AMSCO Chapter 24

Global Links and Imperialism, 1750-1900

1. Economic Motives for Imperialism – natural resources, new markets, cheap labor
2. England’s industrialization resulted in a demand for raw materials such as cotton, copper and rubber.
3. Asian and African populations were also viewed as potential consumers of manufactured goods
4. Europeans used colonial peoples for labor on railroad and telegraph line construction.
5. Wages were low, conditions were dangerous
6. Agricultural Resources from Colonies
7. Export economies – good produced were exported for profit
8. Cash crops such as tea, cotton, sugar, palm oil, rubber, cocoa, groundnuts, and coffee
9. Farmers were forced to grow cash crops instead of food, resulting in monocultures (lack of agricultural diversity)
10. Growing same crop led to decline in soil fertility, crop disease and pests (some Africa countries’ lands still have not recovered)
11. Indian textile producers were driven out by British competition until India produced only raw cotton, not textiles. India even had to buy back cotton textiles from England
12. Opium grew in South Asia and was sold in China, leading to Opium wars
13. Tea from China was planted in South Asia, resulting in a cash crop in tea in India, Ceylon and Sri Lanka
14. Railways in Colonies
15. Trains served colonial interests, not local ones
16. Most began in the interior and traveled to the coast to facilitate transportation of raw materials for export
17. British Cecil Rhodes wanted to connect Cape Town to Cairo by rail, but England never controlled enough of Africa to do so.
18. African railway workers were paid very low wages
19. Many transnational companies developed, such as De Beers Diamonds or United Fruit
20. Japan – needed farmland and natural resources and set up colonies in China, Korea, Southeast Asia and islands of Pacific until after WWII.
21. Labor systems
22. No more slavery, but indentured laborers used, usually from India, China or Japan.
23. Laborer agreed to work for X years in a new country (sending $ home)
24. Indentured laborers brought their cultures to these new colonies
25. Australia
26. Penal colony – populated by convicts from England, Scotland and Ireland who performed hard labor
27. 1851 discovery of gold attracted free settlers also, especially Chinese
28. Most convicts worked for free on railway building projects and were eventually freed
29. Aborigines of Australia suffered exposure to European diseases and lost their lands to settlers, same with New Zealand.
30. Political Motives for Imperialism
31. Nationalism and empire building policies of western Europe
32. Scramble for Africa the sense of competition, claim land before your competitors do amongst Great Britain, Germany, France, Belgium, Italy, Portugal and Netherlands
33. Japan also nationalist – moving into Korea, which led to Sino-Japanese war which won Japan control of Korea and Taiwan
34. Ideological Motives for imperialism
35. Racial attitudes like “white man’s burden” – Europeans like parents, colonized peoples like children
36. Misuse of science
37. Pretend scientists studied skull sizes and determined that smaller skulls of Africans, Americans and Asians meant they were less intelligent.
38. Darwin’s theories of survival of the fittest were applied to human beings, social Darwinism
39. Role of missionaries - end slave trade, improve health, provide education in Africa, also convert people to Christianity; convince people to give up native beliefs
40. Imperialism in South Asia (India)
41. British relationship w Mughal empire in India since 17th century, also Portugal controlled costal ports, France controlled cities; GB drove out France most of Portuguese in Seven year War
42. GB soldiers spread inland, recruiting Indians for British army (Sepoys)
43. Sepoys came to be large part of British army in India
44. Sepoys rebelled against British, but lost violently and Mughal emperor was exiled, ending empire
45. 1858-1947 India was under control of British colonial government, Rah
46. Imperialism in Africa
47. Slave trade over, but exports of guns, alcohol and manufactured goods to Africa in return for palm oil, gold, diamonds and ivory continued
48. Late 1800s European nations expanded colonies in Africa using better military technology, quinine for malaria, and steamships to go upriver
49. Congo – King Leopold II of Belgium personally owned Congo in Central Africa, and kept all the profits himself
50. Congo workers for ivory and rubber were terrorized and killed if not productive, sometimes for no pay (slavery)
51. 1908 Belgium took control of Congo from Leopold, as a regular colony
52. Suez Canal – 1869 completion by French company using Egyptian laborers, 1.5 million for no pay. 1882, Britain takes control of canal
53. Scramble for Africa
54. Berlin Conference 1884-85 – set rules for establishing colonies in Africa; no Africans were invited
55. Only Ethiopia and Liberia were free African nations, everywhere else was carved up amongst European powers, borders anywhere w/out regard for the people, separating some ethnic groups and throwing different ones together (later efforts at nationalism fail because the populations are so diverse)
56. South Africa
57. British replaced Dutch; Dutch speaking Afrikaners remained behind
58. Xhosa rebelled, and killed over 400,000 of their own cattle believing spirits would remove the British in Xhosa Cattle Killing Movement, resulting in famine and death
59. 1849 ship full of Irish convicts sent to Cape colony, then on to Tunisia in face of protest
60. Anglo-Zulu war eventually netted Britain more land for South Africa
61. Boer Wars - British versus Afrikaners over land
62. Both Afrikaners and Africans driven from the land and into refugee camps, later called concentration camps, where conditions were pitiful
63. Imperialism in China – British establish first sphere of influence with Opium War victory, other European countries follow w exclusive trading rights and access to natural resources w in their regions
64. Imperialism in Southeast Asia
65. The Dutch – Dutch East India Company (VOC) took spices for trade in Indonesia. Then Dutch government t took over when VOC went bankrupt
66. Plantations produced tea, rubber, sugar, instead of rice, resulting in reduced food supply
67. The French – north Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia w rubber plantations
68. Siam, today’s Thailand only country to escape imperialism
69. United States Imperialism in Latin America and the Pacific
70. Second industrial revolution moved US into an imperial power
71. Monroe doctrine – 1823 stated Europe should stay out of Western hemisphere
72. US gains territory after winning territories from war w Mexico
73. Spanish American war wins the US Guam, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Philippines
74. Roosevelt Corollary to Monroe doctrine – 1904- Lat. Am countries that were “unstable” would get US intervention, like when US went into Dominican Republic because they did not pay their debt.
75. Responses to Imperialism
76. Nationalist movements in South Asia, China and Africa led by western educated elites who followed Enlightenment ideals
77. While Indian resistance developed first, by end of WWI, Pan-Africanism developed as a nationalist force in Africa.