

Imperialism and Nation-State Formation

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Imperialism: The policy of extending a nation's authority by territorial acquisition or by the establishment of economic and political hegemony over other nations.

Nation-State: A political unit consisting of an autonomous state inhabited predominantly by a people sharing a common culture, history, and language.



Causes of imperialism	Effects of Imperialism
Need for resources and Have a market for goods.	Creation of nation-states
Receive cheap labor	Better Infrastructure
Social Darwinism	Lost culture
Spread religion	Poverty
“White Man’s Burden” (Racial superiority)	Artificial nations

Great Imperialism Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alJaltUmrGo>

❖ British in India

- Britain first took over India because it was a major trading post.
- The East Indian Company monopolized the cotton industry in India
- The British brought a global market economy to India.
- The British however drained India of all its resources.
- They kept the caste system for social control

❖ Other British Colonies

- After Britain industrialized demands for more resources skyrocketed
- They began colonizing parts of Africa
- Cape town in South Africa was a major point for farther trade and control of India
- Other colonies in Africa was imperialized because of their raw materials

❖ Scramble for Africa's

- European powers established artificial borders in Africa at the Berlin conference in 1884
- The Berlin conference was held because Europeans want any bloodshed over Africa

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- Europeans were victorious in controlling Africa because of their superior weaponry known as the Maxim gun, technology and a better trained military force.
- Some natives signed contracts with the Europeans for foreign control of land unwillingly

- ❖ Establishments of Settler colonies
 - Europeans moved into some of the colonies for economic opportunities
 - South Africa, Australia and New Zealand are examples of settler colonies
 - These settler colonies possessed raw materials like gold and diamonds
- ❖ Economical Imperialism
 - An opium war was fought between Britain and China.
 - China refused to buy opium from Britain.
 - After the victory Britain made China open up trading posts.
- ❖ End of the Ottoman Empire
 - Establishment of independent states in the Balkans
 - Territorial loss of the Ottoman Empire
 - The Balkan territory created after the end of WWI
- ❖ Creation of New States
 - Creation of the Zulu Kingdom in South Africa
 - British defeated the Zulu kingdom
 - Zulu kingdom later became part of the Union of South Africa
- ❖ Nationalism in Germany
 - Nationalism is pride for the language and culture of one's country
 - Rise of Pan-Germanism
 - Otto Von Bismarck unified Germany through German nationalism during the 19th century.
- ❖ Political
 - Before imperialism governments in Asian countries contained mostly monarchies.
 - In Africa the government was more tribal based.
 - After independence the countries imperialized by Britain mostly leaned to democracy.
 - The other countries that were imperialized went towards either communism or dictatorship.
- ❖ Economic
 - Before imperialism the East India Company was just a trading company in India.
 - After imperialism the East India Company took over all the trade in India as well the government.
 - After imperialism poverty rates were high because the colonial power drained them of resources.
- ❖ Social
 - Before imperialism infrastructure was weak in the colonial countries.
 - After imperialism infrastructure became better.
 - More education was available to a wider population
 - Social classes however remained the same like the Caste system in India
- ❖ Cultural
 - After imperialism cultures were lost in parts of Africa
 - Hundreds of languages became extinct.
 - However the major cultures and religions continued to exist in the colonial countries.
 - Christianity however began spreading in countries that were imperialized.
- ❖ Environmental
 - Striping of raw materials regardless of the environmental impact.
 - Deforestation because of the need to produce more infrastructures and continued.
 - Unavailability of raw materials in the imperial country so, the colonial country was stripped of raw materials.