Imperialism of Africa and Asia

Scramble for Africa
  - Berlin Conference
    o 1884-1885
    o Trying to regulate division of Africa
    o Established spheres of influence
      - Countries then had to occupy them
        - Mostly successful
        - By 1914 most of Africa taken
          o Exceptions:
            - Liberia
              - Created by American president Monroe to send former slaves back to Africa
            - Abyssinia
              - Italy failed to subdue
  - France
    o 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
    o French colonies
      - 1830 – Algeria
      - 1881 – Tunisia and Morocco
      - 1885 – French Congo
      - 1886 – Madagascar
  - Portugal
    o 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
    o 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

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
o 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

  o 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

  o 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
  - 1813-1907
  - 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
  - Vietnam Cambodia, and Laos
  - Controlled by French
    - 1858
- Pacific
  - New Zealand
    - At first British scared of Maori
    - Smallpox, TB, and Influenza
    - 1850s British Move in
      - Imported Agriculture
      - Maori fight back
        - Ineffective
        - Use courts and win
  - Australia
    - Captain James Cook
    - Used as Penal colony
    - Raw Materials
    - Farming
    - Aborigines moved inland