

Age of Imperialism Review

Imperialism -

Exploit -

Partition -

Ethnocentrism -

Missionary -

White Man's Burden -

Berlin Conference -

Opium Wars -

Treaty of Nanjing/Unequal Treaties -

Open-Door Policy -

Boxer Rebellion/Taiping Rebellion -

Tokugawa Shogunate -

Meiji Restoration -

... The Opium War of 1839–42 was short and one-sided, due to the superiority of European weapons, which came as a complete surprise to the Chinese. In the first skirmish alone, in July 1839, two British warships defeated twenty-nine Chinese ships. On land, the Chinese and their medieval weapons were no match for British troops armed with state-of-the-art muskets. By the middle of 1842 British troops had seized Hong Kong, taken control of the key river deltas, and occupied Shanghai and several other cities. The Chinese were forced to sign a peace treaty that granted Hong Kong to the British, opened five ports for the free trade of all goods, and required the payment of reparations to the British in silver, including compensation for the opium that had been destroyed by Commissioner Lin...

I contend that we [Britons] are the first race in the world, and the more of the world we inhabit, the better it is for the human race. ... It is our duty to seize every opportunity of acquiring more territory and we should keep this one idea steadily before our eyes that more territory simply means more of the Anglo-Saxon race, more of the best, the most human, most honorable race the world possesses. —Cecil Rhodes, *Confession of Faith*, 1887

“Let it be admitted at the outset that European brains, capital, and energy have ... not been, and never will be, expended in developing the resources of Africa from motives of pure philanthropy; that Europe is in Africa for the mutual benefit of her own industrial classes, and of the native races in their progress to a higher plane; that the benefit can be made reciprocal, and that it is the aim and desire of civilized administration to fulfill this dual mandate. By railways and roads, by reclamation of swamps and irrigation of deserts, and by a system of fair trade and competition, we have added to the prosperity and wealth of these lands, and have checked famine and disease. We have put an end to the awful misery of the slave trade and inter-tribal war, to human sacrifice and the ordeals of the witch-doctor. Where these things survive they are severely suppressed. We are endeavoring to teach the native races to conduct their own affairs with justice and humanity, and to educate them alike in letters and in industry.” Lord Lugard, *The Dual Mandate in British Tropical Africa*, 1922

The [Meiji] Restoration found Japan [1868–1912] practically an agricultural country, purely and simply. There were few, if any, industries of importance. The agriculturists [farmers] produced sufficient food to supply the nation, and Japan was in every sense self-supporting. Even the taxes were paid in rice, and farmers were ranked far higher than merchants. History showed the Japanese, however, that it is very difficult to maintain a high standard of national greatness when the revenue of the land and the prosperity of the people depends absolutely upon the fall of rain or the hours of sunshine. . . . Besides the necessity, there was an additional reason to be found in the knowledge that industrial growth would add enormously to the power of the nation, not only in the Far East, but among European countries. It was recognized that industrial and commercial development was a much surer guarantee of greatness than military power, and that the conquest of markets was more efficacious [effective] than the destruction of armies and navies. In this proficiency Japan desired to be the England of the East
Source: Alfred Stead, *Great Japan: A Study of National Efficiency*, John Lane Company

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The Growth of the Japanese Empire
1872-1918



Source: Geoffrey Barraclough, ed., *Hammond Concise Atlas of World History*, Hammond, 1998 (adapted)



Source: Abraham and Pfeffer, *Enjoying World History*, Amsco School Publications

Ladies with western musical instruments



Source: Published by Ōmori Kakutarō, wood block print (detail), c. 1890, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



THE WORLD'S PLUNDERERS.
"It's English, you know."

Source: Thomas Nast, *Harper's Weekly*, June 20, 1885 (adapted)



"Learning civilized ways is hard work!"



The Real "Boxers."

Source: Grant Wallace, *San Francisco Chronicle*, reprinted in *The Literary Digest*, July 14, 1900 (adapted)

A major reason for Japan's foreign policy in Asia during the early 20th century was to

1. promote democracy
2. obtain natural resources
3. spread Shinto beliefs
4. reduce military expenses

One major reason European countries engaged in imperialism in the late 19th century was to

1. ease tensions with their rivals
2. develop treatments for diseases
3. gain a better understanding of unknown territories
4. obtain markets for their manufactured goods

Which statement best reflects an effect of imperialism in Africa?

1. Land was distributed equally between social classes.
2. Territorial divisions were primarily established using tribal boundaries.
3. Natural resources were exploited for the benefit of European powers.
4. Timbuktu became the center of great learning.

One similarity between the Sepoy Rebellion in India and the Boxer Rebellion in China is that both were

1. religious reform movements
2. attempts to end foreign interference
3. reactions to the opium trade
4. successful revolts against absolute monarchs