

IMPERIALISM, LEAD UP TO THE FIRST WORLD WAR

1. New Colonialism - Imperialism

TASK 1: Which countries were the major colonial powers in the second half of the 19th century?
Which colonies were under their control?

Were there any major conflicts over colonies in the 18th and 19th century?

The reasons for the new colonialism:

- The needs of the Industrial Revolution, notably for raw materials, power and markets
- Coaling stations especially around the coast of Africa before the introduction of and the building of
- To stop someone else getting strategic lands. For example
- Exploration – the 19th century was an age of great exploration, especially in Africa
- Overpopulation
- Need for compensation after a lost war
- Missionary activity. The 19th century saw a major religious revival and the need to spread the Christian belief. Lots of missionary societies founded around 1800 to reform the ‘noble savage’.
- Trade

a. Asia

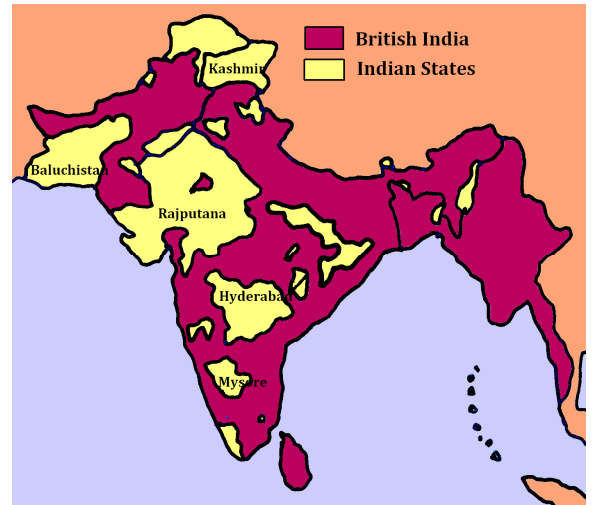
TASK 2: Use the atlas and mark on the map the main colonies of the European colonial powers in Asia.



The three different stories of India, China and Japan

1. India

- 17th century – Dutch, English and French trading stations
- English **East India Company** became involved in administration of some Indian states
- 1757 battle at **Palasi**
- East India Company took over administration of most of India
- 1857 **Sepoy Rebellion** (Indian Mutiny) ...
- 1858 India became Crown Colony, East India Company was



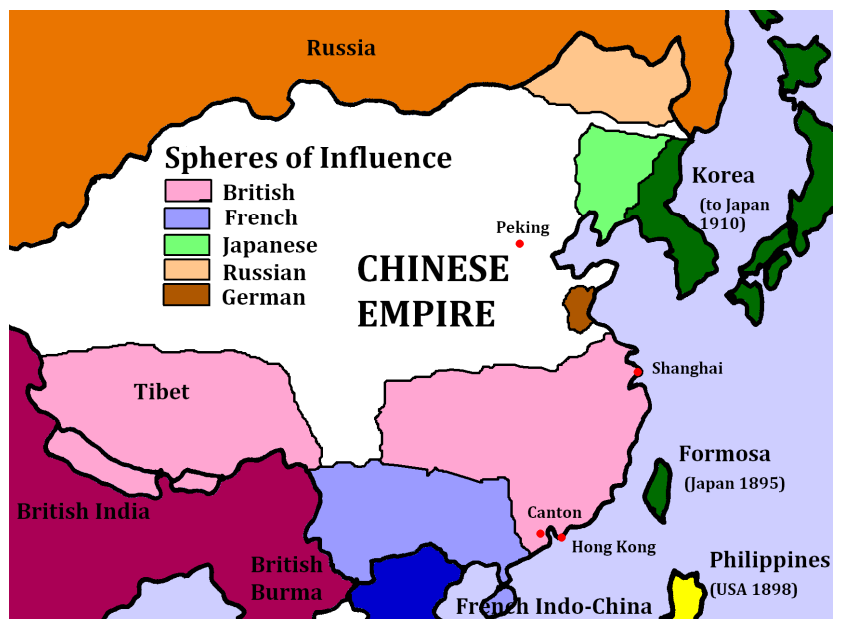
2. China

- Policy of isolation, Europeans could trade only in Canton
- 1839-1841 **the First Opium War** ...
- 1856-1860 **the Second Opium War** – Chinese ports opened to British, American, French and Russian traders
- European powers created their spheres of influence in China
- 1898-1901 **Boxer Rebellion** ...



3. Japan

- Policy of Isolation
- **Meiji** reforms
- **Industry** introduced, advisors from Europe and the USA invited
- Japan became an industrial power
- 1884-1885 **Sino-Japanese War**, Japan gained ...
- 1904-1905 **Russo-Japanese War**

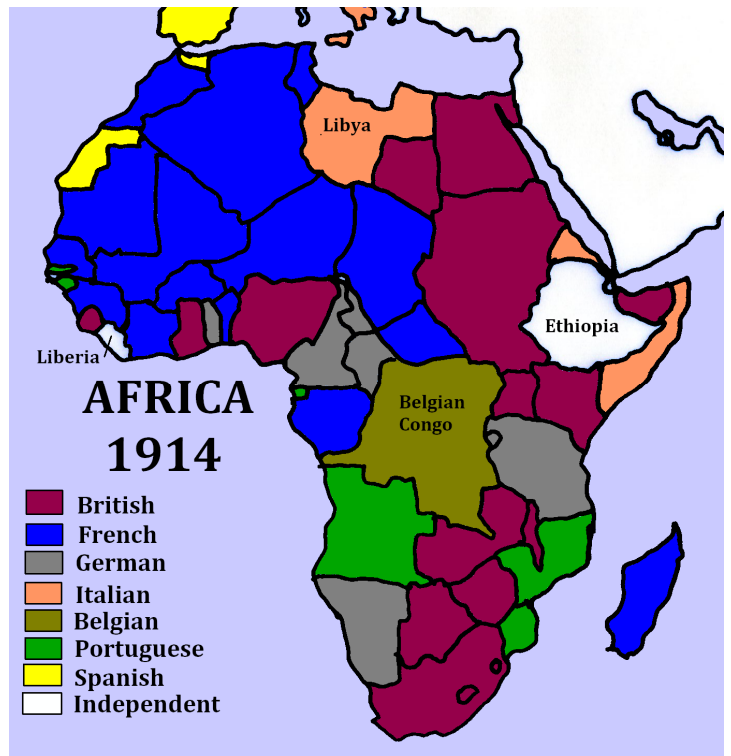


b. The Scramble for Africa

In 1870 only 10% of Africa was in European hands – by 1900 it had reached 90%

TASK 3: What was the main attraction of Africa for European powers?

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Different Countries Different Interests

France: needed compensation for her military pride after the defeat by in 1871, hence Africa, Indo-China

Great Britain: attempted to control all territories along the way to In Africa Britain planned to build a north-south railway (Cairo-Cape Town)

Belgium: used the opportunity to back Stanley’s Congo state, cruel regime, slavery ...

Italy: to show her power as a unified country, war with Ethiopia (1895-96) got only Somalia and Eritrea, 1911 Libya from the Ottoman Empire

Germany: wanted its “**place in the Sun**”, show her power – Togo, Cameroon, Namibia, Tanzania

Conflicts over Colonies:

1884 Berlin Conference – agreed on the principles of colonization in Africa

Boer Wars (1880-1881), (1899-1902) Britain against

Britain conquered Transvaal and the Orange Free State

Fashoda Crisis 1898 – clash of British and French interests in southern Sudan

1899 Britain and France agreed on

1904 “**Entente Cordiale**”, alliance of Britain and France

Morocco Crises

1905 Germany supported Moroccan independence from France x Britain and Spain backed France

1911 Germany demanded compensation for the recognition of French control over Morocco

2. Lead up to the First World War

Alliances

TASK 4: Look at the cartoon and try to identify the individual figures. Why is the girl in the left crying?

The main slogan of Bismarck's foreign policy was: ‘**Keep France**



TASK 5: Study the following timeline and decide how successful Bismarck was in his policy.

Time line

1873 – Three Emperors' League formed between Germany, Austria and Russia

1878 – **Berlin Congress**, Treaty of Berlin signed changing the **San Stefano** peace treaty between Russia and Turkey

1879 – Formation of the Dual Alliance between Austria and Germany

1881 – Formation of Three Emperors' Alliance between Germany, Austria, and Russia.

1882 – Triple Alliance was formed between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy

1887 – (February) The First Mediterranean Agreement signed between Britain, Italy and Austria; (June) Reinsurance Treaty signed between Germany and Russia

William II. (1899-1918)

- grandson of Queen Victoria, hated his cousin Eduard VII
- loved navy and wanted 'a place in the Sun' (colonies, power status) for Germany
- dismissed Bismarck
- *...giving William power over Germany was like giving a brand new Ferrari to a seventeen years old boy. He knows perfectly where the accelerator is but doesn't know where the brake is.'*



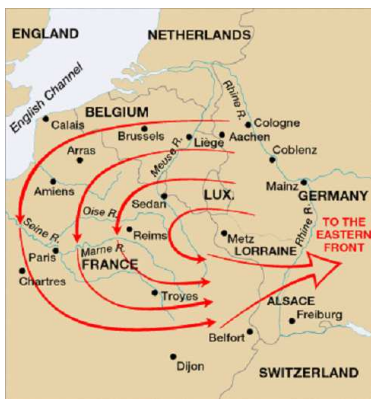
TASK 6: Study the timeline below and decide what effect on the alliances the change of German policy had. What was the main reason for improved French/British relations?

1892-4 – France and Russia created the Defensive Alliance

1897 – Austro-Russian Agreement formed

1902 – Anglo-Japanese Alliance formed

1904 – France and Great Britain signed Entente Cordiale (Anglo-French Entente)



Schlieffen Plan

Due to the changes in the alliances the German army had to rearrange its war plans, to prepare for fighting on both fronts – the Schlieffen plan

It was estimated that it would take about **six weeks** for the Russian Army to mobilize. Therefore it was necessary to concentrate all forces on France first and knock it out in six weeks. Then to move the armies to the east and defeat Russia.

1904-1905 – Russo-Japanese war

1905 – the First Moroccan Crisis

1907 – Formation of the Triple Entente

1908 – Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia

1911 – the Second Moroccan Crisis

1912 – the First Balkan War, Greece, Serbia, Montenegro, and Bulgaria against Turkey

1913 – the Second Balkan War, Bulgaria against Greece, Serbia, Romania, Turkey



1914 – June 28, assassination of Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo

1914 – July 28, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia

1914 – (August 1-4) Germany declared war on Russia, France and Belgium, supporting Austria-Hungary; (August 5) Austria-Hungary declared war on Russia; (August 10) France declared war on Austria-Hungary; (August 12) Britain declared war on Austria-Hungary

TASK 6: How do the cartoons explain the causes of the First World War?

