


Slide 1

## IMPERIALISM: Beginnings and Basic Structures



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Slide 2

## COLONIALISM SPEEDS UP

Age of Exploration  
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Europeans raced for overseas colonies  
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Growth of European commerce and trade  
worldwide  
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Commercial Revolution

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Slide 3

## "OLD" IMPERIALISM

- 1500s-1700s
- England, France, Holland, Portugal, and Spain
- Wars over colonies



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Slide 4

**INTERLUDE – LATE 1700s-LATE 1800s**

Europeans were preoccupied with happenings on the European continent and in the existing European colonies.

- American Revolution
- French Revolution
- Napoleonic Wars
- Latin American Wars for Independence
- Growth of Nationalism
- Industrial Revolution



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Slide 5

**“NEW” IMPERIALISM**

- Beginning circa 1875
- Renewed race for colonies
- Spurred by needs created by the Industrial Revolution
  - New markets for finished goods
  - New sources of raw materials
- Nationalism
  - Colonies = economic and political power
  - Social Darwinism = racist justification



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Slide 6

**WHAT IS “NEW” IMPERIALISM?**

- No longer about setting up colonies or exercising direct control over areas
- Became largely economic
  - Possession or control of an area for economic gain
  - Spheres of influence and extraterritoriality rather than colonial settlement

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Slide 7

**ECONOMIC MOTIVES**

- Markets for finished goods
  - Products of British Industrial Revolution sold in China and India
- Sources of raw materials
  - Egypt – cotton
  - Malaya – rubber and tin
  - Middle East – oil
- Capital investments
  - Profits from Industrial Revolution invested in mines, railroads, etc., in unindustrialized areas



*An American Field of Cotton*

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Slide 8

**POLITICAL MOTIVES**

- Nationalism – national pride
  - “The sun never sets on the British empire.”
- Large empires increased national pride
- French acquisitions in Africa and Asia followed France’s defeat in the Franco-Prussian War



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Slide 9

**MILITARY MOTIVES**

- Bases
  - British naval bases
    - Aden, Alexandria, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Singapore
- Manpower
  - British – Indian sepoy
  - French – north African troops



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Slide 10

**SOCIAL MOTIVES**

- Surplus population
  - Japanese in Korea
  - Italians in Africa
- “White Man’s Burden”
  - Rudyard Kipling’s poetry and prose
  - Whites morally obligated to bring the “blessings of civilization” to “backward” peoples
  - Cecil Rhodes – imperialism is “philanthropy—plus five percent”



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Slide 11

**RELIGIOUS MOTIVES**

- Conversion to Christianity
- End-of-the-century crusading spirit
- Missionaries in Africa, Asia, Hawaii, etc.



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Slide 12

**JUSTIFICATIONS**

- Social Darwinism
  - Interpreted Darwin’s evolutionary theory in terms of powerful nations
    - “Only the strong survive”
  - Powerful nations able to develop areas and resources being “wasted” by native peoples
- Racism
  - Increased feelings of white superiority
    - Increased feelings of Japanese superiority
  - Eugenics developed as a branch of science

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Slide 13



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Slide 14

**CONCESSION IMPERIALISM**

- Economic privileges and rights given for a specific purpose
- U.S. and British oil concessions throughout the Middle East
- Ottoman Turks granted Germany permission to build Berlin-to-Baghdad Railroad

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Slide 15

**SPHERE OF INFLUENCE IMPERIALISM**

- Exclusive or special control over an area
- Examples
  - British trading rights in China's Yangtze valley
  - French trading rights in southeastern China
  - Japanese trading rights in Korea

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Slide 16

**LEASEHOLD IMPERIALISM**

- Lease over an area
- Suez Canal Corporation
  - Suez Canal built by French in 1860s
  - Controlled by British shortly thereafter until 1968
- Panama Canal
  - United States
- Germans in Kiachow
- French in Kwangchow
- British in Weihaiwei



*Plan of Suez Canal as envisioned in 1881.*

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Slide 17

**PROTECTORATE IMPERIALISM**

- Foreign control exercised through native “puppet” rulers
- French – Morocco (1906-1956)
- British – Egypt (1914-1968)
  - Britain held a sphere of influence in Egypt from 1882-1914
  - Britain gained control of Egypt as Egypt's protectorate when the Ottoman empire fell apart during World War I

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Slide 18

**ANNEXATION IMPERIALISM**

- Territory annexed and turned into a colony under the complete control of a foreign power
- German colonies in east and southwest Africa – until 1918 and the end of World War I
- French Indochine (Vietnam) – until 1955
- British Burma – until 1948

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