

### **Project: The Legacy of Imperialism**

Much of the world today lives under the conditions of “Third World”, “underdeveloped” or what is more commonly known as “developing” nations. The experience of colonialism in Africa was the focus of the novel “Things Fall Apart.” As we have discussed in class, there are several indicators by which to determine the development status of a country. As we have also discussed in class, several of the current political and economic problems in the developing world relate to the imperialism of these areas in the late 1800’s. As the imperialized nations became independent, they faced numerous political, economic and social problems.

**Task:** to conduct research into a former colony of Europe and/or the US to analyze their current rate of development / modernization and to examine the role (if at all) that imperialism played in creating the modern problems this nation faces today.

### **I. Development Status Report**

A. You will be assigned (or select) a country from Asia, Africa or Latin America. You will conduct research in order to determine the development status of this country. You will find the following statistics:

GNP or GDP	Per capita GNP or Per capita GDP
Literacy rate (G-M-F)	Urban and Rural population
Per capita income	Physicians per population
Infant Mortality Rate	Economic Activities
Trading Partners	Currency and value compared to US dollar
Type of Government	Running Water
Life Expectancy (G – M – F)	Exports
Suffrage	Transportation Systems
Population (G – M – F)	Percentage of Population under age of 14
Ethnic Groups	Average No. of Calories per day

Other statistics you find that serve as indicators (an additional ten)

B. You will choose ten of the above indicators (four should be GNP; per capita income, infant mortality and physicians per population and 6 more of your choice). Find these 10 indicators for the US and for another country in the region of your country. Show the comparative statistics of the three countries via bar / pie graphs, etc. You must cite the source(s) of information. You must include the statistics either by listing them or preparing maps/graphs or a combination of these.

C. You will prepare a statement “Development Status Report” where you discuss your country’s rate of development / modernization based on all of the statistics

### **II. Analysis – Critical Thinking (most important part of the project)**

You will conduct research on two current issues facing your assigned country (ONE economic and ONE social or political [ex. Ethnic conflict, environmental problems, dictatorship, etc.]

You will prepare a written analysis addressing:

- How these issues / problems affect or impact on the country
- How these issues / problems are related to imperialism (if you think they don’t relate to imperialism explain why not)

### **III. Presentation**

You will place your statistics, your development report [Part I] and your Current Issues / Imperialism Analysis [Part II] on a poster. Your poster should also include the articles you researched for Part II, along with any pictures, visuals you found to illustrate the development status and/or current issues of your country. Remember to cite all the sources for statistics, articles, graphs, maps, and photos that you use.

Presentation counts!!

**Weight: 50 points** –

**Due Date:** Thurs., Jan. 7, 2010