

Imperialism of Africa and Asia

Scramble for Africa

- Berlin Conference

- 1884-1885
- Trying to regulate division of Africa
- Established spheres of influence
 - Countries then had to occupy them
 - Mostly successful
 - By 1914 most of Africa taken
 - Exceptions:
 - Liberia
 - Created by American president Monroe to send former slaves back to Africa
 - Abyssinia
 - Italy failed to subdue

- France

- Felt need to make up for humiliating defeat in Franco-Prussian War
 - Wanted to limit British control of Egypt
 - Wanted horizontal band across top of Africa
- French colonies
 - 1830 – **Algeria**
 - 1881 – Tunisia and Morocco
 - 1885 – French Congo
 - 1886 – Madagascar

- Portugal

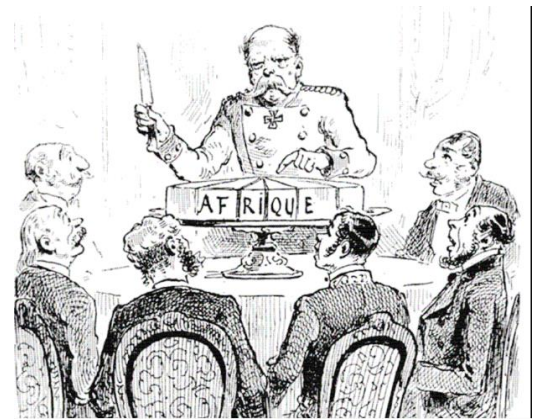
- Held onto colonies of influence
 - Lost most of their holdings in 18th century
 - Not much support at home for overseas colonies
 - Decline of slave trade
 - 1839 Britain can board any Portuguese ship to prevent slave trade
 - Angola
 - Congo River
 - Mozambique
 - Zambezi River

- Italy

- Resented French domination of North Africa
 - Captured Libya
 - Captured Eritrea
 - Failed to take Abyssinia
 - Defeated at Battle of Adowa

- Belgium

- Wanted sovereignty over Congo
 - To control **Rubber** and Ivory trade
 - Removed land and trade rights to natives
 - Rubber came in high demand because of need for bicycle tires
 - World looked other way from atrocities
 - “The result was one of the most brutal and all-encompassing *corvée* institutions the world has known . . . Male



rubber tappers and porters were mercilessly exploited and driven to death. Leopold's agents held the wives and children of these men hostage until they returned with their rubber quota. Those who refused or failed to supply enough rubber often had their villages burned down, children murdered, and their hands cut off.” (Dean Pavlakis)

- Estimated 10 million killed

- Germany

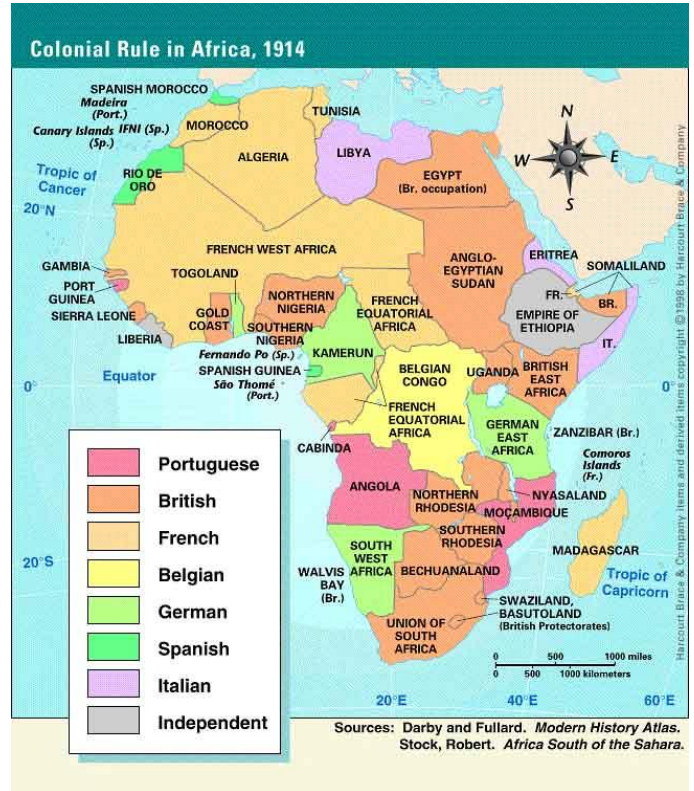
- Wanted Horizontal belt across Central Africa
 - Bismarck originally not interested in colonization at all
- A **“Place in the Sun”** for Germany
 - German Southwest Africa
 - Namibia
 - German East Africa
 - Tanzania
 - Cameroon
 - Togo

- British

- 1875 British bought shares in Suez Canal
 - Sold to them by Egyptian government
- Wanted vertical string of colonies
 - **“Cape to Cairo”**
 - 1880 – South Africa
 - 1882 – Egypt
- Anglo-Zulu War
 - 1879
 - Zulu resisting British control
 - Early victories for Zulu
 - Close to 2,000 British casualties
 - Eventually overwhelmed by British technology
 - Over 6,000 Zulu casualties

○ **Boer War**

- South Africa
 - 1880-1881
 - Originally Dutch “Boer” colony
 - 1795 British get Cape Colony
 - 1806 legally acquire colony
 - Boers
 - Calvinists from Netherlands
 - Resent British rule
 - Made “Great Trek” moving north
 - Founded Orange Free State and Republic of Transvaal
 - 1880 Diamonds found in Transvaal
 - British annexes territory
- War
 - 1899-1902
 - Very Expensive
 - Guerilla War



- British imprison Boer wives and children in concentration camps
 - Outsiders sympathize with Boers
 - British Empire loses respect
 - By 1902 South Africa fully under British control
 - Holy War
 - Mahdi Uprising
 - Egypt 1884
 - General Charles “Chinese” Gordon and British forces
 - Besieged in Khartoum by Mahdi
 - British claim Sudan in 1895
 - 1898 Lord Horatio Herbert Kitchener
 - Came too late to save Gordon
 - Kitchener claims victory
 - 30,000 Mahdi dead
 - 700 British casualties
 - **Fashoda Affair**
 - 1898
 - Political standoff between France and Britain
 - Almost sparked World War I
 - French resented British control of Egypt
 - French eventually backed down

The Great Game

- Colonization of Asia
 - “When everyone is dead the great game is finished. Not before.” – Rudyard Kipling
- Japan
 - Portuguese first
 - Expelled
 - Americans show up in 1853
 - Gunboat politics
 - Japan industrializes and avoids colonization
- China
 - Portuguese First
 - 1516
 - Allowed minimal trading relationships
 - British Show up
 - 1794
 - Lord George Macartney
 - Cultural mis-understandings
 - British sent away
 - Come back with Gunboats
 - Opium Wars
 - British trade Opium to China
 - In exchange for tea and other goods
 - British bribed officials
 - 1839
 - Try to expel British
 - No match for technology of British
 - Sign treaty of Nanking
 - Spheres of Influence
 - Sino-Japanese War



- 1895
- Chinese lose
- Europeans step in to “protect” China
- British take south
- Germans and French take Middle
- Open door policy
 - Ports open to westerners



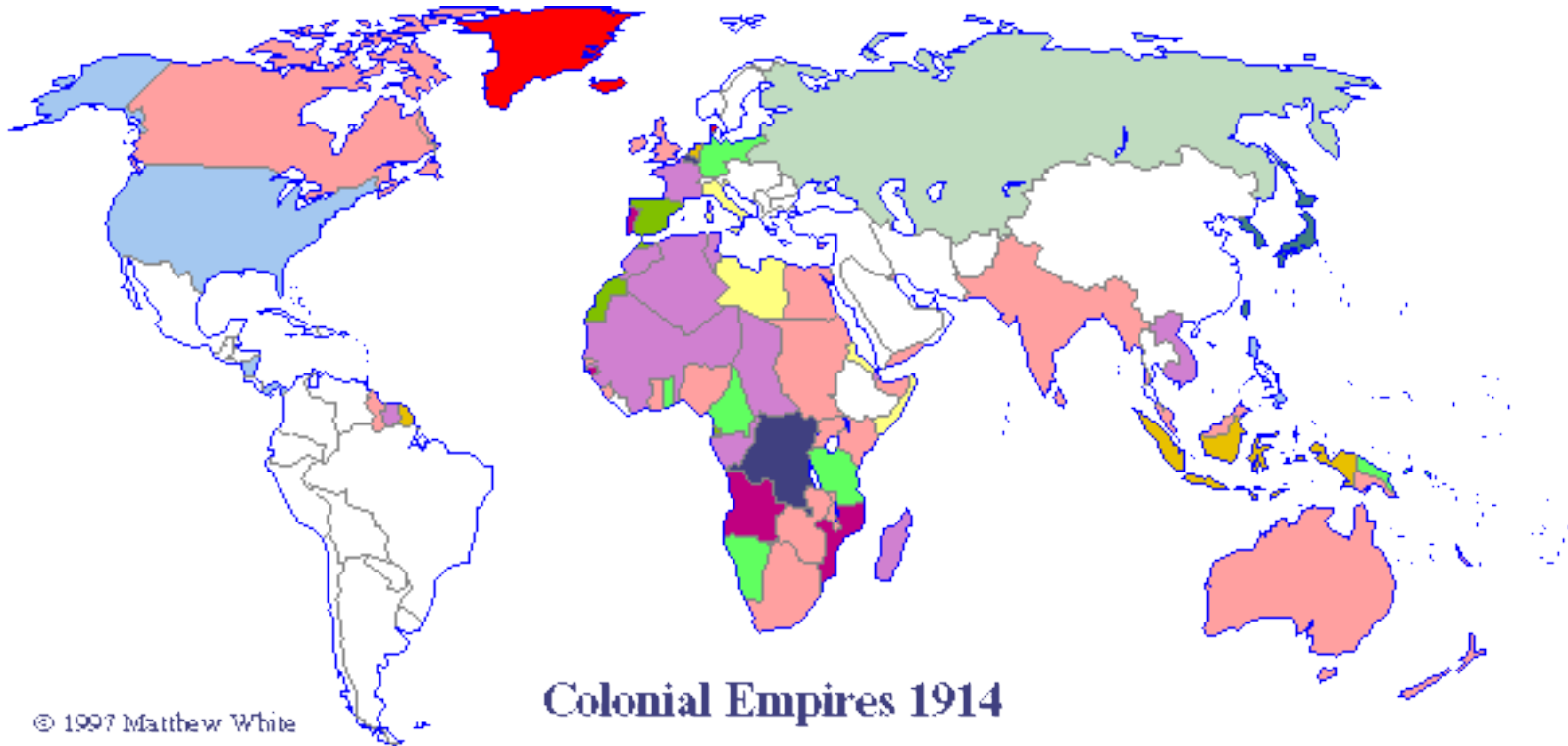
- Boxer rebellion
 - 1900
 - Righteous and harmonious fist
 - Violently put down
 - Europeans and Americans take direct military control
 - Finally showed China they needed to Industrialize

- India

- Initially too difficult
 - Too expensive
 - Communication difficult
- Dutch
 - Java
 - First in area
 - Dutch East India Company
 - Backed Mataram Sultans
 - Dutch gained land in return for support
 - Dutch had complete control by 1750s
- British
 - British East India Company worked with Indian Rulers
 - Similar to Dutch system
 - British Raj
 - British and French 5 wars in 18th century
 - British won all but American Revolution
 - British government took complete control
 - 1858 – Act for Better Government of India
 - 1,200 British ruling over 350 million Indians
 - Great Rebellion
 - British Control
 - Crown Jewel of British Empire
 - Population
 - Raw Materials
 - Technology
 - Control of local leaders
 - Played Hindu off against Muslims
 - Indians joined army
 - 5 Indian soldiers for every 1 Brit in Army
 - Problems of Colonization
 - Over-Production of non-essential crops
 - Famine
 - Exhaustion of last
 - Taxes
 - India paying for army it did not need



- Central Asia
 - o 1813-1907
 - o Afghanistan
 - Russia and Great Britain
 - Both worried about land invasion
 - British trying to protect control of India
 - Russians trying to block access to southern Russia
- Indochina
 - o Vietnam Cambodia, and Laos
 - o Controlled by French
 - 1858
- Pacific
 - o New Zealand
 - At first British scared of Maori
 - Smallpox, TB, and Influenza
 - 1850s British Move in
 - Imported Agriculture
 - Maori fight back
 - o Ineffective
 - o Use courts and win
 - o Australia
 - Captain James Cook
 - Used as Penal colony
 - Raw Materials
 - Farming
 - Aborigines moved inland



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