# The Age of Imperialism, 1850–1914

Western countries colonize large areas of Africa and Asia, leading to political and cultural changes.



Soldiers fighting in Boer War (South African War, 1899–1902).



Colonial Claims, 1900



Comparing Imperialist Styles, 1850–1900



### Comparing Imperialist Styles, 1850–1900

|                              | Indochina  | India  | Nigeria  | Philippines; Hawaii  |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Imperialist<br>Power         | France   | England  | England  | United States  |
| Form of<br>Imperialism       | Colony<br>(1840s)  | Colony<br>(1857)   | Protectorate<br>(1885)   | Economic Imperialism<br>(1898)   |
| Form of Control              | Direct control   | Indirect control   | Indirect control   | Indirect control   |
| How brought<br>under control | Missionaries were killed; French army invaded Vietnam; combined it with Laos and Cambodia; Frenchmen filled the colonial posts | 1757 East India Co. extended control over trade; after Sepoy mutiny, the British began to rule directly over area called the Raj                     | Royal Niger Co.<br>controlled palm oil<br>trade; Berlin Conf.<br>gave Niger River Delta<br>protectorate status;<br>1914 British claimed<br>as a colony | Acquired during Spanish-American War; sugar planters overthrew the Hawaiian queen, set up a republic, then asked U.S. to annex |
| Economic<br>Policies         | Discouraged local industry; rice became the major export crop  | India to produce raw materials and buy British goods; competition with British prohibited  | British used local<br>chiefs to keep order<br>and collect taxes  | Cash crops grown at<br>expense of basic food<br>crops; Dole Fruit Co.<br>controlled pineapple<br>trade                         |
| Colonial Impact              | Imposed French culture; all schools, courts, and businesses followed French models; export crop caused resentment              | Built rail network,<br>telephone, roads,<br>schools; irrigation;<br>improved health;<br>focus on cash crops<br>produced famines;<br>racist attitudes | Colonial policies reduced local warfare; artificial boundaries that combined or divided groups created ethnic problems                                 | Built roads, rail<br>system, hospitals, and<br>schools, but exploited<br>islands; set up<br>plantation economy                 |

### Voices From the Past

# Stanley and Livingstone: A Famous Meeting in Africa

After Stanley and Livinstone's famous meeting in Africa, the continent opened up to European colonization.



Depiction of Henry Stanley, British reporter, and David Livingstone, Scottish missionary and explorer, in Africa in 1871.



Chapter 11> Section 1

#### Section 1

### The Scramble for Africa

Ignoring the claims of African ethnic groups, kingdoms, and city-states, Europeans establish colonies.

### **Africa Before European Domination**

### **Problems Discourage Exploration**

Armies, rivers, disease discourage exploration

### **Nations Compete for Overseas Empires**

- Imperialism—seizure of a country or territory by a stronger country
- Missionaries, explorers, humanitarians reach interior of Africa

### **Africa Before European Domination**

### The Congo Sparks Interest

- Henry Stanley helps King Leopold II of Belgium acquire land in Congo [Visual]
- · Leopold brutally exploits Africans; millions die
- Belgian government takes colony away from Leopold
- Much of Europe begins to claim parts of Africa



Sir Henry Morton Stanley, British-U.S. explorer and journalist, dressed for African expedition in 1871.

### Forces Driving Imperialism

### **Belief in European Superiority**

- Race for colonies grows out of national pride
- Racism—belief that one race is better than others
- Social Darwinism—natural selection applied to human society

### Factors Promoting Imperialism in Africa

- Technological inventions like steam engine, Maxim gun help conquest
- Perfection of quinine protects Europeans from malaria
- Within Africa, Africans are divided by language and culture

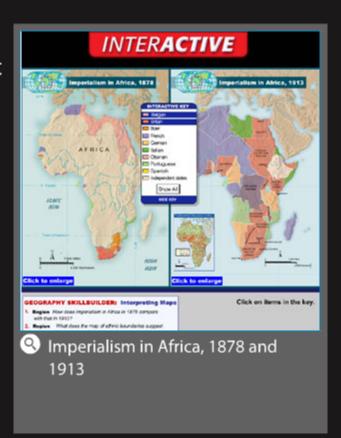
### The Division of Africa

#### The Lure of Wealth

Discovery of gold and diamonds increases interest in colonization

#### **Berlin Conference Divides Africa**

- Berlin Conference—14 nations agree on rules for division (1884–85):
  - countries must claim land and prove ability to control it
- By 1914, only Liberia and Ethiopia are free of European control [Visual]



### The Division of Africa

### **Demand for Raw Materials Shapes Colonies**

- Raw materials are greatest source of wealth in Africa
- Businesses develop cash-crop plantations

### **Three Groups Clash over South Africa**

### **Zulus Fight the British**

- Shaka—Zulu chief—creates centralized state around 1816
- British defeat Zulus and gain control of Zulu nation in 1887

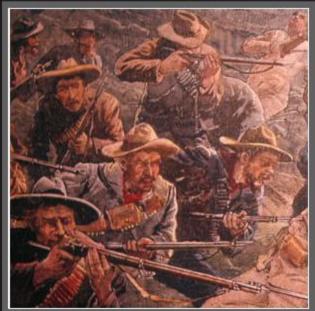
#### **Boers and British Settle in the Cape**

- Boers, or Dutch farmers, take Africans' land, establish large farms
- Boers clash with British over land, slaves
  - move north to escape British

### **Three Groups Clash over South Africa**

#### The Boer War

- Boer War between British, Boers begins in 1899 [Visual]
- British win; Boer republics united in Union of South Africa (1910)



Boer War—Boer Commander De Wet makes nightly attack on English camp of Tweefontein.

#### Chapter 11> Section 2

#### Section 2

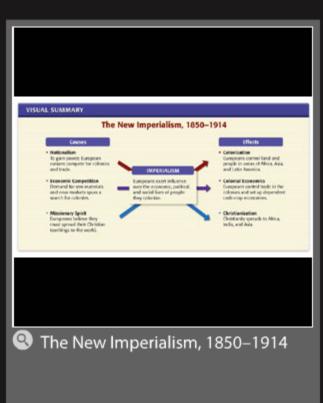
# **Imperialism**

Europeans embark on a new phase of empire building that affects both Africa and the rest of the world.

### A New Period of Imperialism

### **Extending Influence**

- Europeans want to control all aspects of their colonies: [Visual]
  - influence political, social lives of people
  - shape economies to benefit Europe
  - want people to adopt European customs



#### **VISUAL SUMMARY**

#### The New Imperialism, 1850-1914

#### Causes

Nationalism
 To gain power, European

nations compete for colonies and trade.

- Economic Competition
   Demand for raw materials and new markets spurs a search for colonies.
- Missionary Spirit
   Europeans believe they
   must spread their Christian
   teachings to the world.

#### IMPERIALISM

Europeans exert influence over the economic, political, and social lives of people they colonize.

#### **Effects**

Colonization

Europeans control land and people in areas of Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Colonial Economics

Europeans control trade in the colonies and set up dependent cash-crop economies.

Christianization

Christianity spreads to Africa, India, and Asia.

### A New Period of Imperialism

#### Forms of Control

- Europeans develop four forms of control of territory:
  - colony—governed by a foreign power
  - protectorate—governs itself, but under outside control
  - sphere of influence—outside power controls investment, trading
  - economic imperialism—private business interests assert control

### A New Period of Imperialism

#### **Methods of Management**

- Europeans use two methods to manage colonies:
  - direct control
  - indirect control

#### Indirect Control

- Limited self-rule for local governments
- · Legislative body includes colonial, local officials

#### **Direct Control**

- Paternalism—Europeans provide for local people, but grant no rights
- Assimilation—adaptation of local people to ruling culture

### **Case Study: Nigeria**

### A British Colony

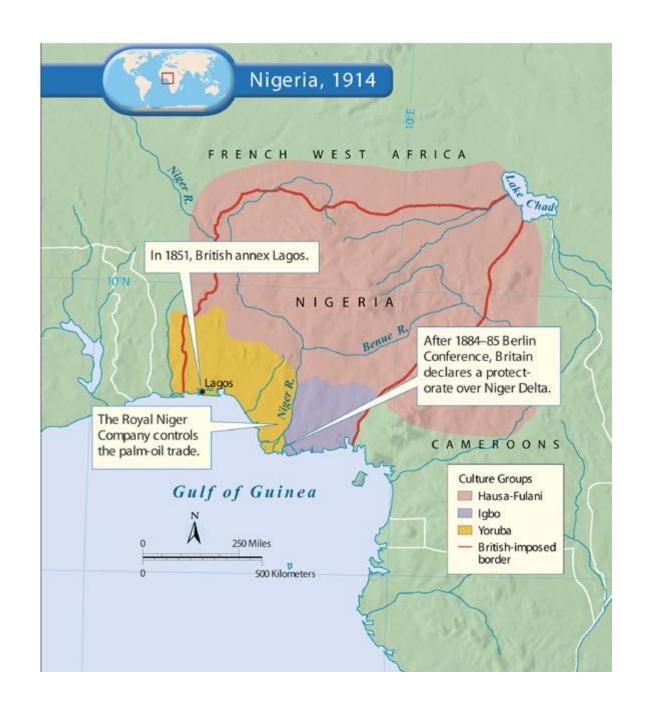
- Britain's rule of Nigeria is a form of imperialism common in Europe
  - controls economic and political life of the area

### **Gaining Control**

- Britain conquers southern Nigeria using both diplomacy and force
- Conquest of northern Nigeria through Royal Niger Company
- In 1914, Britain claims all of Nigeria as a colony [Visual]



Nigeria, 1914



### **Case Study: Nigeria**

### Managing the Colony

- Nigeria is culturally diverse area, with about 250 ethnic groups
- British use indirect rule successfully with Hausa-Fulani
- Yoruba and Igbo chiefs resent limits on their power

### **African Resistance**

#### Africans Confront Imperialism [Visual]

 Broad resistance to imperialism, but Europeans have superior weapons

#### Unsuccessful Movements

- Algeria actively resists French for almost 50 years
- Samori Touré fights French in West Africa for 16 years
- In German East Africa, people put faith in spiritual defense
- Results in about 75,000 deaths; famine kills twice as many



### **African Resistance**

### **Ethiopia: A Successful Resistance**

- Menelik II, emperor of Ethiopia in 1889, resists Europeans
  - plays Europeans against each other
  - stockpiles arsenal of modern weapons
  - defeats Italy, remains independent

### The Legacy of Colonial Rule

### **Negative Effects**

- Africans lose land and independence, many lose lives
- Traditional cultures break down
- Division of Africa creates problems that continue today

#### **Positive Effects**

- Colonialism reduces local fighting
- Sanitation improves; hospitals and schools created
- Technology brings economic growth

Chapter 11> Section 3

#### Section 3

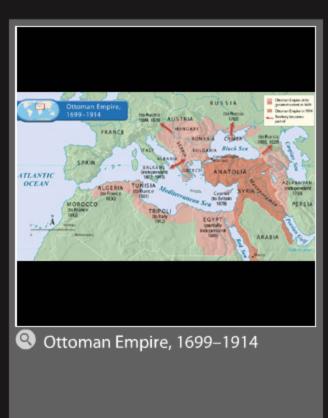
### **Europeans Claim Muslim Lands**

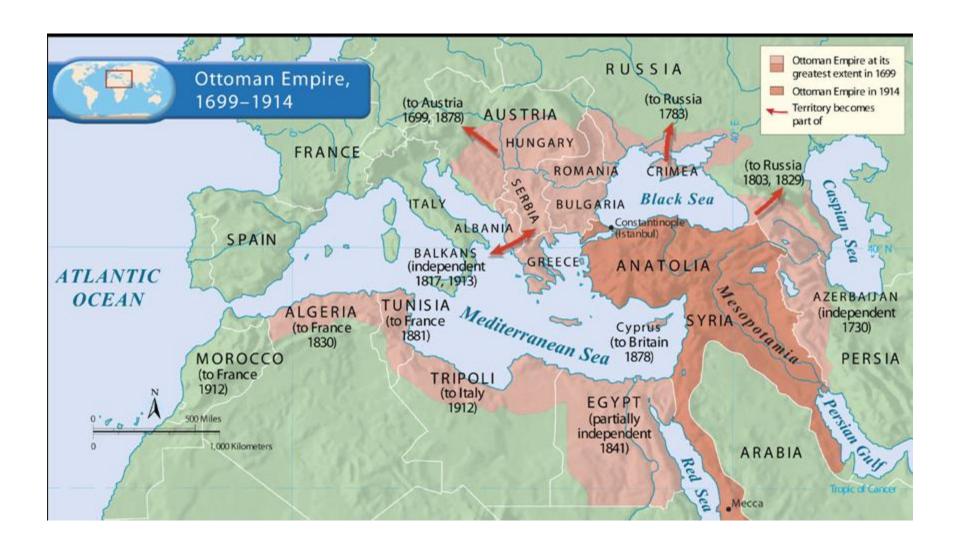
European nations expand their empires by seizing territories from Muslim states.

### **Ottoman Empire Loses Power**

#### **Reforms Fail**

- After Suleyman I dies in 1566, empire starts to decline
- Ottoman Empire falls behind Europe in technology
- Selim III attempts to modernize army and is overthrown
- Subject peoples in Greece and Serbia gain independence
- European powers look for ways to take Ottoman lands [Visual]





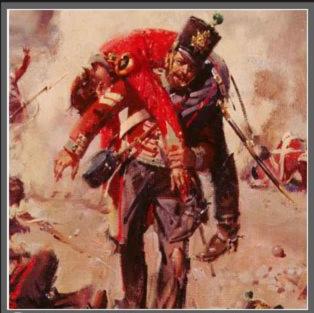
### **Europeans Grab Territory**

### Geopolitics

- Geopolitics—taking land for its strategic location or products
- Access to sea trade routes focuses attention on Ottoman lands

#### Russia and the Crimean War

- Crimean War—Russia attacks Ottomans in 1853 to gain warm-water port [Visual]
- Russia loses, but Ottomans are shown to be weak; still lose land



Corporal Philip Smith winning Victorian Cross during Crimean War assault in Redan, Sebastopol (1855).

## **Europeans Grab Territory**

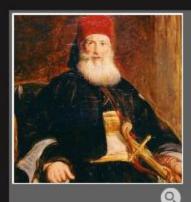
#### The Great Game

- Great Game—war waged between Russia and Britain over India
- Battles fought in Afghanistan until British withdrawal in 1881

### **Egypt Initiates Reforms**

### Military and Economic Reforms

- Muhammad Ali breaks away from Ottoman control and rules Egypt [Visual 1]
- Begins series of reforms in military and economy
- Shifts Egyptian agriculture from food crops to cash crops



His Highness Muhammad Ali Pasha (1769–1849), Egyptian ruler.

#### The Suez Canal [Visual 2]

- Egypt builds Suez Canal—human-made waterway
  - connects Red Sea to Mediterranean
- Modernization efforts create huge debt
- British oversee financial control of canal, occupy Egypt in 1882



Suez Canal



### Persia Pressured to Change

### The Exploitation of Persia

- Russia wants access to Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean
- Britain wants Persian oil and Afghanistan
- Persia concedes to Western businesses

#### **Battle over Tobacco**

- Persian ruler sells concession to Britain to export tobacco
- Persians boycott tobacco, leads to riots
- In 1907, Russia and Britain seize and divide Persia between them

Chapter 11> Section 4

#### Section 4

### **British Imperialism in India**

As the Mughal Empire declined, Britain seizes Indian territory and soon it controls almost the whole subcontinent.

### **British Expand Control Over India**

### East India Company Dominates [Visual]

- British East India Company rules India until 1850s
- Company has its own army led by British officers
- Army is staffed by sepoys—Indian soldiers

#### Britain's "Jewel in the Crown"

- India is Britain's most valuable colony, or "jewel in the crown"
- Forced to produce raw materials for British manufacturing
- Also forced to buy British goods



India Under British Rule, 1805–1886

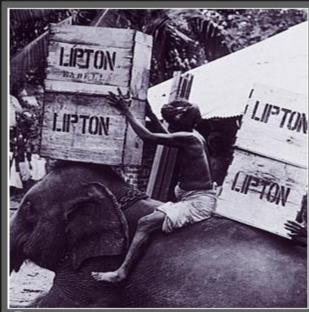
### **British Expand Control Over India**

### **British Transport Trade Goods**

- Railroads move cash crops and goods faster
- Trade in specific crops is tied to international events

### Impact of Colonialism

- British hold much of political and economic power [Visual]
- Cash crops result in loss of self-sufficiency, famine
- Indian life disrupted by missionaries and racist attitudes
- British modernize India's economy, improve public health



Tea from the Lipton plantation in Darjeeling is loaded onto an elephant for transport to Calcutta.

### **The Sepoy Mutiny**

#### Indians Rebel

- Sepoys refuse to use cartridges of new rifles for religious reasons
- Many Sepoys are jailed; others start Sepoy Mutiny against British
- Many Indians, especially Sikhs, remain loyal to British

### **Turning Point**

- British put down rebellion, take direct command of India
- Raj—refers to British rule after India came under the British crown
- Uprising increases distrust between British and Indians

### Nationalism Surfaces in India

#### Call for Reforms

- In 1800s, Ram Mohun Roy leads modernization movement
- Many Indians adopt western ways and call for social reforms
- Indians resent being second-class citizens in own country

#### **Nationalist Groups Form**

- Indian National Congress and Muslim League form
- Nationalists angered by partition of Bengal
  - pressure forces Britain to divide it differently

Chapter 11> Section 5

#### Section 5

### Imperialism in Southeast Asia

Demand for Asian products drive Western imperialists to seek possession of Southeast Asian lands.

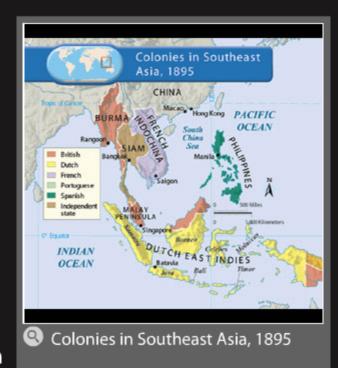
### **European Powers Invade the Pacific Rim**

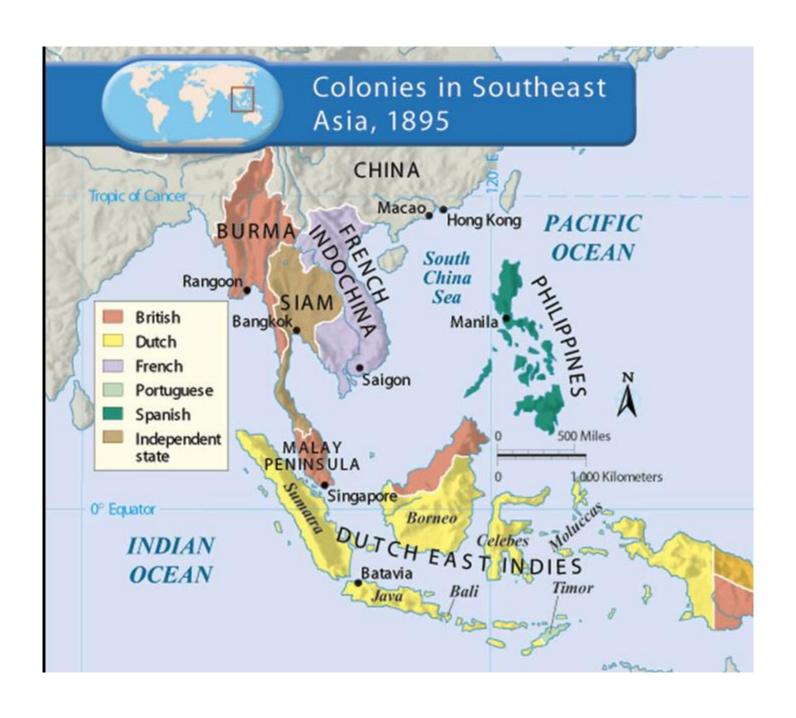
#### Europeans Race to Claim Pacific Rim [Visual]

- Lands of Southeast Asia that border Pacific Ocean form Pacific Rim
- Dutch, British, French, Germans claim parts of Pacific Rim
  - establish trading ports
  - land perfect for plantation agriculture

### **Dutch Expand Control**

- Dutch colonies, called Dutch East Indies, include Indonesia
- Settle Indonesia, establish rigid social class system





### **European Powers Invade the Pacific Rim**

### British Take the Malayan Peninsula

- Britain seizes Singapore as a port and trading base
- Also gets colonies in Malaysia, Burma
- Chinese immigration to Malaysia creates problems

#### French Control Indochina

- French come to control Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia
- Directly control French Indochina
- Export rice, angering Vietnamese

### **European Powers Invade the Pacific Rim**

### **Colonial Impact**

- Modernization mainly helps European businesses
- Education, health, sanitation improve
- Millions migrate to Southeast Asia to work in mines, plantations
- Colonialism leads to racial and religious clashes

### **Siam Remains Independent**

#### **Modernization in Siam**

- Siam remains independent, neutral zone between French, British
- King Mongkut modernizes country:
  - starts schools
  - reforms legal system
  - reorganizes government
  - builds transportation and telegraph systems
  - ends slavery

### U.S. Imperialism in the Pacific Islands

### The Philippines Change Hands

- U.S. gains Philippines after Spanish-American War
- Emilio Aguinaldo leads Filipino nationalists against U.S. rule
- U.S. defeats three-year nationalist revolt (1902) [Visual]
- U.S. promises to prepare Filipinos for self-rule
- Focus on cash crops leads to food shortages



American soldiers fight Filipino nationalists, who struggle for independence in the late nineteenth century.

### U.S. Imperialism in the Pacific Islands

### Hawaii Becomes a Republic

- Americans establish sugar-cane plantations on Hawaii
- By mid-1800s, sugar accounts for 75 percent of Hawaii's wealth
- U.S. business leaders want annexation—adding territory to country
- Queen Liliuokalani tries to restore Hawaiian control [Visual]
- American businessmen have her removed from power
- U.S. annexes Republic of Hawaii (1898)



Queen Liliuokalani of the Hawaiian Islands. Portrait (1891), William Cogswell.

# **End of Chapter.**