The New Imperialism (1870–1914): The White Man’s Burden and How the Non-Whites Carried It

I. General Comments on the New Imperialism

A. Significance

B. Views Concerning What Caused It:


C. New Imperialism vs. Old Imperialism

1. Scale
2. Location
3. Beneficiaries
4. Resources tapped
5. Administration
6. Intensity (esp. after 1884)

D. Methods of Exploitation

1. Loot an occupied country of its treasures (Mexico, Peru)
2. Kidnap the inhabitants for slave trade (Africa)
3. Extraction of natural resources without compensation (Congo)
4. Investment of capital in colonies for profits (Egypt)
5. Imposition of “unfair” terms of trade—mercantilist (United States and Russia)
6. Transfer of revenues to treasury of home country (French integrated accounts)
7. Transfer of loan interest, service payments, and business profits (“drain”—India)

II. Africa in the Nineteenth Century

A. The Coming of the Europeans

1. Missionary activity (David Livingston)
2. Explorers (Sir Richard Francis Burton, Mary Kingsley)
3. Independent Governments (some examples)
   a. Zulus — Shaka (ca. 1787–r. 1815–1828)
   b. Liberia — founded by American Colonization Society (1822)
   c. Ethiopia — Battle of Adowa (1896)
B. Some Specific Cases of Imperialist Takeover

1. The Congo: The Story of Rubber and Ivory (Leopold II, Henry Stanley)
2. Nigeria: The Story of Free Trade (King Jaja)
3. Cape Colony: The Story of Diamonds and Gold (Cecil Rhodes, King Lobengula)
4. Egypt: The Story of High Finance (Ismail Pasha)
5. Sudan: The Story of Military Conquest (Battle of Omdurman, 1898)
6. Philippines: Spanish-American War, 1898 (William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt)

C. Potential Conflicts between European Powers

1. Fashoda Affair, 1898 — Major Jean-Baptiste Marchand (1863–1934)
2. Boer War, 1899–1902 (Transvaal, Dr. Star Jameson, Paul Kruger)

III. India: From Raj to Swaraj

A. British Colonization of India (1740’s to 1940’s)

1. Seven Years War (1756–1763)
2. Independent Princes (Rajas)

B. British Raj

1. British Economic Exploitation of India — East India Company
2. British Colonial Administration
3. British Military and Political Suppression
4. Indian National Congress — founded 1885

C. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (1869–1948) — (Satyagraha = truth + agraaha = struggle)

IV. China: “Carving Up the Melon”

A. Opium War, November 1839 to August 1842 (Canton, Hong Kong)

B. Boxer Rebellion, 1898–1900 (Fists of Public Harmony, Plum Blossom Fists)

V. Opening Up of Japan

A. July 8, 1853 — Matthew Perry and the Black Ships (kurobune)

B. 1894 – War with China — indemnity of $24 million / steel works at Hirohata

C. 1904–1905 Russo-Japanese War (General Oyama; Admiral Rozhdestvenskii, Admiral Togo)

VI. Results: Technology of Progress vs. Technology of Destruction