

Colonial Encounters

New Imperialism in African and Asia

Objectives:

- ④ Examine the ways in which Europeans created their 19th century empire
- ④ Examine the development of racism as evidence of European superiority and investigate how subject peoples were effected by racial categorization
- ④ Examine how the colonial experience transformed the lives of Asians and Africans
- ④ Define the distinctive qualities of modern European empires compared to earlier examples of empire

In what different ways did the colonial takeover of Asia and Africa occur?

- Use of military or threatened force
 - Military advantage = organization, drill, and command structure
 - firepower advantage
 - numerous wars of conquest
- In India, the British East India Trading Company, rather than British gov't directly, played a leading role in takeover of South Asia
- South Asia was politically fragmented
- Africa, colonial takeover coincided with intense competition between European powers to establish colonies--> efforts to enforce claims

Under European Rule

- European takeover was often traumatic for the colonized peoples—loss of life and property
- Cooperation vs. Rebellion
 1. Some groups and individuals cooperated willingly
 1. employment in armed forces
 2. elite kept status and privileges--> relied on them
 2. Governments and missionaries promoted European education
 1. growth of small class of Western education
 2. governments relied on them increasingly over time
 3. Periodic Rebellions
 1. Sepoy Rebellion (1857-1858)- cartridges in battle-beef/pig
 2. began as mutiny among Indian troops
 3. widened India's racial divide; British less tolerant of natives
 4. led British governments to assume DIRECT control over India

What was distinctive about European colonial empires of 19th century?

1. Race was prominent point in distinguishing rulers from ruled
 1. education for colonial subjects was limited and emphasized practical matters, suitable for "primitive minds"
 2. best educated natives rarely in upper ranks if civil service
2. Racism was especially pronounced in areas with large number of European settlers (South Africa--> apartheid)
3. Colonial states imposed deep changes in people's daily lives
4. Colonizers were fascinated with counting and classifying new subjects
 1. India- caste
 2. Africa -identified or invented "tribes"
5. Colonial policies contradicted European core values and practices at home
 1. dictatorships, opposite of "national independence", racism against Christianity and Enlightenment ideas,

Ways of Working: Comparing Colonial Economies

- ④ Colonial rule deepened impact on people's ways of working
 - ④ demanded raw materials from Asia and Africa
 - ④ subsistence farming diminished
 - ④ artisans displaced by manufactured goods
 - ④ Asian and Africa merchants were squeezed out by Europeans
- ④ QUESTIONS: How did the power of colonial states, cash-crop agriculture, and wage labor transform the lives of colonial subjects? How were the lives of women altered by colonial economies?

Sections:

1. Economies of Coercion: Forced Labor and the Power of the State
2. Economies of Cash-Crop Agriculture: The Pull of the Market
3. Economies of Wage Labor: Working for Europeans
4. Women and the Colonial Economy: An African Case Study

QUIZ: Take notes in the chart and answer the questions in bullet statements.

Did colonial rule bring "progress" in its wake?

1. Overall economic impact
 1. defenders: jump-started modern growth
 2. critics: long record of exploitation and limited, uneven growth
2. Colonial rule DID help integrate Asian and African economies into global exchange
3. Colonial rule DID introduce some modernizing elements
 1. administrative and bureaucratic structures
 2. communication and transportation
 3. schools
 4. health care
4. Colonial DID NOT lead to breakthroughs to modern industrial societies
 1. India won independence—one of the poorest developing countries

Identify and Cultural Change in the Colonial Era

Exposure to colonial rule, and exposure to European culture, social and economic upheavals—contributed to cultural change within Asian and African societies

- altered the way they thought about themselves and communities
- catalyst for substantial and radical changes in what people believed and how they defined their societies
- continued long after European rule ended

Assignment/Quiz:

- Read the following sections: Education, Religion, and “Race” and “Tribe” and answer the following questions
 1. What impact did Western education have on colonial societies?
 2. What were the attractions of Christianity within some colonial societies?
 3. How and why did Hinduism emerge as a distinct religious tradition during the colonial era in India?
 4. In what way were “race” and “tribe” new identities in colonial Africa?

Work in groups of 4