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0521416248 - The Castilian Crisis of the Seventeenth Century: New Perspectives on the Economic and Social History of Seventeenth-Century Spain - Edited by I. A. A. Thompson and Bartolome Yun Casalilla

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This is a collection of recent revisionist essays on the economic and social history of seventeenth-century Castile by Spanish historians.

Since the 1970s an explosion of historical scholarship in Spain, employing new techniques, approaches and sources, has transformed our knowledge of the Castilian past. Hardly any of this research has been absorbed into non-specialist scholarship outside Spain, thereby diminishing the value of any analysis of European economic development that fails to take account of it.

The major areas of current historiographical interest and debate are covered: demography, agriculture, pastoralism, the Indies trade, industrial decline, deurbanisation, taxation and the fiscal system, reseignorialisation, and the politics of redistribution. Developments in Castile are related to the issue of the general crisis of the European economy in the seventeenth century, a crisis which is itself not properly intelligible without an understanding of the Castilian experience.

The essays are important in showing the apparently monolithic seventeenth-century depression in Castile to have been far from uniform in intensity, chronology or space, and in their emphasis on responses to the crisis and on explanations for failure to recover from crisis which was decisive for Spain's divergence from other Western European developments.

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*New perspectives on the economic
and social history of seventeenth-century Spain*

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*Published in association with the
Instituto de Estudios Fiscales, Madrid*



**CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS**

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Published by the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA
10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Melbourne 3166, Australia

© Cambridge University Press 1994

First published 1994

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data

The Castilian crisis of the seventeenth century: new perspectives on the economic
and social history of seventeenth-century Spain / edited by I. A. A. Thompson and
Bartolomé Yun Casalilla.

p. cm. – (Past and present publications)

ISBN 0 521 41624 8

1. Spain – Economic conditions. 2. Agriculture – Economic aspects – Spain –
History – 17th century. 3. Spain – Social conditions.

I. Thompson, I. A. A. II. Yun Casalilla, Bartolomé

HC384.C34 1994

330.946'051 – dc20 93–27991 CIP

ISBN 0 521 41624 8 hardback

Transferred to digital printing 2004

Cambridge University Press

0521416248 - The Castilian Crisis of the Seventeenth Century: New Perspectives
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Chapter 1 is a revised version of ‘Castilla 1580–1650: crisis económica y política de “Reformación”’, in J.H. Elliott and A. García Sanz (eds.), *La España del Conde Duque de Olivares* (Valladolid, 1990), pp. 495–515. Chapter 2 is a modification of sections 2–4 of chapter 12 of Vicente Pérez Moreda’s *Las crisis de mortalidad en la España interior. Siglos XVI–XIX* (Siglo XXI, Madrid, 1980), pp. 257–93. Chapter 3 was first published as ‘La “Depresión” agraria durante el siglo XVII en Castilla’, in *Homenaje a Julio Caro Baroja* (Madrid, 1978), pp. 83–100. Chapter 4 is based on Documento de Trabajo 8601 of the Facultad de Ciencias Económicas y Empresariales, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, developing the same author’s article, ‘El agro castellano en el siglo XVII: ¿Depresión o “reajustes y readaptaciones”?’’, *Revista de Historia Económica* 4:1 (1986), 11–37. Chapter 5, ‘Exportación de lanas, trashumancia y ocupación del espacio en Castilla durante los siglos XVI, XVII y XVIII’, in P. García Martín and J. M. Sánchez Benito (eds.), *Contribución a la historia de la Trashumancia en España* (Madrid, 1986), pp. 343–59, was first given as a paper at the Eighth International Economic History Congress in Budapest, 1982, in Section B8, Migrations, Population and Occupation of Land (Before 1800). Chapter 6, ‘Andalucía y la crisis de la Carrera de Indias (1610–1720)’, is chapter 3 of García-Baquero’s *Andalucía y la Carrera de Indias (1492–1824)*, (Andaluzas Unidas, Seville, 1986), pp. 87–114. Chapter 7 originally appeared as ‘La industria textil en el contexto general de la economía cordobesa entre fines del Siglo XVII y principios del XVIII: Una reactivación fallida’, in *Andalucía Moderna. Actas II Coloquios Historia de Andalucía* (Cordoba, 1983), I, pp. 443–65, and chapter 8 as ‘Procedimientos crediticios para la recaudación de los tributos fiscales en las

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ciudades castellanas durante los siglos XVI y XVII: el caso de Valladolid', in Alfonso Otazu (ed.), *Dinero y crédito (siglos XVI al XIX)* (Madrid, 1978), pp. 37–47. Chapter 9 is a substantially modified version of 'Il declino della rete urbana nella Castiglia dei secoli XVI–XVIII', *Cheiron* 11 (1989–90), *Crescita e declino delle città nel'Europa Moderna (secoli XIV–XIX)*, ed. Marco Belfanti, pp. 9–46. The original of chapter 10 is 'Presión fiscal y bienes de propios a principios del siglo XVII', *Axerquia. Revista de Estudios Cordobeses* 2 (1981), 131–42. Chapter 11 is a reworking, specially prepared for this volume, of 'Medina del Campo en la época moderna: del florecimiento a la decadencia', in E. Lorenzo Sanz (ed.), *Historia de Medina del Campo y su Tierra. Vol. II Auge de las Ferias, Decadencia de Medina* (Valladolid, 1986), pp. 481–634. Chapter 12 was first published as "'Refeudalización" en Castilla durante el Siglo XVII: ¿Un tópico?', *Anuario de Historia del Derecho Español* 56 (1986), 889–920, and chapter 13 as 'La aristocracia castellana en el seiscientos. ¿Crisis, refeudalización u ofensiva política?', *Revista Internacional de Sociología*, 2nd series, 45 (1987), 77–104.

The initial translation of chapters 1, 2, 4–8, and 10–13 was undertaken by the Instituto de Estudios Fiscales, Madrid. Chapters 3, 9 and 14 were translated by the editor.

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Abbreviations

ADV	Archivo Diocesano de Valladolid
AGS	Archivo General de Simancas
AHN	Archivo Histórico Nacional (Madrid)
AHP	Archivo Histórico Provincial
AP	archivo parroquial
BN	Biblioteca Nacional (Madrid)
CJH	Consejo y Juntas de Hacienda
<i>CODOIN</i>	<i>Colección de Documentos Inéditos para la Historia de España</i> , 113 vols., Madrid 1842–95
DGT	Dirección General del Tesoro
leg.	<i>legajo</i>
M y P	Mercedes y Privilegios