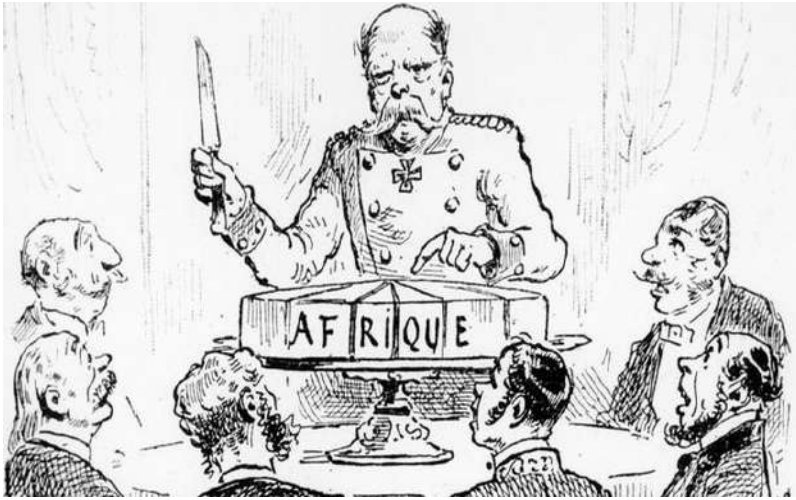


Name: _____

Date: _____

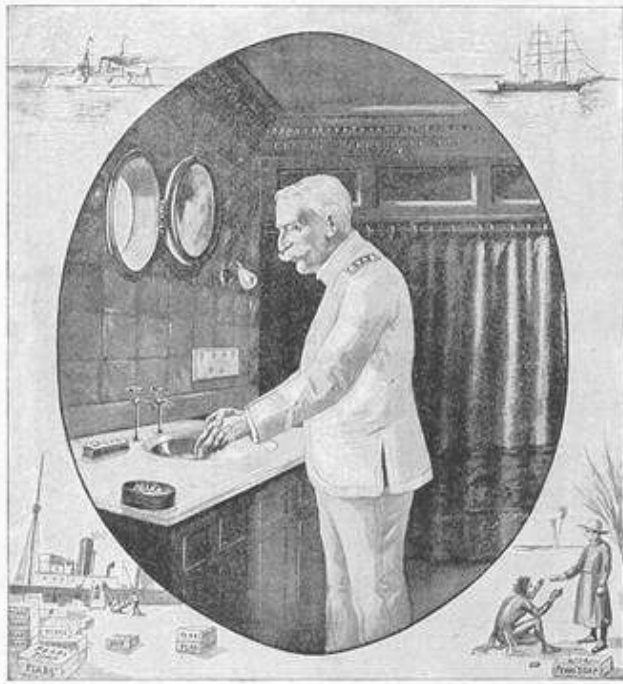
The 1884 Berlin Conference and the “Scramble for Africa”



The Berlin Conference of 1884–85 was organized by Otto von Bismarck, the first chancellor of Germany. The purpose of the Berlin Conference was to regulate European colonization and trade in Africa by identifying which European nations would be allowed to control which parts of Africa. The Berlin Conference was seen as the beginning of the “Scramble for Africa.” The “Scramble for Africa” was the invasion and colonization of African territory by European powers between 1881 and 1914. During the Berlin Conference, the European nations literally divided Africa up between themselves, often creating quite artificial states that divided cultural, linguistic and ethnic groups. No Africans were invited to the Berlin Conference and no Africans took part in deciding how the continent would be “carved up.” In 1870, only 10 percent of Africa was under European control; by 1914 it had increased to 90 percent of the continent. By 1914, only Ethiopia and Liberia were independent African nations not under the control of European powers.

Causes/Reasons for the Conquest of Africa

| Political | Economic | Social/Cultural |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|
| | | |



The first step towards lightening
The White Man's Burden
 is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness.

Pears' Soap

is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances, while amongst the cultured of all nations it holds the highest place—it is the ideal toilet soap.

All rights reserved.

The White Man's Burden By: Rudyard Kipling

Take up the White Man's burden—Send forth the best
 ye breed--

**Go, bind your sons to exile To serve your captives'
 need;**

To wait, in heavy harness, On fluttered folk and wild--
 Your new-caught sullen peoples, Half devil and half
 child.

Take up the White Man's burden-- In patience to abide,
 To veil the threat of terror And check the show of pride;
 By open speech and simple, An hundred times made
 plain,
 To seek another's profit And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden-- The savage wars of
 peace--
 Fill full the mouth of Famine, And bid the sickness
 cease;
 And when your goal is nearest (The end for others
 sought)
 Watch sloth and heathen folly
 Bring all your hope to nought....

Did the Europeans accomplish their imperial goals in Africa?

| Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| | |

Your conclusions:

| <i>Black Man's Burden, Edmund Morel (1920)</i> | Impact |
|--|--------|
| <p>It is [the Africans] who carry the “Black Man's Burden.” [...] the white man has massacred the African in heaps. [...]</p> <p>[...T]he white man has carved broad and bloody avenues from one end of Africa to the other.[...] For three centuries the white man seized and enslaved millions of Africans and transported them, with every circumstance of ferocious cruelty, across the seas. Still the African survived and, in his land of exile, multiplied exceedingly.</p> <p>[.W]hat the Maxim [machine gun] and the rifle, the slave gang, labor in the bowels of the earth and the lash, have failed to do; what imported measles, smallpox and syphilis have failed to do; what even the oversea slave trade failed to do, the power of modern capitalistic exploitation, assisted by modern engines of destruction, may yet succeed in accomplishing.</p> <p>[...T]here is no escape for the African. Its [Imperialism's] destructive effects [...] are permanent. In its permanence resides its fatal consequences. It kills not the body merely, but the soul. It breaks the spirit. It attacks the African at every turn, from every point of vantage.</p> <p>It wrecks his polity [government], uproots him from the land, invades his family life, destroys his natural pursuits and occupations, claims his whole time, enslaves him in his own home...</p> <p>Nor is violent physical opposition to abuse and injustice henceforth possible for the African in any part of Africa. His chances of effective resistance have been steadily dwindling with the increasing perfectibility in the killing power of modern armament [military weapons] ...</p> <p>Thus the African is really helpless against the material gods of the white man [...], the African will go the way of the... Amerindian [indigenous people in the Americas], ...the aboriginal Australian, and many more. And this would be at once a crime of enormous magnitude, and a world disaster...</p> <p>[...] That purpose is clear. It is to make of Africans all over Africa a servile race; to exploit African labor, and through African labor, the soil of Africa for their own exclusive benefit...</p> <p>[...] Why cannot the white imperial peoples, acknowledging in some measure the injuries they have inflicted upon the African, turn a new leaf in their treatment of him? For nearly two thousand years they have professed to be governed by the teachings of Christ. Can they not begin in the closing century of that era, to practice what they profess – and what their missionaries of religion teach the African? Can they not cease to regard the African as a producer of dividends [profits] for a selected few among their number, and begin to regard him as a human being with human rights?</p> | |