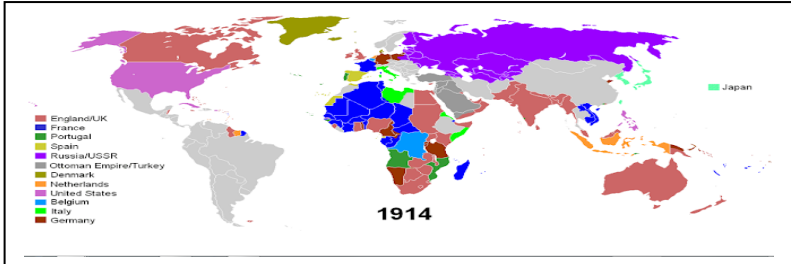
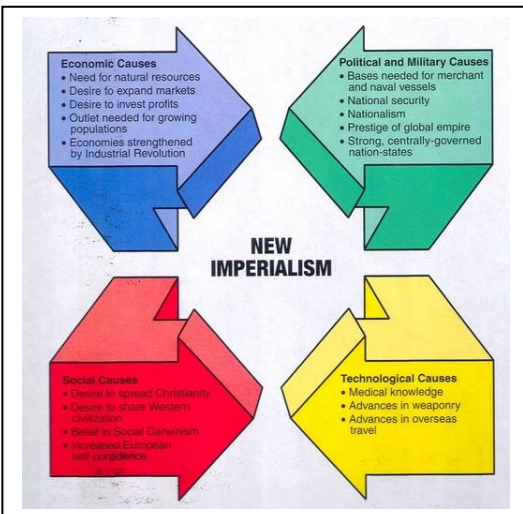


Aim #15: Why and How Do the Europeans Embark on a policy of Imperialism in the 1880's?



Mini Lecture

- Throughout the 19th century and into the 20th, Western nations (& Japan) aggressively expanded their influence throughout Asia & Africa.
- Advances in technology & increase in trade transformed international interactions.
- Imperialists nations sought to dominate other countries economically, politically, socially/culturally, & militarily. Competing industrialized states desired raw materials from Africa & Asia as well as access to markets to sell manufactured goods.
- Imperial rivalries often reshaped borders drastically, with little regard for traditional cultures.
- Many people resisted colonial rule with limited success.
- The Industrial Revolution built several countries in Europe into economic powers. These countries ventured outward in search of raw materials, markets, and global power.
- During the Age of Discovery (Exploration) in the 16th & 17th Centuries, Europeans colonized parts of Africa, Asia, & the Americas. As Europeans moved into these new regions, they bought their goods & ideas with them.
- During the “**New Imperialism**” (colonization) of the late 1800s, European expansion reached its peak. Industrialization, technology, & military might gave Europeans enormous power & influence in the world.
- In the early 1800s, Great Britain had more colonies than any other Western nation. By the late 1800s, three other European countries also had sizeable empires- France, Germany, & Italy. Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, & the U.S. each had a few colonies.
- Political control meant that the Europeans control the government & laws. Economic control is the control of resources, raw materials, jobs, & exports. While cultural control is influencing their religion, custom regulation & language.
- There are different ways Europeans imperialized: **Indirect Rule**- let locals govern with limited self-rule (British). A **protectorate** is when local rulers rule, but are under the control of a colonial power who gives advice to be followed (Puerto Rico). A **sphere of influence** is when an outside power claims exclusive investment and trading privileges (In China). **Direct Rule**- European officials brought in with no self-rule (French).
- Economically, the IR needed resources & markets.
- Politically, nationalism led to competition between Europeans for prestige of an empire and having strategic locations for naval bases.
- Socially, **Social Darwinism** (survival of the fittest) allowed Europeans to justify their takeover as it was natural for strong superior countries (Europeans) to take over weaker ones.
- A famous poem, “**White Man’s Burden**”, further justified imperialism- Europeans must civilize (help improve) the lives of the savages by teaching them European customs & religious beliefs (Christianity).
- Europeans imperialism was successful due to their technology such as steamships, telegraphs, and machine guns. New medical advances such as quinine was especially important in the jungles of Africa.

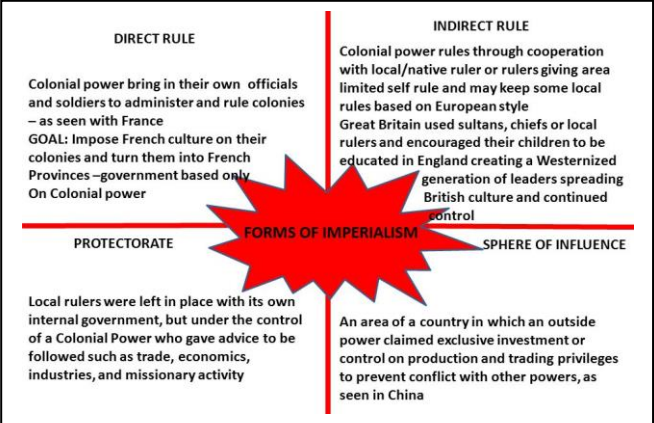
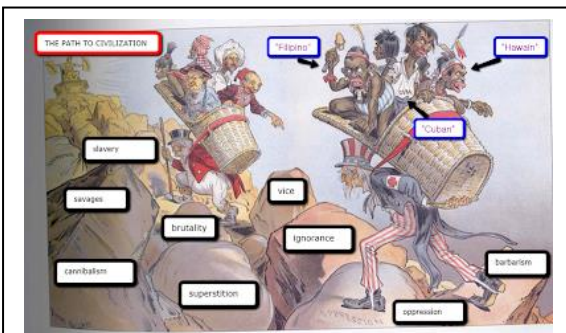


CRIMPS

- Cheap labor
- Resources
- Idealism
- Markets
- Pride
- Strategic location

EMPIRE

- Exploration
- Motives
- Power/Politics
- Ideology
- Religious
- Economic



Review Questions:

- What is Imperialism?
- What are the different forms of imperialism?
- What were the causes/reasons/motives for imperialism?
- How did the Industrial Revolution and Nationalism lead to Imperialism?
- Why was it easy for Europeans to rapidly imperialize Africa & Asia?

Enduring Issue:

Imperialism: The power of Europeans to establish colonies & the power of people in the colonies to resist these efforts.

Why did imperialism expand in the 19th and 20th centuries?

Directions: Examine each of the following documents about the reasons for 19th century imperialism, then answer the questions that accompany them.

Reason #1. Industrial Revolution and the Birth of Capitalism

The **Industrial Revolution** was the period in which the production of goods shifted from hand production methods to complex machines. During the Industrial Revolution, **capitalism**, an economic system with the goal of generating profit and wealth took root. Industrialized nations sought to increase their profit, wealth, and power. In order to continue industrializing and turning a profit, industrialized European nations needed many things, but two main needs were located outside of Europe. The first need was **raw materials**. Raw materials like coal, cotton, iron, oil, rubber, and other metals are used to produce manufactured goods. Without these raw materials, factories cannot produce goods and cannot turn a profit. Some of the raw materials that European factory owners wanted were available in European nations but not in the quantity and at the price they wanted and some materials were only available outside of the continent. As a result, industrialized nations looked to other regions for raw materials. The second need created by the Industrial Revolution was the need for reliable **markets**. A market is an area or arena where goods can be bought and sold. Factories in Europe produced finished goods quickly and wanted more people to buy them. To get more customers, so they could make more money, industrialized European nations sought people in other markets to buy the excess supply of their goods.

1. How might the Industrial Revolution and the birth of capitalism have motivated countries to dominate other countries or regions?

Reason #2. Nationalism

Nationalism is a strong feeling of pride in one's country. During the 19th century, this sense of pride often came from believing that one's nation far surpassed other nations in economic success and political might.

2. How might feelings of nationalism have motivated countries to dominate other countries or regions?

Reason #3. Social Darwinism

Social Darwinism was a theory that was popular in European nations in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This theory was based on the work of **Charles Darwin** (1809-1882), an English scientist who is best known for developing a **theory of natural selection** to describe how species change over time. Social Darwinists applied this theory to human societies and argued that people were engaged in a **competition or "struggle for survival"** in which the weakest people and nations would be destroyed and dominated while the strong grew in power and influence. Herbert Spencer, one of the most vocal promoters of Social Darwinism, created pseudoscientific ideas [ideas that were thought to be based on the scientific method, but were later disproven] about **inferiority** based on skin color. People were **classified** into races and the domination of non-white people by white people was seen as natural because of the supposed superiority of white people. Social Darwinists argued that by bringing the benefits of European culture, Christianity, and capitalism to "inferior" people that they were saving those people from themselves.

3. How might a belief in Social Darwinism have motivated countries to dominate other countries or regions?

Reason #4. Christianity

Since 16th century European expansion into the Americas, Catholic **missionaries** believed that it was their **moral duty** to spread Christianity and convert the "heathens" who practiced other religions. In the 19th and 20th centuries, Catholic and Protestant missionaries believed they were saving non-European people from a life of eternal damnation in Hell.

4. How might a belief in the need to spread Christianity motivate countries to dominate other countries or regions?

Reason #5. New Innovations

Though Europeans had trading posts on the coasts of Africa and Asia starting in the 15th and 16th centuries, they were unable to move into the interior of either continent because of resistance from the people who lived there and disease. In Africa especially, large percentages of Europeans were killed by malaria and yellow fever, two diseases spread by mosquitoes. European horses, the main vehicle for European conquest of the Americas in the 16th century, died from nagana, a disease spread by the tsetse fly in Africa. Unlike Native Americans, who did not have weapons to match the Europeans, Africans had weapons that matched European technologies until the 19th century, so Europeans who tried to fight African groups were usually unsuccessful. As a result, Europeans did not venture far into Africa. In the 19th and 20th centuries, three innovations made it possible for Europeans take over nearly all of Africa and much of Asia: steamships, quinine, and the machine gun. Steamships, first invented in the early 1800s, had the ability to quickly travel up rivers, making it possible for Europeans to avoid direct confrontation with indigenous people and saved them from having to use horses that fell victim to disease. Quinine was the second innovation. It is a medicine that was developed in the early 1800s and was effective in lessening the effects of malaria, making it possible for Europeans to occupy malarial areas of Africa and Asia. Finally, European weapons technology evolved during the Industrial Era. Factories created more accurate and easy to use weapons that were produced quickly. The first machine gun, called the Maxim gun was a decisive innovation in warfare in the 19th century. The gun could fire 600 rounds per minute and swivel 360 degrees. Indigenous African and Asia armies did not have the firepower to compete with a weapon like the Maxim machine gun.

5. How might new innovations have enabled European countries to dominate other countries or regions?