

Interesting and Useful Info #8 Imperialism

Crude Lecture & Discussion Outline

- I. Imperialism: Some General Observations
- II. Why Colonialism? Arguments for the Imperial Enterprise
- III. Critiques of Imperialism
- IV. Dramatic Changes in the Years, 1870-1914
- V. The Authority & development of Science in the Late 19th Century
- VI. Darwin & Social Darwinism
- VII. Challenges to Reason: Freud & co.
- VIII. Art: The Break with Direct Representation

A Chronology of Imperialism

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| 1830 | France takes over Algeria |
| 1839-42 | Opium War: Britain forces open China to trade |
| 1857 | Britain takes over formal control of India from British East India Co. |
| 1860s | Russian Conquest of Central Asia |
| 1868 | Meiji Restoration: the beginnings of rapid Japanese westernization |
| 1869 | Opening of the Suez Canal (gives Britain more direct access to India) |
| 1877 | British Queen Victoria proclaimed Empress of India |
| 1884 | Berlin conference on regulation of imperialism in Africa |
| 1896 | Italian defeat by Ethiopians at Adowa (rare instance of European defeat) |
| 1899-1902 | Boer War: Britain fights Dutch settlers of South Africa (Afrikaners) |
| 1900 | Chinese Boxer Rebellion against European powers |
| 1902 | J. A. Hobson publishes his critique <i>Imperialism: A Study</i> |
| 1905 | Russo-Japanese War (another case of European defeat). |

Concepts & People:

Scramble for Africa

Karl Pearson

Gandhi

Pax Britannica

Cecil Rhodes

J. A. Hobson

Joseph Chamberlain

Edmund Morel

Interesting Developments in Science, Technology & Leisure

- 1850s Appearance of sewing machine, invented by Isaac Singer
- 1859 Darwin publishes *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*
- 1860s Appearance of bicycles
- 1863 London underground rail transit system opens
Appearance of professional football (soccer) in Britain
- 1869 D. I. Mendeleev creates the Periodic Table of the Elements
- 1871 Darwin publishes *The Descent of Man*
- 1876 Telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell
- 1879 Thomas Edison invents the incandescent lamp
- 1879-81 Ferry Laws in France make primary schools free, obligatory, and secular
- 1880s Rudimentary condoms made of animal intestines replaced by rubber condoms.¹
- 1880 Britain passes law that all children attend school until age ten.
- 1881 First electric power stations begin operation in Britain
- 1885 Karl Benz invents the internal combustion engine.²
- 1888 (Relatively) light Kodak camera appears
- 1889 Eiffel Tower erected in Paris for centenary exhibition
- 1890s Development of wireless voice communication by Guglielmo Marconi
- 1894 First automobile race, in France
- 1895 Appearance of first silent films
- 1896 Britain raises speed limit to 14 miles per hour
First modern Olympic games, held in Athens
Discovery of radioactivity
- 1897 Rudolf Diesel produces first engine fueled by kerosene or pure oil.³
- 1900 French company Michelin publishes first guide for travelers
Paris subway (le métro) opens
Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin builds first lumbering dirigible airship
- 1903 Henry Ford founds his automobile company in Detroit
The first Tour de France bicycle race
- 1905 Albert Einstein's presentation of his special theory of relativity
- 1908 Robert Baden-Powell organizes Boy Scouts
- 1909 Publication of the Futurist Manifesto
- 1912 Freud publishes *A Note on the Unconscious in Psychoanalysis*
- 1930 Freud publishes *Civilization and Its Discontents*

People, concepts, etc:

Charles Darwin (1809-1882)	D. I. Mendeleev (1834-1907)
Periodic Table of the Elements (1869)	Evolution
Natural Selection	"Survival of the Fittest"
Social Darwinism	Sigmund Freud
The Futurists	Dada

¹ Condoms were used mostly against disease, less for birth control.

² That's Benz as in Mercedes Benz.

³ Great for large vehicles and heavy loads!