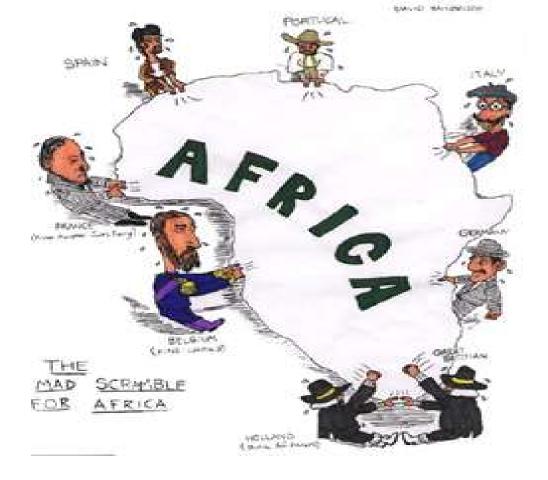
European Imperialism in Africa, 1870-1898

In this lesson, students will be able to define the following terms:

"Scramble for Africa"

Berlin Conference of 1884-1885

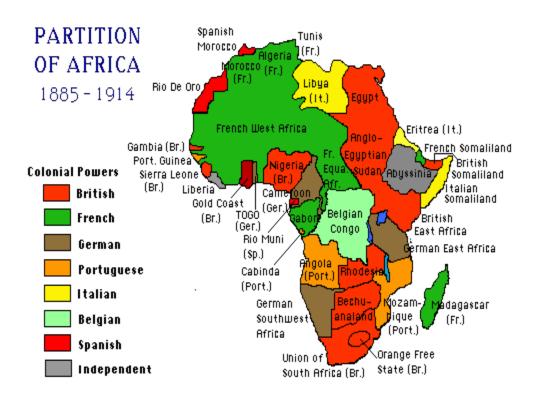
Effects of European Imperialism on Africa



European powers engaged in a "Scramble for Africa" starting in the 1870s. By 1890, most of Africa came under European control.

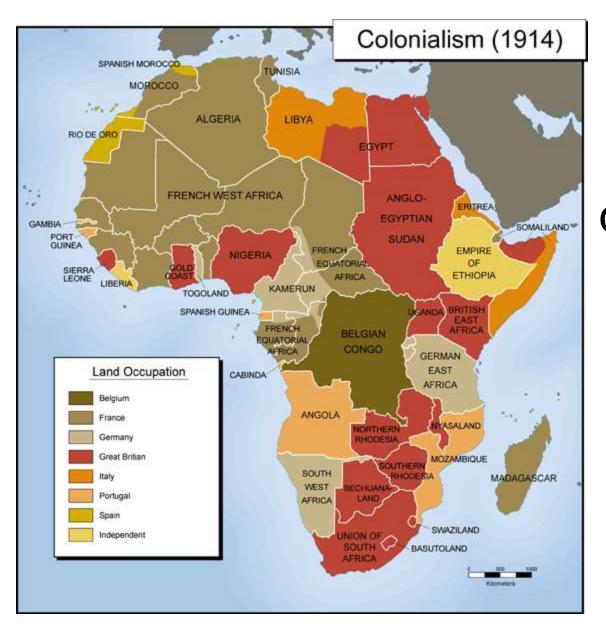


By 1890, only Ethiopia and Liberia remained independent.

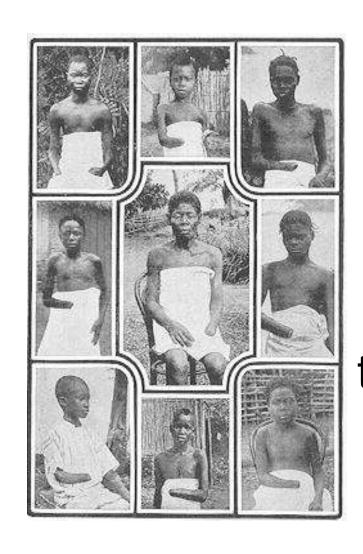


The major European powers to acquire African territories were Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Portugal, and Italy.

E. Napp



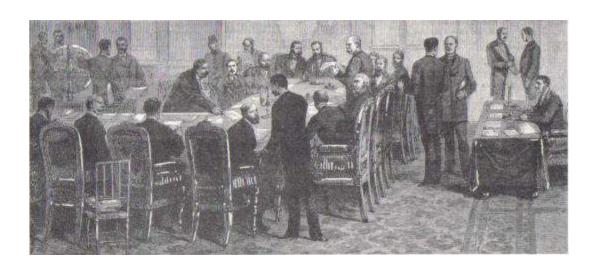
The French acquired much of northwestern Africa above the Sahara, as well as Central Africa.



King Leopold, the king of Belgium, ruled the Congo like his own private estate. Natives that did not supply enough rubber had their hands cut off. While the king profited, the people of the Belgian Congo suffered greatly.



The British established colonies in West Africa and along the length of most of East Africa from Egypt to South Africa.



Sometimes European imperialists came into conflict with one another. Disputes among the imperial powers were worked out at the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885. At the Berlin Conference, the remainder of Africa was divided up.



European imperialism had many effects on Africa. European colonization had both positive and negative effects on Africa.



A positive effect of European imperialism was the introduction of modern transportation and communication systems, such as telegraphs, railroads, and telephones.

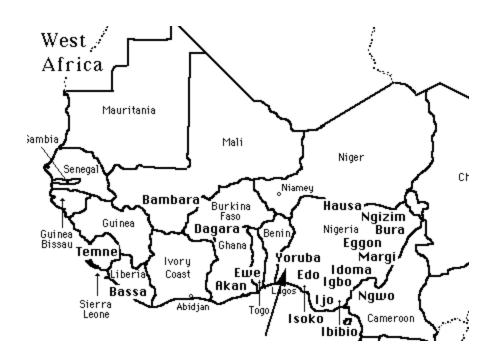


The introduction of European medicine and improved nutrition led to an expansion of population.

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However, there were many negative effects of European Imperialism on Africa. African peoples were treated as inferior to Europeans.



Europeans divided Africa and ignored the tribal, ethnic, and cultural boundaries of the African people. This has led to tribal conflicts in many African nations that continue to this day.

Questions for Reflection:

- What was the "Scramble for Africa"?
- Why did the Berlin Conference occur?
- What European nations gained control of Africa?
- What were the positive effects of European imperialism on Africa?
- What were the negative effects of European imperialism on Africa?