

Decolonization and its Effects	1914-Present
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Causes and EFFECTS:

Main Cause	Main Cause	Main Cause
One reason was that the Christian beliefs and Enlightenment movements contradicted European colonization. The world wars had weakened Europe’s ability to control the colonies as the pressure built on by the new superpowers.	The second main cause was the arousing of the colonies because all the social classes found a reason to join into the decolonization movement. The more educated realized they weren’t equals with the ruling country.	The last cause was the forming of historical actors and their gradual political reforms to prepare for decolonization.
<p>Nationalism/Self-determination was another cause to decolonization and the fight towards independence. Self-determination was the idea that each nation could be an independent state of its own. Mohandas Gandhi’s Indian National Congress was the leader for India’s independence against Britain. Ho Chi Minh was a Vietnamese communist leader and was a major push for the forming of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.</p>		
<p>Religious movements such as Muhammad Ali Jinnah’s Muslim breakaway formed Pakistan, contributing to decolonization. Promises of self determination were a push factor in making the colonies want independence even more. Arabs were angry because the Balfour Declaration let Jews move into their land.</p>		
<p>Transnational movements sought to unite people across national boundaries, such as Pan-Africanism or Pan-Arabism used ethnicity to join nations. Communist organizations such as Comintern tried to unite together with the power of this kind of rule.</p>		
<p>The collapse of empires was a vital factor of decolonization. The Ottomans had economic hardship (tough competition with America and India), the Russian Empire fell from the inside of the country (Russian Revolution), and the Qing dynasty ended because of the civil disorders and communism.</p>		

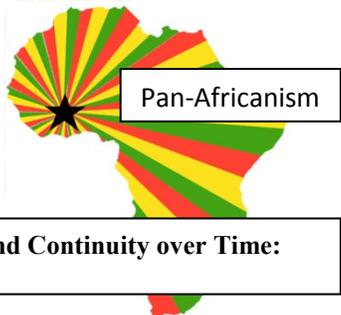
Independence was achieved in a variety of ways such as negotiation, incomplete independence, and civil war. **Civil war** was one way used by China in order to gain their independence resulting in violence and military action.

Nationalist Leaders

Negotiated Independence-India	Incomplete Independence-Vietnam
	
<p>Negotiated independence was used as a peaceful route to independence between the ruling country and the colony. The Indian National Congress led by Mohandas Gandhi promoted peaceful protest against Britain in order to gain independence. Muslims and Hindus were in conflict and experienced great violence. This resulted in Muslim Pakistan (Muhammad Ali Jinnah as the first prime minister) and Hindu India. This led to a population resettlement based on religious movements.</p>	<p>Incomplete Independence had great settler populations. Ho Chi Minh (Uncle Ho) declared independence from France in 1945 and Vietnam was forced to fight guerilla warfare against them to win their independence. Ho Chi Minh divides the country with a communist north. The United States sent help to the south but was defeated by the National Liberation Front.</p>
<p>The migration of former colonial settlers moving back to the imperial country has helped keep the connections between the two nations. A significant example of this was when the rich Arabs and Berbers moved back to France after the defeat from the National Liberation Front.</p>	
<p>Ethnic violence has led to the displacement of peoples which has led to refugee camps. The Rwandan genocide (1994), between the Tutsis and the Hutus, has estimated about 800,000 people dead. Over 2 million Hutus fled to refugee camps in Zaire (currently the Democratic Republic of the Congo).</p>	

Themes:

<p>Political-Freedom, nationalism, and national independence</p> <p>The biggest effect of decolonization is independence. The World Wars had weakened the ruling countries so it was hard to control the colonies. This theme shows the change from an imperial rule to independence. Nationalism was the spark to change such as the nationalist leader of Africa (Kwame Nkrumah) and how he fought for the end of white rule. Also the locals filled posts left by colonial powers during the war.</p>
<p>Economic-Neocolonialism</p> <p>After decolonization, the new nations struggled with their economic development so they were forced to trade raw materials for manufactured goods. Many new nations had a great risk of having few commodities because if one fluctuated, the country could end.</p>
<p>Social-Transnational Movements</p> <p>Pan Africanism was a movement for the unity of Africa. Kwame Nkrumah declared that Africa needs a continental economic plan, a military and defense strategy, and a unified foreign policy.</p>
<p>Culture-Religious and ethnic movements and interaction of cultures</p> <p>The relocation of people spread culture such as the rich Algerians and Berbers moving to Algeria. The imperial country and the colony interact and currently show influence of both cultures in the two nations. Religion plays a big part on decolonization such as the split of India between Muslims and Hindus.</p>
<p>Environment-population resettlements</p> <p>The Zionist Jewish resettlement of Palestine was the relocation of Jews in Palestine after the Balfour Declaration. The Palestinians were also displaced from the hostilities of the Arab-Israeli war.</p>



Change and Continuity over Time:

Changes	Continuities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government officials and rulers obviously changed as they experienced their own rule. Nelson Mandela became the first president of South Africa. • National boundaries fluctuated such as India and the Middle East because those decolonizations did not go as smoothly as other nations. • There was no more “white” dominance in the colonies as natives began to have distinctive cultures. • Population resettlements happened because of violence, new boundaries, etc. • The redistribution of land and resources sometimes brought upon socialism and communism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western economic dominance of the global trade system still prospered as their industrialized economies supported their countries. • Economic reforms were not made, so simple material exports were commodities of most nations. Independence comes with economic struggle because of the lack of industrialization.

Summary:

The key concept of this time period is ‘Global Conflicts and their Consequences’. Obviously, revolutions and the world wars weakened great powers. The economic strain of the wars helped decolonization as well as the Soviets hating colonialism. 1914-Present includes the end of all empires and the beginning of new nations. During the Cold War, the US fought against the Soviet Union by helping the new nations to not be communist. Self-Determination is a major theme of decolonization because without that, independence would not be possible. Decolonization was sometimes a violent process depending on how many settlers had come to the country. Most of the time, decolonization went on smoothly as power was passed from one class to another.