



THE CHRISTIAN KINGDOMS IN THE MIDDLE AGES



CONTENTS

1. The origin and formation of the Christian Kingdoms
 1. Common Features
 2. Cantabrian zone: *Asturias-León*
 3. Pyrenean zone: *Navarra, Aragón, Catalan Counties*

2. The process of “Reconquista”
 1. Definition of the concept
 2. Phases of the Reconquista



The formation of the Christian Kingdoms (8th-10th)

- The Christian kingdoms will be born in the free-muslims zones of the North
- We can distinguish two areas:
 - Cantabrian zone → *Kingdom of Asturias*
 - Pirenaic zone (Hispanic March) → *Kingdom of Pamplona, Kingdom of Aragon, Catalanian Counties*
- They are independent kingdoms
 - Share only their religion, but not always share interests
 - Alliances with muslims, territorial troubles, etc.

The formation of the Christian Kingdoms (8th-10th)

- Internal working: How were these kingdoms?
 - 1-. The territory of the kingdom is property of the King
 - 2-. The population of the kingdom are subjects of the King
 - 3-. There are no national ties: the only common tie they have is their king

**Muslim dominion
of
al-Ándalus**

But...

**Appearance of zones
free from the muslim
control**

**Astures, cántabros and
visigodos**

Battle of Covadonga

Kingdom of Asturias

Franks

Battle of Poitiers

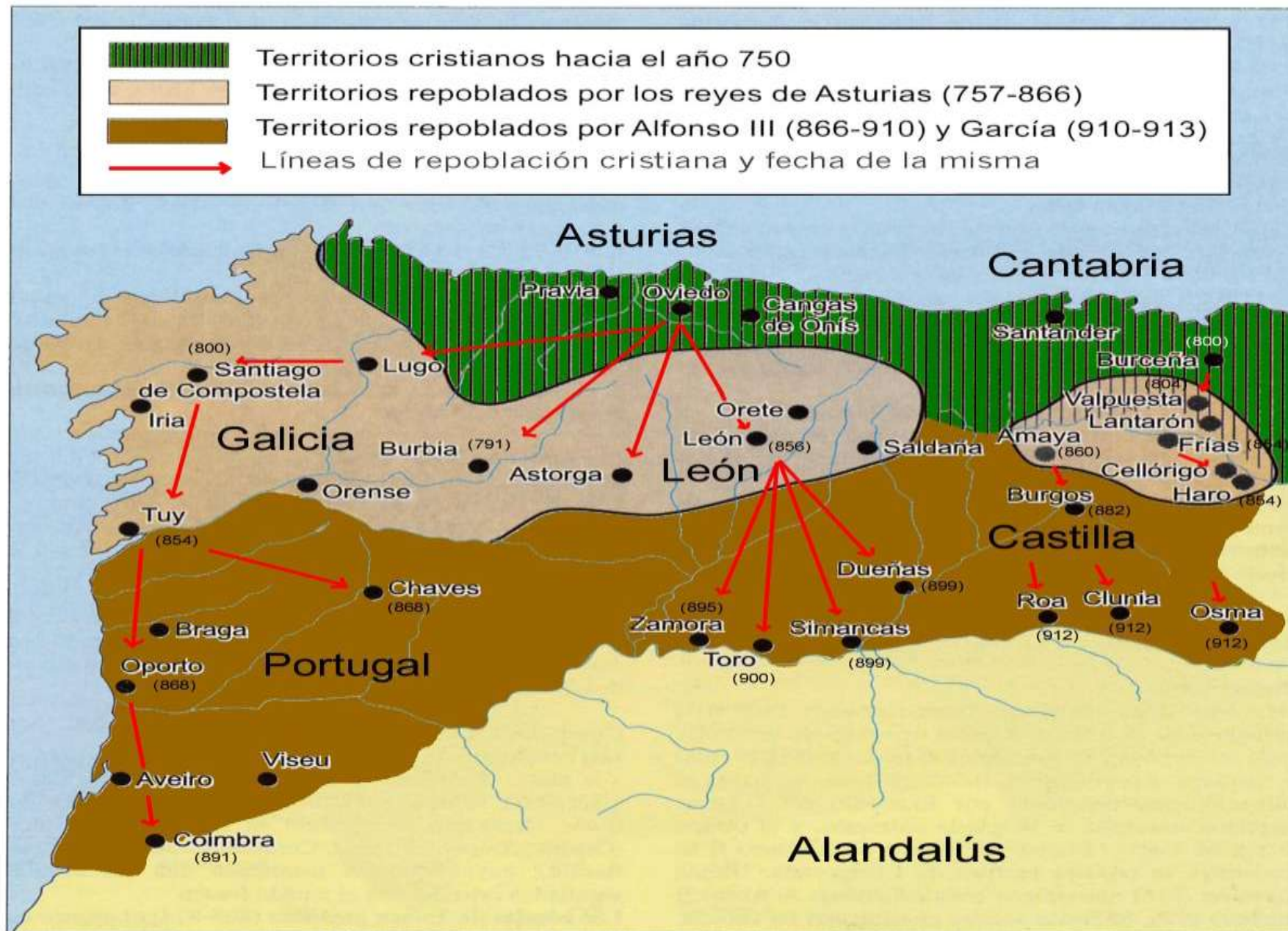
Hispanic March

Aparición de áreas que escapan al control musulmán



Cantabrian zone: Kingdom of Asturias

- Period of growth under Alfonso I, Alfonso II, Alfonso III (± 150 years)
 - From the original area in Asturias to the north of the Meseta
 - Repopulation of the area of the Duero
 - Stop of conquests in 10th century: Caliphate of Córdoba
- Alfonso III divided the kingdom into his three children (Asturias, León and Galicia), but García I reunified them again and set the capital in León.
- Their victory in the battle of Simancas (939) let the christians to control the whole basin of river Duero



El Reino de Asturias (739-913)

First repopulations

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graph TD; A[First repopulations] --> B[Hardly populated lands]; B --> C[Free peasants]; B --> D["Desierto del Duero"]; C --> E[Villages];
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Hardly populated lands

Free peasants

Villages

“Desierto del Duero”

Cantabrian zone: Kingdom of Asturias

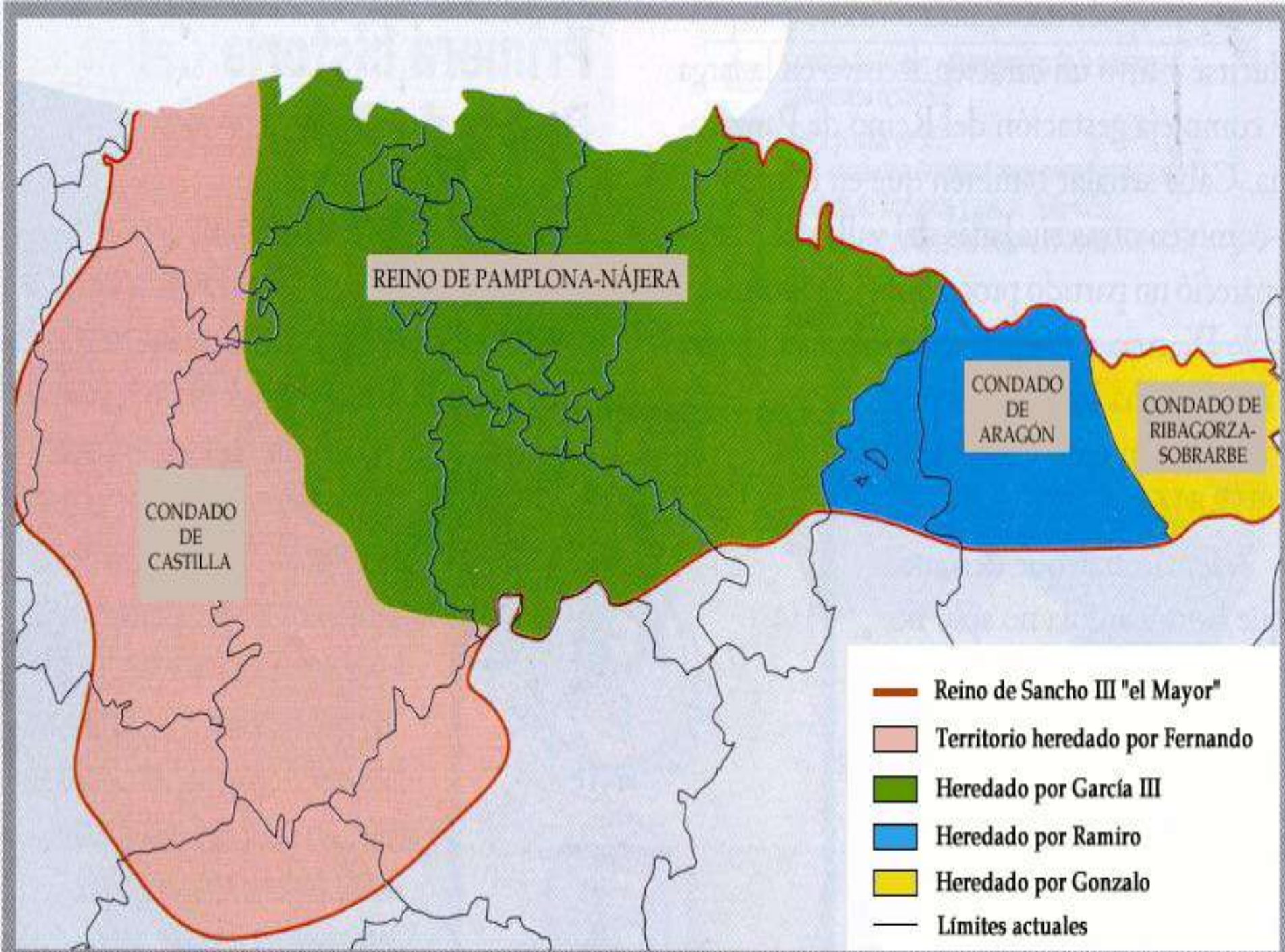
- Creation of counties → defensive areas governed by a count, who was appointed by the king.
- County of Castilla:
 - Eastern region of the kingdom of León
 - 10th cent.: autonomous government by Fernán González
 - 11th cent.: dependent from Navarra and creation of the Kingdom of Castilla (1065 → Fernando I)
- County of Portugal:
 - Western region of the kingdom of León
 - Governed by members of the royal family
 - Became independent in the 12th, with Alfonso Henriquez



**Situación
año c.1000**

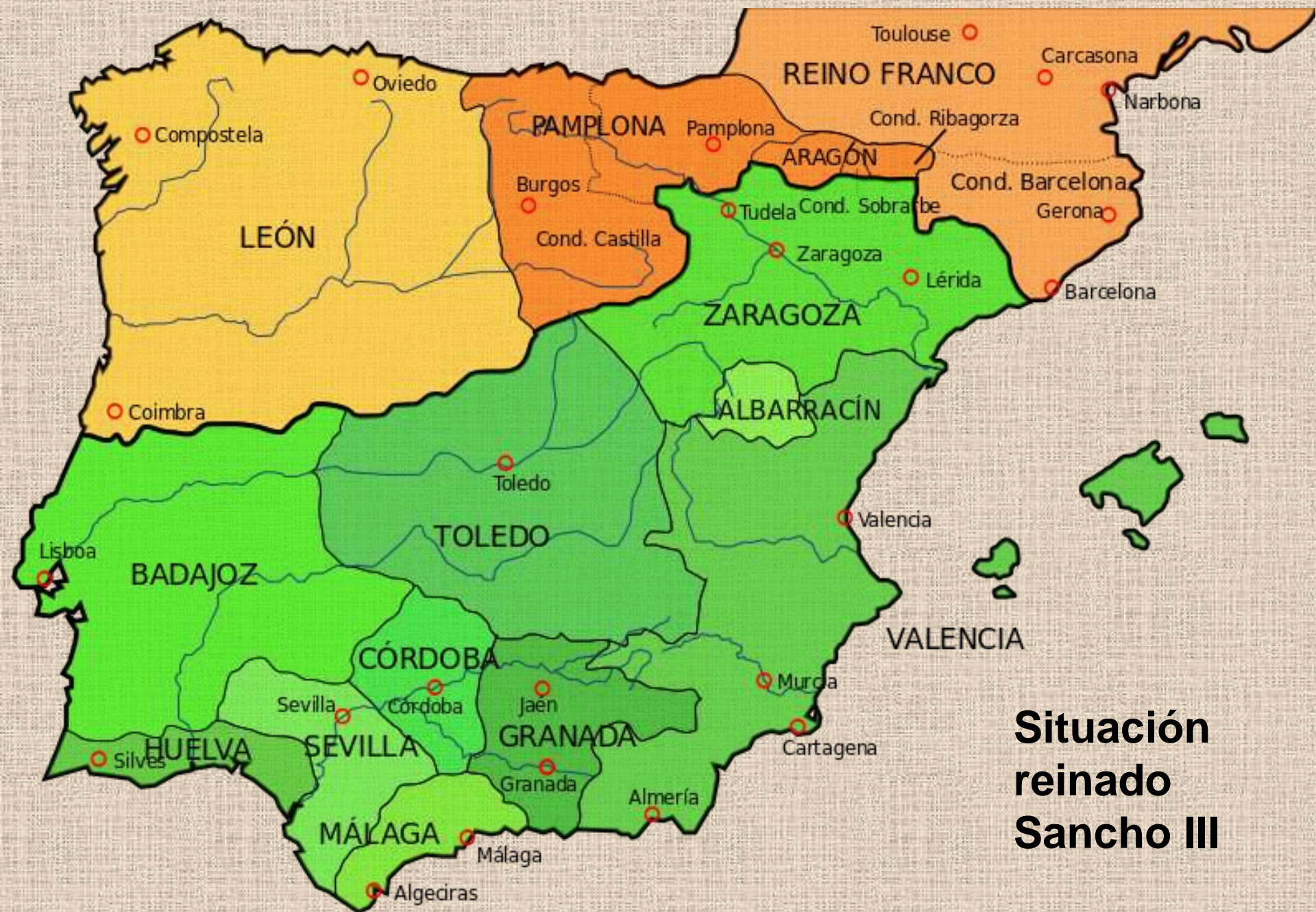
Pyrenean zone: Kingdom of Pamplona

- This area was under the influence of both muslims (Ebro's Valley) and franks/carolingians (*Hispanic March*) during the first two centuries.
- Creation of the Kingdom of Pamplona → gain their independence in 824, with the family Arista.
 - Keep oscillating between al-Andalus and France, although was loyal to the Córdoba Caliphate during 10th century.
- Sancho III *el Mayor* (beginnings of 11th cent.) join the counties of Castilla, Aragón and Ribagorza due to family ties.
 - After his death (1035), the territories were divided among his four children
 - Origin of the Kingdom of Castilla
 - Origin of the Kingdom of Aragón





territorios de Sancho III de Pamplona (1000-1035)



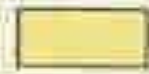
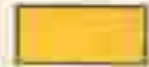
**Situación
reinado
Sancho III**

Pyrenean zone: Kingdom of Aragón

- After the disappearance of the Carolingian Empire, the County of Aragón belonged to the Kingdom of Navarra
 - First independent counts of the family of Aznar Galíndez (9th century)
 - Union with Pamplona (10th century)
- Birth of the Kingdom of Aragón after the death of Sancho III
 - His will let the territory to his son Ramiro I as an independent kingdom
 - Established the capital in Jaca
 - During the 12th century join the County of Barcelona and the rest of the Catalan Counties, creating the Crown of Aragón

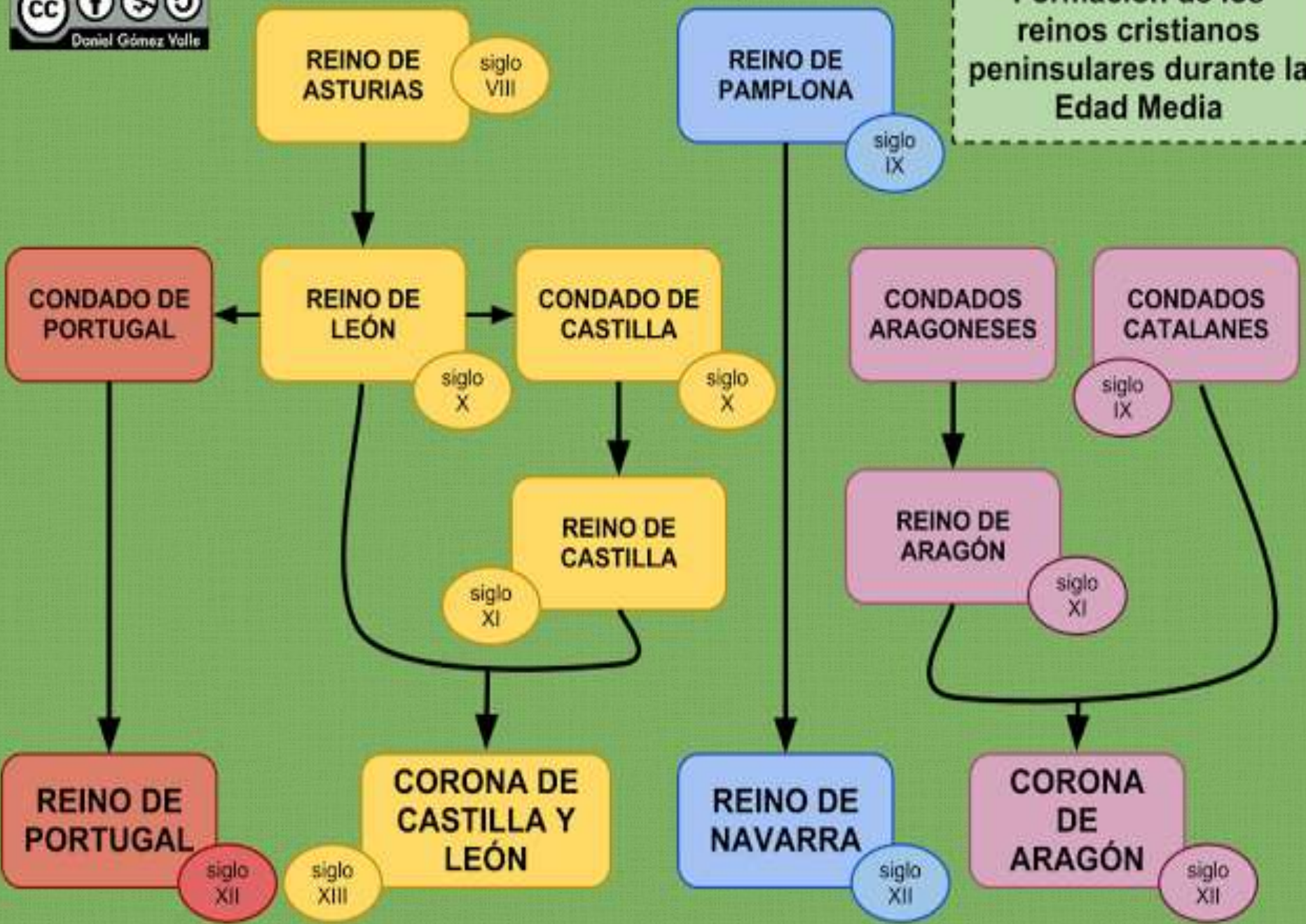
Pyrenean zone: Catalan Counties

- The most important defensive area of the Hispanic March. Was formed by several counties linked with the Frankish kings.
- Wilfredo *el Velloso* unified all of them in the 9th century, and repopulated the southern areas
 - The count appointment became hereditary
- Independence from the Franks → ending of 10th century
 - Expansion period under Ramón Berenguer II (11th century)
 - Union with the Kingdom of Aragón (middle of 12th century)
 - Official separation of France → *Treaty of Corbeil* (1258)

-  condados regidos por Vifredo
-  zona repoblada por Vifredo



Formación de los
reinos cristianos
peninsulares durante la
Edad Media



The history of the *Reconquista* (11th-15th)

AÑO 1054



AÑO 1143



AÑO 1200



AÑO 1304



AÑO 1450



The concept *RECONQUISTA*

- The process of recovery of the territories of the Iberian Peninsula by the Christian kingdoms, just at the same time than the progressive decline of al-Andalus.
- The expansion of the C.K. lasted from 8th to 15th centuries, but the Reconquista itself began with the breaking down of the Caliphate of Córdoba.

**Break down of the
Caliphate**

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graph TD; A[Break down of the Caliphate] --> B[TAIFA KINGDOMS]; B --> C[Payment of parias to the Christian Kingdoms]; B --> D[Political and territorial division in al-Andalus]; C --> E[Political strengthening and territorial advance of the Christian Kingdoms]; D --> E;
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TAIFA KINGDOMS

**Payment of *parias* to
the Christian Kingdoms**

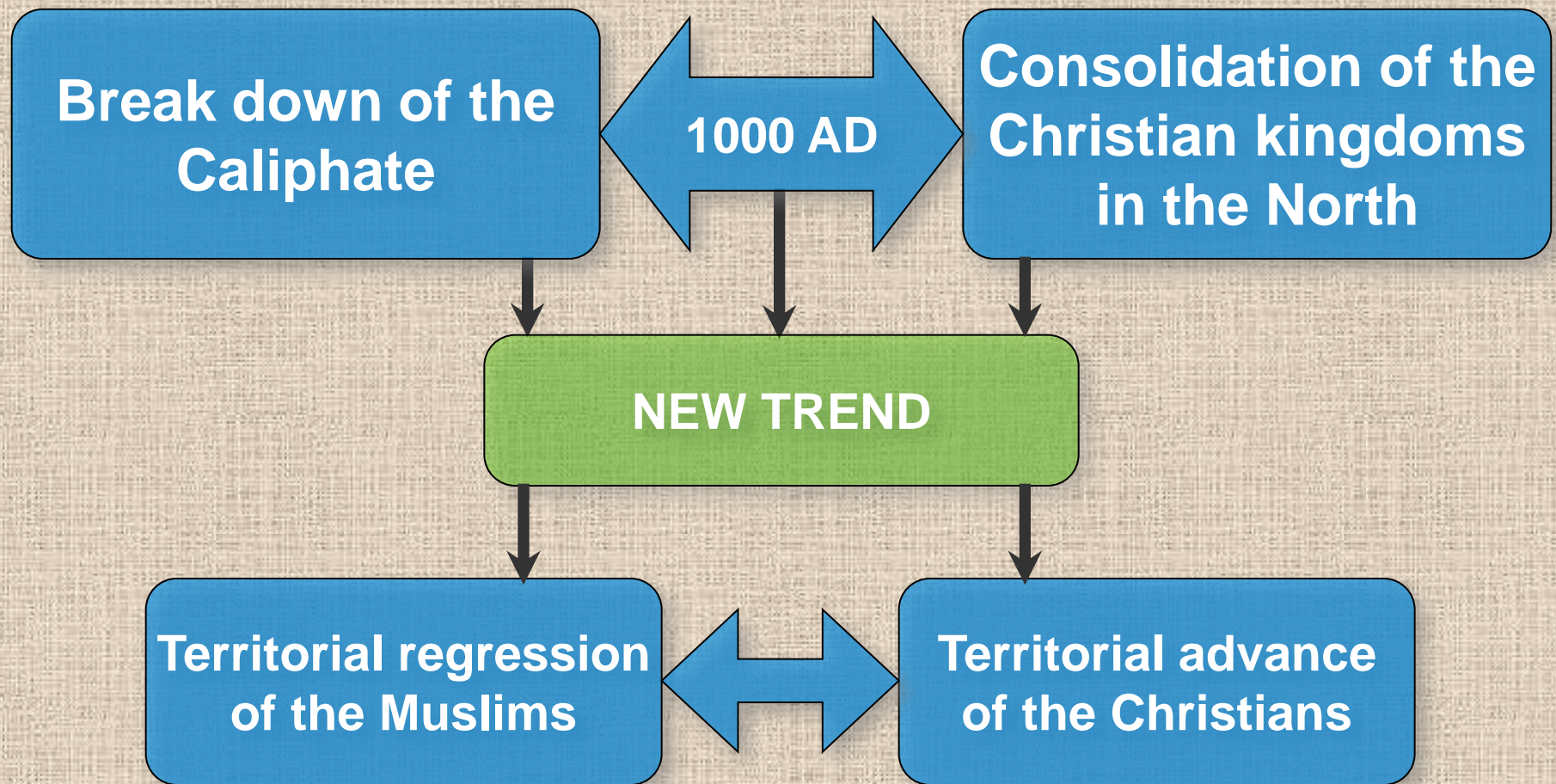
**Political and territorial
division in al-Andalus**

**Political strengthening and
territorial advance of the
Christian Kingdoms**

**AVANCE Y CONSOLIDACIÓN DE LOS
REINOS CRISTIANOS**

The concept *RECONQUISTA*

- Up to the year 1000, the Muslims had been clearly powerful than the Christians in every field (military, economy, culture...), but in the beginnings of the 11th century the C.K. began to expand.
 - **Turning point** → *new trend in the relationships between Christians and Muslims*



CRISIS DEL CALIFATO DE CÓRDOBA (1031)

Cambio de tendencia en la relación entre Al-Ándalus y los reinos cristianos del norte

- In the free zones in the north of the Iberian Peninsula, the Christians began to get organized and the first kingdoms were created, mainly in two areas.

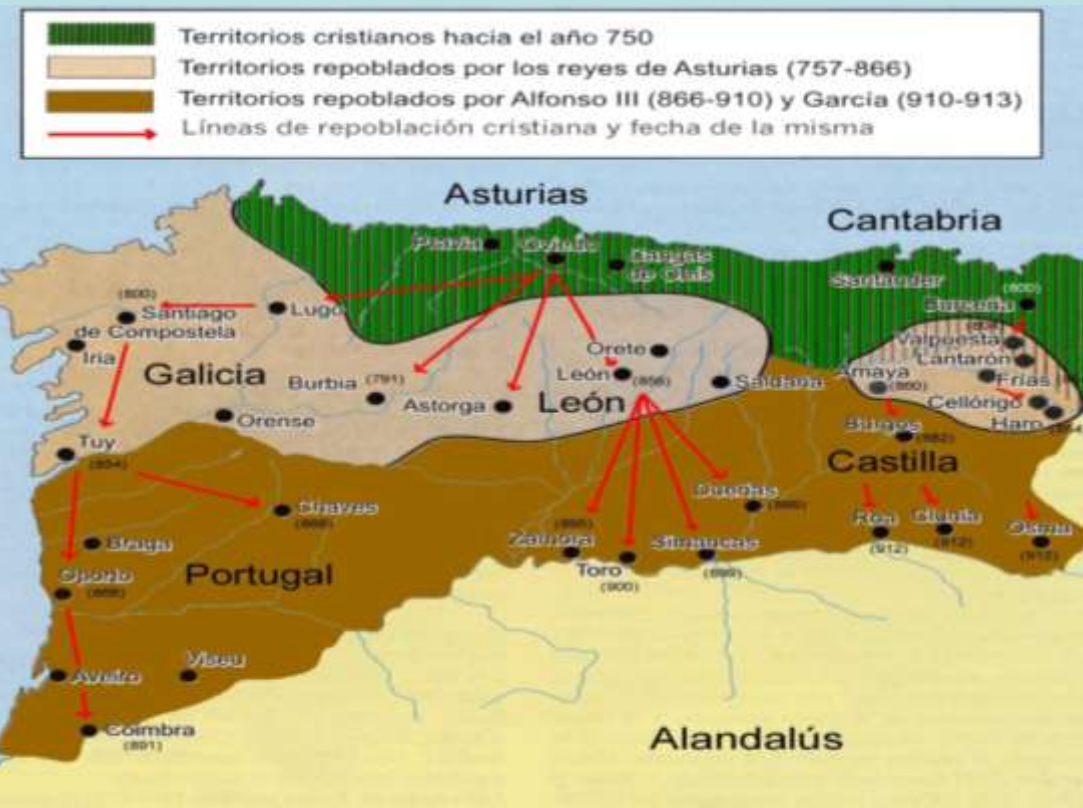


-Resistance zones in Cantabria and the Pyrenees.

-Inferiority respecting al-Andalus

PHASE 0

- The Christians expanded their domains and reached the north of the Meseta and the river Duero.
- In this moment the first great repopulation was produced, in order to fill the empty zones between the Muslim and Christian frontiers.



1. Allotment of lands between the free peasants.

2. Granting of *fueros* (rights given by the King) to create new cities

PHASE 1
(8th-10th)

Mar Cantábrico

O C É A N O A T L Á N T I C O

REINO
ASTURLEONÉS

CONDADO
DE CASTILLA

REINO
DE PAMPLONA

CONDADO
DE ARAGON

CONDADOS
CATALANES

AL-ANDALUS

SIGLO X

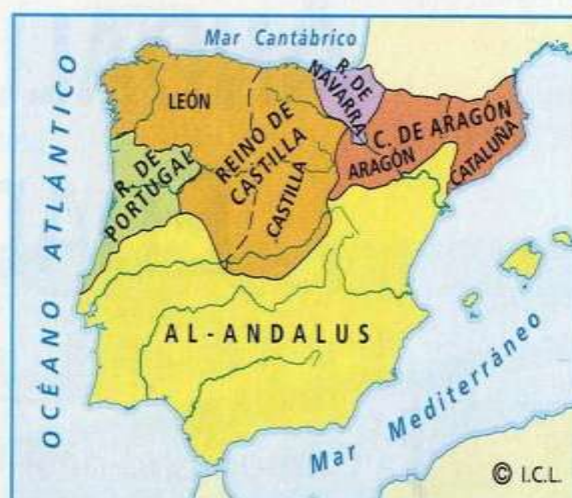
Mar Mediterráneo



AÑO 1054



AÑO 1143



AÑO 1200



AÑO 1304



AÑO 1450





- In the change of millennium, the Christian kingdoms will benefit from the disappearance of the Córdoba Caliphate. The Muslim territory was divided into Taifas

PHASE 2

(11th)

- Alfonso VI conquered Toledo (1085), so the Taifas had to call the Almoravids, looking for military help.
- Despite of some initial victories, this North-African people could not unify the Taifas nor avoid the Christian advances.
 - The Kingdom of Castilla-León could control the river Tajo.

PHASE 3

(12th)

- After a brief stop, caused by the coming of the Almohads (*2nd Taifas period*), the greatest expansion in this period was made by the Kingdom of Aragón.
- They advanced in the valley of the river Ebro and conquered Zaragoza to the Muslims. The great Crown of Aragón was created few years later, after joining on the Catalan Counties (1164).



PHASE 3 (12th)

- The limits of the central area were set in the basin of the Gadiana because of the Almohad attacks.
- The county of Portugal got its independence as a kingdom.

- This stage was marked by the great victory in the Navas de Tolosa, which was considered as a new crusade. The five Christian kingdoms of the Peninsula joined for the first time and asked for the help of the Pope and the European kingdoms. .



Consequences...

- The victory opened the valleys of rivers Guadiana and Guadalquivir to the Christians, led by the Castilian kings Fernando III and Alfonso X.
 - In the first half of the century Mérida, Badajoz, Córdoba, Sevilla and Murcia were recovered
 - The organization of the lands was entrusted to the Military Orders
 - Portugal conquered the Algarve and reach its maximum size.
- In Aragón, Jaime I *El Conquistador* conquered Valencia and Baleares, reaching thereby the limits of his kingdom.
 - Repopulation made with *capitulaciones*.



- frontera con Al Ándalus (comienzos del siglo XIII)
- Reino de Granada
- líneas de expansión y conquista de Portugal
- líneas de expansión y conquista de Castilla
- líneas de expansión y conquista de Aragón

Avance territorial cristiano

Detenido momentáneamente por la invasión almohade

**Batalla de las Navas de Tolosa
(1212)**

**REINO DE
PORTUGAL**

consigue
su actual
territorio
en

1249

CORONA DE CASTILLA

ocupa las
tierras de
Extremadura,
La Mancha,
Andalucía y
Murcia

1261

**REINO DE
NAVARRA**

queda
encerrado
entre Castilla y
Aragón sin
obtener
avances
territoriales
significativos

**CORONA DE
ARAGÓN**

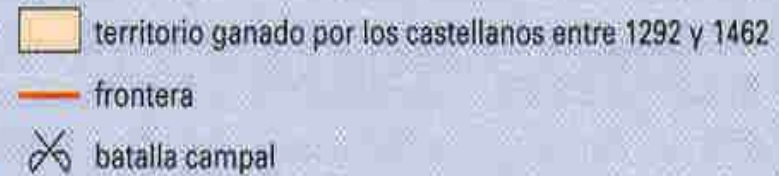
ocupa
sucesivamente
el Valle del
Ebro, Valencia
y Baleares

1245



-
- PHASE 5**
(14th-15th)
- territorio ganado por los castellanos entre 1292 y 1462
frontera
batalla campal

PHASE 5 (14th-15th)



- The long centuries of war had weaken the C.K., both in military, economic and demographic spheres, so they opted to organize the new territories they had added to their kingdoms.



- This deadlock situation allowed the creation of the **Nazarí Kingdom of Granada** (1237) and its development as the single independent Muslim kingdom in the Iberian Península.



PHASE 5
(14th-15th)

- When the Reyes Católicos got the power in Castilla and Aragón, they restarted the attacks on the Muslims, who had remained as their vassals for more than a century.

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14
79
-
14
92

- In January 2nd 1492, Castilla conquered Granada and the Kings received the keys of the city from the King Boabdil, thus putting an end to the “*Reconquista*”.

REPOBLACIÓN. ETAPAS Y MODELOS

- **Repoblación:** es el reparto y ocupación por los cristianos de las tierras reconquistadas a los musulmanes.
 - Se inicia con la reconquista, pero perduró hasta mucho después de la expulsión musulmana.
 - La necesidad de defender los territorios conquistados hizo que los pobladores tuvieran unas libertades que no existían en la Europa feudal.
 - La repoblación va a depender de:
 - Los efectivos demográficos
 - La población musulmana existente
 - Otros motivos
 - Consecuencias: la estructura de la propiedad actual.

REPOBLACIÓN. ETAPAS Y MODELOS

- **Repoblación Concejil:**
 - Siglos XI-XII: del Duero al Tajo y el Valle del Ebro
 - El territorio se divide en concejos con grandes términos (alfoces) regidos por una ciudad donde se instala un representante del rey y un grupo de caballeros para su defensa. El rey otorgaba fueros o cartas pueblas (conjunto de normas que regulaban todos los aspectos de la vida municipal). A los pobladores se les concedía solar, tierras y disfrute de los bienes comunales.
 - Resultado: predominio de la mediana propiedad libre y abundancia de tierras comunales.

REPOBLACIÓN. ETAPAS Y MODELOS

- **Repoblación señorial y de las órdenes militares:**
 - Siglos XII-XIII: del Tajo al Guadiana (La Mancha y Extremadura); Teruel y el norte de Castellón.
 - El rey otorga a un señor feudal o a órdenes militares derechos para conquistar, repoblar y defender un territorio (lo hacían a través de la concesión de fueros con privilegios a determinadas villas que debían pagar tributos o prestaciones)
 - Resultado: creación de grandes latifundios ganaderos.



Orden
de Santiago



Orden
de Alcántara



Orden
de Calatrava



Orden
de Montesa

REPOBLACIÓN. ETAPAS Y MODELOS

- **Repartimientos (donadíos y heredades):**
 - Siglo XIII: Valle del Guadalquivir y litoral levantino (zonas muy pobladas).
 - Los bienes obtenidos se distribuyen entre quienes participan en la conquista en función del rango social de quien los recibía.
 - Resultado: adquisición de grandes latifundios por la nobleza, las órdenes militares y la Iglesia.
 - A los musulmanes se les permitió permanecer como colonos.

