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WordPress includes user roles and permissions settings that allow you to specify the capabilities that users have access to on your website. This gives you more control over your website and improves your security. In this article, we'll look at each of the WordPress user roles to help you decide how to set up your WordPress website for growth. We'll also see several ways to edit them and add your own. What are WordPress User Roles and Permissions? A role is a user with certain capabilities. Permissions are the capabilities. WordPress has 6 pre-defined roles and over 70 capabilities. Each role adds to the capabilities of the roles under them. There are also ways to add new user roles and capabilities. Why Manage WordPress User Roles and Permissions? There are many reasons why it's important to specify user roles. User roles help improve your website's security. Someone who contributes content to your website doesn't have the ability to change your theme, add or remove plugins, perform updates, or even moderate comments. You want those capabilities to be restricted to a few users as possible. Utilizing the various user roles gives you a lot of control over the options each user has access to. They allow you to build a team and limit their access, so no one uploads media, posts content, or makes changes you haven't authorized. Limiting users access can also streamline your workflow. Since users can only perform certain tasks, they're not distracted or confused by features they don't need. Some plugins, such as security or eCommerce plugins, check the capabilities of users to restrict the actions they can perform. Certain user roles would not see the settings screen, for example. Content can be restricted to certain user roles. This includes menu links, widgets, posts, etc. A Look at the WordPress User Roles and Permissions There are over 70 capabilities built into WordPress. There are two types: Primitive – these capabilities are assigned to the premade roles, so users have them automatically. Meta – these capabilities are applied to primitive capabilities based on checks that WordPress performs. There are 5 roles built into WordPress, plus 1 that's only seen in multisite installations, for a total of 6 user roles. The roles are: Subscriber Contributor Author Editor Administrator Super Admin (multi-site only) The only user role that your WordPress website must have is Admin. This role is created automatically when WordPress is installed (unless it's a multisite, then the Super Admin is created). You can add more with custom post types, such as students, teachers, shop vendor, shop worker, customer, etc., by installing plugins such as WooCommerce, LifterLMS, and lots more. Each of the roles has a specific set of permissions (the features they have access to). Let's look at each user role from the lowest level to the highest. Subscriber Subscribers can create a user profile, access private content, leave comments without having to re-enter their information, change their password, and receive notifications. Subscribers cannot create content. They do have access to the dashboard, but it's limited. This is the most limited role and it's useful if users have to log in to see the content or leave a comment. The Subscriber role is especially helpful for membership sites where users must sign in to see the content. As you can see in the example above, Subscribers have access to their profile in the dashboard. The dashboard will also show them Activity (what was recently published and recent comments) and WordPress Events and News. Contributor Contributors include the same permissions as Subscribers, and they can edit or delete posts and read re-usable blocks. They can't upload media or publish posts, but they can choose from existing categories and add tags. They can view pending comments, but they can't moderate them. The Contributor role can be a little inconvenient since they can't upload images for their content. This role is ideal for new and guest writers. As you can see in the example above, the dashboard for Contributors shows posts, comments, projects, profile, and tools. Author Authors include the same permissions as Contributors, but they can upload media, publish, edit, or delete their own posts. They can also create reusable blocks and edit or delete their own blocks. They have control over their own content. This makes them much more convenient since an admin doesn't have to upload media for them. It can be a little risky, though, because they can delete their posts even after they've been published. Other than that, this is a safe role. The example above shows the dashboard for Authors, which includes posts, media, comments, projects, profile, and tools. Editor Editors have the same permissions as Authors, but they can edit and publish posts by other users. They have full access to the content sections of your website and can edit or publish pages including private pages and posts created by others. Editors can manage categories and moderate comments. They cannot access website settings, themes, or plugins. The example above shows the dashboard that Editors will see. Menu items include posts, media, pages, comments, projects, profile, and tools. Administrator Administrators have full access to the backend. This is the most powerful of the WordPress User Roles for the standard WordPress installation. They can create and edit pages and posts, adjust WordPress settings, install themes and plugins, edit code, control user permissions, and more. They can import and export content, manage the website options, and edit the dashboard. An Admin can change the user role of other admins, including deleting them. This role is typically reserved for the site owner or manager. The image above shows the Administrator has access to everything from the WordPress dashboard. This is the only image so far that shows updates are available, and all examples are from the same test website. Super Admin The Super Admin is only available for multisite networks and it's the most powerful WordPress role. A multisite is a WordPress website that controls multiple websites on the network. This means Super Admins have control over multiple WordPress websites at once, including their Administrators. Super Admins have the same permissions as an Administrator, but they have control over the entire network. They can create, edit, and delete websites on the network. Several of the Administrator tasks are moved to the Super Admin. Regular Administrators no longer have access to upload, install, or delete plugins or themes. Also, Administrators no longer have access to modify user's information. They have control over which sites on the network have access to which themes and plugins. They can perform updates across the network simultaneously. Super Admins install plugins and themes, and the Administrators of each WordPress website on the network have control of activating them. Multisites have an additional admin panel that only Super Admins have access to. As you can see from the image above (taken from the WordPress glossary), the Super Admin dashboard includes a Network Admin menu that shows the sites on the network, users, themes, and plugins. Everything else matches the Administrator dashboard. Assigning User Roles When assigning user roles, use the Principle of Least Privilege (PLoP). This gives users only the permissions they need to perform their tasks and ensures they don't have access to features they shouldn't. The ability to assign user roles fits this principle well because you can assign them based on each person's job description. You can have senior staff, junior staff, interns, guest authors, etc., and each has the specific access they need for their job. This gives you more control over your WordPress website and keeps users from making changes you don't want them to make. This also keeps users from changing the settings by accident or performing an update that you were not ready for. If you run a website with a team of content creators, the site should have one Administrator that manages the website, have an Editor to help manage writers, and the other users as Authors. This allows them to upload media and is a good choice if you publish articles with lots of images. New writers and guests should be Contributors. This gives you the best balance of control. Manually Add New Users The Administrator can add new users to the website. In the dashboard menu, go to Users > Add New. Fill in the user's information, select a language (if you're not using the default language), generate a password, check the box to send them an email notification, and select the user's role from the dropdown box. When you're ready, click Add new User. The user will receive an email at the address you entered for them. The email will include login information. Changing User Permissions The Admin can also change the permissions of current users. Go to Users > All Users in the WordPress dashboard. You'll see a list of users. This list works the same as any post type. Here, you can edit, delete, view, perform bulk actions, add new, etc. Hover over the user you want to edit and click Edit in the menu items that appear. Scroll until you see a section called Name. You'll see a dropdown box labeled Role. The box will show the current level for that user. Select this box to open it. Select the user level you want to assign to that user. Every role you've installed on your website from third-party plugins will be available to choose from, so your choices might look different from mine. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click Update User. User Registration and Default User Role There are times when you want users to be able to register to your website. This is helpful for eCommerce, LMS plugins, membership sites, and more. You can allow users to register and set the default user role for them. In the dashboard menu, go to Settings > General. Check the box labeled Anyone can register. Under this is a dropdown box where you can choose the default role that will be assigned to all new users. Subscriber is the default setting, but you can set this to any role you want, such as student, member, etc. I don't recommend setting the default to anything above Subscriber (or the equivalent for your website). You don't want to provide access to your website to anyone you don't know. Register is now an option at the login screen. Once your visitors click Register, they'll see the login form where they can enter a username and email. Once they click Register, the confirmation will be sent to the email they entered. They'll be registered with the default user role. If you want users to register, you might consider placing a link as a call to action in your menus or on your website to inform your visitors that it's an option. Edit WordPress User Roles and Permissions with Plugins There are a few concerns with some of the abilities certain user roles have. For example, Contributors can't upload images and Authors can delete all their content. Fortunately, it's possible to fine-tune user's capabilities by using plugins. Let's look at a few of the most popular options. 1. Members Members gives you the tools to edit the capabilities of roles and create new roles. You can also delete roles. Users can be assigned more than one role. Content restrictions allow you to specify which roles can access the content. Roles displays each of the roles on your website. You can edit, delete, clone, and view the users with each role. Creating new members gives you an editor where you can select every capability for every task. It includes plugins that you have installed, such as Yoast in the example. Two widgets are included for your sidebars where you can show a login form and a user's list. You have control over the form and information that displays. Price: Free | More Information 2. Ultimate Member Ultimate Member gives you lots of customization options for frontend forms and profiles. Design with the drag-and-drop builder and add conditional logic and conditional navigation menus. Customize user roles and create user directories. You can restrict content based on user roles. Create a membership site and display member search in the sidebar. Creating new user roles provides you with detailed options that include administrative and general permissions, profile access, homepage options, login, logout, and delete options. The list of capabilities is massive. Select the capabilities you want the user role to include. The drag-and-drop form builder includes several forms to get you started. Price: Free | More Information 3. User Role Editor User Role Editor provides a single dashboard to customize and create new roles and capabilities. All options are selected with checkboxes. You can assign capabilities for each user and you can assign multiple roles to each user. This plugin is also considered a top plugin for multisite installations with various custom user roles, making your system administration tasks easier across multiple sites. The editor makes it easy to edit the capabilities of any role. Select the options you want by clicking them. Add a role by creating it from scratch or copying another role. Add new capabilities that any role can use. Price: Free | More Information 4. PublishPress Capabilities PublishPress Capabilities lets you create custom user roles and select the capabilities for each role by choosing them from a list. You have full control over every permission. You also have control over taxonomies. Create new roles from scratch, clone a role, or edit a current role. Select the capabilities you want each role to have. Choose editing, deletion, reading, other WordPress core, and additional capabilities. The additional capabilities provide a massive list of options. You can add a capability, set them as type-specific, taxonomy-specific, etc. Add a new role just by entering the name. You can then edit the capabilities of that role. Price: Free | More Information 5. Advanced Access Manager Advanced Access Manager lets you manage access to your content for any role. This includes individual users and visitors. You can also define the default access to pages, categories, custom post types, and custom taxonomies. The access settings screen provides the list of users and actions. Manage, edit, clone, or delete any role. Select user roles, individual users, visitors that are not logged in, and default access. You can adjust the capabilities of each user individually. Create new capabilities for any role. It includes a custom login widget for your sidebars. Price: Free | More Information Other WordPress Roles and Permissions Plugins Here are a few more to consider: WPFront User Role Editor View Admin as Edit WordPress User Roles and Permissions with Code Even though the six roles have pre-defined capabilities you can add or remove those capabilities manually with code. I only recommend using code if you're comfortable with using PHP. I recommend most WordPress users use a plugin for this. Controlling WordPress roles and permissions with code can be cleaner and lighter weight than plugins and you don't have to worry about updates. Adding, Removing, and Cloning Roles Rather than customizing a current role, it's sometimes more beneficial to create a new role. Roles can be created and removed using the add_role() and remove_role() functions. For example, this code adds a role called Guest Contributor along with the capabilities: add_role('guest_contributor', 'Guest Contributor', array('read' => true, 'edit_posts' => true, 'delete_posts' => true,)); This code removes the Contributor role: remove_role('contributor'); To clone a current user role, use this code: add_role('clone', 'Clone', get_role('user_role_name')->capabilities); Replace 'clone' with the name you want the new user to have. Replace 'user_role_name' with the role you want to clone. This provides you a new role that matches the capabilities of another role. You can then modify the capabilities of the new role. You can customize existing role capabilities with the add_cap() and remove_cap() methods of WP_Role class object. This code gives the Editor the capability to activate plugins: // Get the editor role object. $role = get_role('editor'); // Add ability to activate plugins. $role->add_cap('activate_plugins'); This code removes the capability of deleting posts from the Author user role: // Get the author role object. $role = get_role('author'); // Remove deleting posts capability. $role->remove_cap('delete_posts'); You can also customize capabilities for specific user with the add_cap() and remove_cap() methods of WP_User class object. For example, this code gives the user the capability to switch themes and remove the capability to manage categories: // Get the user object by user ID. You can get user object by slug, email address, or login name. $user = get_user_by('id', 1); // Add ability to switch themes. $user->add_cap('switch_themes'); // Remove manage categories capability. $user->remove_cap('manage_categories'); Tips for Setting WordPress User Roles and Permissions Here are a few tips for setting WordPress user roles and permissions. 1. Set the default user role as low as possible. It's set to Subscriber by default. I don't recommend changing it unless it's completely necessary for your specific website needs, such as a custom post type. Even then, I recommend using the lowest role possible. 2. Select the role for each user based on the level of access they need. Give users the lowest level possible. This reduces the number of users with higher levels of access, which streamlines their jobs and increases security. This also keeps users from making unauthorized changes such as deleting content, customizing code, changing themes, adding or deleting plugins, etc. It's much safer to give users a lower role and increase it as you need to than to give them a higher role and regret it because of a mistake or something worse. Only give higher roles to those you fully trust. 3. Have the fewest number of Administrators possible. The fewer people that have access to themes, plugins, and other settings the better. Ideally, a WordPress website would have one Administrator. Also, have a few Editors with the rest assigned as Authors or Contributors. The Author role is great for those you've worked with long enough to trust their work. The Contributor role is a great choice for new content creators. 4. For a one-person website, create an Editor role for yourself. Creating an editor role keeps the administrative tasks separate from the daily blogging role. The Administrator username wouldn't be as visible on the site, which helps keep it safe from hackers. Even if the Editor role is hacked, the Administrator role remains safe. 5. Fine-tune user roles with code or plugins. The standard user permissions are helpful for most websites, but you may need to customize a role or create new roles. For example, you might want consider placing a link as a call to action. Add new capabilities that any role can use. The plugins we've covered in the article provide the best options. I recommend looking at each one to see which has the advantage of streamlining the code for the exact features you want. This makes the code lighter. Also, you never have to worry about updating a plugin, the plugin's features changing, or the plugin no longer being supported. Ending Thoughts on WordPress User Roles and Permissions WordPress user roles and permissions are an important part of your website's settings. They give you more control over who has access to what features. This helps you manage your team and opens the possibility of growing your team so others can perform certain actions, create content, etc. Since the user's only need access to certain features, user roles help streamline each user's work. These restrictions also improve your website's security because it limits what each user can do. WordPress user roles and permissions can be customized with plugins or code, giving you even more control over each user. User roles are easy to understand and use. Having a good understanding of WordPress user roles and then choosing those roles carefully will help your website be more efficient and you're likely to have a WordPress website with more than one user, you should set up WordPress user roles. We want to hear from you. Do you utilize WordPress user roles and permissions on your website? Let us know about your experience in the comments below. Featured Image via oleisa_g / shutterstock.com 3 Min Read Website owners need to utilize the built-in levels of WordPress to limit access. This is an important feature that many owners of WordPress websites tend to overlook. When you take charge of who can do what on your website by restricting levels of access, you are eliminating a lot of problems right out of the gate. You understand the implications of giving a guest blogger an Administrator role, but the overzealous business owner or marketing intern may not. Office: (844) 972-6224 Learn more Getting to know the WordPress Access Levels The WordPress permission levels are as follows: 1. Super Admin: Available on Multisite installations only. Permits access to the site network administration features and all other features. 2. Administrator: Access to all the administration features within a single site. 3. Editor: Can publish and manage posts, including the posts of other users. 4. Author: Can publish and manage their own posts. 5. Contributor: Can write and manage their own posts, but cannot publish them. 6. Subscriber: Can only manage their profile. Now that you know the various WordPress permission levels, you need to figure out who has access and at what WordPress admin level. First things first – create a list of every necessary user. The boss' cousin who might need help with social media that one time may not be necessary. The employee you terminated for theft a few years back probably doesn't need to have access any longer either. Once you've identified those who need access, determine the highest level of access they may require. Nothing more, nothing less. If they don't need to edit code, they don't need access at a level that would allow them to do so. Upon installing WordPress, an Administrator account is automatically created. The default role for new users can be set in Administration Panels > Settings > General. A user's role can be changed in their user Profile. Need some help with WordPress? We offer WordPress training and done-for-you WordPress website management services. Contact our friendly office to learn more. Office: (844) 972-6224 Learn more 1. Super Admin Level WordPress Access Multisite Super Admins have, by default, all capabilities. The following Multisite-only capabilities are therefore only available to Super Admins: create sites delete sites manage network manage sites manage network plugins manage network themes upgrade network setup network In the case of single-site WordPress installations, Administrators are, in effect, Super Admins. As such, they are the only ones to have access to additional admin capabilities. 2. Administrator Level WordPress Access The capabilities of Administrators differ between single-site and Multisite WordPress installations. All administrators have the following capabilities: activate plugins delete others delete plugins delete posts delete private pages delete private posts delete published pages delete published posts delete themes edit dashboard edit others' pages edit others' posts edit pages edit posts edit private pages edit private posts edit published pages edit published posts edit theme options export import list users manage categories manage links manage options moderate comments promote users publish pages publish posts read private pages read private posts read remove users switch themes upload files customize delete site Additional Admin Capabilities Only Administrators of single-site installations have the following capabilities. Most installations are single-site. The Super Admin has the following abilities: update core update plugins install plugins install themes unfiltered html unfiltered upload 4. Author Level WordPress Access delete posts delete published posts edit posts edit published posts publish posts read upload files 5. Contributor Level WordPress Access delete posts edit posts read 6. Subscriber Level WordPress Access Need some help with WordPress? We offer WordPress training and done-for-you WordPress website management services. Contact our friendly office to learn more. Office: (844) 972-6224 Meet Our Team Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. , the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit. 117,922 active editors 6,999,775 articles in English The first UK Phantom on a test flight in 1968 From 1968 to 1992, the United Kingdom used the McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II as one of its principal combat aircraft. The Phantom was procured to serve in both the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm and the Royal Air Force (RAF) in several different roles. Most Phantoms operated by the UK were built as a special batch containing a significant amount of British technology. Two variants were initially built: the F-4K was a carrier-based air-defence interceptor for the Fleet Air Arm, while the F-4M was initially used by the RAF as a tactical strike and reconnaissance, before transitioning to an air defence role in the 1970s. In the mid-1980s, a third Phantom variant was obtained when fifteen former US Navy F-4J aircraft were purchased to augment the UK's air defences. Although the Fleet Air Arm ceased using the Phantom in 1978, the RAF retained it until 1992, when it was withdrawn as part of a series of post-Cold War defence cuts. (Full article...) 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Ongoing: Gaza war M23 campaign Russian invasion of Ukraine timeline Sudanese civil war timeline Recent deaths: Charles Rangel Jim Irsay Yury Grigorovich Yuri Vladimirov Colton Ford Werenoi Nominate an article May 27 Manchu Prince Dorgon 1644 – Manchu regent Dorgon (depicted) defeated rebel leader Li Zicheng of the Shun dynasty at the Battle of Shanhai Pass, allowing the Manchus to enter and conquer the capital city of Beijing. 1799 – War of the Second Coalition: Austrian forces defeated the French Army of the Danube, capturing the strategically important Swiss town of Winterthur. 1905 – Russo-Japanese War: In the Battle of Tsushima, the Japanese fleet under Tōgō Heihachirō (pictured) destroyed two-thirds of the Russian fleet led by Zinovy Rozhestvensky. 1997 – A destructive F5-rated tornado tracked through a subdivision of Jarrell, Texas, killing 27 people. Diego Ramírez de Arellano (d. 1624)Julia Ward Howe (b. 1819)Cilla Black (b. 1943)Gérard Jean-Juste (d. 2009) More anniversaries: May 26 May 27 May 28 Archive By email List of days of the year About Anemonoides blanda, the Balkan anemone, Grecian windflower, or winter windflower, is a species of flowering plant in the family Ranunculaceae. The species is native to southeast Europe and the Middle East. It grows up to 10 to 15 centimetres (4 to 6 inches) tall and is valued for its daisy-like flowers, which appear in early spring, a time when little else is in flower. The flowers are found in various colors and are radially symmetrical, containing seven or more sepals and petals. This purple A. blanda flower was photographed in Bamberg, Germany. Photograph credit: Reinhold Möller Recently featured: Bluespotted ribbontail ray Black Lives Matter art Germanicus Archive More featured pictures Community portal – The central hub for editors, with resources, links, tasks, and announcements. Village pump – Forum for discussions about Wikipedia itself, including policies and technical issues. Site news – Sources of news about Wikipedia and the broader Wikimedia movement. Teahouse – Ask basic questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Help desk – Ask questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Reference desk – Ask research questions about encyclopedic topics. Content portals – A unique way to navigate the encyclopedia. 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Many other Wikipedias are available; some of the largest are listed below. 1,000,000+ articles العربية Deutsch Español فارسی Français Italiano Nederlands 日本語 Polski Português Русский Svenska Українська Tiếng Việt 中文 250,000+ articles Bahasa Indonesia Bahasa Melayu Bân-lâm-gú Български Català Čeština Dansk Eesti Ελληνικά Esperanto Euskara עברית Հայերեն Magyar Norsk bokmål Română Simple English Slovenčina Српски Srpskohrvatski Suomi Türkçe O'zbekcha 50,000+ articles Asturianu Azərbaycanca বাংলা Bosanski فارسی Frysk Gaeilge Galego Hrvati Ido Interlingua Lietuvių Македонски Norsk nynorsk Shqip Slovenščina ไทย 한국어 Retrieved from " 2 This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources: "1644" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (August 2016) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Calendar year Years Millennium 2nd millennium Centuries 16th century 17th century 18th century Decades 1620s 1630s 1640s 1650s 1660s Years 1641 1642 1643 1644 1645 1646 1647 1644 by topic Arts and science Architecture Art Literature Music Science Leaders State leaders Colonial governors Religious leaders Birth and death categories Births Deaths Establishments Disestablishments categories Establishments – Disestablishments Works category Works vte 1644 in various calendarsGregorian calendar1644MDCXLIVAb urbe condita2397Armenian calendar1093 ԹՎ ՌՃԽԳAssyrian calendar6394Balinese saka calendar1565–1566Bengali calendar1050–1051Berber calendar2594English Regnal year19 Cha. 1 – 20 Cha. 1Buddhist calendar2188Burmese calendar1006Byzantine calendar7152–7153Chinese calendar癸未年 (Water Goat)4341 or 4134 — to —甲申年 (Wood Monkey)4342 or 4135Coptic calendar1360–1361Discordian calendar2810Ethiopian calendar1636–1637Hebrew calendar5404–5405Hindu calendars - Vikram Samvat1700–1701 - Shaka Samvat1565–1566 - Kali Yuga4744–4745Holocene calendar11644Igbo calendar644–645Iranian calendar1022–1023Islamic calendar1053–1054Japanese calendarKan'ei 21 / Shōhō 1(正保元年)Javanese calendar1565–1566Julian calendarGregorian minus 10 daysKorean calendar3977Minguo calendar268 before ROC民前268年Nanakshahi calendar176Thai solar calendar2186–2187Tibetan calendar阴水羊年(female Water-Goat)1770 or 1389 or 617 — to —阳木猴年(male Wood-Monkey)1771 or 1390 or 618 1644 (MDCXLIV) was a leap year starting on Friday of the Gregorian calendar and a leap year starting on Monday of the Julian calendar, the 1644th year of the Common Era (CE) and Anno Domini (AD) designations, the 644th year of the 2nd millennium, the 44th year of the 17th century, and the 5th year of the 1640s decade. As of the start of 1644, the Gregorian calendar was 10 days ahead of the Julian calendar, which remained in localized use until 1923. Calendar year It is one of eight years (CE) to contain each Roman numeral once (1000(M)+500(D)+100(C)+(-(10(X)+50(L))+(-1(I)+5(V)) = 1644). Koluma Zygmunta erected. January 22 – The Royalist Oxford Parliament is first assembled by King Charles I of England.[1] January 26 – First English Civil War: Battle of Nantwich – The Parliamentarians defeat the Royalists, allowing them to end the 6-week siege of the Cheshire town.[2] January 30 Dutch explorer Abel Tasman departs from Batavia in the Dutch East Indies (modern-day Jakarta in Indonesia) on his second major expedition for the Dutch East India Company, to map the north coast of Australia. Tasman commands three ships, Limmen, Zeemeeuw and Braek, and returns to Batavia at the beginning of August with no major discoveries. Battle of Ochmatów: Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth forces under hetman Stanisław Koniecpolski secure a substantial victory over the horde of Crimean Tatars under Tugay Bey. February 5 – The first livestock branding law in America is passed in Connecticut.[3] March 24 – Roger Williams is granted an official grant for his Rhode Island Colony from the Parliament of England, allowing the establishment of a general assembly. April 18 – Opchanacanough leads the Powhatan Indians in an unsuccessful uprising against the English at Jamestown. Although 300 of the English colonists are slain, the settlers pursue Opchanacanough, who is imprisoned in Jamestown for the rest of his life.[4] This is the last such rebellion in the region. May 6 – John Maurice resigns as Governor of Brazil.[3] May 25 – Ming general Wu Sangui forms an alliance with the invading Manchus and opens the gates of the Great Wall of China at Shanhaiguan Pass, letting the Manchus through towards the capital Beijing. May 26 – Battle of Montijo: The Kingdom of Portugal is victorious over Habsburg Spain, in the first major action between the two nations during the Portuguese Restoration War. May 27 – Battle of Shanhai Pass: The Manchu Qing dynasty and Wu Sangui gain a decisive victory over Li Zicheng's Shun dynasty. June 3 – Li Zicheng proclaims himself emperor of China. June 6 – The invading Qing army, with the help of Ming general Wu Sangui, captures Beijing in the morning of Manchu rule over China proper. June 11 – During the English Civil War, Prince Rupert and his men take Liverpool Castle.[5] Liverpool is later reclaimed by Sir John Moore. July 1 – Torstenson War: Battle of Colberger Heide – The Dano-Norwegian and Swedish fleets fight a naval battle off the coast of Schleswig-Holstein. The battle is indecisive but represents a minor success for the Dano-Norwegian fleet. July 2 – English Civil War: Battle of Marston Moor – The Parliamentarians crush the Royalists in Yorkshire, ending Charles I's hold on the north of England.[6] September 1 – English Civil War: Second Battle of Lostwithiel (in Cornwall) – Charles I and the Royalists gain their last major victory.[7] September 15 – Pope Innocent X succeeds Pope Urban VIII, becoming the 236th pope.[8] October 1 – The Jews of Mogilev, Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth, are attacked during Tashlikh. November 8 – The Shunzhi Emperor, the second emperor of the Qing dynasty, is enthroned in Beijing after the collapse of the Ming dynasty as the first Qing emperor to rule over China proper. November 23 Battle of Jüterbog (December 3 New Style): Sweden's forces defeat those of the Holy Roman Empire. Areopagitica, an appeal for freedom of speech written by John Milton, is published in London. November – The Castle of Elvas in Portugal resists a 9-day siege by the Spanish during the Portuguese Restoration War. December 8 (December 18 New Style) – As Christina comes of age, she is made ruling queen of Sweden. December – Bubonic plague breaks out in Edinburgh (Scotland). A Spanish officer is murdered in St. Dominic's Church, Macau during mass by colonists loyal to Portugal during the Portuguese Restoration War. Sigismund's Column is erected in Warsaw to commemorate King Sigismund III Vasa, who moved the capital of Poland from Kraków to Warsaw in 1596. Philosopher René Descartes publishes Principia Philosophiae (Principles of Philosophy) in Amsterdam. The opera Ormindo is first performed in Venice (music by Francesco Cavalli, and libretto by Giovanni Faustini). The West India Company(which?) displays greater interest in profit than in colonization and manuals Thomas Britton Veit Hans Schnorr von Carolsfeld Otto Mencke Henry Winstanley Henrietta of England January 9 – Robert Gibbes, English-born landgrave in south Carolina (d. 1715) January 10 Louis François, duc de Boufflers, Marshal of France (d. 1711) Celestino Sfondrati, Italian Catholic cardinal (d. 1696) January 11 – Hayashi Hōkō, Japanese philosopher (d. 1732) January 14 – Thomas Britton, English concert promoter (d. 1714) January 18 – John Partridge, English astrologer (d. 1708) January 23 – Jonas Budde, Norwegian army officer (d. 1710) January 25 – Antoine Thomas, Jesuit missionary priest and astronomer (d. 1709)[9] January 26 – Thomas Boylston, American colonial doctor (d. 1695) February 2 Isaac Chazyim Cantarini, Italian rabbi (d. 1723) Johannes Hancke, German writer (d. 1713) February 7 – Nils Bielke, member of the High Council of Sweden (d. 1716) February 8 – Pierre de La Broue, American bishop (d. 1720) February 12 – Jakob Ammann, Swiss founder of the Amish sect (d. 1712) February 24 – Maria Elisabeth Lämmerfurt, German mother of Johann Sebastian Bach (d. 1694) March 1 – Simon Foucher, French polemicist (d. 1696) March 15 – Veit Hans Schnorr von Carolsfeld, German iron and cobalt magnate (d. 1715) March 21 – Sir Walter Bagot, 3rd Baronet, English politician (d. 1704) March 22 Otto Mencke, German philosopher and scientist (d. 1707) Sir James Rushout, 1st Baronet, English politician (d. 1698) March 25 – Heinrich von Cocceji, German jurist from Bremen (d. 1719) March 31 – Henry Winstanley, English engineer (d. 1703) April 6 – António Luís de Sousa, 2nd Marquis of Minas, Portuguese general, governor-general of Brazil (d. 1721) April 7 Nathaniel Johnson, American politician (d. 1713) François de Neufville, duc de Villeroy, French soldier (d. 1730) April 11 – Marie Jeanne Baptiste of Savoy-Nemours, Duchess of Savoy (d. 1724) April 17 – Abraham Storck, Dutch painter (d. 1708) April 21 – Conrad von Reventlow, Danish statesman, first Grand Chancellor of Denmark (d. 1708) May 2 – Robert Cotton, English politician (d. 1717) May 4 – Juan Caballero y Ocio, Spanish benefactor for lavish gifts to the Catholic Church and charity (d. 1707) May 5 – Sir Richard Newdigate, 2nd Baronet, English politician (d. 1729) September 3 – Richard Newport, 2nd Earl of Bradford, English politician (d. 1723) September 6 – Juan Bautista Cabanilles, Spanish composer (d. 1712) September 7 – Jacob Rotius, Dutch painter (d. 1681) September 22 – Jacques Échard, French Dominican, historian of the Order (d. 1724) September 26 – Ole Rømer, Danish astronomer (d. 1710) October 1 – Jean Domat, French jurist (d. 1696) October 3 – Sir Joseph Sheldon, Lord Mayor of London (d. 1681) November 10 – Luis Vélez de Guevara, Spanish writer (d. 1579) November 23 – Nathaniel Foote, American colonist (d. 1592) November 24 – Deodat del Monte, Flemish painter, architect (b. 1582) December 20 – Albert IV, Duke of Saxe-Eisenach (from 1640) (b. 1599) December 23 – Sir Alexander Carew, 2nd Baronet, English politician (b. 1609) December 28 – John Bankes, Attorney General and Chief Justice to King Charles I of England (b. 1589) December 30 – Jan Baptist van Helmont, Flemish chemist (b. 1577) ^ Braddick, Michael J. (2015). The Oxford Handbook of the English revolution. Oxford, UK; New York: Oxford University Press. p. 103. ISBN 9780199695898. ^ Coward, Barry (1994). The Stuart age: England, 1603–1714. London New York: Longman. p. 223. ISBN 9780582067226. ^ a b "What in Jamestown while a captive") ^ "Rupert, Prince", by Charles Harding Firth, in The Dictionary of National Biography, Volume 17 (Oxford University Press, 1922) p. 408 ("Rupert returned to Wales. Defeating the parliamentarians at Newark, he relieved Newark (21 March 1643) and then took to Oxford (May 1644)." ^ Levene, Mark (1999). The massacre in history. New York: Berghahn Books. p. 93. ISBN 9781571819345. ^ Jeremy Black (1996). The Cambridge Illustrated Atlas of Warfare: Renaissance to Revolution, 1492–1792. Cambridge University Press. p. 80. ^ Levillain, Philippe (2002). The papacy : an encyclopedia. New York: Routledge. p. 801. ISBN 9780415922289. ^ Wallis, Faith (2003). 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Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire New York: Palgrave Macmillan. p. 118. ISBN 9780230505872. ^ Baker, Christopher (2002). Absolutism and the scientific revolution, 1600-1720 : a biographical dictionary. Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press. p. 313. ISBN 9780313308277. Retrieved from " 3One hundred years, from 1501 to 1600 This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources: "16th century" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (September 2022) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Millennia 2nd millennium Centuries 15th century 16th century 17th century Timelines 15th century 16th century 17th century Decades 1500s 1510s 1520s 1530s 1540s 1550s 1560s 1570s 1580s 1590s Categories: Births – Deaths Establishments – Disestablishments vte The world map by the Italian Amerigo Vespucci (from whose name the word America is derived) and Bejlao Gerardus Mercator shows America as a hypothetical Arctic continent and a yet undetermined Terra Australis.[1]The 16th century began with the Julian year 1501 (represented by the Roman numerals MDI) and ended with either the Julian or the Gregorian year 1600 (MDC), depending on the reckoning used (the Gregorian calendar introduced a lapse of 10 days in October 1582).[1] The Renaissance in Italy and Europe saw the emergence of important artists, authors and scientists, and led to full development of the new thinking in astronomy and science. This period was also one of discovery and exploration. The measurement of the 1572 appearance of a Milky Way supernova. These events directly challenged the long-held notion of an immutable universe supported by Ptolemy and Aristotle, and led to major revolutions in astronomy and science. Galileo Galilei became a champion of the new sciences, invented the first thermometer and made substantial contributions in the fields of physics and astronomy, becoming a major figure in the Scientific Revolution in Europe. Spain and Portugal colonized large parts of Central and South America, followed by France and England in Northern America and the Lesser Antilles. The Portuguese became the masters of trade between Brazil, the coasts of Africa, and their possessions in the Indies, whereas the Spanish came to dominate the Greater Antilles, Mexico, Peru, and opened trade across the Pacific Ocean, linking the Americas with the Indies. English and French privateers began to practice persistent theft of Spanish and Portuguese treasures. This era of colonialism established mercantilism as the leading school of economic thought, where the economic system was viewed as a zero-sum game in which any gain by one party required a loss by another. The mercantilist doctrine encouraged the many intra-European wars of the period and arguably fueled European expansion and imperialism throughout the world until the 19th century or early 20th century. The Reformation in central and northern Europe gave a major blow to the authority of the papacy and the Catholic Church. In England, the British-Italian Alberico Gentili wrote the first book on public international law and divided secularism from canon law and Catholic theology. European politics became dominated by religious conflicts, with the groundwork for the epochal Thirty Years' War being laid towards the end of the century. In the Middle East, the Ottoman Empire continued to expand, with the sultan taking the title of caliph, while dealing with a resurgent Persia. Iran and Iraq were caught by a major popularity of the Shia sect of Islam under the rule of the Safavid dynasty of warrior-mystics, providing grounds for a Persia independent of the majority-Sunni Muslim world.[2] In the Indian subcontinent, following the defeat of the Delhi Sultanate and Vijayanagara Empire, new powers emerged, the Sur Empire founded by Sher Shah Suri, Deccan sultanates, Rajput states, and the Mughal Empire[3] by emperor Babur, a direct descendant of Timur and Genghis Khan.[4] His successors Humayun and Akbar, enlarged the empire to include most of South Asia. Japan suffered a severe civil war at this time, known as the Sengoku period, and emerged from it as a unified nation under Toyotomi Hideyoshi. China was ruled by the Ming dynasty, which became increasingly isolationist, coming into conflict with Japan over the control of Korea as well as Japanese pirates. In Africa, Christianity had begun to spread in Central Africa and Southern Africa. Until the Scramble for Africa in the late 19th century, most of Africa was left uncolonized, most of it was well-known (but unexplored). Various royalties and rulers of Islam and rule over it until 1736. Safavids adopted a Shia branch of Islam.[5] 1501: First Battle of Cannanore between the Third Portuguese Armada and Kingdom of Cochin under João da Nova and Zamorin of Kozhikode's navy marks the beginning of Portuguese conflicts in the Indian Ocean. 1502: First reported African slaves in the New World 1502: The Crimean Khanate sacks Sarai in the Golden Horde, ending its existence. 1503: Spain defeats France at the Battle of Cerignola. Considered to be the first battle in history won by gunpowder small arms. 1503: Leonardo da Vinci begins painting the Mona Lisa and completes it three years later.[6] 1503: Nostradamus is born on either December 14 or December 21. 1504: A period of drought, with famine in all of Spain. 1504: Death of Isabella I of Castile; Joanna of Castile becomes the Queen. 1504: Foundation of the Sultanate of Sennar by Amara Dunqas, in what is modern Sudan 1505: Zhengde Emperor ascends the throne of Ming. 1505: Martin Luther enters St. Augustine's Monastery at Erfurt, Germany, on 17 July and begins his journey to instigating the Reformation. 1505: Sultan Trenggono builds the first Muslim kingdom in Java, called Demak, in Indonesia. Many other small kingdoms were established in other islands to fight against Portuguese. Each kingdom introduced local language as a way of communication and unity. 1506: Leonardo da Vinci completes the Mona Lisa. 1506: Poland is invaded by Tatars from the Crimean Khanate. 1507: The first recorded epidemic of smallpox in the New World began in Hispaniola. It devastates the native Taíno population, who had no natural resistance. 1507: Afonso de Albuquerque conquered Hormuz and Muscat, among other bases in the Persian Gulf, taking control of the region at the entrance of the Gulf. 1508: The Christian-Islamic power struggle in Europe and West Asia spills over into the Indian Ocean as the Battle of Chaul during the Portuguese–Mamluk War 1508–1512: Michelangelo paints the Sistine Chapel ceiling. 1509: The defeat of joint fleet of the Sultan of Gujarat, the Mamlûk Burji Sultanate of Egypt, and the Zamorin of Calicut with support of the Republic of Venice and the Ottoman Empire in the Battle of Diu marks the beginning of Portuguese dominance of the Spice trade and the Indian Ocean. 1509: The Portuguese king sends Diogo Lopes de Sequeira to find Malacca, the eastern terminus of Asian trade. After initially receiving Sequeira, Sultan Mahmud Shah captures and/or kills several of his men and attempts an assault on the four Portuguese ships, which escape.[7] The Javanese fleet is also destroyed in Malacca. 1509: Krishnadevaraya ascends the throne of Vijayanagara Empire. Afonso de Albuquerque 1509–1510: The 'great plague' in various parts of Tudor England.[8] 1510: Afonso de Albuquerque of Portugal conquers Goa, the first European lands held in Asia until the 20th century. 1511: Afonso de Albuquerque conquers Malacca, the capital of the Sultanate of Malacca in present-day Malaysia. 1512: Copernicus writes Commentariolus, and proclaims the Sun the center of the Solar System. 1512: The southern part (historical core) of the Kingdom of Navarre is invaded by Castile and Aragon. 1512: Qutb Shahi dynasty, founded by Quli Qutb Mulk, rules Golconda Sultanate until 1687. 1512: The first Portuguese exploratory expedition was sent eastward from Malacca (in present-day Malaysia) to search for the 'Spice Islands' (Maluku) led by Francisco Serrão. Serrão is shipwrecked but struggles on to Hitu (northern Ambon) and wins the favour of the local rulers.[9] 1513: Machiavelli writes The Prince, a treatise about political

philosophy 1513: The Portuguese mariner Jorge Álvares lands at Macau, China, during the Ming dynasty. 1513: Henry VIII defeats the French at the Battle of the Spurs. 1513: The Battle of Flodden Field in which invading Scots are defeated by Henry VIII's forces. 1513: Sultan Selim I ("The Grim") orders the massacre of Shia Muslims in Anatolia (present-day Turkey). 1513: Vasco Núñez de Balboa, in service of Spain arrives at the Pacific Ocean (which he called Mar del Sur) across the Isthmus of Panama. He was the first European to do so. 1514: The Battle of Orsha halts Muscovy's expansion into Eastern Europe. 1514: Dózsa rebellion (peasant revolt) in Hungary. Martin Luther initiated the Reformation with his Ninety-five Theses in 1517. 1514: The Battle of Chaldiran, the Ottoman Empire gains decisive victory against Safavid dynasty. 1515: Ascension of Francis I of France as King of France following the death of Louis XII. 1515: The Ottoman Empire wrests Eastern Anatolia from the Safavids after the Battle of Chaldiran. 1515: The Ottomans conquer the last beyliks of Anatolia, the Dulkadirs and the Ramadanids. 1516–1517: The Ottomans defeat the Mamluks and gain control of Egypt, Arabia, and the Levant. 1517: The Sweating sickness epidemic in Tudor England.[10] 1517: The Reformation begins when Martin Luther posts his Ninety-five Theses in Saxony. 1518: The Treaty of London was a non-aggression pact between the major European nations. The signatories were Burgundy, France, England, the Holy Roman Empire, the Netherlands, the Papal States and Spain. 1518: Sir Chakar Khan Rind leaves Baluchistan and settles in Punjab. 1518: Leo Africanus, also known as al-Hasan ibn Muhammad al-Wazzan al-Fasi, an Andalusian Berber diplomat who is best known for his book Descrittione dell'Africa (Description of Africa), is captured by Spanish pirates; he is taken to Rome and presented to Pope Leo X. 1518: The dancing plague of 1518 begins in Strasbourg, lasting for about one month. 1519: Leonardo da Vinci dies of natural causes on May 2. Europe at the time of the accession of Charles V in 1519 1519: Wang Yangming, the Chinese philosopher and governor of Jiangxi province, describes his intent to use the firepower of the fo-lang-ji, a breech-loading Portuguese culverin, in order to suppress the rebellion of Prince Zhu Chenhao. 1519: Barbary pirates led by Hayreddin Barbarossa, a Turk appointed to ruling position in Algiers by the Ottoman Empire, raid Provence and Toulon in southern France. 1519: Death of Emperor Maximilian; Charles I of Austria, Spain, and the Low Countries becomes Emperor of Holy Roman Empire as Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor (ruled until 1556). 1519–1522: Spanish expedition commanded by Magellan and Elcano are the first to circumnavigate the Earth. 1519–1521: Hernán Cortés leads the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire. Ferdinand Magellan led the first expedition that circumnavigated the globe in 1519–1522. 1520–1566: The reign of Suleiman the Magnificent marks the zenith of the Ottoman Empire. 1520: The first European diplomatic mission to Ethiopia, sent by the Portuguese, arrives at Massawa 9 April, and reaches the imperial encampment of Emperor Dawit II in Shewa 9 October. 1520: Vijayanagara Empire founder Krishnadevaraya defeat the Adil Shahi under at the Battle of Raichur 1520: Sultan Ali Mughayat Shah of Aceh begins an expansionist campaign capturing Daya on the west Sumatran coast (in present-day Indonesia), and the pepper and gold producing lands on the east coast. 1520: The Portuguese established a trading post in the village of Lamakera on the eastern side of Solor (in present-day Indonesia) as a transit harbour between Maluku and Malacca. 1521: Belgrade (in present-day Serbia) is captured by the Ottoman Empire. 1521: After building fortifications at Tuen Mun, the Portuguese attempt to invade Ming dynasty China, but are expelled by Chinese naval forces. 1521: Philippines encountered by Ferdinand Magellan. He was later killed in the Battle of Mactan in central Philippines in the same year. 1521: Jiajing Emperor ascended the throne of Ming dynasty, China. 1521: November, Ferdinand Magellan's expedition reaches Maluku (in present-day Indonesia) and after trade with Ternate returns to Europe with a load of cloves. 1521: Pati Unus leads the invasion of Malacca (in present-day Malaysia) against the Portuguese occupation. Pati Unus was killed in this battle, and was succeeded by his brother, sultan Trenggana. 1522: Rhodes falls to the Ottomans of Suleiman the Magnificent.[11] Sack of Rome of 1527 by Charles V's forces (painting by Johannes Lingelbach) 1522: The Portuguese ally themselves with the rulers of Ternate (in present-day Indonesia) and begin construction of a fort.[9] 1522: August, Luso-Sundanese Treaty signed between Portugal and Sunda Kingdom granted Portuguese permit to build fortress in Sunda Kelapa. 1523: Sweden gains independence from the Kalmar Union. 1523: The Cacao bean is introduced to Spain by Hernán Cortés 1524–1525: German Peasants' War in the Holy Roman Empire. 1524: Giovanni da Verrazzano is the first European to explore the Atlantic coast of North America between South Carolina and Newfoundland. 1524: Ismail I, the founder of Safavid dynasty, dies and Tahmasp I becomes king. Gun-wielding Ottoman Janissaries and defending Knights of Saint John at the siege of Rhodes in 1522, from an Ottoman manuscript 1525: Timurid Empire forces under Babur defeat the Lodi dynasty at the First Battle of Panipat, end of the Delhi Sultanate. 1525: German and Spanish forces defeat France at the Battle of Pavia, Francis I of France is captured. 1526: The Ottomans defeat the Kingdom of Hungary at the Battle of Mohács. 1526: Mughal Empire, founded by Babur. 1527: Sack of Rome with Pope Clement VII escaping and the Swiss Guards defending the Vatican being killed. The sack of the city of Rome considered the end of the Italian Renaissance. 1527: Protestant Reformation begins in Sweden. 1527: The last ruler of Majapahit falls from power. This state (located in present-day Indonesia) was finally extinguished at the hands of the Demak. A large number of courtiers, artisans, priests, and members of the royalty moved east to the island of Bali; however, the power and the seat of government transferred to Demak under the leadership of Pangeran, later Sultan Fatah. 1527: June 22, The Javanese Prince Fatahillah of the Cirebon Sultanate successfully defeated the Portuguese armed forces at the site of the Sunda Kelapa Harbor. The city was then renamed Jayakarta, meaning "a glorious victory." This eventful day came to be acknowledged as Jakarta's Founding Anniversary. 1527: Mughal Empire forces defeat the Rajput led by Rana Sanga of Mewar at the Battle of Khanwa 1529: The Austrians defeat the Ottoman Empire at the siege of Vienna. 1529: Treaty of Zaragoza defined the antimeridian of Tordesillas attributing the Moluccas to Portugal and Philippines to Spain. 1529: Imam Ahmad Gurey defeats the Ethiopian Emperor Dawit II in the Battle of Shimbra Kure, the opening clash of the Ethiopian–Adal War. Spanish conquistadors were killed by their Tlaxcallan allies fighting against the Otomies of Metztitlan in present-day Mexico, a 16th-century codex 1531–1532: The Church of England breaks away from the Catholic Church and recognizes King Henry VIII as the head of the Church. 1531: The Inca Civil War is fought between the two brothers, Atahualpa and Huáscar. 1532: Francisco Pizarro leads the Spanish conquest of the Inca Empire. 1532: Foundation of São Vicente, the first permanent Portuguese settlement in the Americas. 1533: Anne Boleyn becomes Queen of England. 1533: Elizabeth Tudor is born. 1534: Jacques Cartier claims Canada for France. 1534: The Ottomans capture Baghdad from the Safavids. 1534: Affair of the Placards, where King Francis I becomes more active in repression of French Protestants. 1535: The Münster Rebellion, an attempt of radical, millennialist, Anabaptists to establish a theocracy, ends in bloodshed. 1535: The Transylvanian Diet, under the patronage of to Portuguese Goa where he converts to Christianity and bequeaths his Portuguese godfather Jordao de Freitas the island of Ambon.[12] Hairun becomes the next sultan. 1536: Catherine of Aragon dies in Kimbolton Castle, in England. Territorial expansion of the Ottoman Empire under Suleiman (in red and orange) 1536: In England, Anne Boleyn is beheaded for adultery and treason. 1536: Establishment of the Inquisition in Portugal. 1536: Foundation of Buenos Aires (in present-day Argentina) by Pedro de Mendoza. 1537: The Portuguese establish Recife in Pernambuco, north-east of Brazil. 1537: William Tyndale's partial translation of the Bible into English is published, which would eventually be incorporated into the King James Bible. 1538: Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada founds Bogotá. 1538: Spanish-Venetian fleet is defeated by the Ottoman Turks at the Battle of Preveza. 1539: Hernando de Soto explores inland North America. Nicolaus Copernicus 1540: The Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits, is founded by Ignatius of Loyola and six companions with the approval of Pope Paul III. 1540: Sher Shah Suri founds the Suri dynasty in South Asia, an ethnic Pashtun (Pathan) of the house of Sur, who supplanted the Mughal dynasty as rulers of North India during the reign of the relatively ineffectual second Mughal emperor Humayun. Sher Shah Suri decisively defeats Humayun in the Battle of Bilgram (May 17, 1540). 1541: Pedro de Valdivia founds Santiago in Chile. 1541: An Algerian military campaign by Charles V of Spain (Habsburg) is unsuccessful. 1541: Amazon River is encountered and explored by Francisco de Orellana. 1541: Capture of Buda and the absorption of the major part of Hungary by the Ottoman Empire. 1541: Sahib I Giray of Crimea invades Russia. 1542: The Italian War of 1542–1546 War resumes between Francis I of France and Emperor Charles V. This time Henry VIII is allied with the Emperor, while James V of Scotland and Sultan Suleiman I are allied with the French. 1542: Akbar The Great is born in the Rajput Umarkot Fort 1542: Spanish explorer Ruy López de Villalobos named the island of Samar and Leyte Las Islas Filipinas honoring Philip II of Spain and became the official name of the archipelago. 1543: Ethiopian/Portuguese troops defeat the Adal army led by Imam Ahmad Gurey at the Battle of Wayna Daga; Imam Ahmad Gurey is killed at this battle. 1543: Copernicus publishes his theory that the Earth and the other planets revolve around the Sun 1543: The Nanban trade period begins after Portuguese traders make contact with Japan. 1544: The French defeat an Imperial-Spanish army at the Battle of Ceresole. Scenes of everyday life in Ming China, by Qiu Ying 1544: Battle of the Shirts in Scotland. The Frasers and Macdonalds of Clan Ranald fight over a disputed chiefship; reportedly, 5 Frasers and 8 Macdonalds survive. 1545: Songhai forces sack the Malian capital of Niani 1545: The Council of Trent meets for the first time in Trent (in northern Italy). 1546: Michelangelo Buonarroti is made chief architect of St. Peter's Basilica. 1546: Francis Xavier works among the peasants of Ambon, Ternate and Morotai (Moro) laying the foundations for a permanent mission. (to 1547) 1547: Henry VIII dies in the Palace of Whitehall on 28 January at the age of 55. 1547: Francis I dies in the Château de Rambouillet on 31 March at the age of 52. 1547: Edward VI becomes King of England and Ireland on 28 January and is crowned on 20 February at the age of 9. 1547: Emperor Charles V decisively dismantles the Schmalkaldic League at the Battle of Mühlberg. 1547: Grand Prince Ivan the Terrible is crowned tsar of (All) Russia, thenceforth becoming the first Russian tsar. 1548: Battle of Uedahara: Firearms are used for the first time on the battlefield in Japan, and Takeda Shingen is defeated by Murakami Yoshikiyo. 1548: Askia Daoud, who reigned from 1548 to 1583, establishes public libraries in Timbuktu (in present-day Mali). 1548: The Ming dynasty government of China issues a decree banning all foreign trade and closes down all seaports along the coast; these Hai jin laws came during the Wokou wars with Japanese pirates. 1549: Tomé de Sousa establishes Salvador in Bahia, north-east of Brazil. 1549: Arya Penangsang with the support of his teacher, Sunan Kudus, avenges the death of Raden Kikin by sending an envoy named Rangkud to kill Sunan Prawoto by Keris Kyai Satan Kober (in present-day Indonesia). The Islamic gunpowder empires: Mughal Army artilleryman during the reign of Jalaluddin Akbar 1550: The architect Mimar Sinan builds the Süleymaniye Mosque in Istanbul. 1550: Mongols led by Altan Khan invade China and besiege Beijing. 1550–1551: Valladolid debate concerning the human rights of the Indigenous people of the Americas. 1551: Fifth outbreak of sweating sickness in England. John Caius of Shrewsbury writes the first full contemporary account of the symptoms of the disease. 1551: North African pirates enslave the entire population of the Maltese island Gozo, between 5,000 and 6,000, sending them to Libya. 1552: Russia conquers the Khanate of Kazan in central Asia. 1552: Jesuit China Mission, Francis Xavier dies. Mary Tudor becomes the first queen regnant of England and restores the Church of England under Papal authority. 1553: The Kingdom of Russia found a settlement at Mecca. 1554: Missionaries José de Anchieta and Manuel da Nóbrega establishes São Paulo, southeast Brazil. 1554: Princess Elizabeth is imprisoned in the Tower of London upon the orders of Mary I for suspicion of being involved in the Wyatt rebellion. 1555: The Muscovy Company is the first major English joint stock trading company. 1556: Publication in Venice of Delle Navigationi et Viaggi (terzo volume) by Giovanni Battista Ramusio, secretary of Council of Ten, with plan La Terra de Hochelaga, an illustration of the Hochelaga.[13] 1556: The Shaanxi earthquake in China is history's deadliest known earthquake during the Ming dynasty. 1556: Georgius Agricola, the "Father of Mineralogy", publishes his De re metallica. 1556: Akbar defeats Hemu at the Second battle of Panipat. 1556: Russia conquers the Astrakhan Khanate. 1556–1605: During his reign, Akbar expands the Mughal Empire in a series of conquests (in the Indian subcontinent). Political map of the world in 1556 1556: Mir Chakar Khan Rind captures Delhi with Humayun. 1556: Pomponio Algerio, radical theologian, is executed by boiling in oil as part of the Roman Inquisition. 1557: Habsburg Spain declares bankruptcy. Philip II of Spain had to declare four state bankruptcies in 1557, 1560, 1575 and 1596. 1557: The Portuguese settle in Macau (on the western side of the Pearl River Delta across from present-day Hong Kong). 1558: The Ottomans capture Massawa, all but isolating Ethiopia from the rest of the world. 1558: Elizabeth Tudor becomes Queen Elizabeth I at age 25. 1558–1603: The Elizabethan era is considered the height of the English Renaissance. 1558–1583: Livonian War between Poland, Grand Principality of Lithuania, Sweden, Denmark and Russia. 1558: After 200 years, the kingdom of England loses Calais to France. 1559: With the Peace of Cateau Cambrésis, the Italian Wars conclude. 1559: Sultan Hairun of Ternate (in present-day Indonesia) protests the Portuguese's Christianisation activities in his lands. Hostilities between Ternate and the Portuguese. The Mughal Emperor Akbar shoots the Rajput warrior Jaimal during the Siege of Chittorgarh in 1567 1560: Ottoman navy defeats the Spanish fleet at the Battle of Djerba. 1560: Elizabeth Bathory is born in Nyírbátor, Hungary. 1560: By winning the Battle of Okehazama, Oda Nobunaga becomes one of the pre-eminent warlords of Japan. 1560: Jeanne d'Albret declares Calvinism the official religion of Navarre. 1560: Lazarus Church, Macau 1561: Sir Francis Bacon is born in London. 1561: The fourth battle of Kawanakajima between the Uesugi and Takeda at Hachimanbara takes place. 1561: Guido de Bres draws up the Belgic Confession of Protestant faith. 1562: Mughal emperor Akbar reconciles the Muslim and Hindu factions by marrying into the powerful Rajput Hindu caste. 1562–1598: French Wars of Religion. 1562: Massacre of Wassy and Battle of Dreux in the French Wars of Religion. 1562: Portuguese Dominican priests build a palm-fruit fortress which Javanese Muslims burned down the following year. The fort was rebuilt from more durable materials and the Dominicans commenced the Christianisation of the local population.[12] 1563: Plague outbreak claimed 80,000 people in Elizabethan England. In London alone, over 20,000 people died of the disease. 1564: Galileo Galilei born on February 15 1564: William Shakespeare baptized 26 April 1565: Deccan sultanates defeat the Vijayanagara Empire at the Battle of Talikota. 1565: Mir Chakar Khan Rind dies at aged 97. 1565: Estácio de Sá establishes Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. 1565: The Hospitallers, a Crusading Order, defeat the Ottoman Empire at the siege of Malta (1565). 1565: Miguel López de Legazpi establishes in Cebu the first Spanish settlement in the Philippines starting a period of Spanish colonization that would last over three hundred years. 1565: Spanish navigator Andres de Urdaneta discovers the maritime route from Asia to the Americas across the Pacific Ocean, also known as the tornaviaje. 1565: Royal Exchange is founded by Thomas Gresham. 1566: Suleiman the Magnificent, ruler of the Ottoman Empire, dies on September 7, during the battle of Szigetvar. Siege of Valenciennes during the Dutch War of Independence in 1567 1566–1648: Eighty Years' War between Spain and the Netherlands. 1566: Da le Balle Contrade d'Oriente, composed by Cipriano de Rore. 1567: After 45 years' reign, Jiajing Emperor ascended the throne of Ming dynasty. 1567: Mary, Queen of Scots, is imprisoned by Elizabeth I. 1568: The Transylvanian Diet, under the patronage of the prince John Sigismund Zápolya, the former king of Hungary, inspired by the teachings of Ferenc Dávid, the founder of the Unitarian Church of Transylvania, promulgates the Edict of Torda, the first law of freedom of religion and of conscience in the world. 1568–1600: The Azuchi–Momoyama period in Japan. 1568: Haidwijaya sent his adopted son and son-in-law Sutawijaya, who would later become the first ruler of the Mataram dynasty of Indonesia, to kill Arya Penangsang. 1569: Rising of the North in England. 1569: Mercator 1569 world map published by Gerardus Mercator. 1569: The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth is created with the Union of Lublin which lasts until 1795. 1569: Peace treaty signed by Sultan Hairun of Ternate and Governor Lopez De Mesquita of Portugal. The Battle of Lepanto 1570: Ivan the Terrible, tsar of Russia, orders the massacre of inhabitants of Novgorod. 1570: Pope Pius V issues Regnans in Excelsis, a papal bull excommunicating all who obeyed Elizabeth I and calling on all Catholics to rebel against her. 1570: Sultan Hairun of Ternate (in present-day Indonesia) is killed by the Portuguese.[12] Babullah becomes the next Sultan. 1570: 20,000 inhabitants of Nicosia in Cyprus were massacred and every church, public building, and palace was looted. Cyprus fell to the Ottoman Turks the following year. 1571: Pope Pius V completes the Holy League as a united front against the Ottoman Turks, responding to the fall of Cyprus to the Ottomans. 1571: The Spanish-led Holy League navy destroys the Ottoman Empire navy at the Battle of Lepanto. 1571: Crimean Tatars attack and sack Moscow, burning everything but the Kremlin. 1571: American Indians kill Spanish missionaries in what would later be Jamestown, Virginia. 1571: Spanish conquistador Miguel López de Legazpi establishes Manila, Philippines as the capital of the Spanish East Indies. 1572: Brielle is taken from Habsburg Spain by Protestant Watergeuzen in the Capture of Brielle, in the Eighty Years' War. 1572: Spanish conquistadores apprehend the last Inca leader Tupak Amaru at Vilcabamba, Peru, and execute him in Cuzco. 1572: Jeanne d'Albret dies aged 43 and is succeeded by Henry of Navarre. 1572: Catherine de' Medici instigates the St. Bartholomew's Day massacre which takes the lives of Protestant leader Gaspard de Coligny and thousands of Huguenots. The violence spreads from Paris to other cities and the countryside. 1572: First edition of the epic The Lusiads of Luis Vaz de Camões, three years after the author returned from the East.[14] 1572: The 9 years old Taizi, Zhu Yijun ascended the throne of Ming dynasty, known as Wanli Emperor. 1573: After heavy losses on both sides the siege of Haarlem ends in a Spanish victory. St. Bartholomew's Day massacre of French Protestants 1574: In the Eighty Years' War the capital of Zeeland, Middelburg declares for the Protestants. 1574: After a siege of 4 months the siege of Leiden ends in a comprehensive Dutch rebel victory. 1575: Oda Nobunaga finally captures Nagashima fortress. 1575: Following a five-year war, the Ternateans under Sultan Babullah defeated the Portuguese. 1576: Tahmasp I, Safavid shah, dies. 1576: The Battle of Haldighati is fought between the ruler of Mewar, Maharana Pratap and the Mughal Empire's forces under Emperor Akbar led by Raja Man Singh. 1576: Sack of Antwerp by badly paid Spanish soldiers. 1577–1580: Francis Drake circles the world. 1577: Ki Ageng Pemanahan built his palace in Pasargede or Kotagede. 1578: King Sebastian of Portugal is killed at the Battle of Alcazarquivir. 1578: The Portuguese establish a fort on Tidore but the main centre for Portuguese activities in Maluku becomes Ambon.[12] 1578: Sonam Gyatso is conferred the title of Dalai Lama by Tumed Mongol ruler, Altan Khan. Recognised as the reincarnation of two previous Lamas, Sonam Gyatso becomes the third Dalai Lama in the lineage.[15] 1578: Governor-General Francisco de Sande officially declared war against Brunei in 1578, starting the Castilian War of 1578. 1579: The Union of Utrecht unifies the northern Netherlands, a foundation for the later Dutch Republic. 1579: The Union of Arras unifies the southern Netherlands, a foundation for the later states of the Southern Netherlands. 1579: Francis Drake passes through Maluku and transit in Ternate on his circumnavigation of the world. The Portuguese establish a fort on Tidore but the main centre for Portuguese activities in Maluku becomes Ambon.[16] The Edict of Torda is issued in 1568. 1579: Drake's royal reception after his attacks on Spanish possessions influences Philip II of Spain to build up the Spanish Armada. English ships in Spanish harbours are impounded. 1580: Spain unifies with Portugal under Philip II. The struggle for the throne of Portugal ends the Portuguese Empire. The Spanish and Portuguese crowns are united for 60 years, i.e. until 1640. 1580–1587: Nagasaki comes under control of the Jesuits. 1581: Dutch Act of Abjuration, declaring allegiance to Philip II of Spain. 1581: Bayinnaung dies at the age of 65. 1582: Oda Nobunaga commits seppuku during the Honnō-ji Incident coup by his general, Akechi Mitsuhide. 1582: Pope Gregory XIII issues the Gregorian calendar. The last day of the Julian calendar was Thursday, 4 October 1582 and this was followed by the first day of the Gregorian calendar, Friday, 15 October 1582 1582: Yermak Timofeyevich conquers the Siberia Khanate on behalf of the Stroganovs. 1583: Denmark builds the world's first theme park, Bakken. 1583: Death of Sultan Babullah of Ternate. 1584–1585: After the siege of Antwerp, many of its merchants flee to Amsterdam. According to Luc-Normand Tellier, "At its peak, between 1510 and 1557, Antwerp concentrated about 40% of the world trade...It is estimated that the port of Antwerp was earning the Spanish crown seven times more revenues than the Americas."[17] 1584: Ki Ageng Pemanahan died. Sultan Pajang raised Sutawijaya, son of Ki Ageng Pemanahan as the new ruler in Mataram, titled "Loring Ngabehi Market" (because of his home in the north of the market). 1585: Akbar annexes Kashmir and adds it to the Kabul SubahPortuguese build a fort in India from a book by Jan Huygen van Linschoten 1585: Colony at Roanoke founded in North America. 1585–1604: The Anglo-Spanish War is fought on both sides of the Atlantic. 1587: Mary, Queen of Scots is executed by Elizabeth I. 1587: The reign of Abbas I marks the zenith of the Safavid dynasty. 1587: Troops that would invade Pajang Mataram Sultanate storm ravaged the eruption of Mount Merapi. Sutawijaya and his men survived. 1588: Mataram into the kingdom with Sutawijaya as Sultan, titled "Senapati Ingalaga Sayidin Panatagama" means the warlord and cleric Manager Religious Life. 1588: England repulses the Spanish Armada. 1589: Spain repulses the English Armada. 1589: Catherine de' Medici dies at aged 69. Abu'l-Fazl ibn Mubarak presenting Akbarnama to Mughal Azam Akbar, Mughal miniature 1590: Siege of Odawara: the Go-Hojo clan surrender to Toyotomi Hideyoshi, and Japan is unified. 1591: Gazi Giray leads a huge Tatar expedition against Moscow. 1591: In Mali, Moroccan forces of the Sultan Ahmad al-Mansur led by Judar Pasha defeat the Songhai Empire at the Battle of Tondibi. 1592–1593: John Stow reports 10,675 plague deaths in London, a city of approximately 200,000 people. 1592–1598: Korea, with the help of Ming dynasty China, repels two Japanese invasions. 1593–1606: The Long War between the Habsburg monarchy and the Ottoman Turks. 1594: St. Paul's College, Macau, founded by Alessandro Valignano. 1595: First Dutch expedition to Indonesia sets sail for the East Indies with two hundred and forty-nine men and sixty-four cannons led by Cornelis de Houtman.[18] 1596: Birth of René Descartes. 1596: June, de Houtman's expedition reaches Banten the main pepper port of West Java where they clash with both the Portuguese and Indonesians. It then sails east along the north coast of Java losing twelve crew to a Javanese attack at Sidayu and killing a local ruler in Madura.[18] 1597: Romeo and Juliet is published. 1597: Cornelis de Houtman's expedition returns to the Netherlands with enough spices to make a considerable profit.[18] 1598: The Edict of Nantes ends the French Wars of Religion. 1598: Abbas I moves Safavids capital from Qazvin to Isfahan in 1598. 1598–1613: Russia descends into anarchy during the Time of Troubles. 1598: The Portuguese require an armada of 90 ships to put down a Solorese uprising.[12] (to 1599) 1598: More Dutch fleets leave for Indonesia and most are profitable.[18] Edo period screen depicting the Battle of Sekigahara 1598: The province of Santa Fe de Nuevo México is established in Northern New Spain. The region would later become a territory of Mexico, the New Mexico Territory in the United States, and the US State of New Mexico. 1598: Death of Toyotomi Hideyoshi, known as the unifier of Japan. 1599: The Mali Empire is defeated at the Battle of Jenné. 1599: The van Neck expedition returns to Europe. The expedition makes a 400 per cent profit.[18] (to 1600) 1599: March, Leaving Europe the previous year, a fleet of eight ships under Jacob van Neck was the first Dutch fleet to reach the 'Spice Islands' of Maluku.[18] 1600: Giordano Bruno is burned at the stake for heresy in Rome. Siege of Fílakovo castle during the Long Turkish War 1600: Battle of Sekigahara in Japan. End of the Warring States period and beginning of the Edo period. 1600: The Portuguese win a major naval battle in the bay of Ambon.[12] 1600: The Dutch join forces with the local Hituese in an attack for which the Dutch would have the sole right to purchase spices from Hitu.[19] 1600: Elizabeth I grants a charter to the British East India Company and the English advance in Asia. 1600: Michael the Brave unifies the three principalities: Wallachia, Moldavia and Transylvania after the Battle of Selimbăr from 1599. For later events, see Timeline of the 17th century. Polybius "The Histories translated into Italian, English, German and French.[20] Mississippian culture disappears. Medallion rug, variant Star Ushak style, Anatolia (modern Turkey), is made. It is now kept at the Saint Louis Art Museum. Hernan Cortes (1485–1547) Henry VIII, (1491–1547) King of England and Ireland Don Fernando Alvarez de Toledo (1507–1582) Suleiman the Magnificent, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire (1520–1566) Ivan IV the Terrible (1530–1584) Oda Nobunaga (1534–1582) Sir Francis Drake (c. 1540 – 1596) Alberico Gentili, (1552–1608) the Father of international law Philip II of Spain, King of Spain (1556–1598) Akbar the Great, Mughal emperor (1556–1605) Related article: List of 16th century inventions. The Columbian Exchange introduces many plants, animals and diseases to the Old and New Worlds. Introduction of the spinning wheel revolutionizes textile production in Europe. The letter J is introduced into the English alphabet. 1500: First portable watch is created by Peter Henlein of Germany. The Iberian Union in 1598, under Philip II. 1500: First printing press set up in America, Mexico de Soto expeditions map the Gulf of Mexico coastline and bays. 1525: Modern square root symbol (√) 1540: Francisco Vásquez de Coronado sights the Grand Canyon. 1541–42: Francisco de Orellana sails the length of the Amazon River. 1542–43: Firearms are introduced into Japan by the Portuguese. 1543: Copernicus publishes his theory that the Earth and the other planets revolve around the Sun 1545: Theory of complex numbers is first developed by Gerolamo Cardano of Italy. 1558: Camera obscura is first used in Europe by Giambattista della Porta of Italy. 1559–1562: Spanish settlements in Alabama/Florida and Georgia confirm dangers of hurricanes and local native warring tribes. 1565: Spanish settlers outside New Spain (Mexico) colonize Florida's coastline at St. Augustine. 1565: Invention of the graphite pencil (in a wooden holder) by Conrad Gesner. Modernized in 1812. 1568: Gerardus Mercator creates the first Mercator projection map. 1572: Supernova SN 1572 is observed by Tycho Brahe in the Milky Way. 1582: Gregorian calendar is introduced in Europe by Pope Gregory XIII and adopted by Catholic countries. c. 1583: Galileo Galilei of Pisa, Italy identifies the constant swing of a pendulum, leading to development of reliable timekeepers. 1585: earliest known reference to the 'sailing carriage' in China. 1589: William Lee invents the stocking frame. 1591: First flush toilet is introduced by Sir John Harrington of England, the design published under the title The Metamorphosis of Ajax. 1593: Galileo Galilei invents a thermometer. 1596: William Barents discovers Spitsbergen. 1597: Opera in Florence by Jacopo Peri. Entertainment in the 16th century ^ a b Modern reference works on the period tend to follow the introduction of the Gregorian calendar for the sake of clarity; thus NASA's lunar eclipse catalogue states "The Gregorian calendar is used for all dates from 1582 Oct 15 onwards. Before that date, the Julian calendar is used." For dates after 15 October 1582, care must be taken to avoid confusion of the two systems. ^ de Vries, Jan (14 September 2009). "The limits of globalization in the early modern world". The Economic History Review. 63 (3): 710–733. CiteSeerX 10.1.1.186.2862. doi:10.1111/j.1468-0289.2009.00497.x. JSTOR 40929823. S2CID 219969360. SSRN 1635517. ^ Singh, Sarina; Lindsay Brown; Paul Clammer; Rodney Cocks; John Mock (2008). Pakistan & the Karakoram Highway. Vol. 7, illustrated. Lonely Planet. p. 137. ISBN 978-1-74104-542-0. Retrieved 2010. ^ Babur (2006). Babur Nama. Penguin Books. p. vii. ISBN 978-0-14-400149-1. ^ "16th Century Timeline (1501 to 1600)". famitha.com. 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OCLC 905914446. ^ Miller, George, ed. (1996). To The Spice Islands and Beyond: Travels in Eastern Indonesia. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN 967-65-3099-9. ^ Luc-Normand Tellier (2009). "Urban world history: an economic and geographical perspective". PUQ. p.308. ISBN 2-7605-1588-5 ^ a b c d e f Ricklefs (1991), page 27 ^ a b Ricklefs (1991), page 28 ^ Polybius: The Rise Of The Roman Empire, Page 36, Penguin, 1979. Langer, William. An Encyclopedia of World History (Revised; 5th ed. 1973); highly detailed outline of events online free Media related to 16th century at Wikimedia Commons Timelines of 16th century events, science, culture and persons Retrieved from ^ 4 The following pages link to 16th century External tools (link count transclusion count sorted list) · See help page for transcluding these entries Showing 50 items. View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500) Bagpipes (links | edit) 12 of decades, centuries, and millennia (links | edit) Fashion (links | edit) Giovanni Boccaccio (links | edit) History of Mali (links | edit) History of Mauritius (links | edit) Post office (links | edit) Snare drum (links | edit) Republican Party (United States) (links | edit) 15th century (links | edit) 17th century (links | edit) 18th century (links | edit) 1642 (links | edit) 1661 (links | edit) 1608 (links | edit) 1492 (links | edit) 14th century (links | edit) 1st century (links | edit) 13th century (links | edit) 12th century (links | edit) 11th century (links | edit) 1564 (links | edit) 1648 (links | edit) 1627 (links | edit) edit) 1597 (links | edit) 1690 (links | edit) 1688 (links | edit) 1492 7th century (links | edit) 10th century (links | edit) 8th century (links | edit) 6th century (links | edit) 5th century (links | edit) 3rd century (links | edit) 2nd century (links | edit) 1573 (links | edit) 1570s (links | edit) 1574 (links | edit) 1436 (links | edit) 1476 (links | edit) 1542 (links | edit) 1540s (links | edit) View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500) Retrieved from " WhatLinksHere/16th_century" WordPress, known for its user-friendly interface and flexibility, lets site owners manage user access through a system of roles and capabilities. Understanding WordPress user roles is crucial for effective site administration, as they determine the level of access and control users have within the platform. Moreover, WordPress roles and their management are key for keeping a site secure, organized, and efficient. They set the rules for who can do what in WordPress. Whether it's the all-powerful administrators or those with limited access like subscribers, each role has a specific job in running the site. In this detailed guide, we'll explore the essential aspects of WordPress user roles. From how to create custom ones, and how to manage who can do what on your site. Let's dive in! Jump to What Are WordPress User Roles? WordPress user roles define the level of access and permissions granted to individuals or groups on a WordPress site. These roles determine what users can do within the site's backend and its various functionalities. Each role comes with a set of capabilities that specify the actions they can perform. Understanding these roles is fundamental for effective site management and security and should be one of your top priorities as soon as you install your WordPress website. What are WordPress capabilities? WordPress capabilities cover a wide range of tasks users can do in the site's backend. These actions are categorized into various types, such as: Core Capabilities: Fundamental actions related to content management, user management, and site settings. Post Type Capabilities: Specific actions related to handling different content types (posts, pages, custom post types). Meta Capabilities: Granular actions like editing one's posts, moderating comments, or managing others' content. The relationship between roles and capabilities determines what each role can do effectively. For instance: Administrator: This role holds all capabilities, which makes it the most powerful role with full control over the site. Editor: Has capabilities like editing, publishing, and deleting any post type. Author: Can create and publish their own posts but cannot modify others' content. Contributor: Can write and manage their posts but needs editor approval for publishing. Subscriber: Has minimal capabilities, usually limited to reading content and managing their profile. Benefits of WordPress User Roles WordPress user roles offer several advantages, such as: 1. Enhanced security and access control WordPress user roles are critical for site security. By allowing site owners to restrict access to critical areas such as theme and plugin management or user settings significantly reduces the chance of unauthorized changes or security breaches. In addition, restricting access to critical functionalities reduces the chances of accidental changes that could affect the site's performance or security. Implementing antivirus software further fortifies your site's defenses, providing an additional layer of protection against malware and cyber threats 2. Efficient workflow management Defined user roles streamline workflow management by assigning specific responsibilities to different users. This means that each role has a defined set of tasks and permissions, allowing team members to focus on their designated responsibilities without confusion. Roles like authors, editors, and contributors facilitate a structured content creation pipeline, from drafting to editing and publishing, maintaining content quality and consistency. 3. Team collaboration and productivity WordPress user roles promote collaboration among teams by allowing individuals to contribute according to their expertise without interfering with other areas. Also, assigning roles ensures that each team member is responsible for specific tasks, promoting accountability and productivity. 4. Scalability and growth As a website grows and teams expand, user roles offer scalability benefits. With predefined roles, onboarding new team members becomes more straightforward. And assigning appropriate roles grants them the necessary permissions without compromising site security. What's more, user roles can be adjusted as the site evolves, accommodating changes in team structure and responsibilities. The Six Default WordPress User Roles 1. Administrators Administrators possess the most extensive capabilities, enabling them to control every aspect of the WordPress site. They can create, delete, and manage user accounts, install or delete plugins and themes, moderate comments, manage settings, and more. Administrators are typically site owners or managers responsible for overseeing the entire website. They are the ones who ensure its smooth operation, security, and functionality. 2. Editors Editors have significant content management capabilities, such as the authority to publish, edit, or delete any posts or pages. They can moderate comments and manage categories and tags. Editors focus on maintaining content quality, editing, and curating content submitted by authors. They ensure that the published content aligns with the site's standards and objectives. 3. Authors Authors have the ability to create, edit, publish, and delete their own posts. They can work independently on their content. They are primarily responsible for generating original content, such as articles, blog posts, or other materials, as well as publishing them on the site. 4. Contributors Contributors can create and manage their posts but lack the permission to publish. Instead, they submit their work for review by higher roles. Contributors focus on content creation and submission. Basically, they draft content and await approval from editors or administrators before publication. 5. Subscribers Subscribers have limited capabilities, primarily focused on managing their profiles and interacting with the site by leaving comments and accessing restricted content. They often engage with the site by signing up for newsletters, managing their profile information, and participating in discussions through comments. 6. Super Admin (Multisite Installations) Super Admins oversee the entire network across multiple sites. They can create and manage individual sites within the network and have control over network-wide settings. In multisite environments, Super Admins oversee the configurations and user roles, and managing the network's functionality overall. Default vs. Custom User Roles WordPress comes with default user roles designed for different site responsibilities. Sometimes, these default roles don't match a site's needs or team setups exactly. In such cases, the creation of custom user roles becomes crucial. Default WordPress user roles arrive with pre-established sets of capabilities tailored to distinct responsibilities. These roles are designed to cover general use cases, facilitating immediate assignment without the need for additional configuration. However, their predefined nature might limit their suitability for unique site needs or specialized team roles. In contrast, custom WordPress user roles empower site administrators by offering tailored capabilities aligned with precise necessities. These roles provide flexible access control, allowing administrators to fine-tune permissions meticulously. This level of granularity ensures that users possess only the necessary permissions for their designated roles, which creates a more secure and structured environment. One of the significant advantages of custom user roles lies in their adaptability. These roles evolve alongside the site's growth or changing dynamics within the team structure. As new responsibilities emerge or workflows undergo alterations, custom roles can be adjusted or expanded to accommodate these changes seamlessly. How to Assign a User Role in WordPress Method 1: Using the WordPress Dashboard 1. Log in to Your WordPress Admin Dashboard: Access the backend of your WordPress site using your admin credentials. 2. Navigate to the Users Section: In the WordPress dashboard, click on the "Users" tab on the left-hand menu. Image source 3. View All Users: Next, click on "All Users" to display a list of all registered users on your WordPress site. 4. Select a User Account: Identify the desired user account and hover over their username until you see the Edit link. Click on it. Image source 5. Edit User Profile: You'll now be directed to the user's profile page, displaying various settings and user information. 6. Locate the Role Setting: Look for the "Role" or "Role/Status" section on the user's profile page. 7. Choose a New Role: From the dropdown menu in the Role section, select the desired user role by clicking on it. Image source 8. Update User Profile: Finally, after selecting the new role, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click the "Update User" or "Save Changes" button to save the changes made to the user's profile. Pro tip: In case you want to change a user's role by assigning them a different role simply go to "All Users" and check the box next to the name of a user whose role you wish to change. Next, from the dropdown menu in the Change role to... section, select the desired user role you wish to assign to the user. The available roles will vary based on the roles set up on your WordPress site. After selecting the new role, simply click the "Change" button to save the changes made to the user's role. Method 2: During user registration 1. Access General Settings: First, in the WordPress dashboard, go to "Settings" and click on "General." 2. Set Default Role: Under the General Settings, find the option labeled "New User Default Role." Image source 3. Select Default Role: From the dropdown menu next to "New User Default Role," choose the default user role you want to assign to newly registered users. 4. Save Changes: Finally, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click the "Save Changes" button to apply the new default role for future user registrations. Pro tip: WordPress follows a hierarchical structure for roles, where higher-level roles encompass the capabilities of lower-level roles. Ensure you assign roles according to the user's responsibilities and required access levels. In addition, double-check the assigned role's capabilities to guarantee that the user has the necessary permissions for their tasks without unnecessary access. By following these steps, WordPress administrators can easily assign specific user roles to individuals, offering appropriate access levels and permissions within the site. How to Customize Existing User Roles in WordPress Method 1: Using plugins 1. Select a User Role Editor Plugin: First, choose a user role editor plugin like "User Role Editor" from the WordPress plugin repository. 2. Install and Activate the Plugin: In your WordPress dashboard, navigate to "Plugins" and click "Add New." Search for your chosen user role editor plugin, then install and activate it. 3. Access the User Role Editor Interface: Once activated, find the plugin in the WordPress dashboard menu and select the appropriate option to access the user role editor interface. Image source 4. Select the Role to Customize: In the user role editor interface, choose the existing user role you wish to customize. This could be any default role like Administrator, Editor, Author, etc. 5. Modify Role Capabilities: The plugin interface will display a list of capabilities associated with the selected user role. You can enable or disable specific capabilities by checking or unchecking the boxes next to each capability. 6. Save Changes: After making the necessary adjustments to the capabilities, save the changes within the plugin interface. Some plugins might have specific "Save" or "Update" buttons to apply modifications. Method 2: Custom code Access the Theme's Functions.php File or Create a Custom Plugin: First, navigate to the theme editor in the WordPress dashboard or use an FTP client to access the theme's files. Alternatively, create a custom plugin for adding code snippets. Use WordPress Functions to Modify Roles: Next, utilize WordPress functions such as add_cap() to add capabilities or remove_cap() to remove capabilities from existing roles. You can access these functions reference in the WordPress Codex or developer resources. Define New Capabilities: Customizing roles via code involves defining specific capabilities and assigning them to existing roles. For instance: $editor_role = get_role('editor'); $editor_role->add_cap('edit_custom_content'); Implement Changes Carefully: When modifying roles through custom code, ensure accuracy in syntax and avoid conflicts by testing changes on a staging site or local environment before implementing them on a live site. Pro tip: Customizing roles offers fine-grained control over user capabilities. Always make sure to double-check modifications to avoid unintended permissions for the roles without compromising site security. By following these steps, WordPress administrators can effectively customize existing user roles with specific site requirements or user responsibilities. How to Delete a User Role in WordPress Using user role editor plugins 1. Access User Role Editor Interface: Begin by logging in to your WordPress dashboard and navigating to the installed user role editor plugin. 2. Selection of Role for Deletion: Within the plugin interface, locate and select the user role you wish to delete from the list of available roles. Image source 3. Initiate the Deletion Process: Then, look for an option explicitly mentioning deletion or removal associated with the selected user role. 4. Confirm Deletion Prompt: Often, the plugin will prompt a confirmation dialog or ask for verification before proceeding with the deletion. Confirm the action to permanently remove the user role. 5. Review Changes: Once confirmed, the plugin will execute the deletion process. Verify that the role has been successfully removed by checking the list of available roles within the plugin interface. Using custom code Cautionary Measures: Deleting roles through custom code necessitates careful consideration to avoid potential errors or unintended consequences. Always perform this action on a staging or testing environment before implementing it on a live site. Utilizing WordPress Functions: In the theme's functions.php file or within a custom plugin, use the remove_role() function. This function specifies the exact role name as a parameter: remove_role('example_role'); Testing and Implementation: Verification: Once the code is implemented, apply the code on the live site. Verify that the targeted role has been successfully deleted by checking the list of available roles within the WordPress dashboard. Pro tip: Before deleting any user role, back up your WordPress site to prevent irreversible data loss or accidental removal of critical roles. Deleting roles can impact users associated with those roles. Ensure that users are appropriately reassigned or their access is adjusted to prevent disruption. Deleting user roles in WordPress demands attention to detail and cautious execution to maintain site integrity and prevent access-related issues for users. By following these steps carefully, administrators can effectively manage user roles without compromising site functionality or security. How to Create Custom WordPress User Roles Using plugins 1. Plugin Installation: Start by installing and activating the desired user role management plugin from the WordPress plugin repository. 2. Accessing Role Editor: Once installed, navigate to the plugin settings within the WordPress dashboard. Locate the "Role Editor" section or similarly named functionality. Image source 3. Defining New Roles: Within the role editor interface, administrators can define new roles by specifying role names and assigning capabilities. This step involves choosing from a range from basic tasks like 'reading' to advanced actions like 'editing themes'. Using custom code For advanced users or developers, creating custom roles involves utilizing functions and hooks to define capabilities and assign them to roles programmatically. Functions.php or Custom Plugin: Begin by accessing the theme's functions.php file or create a custom plugin to add code. Defining Role Capabilities: Utilize WordPress functions like add_role() to create new roles and add_cap() to assign capabilities to those roles. This involves specifying the role's name, capabilities, and other parameters. $result = add_role('content_manager', __('Content Manager'), array('edit_posts' => true, 'edit_pages' => true, 'upload_files' => true,)); // Add more capabilities as needed); Assigning Capabilities: Customize the capabilities granted to the custom role according to the site's requirements. This includes defining access levels to various parts of the site such as editing posts, managing media, or moderating comments. Both methods offer flexibility in creating custom roles tailored to specific site needs. Plugins provide a user-friendly interface, while custom code offers granular control for developers seeking advanced customization. How to Manage WordPress User Roles and Capabilities Effectively Understanding user roles and capabilities is essential, but managing them effectively is equally crucial. Employing some fundamental principles can optimize the utilization of WordPress' user roles and capabilities. It's safer to grant fewer permissions than an excess of them, safeguarding the site and its content from potential risks. Careful assignment of roles Assign user roles carefully, adhering to the principle of least privileges. For instance, limit the number of Administrators and Editors, granting only necessary privileges for their designated tasks. Use the Editor for content management and the Author role for content creation. Assign the Author role to trusted content creators with publishing abilities, and utilize deletion rights, and utilize Contributor roles for new contributors or guest posts. Collaborator roles for those needing only specific needs. For example, empower Authors with comment moderation capabilities, which aren't usually part of the default Author role. Since WordPress allows manual customization of roles using code or plugins, you are given the flexibility to shape roles according to your unique requirements. Efficient User Management in WordPress WordPress Multisite introduces specific settings and options for user management across a network of sites. Understanding and utilizing these functionalities optimizes network administration. Network registration settings Configure user registration settings in Multisite to allow or restrict user registrations across the network and subsites. Also, don't forget to enable options to control user and site creation privileges. Centralized user access Benefit from Multisite's feature, allowing one user account to access multiple sites within the network. This functionality mirrors a unified account experience across the network. Site-level user registration By default, Multisite permits user registration for the entire network overall. However, specific plugins like Network Subsite User Registration enable user registration to be limited to individual subsites. Super Admin privileges Super Admin privileges should be assigned sparingly and only to trusted users. These privileges allow extended control over the entire network and should be delegated carefully. To sum up, understanding and effectively managing these settings enhances user role efficiency and streamlines user management across the network. WordPress Multisite installations, ensuring optimized control and access management within the network. WordPress User Roles Plugins WordPress offers a variety of user role management plugins to simplify role creation, customization, and management. Let's take a look at some of the most popular plugins: 1. User Role Editor Features User Role Editor offers a comprehensive interface within the WordPress dashboard, allowing administrators to manage user roles, as well as their capabilities efficiently. Capabilities: Intuitive Interface: User-friendly interface for quick role management. Role Assignment: Assign, edit, or delete user roles effortlessly. Capabilities Management: Fine-tune capabilities associated with each role. Customization Options: Role Creation: Create custom roles tailored to specific requirements. Permission Management: Modify capabilities precisely to align with user responsibilities. Benefits: Ease of Use: Intuitive interface for quick role management. Flexibility: Customization options for precise control over roles and access. Compatibility: Works seamlessly with various WordPress themes and plugins. 2. Members Features The Members plugin provides advanced control over user roles and capabilities, empowering administrators to manage roles and tailor capabilities. Capabilities: Assign or revoke specific capabilities for each role. Content Permissions: Restrict or grant access to content based on user roles. Customization Options: Create, edit, or delete roles effortlessly. Role-Based Access Control: Manage content based on assigned roles. Benefits: Robust Functionality: Offers extensive control over roles and access. Content Restriction: Restrict content visibility based on user roles. Compatibility: Compatible with popular WordPress plugins and themes. 3. PublishPress Capabilities Features PublishPress Capabilities focuses on fine-tuning user capabilities, allowing administrators to manage capabilities across user roles efficiently as possible. Capabilities Capability Management: Grant, modify, or revoke capabilities for roles. Role Editor: Edit default roles or create custom roles as per requirements. Customization Options: Granular Control: Adjust capabilities with precision. Custom Role Creation: Create custom capabilities for specific user tasks. Benefits: Granular Control: Offers fine-grained control over user capabilities. Role Customization: Modify default roles or create new roles seamlessly. User-specific Permissions: Customize capabilities for individual roles. 4. WPFront User Role Editor Features WPFront User Role Editor provides a simplified interface for managing user roles and capabilities. It's user-friendly and caters to both novice and experienced users. Capabilities: Role Management: Edit, create, or delete user roles effortlessly. Capability Assignment: Assign or modify capabilities for each role. Customization Options: Role Cloning: Clone existing roles to create custom roles quickly. Capability Adjustment: Fine-tune capabilities for precise control. Benefits: User-friendly Interface: Easy-to-use interface for quick role management. Compatibility: Compatible with various WordPress themes and plugins. These plugins offer diverse capabilities to manage user roles, capabilities, and permissions in WordPress. Administrators can choose based on their specific requirements, preferences for interface usability, as well as desired level of customization. Amelia isn't just a plugin; it's a game-changer for WordPress sites! Imagine effortlessly managing appointments, events, and consultations with a tool that seamlessly integrates into your WordPress ecosystem. This powerful booking plugin brings a world of features to your fingertips, such as: Simplify booking Reminders: Keep everyone in the loop with automated reminders, reducing no-shows and last-minute cancellations. Synced Calendars: Sync appointments across calendars for streamlined scheduling and better organization. Secure Payments: Secure payment gateways for hassle-free transactions. Elevate your business's appointment-handling needs with WordPress! Final Thoughts on WordPress User Roles Effective management of user roles and capabilities is imperative for maintaining a secure and structured WordPress site. By adhering to best practices and utilizing appropriate tools, administrators can ensure streamlined user ecosystems across both single-site installations and WordPress Multisite networks. Key takeaways: Strategic Role Allocation: Make sure to assign minimal necessary permissions for each user role to prevent unnecessary privileges. Role Customization: Leverage plugins or custom code to create, modify, or delete user roles tailored to specific site needs. Multisite Management: Understand the nuances of registration management for centralized control over networked sites. Plugin Assistance: Utilize user role management plugins to simplify and expedite role-related tasks without extensive coding knowledge. By embracing these principles and leveraging appropriate tools, you can streamline user management strategies, WordPress administrators can foster a secure, efficient, and well-organized environment. This will ensure optimal functionality as well as user experience across their WordPress sites. Looking for More WordPress Guides and Tutorials? Make sure to check out these valuable resources to enhance your WordPress journey: Explore features Explore Demo Read Inspiring Customer Stories Check out how our user set Amelia for his business Read the full story