

Imperialism



Professor Lavender
14 March 2005

What is imperialism?

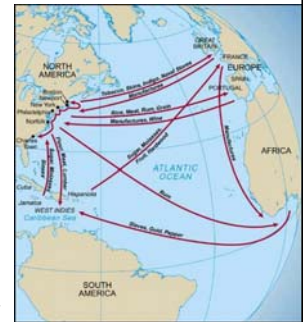
- The extension of control or authority over foreign areas
 - controlling the politics and/or economy of another place/nation/people
 - in order to acquire or maintain an empire
- Direct territorial control
- Indirect control
- The policy of a country in maintaining colonies and dominance over remote lands and peoples.

What predates imperialism?

- Colonies and Colonialism
 - Extension of a nation's sovereignty over territory and people outside its own boundaries
 - To facilitate economic domination over their resources, labor, and often markets.
- The arrival of traders and settlers
- The establishment of a governing system which reinforces the "peripheral" status of the colony
- Mercantilism

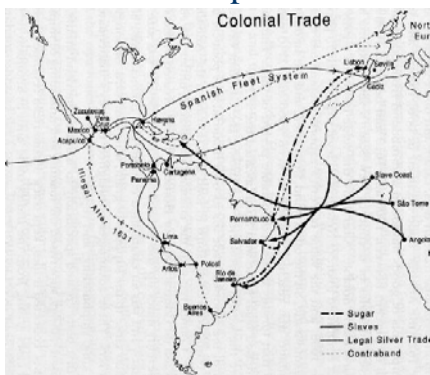
Mercantilism

- A way of routing trade to the benefit of the colonizers
- Raw materials from the colony to the mother country
- Finished goods from the mother country to the colony

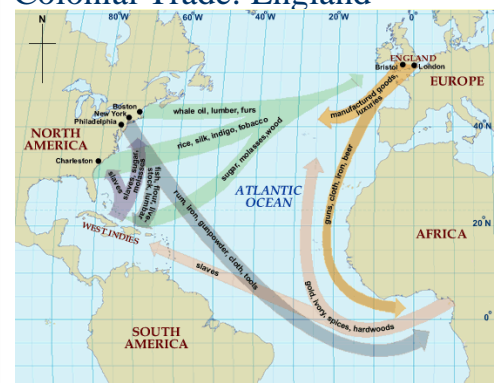


Colonial Trade Routes, 1700s-1800s

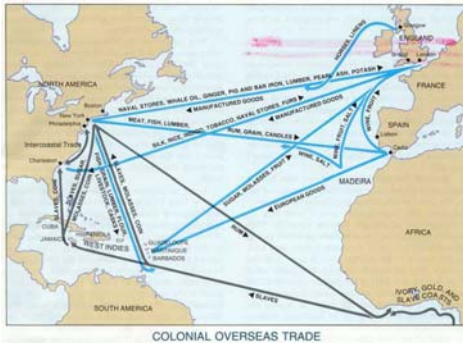
Colonial Trade: Spain



Colonial Trade: England



Colonial Trade: The Atlantic



The causes of Imperialism

- Economic Motives
- Nationalism
- The Balance of Power
- The Ideology of Empire: "The White Man's Burden"



Economic Motives

- The Industrial Revolution created an insatiable demand
 - for raw materials
 - and new markets
- Agricultural Revolution causes population growth
- Industrial Production increases work
 - but only temporarily



German Factory, 1840

Eric Hobsbawm, *Industry and Empire: The Birth of the Industrial Revolution* (1999)

- The First Phase of the Industrial Revolution: Textiles
 - The Second Phase: Railroads and Steel
 - The Third Phase: Electricity and Chemicals
 - The Fourth Phase: Digital Information Technologies, Miniaturization
- "Britain had escaped from the Great Depression (1873-96) -- the first international challenge - not by modernizing her economy.... She had exported more to the backward and satellite economies (as in cotton), and made what she could from the last great technical innovations she had pioneered, the iron steamship (as in shipbuilding and coal exports). When the last great receptacles of cotton goods developed their own industries -- India, Japan, and China -- the hour of Lancashire tolled." [129]

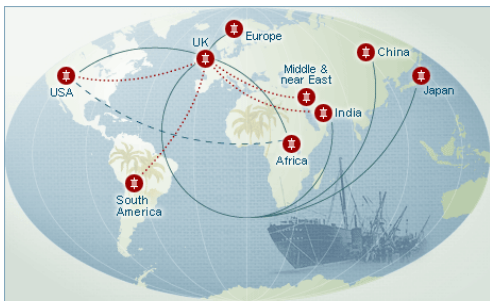
Economic Motives: Industrialization



Economic Motives: Industrialization



Economic Motives: Industrialization



Key:
 Export of cotton products from UK
 ——— Raw cotton import routes into UK
 --- Slaves from Africa to USA

Nationalism

- European nations wanted to demonstrate their power and prestige to the world.
- Tremendous competition among European nations to grab what they can
- Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations* (1776) » a "zero-sum game"



Nationalism: Prestige and Power

"Rule Britannia"

Rule Britannia!
 Britannia rule the waves.
 Britons never, never, never
 shall be slaves.

[RealAudio of "Rule Britannia"](#)

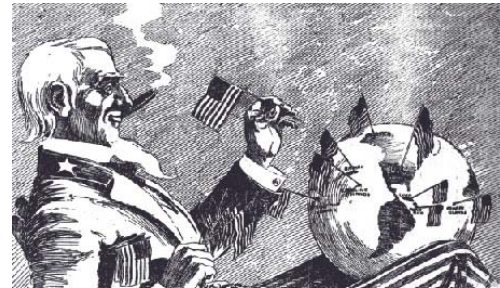


Elgar, "Land of Hope and Glory"

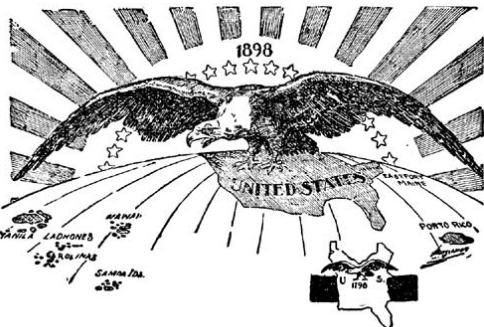
Land of Hope and Glory,
 Mother of the Free,
 How shall we extol thee,
 Who are born of thee?
 Wider still and wider
 Shall thy bounds be set;
 God, who made thee mighty,
 Make thee mightier yet.

[RealAudio of "Land of Hope and Glory"](#)

Nationalism: Prestige and Power



Nationalism: Prestige and Power



Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.

Nationalism: Prestige and Power



Nationalism: Prestige and Power



Balance of Power

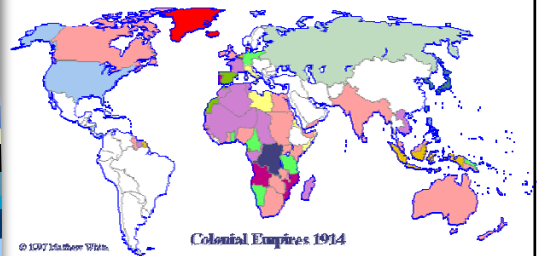
- European nations were forced to acquire new colonies to achieve a balance with their neighbors and competitors.
- The race is on!



Balance of Power: The Race



Balance of Power: The Race

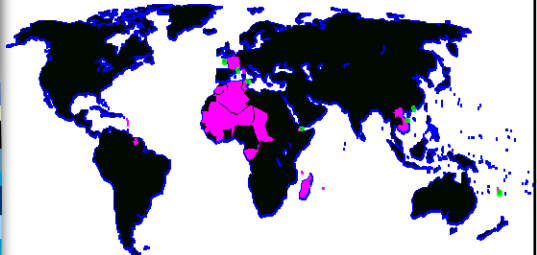


Balance of Power: British Empire



British Empire, 1914

Balance of Power: French Empire

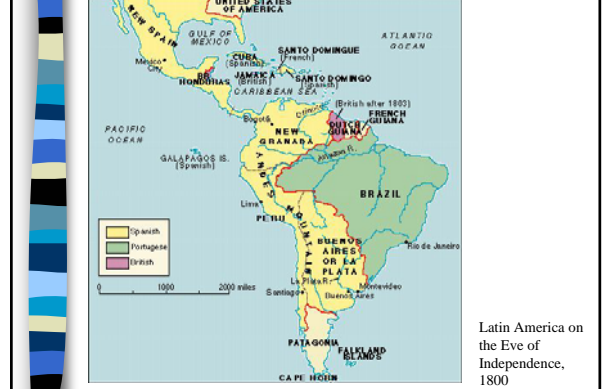


French Empire, 1914

Balance of Power: The Vacuum



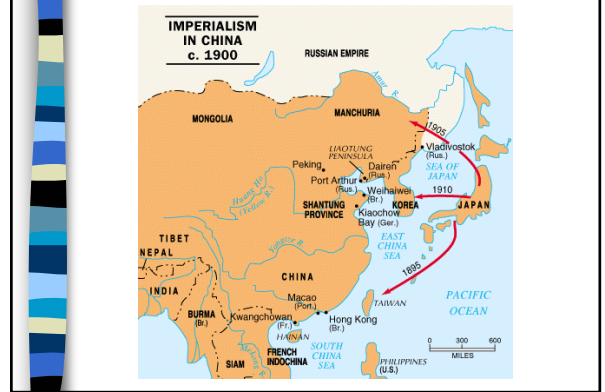
Balance of Power: Latin America



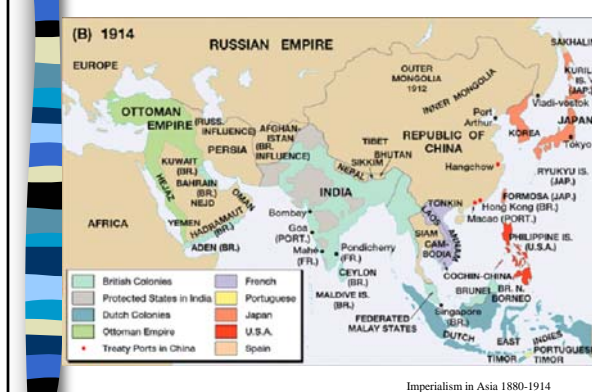
Balance of Power: Asia and Pacific



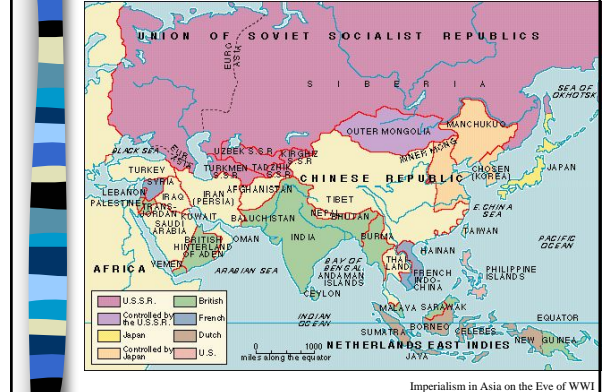
Balance of Power: Asia and Pacific



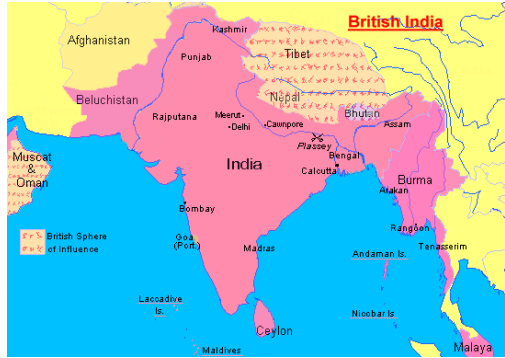
Balance of Power: Asia and Pacific



Balance of Power: Asia and Pacific



Balance of Power: India



Imperialism in India

Balance of Power: Scramble for Africa

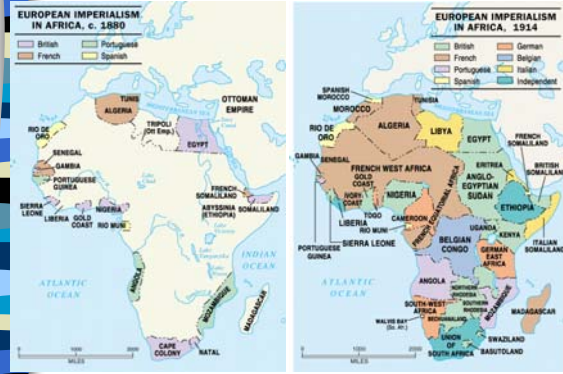


Balance of Power: Scramble for Africa



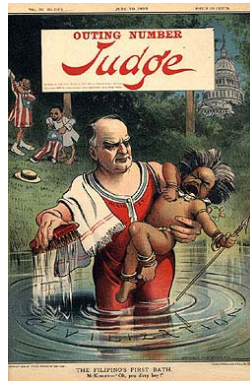
THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE

Balance of Power: Scramble for Africa



White Man's Burden

- The "West"'s sense of superiority
- Made them feel obligated to "civilize the heathen savages" they encountered.



White Man's Burden

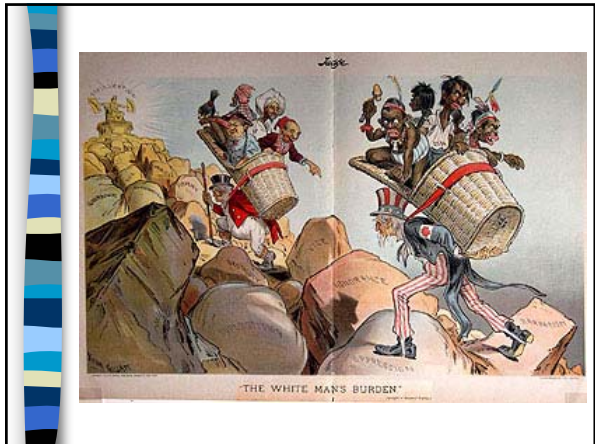
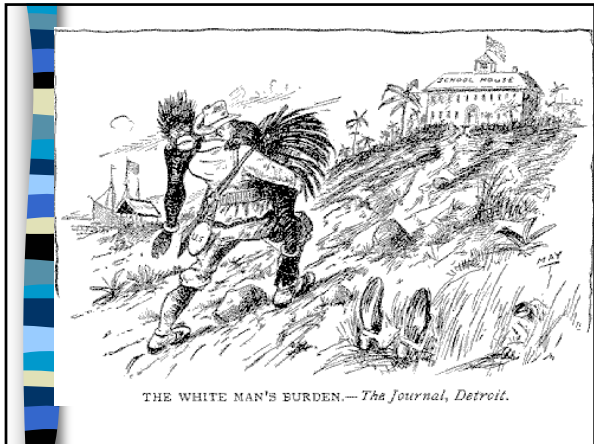
The White Man's Burden
By Rudyard Kipling

McClure's Magazine 12 (Feb. 1899).

Take up the White Man's burden--
Send forth the best ye breed--
Go, bind your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;
To wait, in heavy harness,
On fluttered folk and wild--
Your new-caught sullen peoples,
Half devil and half child.



A BEYOND ISLAND REPUBLICAN



The first step towards lightening
The White Man's Burden
 is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness.

Pears' Soap

is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances, while amongst the cultured of all nations it holds the highest place—it is the ideal toilet soap.



Why does Imperialism take off after the 1850s?

- Daniel Headrick, *The Tools of Empire: Technology and European Imperialism in the Nineteenth Century* (1981)
- Even though the will to dominate existed for a long time previously, Europe's chance to conquer most of the globe only came in the second half of the 19th century.

The Tools of Empire

- Technological developments at mid-century
 - modern firearms
 - steamships
 - railroads
 - anti-malarial quinine
 - telegraph
 - much safer for Europeans to live and travel in the tropics
 - easier to attack the indigenous people there.
- “What the breechloader, the machine gun, the steamboat and steamship, and quinine and other innovations did was to lower the cost, in both financial and human terms, of penetrating, conquering, and exploiting new territories.”

Tool of Empire: Quinine and Africa

- Quinine could prevent Europeans from contracting malaria in Africa.
 - Strong desire to enter Africa
 - but few attempted this nearly suicidal venture
 - because it almost certainly meant death from malaria or yellow fever.
 - Discovery by trial and error of quinine's usefulness opens continent.

Empire in Africa

- By 1875 European possessions in Africa consisted of some forts and trading posts along the coast and a few tiny colonies.



Empire in Africa

- Between 1880 and 1910, however, Africa was divided up among the Europeans.
- For the next 50 years decisions affecting Africa and its people were made not in Africa, but in London, Paris, Lisbon and other European capitals.



Empire in Africa: France

- France acquired a huge empire in North and West Africa.
- Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Mali and other areas in West Africa came under French rule.
- The French controlled the most territory.



Empire in Africa: Great Britain

- Britain's colonies were scattered throughout the continent; Britain controlled the most people.
- Britain controlled Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, Nigeria, South Africa, Rhodesia, Uganda, Kenya, Egypt, the Sudan.



Empire in Africa: Germany

- Southwest Africa, Tanganyika, Togoland and Cameroon were ruled by Germany until Germany's defeat in World War I.



Empire in Africa: The Rest

- Belgium held the Congo
- Spain held the Rio de Oro and Spanish Morocco
- Portugal held Angola and Mozambique
- Italy held Somaliland, Eritrea, and Libya



Empire in Africa: The Free States

- Liberia
- Ethiopia



**DEFEAT YANKEE
IMPERIALISM!
WASH YOUR HANDS!**