

Imperialism: Europe Reaches Out

European Imperialism

- ⦿ **Imperialism**: is one country takes control of another country. (government, trade, or culture)
- ⦿ The independence of the United States and Latin America had therefore represented a great setback for European imperialism
- ⦿ European rulers questioned the value of colonies if they would suddenly declare independence just when they became valuable to the mother country.
- ⦿ By 1914 the great powers of Europe, Japan and USA controlled almost the entire world.

Types of Control

- **Settlement colonies:** large groups of people from one country living together in a new place.
- **Dependent colonies:** a few European officials ruled the non-European people.
- **Protectorates:** colonies in which the native rulers keep their titles, but officials of the foreign power actual control the regions.
- **Spheres of Influence:** Areas in which one country has a special interest and other nations agree to respect that interest.

Reasons for Imperialism

- Nations believed that others would respect them more if they had colonies.
- Industrialization encouraged imperialism.
- Spreading of Western Ideas
 - > “White Man’s Burden” by Rudyard Kipling
 - The duty of Europeans to spread their culture to areas of Africa & Asia

The British “Raj” (Reign) in India

- During the 18th century, the British had defeated France and many local rulers extended their control throughout much of the **Indian subcontinent**.
- British rule brought many changes.
 - > Some older customs, like the suicide of widows when their husbands died were stamped out.
- The first railway in India was built in 1853.
- Muslims and Hindus lived peacefully together.
- British schools and colleges opened.
- English became the language of the government.

The Sepoy Mutiny (1857)

- The British were able to control India because Indians were divided among themselves.
- The British had better weapons and used trained Indian soldiers, known as “sepoys”.
- The rebellion quickly spread, but the British crushed the revolt using loyal Indian soldiers.
- The British government took over formal control of India and abolished the East India Company.
- India officially became a British possession & Queen Victoria of England became the Empress of India.

The impact of British Rule

- **Government** – The British provided a single system of law and government, unifying India.
- **Economic** – The British built roads, bridges, and railroads and set up telegraph wires.
- **Health** – The British built hospitals, introduced new medicines, and provided famine relief.
- **Social** – Indians were looked down upon by the British and their culture was treated as inferior to European culture.

The New Imperialism

- ① At the end of the 18th century, imperialism appeared to be on the decline, Britain had lost most of its colonies in America, and Spain and Portugal had lost most of Latin America.
- ② A hundred years later, the world witnessed a new wave of imperialism.
- ③ From 1880 to 1900, almost every corner of the Earth came to be claimed by European powers.

The Causes of “New Imperialism”

- New **technological developments**, based on the Industrial Revolution, made the “New Imperialism” possible.
- The **steamboat** made it possible to go upstream, reaching the interior of Africa and other places previously too difficult to reach.
- The **telegram** made it possible to communicate with new settlements deep in the interior regions of Africa and Asia.
- Imperial powers built railroads to ship goods and raw materials to and from their colonies.
- **New medicines**, like quinine to treat malaria and antiseptics.

The Causes of “New Imperialism”

- New countries such as Belgium, Germany and Italy sought colonial empires of their own to establish their power on the world stage.
- Even older colonial powers like France and Britain joined in the scramble for colonies.
- Britain seized control of Egypt to protect the Suez Canal, which provided the shortest route from Britain to India.
- European powers were also anxious to preserve the “balance of Power.”

Reasons for renewed interest in Imperialism

- **Technology** – new technology – such as steamships, rifles, telegraphs.
- **Economic motives** – European industries needed raw materials to keep their factories busy.
- **Political motives** – Europeans wished to acquire colonies to demonstrate their power. European countries also sought to preserve the balance of power among themselves.
- **Social Motives** – Many Europeans believed in Social Darwinism – the theory that some societies were more successful because their cultures were superior – Other Europeans wanted to spread Christianity.

The “Scramble for Africa”

- France had acquired Algeria in the northwest in the 1830s and Britain controlled South Africa.
- Communities in the interior of sub-Saharan Africa still remained isolated.
- Europeans did not gain African land easily.

The “Scramble for Africa”

- Over the next twenty years, this picture changed dramatically. European powers engaged in a “Scramble for Africa” (1870-1890)
- Most of Africa came under European control.
- In the 1850s and 1860s, European explorers mapped out the interior of Africa for the first time.
- In the early 1880s a local revolt threatened European use of the Suez Canal. It provided the shortest route from Europe to East Africa, India, and East Asia.

The “Scramble for Africa”

- Other powers – France, Italy, Germany and Belgium – were jealous of Britain's actions and wanted parts of Africa for themselves.
- Diamonds, gold and other valuable resources were also discovered in Africa in the late 19th century.
- In 1884, at the Berlin Conference, Bismarck and other European leaders divide up the remaining parts of Africa.
- By 1890, only Ethiopia and Liberia remained independent. (Morocco was under French influence).

Major Imperial powers

- The French acquired much of Central Africa and Northwest Africa above the Sahara.
- King Leopold II of Belgium ruled the Congo in the center of Africa as his private estate.
 - He treated the natives harshly, killing millions to increase production on his rubber plantations.
- The British established colonies in West Africa and along almost the whole length of East Africa from Egypt to South Africa.
- Cecil Rhodes, a leading British imperialist, planned to build a railway down the eastern side of Africa from Cairo in Egypt to Capetown, South Africa.

The legacy of imperialism in Africa

- ◉ Wherever possible, they established mining operations or cultivated cash crops to be sold to Europe.
- ◉ Native Africans were used as cheap workforce. Europeans also introduced advanced Western technology and ideas.

POSITIVE EFFECTS	NEGATIVE EFFECTS
European medicine increased the life-span of Africans.	Erosion of traditional values
Europeans introduced modern transportation & communications.	African peoples were treated as inferiors to Europeans.
Received improved education & greater economic opportunities.	Europeans divided Africa

Informal Imperialism

- Even in areas where they did not establish direct rule, European powers often dominated an area's economy. Historians refer to this as “informal” imperialism.

The European Powers and China

- In China, European powers faced a different situation than in India or Africa.
- By the 1830s, it lacked the military technology it needed to oppose Western imperialism.
- Western nations showed an interest in China because its huge population offered a potential market for European manufactured goods.
- It also possessed valuable raw materials and produced local goods sought by Europeans.

The Opium Wars (1839-1842)

- In the 1800s, Great Britain began selling opium in China to obtain money to buy tea.
- The government of China tried to stop this practice by sentencing Chinese opium dealers to death.
- The British reacted by declaring war.
- With their superior gunboats, the British were able to fire on Chinese coastal towns.
- China was defeated and was forced to continue the sale of opium.
- This damaged the Chinese economy and created chaos and political instability in China.
- China was also forced to open several “treaty ports” giving the British new trading privileges.

The Opium Wars (1839-1842)

- Increasing European interference was extremely unpopular in China and weakened the prestige of the ruling Qing (or Manchu) Dynasty.
- The defeat of the Chinese army in the Opium Wars proved to the Chinese that they were no longer the “Heavenly Middle Kingdom,”
- Millions of Chinese were killed when China’s rulers put down the Taiping Rebellion (1850-1864) with European help.

America's "Open Door" Policy

- Fearing it would be shut out of China's profitable trade, the United States proposed equal trading rights for all nations in China in 1899.

Boxer Rebellion (1899-1900)

- A Chinese group, calling themselves the “Boxers” rebelled against the spread of foreign influence in China.
- Hundreds of foreigners living in Chinese cities were killed during riots led by the Boxers and their supporters.
- An international force, composed to troops from foreign powers, finally crushed the Boxer rebellion in 1900.
- Imposed heavy penalties on China
 - Fines for destroying property
- The crushing of the boxer rebellion brought China completely under foreign domination.

The Opening of Japan

- Fearing foreign influences, Japan's rulers had cut Japan off from European trade in 1639.
- Japanese citizens were forbidden to travel to other countries, and foreigners were banned from Japan, except for one Dutch outpost.
- In 1853, the United States government set a naval squadron commanded by Commodore Matthew Perry to Japan.
- Requested better treatment for shipwrecked sailors, the Americans sought to develop new markets and to establish a port.
- Japanese leaders opened their doors to American trade.

The Meiji Restoration (1868-1912)

- ◎ The Japanese samurai and daimyos (nobles) criticized the Shogunate, the Japanese ruler, for opening Japan to the West.
- ◎ The shogun collapsed and the Japanese emperor, who had been a mere puppet for over a thousand years, was suddenly “restored” to power.

Emperor Meiji

- The new ruler, was convinced that Japan had to adopt Western ways if it was to escape future domination by the Western powers.
- He sent scholars to other countries to learn advanced technologies and foreign customs, and received visits from foreign ministers.
- Steamboats and railroads were built and a new constitution was decreed.
- Japan became the first non-Western country to successfully copy and adapt Western ways.

Latin America

- ⦿ Although Spain had lost most of its colonies in the Americas in the early 19th century, it kept control over Cuba, Puerto Rico, and a few other islands in the Caribbean.
- ⦿ Cubans rebelled against the harsh conditions of its sugar cane workers in the 1890s.
- ⦿ A Spanish army was sent to Cuba to crush the rebellion with brutal force.
- ⦿ In 1898, the battleship *U.S.S. Maine* was mysteriously blown up in Havana harbor, killing 250 American sailors.
- ⦿ The USA quickly declared war against Spain.

The Spanish-American War

- As a result of the Spanish-American War, America acquired its first colonies – Puerto Rico in the Caribbean and Guam and the Philippines in the Pacific.
- Cuba became independent in name, but fell under American influence..
- Americans also annexed Hawaii as part of their new colonial empire.
- Many Americans opposed taking colonies, but others argued it was necessary to copy the imperial powers of Europe.

Latin America

- The independent nations of Latin American- in Mexico, Central America and South America – became dependent on both Great Britain and the United States for their trade and economic prosperity.
- Latin America elites studied in Europe and sold their cash crop there.
- Britain invested heavily in Latin America. (Informal Imperialism)
- Military strong men, known as Caudillos, were needed to keep order while maintaining trading ties with Europe.

The Panama Canal

- The operation of “informal” imperialism was especially illustrated in Colombia.
- American ships that sought to travel between the Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Oceans had to go 16,000 miles around the southern tip of South America.
- The United States wanted easier access between these two oceans by building a canal across the narrow isthmus of Panama.
- Panama was still apart of Colombia.
- The government of Colombia asked a high price for permission to build the canal.

The Panama Canal

- American President Theodore Roosevelt encouraged Panamanian rebels to declare their independence from Colombia in 1904.
- American troops stationed in Panama prevented Colombian from putting down the revolt.
- In 1903 the new government gave the USA rights to the Panama Canal Zone.
- They applied advanced technologies to dig the canal.
- Finished the canal in 1914

The Panama Canal

- Protection of the canal became an important strategic priority for the United States.
- On the basis of the Monroe Doctrine (1823) and its need to protect the Panama Canal
- American Presidents repeatedly sent armed forces to intervene in the Caribbean area in the early 20th century.