



# Origins of Nationalism

Isolationism and Reformation and their impact on the construction of National Identity



# Nationalism Defined

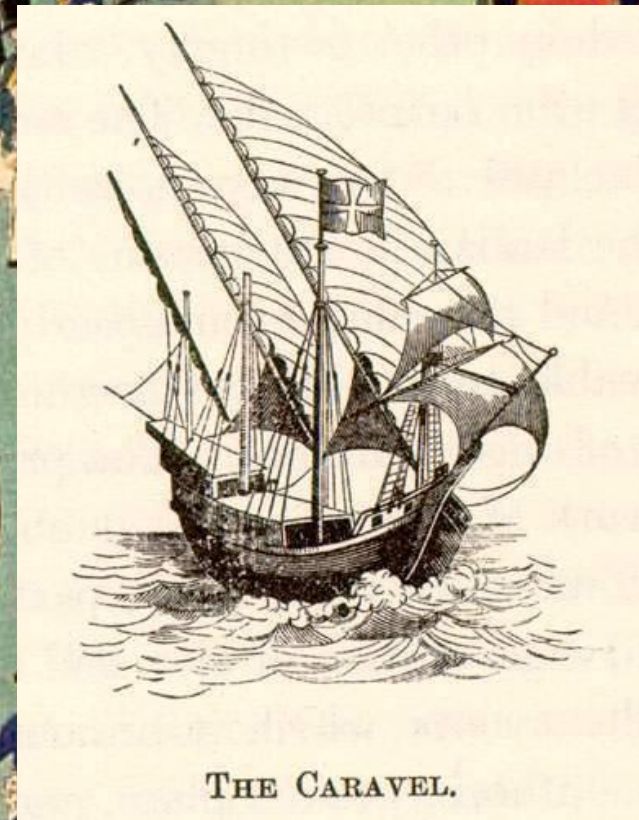
Nationalism was the most successful political force of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It emerged from two main sources: the Romantic exaltation of "feeling" and "identity" and the Liberal requirement that a legitimate state be based on a "people" rather than, for example, a dynasty, God, or imperial domination. (Fordham University)





# Origins of Nationalism: Asiatic Isolationism

- With perfection of new technologies like the compass and caravels sea travel expanded in the late 14<sup>th</sup>, and early 15<sup>th</sup> centuries
  - Many cultures had to make the decision on whether to trade, or shut themselves off



THE CARAVEL.





# Critical Thinking Question

What are the benefits and disadvantages of isolating yourself as a culture from outside sources?



# Case Study: Ming China

- Most powerful empire in the world in 15<sup>th</sup> Century
- Sent out expeditions in early 1400s to gain interest in China
  - Expeditions stopped in 1433
  - Thought China was perfect
    - Wanted to prevent diluting of Chinese Culture



# Case Study: Korea

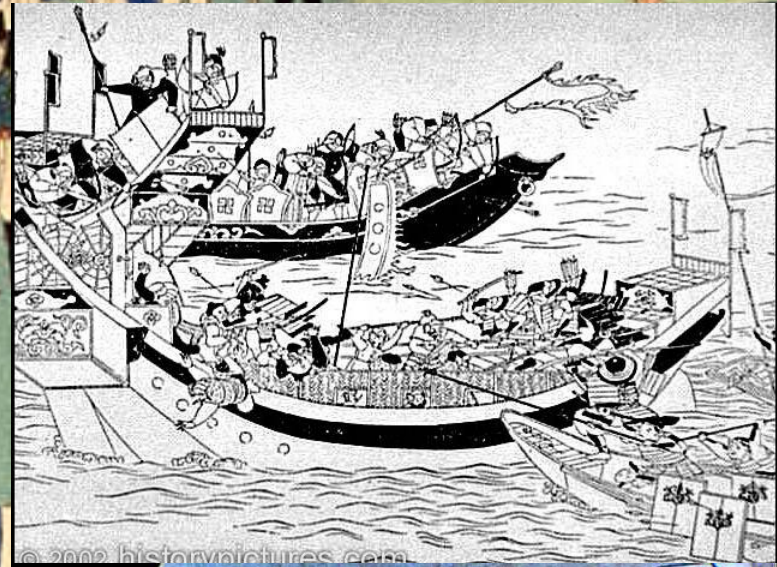
- After multiple invasions by the Mongols, Chinese, and Japanese the Koreans decided to shut themselves off from other cultures
  - Nicknamed the “Hermit Kingdom”
  - To prevent future invasion
    - Protected by navy





# Case Study: Japan

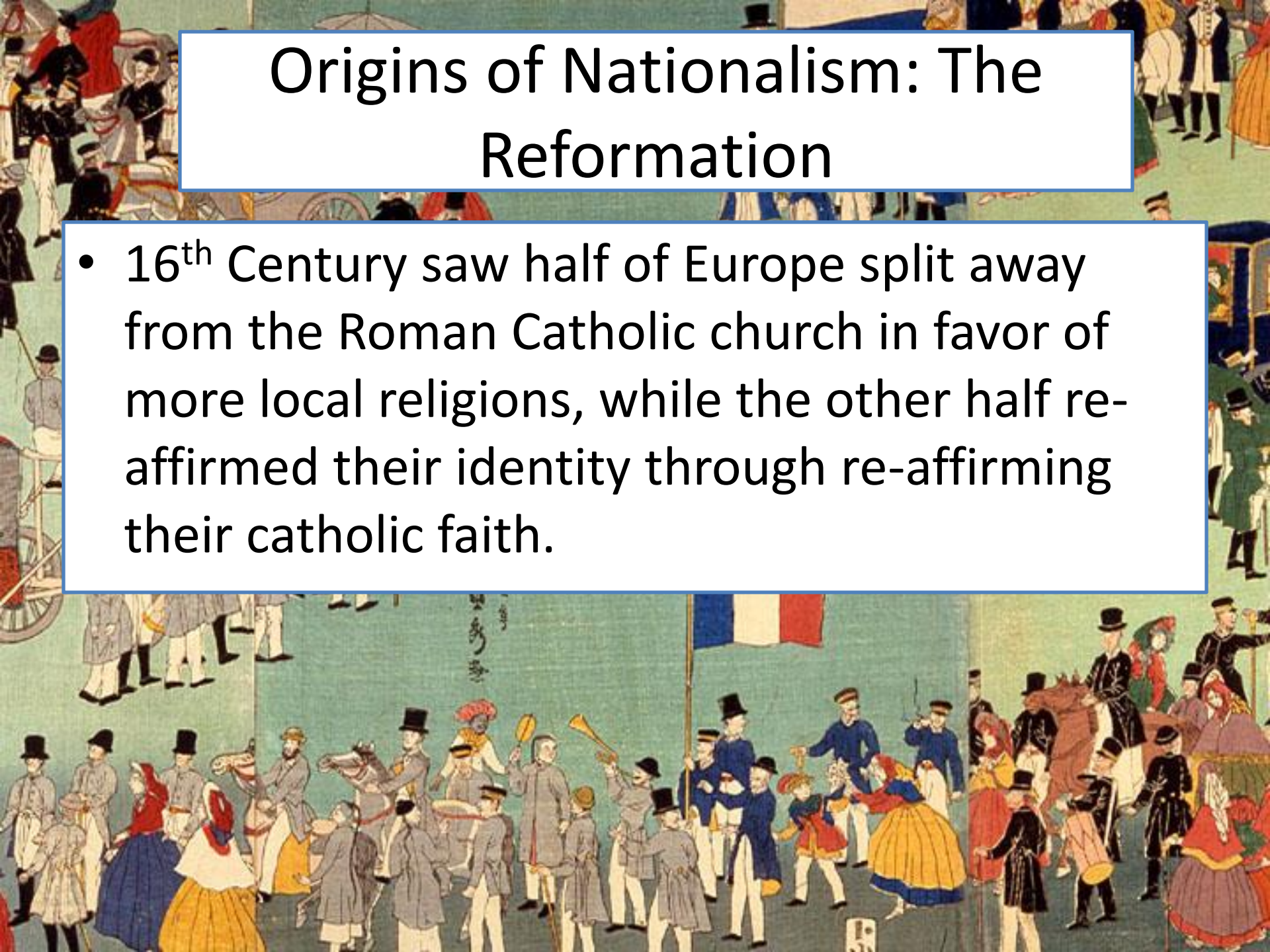
- After influx of Christianity and European goods Emperor Tokugawa “closed” Japan beginning in 1649
- Allowed limited contact with the Dutch, Chinese, Koreans
- Trade significantly limited and controlled





# Origins of Nationalism: The Reformation

- 16<sup>th</sup> Century saw half of Europe split away from the Roman Catholic church in favor of more local religions, while the other half re-affirmed their identity through re-affirming their catholic faith.







# Critical Thinking Question

Why might it be dually dangerous to combine National “identity” with religion?

# Case Study: The German States

- Martin Luther calls for Reformation in 1517 in the German city of Wittenberg
  - German princes eagerly joined new faith Lutheranism
    - Throw of Roman control of lands
    - Beginning of rise of German Nationalism





# Case Study: The English Reformation

- English King Henry VIII split with catholic church in 1534
  - Wanted complete control of realm
    - Without foreign influence of Rome
    - All so he could divorce his wife
  - Led to the creation of the church of England

