

Nationalism and Imperialism

Nationalism

- Monarch as source of nationalism
 - Pre 19th Century
- Nation as source of nationalism
 - French Revolutionary Armies
- Nationalists gave their allegiance to the people joined by a common history and culture.
- A nation must be unified under its own government, answerable to its people.

Political Influence

- German and Italian wish for unification
 - Italian States- 1870
 - German States - 1871
- Liberal nationalists:
 - Constitutional government, guaranteed civil rights, and participation in government
- Chauvinism:
 - An unreasoning, even fanatical loyalty to one's country

Economic Influence

- Political and Economic Sovereignty
- The nation must control its economic destiny through:
 - Developing its own resources and industries
 - Protecting its domestic markets with tariffs
 - Seeking foreign markets which would create more employment and wealth at home
- Almost like mercantilism

Imperialism

- Policy whereby a state seeks to expand its control beyond its traditional borders.
- May involve:
 - Direct control of foreign lands (conquest) or;
 - Dominance over the political, economic or cultural policies of other peoples that they have virtually lost their independence.

Imperialism

- Colonialism as a form of imperialism
- By the end of the Napoleonic Wars only GB and the Netherlands had extensive overseas empires.
- France had, but lost
- Spain and Portugal colonies declared independence in Latin America
- 1870: New imperialism

Objectives of Imperialism

- Political:
 - Expanding empire as source as national pride at home and prestige abroad
- Militarily:
 - Provide for soldiers
 - Strategically placed naval bases
- Culturally:
 - Europeans felt obligated to 'civilize'

Objectives of Imperialism

- Economic:
 - Colonies were controlled markets from which competition could be excluded (tariffs and declining prices from recession)
 - Supply raw materials (including food)
 - Increased investment opportunity for businessmen
 - Service in colonies for faster advancement in government or commerce

Imperialism and Mercantilism

- Comparisons:
 - Both sought colonies to strengthen their national economies and enhance self-sufficiency
 - Both aimed to maintain a favourable balance of trade
 - Both sought to discourage manufacturing in the colonies that would compete with the mother country

Imperialism and Mercantilism

- Contrasts:
 - Businessmen of the 19th century opposed close government regulation
 - New imperialism believed in organization of exchange of goods, not acquisition of.
 - Mercantilists discouraged import of luxury goods

Influence of *laissez-faire*

- Argued against government intervention
- But also argued for increased international trade
- By end of 19th century, *laissez-faire* weakened:
 - Growth of nationalism and economic protectionism

Imperialism and International Relations to 1914

The Partition of Africa

- History:
 - European states establish outposts
 - Development of slave trade
 - Participation of African rulers made for little need for further push to interior (exceptions: missionaries, explorers)
 - New imperialism would lead to rush to acquire more territory

The Partition of Africa

- Conference of Berlin 1884-85
 - Division of Africa based on European boundaries not tribal
 - Leads to problems for Africa during independence in later 20th century
 - Britain occupied line from Egypt to southern tip
 - Included Suez Canal (Egypt as *protectorate* in 1882)
 - France: northern
 - Belgium: central
 - Portugal: south
 - Germany, Italy, and Spain: other
 - Ethiopia and Liberia only independent

The Partition of Africa



The partition of Africa was a process by which European powers divided the continent into colonies between 1875 and 1914. This process was driven by economic motives, such as the desire for raw materials and markets for European goods, and by a sense of imperial competition. The Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 was a key event in this process, where European powers agreed on the rules of the game for dividing Africa. The map on the left shows the resulting colonial territories in 1914, with France controlling the largest area, followed by Great Britain and Germany. Other colonial powers included Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Belgium. The map also shows the major geographical features of Africa, such as the Nile, the Sahara Desert, and the Congo River basin.



The map on the right shows the modern-day borders of Africa, illustrating the legacy of the colonial era. The boundaries of many countries are the result of the partition of Africa, and some of these boundaries are clearly artificial, reflecting the interests of the colonial powers. The map also shows the major geographical features of Africa, such as the Nile, the Sahara Desert, and the Congo River basin. The map is a useful tool for understanding the current political and geographical landscape of the continent.

Imperial Expansion

- Asia
 - India:
 - British East India Company
 - British government, 1858
 - Benefits and Drawbacks
 - China:
 - Increased influence from Europe (*spheres of influence*)
 - Revolution of 1911, overthrow of Manchu Dynasty
 - Rise of Kuomintang Party (nationalist)

Imperial Expansion

- Asia:
 - Japan:
 - Tokugawa shoguns, 1603 – 1868
 - Far behind Western governments in technology and use of force
 - Granted commercial concessions to the USA in 1854
 - 1868, restoration of emperor Mutsuhito
 - Set out to resist western influence by copying their methods
 - New constitution
 - Economic restructuring (within 30 years became fully industrialized)
 - Embarked on own imperialism in China and Russia

Imperial Expansion

- Southeast Asia
 - Under control of British, French or Dutch
 - Siam (Thailand) only country to preserve independence
 - United States:
 - Hawaii, Philippines
- The Caribbean
 - Spanish-American War, 1898
 - Cuba, Puerto Rico

Imperialism as a Cause of International Tensions

Britain vs. Germany

- German isolation of France post Franco-Prussian War
- 1872 – Three Emperors League (RUS, A-H, GER)
- 1879 – Dual Alliance (GER, A-H), secret defensive treaty
- Italy vs. France in North Africa
 - Italy joins Germany and Austria-Hungary to form Triple Alliance, 1882
- Britain originally leaned towards Germany

Britain vs. Germany

- France and Russia
 - Isolated diplomatically by Britain
 - Sign entente in 1891 (diplomatic understanding)
 - By 1894, due to growing military and economic strength of Germany, coupled with bellicose speeches by Kaiser William II the Entente became a defensive alliance
 - Britain interested

Britain vs. Germany

- German construction of colonial empire
 - Conflict with GB in east and southern Africa
 - German influence in Persia
 - Support for Boers in South African War, 1899-1902
 - Threatened British overseas commercial interests
 - 1898, announced construction of battle fleet 2/3 the size of GB
 - Naval Race
- Entente Cordiale, 1904
- Triple Entente , 1907

Russia vs. Japan

- Both Russia and Japan expanded into China
- Manchuria:
 - 1904 Russo-Japanese War
 - Russian defeat (first time a European nation was defeated by a non-European nation)

France vs. Germany

- North Africa:
 - Morocco:
 - France prepared for protectorate
 - Germany recognized Moroccan independence
 - Britain would move to support France
 - 1911 disturbances:
 - France sends army
 - Germany sends gunboat
 - Britain supports France
 - France forced to trade two strips of French Equatorial Africa for protectorate over Morocco

The Balkans

- 1908 – Revolution in Turkey allowed A-H to annex Ottoman provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Both were territories Serbia hoped to gain
 - Russia, a Serbian ally could not act because of Russo-Japanese War
 - Germany supported A-H
 - Russia, France, and GB all become even more suspicious of Germany

The Effects of Imperialism

Nationalism

- Strengthened rivalries
- Colonial empire = strength and pride
- Nationalism and imperialism reinforced each other

Arms Race and Alliances

- Rivalries created by nationalism and imperialism encouraged an arms race:
 - Improvements or increase in size
- Alliance system as a natural consequence of arms race

Economic Rivalry

- Great Britain and Industrialization:
 - Occurred earlier, more open to economic liberalism
- Other countries, specifically USA and Germany:
 - Occurred later, but easier (bigger population, more resources)
 - High tariffs to protect
- All turn toward colonies (Economic Rivalry, Nationalism and Imperialism entwined)

Imperialism as a Cause of the First World War

- Serbia and AH Empire
- Archduke Francis Ferdinand assassination
- Ultimatums
- Mobilization