

II. Evolution of the Contemporary Political Map

A. Modern-Nation-State Concept

1. Most of European history ^{existed} no relation between the language people spoke and the state that they belonged to.

Ex: 1500's most of the people ruled by the King of France did not speak French.

B. Forces that Unify and Break Apart Countries

1. Centripetal Forces: unifies a people or state, brings them together.

a) Nationalism: a nation's desire to create and maintain a state of its own.

b) Shared Religion: Ex: Roman Catholicism = Mexicans

c) External Threats: Ex: Estonians are united by a fear of Russia.

d) Common Language Ex: Japanese

2. Centrifugal forces: pull away from the center, fracture

a) Religion

b) Political Views

C. Imperialism and Colonialism

1. Imperialism: Broad concept, variety of ways of influencing another country or group of people; direct conquest, economic control, cultural dominance
2. Colonialism is a type of imperialism where people move into and settle on land of another country.

3. Early European Colonialism

a) Led by Spain + Portugal then France + Britain

b) Established large empires in Americas

c) 3 G's

i) wanted religious influence by spreading their form of Christianity

ii) wanted economic wealth from exploiting land, labor, and capital to enrich the home country.

iii) wanted political power by expanding their influence throughout the world.

d) Terra Nullius: Latin for land belonging to no-one.

i) Allowed powers to seize uncivilized land.

e) Wars influenced colonial holdings (7 years war (French + Indian))

- led to American Revolution → led to more independent movements (Latin America)

4. Later Colonialism

a) Led by GB, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Germany

b) focused on controlling lands in Asia, Africa

c.) Berlin Conference (Congo Conference)

i) laid out claims to form state boundaries in Africa.

ii) Complete disregard for cultural boundaries