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

Tons of Copper (in millions)

INTA 2050
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?
Agenda

1. Thought experiment

2. *The causes of colonial expansion*

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Economic: resources and trade

Source: ireneses.wordpress.com/

Dutch trade routes ca.1690

INTA 2050
Example: Spanish mining in Potosí, Bolivia
Political
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/
The “men on the spot”

Juan Ponce de Leon

Cecil Rhodes

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

INTA 2050
Population collapse

Indigenous Population of Central Mexico

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
Dividing the continent

Colonial division of Africa ca. 1914

Source: http://wikitravel.org/en/
File:ColonialAfrica_1914.png
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
Legacies of colonial rule

BUT variation across former colonies

INTA 2050
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

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

Source: [http://sugar-chic.weebly.com/increasing-population-on-plantations.html](http://sugar-chic.weebly.com/increasing-population-on-plantations.html)
Colonial ideas and the development project

European faith in cultural differences, European superiority

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

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
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

Spanish empire circa 1580
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