



>> The Netherlands played a leading role in the first phase of imperialism, from 1500 to 1800. The Dutch East India Company protected Dutch trade in the Indian Ocean and even had the right to make treaties and maintain its own armed forces.

Interactive Flipped Video

**TEKS**  
1.E, 8.C, 8.D, 28.B

>> **Objectives**

**Explain** the political, economic, and social causes of European imperialism.

**Understand** how technology and other factors contributed to the spread of imperialism.

**Describe** the characteristics of imperial rule.

**Summarize** the cultural, political, and social effects of imperialism.

>> **Key Terms**

imperialism  
protectorate  
sphere of influence

15.1

**The Industrial Revolution transformed the West. Advances in science and technology, industry, transportation, and communication provided Western nations with many advantages. Armed with new economic and political power, Western nations set out to dominate the world, building extensive overseas empires in the late 1800s.**

## The New Imperialism

### Motivations for the New Imperialism

European imperialism did not begin in the 1800s. **Imperialism** is the domination by one country of the political, economic, or cultural life of another country or region. As you have learned, European states won empires in the Americas after 1492, established colonies in South Asia, and gained footholds on the coasts of Africa and China. Despite these gains, between 1500 and 1800, Europe had relatively little influence on the lives of the peoples of China, India, or Africa.

By the 1800s, however, Europe had gained considerable power. Strong, centrally governed nation-states had emerged, and the Industrial Revolution had greatly enriched European economies. Encouraged by their new economic and military strength, Europeans embarked on a path of aggressive expansion that today's historians call the "new imperialism."

In just a few decades, beginning in the 1870s, Europeans brought much of the world under their influence and control. Like other key developments in world history, the new imperialism exploded out of a combination of causes.

**Need for Resources Drives Further Expansion** Capitalism was a driving force behind the new imperialism. The Industrial Revolution

created needs and desires that spurred overseas expansion. Manufacturers wanted access to natural resources such as rubber, petroleum, manganese for steel, and palm oil for machinery. They also hoped for new markets of consumers to whom they could sell their factory goods.

Bankers sought ventures in which to invest their profits. In addition, colonies offered a valuable outlet for Europe's growing population.

**Political and Military Causes** Political and military issues were closely linked to economic motives. Steam-powered merchant ships and naval vessels needed bases around the world to take on coal and supplies. Industrial powers seized islands or harbors to satisfy these needs.

Nationalism played an important role, too. When France, for example, moved into West Africa, rival nations like Britain and Germany seized lands nearby to halt further French expansion. Western leaders claimed that colonies were needed for national security. They also felt that ruling a global empire increased a nation's prestige around the world.

**Humanitarian and Religious Motives** Many Westerners felt a genuine concern for their "little brothers" beyond the seas. Missionaries, doctors, and colonial officials believed they had a duty to spread what they saw as the blessings of Western civilization, including its medicine, law, and Christian religion.

**Social Darwinism's Impact** Behind the idea of the West's civilizing mission was a growing sense of racial superiority. Many Westerners had embraced the ideas of Social Darwinism. They applied Darwin's ideas about natural selection and survival of the fittest to human societies. European races, they argued, were superior to all others, and imperial domination of weaker races was simply nature's way of improving the human species. As a result, millions of non-Westerners were robbed of their cultural heritage.

**SUMMARIZE** What main factors contributed to European imperialism in the 1800s?

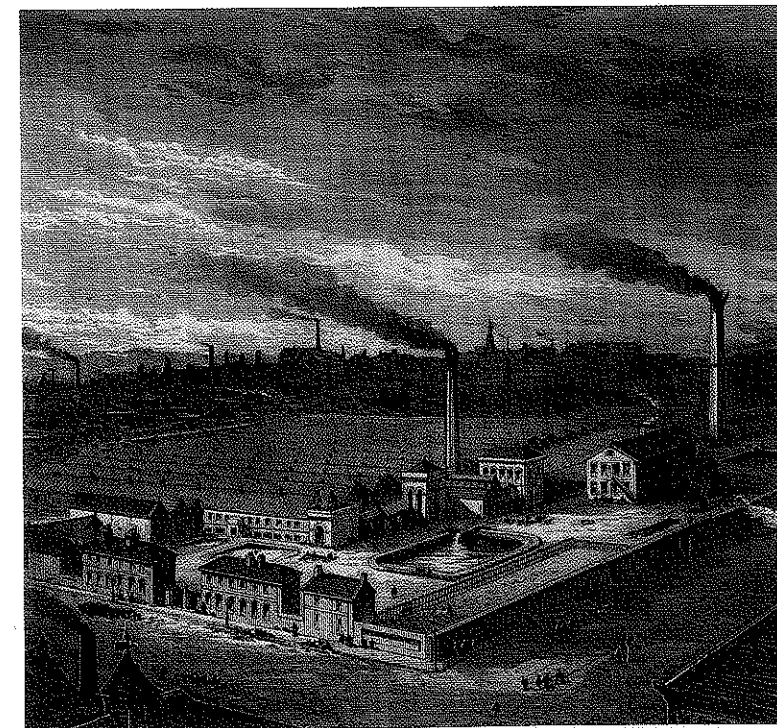
**ELPS 4.F.2** Practice using visuals to enhance your understanding of *Motivations for the New Imperialism*.

## Western Imperialism Spreads Rapidly

From about 1870 to 1914, imperialist nations gained control over much of the world. Leading the way were soldiers, merchants, settlers, missionaries, and explorers. In Europe, imperial expansion found favor with all classes, from bankers and manufacturers to workers. Western imperialism expanded rapidly for a number of reasons.

**Vulnerable Non-Western States** While European nations had grown stronger in the 1800s, several older civilizations were in decline, especially the Ottoman Middle East, Mughal (MOO gul) India, and Qing (ching) China. In West Africa, wars among African peoples and the damaging effect of the slave trade had undermined established empires, kingdoms, and city-states. Newer African states were not strong enough to resist the Western onslaught.

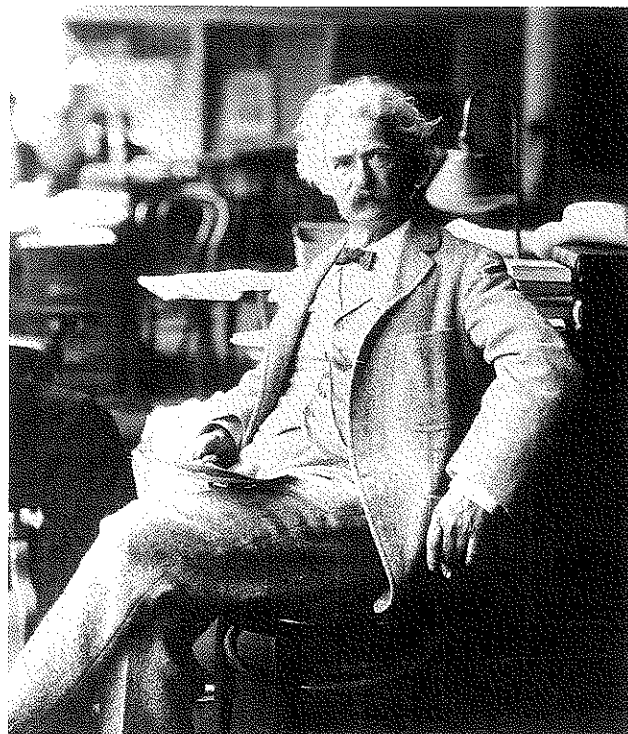
**Western Advantages** European powers had the advantages of strong economies, well-organized governments, and powerful armies and navies. Superior technology, including riverboats and the telegraph, as well as improved medical knowledge also



>> The growth of European industrial economies required raw materials to fuel its factories. New colonies provided both natural resources and new markets for European manufactured goods.

Interactive Map





>> American author Mark Twain was an outspoken critic of both imperialism and the brutal Belgian rule in the Congo. In 1905, he published *King Leopold's Soliloquy*, which brought international attention to the situation.



>> The French practiced direct rule in their colonies. Here, French soldiers speak with an Algerian man. **Infer** What were the costs and benefits of direct rule?

**Interactive Gallery**

played a role. Quinine and other new medicines helped Europeans survive deadly tropical diseases. And, of course, advances such as Maxim machine guns, repeating rifles, and steam-driven warships were very strong arguments in persuading Africans and Asians to accept Western control.

**Some Resist Imperialism** Africans and Asians strongly resisted Western expansion into their lands. Some people fought the invaders, even though they had no weapons to equal the Maxim gun. Ruling groups in certain areas tried to strengthen their societies against outsiders by reforming their own Muslim, Hindu, or Confucian traditions. Finally, many Western-educated Africans and Asians organized nationalist movements to expel the imperialists from their lands.

**Critics at Home** In the West itself, a small group of anti-imperialists emerged. Some argued that colonialism was a tool of the rich. Others said it was immoral. Westerners, they pointed out, were moving toward greater democracy at home but were imposing undemocratic rule on other peoples.

**EXPLAIN** How did Western imperialism spread through Africa and Asia so quickly?

## Types of Imperial Rule

The leading imperial powers developed several kinds of colonial rule. Each of the different types reflected different goals for their colonies.

**Direct and Indirect Rule** The French practiced direct rule, sending officials and soldiers from France to administer their colonies. Their goal was to impose French culture on their colonies and turn them into French provinces.

The British, by contrast, often used a system of indirect rule. To govern their colonies, they used sultans, chiefs, or other local rulers. They then encouraged the children of the local ruling class to get an education in Britain. In that way, they groomed a new "Westernized" generation of leaders to continue indirect imperial rule and to spread British civilization. Like France and other imperialist nations, however, Britain could still resort to military force if its control over a colony was threatened.

**Other Types of Imperial Rule** In a **protectorate** local rulers were left in place but were expected to follow the advice of European advisers on issues such as trade or missionary activity. A protectorate cost less

to run than a colony did and usually did not require a large commitment of military forces.

A third form of Western control was the **sphere of influence**, an area in which an outside power claimed exclusive investment or trading privileges. Europeans carved out these spheres in China and elsewhere to prevent conflicts among themselves.

**COMPARE AND CONTRAST** Compare and contrast how Britain and France ruled their colonies.

**ELPS 4.G.4** Take notes on *Types of Imperial Rule*.

## The Effects of Imperialism

Western imperialism had an enormous impact around the world. It affected different places in different ways, but there were some common effects in colonized territories.

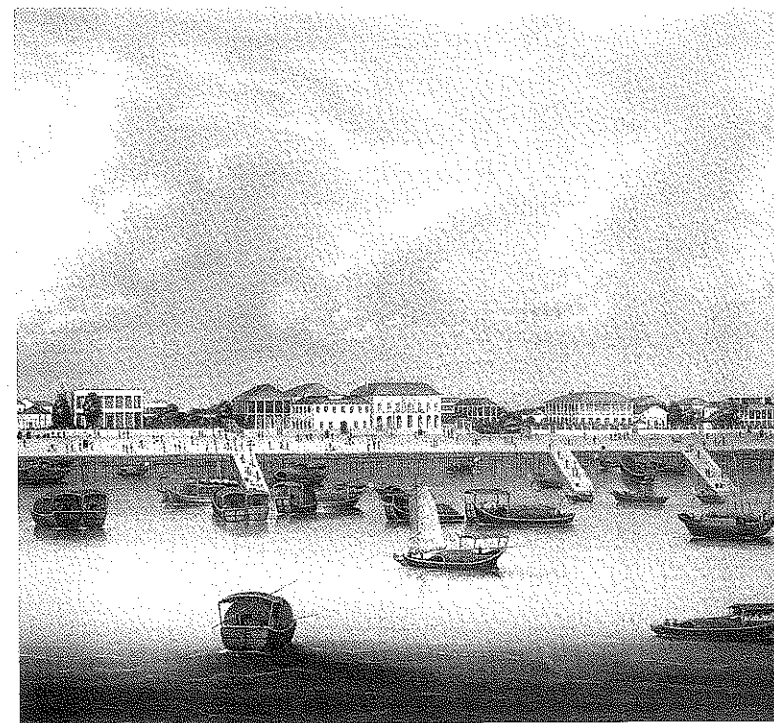
**Cultural Changes** Missionaries spread Christianity and European languages to colonized people as they established schools and hospitals. Some colonized peoples came to believe in Western superiority and lost confidence in their own culture. Economic and political disruption weakened pre-colonial traditions in some areas, especially where family members were forced to travel long distances to find work.

**Political Changes** New colonial administrations changed traditional political units. In India, for example, British officials worked with local rulers to meet their goals.

Colonizers often defined the borders of their new colonies without an understanding of the local political or ethnic situations. Colonized people took on European ideas of nationalism and agitated for their own independence.

**Economic Changes** In order to meet the export goals of their colonial rulers, colonized people often grew cash crops instead of food they could eat. As they became part of a money-driven capitalist economy, some colonized people were forced to work for their colonial rulers so that they could pay their taxes. Imports of machine-made goods destroyed indigenous cottage industries.

**CATEGORIZE** How is migrating to find work a cultural as well as an economic effect of imperialism?



>> In China, Western nations had trading centers on the waterfront in Shanghai. **Classify** Which form of imperialism was used in China?



>> Missionaries brought not only religion, but cultural change. Girls at this French missionary school in China learn Christmas carols. **Analyze Context** What evidence can you find in the photo that this is a missionary school?

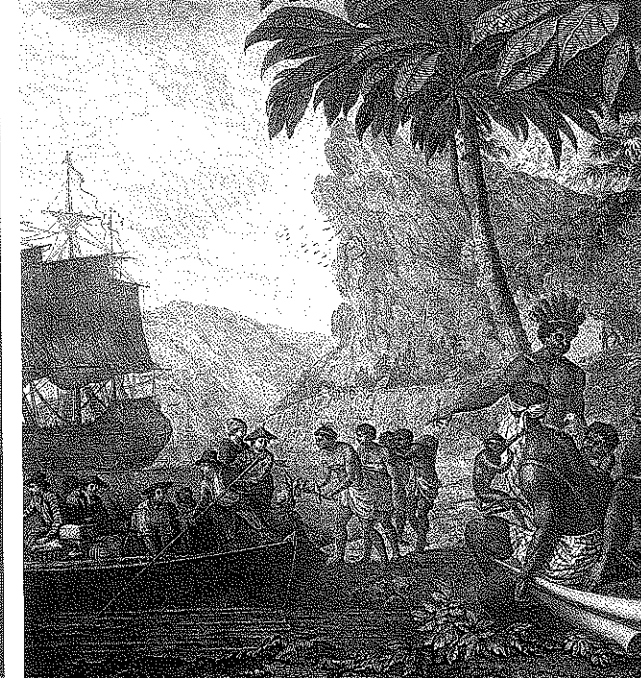


## ASSESSMENT

- 1. Identify Cause and Effect** How did the Industrial Revolution lead to the new imperialism?
- 2. Cite Evidence** How did Western nations come to dominate much of the world in the late 1800s?
- 3. Distinguish** Why was Social Darwinism important to the new imperialism?
- 4. Summarize** What were the long-term effects of imperialism on the colonized peoples?
- 5. Predict Consequences** How might grouping several rival ethnic groups into one political unit cause friction once that region gains independence?

15.2

In the late 1800s, Britain, France, Germany, and other European powers began a scramble for African territories. Within about 20 years, the Europeans had carved up the continent and dominated millions of Africans. Although colonial peoples resisted, they could not prevent European conquest.



>> Europeans began trading along the African coast in the 1500s. Centuries later, they began moving into the continent's interior.

 Interactive Flipped Video

## European Colonies in Africa

TEKS  
1.E, 8.C, 28.B

### Africa Before Imperialism

To understand the impact of European domination, we must look at Africa in the early 1800s, before the scramble for colonies began. Africa is a huge continent, nearly three times the size of Europe. Across its many regions, people spoke hundreds of languages and had developed varied governments. Some people lived in large centralized states, while others lived in village communities.

**North Africa** North Africa includes the enormous Sahara and the fertile land along the Mediterranean. Since long before 1800, the region was a part of the Muslim world. In the early 1800s, much of North Africa remained under the rule of the declining Ottoman empire.

**Islamic Conquest in West Africa** By the early 1800s, an Islamic revival spread across West Africa. It began among the Fulani people in northern Nigeria. The scholar and preacher **Usman dan Fodio** (oo SMAHN dahn foh DEE oh) denounced the corruption of the local Hausa rulers. He called for social and religious reforms based on the sharia, or Islamic law. Usman inspired Fulani herders and Hausa townspeople to rise up against their European rulers.

### >> Objectives

**Describe** the forces that shaped Africa in the early 1800s.

**Explain** why European contact with Africa increased.

**Analyze** how European nations carved up Africa.

**Describe** African resistance to imperialism.

### >> Key Terms

Usman dan Fodio  
Shaka  
paternalistic  
David Livingstone  
Henry Stanley  
Leopold II  
Boer War  
Samori Touré  
Yaa Asantewaa  
Nehanda  
Menelik II  
elite

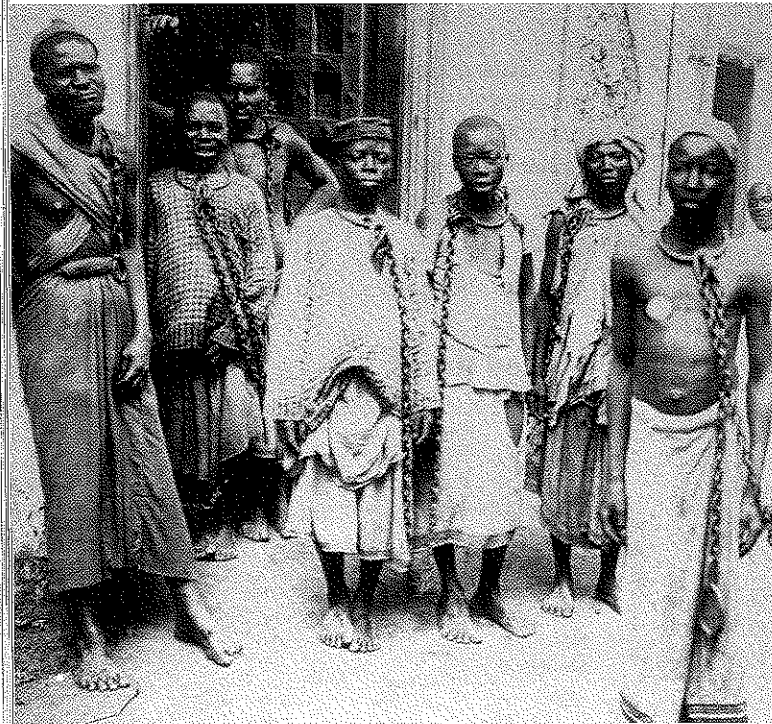


Usman and his successors set up a powerful Islamic state in northern Nigeria. Under their rule, literacy increased, local wars quieted, and trade improved. Their success inspired other Muslim reform movements in West Africa. Between about 1780 and 1880, more than a dozen Islamic leaders rose to power, replacing old rulers or founding new states in the western Sudan.

In the forest regions, strong states like the Asante (uh SAHN teh) kingdom had arisen. The Asante traded with Europeans and Muslims and controlled several smaller states. However, these tributary states were ready to turn to Europeans or others who might help them defeat their Asante rulers.

**East Africa** Islam had long influenced the east coast of Africa, where port cities like Mombasa (mahm BAH suh) and Kilwa (KEEL wah) carried on profitable trade. The cargoes were often slaves. Captives were marched from the interior to the coast to be shipped as slaves to the Middle East. Ivory and copper from Central Africa were also exchanged for goods such as cloth and firearms from India.

**Southern Africa** In the early 1800s, the Zulus emerged as a major force in southern Africa under a ruthless and brilliant leader, **Shaka**. Between 1818 and 1828, Shaka waged relentless war and conquered many nearby



>> East African port cities often served as centers for the slave trade. This slave market was on the island of Zanzibar.

Interactive Map

peoples. He absorbed their young men and women into Zulu regiments. By encouraging rival groups to forget their differences, he cemented a growing pride in the Zulu kingdom.

His conquests, however, set off mass migrations and wars, creating chaos across much of the region. Groups driven from their homelands by the Zulus then migrated north, conquering still other peoples and creating their own powerful states. By the 1830s, the Zulus faced a new threat, the arrival of well-armed, mounted Boers, descendants of Dutch farmers who were migrating north from the Cape Colony.

In 1814, the Cape Colony had passed from the Dutch to the British. Many Boers resented British laws that abolished slavery and otherwise interfered with their way of life. To escape British rule, they loaded their goods into covered wagons and started north. Several thousand Boer families joined this "Great Trek."

As the migrating Boers came into contact with Zulus, fighting quickly broke out. At first, Zulu regiments held their own. But in the end, Zulu spears could not defeat Boer guns. The struggle for control of the land would rage until the end of the century.

**The Effect of the Slave Trade** In the early 1800s, European nations began to outlaw the transatlantic slave trade, though it took years to end. Meanwhile, the East African slave trade continued to Asia.

Some people helped freed slaves resettle in Africa. In 1787, the British organized Sierra Leone in West Africa as a colony for former slaves. Later, some free blacks from the United States settled in nearby Liberia. By 1847, Liberia had become an independent republic.

**? SUMMARIZE** What factors shaped each of the main regions of Africa during the early 1800s?

## European Contact Increases

From the 1500s through the 1700s, Europeans traded along the African coast. Africans wanted to trade with Europeans but did not want to "house them." Resistance by Africans, difficult geography, and diseases all kept Europeans from moving into the interior regions of the continent. Medical advances and river steamships changed all that in the 1800s.

**Explorers Move into Africa's Interior** In the early 1800s, European explorers began pushing into the interior of Africa. Explorers like Mungo Park and Richard Burton set out to map the course and sources of the great African rivers such as the Niger, the Nile, and the

Congo. They were fascinated by African geography, but they had little understanding of the peoples they met. All, however, endured great hardships while exploring Africa.

**Missionaries Follow Explorers** Catholic and Protestant missionaries followed the explorers. All across Africa, they sought to win people to Christianity. The missionaries were sincere in their desire to help Africans. They built schools and medical clinics alongside churches. They also focused attention on the evils of the slave trade. Still, missionaries, like most Westerners, took a **paternalistic** view of Africans, meaning they saw them as children in need of guidance. To them, African cultures and religions were "degraded." They urged Africans to reject their own traditions in favor of Western civilization.

**Livingstone's Explorations** The best-known explorer and missionary was Dr. **David Livingstone**. For 30 years, he crisscrossed Africa. He wrote about the many peoples he met with more sympathy and less bias than did most Europeans.

He relentlessly opposed the slave trade, which remained a profitable business for some African rulers and foreign traders. The only way to end this cruel traffic, he believed, was to open up the interior of Africa to Christianity and trade.

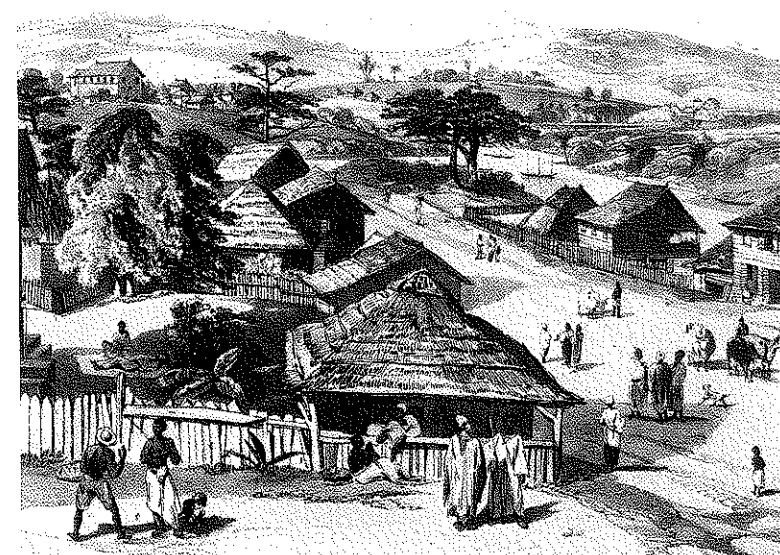
Livingstone blazed a trail that others soon followed. In 1869, the journalist **Henry Stanley** trekked into Central Africa to find Livingstone, who had not been heard from for years. He finally tracked him down in 1871 in what is today Tanzania, greeting him with the now-legendary question "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"

**? RECALL** Why did European contact with Africa increase in the late 1800s?

**ELPS** **ELPS 4.F.3** Practice using context clues to understand new words in *European Contact Increases*.

## European Nations Scramble for Colonies

Shortly afterward, King **Leopold II** of Belgium hired Stanley to explore the Congo River basin and arrange trade treaties with African leaders. Publicly, Leopold spoke of a civilizing mission to carry the light "that for millions of men still plunged in barbarism will be the dawn of a better era." Privately, he dreamed of conquest and profit. Leopold's activities in the Congo set off a scramble by other nations. Before long, Britain, France, and Germany were pressing rival claims to the region.



>> Freetown, Sierra Leone, was settled by freed slaves from all over the world. Many had their origins in regions of Africa. Sierra Leone became a center of education for Africans.

Interactive Map

**Conference in Berlin** To avoid bloodshed, European powers met at an international conference in 1884. It took place not in Africa but in Berlin, Germany. No Africans were invited to the conference. At the Berlin Conference, European powers recognized Leopold's private claims to the Congo Free State but called for free trade on the Congo and Niger rivers. They further agreed that a European power could not claim any part of Africa unless it had set up a government office there. This principle led Europeans to send officials who would exert their power over local rulers and peoples.

The rush to colonize Africa was on. In the 20 years after the Berlin Conference, the European powers partitioned almost the entire continent. As Europeans carved out their claims, they established new borders and frontiers. They redrew the map of Africa with little regard for traditional patterns of settlement or ethnic boundaries.

**Leopold's Horror in the Congo** Leopold and other wealthy Belgians exploited the riches of the Congo, including its copper, rubber, and ivory. Soon, there were horrifying reports of Belgian overseers brutalizing villagers. Forced to work for almost nothing, laborers were savagely beaten or mutilated. The overall population declined drastically.

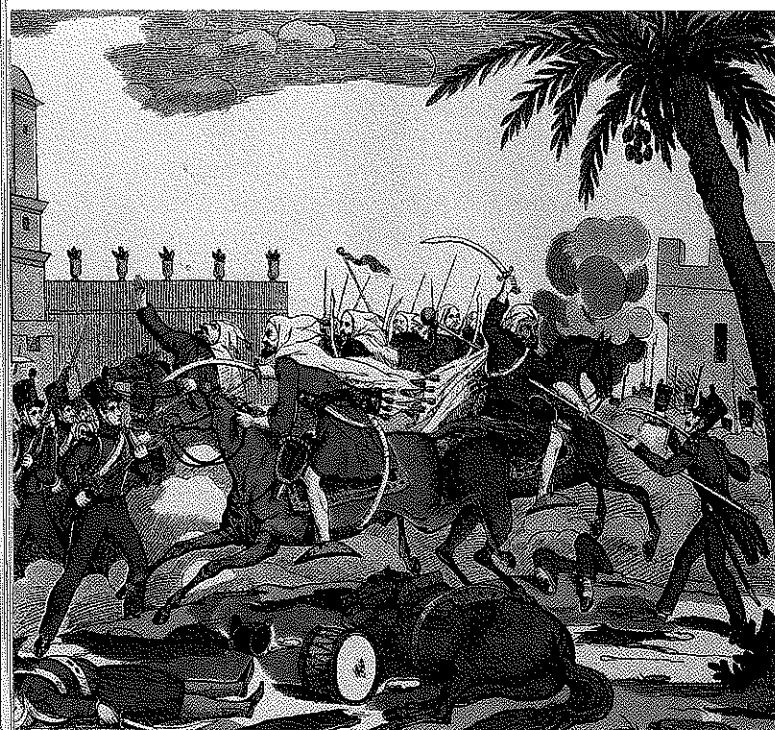


Eventually, international outrage forced Leopold to turn over his personal colony to the Belgian government. It became the Belgian Congo in 1908. Under Belgian rule, the worst abuses were ended. Still, the Belgians regarded the Congo as a possession to be exploited. Africans were given little or no role in the government, and the wealth of their mines went out of the country to Europe.

**France Expands Its Territory** France took a giant share of Africa. In the 1830s, it had invaded and conquered Algeria in North Africa. The victory cost tens of thousands of French lives and killed many times more Algerians. In the late 1800s, France extended its influence along the Mediterranean into Tunisia. It also won colonies in West and Central Africa. At its height, the French empire in Africa was as large as the continental United States.

**Britain's Share** Britain's share of Africa was more scattered than that of France. However, it included more heavily populated regions with many rich resources. Britain took chunks of West and East Africa. It gained control of Egypt and pushed south into the Sudan.

Cecil Rhodes was a British industrialist and mine owner who became very wealthy from his investments



>> French troops capture the city of Mascara in December 1835, during the French-Algerian War. **Infer** What advantages do the Algerian troops have? What advantages do the French troops have?

in Africa. However, money was not his real interest. "I care nothing about money for its own sake," he once wrote, "but it is a power—and I do like power." Rhodes helped Britain extend its African empire by 1,000,000 square miles and had a British colony, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), named after him.

In southern Africa, Britain clashed with the Boers, who were descendants of Dutch settlers. As you have read, Britain had acquired the Cape Colony from the Dutch in 1814. At that time, many Boers fled British rule, migrating north and setting up their own republics. In the late 1800s, however, the discovery of gold and diamonds in the Boer lands led to conflict with Britain. The **Boer War**, which lasted from 1899 to 1902, involved bitter guerrilla fighting. The British won in the end, but at great cost.

In 1910, the British united the Cape Colony and the former Boer republics into the Union of South Africa. The new constitution set up a government run by whites and laid the foundation for a system of complete racial segregation that would remain in force until 1993.

**Others Nations Join the Scramble** Other European powers joined the scramble for colonies, in part to bolster their national image, while also furthering their economic growth and influence. The Portuguese carved out large colonies in Angola and Mozambique. Italy reached across the Mediterranean to occupy Libya and then pushed into the "horn" of Africa, at the southern end of the Red Sea. The newly united German empire took lands in eastern and southwestern Africa, including Cameroon and Togo. A German politician, trying to ease the worries of European rivals, explained, "We do not want to put anyone in the shade, but we also demand our place in the sun."

**IDENTIFY CAUSE AND EFFECT** How did King Leopold II set off a scramble for colonies in Africa?

## African Resistance

Europeans met armed resistance across the continent. The Algerians battled the French for years. **Samori Touré** (sah MAWR ee too RAY) fought French forces in West Africa, where he was building his own empire. The British battled the Zulus in southern Africa and the Asante in West Africa. When their king was exiled, the Asante put themselves under the command of their queen, **Yaa Asantewaa** (YA uh ah sahn TAY wuh). She led the fight against the British in the last Asante war.

Another woman who became a military leader was **Nehanda** (neh HAHN duh), of the Shona in Zimbabwe. Although a clever tactician, Nehanda was captured and

executed. However, the memory of her achievements inspired later generations to fight for freedom.

In East Africa, the Germans fought wars against the Yao and Herero (huh REHR oh). Fighting was especially fierce in the Maji-Maji Rebellion of 1905. The Germans triumphed only after burning acres and acres of farmland, leaving thousands of local people to die of starvation.

**Ethiopia Remains Independent** One ancient Christian kingdom in East Africa, Ethiopia, managed to resist European colonization and maintain its independence. Like feudal Europe, Ethiopia had been divided up among a number of rival princes who ruled their own domains.

In the late 1800s, however, a reforming ruler, **Menelik II**, began to modernize his country. He hired European experts to plan modern roads and bridges and set up a Western school system. He imported the latest weapons and European officers to help train his army. Thus, when Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1896, Menelik was prepared. At the battle of Adowa (AH duh wuh), the Ethiopians smashed the Italian invaders. Ethiopia was the only African nation, aside from Liberia, to preserve its independence.

**A New African Elite** During the Age of Imperialism, a Western-educated African **elite**, or upper class, emerged. Some middle-class Africans admired Western ways and rejected their own culture. Others valued their African traditions and condemned Western societies that upheld liberty and equality for whites only. By the early 1900s, African leaders were forging nationalist movements to pursue self-determination and independence.

**DESCRIBE** How did Ethiopians resist imperialism?

## ASSESSMENT

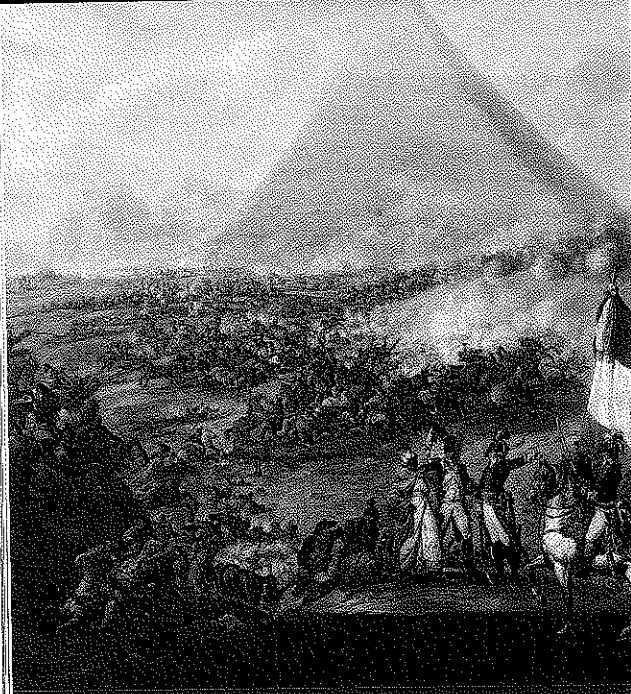
1. **Describe** Name one development in each region of Africa in the early 1800s.



>> During the Age of Imperialism, some Africans adopted Western dress. The man wearing a Western jacket behind the Asante king was an Asante official.

2. **Identify Cause and Effect** How did imperialist European powers claim control over most of Africa by the end of the 1800s?
3. **Analyze Information** What impact did explorers and missionaries have on Africa?
4. **Infer** Why do you think the Europeans did not invite Africans to the Berlin Conference?
5. **Summarize** How did Africans resist European imperialism?





>> During the Battle of the Pyramids in 1798, Napoleon and his army captured the Egyptian city of Cairo.

Interactive Flipped Video

**TEKS**  
1.E, 8.C, 16.B, 22.C

>> **Objectives**

**Explain** how internal and external pressures shaped the Muslim world.

**Identify** the challenges facing the Ottoman empire and Persia.

**Describe** the ways Egypt tried to modernize, including the opening of the Suez Canal.

>> **Key Terms**

- Muhammad Ahmad
- Mahdi
- pasha
- sultan
- genocide
- Muhammad Ali
- concession

**15.3** Muslim lands extended from western Africa to Southeast Asia. In the 1500s, three giant Muslim empires—the Ottomans in the Middle East, the Safavids (sah FAH vidz) in Persia, and the Mughals in India—ruled much of this land.

## Europe and the Muslim World

### Unrest in Muslim Regions

Napoleon Bonaparte invaded Egypt, a province of the Ottoman empire, in 1798. His Egyptian campaign highlighted Ottoman decline and opened a new era of European contact with Muslim regions of the world. At first, European countries just nibbled at the edges of Muslim countries. Before long, they would strike at their heartland.

**Declining Empires** By the late 1700s, all three Muslim empires were in decline. The decay of the once-vast Muslim empires had many causes.

Central governments had lost control over powerful groups such as landowning nobles, military elites, and urban craft guilds. Corruption was widespread. In some places, Muslim scholars and religious leaders were allied with the state. In other areas, they helped to stir discontent against the government.

**Muslim Reform Efforts** In the 1700s and 1800s, reform movements sprang up across various Muslim regions of Africa and Asia. Most stressed religious piety and strict rules of behavior. Usman dan Fodio led the struggle to reform Muslim practices in northern Africa. In the

Sudan, **Muhammad Ahmad** (AHK mud) announced that he was the **Mahdi** (mahk DEE), the long-awaited savior of the faith. The Mahdi and his followers fiercely resisted British expansion into the region.

Another Islamic reform movement, the Wahhabi (wah HAHB ee) movement in Arabia, rejected the schools of theology and law that had emerged in the Ottoman empire. In their place, they wanted to recapture the purity and simplicity of Muhammad's original teachings.

Although the revolt was put down, the Wahhabi movement survived. Its teachings remain influential in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia today.

**European Imperialism** In addition to internal decay and stress, the three Muslim empires faced powerful threats from Western imperialists. Through diplomacy and military threats, European powers won treaties giving them favorable trading terms. They then demanded special rights for Europeans residing in Muslim lands. At times, European powers protected those rights by intervening in local affairs.

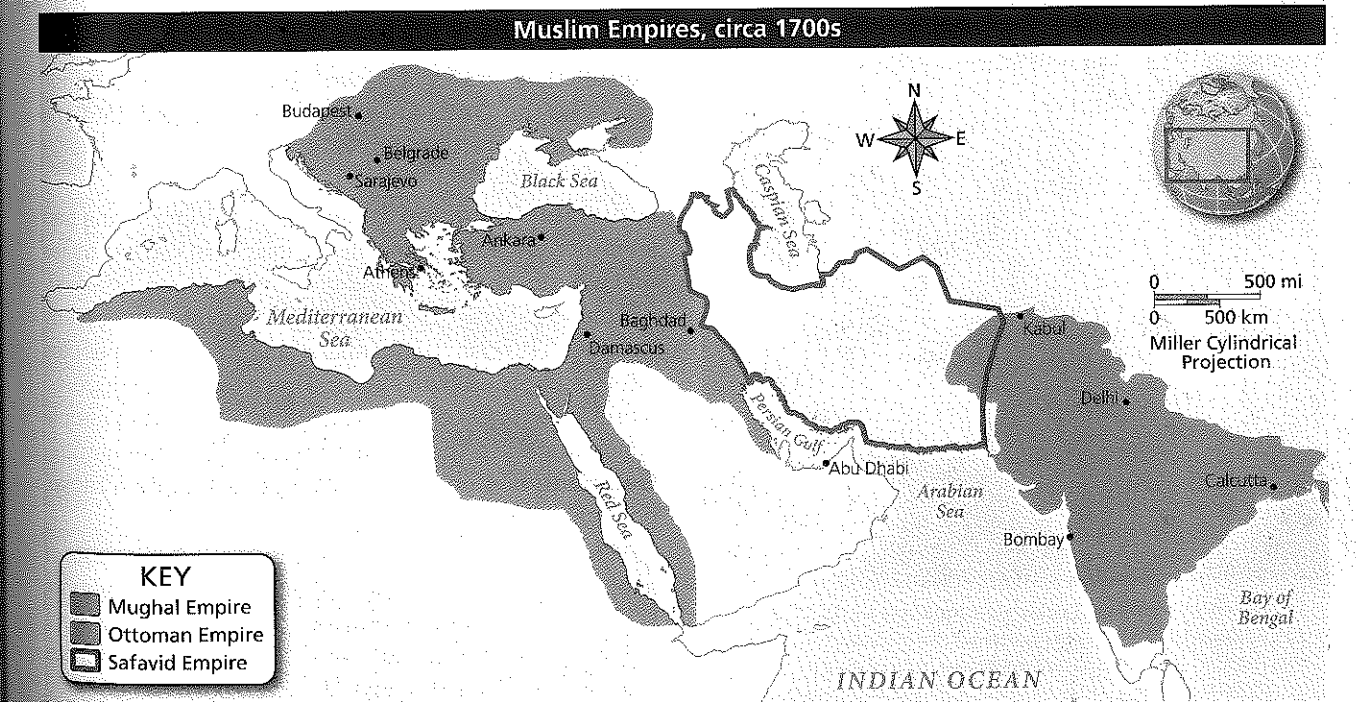
**? EXPLAIN** How did Western powers gain the upper hand in Muslim regions of the world?

## The Ottoman Empire Declines

At its height, the Ottoman empire had extended across North Africa, southeastern Europe, and the Middle East. By the early 1800s, however, it faced serious challenges. Ambitious **pashas**, or provincial rulers, had increased their power. Economic problems and corruption added to Ottoman decay.

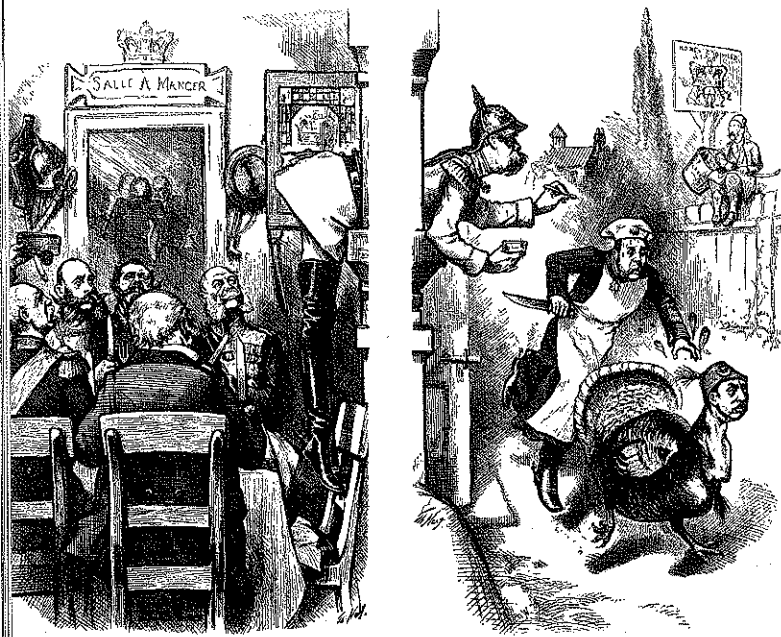
**Nationalist Revolts** As ideas of nationalism spread from Western Europe, internal revolts weakened the multiethnic Ottoman empire. Subject peoples in North Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East threatened to break away. In the Balkans, Greeks, Serbs, Bulgarians, and Romanians gained their independence. Revolts against Ottoman rule also erupted in Arabia, Lebanon, and Armenia. The Ottomans suppressed these uprisings, but Egypt slipped out of their control.

**Increasing European Pressure** European states sought to benefit from the slow crumbling of the Ottoman empire. After seizing Algeria in the 1830s, France hoped to gain more Ottoman territory. Russia schemed to gain control of the Bosphorus (BAHS puh rus) and the Dardanelles. Control of these straits would give the Russians access to the Mediterranean Sea.



>> **Analyze Maps** Western imperialism gained steam at a time when the three major Muslim empires were in decline. In which empire might ethnic diversity have created internal challenges? Why?





Thanksgiving on the other side—No. 1  
THE POWERS WAITING TO DIVIDE THE TURKEY WHICH RUSSIA IS STILL PURSUING

Thanksgiving on the other side—No. 2

>> **Analyze Political Cartoons** The European powers hoped to carve up the crumbling Ottoman empire for themselves. How do you know which figure in the cartoon represents the Ottoman empire?

**Interactive Cartoon**



>> **Tensions between Turkish nationalists and Armenians led to a brutal persecution of Armenians.** In this 1915 image, Armenian widows and children wait to be deported.

Britain tried to thwart Russia's ambitions, which it saw as a threat to its own power in the Mediterranean and beyond to India. And in 1898, the new German empire hoped to increase its influence in the region by building a Berlin-to-Baghdad railway.

**Efforts to Westernize** Since the late 1700s, several Ottoman rulers had seen the need for reform and looked to the West for ideas. They reorganized the bureaucracy and system of tax collection. They built railroads, improved education, and hired Europeans to train a modern military. Young men were sent to the West to study science and technology. Many returned with Western political ideas about democracy and equality.

The reforms also brought improved medical care and revitalized farming. These improvements, however, created a different set of problems. Better health care resulted in a population explosion that increased the already intense competition for the best land and led to unrest.

The adoption of Western ideas also increased tension. Many officials objected to changes that were inspired by a foreign culture. For their part, repressive **sultans**, rulers of the Ottoman Turkish empire, rejected reform and tried to rebuild the autocratic power enjoyed by earlier rulers.

**The Young Turks** In the 1890s, a group of liberals formed a movement called the Young Turks. They insisted that reform was the only way to save the empire. In 1908, the Young Turks overthrew the sultan. Before they could achieve their planned reforms, however, the Ottoman empire was plunged into the world war that erupted in 1914.

**Armenian Genocide** Traditionally, the Ottomans had let minority nationalities live in their own communities and practice their own religions. By the 1890s, however, nationalism was igniting new tensions, especially between Turkish nationalists and minority peoples who sought their own states. These tensions triggered a brutal genocide of the Armenians, a Christian people concentrated in the eastern mountains of the empire. **Genocide** is a deliberate attempt to destroy a racial, political, or cultural group.

The Muslim Turks accused Christian Armenians of supporting Russian plans against the Ottoman empire. When Armenians protested repressive Ottoman policies, the sultan had tens of thousands of them slaughtered. Over the next 25 years, between 600,000

and 1.5 million Armenians were killed or died from disease and starvation.

**DESCRIBE** How were efforts to Westernize problematic for the Ottoman empire?

## Modernization in Egypt

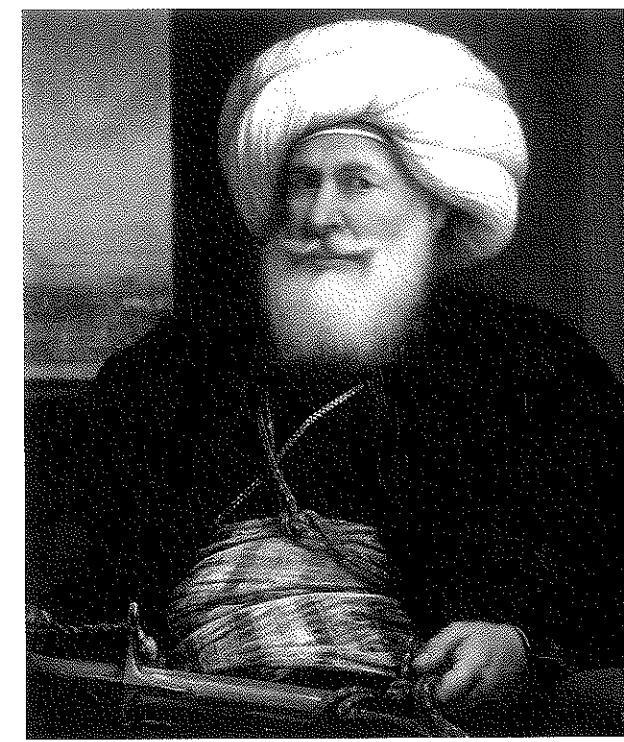
In the early 1800s, Egypt was a semi-independent province of the Ottoman empire, making great strides toward reform. Its success was due to **Muhammad Ali**, an ambitious soldier appointed governor of Egypt by the Ottomans. Ali used the opportunity created by Napoleon's invasion and the civil war that followed to seize power in 1805.

**Reform Efforts** Muhammad Ali is sometimes called the "father of modern Egypt." He introduced a number of political and economic reforms, including improving tax collection, reorganizing the landholding system, and backing large irrigation projects to increase farm output. By expanding cotton production and encouraging the development of many local industries, Ali increased Egyptian participation in world trade.

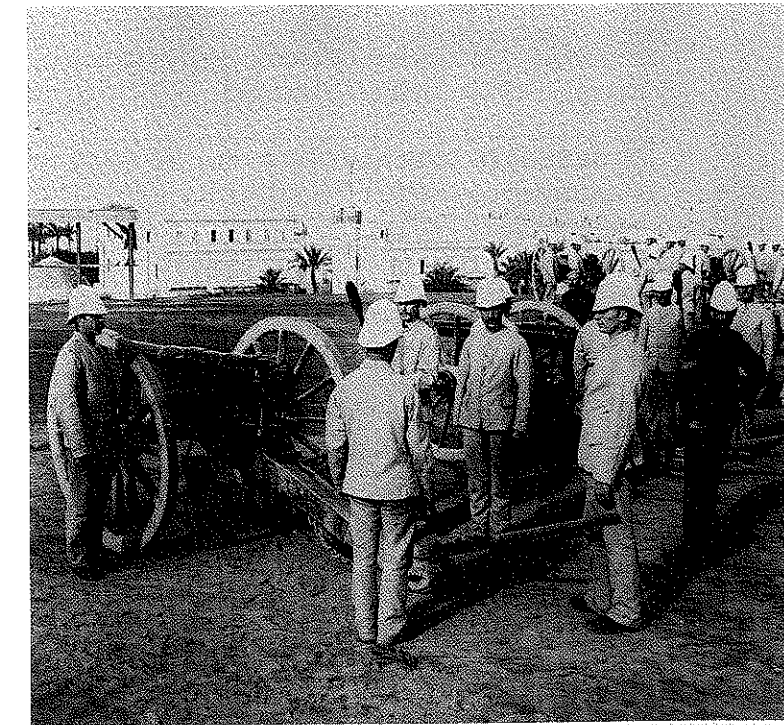
Muhammad Ali also brought Western military experts to Egypt to help him build a well-trained, modern army. He conquered the neighboring lands of Arabia, Syria, and Sudan. Before he died in 1849, he had set Egypt on the road to becoming a major Middle Eastern power.

**The Suez Canal** Muhammad Ali's successors lacked his skills, and Egypt came increasingly under foreign control. In 1858, a French entrepreneur, Ferdinand de Lesseps (LAY seps), organized a company to build the Suez Canal, a waterway connecting the Mediterranean and Red Seas. The waterway would reduce the travel time between Europe and Asia. European nations gained power over the Ottomans by extending loans at high interest rates. In 1875, the ruler of Egypt was unable to repay loans he had contracted for the canal and other projects. To pay his debts, he sold his shares in the canal. The British, seeing the Suez Canal as an important tool in maintaining their vast colonial empire, bought the shares. The shares gave the British a controlling interest in the canal.

**Becoming a British Protectorate** When Egyptian nationalists revolted against foreign influence in 1882, Britain made Egypt a protectorate. In theory, the governor of Egypt was still an official of the Ottoman government. In fact, he followed policies dictated by Britain. Under British influence, Egypt continued to



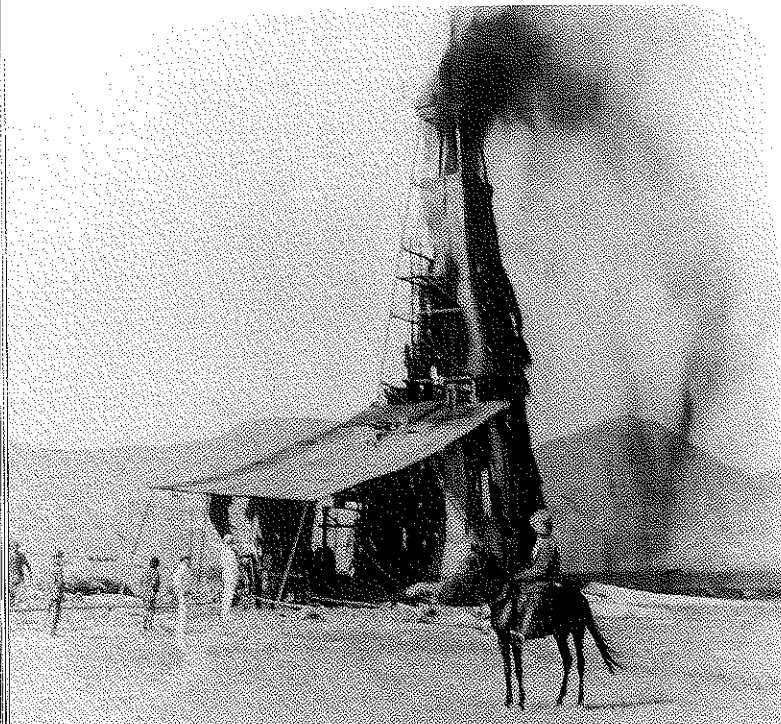
>> Muhammad Ali, the Ottoman governor of Egypt, sought to make Egypt a modern state.



>> The British used their military strength to protect their interest in the Suez Canal. These troops were sent to Egypt during the 1882 Anglo-Egyptian War. **Identify Cause and Effect** Why would the British want to protect their control of the Suez Canal?

**Interactive Gallery**





>> The discovery of oil in Persia led to a greater British and Russian presence in the country, which sparked a nationalist backlash.

modernize. However, nationalist discontent simmered and flared into protests and riots.

**2 GENERATE EXPLANATIONS** How did Egypt fall under British control?

## European Imperialism in Persia

Like the Ottoman empire, Persia faced major challenges in the 1800s. The Qajar (kah JAHR) shahs, who ruled Persia from 1794 to 1925, exercised absolute power.

Still, they did take steps to introduce reforms. The government helped build telegraph lines and railroads and experimented with a liberal constitution. Reform, however, did not save Persia from Western imperialism. Russia wanted to protect its southern frontier and expand into Central Asia. Britain wanted to protect its interests in India.

For a time, each nation set up its own sphere of influence in Persia. The discovery of oil in the early 1900s heightened foreign interest in the region. Both Russia and Britain plotted for control of Persian oil fields. They persuaded the Persian government to grant them **concessions**, or special rights given to foreign powers.

To protect their interests, they sent troops into Persia. Persian nationalists were outraged. The nationalists included two very different groups. Some Persians wanted to move swiftly to adopt Western ways. Others, led by Muslim religious leaders, condemned the Persian government and Western influences.

**2 ANALYZE INFORMATION** For what reason did Persia attract foreign interest in the early 1900s?

### ASSESSMENT

- 1. Make Generalizations** What was the goal of the Wahhabi reform movement?
- 2. Identify Cause and Effect** What effect did nationalism have on the Ottoman empire during the 1800s?
- 3. Express Ideas Clearly** Who was Muhammad Ali, and why was he a significant figure?
- 4. Summarize** How did Britain gain control of the Suez Canal?
- 5. Generate Explanations** Why did foreign interest in Persia increase in the early 1900s?

For more than 200 years, Mughal rulers governed a powerful empire in India. By the mid-1700s, however, the Mughal empire was collapsing from a lack of strong rulers. Britain then turned its commercial interests in the region into political ones.



>> **Draw Conclusions** In this painting from the early 1800s, an official of the British East India Company rides in an Indian procession. How does the painting convey the power of the British?

Interactive Flipped Video

TEKS

1.E, 8.C, 8.D, 16.B, 28.B

### >> Objectives

**Understand** the causes and effects of the Sepoy Rebellion.

**Explain** the impact of British rule on India.

**Describe** how the British and Indians viewed one another.

**Trace** the origins of Indian nationalism.

### >> Key Terms

sati  
sepoy  
viceroy  
deforestation  
Ram Mohun Roy  
purdah

## India Becomes a British Colony

### The British East India Company

In the early 1600s, the British East India Company won trading rights on the fringe of the Mughal empire. As Mughal power declined, the company's influence grew. By the mid-1800s, it controlled three fifths of India.

**Exploitation of Indian Diversity** The British were able to conquer India by exploiting its diversity. Even when Mughal power was at its height, India was home to many people and cultures. As Mughal power crumbled, India became fragmented.

Indians with different traditions and dozens of different languages were not able to unite against the newcomers. The British took advantage of Indian divisions by encouraging competition and disunity among rival princes. Where diplomacy or intrigue did not work, the British used their superior weapons to overpower local rulers.

**Implementation of British Policies** The East India Company's main goal in India was to make money, and leading officials often grew rich. At the same time, the company did work to improve roads, preserve peace, and reduce banditry.





>> The Writers Building in Calcutta, India, was designed in 1777 by the British. Many extensions were added over the years. It was an important administrative office for the British East India Company.



>> **Infer** Indian sepoy soldiers were employed by the British East India Company in the mid-1800s. What item or items in the image reflect India's culture, and which show a British influence?

By the early 1800s, British officials introduced Western education and legal procedures. Missionaries converted Indians to Christianity, which they felt was superior to Indian religions. The British also pressed for social change. They worked to end forms of indentured servitude in India and to improve the position of women within the family. One law banned **sati** (SUH tee), a custom practiced mainly by the upper classes. It called for a widow to join her husband in death by throwing herself on his funeral pyre.

However, the British used caste differences to their advantage. Caste was used to determine how the native population could best serve British rule. The census the British implemented made caste distinctions more rigid and permanent.

**Increasing Discontent** In the 1850s, the East India Company made several unpopular moves. First, it required **sepoys** (SEE poyz), or Indian soldiers in its service, to serve anywhere, either in India or overseas. For some orthodox Hindus, however, overseas travel was an offense against their religion. The East India Company, prompted by Indian reformers, also passed a law that allowed widows to remarry.

Then, in 1857, the British issued new rifles to the sepoy soldiers. Troops were told to bite off the tips of cartridges before loading them into the rifles. The cartridges, however, were greased with animal fat—either from cows, which Hindus considered sacred, or from pigs, which were forbidden to Muslims. When the troops refused the order to “load rifles,” they were imprisoned.

**The Sepoy Rebellion** Angry sepoy soldiers rose up against their British officers. The Sepoy Rebellion swept across northern and central India. Several sepoy regiments marched off to Delhi, the old Mughal capital. There, they hailed the last Mughal ruler as their leader.

In some places, the sepoy soldiers brutally massacred British men, women, and children. But the British soon rallied and crushed the revolt. They then took terrible revenge for their earlier losses, torching villages and slaughtering thousands of unarmed Indians.

The Sepoy Rebellion left a bitter legacy of fear, hatred, and mistrust on both sides. It also brought major changes in British policy. In 1858, Parliament ended the rule of the East India Company and put India directly under the British crown. It sent more troops to India, taxing Indians to pay the cost of these occupying forces. While it slowed the “reforms” that had angered Hindus and Muslims, it continued to develop India for Britain's own economic benefit.

**2 IDENTIFY CAUSE AND EFFECT** What was the primary cause of the Sepoy Rebellion?

## India Under British Rule

After 1858, Parliament set up a system of colonial rule in India called the British Raj. A British **viceroy** in India governed in the name of the queen, and British officials held the top positions in the civil service and army. Indians filled most other jobs. With their cooperation, the British made India the “brightest jewel” in the crown of their empire.

British policies were designed to incorporate India into the overall British economy. At the same time, British officials felt they were helping India to modernize. In their terms, modernizing meant adopting not only Western technology but also Western culture.

**An Unequal Partnership** Britain saw India both as a market and as a source of raw materials. To this end, the British built roads and an impressive railroad network. Improved transportation let the British sell their factory-made goods across the subcontinent and carry Indian cotton, jute, and coal to coastal ports for transport to factories in England.

New methods of communication, such as the telegraph, also gave Britain better control of India. After the Suez Canal opened in 1869, British trade with India soared. But it remained an unequal partnership, favoring the British. The British flooded India with inexpensive, machine-made textiles, ruining India's once-prosperous hand-weaving industry.

Britain also transformed Indian agriculture. It encouraged nomadic herders to settle into farming and pushed farmers to grow cash crops, such as cotton and jute, that could be sold on the world market. Clearing new farmlands led to massive **deforestation**, or cutting of trees.

**The Strain of Population Growth** The British introduced medical improvements and new farming methods. Better healthcare and increased food production led to rapid population growth. The rising numbers, however, put a strain on the food supply, especially as farmland was turned over to growing cash crops instead of food. In the late 1800s, terrible famines swept India.

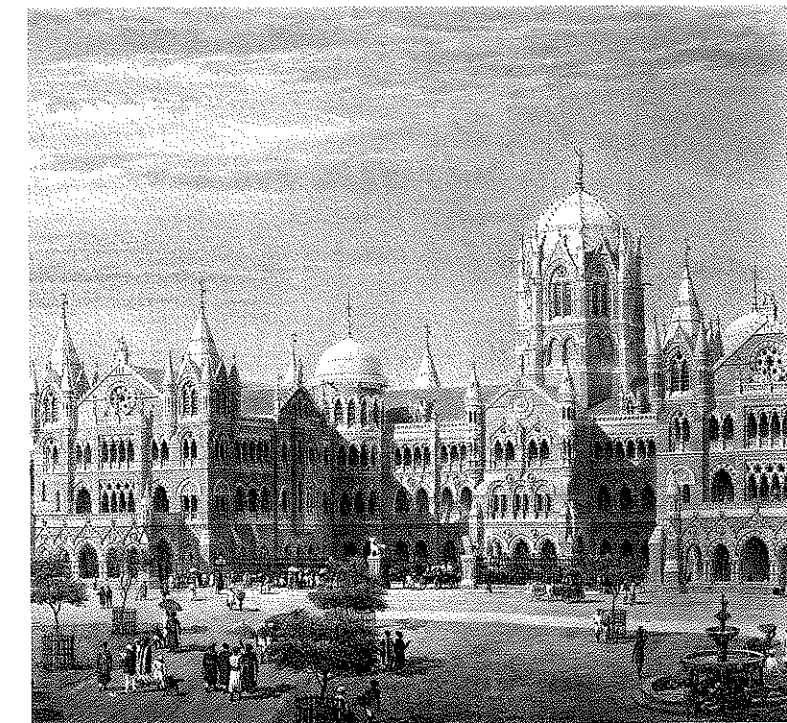
**Benefits of British Colonial Rule** On the positive side, British rule brought some degree of peace and order to the countryside. Railroads helped Indians move around the country, while the telegraph and postal system improved communication. Greater contact helped bridge regional differences and develop a sense of national unity.

The upper classes, especially, benefited from some British policies. They sent their sons to British schools, where they were trained for posts in the civil service



>> During the Sepoy Rebellion, the British battled Indian forces around Delhi, a city that was alternately controlled by both the British and the sepoy soldiers.

**Interactive Gallery**



>> This railway station was built in India in 1878 during the British Raj. British architects incorporated traditional Indian architectural features into the design.



and military. Indian landowners and princes, who still ruled their own territories, grew rich from exporting cash crops.

**IDENTIFY CAUSE AND EFFECT** What were some impacts of British colonial rule on agriculture in India?

**ELPS 4.F.5** Use images in *India Under British Rule* to activate your prior knowledge on farming.

## Diverse Views on Culture

Some educated Indians were impressed by British power and technology and urged India to follow a Western model of progress. These mostly upper-class Indians learned English and adopted Western ways. Other Indians felt that the answer to change lay with their own Hindu or Muslim cultures.

**Indian Attitudes** In the early 1800s, **Ram Mohun Roy** combined both views. A great scholar, he knew Sanskrit, Persian, and Arabic classics, as well as English, Greek, and Latin works. Roy felt that India could learn from the West. He was a founder of Hindu College in Calcutta, which provided an English-style education to Indians. Many of its graduates went on to establish English schools all over the region. While Roy

saw the value of Western education, he also wanted to reform traditional Indian culture.

Roy condemned some traditions, such as rigid caste distinctions, child marriage, sati, and **pardah** (purdah), the isolation of women in separate quarters. But he also set up educational societies that helped revive pride in Indian culture. Because of his influence on later leaders, he is often hailed today as the founder of Indian nationalism.

**Westerner Attitudes** The British disagreed among themselves about India. A few admired Indian theology and philosophy. As Western scholars translated Indian classics, they acquired respect for India's ancient heritage. Western writers and philosophers borrowed ideas from Hinduism and Buddhism.

However, most British people knew little about Indian achievements and dismissed Indian culture with contempt. In an essay on whether Indians should be taught in English or their own languages, British historian Thomas Macaulay arrogantly wrote that "a single shelf of a good European library is worth the whole native literature of India and Arabia."

**COMPARE AND CONTRAST** What were some differing views among British people about the culture of India?

## The Growth of Indian Nationalism

During the years of British rule, a class of Western-educated Indians emerged. In the view of Macaulay and others, this elite class would bolster British power. As it turned out, exposure to European ideas had the opposite effect. By the late 1800s, Western-educated Indians were spearheading a nationalist movement. Schooled in Western ideals such as democracy, equality, and human rights, they dreamed of ending imperial rule.

**Indian National Congress** In 1885, nationalist leaders organized the Indian National Congress, which became known as the Congress party. Its members believed in peaceful protest to gain their ends. They called for greater democracy, which they felt would bring more power to Indians like themselves. The Indian National Congress looked forward to eventual self-rule but supported Western-style modernization.

**Formation of the Muslim League** At first, Muslims and Hindus worked together for self-rule. In time, however, Muslims grew to resent Hindu domination of the Congress party. They also worried that a Hindu-run government would oppress Muslims. In 1906, Muslims formed the Muslim League to pursue their own goals. Soon, they were talking of a separate Muslim state.

**IDENTIFY CAUSE AND EFFECT** What was one cause of the Indian nationalist movement?

### ASSESSMENT

1. **Analyze Information** Why did the Sepoy Rebellion leave "a bitter legacy of fear, hatred, and mistrust on both sides"?



AC Mazumdar served as president of the Indian National Congress, which pushed for self-rule for India.

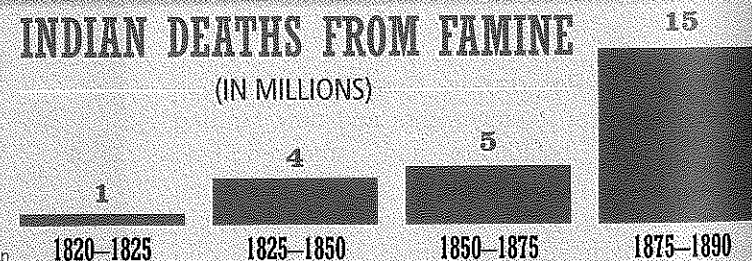
2. **Analyze Information** What was one specific rule put in place by the East India Company that angered and offended sepoys?
3. **Analyze Information** What were the positive and negative effects of British rule on Indians?
4. **Infer** How did Ram Mohun Roy view the British?
5. **Analyze Information** How did British rule contribute to the development of Indian nationalism?

## SOME EFFECTS OF THE BRITISH RAJ

### INDIAN AGRICULTURE

Britain transformed agriculture in India, replacing food crops with cash crops, such as cotton and jute. One unfortunate effect, partly due to this change, were famines.

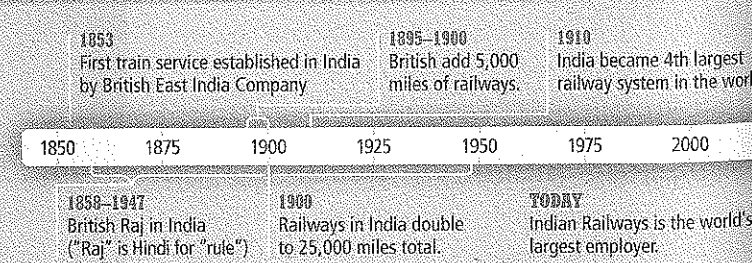
Sources: *Aletho News*, *New York Times*, Indic Studies Foundation



### BRITISH RAILWAYS IN INDIA

Britain expanded railways in India to move raw materials and finished goods. Improved transportation was another benefit.

Sources: Indian Railways gov., PBS, *Raj* by Lawrence James, *United Kingdom's Daily Express News*.



>> **Support a Point of View with Evidence** The graph and timeline show some effects of the British Raj. All things considered, was British rule a benefit or a drawback for India? Why?

Interactive Illustration