

Source Sheet Class 11-“2000 Years of Jewish History”-Rabbi Menachem Levine

Source 1

Whereas, having been informed that in these kingdoms, there were some bad Christians who Judaized and apostatized from our holy Catholic faith, the chief cause of which was the communication of Jews with Christians...we ordered the said Jews in all cities, towns, and places in our kingdoms and dominions to separate into Jewries ghettos and place apart... hoping by their separation alone to remedy this evil... But we are informed that neither that, not the execution of some of the said Jews... has been sufficient for a complete remedy...

Therefore we... resolve to order all the said Jews and Jewesses to quit our kingdoms and never return... by the end of the month of July next, of the present year 1492... if they do not perform and execute the same, and are found to reside in our kingdoms... they incur the penalty of death... We likewise grant permission and authority to said Jews... to export their wealth and property... provided they do not take away gold, silver, money, or other articles prohibited by the laws of kingdom.

Edict of Expulsion (The Alhambra Decree) in 1492

Source 2

In the same month in which their Majesties issued the edit that all Jews should be driven out of the kingdom and its territories, in the same month, they gave me the order to undertake with sufficient men my expedition of discovery of the Indies.

Diary of Christopher Columbus

Source 3

The preservation of the Jews is really one of the most signal and illustrious acts of Divine Providence... and what but a supernatural power could have preserved them in such a manner as none other nation upon earth hath been preserved. Nor is the providence of G-d less remarkable in the destruction of their enemies, than in their preservation... We see that the great empires, which in their turn subdued and oppressed the people of G-d, are all come to ruin... And if such hath been the fatal end of the enemies and oppressors of the Jews, let it serve as a warning to all those, who at any time or upon any occasion are for raising a clamor and persecution against them.

Thomas Newton-The Bishop of Bristol (1704-1782)

Source 4

...many true and faithful Christians, because of the testimony of enemies, rivals, slaves and other low people—and still less appropriate—without tests of any kind, have been locked up in secular prisons, tortured and condemned like relapsed heretics, deprived of their goods and properties, and given over to the secular arm to be executed, at great danger to their souls, giving a pernicious example and causing scandal to many.

Bull of Pope Sixtus IV