Chapter 24
Industrialization and Imperialism: The Making of the European Global Order

Western Imperialism and the Scramble for Colonies

- Imperialism: the policy of strengthening a country's power into an empire through the military and diplomatic domination of other areas of the world into colonies
- 19th century Western Imperialism is a result of the Industrial Revolution, as European nations competed for raw materials to power their mechanized industries and new systems of transportation (Scramble for Colonies).
- Rivalries between European countries occur in non-Western territories.
- Main areas for colonization: India and Africa

Kinds of Colonies

- Tropical dependency colonies: few Europeans ruled many indigenous peoples
  - Examples: Africa (Congo, Asia (India), South Pacific (Java)
- Settlement colonies:
  A) White Dominions
  - Canada, Australia
  - Europeans settle in the colony permanently to inhabit most of the region
  B) Contested Settler Colonies
  - New Zealand, South Africa, Hawaii
  - Large European populations lived among even more numerous indigenous peoples and continuously clashed over resources and social/cultural differences
**European Empires by 1800**

- British East India Company became seriously interested in India as a colony during the decline of the Mughal Empire.
- When Mughals collapse, India was beset by regional princes’ disputes.
- The British emerged as facilitators in these disputes, thereby gaining influence.
- British also gained control of territory in India as part of their victories in Seven Years’ War against France.
- The British relied on sepoys (Indian soldiers trained in British military style) to control and crush any potential uprisings.
- Sepoys received higher pay in the British army.

**Rise of British Rule in India**

- British East India Company went to war with Indian princes.
- Battle of Plassey (1757) gave the British (led by Robert Clive) control of Bengal.
- No Indian national identity (Islam/Hindu), so no ruler could appeal to the need for unity to drive out foreigners.
- Sepoy Rebellion (1857): revolt by Indian soldiers in the British army.
- Indian Muslim and Hindu soldiers upset by new rifles that required them to use their teeth to tear open cartridges.
- Revolt ended in 1858 as a British victory.
- Led to the dissolution of the British East India Company in 1858.
- Creates British Raj.

**Challenges to British Rule**

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The British Raj (the British political establishment in India) remained in contact with Britain through telegraph lines. Madras, Bombay and Calcutta became administrative centers. India became a major outlet for British overseas investments and manufactured goods. British put themselves at the top of the social hierarchy instead of changing the social system. British adopted Indian culture, but retained English as spoken language. British men commonly had sexual relationships with Indian women. Mixed marriages common.

Consolidation of British Rule

- Rampant corruption was common in East India Company.
- Led to a disastrous famine in 1770s Bengal; reform is demanded.
- Company was restructured and became accountable to the British government.
- 1790s: major social and political reforms instituted
  - Evangelical missionaries pushed for British ways of thinking in India: end slave trade and Indian social abuses; promote Western education in English.
  - 1830s: Sati was prohibited.

Growth of British Empire in India from the 1750s to 1858

Social Reform in British India

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Industrial Rivalries, 1870-1914

- Early 1800’s: Britain was most dominant overseas trade and empire builder.
- Late 1800’s: Belgium, France, Germany and United States followed with colonial empires.
- Industrial Revolution increased European military superiority over non-Western regions.
- Changing forms of communication meant public opinion mattered in foreign policy.

Colonial Wars and Unequal Combat

- Industrial change justified colonial possessions and made them easier to acquire.
- New weapons (machine guns, repeating rifle) made the Europeans impossible to stop in Africa and Pacific Islands.
- Natives will try traditional tactics and sometimes diplomacy.
- Only guerrilla tactics proved to stall – but not prevent – European advances.
- 1879: Battle of Isandhlwana in South Africa (Zulu victory)

Colonial Regimes and Social Hierarchies

- Europeans exploited long-standing ethnic and cultural divisions between peoples in colonies.
- Native Christians in colonies were favored.
- Europeans lived mainly in capital cities and had day-to-day administration carried out by locals.
- Western-language education was taught by Christian missionaries.
- Higher education was not promoted due to European racial prejudices.
- European colonial policies will stunt the growth of a Western-style middle class in their colonies.
Social Darwinism

- Social Darwinism: application of Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection to race to justify European conquest of non-Western societies.
- Europeans kept to themselves in colonies and preferred not to mix with natives.
- Laws regarding interactions kept these relationships at a minimum.
- White racial supremacy was widely accepted.
- Physiognomy (1800s): assessment of person's character based upon physical qualities.
- Used to justify mental and moral superiority of whites over the rest of mankind based on skin color.
- No need to socialize or adopt non-European culture.

Civilizing Effects

- Europeans believed in the civilizing effects of their colonization.
- Not only did they provide order and stability, but European culture and societal expectations regarding cleanliness and decorum.
- Europeans brought science and health studies with them.
- Aided in preventions against malaria for Europeans.
- Improved living conditions in colonies for indigenous peoples: hospitals built, sanitation improved.

Methods of Economic Extraction

- Plantations were established and natives were forced to provide labor (long hours, extremely low wages if at all) to export crops.
- Belgian Congo: rubber for tires.
- Palm oil from West and Central Africa used for machine lubricants.
- Roads and railways were built to move raw materials to ports where they could be shipped using steamships that could travel along interior rivers.
- Products weren't manufactured in Africa but were processed in Europe instead.
White Dominion Colonies

- White Dominion British colonies were established in 19th century with parliamentary governments and commercial economies that followed British culture.
- Canada
  - France lost Canada to Britain in 18th century (Seven Years' War).
  - Large French minority still in Quebec.
  - Canada granted self-rule in 1839 from Britain.
- Australia, established 1788.
  - Indigenous hunting and gathering aborigines present.
  - Agricultural development and gold discoveries.
  - By 1840, Australia has 140,000 European immigrants.

Scramble for Africa

- Europeans clash over African colonies as Africa offered raw materials and young markets.
- The Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 (organized by Otto von Bismarck) partitioned Africa into colonies controlled by Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Portugal, and Spain.
- Liberia and Ethiopia are not colonized.
- No African representatives are present.
- Divisions made without concern for ethnic or cultural groups disrupting traditional African communities.
Boers (Dutch settlers in South Africa) gradually moved to the interior from the coast. Boers enslaved indigenous peoples (Khoikhoi and San) and gradually mixed races to form a new race. After the British took the Cape Colony, many Boers fled after the two groups fought. Great Trek (1834): Boers migrated further into the interior of South Africa and encountered other African peoples (Zulu). Zulu peoples fight against Boers, then British (Anglo-Zulu Wars).

Boers established two republics (Orange Free State and Transvaal) in the interior. 1867: British businessman Cecil Rhodes led the British arrival when diamonds were found in the Orange Free State. 1885: Gold was discovered in Transvaal. Boer War (1899–1902) occurred when the Boers declared war on the British for invading their republics and interfering with Boer interests. British were victorious. 1902: British unite republics into Union of South Africa; Africans under European control.

Most of Southeast Asia was comprised of small independent kingdoms that are easily colonized. British: Malay States; Burma (now Myanmar); Australia; Hawaii French: Indochina (now Vietnam) Dutch: East Indies Siam (now Thailand) did not succumb to imperial powers. Pacific groups had lived in isolation for thousands of years. Sophisticated cultures and societies had developed. No immunities, swayed by new religions, vulnerable to lethal weapons. Social disintegration and suffering.
Dutch Expansion in Java

- Java (the most populated island in Indonesia) was constantly being advanced upon by the Dutch.
- Goal: control over exporting of spices.
- Dutch paid tribute to the sultans of Mataram.
- By 1670s, Dutch were involved in conflicts over rights to Mataram throne. The Dutch support for the winner resulted in Batavian territories for them to administer.
- Continued to take advantage of already-present political divisions.
- By 1750, control most Javanese kingdoms.

The Maori of New Zealand

- Two periods of disruption:
  - In 1769 Captain James Cook lands, then in the 1790s, European timber merchants and whalers established settlements on coast.
  - Alcoholism and prostitution spread.
  - Maori traded food for weapons; society becomes more violent.
  - Loss of population due to European diseases.
  - Maori adjust to Europeans; follow European farming, convert to Christianity.
  - 1850s British farmers and herders arrived.
  - British occupy the most fertile land by force and drive Maori into interior.
  - Maori are again displaced but endure.

Economic Imperialism and Hawai'i

- Economic imperialism: exertion of economic influence rather than political control over a region.
- 1777-1779: English Captain James Cook voyaged to Hawaii.
- Protestant missionary efforts brought Christianity in 1819.
- STDS and tuberculosis devastated the island population, as result of European presence.
- American companies export pineapple and sugar using a plantation system.
- Hawaiian monarchs declined after 1872 and Hawaii was annexed by the United States.
- US Congress took over the islands in 1898.