

Main Idea: Colonialism

Main Paragraphs:

- What is Colonialism?
- What is the difference between Colonialism and Invasion?
- What are some of the major colonial empires of history?
- What was the Spanish Empire?
- What was the British Empire?
- What are the main differences between the Spanish and British Empire?
- What was the decolonization movement?
- What are the differences of decolonization in Spanish and British Empires

colonizes

- What are the immediate and modern effects of colonization

The colonistic explosion of the 1500s was a colossal event in the expansion of human kind exploring 84% of the world that was previously mostly unknown (except certain Asian colonies) to any but the secluded natives. I began talking about Colonialism, but what is Colonialism? Well, Colonialism is the spread of Colonization, but then again what is Colonization? Colonization is a very trippy topic in today's environment because of how controversial it happens to be in the Western World mainly because it has so many atrocities. Though the gist of Colonization is the spread of a nation's area, religion, economical impact, etc to new lands that have no previous society or at the least an underdeveloped society usually because of lack of resources. A great example of this would be the colonization of North and South America where the societies were extremely underdeveloped and still in the stone age within places like the Aztec Empire, using volunteer human sacrifices monthly to yearly depending on how fruitful a year is. Colonization's base would usually attempt to have two different outcomes, modernize the area and make a population base or make a small settlement for a mine or some other natural resource deposit.

Some would raise the question of what the difference is between Invasion and Colonization, to that I would praise you for that question as they are actually quite similar but have some key differences. In history we hear of the colonization of places like Australia and India both which were key to the British Empire, but although the British Empire calls it colonization though we just learned that colonization is only on barren land that either has no natives or a small amount of disorganized natives. That fact is key, Invasion is invading another country that is unified and is in a measurable amount of population. Now we know that invasion is against a group of unified people that have governmental structure while colonization is against disorganized more undeveloped people or just barren land. India doesn't fall under the definition of colonization as although the entire sub-continent wasn't unified they still had several monumental nations. If so, why did the British say they colonized? Well, the reason they did that was because they saw the Indian culture as inferior and lesser than their own so to them they were undeveloped when they truly weren't as their technology and the British's were mostly similar.

All this talk about Colonial Empires, but what were they and what are some of the most prominent Colonial Empires that are known today? Colonial Empires and normal average Empires are mostly similar other than the fact that Colonial Empires are Empires built of the back of Colonies or they are just the colonial territory of a Empire while Empires are just usually very large countries that have several groups of ethnic groups such as the Russian Empire or the French Empire. Now that you know what Colonial Empires are, what are the most notable Colonial Empires? Well, the most important to most people and the biggest Empire in the world's history would be the British Empire. The British Empire was able to conquer 26% of the entire world which is a *world* record. Britain wasn't the only major Colonial Empires, France has a near monopoly on Africa till they lost the Napoleonic Wars were they lost near a quarter of their overseas territory though they still were a top European power afterwards since with out them on the main continent mainly because if France wasn't a power Prussia and Austria would become even more powerful leading to problems to the Russian Empire which was a victor against France. One other empire was important in history which was the Spanish Empire one of the biggest Colonial Empires conquering almost all South and North America at the time for the bottoms of Argentina all the way to the tip of Alaska, but that did fall after several small skirmishes with Russia, France, Portugal, and Britain. You might be asking why all of these empires were only European, which is an amazing question as it is a massive wonder for some why Europe was so astronomically good at conquering others. The main reason for this is because they constantly traded with the East (Asia) which helped them gain a lot of gold while it helped Asia get a lot of the resources they don't naturally have. Another reason is because they were such a diverse ethical group of people that they had so many wars and technology races their in fighting lead to astronomical discoveries leading them to overcome other more peaceful or "respectful warmongers" cultures.

The Spanish Empire is actually one of the most influential Empires in all of history as they actually commissioned Columbus to find the new route to India which led to the discovery of the new world. Spain conquered the three G's: Gold, Glory, and God. These were very relevant since most of the reason they would explore the new world was for things such as the Golden city which is what Columbus died looking for and when they would find a tribe if they didn't immediately fight they would usually slowly gain connections and then spread the gospel in very "Godly" ways when in a reality it was very gruesome and more hypocritical if anything. Glory was a more minor aspect as when they conquered land some spaniards would then infight for would would claim it as a position of Governance as Power was everything and if they could gain any recognition by the crown they would gain immense power and a lot of potential mates such as Noblemen's daughters which would lead them to a lot of power and money. This is why if you go to a lot of Southern American places they will have a big Roman Catholic population even if they don't follow the exact teachings of the Church usually because they weren't taught the full doctrine since they were seen as not worthy enough.

The British Empire which we covered a little earlier two paragraphs ago was even more influential than the Spanish Empire as they managed to conquer 26% of the known world. The British Empire didn't run on any noble goal, rather the citizens didn't care what other countries

thought of them usually because they were powerful enough to not need to require an ally in wars. The British Empire conquered many lands such as: South Africa, the East Coast of North America (the 13 colonies), Australia, Ireland, Caribbean, Hong Kong, and a bunch of other sections of Africa. The United States came straight as a run away colony of the British mainly because of the unfair treatment they were under which started a world wide revolution which led to almost every colony being lost in the next 200 years other than small islands that were dependent on the Mainland. Britain was also very important for how much they contributed to Naval Exploration technology which was a massive industry for them since they constantly had to trade with their colonies.

Now why did I specifically choose to go over these two different Empires and not others like France? Well the reason is because they both were massively successful but in entirely different ways and had different successful techniques to growing. Spain as you guess would mostly conquer straight through conquest while Britain would usually send a small colonial group with a few diplomats and make relations with more submissive natives and the ones that didn't submit would then get ambushed by massive groups of soldiers that arrive after the colony is fully set up. The reason these are so different is because it has lead to such different circumstances in the countries that used to be Colonies, especially in the New World. In America we have a large NA (Native American) community and in Canada they have full celebrations for them such as the Orange Shirt day, but in places like Mexico since the natives were either mated with or dead everyone is seen as Natives and there really is a "White Unrest" like in America or other places such as South Africa. The different styles of colonizing left drastic different outcomes on the land.

A lot of you might hear a lot of communication on the topic of "decolonization," but what actually is decolonization? Decolonization has an ever evolving definition as in the 17th to early 19th century it meant just gaining independence, but then in the middle and late 19th century they started a new definition which meant trying to cut off colonial roots and connect with more native roots. That newer definition mostly failed around the world with people wanting to remember both the bad and good of all of their roots. Until the 20th Century after the Pandemic when several radical movements would spur up in mostly British Empire old colonies such as the USA and South Africa where several people even old hero would begin to have a tainted name with even statues of people like George Washington being torn down and several race tensions rising where in south africa several killings of white people being killed in the name of "decolonization." Although the term might have changed over the years it is academically mostly used as the term of independence from some sort of mother land rather than the modern social use.

Decolonization in the British Empire and the Spanish Empire is insanely different in modern terms but actually was quite similar in the beginning. The Spanish Empire took the biggest hit after the Independence of the United States with Spain actually funding the 13 colonies which indirectly taught all of their colonies exactly how to successfully revolt which they took to mind and then went on to spend the next near 100 years doing exactly that under one massive flag till the separated and separated into all the countries that are now known today. In

Spanish root countries they are mostly very connected with their native roots and not as connected with their spanish roots because of the horrible treatment they gave to the other side. While in the British rooted colonies it was a little less violent and the countries are more stable and have managed to become more of a stable economy though the social set is more problematic with a lot of social uprisings.

Now colonization has had a lot of effects on society and generally the world, but what are those effects and what are the immediate and long term effects that they had? Well some immediate effects that colonization had was a practical genocide of indigineious peoples through disease in a lot of cases while in other places a lot of genocide would just be through straight mass killings. Now in more modern terms colonization has entirely changed the aspect of life with the countries of Canada, Australia, USA, South Africa, and places like Hong Kong having massive say in the world infrastructure. Colonization has also helped technology so drastically improve that nowadays we are growing at massive rates thought to be impossible only a few decades ago.

Throughout this essay I hope you have learned a lot of the ins and outs of Colonialism and the effects it has had in the world and the society we now live in today. I hope that the knowledge of the Spanish and British Empires specifically can be very important when talking about history and now you can use it wisely!

Sources:

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