

Chapter 11-1: Imperialists Divide Africa



Essential Question: Why did European countries imperialize Africa?

- Africa Before European Domination
- Nations Compete for Overseas Empires
- African Lands Become European Colonies
- Three Groups Clash over South Africa

Africa Before Imperialism



- Industrialization stirred ambitions in many **European nations**, they wanted more resources and they looked to **Africa** and **Asia** as **sources of raw materials and markets** for cloth, plows, guns, and other industrial products.
- **Africa consisted of many ethnic groups.**
 - Over 1000 languages and about 10 million people
 - Ranged from small independent states to large empires
- Limited European contact mostly to coastal areas used as trading ports.
- **Europeans could not travel to the interior as they couldn't navigate Africans rivers** until the introduction of the steam-powered riverboats.

Nations Compete for Overseas Empires



- Europeans learn about Africa from travel books or newspapers.
- In the late 1860's David Livingston traveled with a group of Africans deep into central Africa, searching for the source of the Nile River.
 - Several years passed with no word from him, an American newspaper hired Henry Stanley to find him, and his account of meeting Livingston (“Dr. Livingston I presume”) made headlines around the world.
- Stanley returned to Africa to claim the Congo River Valley for Belgium, and this alarmed other European nations who began claiming other parts of Africa.

Nations Compete for Overseas Empires



- This led to **imperialism** (takeover of a territory by a stronger nation) as European countries industrialized, they **searched for new markets and raw materials to improve their economy.**
- They were also **motivated by greed, nationalism, racism** and the desire to “civilize” the natives.
- **Racism was the belief that one race is superior to another and reflected a social theory of the time called Social Darwinism** which applied Charles Darwin's ideas about evolution and survival of the fittest to social change.
 - According to the theory Europeans believed they had the right and duty to bring their technology and culture because non-Europeans were on a lower scale of cultural and physical development.
- Superior arms, the steam engine, medicines, and African rivalries help Europeans dominate Africa

African Lands Become European Colonies



- The discovery of **diamonds and gold in South Africa** in the 1800's **increased interest in colonizing** the land and no European power wanted to be left out.
- **The competition was so fierce that the European's feared war amongst themselves.**
 - **To prevent fighting 14 European nations met at the Berlin Conference in 1884-1885 to divide Africa up among European nations**
 - **The division ignores African ethnic and linguistic groupings, and by 1914 only Liberia and Ethiopia remain free from European control**
 - **Businesses eventually developed cash-crop plantations which displaced the food crops grown by farmers to feed their families.**

Colonized Africa



Three Groups Clash over South Africa



- From the late 1700's to the late 1800's a series of local wars shook South Africa.
- Around 1816 a Zulu chief Shaka used highly disciplined warriors and good military organization to create a large kingdom.
- **British take over chief Shaka's territory from his successors due to superior arms in 1887.**
- The **Dutch settlers (Boers)** first came to the cape of Good Hope in 1652 and established large farms, and **when the British took over the two groups clashed.**
- By 1830 to escape the British, several thousand Boers moved north in what became known as the **Great Trek to escape British domination.**
- The **Boers soon found themselves fighting with the Zulus.**
- In 1899 the Boers took up arms against the British, and are defeated (**Boer War**) and join the **Union of South Africa controlled by the British**

Other Contributing Factors to Imperialism:



- Missionaries – who wanted to “**Christianize**” & “**Westernize**” & “**Civilize**” peoples Asia, Africa & the Pacific Islands
- **European technological superiority** – **The Maxim gun**, invented in 1889, the worlds first automatic machine gun.
- The **steam engine** – **allowed easier travel upstream** to establish bases of control in the African Continent.
- **Railroads, cables, steamers** – **allowed close communications** within a colony & its controlling nation.
- The drug **Quinine** – **protected Europeans from the disease malaria**, caused by mosquitoes.
- Tribalism – Many Africans spoke different languages & they had different cultures, which caused them to fight amongst themselves over land, water & trade rights & as a result, they never become unified.
- **Europeans learned to play rival groups against each other.**

Chapter 11-2: Imperialism




Essential Question: What are the forms of imperialism?

- Colonial Control Takes Many Forms
- Patterns of Imperialist Management
- A British Colony
- African Resistance
- Impact of Colonial Rule

Colonial Control Takes Many Forms




- Imperialism was about the ability of the European's to control the land, people and resources.
- In the earlier period the imperial powers did not infiltrate into the conquered lands or have a substantial influence on the lives of the people.
- In the new period Europeans demanded more influence on the economy and the lives of people and wanted them to adopt European customs.



Europeans used 4 methods to control the people

- **Colony**; a country or region governed internally by a foreign power
- **Protectorate**; a country or territory with its own internal government but under the control of an outside power.
- **Sphere of Influence**; an area in which an outside power claims exclusive investment or trading privileges.
- **Economic Imperialism**; independent but less developed nations controlled by private business interests rather than by other governments.



Patterns of Imperialist Management

Two methods of
internal management
of colonies appeared

- **Indirect Control:** relied on existing political rulers. In time the local population would learn to govern itself
 - ✦ Britain and the United States used this model
- **Direct Control:** felt that local population was unable to handle the complexities of running a country, and Europeans needed to govern people in a fatherly way (paternalism)
 - ✦ France supported a policy of assimilation, where the local population would be absorbed into French culture

A British Colony



- **Britain outlawed the slave trade (1807)** and freed some slaves who helped them gain control in Nigeria
- The **Royal Niger Company gained control of the palm-oil trade** and the Berlin Conference gave Britain the lands along the Niger River (1884)
- In 1914 **Britain claimed the entire region of Nigeria.**
- **Nigeria is one of the most diverse areas of Africa**, and Britain did not have enough Troops to control it, so they **relied on indirect rule**
 - This worked well in the North, but in the South, they appointed inexperienced chiefs which led to problems

African Resistance



- **Africans resisted colonial rule**, despite a lack of adequate organization and weapons.
- Sometimes African societies tried to form alliances with the Europeans to defeat rivals, hoping the agreements would allow them to remain independent.
 - In some cases Europeans did help but turned on their African allies soon afterward.
- Algeria resisted France for 50 years and Samori Tuure led a resistance in West Africa for 15 years
- **Menelik II led Ethiopia in the only successful African resistance to the European rule by playing the Italians, French and British against each other.**
 - In one of the greatest battles in African history, Menelik's Ethiopian forces successfully defeated the Italians in the Battle of Adowa, maintaining their nation's independence.

Impact of Colonial Rule



Positive

- Reduced local warfare
- Improved sanitation, hospitals, schools
- Literacy rates improved
- Economic growth, railroads, dams, telephone lines

Negative

- Lost control of their lands
- Many died of new diseases such as small pox
- Many died resisting Europeans
- Famines resulted from change to cash crops instead of subsistence farming
- Breakdown of traditional culture