi. Columbus was a sailor and navigator; he was not cut out for the job of administrator; even less as governor, and he had had no training for this role. P. 135
  - 1. The *hidalgos* (Spaniards with money) were the problem they refused to work and wanted slaves
  - 2. Hidalgos refused to eat native food
  - 3. They turned against him
- vii. Columbus sent 12 of 17 ships back
  - 1. He sent back 26 Caribs permitted to be done by papal policy because:
    - a. Those from a just war
    - b. Those who resisted Christianization
    - c. Those who violated the law of nature [Cannabilism]
    - d. Caribs fit all of the above
- viii. Columbus wrote that he wanted to pay the natives
  - 1. "I believe that if they started to receive something in payment they would work, being exceedingly eager, and so

set themselves to do anything if it should profit them." P. 142 citing Columbus letter #2

- a. Columbus's primary intention was that the natives should be employees of the Crown, not slaves"
- ix. Margarit [BAD ACTOR WHOSE ACTIONS HAVE BEEN ATTRIBUTE FALSELY TO COLUMBUS] who was one of the more wicked "leaders" avoided punishment by Columbus by returning to Spain with the intent to deflect his actions and deflecting them toward Columbus
- x. Columbus returned to Spain and became a Monk on June 11, 1496 leaving his brother as "governor" and bringing 30 more natives with him not slaves

# c. 3<sup>rd</sup> Voyage

4/23/1497

- i. Ferdinand and Isabella issued an Order for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Voyage
- ii. 6 ships total 3 to Hispaniola and 3 with Columbus for further discovery. The sovereigns NOT COLUMBUS shifted the goal from developing a shipping post to that of colonization on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Voyage
- iii. He had to elude French ships while they were at war with Spain
- iv. Columbus gave the ship captains "Directions to Hispaniola and strict instructions that when they needed supplies, they must *trade* with the Indians, not just take what they wanted; the use of force, he said was unnecessary and only served to create hostility" p. 163
- v. One of the 3 ships was forced off course and landed where **Roldan** [BAD ACTOR WHOSE ACTIONS ARE FALSELY ATTRIBUTED TO COLUMBUS] was the local leader of that settlement. Roldan and his rebels overtook this group and shortly thereafter started plundering native villages and raping their women.
- vi. Columbus wrote to the Queen about this and she sent **Bobadilla** [[**BAD ACTOR WHOSE ACTIONS ARE FALSELY ATTRIBUTED TO COLUMBUS**] to investigate the complaints of Columbus of the rebels and their complaints of mismanagement. Instead of investigating, Bobadilla imprisoned Columbus and charged him with being the rebellious and sent them back to Spain. Bobadilla seized all of Columbus and his people's property.
- vii. The monarchs were astonished by the arrival of Columbus as a prisoner They saw that Bobadilla had abused the trust placed in him. The people also saw the injustice, and everything was done to relieve Columbus from his humiliating condition and assure him of the royal favor, except to reinstating him as Governor of the Indies.
- viii. In sum, he was not found to have performed the atrocities attributed to him and was awarded a fourth voyage.

# d. 4<sup>th</sup> Voyage

- i. 5/11/1502 departed with 4 ships and 140 men; left Spain with a 51 Year Old Columbus in deteriorating health.
- ii. Returned to relieve Bobadilla
- iii. This was a trip filled with hurricanes which he was able to shelter his own ships but a treasure fleet including Bobadillo Roldan and the rebels with the gold leaving Santo Domingo did not make it.
- iv. They sailed to Jamaica, Guantanamo Bay, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama (Central America)
- v. He was attacked in Panama by natives and fled with 3 ships and eventually marooned in Jamaica but Captain Diego Mendez sailed a canoe to Hispaniola where he was imprisoned by governor Ovando for 7 months
- vi. Columbus's men were hungry and desperate and ½ **mutinied**. Eventually Mendez was released and despite not being given a ship by Ovando, he chartered one to rescue Columbus and the men.
- vii. Ovando [BAD ACTOR WHOSE ACTIONS HAVE BEEN FALSELY ATTRIBUTED TO COLUMBUS] refused entry because if Columbus learned of how he treated the Indians, he would be recalled also
- viii. They returned to Spain on 11/7/1504 unsuccessful in the goal of obtaining sufficient gold to commence the quest to Jerusalem.

#### E. Present Unfounded Allegations against Columbus

#### a. Enslaver

- i. Columbus **personally DID NOT HAVE ANY SLAVES** nor did he approve of it but did allow it to occur based upon the rules/morals/thinking of the 1400's which was that it was accepted in certain circumstances, including a Papal edict
- ii. Those who were baptized as Christian could not be enslaved
- iii. He wanted to convert all to Christianity. He continually petitioned the Queen to send priests
  - 1. "Ordered that they should be treated courteously because they are the best and most gentle people in the world, and especially, because I have much hope in Our Lord that Your Highness will make all of them Christians and that they will all be your subjects "P. 105 citing Diario p. 231
  - 2. "Columbus envisioned the Spanish sovereigns as both the lords and protectors of these people who felt threatened by those of the Grand Khan." He also thought they could be put to work. P. 105

- iv. It was never Columbus' idea to enslave or send natives back as slaves. Unfortunately, they were but not by his order. Those people were rounded up by the rebels and put on the ships...
- v. Claims that Columbus took 1600 slaves by his order on voyage 2 is false
  - 1. Multiple settlement posts were established with multiple leaders
    - 2. DeCuneo took 550 Caribs and other Indians who attacked them.
    - a. the Sovereigns sent back an order to enslave any of the Indians who attached the Christians
- vi. On Voyage 3 Columbus sent a letter to his brother Bartholomew "to pay a group of these men to go work in the mines. Other were to help build a new settlement and plant wheat and other foodstuffs." p. 164
- vii. Writers have attributed the attacks on the Arawaks on Haiti to Columbus when he wasn't even there. Some attacks on them began after the second voyage and Columbus' involvement and authority was challenged and eliminated. The true attack began the decade AFTER the fourth voyage.

# b. Rapist

i. Eg. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> voyage, One of the 3 ships set to go to Hispaniola was forced off course and landed where Roldan was the local leader of that settlement. **Roldan** and his rebels overtook this group and shortly thereafter started plundering native villages and raping their women.

#### c. Torturer

- i. COLUMBUS NEVER KILLED ANY NATIVES AND CONTINUALLY ADMONISHED HIS MEN NOT TO MARAUD, RAPE OR PLUNDER.
- ii. Allegations of Columbus cutting off hands
  - 1. It did occur but against all orders of Columbus for all 4 voyages
- iii. False allegation were made about Columbus cutting his own men's tongues on Voyage 2. Rather that **Fernand Perez de Luna**, on his own authority, threatened to do this. See De Cueno's Letter.
- iv. He removed Margarit and instated Hojeda
  - 1. Believed Spaniards molested the Indians because Columbus didn't
  - 2. Columbus wanted his men to be of a higher standard than the Indians
  - 3. **Hojeda** in the second voyage disobeyed Columbus and cut off the ears of one and captured some who Columbus then released after distracting the Spaniards p. 146

### F. Leadership

- a. Captain of a Ship
- b. Poor Leader of a Trading Post / Colony
- c. Columbus was a sailor and navigator; he was not cut out for the job of administrator; even less as contractor, and he had had no training for this role. P. 135
- d. Evidenced by the "mutinies" on land not while he was commanding his fleet