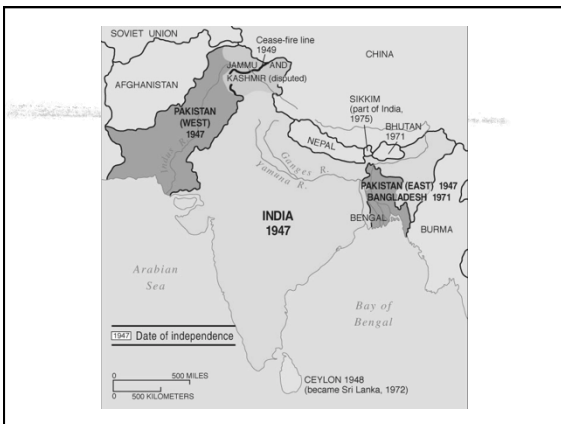


Chapter 33: Africa, the middle east and asia in the era of independence



the challenges of independence

- Post-independent nations often saw issues with lack of resources and distribution of those resources.
- European colonizers had established arbitrary boundaries and sometimes combined hostile ethnic or religious groups.
- Rivalries and civil wars post-independence consumed many resources that may have otherwise been devoted to economic development.



the challenges of independence

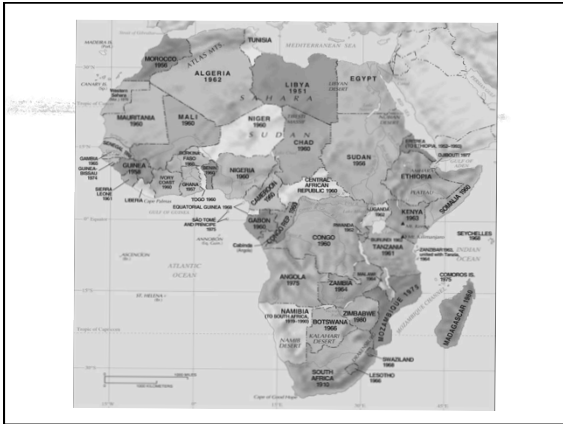
- Most post-colonial nations wanted to industrialize and promote rapid economic development.
- Industrialization during colonization meant large amounts of food could be shipped throughout Asia and Africa.
- Populations increased because of eradication of diseases, improved medical treatment and hygiene and water purification.

the challenges of independence

- In many African and Asian countries, there has been resistance to birth control efforts to control population growth.
- In Africa, children are indispensable additions to the lineage.
- In developing countries, a high percentage of the population is under the age of 15.

the challenges of independence

- As populations increased in rural areas, mass migrations were seen to urban areas.
- Slum areas are often seen in close proximity to large, wealthy urban areas.
- Rural overpopulation has led to soil depletion and deforestation.



the challenges of independence

- Women's suffrage was often written into post-colonial constitutions.
- Female politicians were often connected to powerful male politicians.
- Male-centric customs and tradition often dictate malnutrition in women and children.
- Religious revivalism sometimes erode womens rights.

the challenges of independence

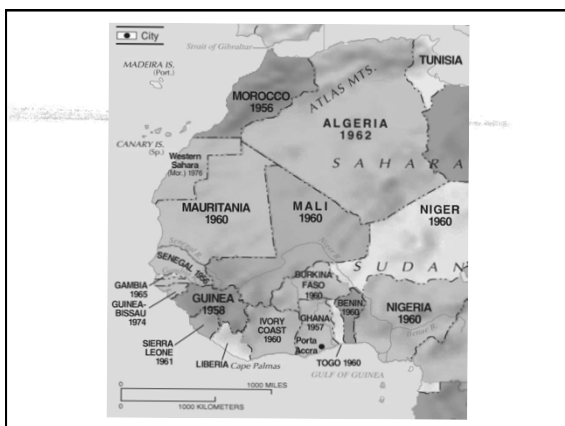
- Most newly independent countries rely on the export of two or three cash crops.
- Primary products fluctuate in price and strain economies.
- Neocolonial economies yield limited returns.
- Many countries rely on international organizations for assistance.

paths to economic growth and social justice

-Kwame Nkrumah was the Prime Minister of Ghana after independence (1957) and was committed to social reform and economic uplift.

-He assumed dictatorial powers and a form of African socialism.

-He went to Vietnam in 1966 and was deposed by a military coup.

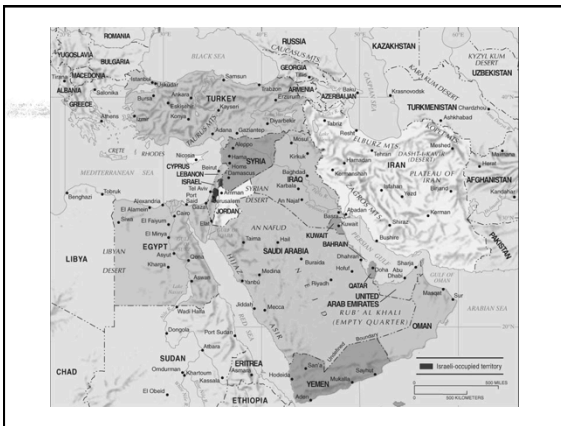


paths to economic growth and social justice

- Military coups often install military-run governments.
- Often times, military regimes suppress civil liberties and do not improve living standards.
- Gamal Abdul Nasser took power in Egypt in 1952, with help from the Free Officers Movement.
- The Muslim Brotherhood was founded by Hasan al-Banna, which focused on social uplift and sweeping reforms.

paths to economic growth and social justice

- In July 1952, a coup overthrew the khedive Farouk and installed Nasser and the Free Officers.
- Nasser carried out social and economic reforms, like land reform and state-financed education.
- Nasser ousted the British and French from the Suez Canal zone in 1956 and restricted foreign investment.
- Nasser's reforms failed because of population boom, lack of proper funding and the Six-Day War with Israel in 1967.



paths to economic growth and social justice

- Anwar Sadat succeeded Nasser and dismantled the state apparatus, by favoring private initiatives.
- Sadat opened Egypt to aid and investment from the US and western Europe.
- Hosni Mubarak succeeded Sadat and was overthrown in 2011.

paths to economic growth and social justice

- India has always had a civilian government and still saw economic and social reforms.
- India is the world's largest functioning democracy.
- The Green Revolution and "silicon valleys" are seen in India.
- Population growth in India offsets economic gains.

paths to economic growth and social justice

- Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was the ruler of Iran following the 1979 revolution and emphasized religious purification and the elimination of Western influences.
- The shah's (leaders before the revolution) were dictatorial and repressive and did not improve conditions in Iran.
- Khomeini instituted radical changes and distanced itself from the Western world.

paths to economic growth and social justice

- The Iran-Iraq War was fought because Iraq annexed oil-rich provinces in the west, at the command of Saddam Hussein.
- Iran called for an armistice in 1988, after Iran was practically left in shambles and was isolated from the Western powers, who supported Iraq.

paths to economic growth and social justice

- In 1980, Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) declared independence and became the last African colony to become independent.
- Apartheid in South Africa was designed to ensure a monopoly of political power and economic dominance.
- The African National Congress was declared illegal and leaders like Walter Sisulu and Nelson Mandela were jailed.

paths to economic growth and social justice

- F.W. de Klerk pushed for reforms to begin dismantling the system of apartheid.
- Key black political prisoners were released in 1990, which signaled change in South Africa.
- All adult South Africans were given the right to vote in 1994, when Nelson Mandela became the first black president of South Africa.
