A CHRONOLOGICAL OUTLINE OF EUROPE HISTORY
FROM 27 BC UNTIL THE COLONIAL PERIOD

27 BC : Beginning of the Roman Empire; Augustus Emperor
166 - 180 : Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor
180 - 312 : Soldier Emperors. Deterioration of the Empire and Christian prosecution
312 : Constantine the Great, Emperor of Roman Empire
313 : Edict of Toleration of Milan to end the prosecution of Christians.
313 - 381 : The gradual Christianisation of the Roman Empire. Christianity became the official religion of the empire in 381.
370 - 550 : Germanic tribes invaded the Roman Empire.
354 - 430 : St. Augustine the great church further.
395 : Roman Empire divided in a West Roman Empire and a East Roman Empire by Emperor Theodosius the Great with Rome and Constantinople as capitals.
476 : Fall of the West Roman Empire. Conquered by Odoacer of the Goths
486 : Clovis, king of the Franks - the Franks became the protector of the Church.
495 : Battle between the Franks and the Germani (Alemani). Glovis converted to Christianity.
527 - 565 : Justinian Emperor of Byzantium (East Roman Empire)
570 - 632 : Mohammed, founder of Islam, born at Mecca.
732 : Charles Martel, real ruler of the Franks, defeated the Moors (Islam) at Tours in the middle of France.
771 - 814 : Charlemagne (Charles the Great, grandson of Charles Martel), sole king of the Franks.
800 : Pope Leo III crowned Charlesmagne in Rome as Roman Emperor of the West (David, Augustus and Constantine).
843 : Treaty of Verdun: Carolingian Empire divided between the three grandsons of Chalemagne. Empire disintegrate in mainly three parts: East (or Germany), West (or France) and Middle (or Holland, Switzerland and Italy).

850 - 1000 : Invasion of Western Europe by the Vikings the "Magiars" (Hungarians) and the Islam. Beginning of the Feudal system in Europe.

962 : Otto the Great crowned as Emperor of "The Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation" (This Empire lasted until 1807).

1096 - 1291 : The Crusades to the Holy Land caused a revival of trade relations with India via Asia Minor.

1337 - 1453 : The Hundred years war between England and France.

1347 - 1351 : The Black Death

1453 : Ottoman Turks captured Constantinople and brought an end to the East Roman Empire and also an end to trade with India. This necessitated the search for a new trade route to India.


1488 : Diaz rounded the Cape of Good Hope.

1492 : Spain conquered Granada and ended 700 years of Islam (Moors) colonialism in Spain and Columbus discovered America and started with ±400 years of Spanish colonialism in the New World.

1500 - ±1960 : The period of aggressive Colonialism and imperialism of European countries in the America's, India, Malaysia, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, and Africa. The question is whether it would have been possible for Europe to "lift" itself out of its 1000 years of economic stagnation during the Middle Ages and to set the process of economic development in motion without the process of colonial plunder. Was colonial enterprises and colonial "profits" a precondition for the rise of Capitalism?