

IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, AND DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FALL 2014

INTA 2050

Agenda

1. **Thought experiment**
2. The causes of colonial expansion
3. Variations in the experience and legacies of colonialism in Latin America, Asia and Africa
4. Colonialism as the source of inspiration for the project of international development

It is the year 3000...

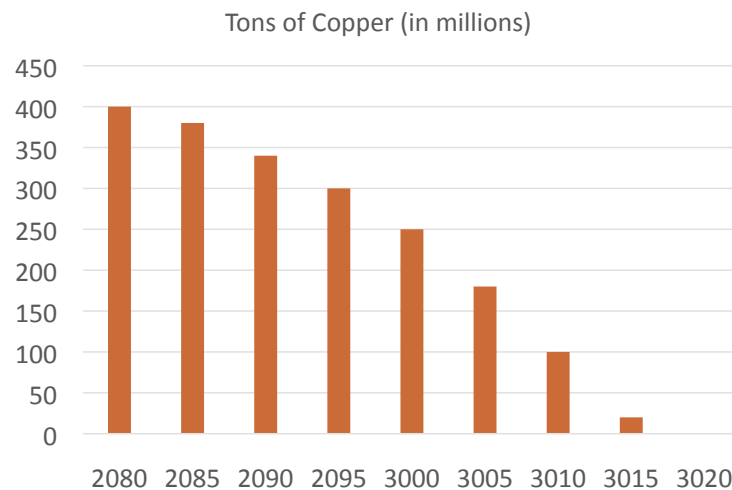


You are the Bill Gates of the time...



Growing pains for you...

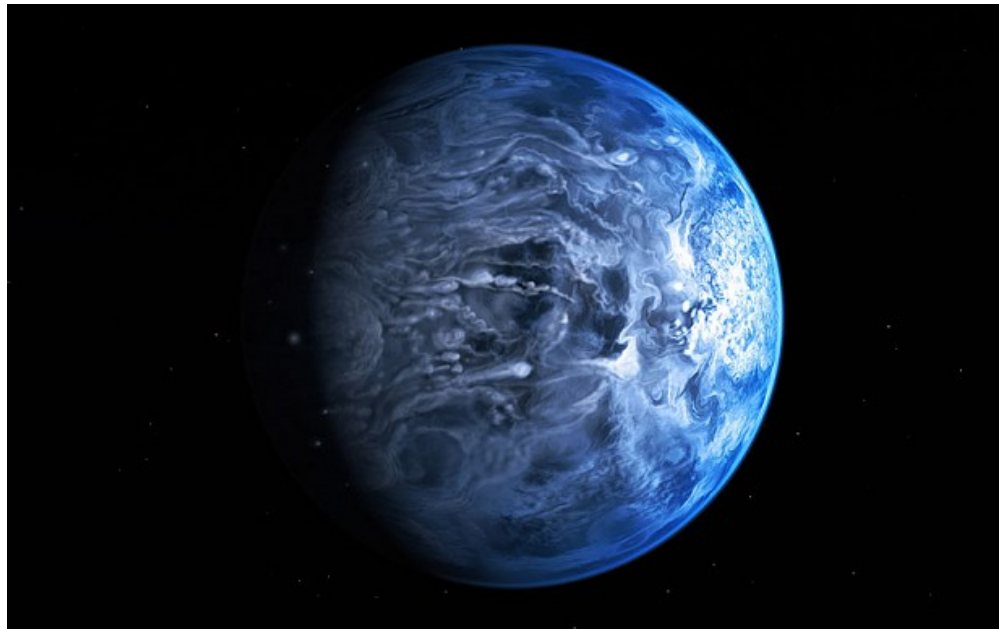
DECLINING RESOURCES



CUTTHROAT COMPETITION



New India... with abundant copper?



Would you organize an exploration mission?

Huge find... with some problems

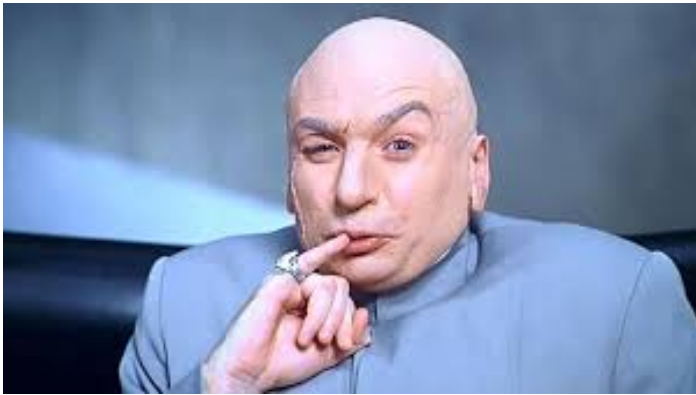
ABUNDANT COPPER AND MORE...



FLOURISHING CIVILIZATION OF HUMANOID
ALIENS



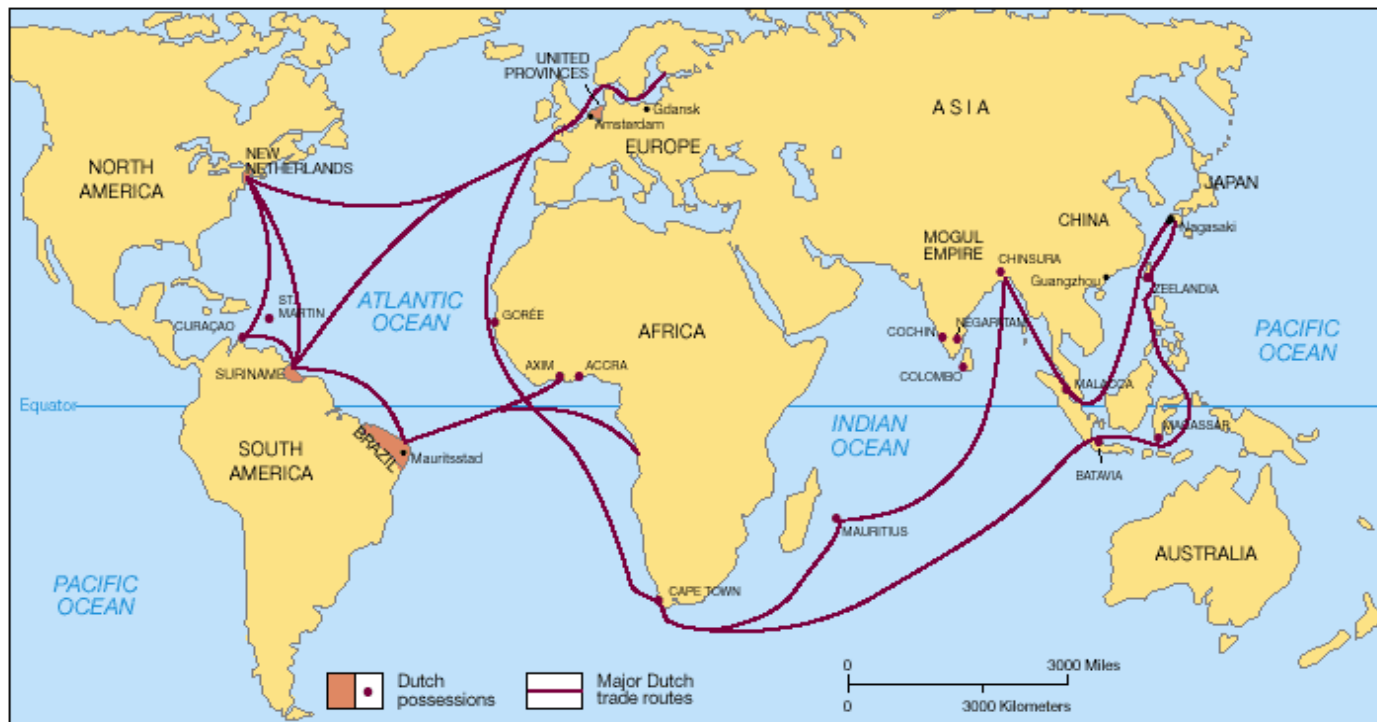
They're breathing down your neck...



Would you organize a mission to extract the resources?

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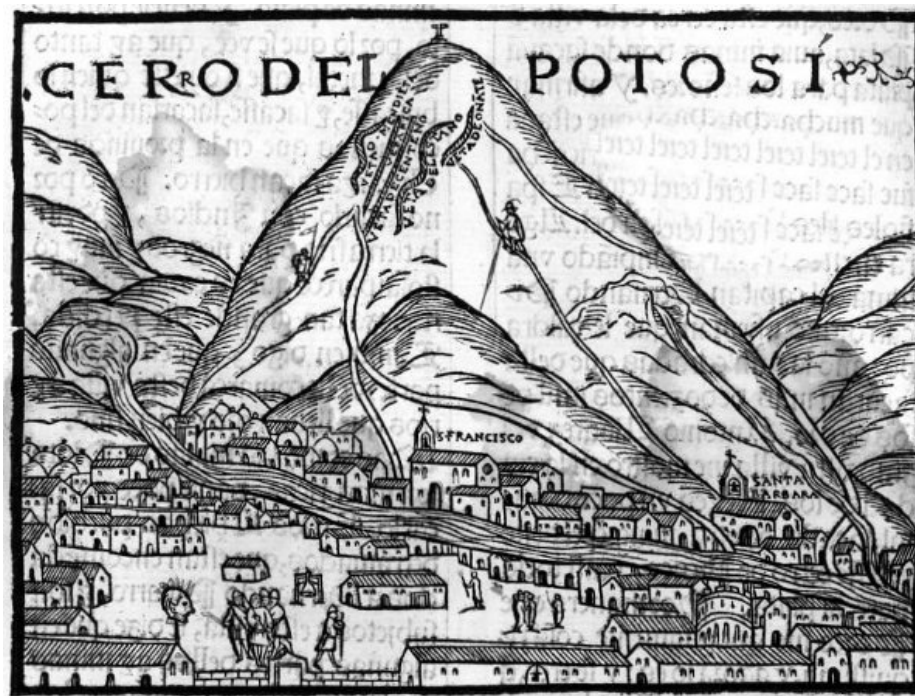
Source: ireneses.wordpress.com/

Dutch trade routes ca.1690

Economic: resources and trade

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Example: Spanish mining in Potosi, Bolivia



Political

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El Cid

Colonies

Settlement of occupied territories
by colonists from imperial power

Rule of those new colonists over
indigenous populations

Ongoing political and economic links
between the imperial power and
the colonized territory



Source: james-champion.com/



Juan Ponce de Leon



Cecil Rhodes

Source: <http://www.wikipedia.org/>

The “men on the spot”

In sum, three sets of explanations

Economic: Sourcing of materials and resources, trade

Political: The race among European powers for expansion, prestige

Administrative: The “men on the spot”

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Describe the colonization process of...

LATIN AMERICA

ASIA

AFRICA

Look for:

Main European powers involved in region's colonization experience

Years of colonial rule

Method of colonization and colonial rule (e.g. type of colonial administration, involvement of indigenous leaders)

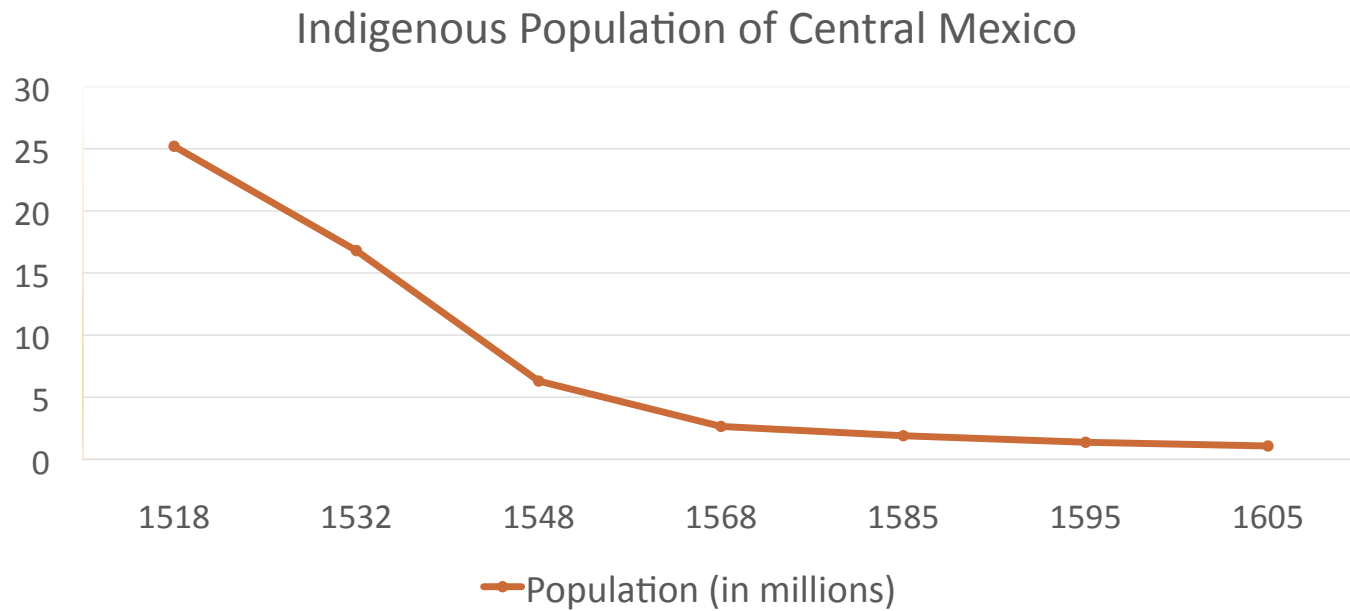
Characteristics of the indigenous populations (e.g. technological sophistication, military power)



Latin America

Guns, germs and exploitation

Population collapse



Source: Author with data from Borah and Cook (1969)



Asia

Chartered companies, negotiation and exploitation

The reign of the East India Company

Initial difficulties in South Asia

- Similar stages of technological sophistication among Mughals – especially military technology
- Resistance in Asia to European disease
- Competition among English, Dutch, French and Portuguese trading companies vying to enter the Indian market

But power of Mughal empire eventually weakened

- East India Company develops overwhelming economic and political power, especially after the late 18th century
- Use of “indirect rule”



Africa

Private companies, colonial administrations, and exploitation

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Dividing the continent



Source: http://wikitravel.org/en/File:ColonialAfrica_1914.png

Colonial division of Africa ca. 1914

Private companies and colonial administrations

Private companies

- Initial conquest
- Infrastructure development

Colonial administrations

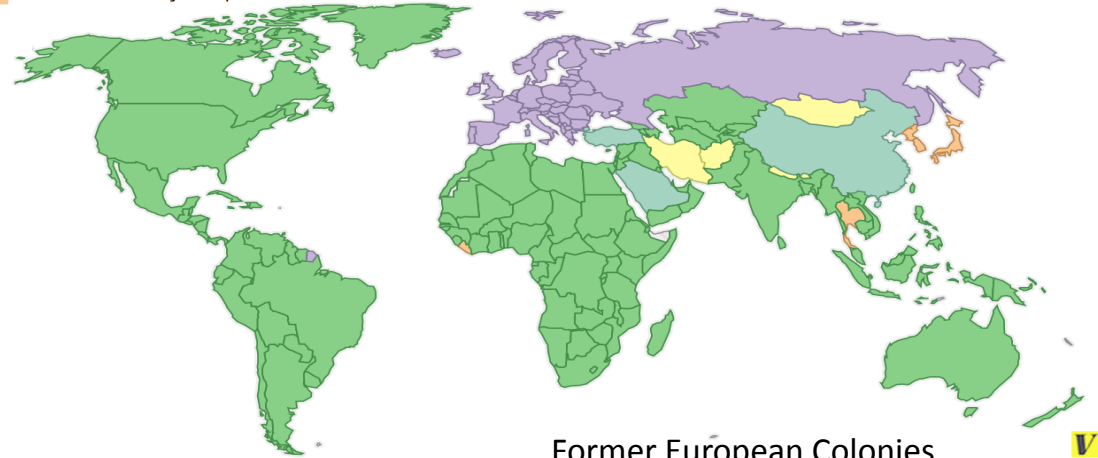
- Kept local leaders in lower rungs (indirect rule) of the administration
- Codification of local law

Legacies of colonial rule

Correlation
between
Colonialism and
the Global South

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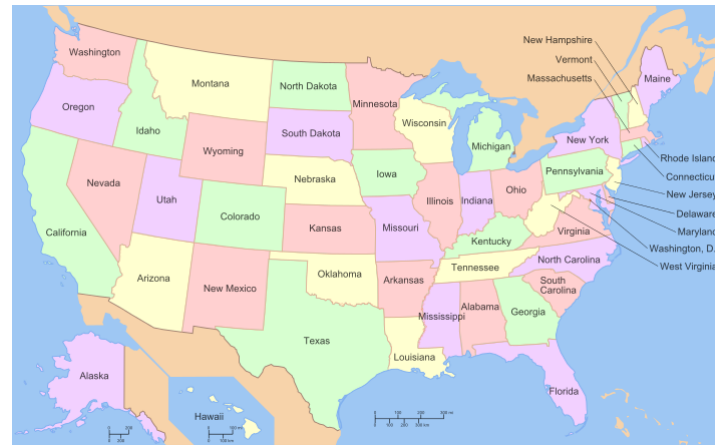
Europe Colonized or controlled by Europe Partial European control or influence European sphere of influence
Never colonized by Europe



Legacies of colonial rule

BUT variation
across former colonies

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United States of America



Mexico

Legacies of colonial rule

AND variation
within former colonies



Source: <http://www.vagabond.net.au/5-more-south-american-travel-ideas/>

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Colonial ideas and the development project

European faith in
cultural
differences,
European
superiority

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Europeans as bearers of a “higher”
civilization

Ostensible goal of transforming, modernizing
indigenous societies in a fundamental
manner

- Justification for exploitative economic policies,
government practices, repression



SUGAR CANE PLANTATION.

Source: <http://sugar-chic.weebly.com/increasing-population-on-plantations.html>

Colonial ideas and the development project

European faith in
cultural
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European lifestyle = ideal lifestyle?

In pursuing the ideal lifestyle, is it ok to transform people's lives, uproot them, change their jobs, cast aside their customs and culture?

Question the idea that the European life is better, become culturally sensitive

- Understand our assumptions
- Recognize the value of different lifestyles

Colonial ideas and the development project

Post World War I
and World War II
project of
development

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Initial efforts to develop policies to benefit indigenous populations, quell unrest

Objective still to “modernize” those “backward” societies



Source: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/
File:Office_du_Niger_and_flame_tree.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Office_du_Niger_and_flame_tree.jpg)

Wrap-up

Imperial powers pursued colonization to expand their territories. They were driven in part by

- Economic interests
- Political ambitions
- Men on the ground

The impact of colonization varied across and within regions, in part as a result of

- Technological and disease-resistance differences among local populations
- Indigenous resource endowments
- Colonization approach favored by imperial powers

Wrap-up

The long-lasting impact of imperialism and colonialism on development can be observed in

- The legacies of colonial rule in former colonies
- The ideas and motivations driving the development project

For next class...

Speeches by Presidents Truman and Mujica:

What are the characteristics that the speakers associate with an ideal society?

How do they propose that we promote the development of such ideal societies?

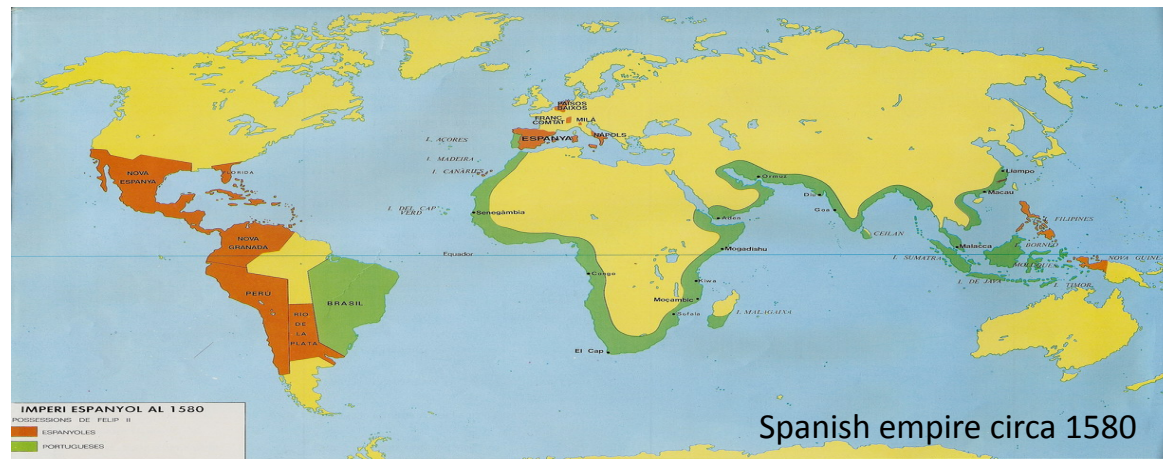
What role do they assign to capitalism in the pursuit of this development of such ideal societies?

Extra slides

Imperialism

Expansion of a political entity (e.g. kingdom, state) to new territories

- Centralized rule in imperial seat of power
- Trade and economic integration of new territories (extraction?)



Source: <http://www.totalwarspain.com>

In sum, the relationship between imperialism, colonialism and development...

The ideas and assumptions of European “higher” culture

The initial means – projects – to pursue modernization, quell unrest