

The Big Easy Global Review

Global History and Geography
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Name: _____
Date: _____

The First Humans



- Anthropologists (studying the origins of humans) – Louis and Mary Leakey discovered evidence that suggests human beings first appeared in the Great Rift Valley of East Africa (between 200,000 and 400,000 years ago)
- Nomads – Hunters and gatherers
- First human cultures developed (culture is a way of life of a group of people.)



The Neolithic Revolution

- Around 8,000 B.C., some people learned to farm and domesticate animals
- Many archaeologists (social scientists excavating or digging up artifacts or human-made objects to discover prehistoric peoples and cultures) believe this change occurred in the Middle East
- Began in river valleys (Tigris and Euphrates, Nile, Indus, Huang He (Yellow))
- A result was that people began living in permanent settlements
- Agriculture, villages, complex class systems, government
- Rise of civilization (an advanced form of human culture with cities, writing, and technology)



Mesopotamia (3500 B.C. – 1700 B.C.)

Reconstruction of the Ziggurat at Ur

- Early civilization located between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers (present-day Iraq)
- Irrigation led to food surpluses
- Rise of city-states
- Sumerians were a group of people living in Mesopotamia
- Sumerians developed cuneiform (an early writing system) and built ziggurats (temples)
- Another people of Mesopotamia (Babylonians) developed the world's earliest written law code
- The Code of Hammurabi had harsh punishments and class divisions (wealthy people could sometimes pay a fine to avoid physical punishment)



Egypt (3200 B.C. – 500 B.C.)

- Located in North Africa
- Mostly desert but Nile River, longest river, runs through it

- Agriculture on the banks of the Nile River
- River flooded every year
- River used for transportation and trade
- Pharaoh was the absolute ruler, a divine ruler (god-king)
- Believed in life after death (pyramids as tombs for deceased pharaohs)
- Hieroglyphics (Egyptian writing)
- Used geometry to build pyramids



The Indus River Valley (Harappan Civilization: 2500 – 1500 B.C.)

- Indus River (South Asia) flooded depositing rich soil along its banks
- Food surpluses allowed people to build large cities
- Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro were important cities
- Evidence of urban planning – cities were built on a grid pattern
- Developed writing and made first cotton cloth
- Built sewage systems



The Huang He (Yellow River: 2000 – 1027 B.C.)

- China's first civilization emerged along Huang He or Yellow River
- Rice cultivation became common
- Around 1760 B.C., a ruling family (dynasty) known as Shang took control of region
- Nobles lived in cities
- Use of Bronze (mixture of copper and tin)
- Chinese system of writing – each character represented a different word



Kush (750 B.C. – 350 A.D.)

- African kingdom located upstream on Nile River, south of Egypt
- Nomadic Cattle herders who frequently traded with the Egyptians
- Egypt greatly influenced Kushite culture
- Adopted Egyptian art forms, religious beliefs, and even the building of pyramids
- Known for its iron wares



Phoenicia

- Located on the Mediterranean coast by present-day Lebanon
- Sea-faring traders

- Established trading posts in Italy, Spain, and North Africa
- Invented an alphabet using twenty-two symbols
- Each symbol represented a different sound
- Spread through cultural diffusion



The Hebrews

- Developed a civilization along the Mediterranean occupied by present-day Israel, Lebanon, and Jordan
- Judaism was the religion of the Hebrews
- It was the first monotheistic religion
- Monotheism is the belief in one God
- The Torah is the first five books of the Hebrew Bible (Christians refer to the Hebrew Bible as the Old Testament)
- According to Jewish tradition, ancient Hebrews migrated from Israel to Egypt to escape food shortages from drought
- Enslaved in Egypt until Moses led the Hebrews out of Egypt (this flight from Egypt is known as the Exodus)
- Moses received the Ten Commandments (moral and ethical rules in the Bible that forbid immoral behavior)
- Hebrews returned to Israel and established their capital at Jerusalem



The Persian Empire

- Lived in the region between the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf
- Beginning around 550 B.C., rulers extended the territory
- At height, Persian Empire stretched more than 3,000 miles from the Nile to the Indus River
- Vast empire (a state that rules over different people) was divided into provinces connected by a system of roads
- Each province paid tribute (taxes) to Persian ruler
- In 570 B.C., a new religion was introduced (Zoroastrianism)
- Zoroastrianism taught that there were two forces in the world: a force of light and goodness and a force of darkness and evil – the world is a battleground
- According to Zoroaster, those who led good lives would go to Heaven and the others would be doomed to Hell



The Greeks

- Ancient Greece consisted of a large mountainous peninsula and the islands of the Aegean Sea
- Seas used for trade
- Trade increased cultural diffusion (sharing of cultural ideas and objects)
- Adopted the Phoenician alphabet
- Mountains separated the early Greek city-states
- Each city acted as a separate country although shared a common culture based on language, religious beliefs, and customs
- Athens and Sparta were important city-states
- Sparta was a militaristic city-state, slaves (helots) farmed, and strict discipline was emphasized
- Athens developed direct democracy (only free men born in Athens – women, slaves, and foreigners could not vote), experienced a golden age (Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were important philosophers – built the Parthenon and its columns – theater and mathematics)
- A rivalry developed between Athens and Sparta which led to the Peloponnesian War – after thirty years, Sparta emerged as the victor



Alexander the Great

- In 338 B.C., the king of Macedonia brought all of the Greek city-states under his control
- His son, Alexander the Great, went on to conquer most of the Mediterranean world, including Persia and Egypt
- Extended his conquests to the Indus River Valley
- Empire collapsed shortly after his death
- His conquests spread Hellenism (a Greek-like culture – a blend of Greek, Persian, Egyptian, and Indian influences)



The Roman Empire

- Rome was located in the middle of the Italian peninsula
- Alps mountains (in the north) protected Rome from invaders and seas were used for trade and expansion
- Early Roman class system: patricians (wealthy landowners) and plebeians (small farmers, craftsmen, and merchants)

- In early times, Romans established a republic (citizens elect representatives like Senators and citizens are the source of political power)
- The Twelve Tables of Roman Law or Roman written laws were issued mainly to protect the plebeians (innocent until proven guilty and equality under the law)
- After conquering Italian peninsula, Rome defeated Carthage (former Phoenician colony in North Africa) and by 146 B.C. Rome dominated all of the Mediterranean world but expansion changed Rome
- Julius Caesar, a general, conquered Gaul (France) and Spain and marched his armies back to Rome deciding to become a dictator for life but was assassinated in 44 B.C. by Senators
- Augustus Caesar became the first Roman Emperor and began a long period of peace known as the Pax Romana began
- Built new public baths, aqueducts, stadiums, and other buildings
- Promoted trade and offered citizenship throughout the empire
- Permitted existence of other religions but expected conquered people to worship the emperor as divine
- Romans destroyed the Jewish temple in Jerusalem and drove many Jews out of Palestine (the Diaspora or scattering of the Jewish people began)
- Despite persecution, Christianity spread and in the 4th century, Emperor Constantine became a Christian



The Fall of the Western Roman Empire

- Starting in the third century, the Roman Empire began to weaken
- Many emperors were corrupt and ineffective
- The cost of defending the empire led to high taxes
- Inflation and unemployment led to economic difficulties
- Under continual attack by fierce tribes from Northern Europe and Central Asia – The Romans considered these individuals to be barbarians
- In the late 300s, Huns from Central Asia began attacking German tribes which in turn pushed toward Rome
- Invaders successfully invaded Rome
- In 476 A.D., the last Roman emperor was overthrown in the West
- However, the Eastern empire, later known as the Byzantine empire, survived for another thousand years



Roman Achievements

- Law: Roman concepts of justice, equality before the law, and natural law based on reason shaped later legal systems

- **Language:** Latin was the language of Rome and from Latin, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Italian, and Romanian evolved
- **Engineering:** The Romans built thousands of miles of roads to connect the empire as well as bridges and aqueducts to supply water to their cities – The Romans developed concrete and the use of arches and domes
- **Christianity:** The adoption of the Christian religion by the Roman empire was a major turning point in the spread of Christianity



The Aryans

- About 1500 B.C., a people from Central Asia known as the Aryans arrived in India
- They had iron weapons and horse-drawn chariots and were excellent warriors
- Conquered the Indus River Valley and then moved into the Ganges River Valley
- Brought their own religion to India which would evolve into Hinduism
- Aryan conquest led to the creation of a new social system known as the caste system
- A person was born into his caste and remained in his caste throughout his lifetime (it was a rigid or fixed class system)
- People were not allowed to marry outside of their caste
- Untouchables or outcastes were considered to be beneath all other social groups and performed the lowliest tasks
- Hindus believed a person's soul was reborn and that caste, therefore, was a punishment or reward for past deeds



The Mauryan Empire

- A great empire emerged in northern India
- Its most significant ruler, King Asoka (269 B.C.E. -232 B.C.E.) converted from Hinduism to Buddhism after a particularly violent battle
- Buddhism had developed in India around 500 B.C. and Buddhists believed in renouncing worldly desires to find inner peace
- Asoka was a tolerant ruler who encouraged all religious groups to live peacefully with one another
- Asoka improved roads, built hospitals, and sent teachers throughout the empire to encourage education and spread the ideas of Buddhism
- The empire began to fall apart after his death



The Gupta Empire (320 A.D. – 535 A.D.)

- The Gupta family emerged as a new ruling family in northeastern India
- The Guptas encouraged peace, prosperity, and trade (golden age of Hindu culture)
- Built universities and supported learning
- Excelled at mathematics and science
- Developed the concept of zero, the idea of infinity, and the decimal system
- Artists painted colorful murals
- Writers composed poems and plays in Sanskrit (the literary and religious written language of India)



Zhou Dynasty (1027 B.C. – 221 B.C.)

- The Zhou conquered the Shang and established a dynasty in China
- The Zhou rulers claimed that they had the Mandate of Heaven (Chinese belief that the gods chose the emperor to rule but could remove a corrupt emperor)
- Dynasty descended into warfare as competing warlords tried to achieve control
- Two important philosophies developed: Confucianism and Daoism
- For Confucius, preserving the social order became the most important human value – society depended on good family relations and good government
- For Lao-zi, the founder of Daoism, nature has a *dao*, or way, in which it moves and people should respect nature and harmony and accept things as they are



The Qin Dynasty (221 B.C. - 206 B.C.)

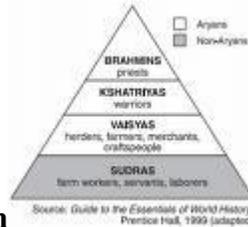
- Shi Huang-ti began a new dynasty in China
- He was the first Chinese ruler to call himself “emperor”
- He believed that people were not always good and required a strong ruler to keep control (Legalism – Chinese philosophy)
- He established a strong central government, built roads, and introduced a uniform system of writing and measurement throughout the empire
- Shi Huang-ti joined together several existing walls to form the Great Wall of China
- The Great Wall was built to protect China from nomadic peoples to the northwest

- The dynasty came to an end after the death of Shi Huang-ti because his rule was so harsh



The Han Dynasty (206 B.C. -220 A.D.)

- The next dynasty kept China unified for over four hundred years
- It is frequently compared to the Roman Empire
- Han emperors established examinations to select candidates for government service
- Merchants established overland trade routes
- The Silk Road went through Central Asia, connecting China to the Middle East and Rome
- Contact with India led to the introduction of Buddhism to China



Hinduism

- Largely based on the beliefs of the Aryans
- No single holy book but sacred writings like the Upanishads and the Bhagavad-Gita
- Dominant religion of India
- Believe in many gods (polytheism) but believe each god is a part of Brahma, creator god)
- Believe in reincarnation (the soul is reborn)
- Believe in karma (a person's actions determine his status in the next life)
- The caste system is a fixed social class system
- A Hindu is born into his caste and remains in his caste throughout this lifetime
- A Hindu must marry in his caste (this is a rule of the caste system – Dharma)
- The Ganges River is considered a sacred river and the cow is a sacred animal



Buddhism

- Began in India around 500 B.C.
- Prince Siddhartha Gautama lived a life of luxury but left in order to understand the cause of suffering
- Saw an old man, a sick man, a corpse, and a holy man

- After years of searching, concluded that desire caused suffering
- To end suffering, a person must give up selfish desire
- Became known as the Buddha or “Enlightened One”
- Missionaries spread Buddhism to China, Korea, and Japan
- The Four Noble Truths explain the causes and cessation of suffering
- The Eightfold Path are eight actions that help end suffering
- Nirvana is the end of suffering



Confucianism

- Chinese philosopher (551 B.C. – 479 B.C.)
- Encouraged people to follow traditional ways
- Believed that by maintaining order, peace occurred
- In a relationship, there is an inferior and a superior
- Inferiors had to obey superiors
- Each person must act according to his role in a society (a son must obey his father)
- Filial piety is a respect for parents and ancestors
- Confucianism became the official philosophy of China
- Candidates for government service had to take a test based on Confucian ideals
- The family was very important



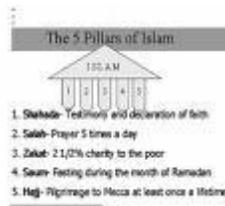
Christianity

- Began about 2,000 years ago in the Middle East
- Based on the beliefs and life of Jesus Christ
- Preached forgiveness, mercy, and sympathy for the poor
- Jesus was crucified by the Romans for claiming that he was the Messiah or savior
- After Jesus’ death, a band of followers known as Apostles, spread the religion
- Eventually, became the dominant religion of the Roman Empire
- Belief that Jesus was the son of God and sacrificed himself to save humankind from punishment for sins
- Belief that Jesus was resurrected and rose to Heaven
- Belief that a Christian will be saved and will go to Heaven after death if they have faith in Christ as their savior and treat others with love and respect
- Sacred book consists of Old Testament (Jewish Bible) and New Testament which describes the life of Christ and the works of the Apostles



The Byzantine Empire

- In 330 A.D., the Roman Emperor Constantine moved the capital of the Roman empire from Rome to Byzantium – a Greek city in the eastern part of the empire
- Constantine renamed the city Constantinople
- When the western half of the Roman empire collapsed in the 5th century, the eastern half of the empire, which became known as the Byzantine Empire, survived for a thousand years beyond the fall of Rome
- At the crossroads of Europe and Asia, it had a great location for trade
- Trade led to prosperity
- The emperor held absolute power
- Developed their own form of Christianity (Orthodox Christianity or the Eastern Orthodox Church)
- An official break between the Orthodox Christian Church and the Roman Catholic Church occurred in 1054 A.D.
- Were continuously at war with neighbors
- In 1453, the city of Constantinople was conquered by the Ottoman Turks
- However, Byzantine influence is still seen in Russia
- Byzantine missionaries brought the Orthodox Christian religion to Russia and introduced the Cyrillic alphabet to Russia
- The absolute power held by the Byzantine emperors became a model for future Russian rulers
- The greatest Byzantine legacy was the preservation of Greek philosophy and science and Roman engineering
- The Code of Justinian was another important legacy – the Byzantines consolidated Roman laws into a single legal code that influenced later Western legal systems
- Constantinople’s cathedral, the Hagia Sophia, is considered one of the world’s most beautiful buildings



Islam

- Founded by Muhammad, an Arab merchant living in Mecca, in the 600s
- Believed in monotheism (one God known as “Allah” in Arabic and the same God worshipped by Jews and Christians)
- Forced to leave Mecca due to his new religious vision and fled to the city of Medina in 622 A.D. (Muhammad’s flight from Mecca to Medina is known as the Hegira or Hijra)
- The Hegira is the starting point of the Islamic calendar

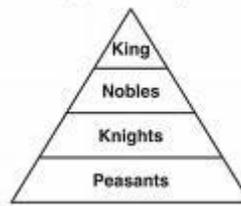
- In Medina, Muhammad became a powerful leader and gathered an army to retake Mecca in a jihad or “holy war”
- The Qu’ran or Koran is the holy book of Islam
- The Five Pillars of the Faith are the religious duties of Muslims (followers of Islam)
- A Muslim must believe in one God, pray five times a day facing the holy city of Mecca, give charity, fast from sunrise to sunset during the month of Ramadan, and take a pilgrimage (the Hajj) to Mecca if physically able
- Islam united the various Arab tribes with a common religion and language (Arabic)
- Once united, Arabs began to conquer a vast empire
- The caliphate (government of the caliph or Islamic ruler) moved first to Damascus in present-day Syria and then to Baghdad in present-day Iraq
- During the Baghdad caliphate, Islamic civilization experienced a Golden Age
- Arab scholars borrowed the concept of zero from India and developed Arabic numerals
- Arab scholars made great advances in algebra and geometry
- Arab doctors discovered that blood moves to and from the heart
- Arab doctors learned to diagnose many diseases, including measles and smallpox
- Muhammad forbade making images of God or people (Islamic art is largely made up of geometric designs)
- Beautiful mosques or Islamic houses of worship were built and richly decorated



Charlemagne

- The Franks (Germanic tribe) established the largest of the new Germanic kingdoms after the fall of Rome
- Charlemagne became king of the Franks in 768 A.D.
- Expanded the Frankish practice of giving land to his nobles in exchange for their promises of loyalty and service (Feudalism)
- Peasants put themselves in service to their lords for security (serfs)
- Expanded the Frankish kingdom to include present-day France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, and northern Italy
- Resisted the further expansion of the Muslims who had conquered Spain
- In 800 A.D., Charlemagne was crowned Holy Roman Emperor by the Pope
- Although his empire did not last, Charlemagne established the social, cultural, and political foundations for much of Western Europe for the next several centuries

European Feudal System



Feudal Society in Europe

- To protect themselves from violence and provide for basic economic needs, people throughout Western Europe adopted the system used in the centuries following the fall of Rome
- Feudalism was a political and military system based on the exchange of land for military service
- Local nobles (lords) were given land by their rulers in exchange for military service
- The lords had small armies of their own made up of knights (armed warriors on horseback – followed a code of chivalry or rules for knights)
- People were born as serfs or lords and could not change their social position
- During the Middle Ages, most people lived on manors
- A manor consisted of the lord's house and the peasants living around it
- Each manor was self-sufficient, producing its needs
- Serfs (peasants bound to the land) gave their lords part of their harvest in return for the use of the land and other services they needed
- In exchange, the lords protected their serfs from attacks by outsiders
- The feudal system was less centralized than the Roman Empire had been
- Under the feudal system, the leading nobles controlled the political life
- The king relied on them for his armies, and they often fought among themselves or challenged the king's authority



The Role of the Roman Catholic Church during the Middle Ages

- The Roman Catholic Church was the single most powerful institution in Western Europe during the Middle Ages
- People were very religious and the Catholic Church was the only Christian Church in Western Europe during the Middle Ages
- Medieval people believed the Church represented God and held the power to send a person to Heaven or Hell
- The Catholic faith united many people in the Middle Ages
- The Church became Europe's largest landowner as many nobles often left land to the Church when they died, hoping to gain entry into heaven
- Catholics also paid tithes or church taxes
- The Church was the main center of learning



The Crusades

- The Crusades were a series of holy wars to recapture the Holy Land from Muslim rulers
- Early in the 11th century, the Seljuk Turks took control of the “Holy Land,” and drove the Christian pilgrims out
- The Pope called on all Christians in Europe to unite and fight a holy Crusade in 1095 A.D.
- Seven Crusades were fought over the next two centuries
- The Christian Crusaders did not gain permanent control of Jerusalem
- However, there were many positive effects of the Crusades
- Europeans gained exposure to the ideas of the Islamic golden age – the use of zero in mathematics
- The Europeans were introduced to new products such as silk, rice, spices, coffee, perfumes, cotton cloth, raisins, and glass mirrors
- Demand for foreign products led to increases in trade
- There were negative effects too like the Crusades led to the Christian persecution of Jews and Muslims



T'ang (618 -907) and Song (960 -1279) Dynasties

- After a period of unrest that followed the collapse of the Han Dynasty, by the early 600s, the T'ang Dynasty had restored order and experienced a Golden Age
- T'ang rulers re-united China and brought peace and prosperity
- China expanded into Korea, Manchuria, and parts of Central Asia
- The examination system was re-established and Confucianism provided the empire with a guiding philosophy
- Architecture, sculpture, painting, and porcelain all made great advances
- T'ang China also developed block printing, so that copies of Confucian texts could be printed
- The Song Dynasty arose soon afterwards to take its place
- Song China remained the most advanced civilization of its time
- The Chinese engaged in trade with many parts of the world
- The many achievements of the T'ang and Song dynasties included the invention of block printing, the crossbow, gunpowder, the abacus, and the compass.



Japan's Golden Age: The Heian Period (794-1185)

- Japan is an archipelago or a series of islands
- The emperor claimed to be a descendant of the Sun Goddess
- Greatly influenced by Chinese culture with Korea serving as a cultural bridge connecting China to Japan
- Writing, Confucianism, and Buddhism entered Japan from China and Korea
- The Japanese did not accept all Chinese cultural practices (they rejected the Mandate of Heaven)
- Shinto was the traditional religion of Japan and it was a form of animism that emphasized the importance of spirits in nature
- The Heian period was Japan's Golden Age
- Art and literature flourished
- Lady Murasaki wrote the world's earliest novel (the Tale of Genji)
- By the end of the Heian period, noble landowners began to raise their own private armies of warriors, known as samurai



The West African Kingdom of Ghana (750 -1200)

- The people of Ghana used their ability to make iron swords, spears, and lances to defeat their neighbors and gain control over West Africa's major trade routes
- Due to its location and military power, Ghana controlled the important Trans-Saharan trade routes or the salt for gold trade across the Sahara desert
- The kings of Ghana taxed all trade passing through the region
- In 1076, Ghana was invaded by Muslims from North Africa and never fully recovered, eventually dissolving into many smaller states



The West African Kingdom of Mali (1240 -1400)

- In 1240, Mali conquered Ghana
- Mali's rulers established a new empire and brought gold and salt mines under their control

- Mali's rulers converted to Islam (Islam entered West Africa along trade routes)
- Mansa Musa was Mali's most famous ruler and he greatly expanded his kingdom
- In the 1330s, Mansa Musa made a religious pilgrimage to Mecca
- He turned his capital city of Timbuktu into a flourishing center of trade and learning
- Ibn Battuta, the great Muslim traveler, visited Mansa Musa's kingdom and wrote a primary source (eyewitness account) of his experiences
- Later rulers proved to be less capable than Mansa Musa and the empire collapsed shortly after his death



The West African Kingdom of Songhai (1464 - 1600)

- In 1464, the Songhai people captured Timbuktu
- It was the largest of Africa's three trading empires
- It grew rich from trade across the Sahara Desert
- Like Mali, it was also Muslim
- The kingdom lasted only 100 years as invading armies of Morocco entered with guns



Benin

- Developed in the rain forests of West Africa
- Famous for its bronze sculptures, among the finest in all of African art
- By the 16th century, became involved in the slave trade
- Traded captives from other tribes and exchanged them with Europeans for guns and iron goods



Zimbabwe

- Farther to the south, Zimbabwe became one of Africa's best known trading kingdoms

- Zimbabwe traded gold (gold deposits were crucial to its rise), copper, and ivory to traders who appeared along Africa's east coast



The Mongol Empire

- The Mongols lived in the steppes (dry, treeless grasslands of Central Asia)
- Nomadic peoples that excelled at horsemanship
- Developed fierce fighting skills
- Chinggis (Genghis) Khan (1162-1227) united the Mongol tribes and began attacking neighboring peoples
- Under his successors, Mongol rule stretched from the Pacific Ocean to the Black Sea
- The “Pax Mongolia” was a period of peace and stability in the Mongol Empire
- Trade increased during the Pax Mongolia



The Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368)

- Chinggis Khan's grandson, Kublai Khan, became emperor of northern China in 1260
- In 1279, he reunited all of China under his rule
- Encouraged the Mongols to adopt Chinese ways
- Adopted the Chinese name of Yuan for his dynasty
- Marco Polo, an Italian merchant, visited China in the 1270s
- Marco Polo was astounded at the technological superiority of the Chinese
- A book published about his travels encouraged interest in China and exploration
- Kublai Khan's successors proved unable to maintain control of China



Mongol Rule in Russia

- In the 13th century, Mongol warriors conquered most of Russia
- Russians were cut off from Western Europe
- In 1480, Ivan the Great declared Muscovy's (people living around present-day Moscow) independence from the Mongols and proclaimed himself Tsar (or emperor)



Japan's Feudal Period (1200 – 1600)

- By the 1100s, the Japanese emperor's power was so weakened that Japan collapsed into civil war
- A system of feudalism, similar to that found in Europe, arose
- The Shogun was the most powerful lord in feudal Japan
- The Shogun was the real ruler while the emperor acted as a figurehead
- The daimyo or noble landowners recruited samurai warriors to provide military protection for their lands
- Each samurai swore an oath of loyalty to the emperor and to his local daimyo
- The samurai promised to follow a strict code of honor known as Bushido
- A samurai who dishonored his daimyo was expected to take his own life
- The art of flower arranging, the Japanese tea ceremony, landscape painting, and the art of gardening all developed during the feudal period



The Decline of Feudalism

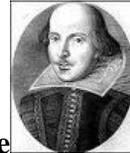
- Beginning in the 1200s, increased trade led to the growth of towns, the development of a middle class, and the greater use of money in Europe
- Skilled craftsmen and merchants organized themselves into associations known as guilds
- In the mid-1300s, rats with fleas carrying a disease from Asia called the Black Death (bubonic plague) entered Europe on trading ships
- Between 1347 and 1351, nearly 25 million people – about one-third of Europe's population – died in this epidemic
- The epidemic created a labor shortage in Europe, allowing large numbers of peasants to escape from serfdom when landowners offered them freedom in exchange for work
- The rise of cities, the emergence of powerful kings, the decline of knights, and the end of serfdom gradually spelled the end of the feudal order



The Renaissance

- A new interest in learning about classical civilizations, especially those of ancient Greece and Rome, developed in the city-states of Italy in the 1400s
- A period of great intellectual and artistic creativity

- Began in Italian city-states due to wealth generated from trade (location of Italian peninsula allowed Italian city-states to dominate Mediterranean trade)
- Renaissance spirit of inquiry spread across the rest of Europe
- Growth of secularism (a non-religious perspective) and humanism (the worth and uniqueness of the individual)



Important Individuals of the Renaissance

- Leonardo Da Vinci – painted *The Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*
- Michelangelo – paintings on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel and sculptures of *David*, *Moses*, and the *Pieta*
- Niccolo Machiavelli – wrote *The Prince* (this philosopher advised rulers to do anything necessary to maintain and increase power)
- William Shakespeare – wrote plays (*Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*) and poems
- Nicolas Copernicus – stated that the earth revolved around the sun (contradicted Church teachings)
- Galileo Galilei – supported the Copernican theory
- Francis Bacon – rejected reliance on authorities and developed the scientific method based on direct observation, measurement, and experimentation



The Protestant Reformation

- In 1517, Martin Luther posted his ninety-five theses calling for reforms in the Roman Catholic Church
- Luther challenged the Pope's right to sell indulgences or pardons from punishment for committing a sin, allowing a buyer to enter Heaven
- Luther believed that only through personal faith alone could a person be saved and go to Heaven
- Luther protested corruption in the Roman Catholic Church
- The Pope excommunicated Luther but German princes protected Luther
- Luther started his own Protestant church
- Other Protestants (like John Calvin) also challenged and protested against the Roman Catholic Church
- New Christian churches developed – ending Christian unity
- As the Roman Catholic Church lost power, the power of European kings began to grow

- Henry VIII broke with the Pope and became the head of the Church of England in 1534
- Persecution increased as rulers tried to ensure that their subjects were all of one faith
- The invention of movable type or the printing press in 1455 by Johann Gutenberg helped reformers like Luther spread their ideas



The Catholic Counter Reformation

- The Protestant Reformation weakened the power of the Catholic Church
- As Protestantism gained supporters, the Catholic Church reacted by making limited reforms and halting its previous abuses
- The Council of Trent (1545 – 1563) was held to redefine Catholic beliefs and to stop the spread of Protestantism
- The Council of Trent ended the sale of indulgences
- The Inquisition was used by Catholic officials to end heresy (beliefs contrary to Church teachings) by force
- The Jesuits, begun by Ignatius Loyola in 1534, were dedicated to defending and spreading the Catholic faith
- The Catholic Church checked the further spread of Protestantism and even won some areas back
- Germany and the Netherlands became involved in a series of bloody wars, ending in the Thirty Years War (1618-1648) in which one-third of Europe's population died



The Mayas (1500 B.C. -1546 A.D.)

- A pre-Columbian (existing before the arrival of Columbus) civilization in Mesoamerica (present-day Mexico and Central America)
- Developed a complex civilization in the rain forests of present-day Guatemala and southern Mexico
- Built stone pyramids, developed a complex numbering system with the concept of zero, and created a calendar of 365 days to keep track of seasons
- Developed a writing system
- Experienced a golden age between 300 and 900 A.D.
- Constant warfare led to decline and collapse of civilization



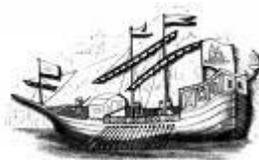
The Aztecs (1200-1521 A.D.)

- Learned to grow corn (maize)
- Settled in the Valley of Mexico
- Engaged in frequent warfare to conquer neighboring peoples
- Built pyramids and temple complexes
- Worshipped many gods
- Believed the Sun God needed human blood to continue his journeys across the sky
- Engaged in human sacrifice to keep the universe in motion
- Conquered by Hernan Cortes, conquistador from Spain



The Incas (1200-1535)

- Developed along the Pacific coast and in the Andes mountains of South America
- About 1400, began expanding across the Andes
- Built stone roads and rope bridges stretching thousands of miles to unite the distant corners of their empire
- Used a quipu or knotted ropes to count, keep records, and send messages
- Grew potatoes and engaged in terrace farming on mountains
- Superb engineering skills allowed the Inca to construct vast stone buildings high in the Andes
- The ruins of Machu Picchu was an ancient Incan fortress city high in the Andes
- Blocks expertly cut and fitted together without the use of mortar
- Conquered by Francisco Pizarro, conquistador from Spain



The Age of Exploration

- The conquest of the Byzantine Empire by the Ottoman Turks in 1453 temporarily cut Europe off from trade with East Asia
- New incentives to find an all-water passage to Asia
- The Crusades and Marco Polo's reports encouraged travel and exploration

- European rulers believed that control of trade with Asia would increase wealth
- Better navigation tools like the compass allowed Europeans to sail farther
- Christian encouraged travel and exploration
- European rulers believed that control of trade with Asia would increase wealth
- Better navigation tools like the compass allowed Europeans to sail farther
- Christian rulers in Europe wanted to spread their religion through overseas exploration
- Spain and Portugal led the way in looking for an all-water route to Asia
- Christopher Columbus accidentally landed in the Americas in 1492
- Vasco Da Gama discovered an all-water route from Europe to India in 1497
- Ferdinand Magellan's crew circumnavigated the world in 1519 confirming that the world was round



The Conquistadors

- Spanish conquistadors (conquerors) and priests soon arrived after the first explorers
- They conquered native peoples, seized their gold and silver, brought new diseases, and converted native peoples to Christianity
- Small number of Spanish soldiers – using horses and firearms and acting with local allies – quickly overcame large numbers of Native Americans
- In 1519, Hernan Cortes sailed to Mexico in search of gold and silver
- Smallpox disease led to the deaths of many Native Americans (lacked immunity against smallpox)
- Cortes defeated the Aztecs in 1521
- By 1533, Francisco Pizarro had conquered the Inca capital
- Pizarro had captured and murdered the Incan emperor



The Effects of the European Encounter with the Native Americans

- The European encounter with the Native Americans led to an exchange of ideas, customs, and technologies
- This great cultural diffusion is often called the Columbian Exchange since it began with the arrival of Columbus
- The European diet was greatly altered by the introduction of new foods like tomatoes, corn, potatoes, and chocolate
- Western Europe became the center of a vast global trading network, with trade shifting away from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic coast

- Wealth from the “New World” enriched European merchants and their kings, especially the states bordering the Atlantic – Portugal, Spain, England, France, and Holland



The Colonial Experience in Latin America

- Spain sent royal governors to rule the colonies in the king’s name
- Gold and silver from the Americas were shipped to Spain
- Conquered lands were often divided among soldiers
- Native Americans were used to farm the land and work the mines
- This system of forced “Indian” labor was called the *encomienda* system
- Many Native Americans died due to diseases brought by the conquerors like measles and smallpox
- *Peninsulares* were European-born nobles sent from Spain and Portugal to govern the colonies (most powerful class in colonial Latin America)
- *Creoles* were people born in the Americas of European parents (wealthy landowners but not assigned to the top political jobs)
- *Mestizos* were people of mixed European and Native American ancestry
- Native Americans worked under serf-like conditions
- Africans were enslaved



The Transatlantic Slave Trade

- The death of many Native Americans from new diseases and harsh working conditions created a need for a work force for the Spanish colonists
- The solution to the problem was found in the Transatlantic slave trade
- Enslaved people were usually captured by warring African tribes and traded to European and American slave traders in exchange for guns and other goods
- Slave traders removed millions of Africans over next 300 years
- Many captives died during the voyage, known as the “Middle Passage”, due to harsh conditions on board the ships
- Those that survived found themselves prisoners in a strange land
- The Transatlantic slave trade encouraged tribes to go to war with each other to obtain slaves to trade for European guns and other goods
- The slave trade destroyed much of Africa’s rich heritage and severely disrupted its economic development, creating a legacy of violence and bitterness



The Commercial Revolution

- The Commercial Revolution marked an important transition of Europe from the local economies of the Middle Ages to leadership of a global economy
- European kings hoped to increase their power through the system of mercantilism
- Mercantilists taught that real wealth and power were based on ownership of gold and silver
- Europeans established overseas colonies
- These “mother countries” imported raw materials from the colonies and exported more expensive finished goods
- The competition for colonial empires spilled over into a series of wars between the European powers
- Merchants and bankers laid the foundations for a system known as capitalism
- In capitalism, business owners risked their capital (money) in business in order to make profits
- The growth of new businesses led to a demand for huge sums of money
- To raise these sums, joint stock companies were sometimes formed and were privately-owned companies that sold stock to investors hoping to make a profit



The Rise of Royal Power in Europe

- Religious wars that followed the Protestant Reformation provided European rulers with an opportunity build large standing armies and to increase their wealth through new taxes
- The growing middle classes in towns often allied with their king, who offered greater stability against the nobles
- Monarchs began to justify their increased power on the basis of divine right
- According to this theory, the king was God’s deputy on Earth
- The Englishman Thomas Hobbes wrote that kings were justified in assuming absolute power because only they could maintain order in a society



An Absolute Monarch – Louis XIV

- Absolutism refers to a monarch’s total control over his subjects

- Provided a model for other absolute monarchs
- Under his rule, the king's command was law
- Critics who challenged the king were punished
- To subdue the nobles, Louis built a large palace at Versailles
- Leading nobles were expected to spend most of the year at the royal court under the watchful eye of the king
- He demanded that Protestants convert to Catholicism or leave France



Peter the Great (1682-1725)

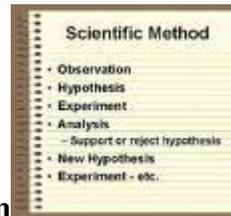
- Peter the Great was an absolute ruler of Russia, a tsar
- He turned Russia from a backward nation into a modern power by introducing Western ideas, culture, and technology
- He moved the capital of Russia from Moscow to St. Petersburg, a city he built on the Baltic coast so that Russia would have a “window on the West”
- He expanded Russian territory, gained much needed warm-water ports, and started a process of westernization
- His policies of expansion and Westernization were continued by Catherine the Great (tsarina from 1762-1796)



Limited Monarchy in England

- England's monarchs never were able to secure absolute rule
- In 1215, English nobles forced King John to sign the Magna Carta, guaranteeing that Englishmen could not be fined or imprisoned except according to the laws of the land
- Parliament was established as a legislative body made up of nobles in the House of Lords and elected representatives in the House of Commons
- Parliament claimed the right to approve taxes
- The Puritan Revolution (1642-1660) and the Glorious Revolution (1688) established Parliament's supremacy over the king
- The Bill of Rights of 1689 confirmed that English monarchs could not collect new taxes or raise an army without Parliament's consent
- The philosopher, John Locke, believed that governments obtain their power from the people they govern not from God.
- According to Locke, the main purpose of government was to protect a people's right to life, liberty, and property

- Locke's writings greatly influenced the leaders of the American and French Revolutions



The Scientific Revolution

- The Scientific Revolution began during the Renaissance and continued through the 17th and 18th centuries
- It rejected traditional authority and church teachings in favor of a new scientific method
- Scientists observed nature, made hypotheses (educated guesses), and tested their hypotheses through experiments
- Sir Isaac Newton developed a theory to explain both the movements of planets and how objects fall on earth (the law of gravity)
- Copernicus, Galileo, Bacon, and Newton were important scientists



The Enlightenment

- The Enlightenment or the Age of Reason refers to an important movement in Europe during the 18th century
- Leading Enlightenment thinkers believed that by applying reason and scientific laws, people could better understand both nature and society
- They also hoped to apply these principles to improve society
- Enlightenment thinkers questioned the divine right of kings and the power of the Catholic Church
- Voltaire, an Enlightenment philosopher, encouraged religious toleration and intellectual freedom
- Montesquieu argued for separation of powers in government as a check against tyranny
- Rousseau believed that a government should express the "general will" of the people
- Adam Smith described how capitalism worked in his book, *The Wealth of Nations*
- Adam Smith argued in favor of laissez-faire or minimal government intervention in the market ("let them do as they please")
- Enlightenment ideas influenced the American and French revolutions
- Enlightenment ideas even influenced absolute rulers like Catherine the Great

- **Enlightened Despots** were absolute rulers who tried to incorporate some Enlightenment principles in their governments without parting with their absolute power



The Ottoman Empire (1453-1918)

- The Ottoman Turks were a people from Central Asia
- The Ottomans conquered Constantinople, the capital of the Byzantine Empire, in 1453
- The Ottomans renamed the city Istanbul
- The Ottomans conquered present-day Syria, Egypt, and North Africa
- Under the leadership of Suleiman the Magnificent, the Ottoman Empire was the largest in the world and dominated the eastern Mediterranean Sea
- The Sultan was the all-powerful ruler of the Ottoman Empire
- The Ottomans recognized cultural diversity by allowing Jews and Christians the freedom to practice their religions and participate in government
- Ottoman control over the crossroads of trade promoted prosperity and stability
- However, by the First World War, the Ottoman Empire was experiencing decline
- After allying the empire with Germany and Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire was divided among European imperialists at the defeat of the Central Powers and the end of World War I



The Safavid Empire in Persia

- The Safavids (present-day Iranians) created an empire in Persia in the early 1500s
- The Safavids were Shi'ite Muslims
- The Safavids were hostile to the Ottomans, who followed the Sunni branch of Islam
- Safavid rulers were known as Shahs
- High taxes and continuous warfare with neighbors weakened the empire



The Mughal Empire (1526-1837)

- IN 1526, the Mughal empire was founded in India
- The Mughals were Muslims
- The most famous Mughal was Akbar the Great (1542-1605)
- Akbar the Great promoted a policy of toleration for Hindus
- Shah Jahan, Akbar's grandson, showed little sympathy for the Hindus and ordered the destruction of many Hindu temples
- Shah Jahan ordered the construction of the Taj Mahal as a tomb for his wife
- The Mughal Empire weakened after the death of Shah Jahan



The Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)

- During the Ming Dynasty, China enjoyed nearly three hundred years of stability and prosperity
- The Ming constructed a magnificent Imperial Palace in Beijing known as the Forbidden City
- Early Ming rulers sponsored great naval expeditions
- Zheng He, an admiral, led many voyages
- Zheng He travelled to India, Arabia and Africa in the early 1400s
- However, the voyages were stopped when the imperial government changed its policies
- China's growing isolation from other cultures helped encourage the belief that the Chinese way of life was superior to all others (ethnocentrism)



The Qing (Manchu) Dynasty (1644-1912)

- In 1644, the Manchus, from the northeast, invaded and conquered China
- The Manchu conquerors founded the Qing or Manchu Dynasty
- Qing rulers brought a period of peace and prosperity to China for the first 150 years of the dynasty

- However, European technology gradually surpassed China
- China's isolation from the West and the imperial government's resistance to change prevented China from keeping pace with Western advances in industry and science
- The changes along with discontent within China led to the Qing Dynasty becoming China's last dynasty



The French Revolution

- French society was divided into three estates or classes (Clergy, Nobles, and Commoners)
- The bourgeoisie or middle class was the most important class of the Third Estate as the bourgeoisie grew wealthier, they resented the nobles' special privileges
- The Third Estate paid most of the taxes
- Inequality was a cause of the Revolution
- In addition, the monarch (Louis XVI) was an absolute monarch
- French kings had almost bankrupted France through war and borrowing
- It was decided to tax the nobles but the nobles insisted that the king summon an Estates General or the assembly where each of the classes was represented
- The Estates General met in May, 1789
- The leaders of the Third Estate declared themselves a National Assembly and when the king threatened to arrest them, Parisians seized a royal prison known as the Bastille
- To avoid civil war, the king allowed the National Assembly to exist
- In August, 1789 the National Assembly issued a Declaration of the Rights of Man, proclaiming that government rested on the consent of the people
- The privileges of the nobles and clergy were abolished
- "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity"
- Monarchs of other nations attacked France to preserve divine right
- Radicals gained control of France
- Maximilien Robespierre launched a Reign of Terror in 1793 to save the Revolution from foreign invasion and domestic protesters
- Many suspected traitors were sent to the guillotine
- Power shifted back to moderates when threat of foreign invasion passed and people tired of violence
- A very significant revolution because it challenged divine right theory, ended feudal restrictions, stood for democracy and social equality, and served as a model for other countries



Napoleon

- **Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) came to power at the end of the French Revolution**
- **In 1799, Napoleon seized power in France and became a dictator**
- **Attempted to combine the social reforms of the Revolution with his absolute power**
- **Five years later, crowned himself emperor**
- **By 1805, defeated all of Europe except England**
- **Created a French empire covering much of Europe**
- **His ambition united Europe against him**
- **In 1812, Napoleon invaded Russia but was defeated by the cold Russian winter**
- **After defeat in Russia, the other European powers combined to overthrow him**
- **Foreign powers brought the old French royal family back in 1814**
- **Napoleon tried to recapture the French throne in 1815 but failed at the Battle of Waterloo**
- **Napoleon had ruled France for only fifteen years but had created stability with the Code Napoleon (a law code that ensured social equality, religious toleration, and trial by jury) and had spread the ideals of the French Revolution**
- **French rule encouraged the growth of nationalism**
- **Napoleon had weakened Spain and caused it to lose its colonial empire in Latin America**



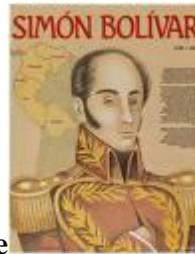
The Congress of Vienna

- **After defeat of Napoleon, European ministers and rulers met at the Congress of Vienna**
- **To redraw the boundaries of Europe**
- **Restored many former rulers and borders**
- **Tried to restore the old order, to bring Europe back to the way it had been before the French Revolution**
- **Under the leadership of Austria's Prince Metternich, sought to establish a balance of power**
- **A balance of power referred to a system in which the chief powers of Europe were roughly equal in military strength, so that no one single power could dominate the others**



Nationalism

- Nationalism is the belief that each nationality (ethnic group) is entitled to its own government and homeland
- The French Revolution encouraged nationalism by spreading the idea that government should be based on the will of the people
- The representatives at the Congress of Vienna wanted to ignore or crush nationalistic feelings
- However, Greece and Belgium achieved independence by 1830



Latin American Independence

- Colonists resented restrictions that forbid them to trade with countries other than Spain or to manufacture their own goods
- The American and French Revolutions had spread the idea to Latin America that people were entitled to a government that protected their interests
- When Napoleon conquered Spain, Latin Americans were able to govern themselves
- When Napoleon was defeated in 1814, many Latin American colonies refused to return to Spanish rule, and demanded independence
- Toussaint L'Ouverture led an uprising of African slaves in 1791, forcing the French out of Haiti – making Haiti the first Latin American colony to gain independence
- Simon Bolivar defeated Spanish forces between 1819 and 1825, liberating Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia
- Jose de San Martin worked to liberate Argentina and Chile from Spanish rule in the years 1816 to 1818
- Miguel Hidalgo, a priest, began a rebellion against Spanish rule in Mexico in 1818, but the uprising failed. Mexico later achieved its independence in 1821



The Monroe Doctrine

- President Monroe (U.S.A.) issued the Monroe Doctrine in 1823

- The United States recognized the independence of the Latin American nations
- The Monroe Doctrine stated that the United States would oppose any attempt by European powers to establish new colonies in the Western Hemisphere or to re-conquer former colonies that had achieved independence
- The Monroe Doctrine made it clear to the world that the United States had special interests in the Western Hemisphere



Latin America after Independence

- Very few democratic governments were established in Latin America
- Dictatorships and unstable governments flourished throughout the 19th and early 20th century
- Land and wealth still remained in the hands of a small elite
- Several countries came under the rule of powerful military leaders known as caudillos
- Caudillos often came to power by force



The Industrial Revolution

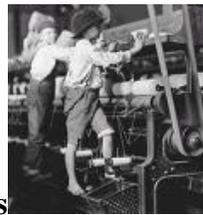
- The Industrial Revolution introduced mass production and the use of new sources of energy
- The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain in the 1750s and quickly spread to other parts of Europe and the United States
- Great Britain had many harbors, plentiful coal, good location for trade, raw materials from its colonial empire, a middle class with money for investment, and agricultural improvements that freed up workers for factories
- Before the Industrial Revolution, the domestic system existed (workers worked at home)
- New inventions like the spinning jenny (1764) and James Watt's improved steam engine (1769) led to the introduction of the factory system
- Railroads were also built to help increase distribution of increased production
- Railroads also unified the economy of a country
- Faster production led to decreased price of goods which in turn increased demand thereby encouraging factory owners to increase production
- Factory owners grew rich and more powerful but the conditions of the new working class worsened
- Early factories were unsafe places to work
- Long hours, low wages, unsafe working conditions, and child labor

- Urbanization occurred as the shift of work to factories led to large numbers of workers moving from the countryside to the cities
- Many cities were crowded and unsanitary



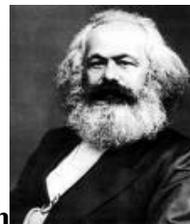
Laissez-faire Capitalism

- A new middle class of capitalists emerged
- Helped to develop the economic system known as laissez-faire capitalism
- The means of production were owned by people known as entrepreneurs
- Entrepreneurs organized, managed, and assumed responsibility for a business in hopes of making a profit
- Nineteenth-century governments followed a policy of laissez-faire
- Laissez-faire meant that the government did not interfere in relations between workers and business owners
- Minimal intervention in the economy
- Supply and demand determine price



Reform Movements

- The problems created by the Industrial Revolution led to a call for social and political reform
- By the late 19th century, the misery of the working classes disturbed the consciences of the new middle class
- Also fear of working-class violence
- Workers organized into unions and threatened to strike if they did not obtain better conditions
- Laws were created to limit child and female labor, for shorter working hours, and ensure safer working conditions



Karl Marx and Communism

- Two leading critics of the capitalist system were Karl Marx (1818-1883) and Friedrich Engels

- Their ideas were published in *The Communist Manifesto* (1848)
- Marx later wrote *Das Kapital*
- Marx's ideas became the basis of Communism (also known as Marxism)
- Marx believed that society is divided into conflicting social classes: the bourgeoisie (owners of the factories) and the proletariat (workers)
- Marx believed that the wealthy bourgeoisie exploit and oppress the workers
- According to Marx, a violent revolution would occur as workers became increasingly desperate
- According to Marx, after the revolution, a dictatorship of the proletariat would develop that would eventually wither away
- The government through the dictatorship would abolish private property and class struggles would end
- The government would own the means of production
- Economic equality would occur



The Unification of Italy (1859-1860)

- For centuries, Italy had consisted of a number of separate, smaller states
- Nationalists called for unification of Italy into a single country
- In 1852, Count Cavour became Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Piedmont and Sardinia
- Cavour drove the Austrians out of northern Italy in 1859
- To the south, the nationalist leader Giuseppe Garibaldi overthrew the king of Naples
- By 1860, Italy had become a united kingdom due to the efforts of nationalists



The Unification of Germany (1863-1871)

- Like Italy, Germany consisted of a number of smaller states
- Prussia was the largest German state and it took the lead in uniting Germany
- Its Prime Minister, Otto von Bismarck, followed a policy of “blood and iron,” which combined skillful diplomacy and Prussian military power to achieve unification
- After a series of wars, Germany was unified in 1871
- The Prussian king became the Kaiser (emperor) of all Germany



The Great Famine

- In the 1600s, England conquered Ireland and English landlords took large estates there
- Irish nationalists later sought to restore independence
- In 1845-1847, the Irish potato crop, the main food for most peasants, was destroyed by a disease
- A million Irish died during the Great Famine, while others emigrated to America



The Rise of Russian Nationalism

- Tsar Alexander II listened to reformers and emancipated the serfs in 1861
- He was assassinated shortly afterwards
- Later Tsars opposed change and used repression to maintain the existing social order
- The new spirit of nationalism had some effect on Russian rulers
- The Russian government acted as a protector of new Slav states in the Balkans (countries north of Greece)
- The Russian Government adopted the policy of Russification
- Under this policy, non-Russian peoples in the Russian empire were forced to adopt the Russian language, Russian culture, and the Russian Orthodox Church
- Jews in Russia faced state organized riots known as pogroms



The Decline of the Ottoman Empire

- The forces of nationalism also accelerated the decline of the Ottoman empire
- Began to weaken in the 1700s
- The Ottoman Turks failed to keep pace with Western technology and science

- Muslim religious leaders often opposed change
- The Ottomans lost important territories to Austria and Russia in the 1700s
- Serbs, Greeks, and Romanians gained independence from the Ottomans in the early 19th century
- In the 1870s, rebellions in the Balkans led to the independence of several other Slavic groups
- By the First World War, the Ottoman Empire was known as the “Sick Man of Europe”



Imperialism

- Imperialism refers to the political and economic control of one area or country by another
- In the 1880s, interest in imperialism renewed when new European countries like Belgium, Germany, and Italy sought colonial empires of their own
- Even older colonial powers like Britain and France joined in the mad scramble for new colonies
- New technology – such as steamships, rifles, telegraphs, and better medicines – made it possible to penetrate deeply into Africa, Asia, and the Pacific nations for the first time
- European industries needed raw materials for their factories
- Colonies served as new markets in which to sell manufactured goods
- When one country obtained a new colony, other countries felt it was necessary to do the same in order to maintain a balance of power
- Many Europeans believed in Social Darwinism – the theory that some societies were more successful because their cultures were superior



The British Empire in India

- In the 1830s, the British East India Company came under the control of the British government (the East India Company had gained economic and political control of much of the Indian subcontinent)
- British rule in India brought many changes (railroads, schools, and colleges were built)
- Nonetheless, the Indians resented British rule

- In 1857, a large number of British-trained Indian soldiers, known as sepoys, rebelled against their British officers
- The mutiny began when the sepoys had to bite off bullet cartridges which they thought were greased with pork or beef fat
- Muslim and Hindu soldiers believed they were forced to violate their religion
- The angry sepoys rose up against their British officers
- The Sepoy Mutiny spread quickly to cities across northern and central India
- One effect of the mutiny was that the British government took over formal rule of India and abolished the East India Company
- As a result, the mutiny was put down and India now became a British possession
- The British provided a single system of law and government, unifying India
- English was introduced as a unifying language
- India's cottage industries were hurt by competition with British manufactured goods
- Indian workers provided the British with inexpensive labor – for long hours, often under terrible working conditions



The Scramble for Africa

- European powers engaged in a “Scramble for Africa,” during which most of Africa came under their direct control
- By 1890, only Ethiopia and Liberia remained independent
- The discovery of resources like gold and diamonds sharpened European interests in Africa
- The major European powers to acquire African territories were Great Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Portugal, and Italy
- Disputes among the imperial powers were worked out at the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 where the remainder of Africa was divided up



The Opium War (1839-1842)

- In the early 1800s, the Chinese imperial government tried to stop the British practice of selling opium from India to China
- However, the Chinese lacked the military technology to defy the British
- The British easily defeated China in the Opium War (1839-1842)
- British leaders forced China to open several “treaty ports,” giving the British new trading privileges

- The British established several spheres of influence – areas of China under British economic control
- Other European countries followed the British example and obtained their own spheres of influence in China



The Opening of Japan

- The Tokugawa Shoguns had isolated Japan from European trade for two hundred years
- The Japanese were forbidden to travel to other countries and foreigners were banned from Japan
- Although Japan was isolated from the West, the Tokugawa Shogunate was a period of peace and economic growth
- In 1853, the United States government sent Commodore Matthew Perry with a naval squadron to Japan to halt the mistreatment of shipwrecked American sailors
- The United States also sought to develop new markets and to establish a port where American ships could obtain supplies on their way to China
- Fearing what had happened to China, Japanese leaders opened their ports to American trade
- Within a few years, the British, Russians, and Dutch negotiated similarly favorable trade treaties



The Meiji Restoration, 1868-1912

- The Shogun was severely criticized for opening Japan to the West
- A group of lower samurai overthrew him and suddenly “restored” to power the young emperor, whose ancestors had been mere figureheads during the feudal period of Japan
- Emperor Meiji, the new ruler, became convinced that Japan had to adopt Western ways if it was to escape future domination by Western powers
- Foreigners were invited to Japan to modernize its military, establish factories, build railroads, and reform schools
- Feudalism was abolished
- Under Emperor Meiji, Japan successfully modernized and westernized



The Boxer Rebellion

- Many Chinese resented the growing foreign influence in their homeland
- Anger against foreigners finally exploded in 1899
- A Chinese group, known as the “Boxers”, arose in rebellion in an attempt to drive out all foreigners from China
- Hundreds of foreigners were killed by angry mobs
- The Boxers were secretly supported by the Chinese government
- An international police force, composed of troops from the imperialist powers, finally crushed the Boxer Rebellion
- Although the rebellion failed, it served to fan the flames of Chinese nationalism



Mustafa Kemal Ataturk

- In the late 19th century, the ruler of the Ottoman empire, Sultan Abdulhamid II, used secret police and brutality against potential opponents
- He also order the brutal massacre of Armenians in eastern Turkey in 1894-1896
- Young educated members of the Turkish elite, known as the Young Turks, demanded political reform (opposed the Sultan’s harsh rule)
- Mustafa Kemal Ataturk was an influential member of the Young Turks
- After World War I, most of the Ottoman Empire’s former territories (Arabia, Palestine, and Syria) were placed under British and French rule
- Kemal Ataturk kept the rest of Turkey from being dismembered and overthrew the system of government headed by the Sultan
- Kemal Ataturk created a new Turkish republic
- The new Young Turk government, headed by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, encouraged industrialization, westernization, public education, and an improved treatment of women



The Mexican Revolution of 1910

- From 1877 to 1910, Mexico was governed by Porfirio Diaz, a moderate dictator who encouraged foreign investment but limited popular liberties

- The Mexican Revolution of 1910 began as a reaction against Diaz's rule
- A wealthy liberal, Francisco Madero, began the revolt and took over the government
- Madero soon faced opposition from peasant leaders, including Pancho Villa who led a private army in the north
- Emiliano Zapata encouraged land redistribution and organized peasants in the south
- Madero was assassinated and a civil war followed
- After a period of confusion, the forces of reform were victorious
- As a result of the revolution, large estates were broken up
- The Constitution of 1917 led to greater democracy in Mexico



Sun Yixian (Sun Yat-sen)

- A nationalist leader in China
- Gained control of China's government in 1916
- Introduced policies based on three principles: "Democracy, Nationalism, and People's Livelihood"
- Wanted China to establish a representative government
- Wanted China to be free of foreign control
- Wanted a strengthened economy that could provide for the people
- Unfortunately, Sun was never fully able to bring all of China under his control
- The power of local military commanders or warlords remained too great
- Rival armies battled for control of China



The Causes of World War I

- Nationalism, Alliance System, Imperialism, and Militarism (MAIN) were causes of World War I
- Nationalism encouraged rivalries among Britain, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary and Russia for land and colonies
- Nationalism had also led to the creation of new independent nations in the Balkans: Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Albania
- But Austria-Hungary still consisted of many different ethnic groups, most of which wanted their own national states (these demands threatened to break Austria-Hungary empire apart)
- Serbia hoped to liberate Serbs still under Austrian rule
- The European powers had competing economic and political interests

- Competition for African and Asian colonies had created further tensions among the major powers
- By 1914, Europe came to be divided into two large alliances (On one side stood Germany and Austria-Hungary and on the other side was Russia, France, and Great Britain)
- Any dispute involving countries from different alliances threatened to bring in all the others
- The late 1800s saw a rise in militarism or the glorification of the military (Arms races played key roles in the outbreak of World War I)
- In 1914, Austria's Archduke Francis Ferdinand was assassinated by Slav nationalists
- Austrians believed Serb officials had helped the assassins
- The alliance system set off a chain reaction that soon involved all of Europe's major powers



A New Form of Warfare and America Enters the War

- The machine gun, poison gas, submarines, and airplanes
- Soldiers dug themselves into trenches, protected by barbed wire and machine guns
- Trenches extended for hundreds of miles
- Americans were neutral until 1917 when American ships were attacked by Germany
- The United States entered the war in 1917 and broke the deadlock in Europe
- In the same year, Russia dropped out of the war due to the Bolshevik victory during the Russian Revolution
- By 1918, the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottomans) laid down their weapons and surrendered



The Treaty of Versailles (1919)

- While President Woodrow Wilson of the United States had announced his Fourteen Points with its plan for self-determination (each nationality would have its own government), freedom of the seas, an end to secret diplomacy, and the creation of the League of Nations for the coming peace settlement, the final peace treaty turned out to be extremely harsh towards Germany
- The Germans agreed to end the war and overthrew their emperor, the Kaiser, believing that Wilson's offer would be the basis of the peace
- But Wilson could not restrain French and British leaders

- The Allies wanted revenge
- The Treaty of Versailles (1919) concluded the peace with Germany; related treaties dealt with Austria and Turkey
- Germany lost territory to France and the newly independent nation of Poland as well as all of its overseas colonies
- The Austria-Hungary empire was divided into several smaller states
- The Ottoman Empire no longer existed
- Turkey emerged as an independent nation out of the ashes of the Ottoman Empire
- Germany lost its navy, while its army was reduced to a small police force
- Germany was forced to accept blame for starting the war and was required to pay huge reparations (payments for damages) to the Allies
- The Treaty created the League of Nations, an organization of nations pledged to defend each other against aggressors
- The League of Nations was weakened when the United States and Russia failed to join it



The Russian Revolution of 1917

- By the early twentieth century, compared to Western Europe, Russian peasants and factory workers lived in poverty while landowning nobles enjoyed wealth and leisure
- Sharp social divisions and the authoritarian power of the tsar made Russia ripe for revolution
- The crisis increased after Russia was defeated by Japan in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904
- The tsar's troops fired on peaceful demonstrators in 1905
- Tsar Nicholas II was forced to grant limited reforms which included the creation of a new legislative assembly known as the Duma
- In 1914, Tsar Nicholas II brought Russia into World War I
- The Russian army was poorly trained and badly equipped (it suffered disastrous defeats)
- Discontent among Russians increased
- When in early 1917, German forces cut Russian railroad lines, preventing food from entering Russian cities and soldiers, strikes and food riots broke out across Russia
- By March 1917, Tsar Nicholas II was forced to give up his throne
- A republic was declared
- But the provisional government was set up, but it lacked the support of the people when it refused to withdraw from the war

- The Bolsheviks, a Marxist revolutionary group, promised “Peace, Bread, and Land”
- Led by Vladimir Lenin, the Bolsheviks seized power in November 1917
- The Bolsheviks changed their name to “Communists” and changed the name of the Russian empire to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) or Soviet Union
- Russia had become the world’s first Communist country
- A brutal civil war soon broke out across Russia, which was eventually won by the Communists



The Soviet Union Under Lenin

- Lenin withdrew Russia from World War I
- Millions of acres of land were transferred to poorer peasants, while workers were organized to control and operate factories
- All industries were nationalized (taken over by the government)
- By 1921, the Red or Communist army defeated the Whites
- Lenin introduced the New Economic Policy or N.E.P.
- Through this policy, private ownership was permitted in small-scale manufacturing and agriculture, although the government continued to control major industries



The Soviet Union Under Stalin

- Joseph Stalin succeeded Lenin as leader of the Soviet Union.
- Stalin eliminated rivals by accusing them of disloyalty to Communist ideals
- Once in power, Stalin set about making changes in Soviet society – and established a totalitarian state (totalitarianism – a one party government controls all aspects of individual life while citizens are denied the rights of free speech and dissent – secret police, censorship, and terror are used)
- In purges, Stalin’s secret police arrested and executed potential rivals
- Enormous slave labor camps in Siberia, known as gulags were built
- Stalin used the government to control education, the economy, and the arts
- Private land was taken from peasants who were forced to work on farms owned by the government (called collectives)
- Peasants in the Ukraine rejected collectivization

- Stalin sealed off the Ukraine after seizing food supplies, so that millions of Ukrainians starved to death
- Stalin sought to turn his country from an agricultural land into an industrialized nation (He introduced a series of Five-Year Plans in which national goals were set and all aspects of the economy were controlled - Heavy industry was developed)
- Stalin was glorified and his picture appeared everywhere in public



The Great Depression (1929)

- In 1929, a stock market crash in New York started a chain reaction that sent the American economy into the Great Depression
- A depression is a severe economic downturn in which large numbers of businesses fail and many workers are unemployed over an extended period of time
- Because of the Depression, many American banks and investors decided to recall loans from Europe
- European production slowed down and unemployment increased
- Europeans bought less goods from their colonies, causing the depression to spread worldwide
- At the height of the depression, as many as 50 million people were unemployed in the U.S.A., Germany, Japan, and other industrialized countries



The Rise of Fascism

- Benito Mussolini was the first person to use the term Fascism
- Fascism refers to a political system that appeared in Italy after World War I
- The term is also used more generally to identify similar systems such as Nazism in Germany
- Fascists were extreme nationalists
- Fascists claimed that their nation was superior to others
- Fascists felt a single national party should unite all classes
- Fascists believed that a single all-powerful leader, like Mussolini or Hitler, could best represent the national will and lead the nation
- They believed that the strong had a natural right to dominant the weak
- Fascists opposed worker unions and strikes

- Fascists used violence to defeat their political opponents and prepared to use war for national expansion
- Anti-Semitism, hatred of Jews, and racism, contempt for other races, were long-held beliefs in Europe – These beliefs increased the popularity of Fascism
- European racism was strengthened by the experiences of imperialism, nationalism, and Social Darwinism (Using the ideas of Charles Darwin about evolution in nature and believing that all human groups competed for survival, Social Darwinists claimed that stronger groups had the right to succeed and that weaker groups deserved to die out)
- In 1922, Mussolini seized power and turned Italy into the first Fascist state



Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Dictatorship in Germany

- Adolf Hitler blamed Germany's humiliation at Versailles on the leaders of the Weimar Republic
- He urged Germans to abandon democracy and return Germany to glory under a strong leader
- Hitler believed that Germans were a superior "Aryan" race that should rule the world
- Hitler planned to eventually wipe out Slavic peoples like the Poles to make room for German settlers in Eastern Europe
- Hitler called the Jews an "evil race" that should be destroyed for causing Germany's defeat in the war
- Hitler saw Communism as a Jewish plot to control the world
- When the Great Depression hit Germany, support for the Nazi party increased rapidly
- Germany's President appointed Hitler as chief minister in 1933
- Hitler acted quickly to secure complete control of Germany by secretly ordering the German Parliament building to be set on fire and blaming the Communists
- The German Parliament then agreed to Hitler's request for emergency laws giving him absolute power
- Hitler used his new powers to crush all opposition
- All political parties, except the Nazis, were banned
- All artistic and intellectual activity was brought under Nazi control
- Hitler called his government the *Third Reich* or "Third Empire"
- Hitler turned Germany into a totalitarian state
- The Gestapo or secret police arrested suspected opponents, who were thrown into concentration camps, where they were mistreated, tortured, and killed
- Jews were thrown out of government jobs, lost their citizenship, were forced to wear yellow stars on their clothes, were barred from marrying other Germans
- Jews were forced into special ghettos and concentration camps



The Holocaust

- The Holocaust refers to the attempted genocide (murder of an entire people) of the Jews during World War II
- Hitler called his plan the “Final Solution”
- Large concentration camps were built at Auschwitz and other places where Jews from all over Nazi-controlled Europe were sent
- Most were gassed and their bodies burned in large ovens
- Some were spared to do the work of running the camp
- These inmates were half-starved and subjected to inhuman conditions
- It is estimated that six million Jews, two-thirds of all Jews then living in Europe, met their deaths in this tragedy
- Six million gypsies, Slavs, political prisoners, elderly, and mentally disabled people also died in Nazi concentration camps



The Road to World War II

- The rise of Fascist dictators in Italy, Germany, and elsewhere made the outbreak of war inevitable
- The Fascist dictators glorified war and laid plans for national expansion through conquest
- The League of Nations failed to prevent another war
- Hitler, in violation of the Treaty of Versailles, rebuilt his armed forces
- The League of Nations could do nothing to stop Hitler because its member states refused to take action
- Hitler next claimed territories where Germans lived
- Hitler annexed (took) Austria early in 1938
- Hitler claimed part of Czechoslovakia where a large number of Germans lived
- British Prime Minister Chamberlain met with Hitler in Munich and tried appeasement (granting concessions to an aggressor)
- Hoping to avoid war, Chamberlain agreed to Hitler’s demands for western Czechoslovakia
- In 1939, Hitler made new demands for part of Poland
- This time, Britain and France refused to give in
- Hitler made a secret deal with Stalin to keep the Soviet Union out of the war
- Germany then invaded Poland, starting World War II

- The German army used planes, tanks, and motorized troop carriers to advance rapidly into enemy territory – this military tactic became known as the blitzkrieg or “lightning warfare”
- By the end of 1940, Germany controlled most of Western Europe – only Britain held out
- In 1941, Hitler betrayed Stalin by launching a surprise attack on the Soviet Union
- By 1943, the Soviet army began to gradually push the Germans back
- Over the next two years, Soviet soldiers and civilians bore the brunt of fighting Germany, with Soviet losses mounting to 21 million casualties



The War in Europe Ends

- In December 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
- Hitler supported his ally Japan by declaring war on the United States
- Hitler was now opposed by the Allied Powers – Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States
- Germany’s supporters consisted of Italy and Japan, together known as the Axis Powers
- Allied leaders decided to concentrate first on defeating Germany in Europe before turning against Japan
- In July 1943, Allied forces landed in southern Italy and helped the Italians overthrow Mussolini
- Then, in June 1944, Allied troops invade northern France on D-Day
- Within months, the tide of war turned in favor of the Allies
- By 1945, Soviet, British, American, and French troops occupied Germany, which surrendered in May



The Nuremberg Trials

- Hitler escaped prosecution by committing suicide
- But several of the most important Nazi leaders were tried and convicted for “crimes against humanity” by an international tribunal at Nuremberg
- The Nuremberg Trials revealed to the world the full extent of Nazi atrocities
- The trial and conviction of Nazi leaders established the principle that there was something superior event to national law
- That a person could be guilty for “crimes against humanity”



The War in the Pacific

- By the start of the 20th century, Japan began a series of imperialistic attacks on mainland Asia in order to become a world power
- In the Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895), war broke out between China and Japan for control of Korea - Japan defeated China
- In the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905), Japan went to war with Russia for control of Manchuria, a northern province of China – Japanese victory
- Japan supported the Allies in World War I – its reward was to obtain several of Germany's colonial possessions in the Pacific
- In the Second Sino-Japanese War (1931-1939), Japan invaded Manchuria and then Japan conquered more of China
- Japanese leaders concluded an alliance with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy
- During World War II, Japan wanted to control East Asia
- However, the United States opposed Japan and stopped the sale of iron and oil to Japan
- In response, Japan launched a surprise attack on the U.S. fleet stationed at Pearl Harbor in 1941
- At first, Japanese achieved sweeping victories in Southeast Asia and the Pacific
- But by 1943, American forces began liberating Pacific islands from Japanese control
- After Germany was defeated in 1945, the United States turned its full strength towards Japan
- In August 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima and then on the Japanese city of Nagasaki
- Japan surrendered on August 14, 1945



The U.S. Occupation of Japan (1945-1952)

- In September 1945, American General, Douglas MacArthur, accepted Japan's unconditional surrender
- MacArthur was assigned the task of rebuilding and reforming post-war Japan
- Important changes were introduced to make Japan less imperialistic and less aggressive
- Japanese leaders responsible for wartime atrocities were put on trial and punished

- Japan's overseas empire was taken away, leaving Japan with just her home islands
- Japan's ability to wage war was virtually eliminated
- Japan was forbidden to have any army or navy, except for a small "self-defense force"
- Japan also renounced the use of nuclear weapons
- A new constitution made Japan one of the most democratic nations in the world
- Power was removed from the emperor
- Japan became a democracy
- The emperor was permitted to remain as a figurehead without real power
- Women were given the right to vote (suffrage)



Creation of the United Nations

- Despite the failure of the League of Nations, the Allies created a new international peace-keeping organization in 1945 known as the United Nations
- The purpose of this new organization was to maintain peace in the world, while encouraging friendship and cooperation among nations
- Another goal was to eliminate world hunger, disease, and ignorance
- The U.N. has sent forces to engage in "peacekeeping" organizations in such places as Korea, Cyprus, Congo, Iraq, and Bosnia



Decolonization in India

- The first major country to achieve independence in the post-war period was India
- Under the leadership of Mohandas Gandhi, India resisted British rule
- Gandhi used non-violent methods to show the British the futility of denying India its freedom
- Gandhi developed the policy of non-violent passive resistance in which Indians passively suffered British beatings and violence to reveal the injustice of imperialism
- Gandhi urged Indians to disobey unjust British laws (civil disobedience)
- In 1930, Gandhi led a Salt March to protest a British salt tax
- Gandhi's followers also conducted fasts and refused to work for the British
- As a result, Indians were jailed in ever-increasing numbers

- Gandhi encouraged Indians to boycott (refuse to buy) British-made cotton goods, and to buy cotton goods that were homespun in India
- After World War II, British leaders recognized that they were too weak to resist Indian nationalist demands
- In 1947, the British finally agreed to Indian independence



The Partitioning of the Indian Subcontinent

- The British delayed granting independence because of the threat of widespread violence between India's Hindu and Muslim populations
- When independence was finally granted in 1947, India was partitioned into two separate nations: India became a Hindu nation while Pakistan became a home for Muslims
- Because there were large Muslim populations in both the east and west of British India, Pakistan became a divided nation – separated by over a thousand miles
- Following independence, millions of Hindus and Muslims moved from their homes to new areas
- Thousands were killed in riots during these migrations



Decolonization in Southeast Asia

- During World War II, Japan occupied all of Southeast Asia, driving out the European imperialistic powers
- After the war, local nationalist leaders expected to achieve independence
- In some places, independence was granted peacefully; in others, it was only achieved through warfare
- In the Philippines (an archipelago or series of islands), the United States granted independence in 1946
- Great Britain granted both Burma (Myanmar) and Malaysia their independence in 1948
- However, French reclaimed its colonies in Southeast Asia after World War II
- Ho Chi Minh, a Vietnamese nationalist, began a war against the French and won their independence in 1954
- However, at an international conference, Vietnam was temporarily divided into a Communist state in the North and a non-Communist state in the South



Decolonization in the Middle East

- The British granted Egypt its independence back in 1922, but continued to treat Egypt as a British's satellite state until Egypt's king was overthrown in the 1950s
- Saudi Arabia also became independent in the inter-war period
- After World War II, the French granted independence to Morocco, Tunisia, and Libya in the North Africa and to Lebanon and Syria in the Middle East
- But France was not willing to grant independence to Algeria, where many French settlers lived
- In 1954, Algerian nationalists launched a violent struggle for independence
- After eight years of fighting, France finally recognized Algerian independence in 1962
- Another problem area was Palestine – once a part of the Ottoman empire
- Starting in the 1880s, some European Jews began returning to Palestine as part of the Zionist Movement
- After World War I, Palestine became a British mandate
- In 1917, British leaders promised to create a Jewish homeland in Palestine as part of the Zionist Movement
- After World War I, Palestine became a British mandate
- In 1917, British leaders promised to create a Jewish homeland in Palestine (the Balfour Declaration)
- But the British limited Jewish emigration to Palestine during and after World War II to prevent Arab uprisings
- Many Jewish survivors of the Holocaust nevertheless sought to emigrate there
- British leaders came to fear that the end of colonial rule in Palestine would lead to a full-scale civil war between Jews and Arabs
- Continued attacks by Jewish underground forces made the British realize their inability to continue governing Palestine
- The British decided to withdraw in 1947 and handed the problem over to the new United Nations



Decolonization in Africa

- Kwame Nkrumah, in the British colony known as the Gold Coast, followed Gandhi's example by demonstrating against British rule and boycotting British products
- Nkrumah finally won independence for the Gold Coast in 1957

- The country changed its name to Ghana (after the ancient West African kingdom) and became the first black African colony to win its independence
- Other African leaders, like Julius Nyerere and Jomo Kenyatta, followed Nkrumah's example
- Over the next decade, almost all of sub-Saharan Africa achieved independence
- In some cases, such as the former Belgian Congo and Kenya, independence was accompanied by bloodshed
- For the most part, however, the former colonies became new nations without a major war



The Cold War

- The Cold War was a prolonged conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union that began at the end of World War II
- The two Superpowers never confronted one another directly in open warfare
- But their global competition led to conflicts on every continent
- The competing and opposing ideological system of the Western democracies and Soviet Communism was the cause of the conflict
- The United States and other Western European nations hoped to spread democracy and capitalism
- The Soviet Union promoted the spread of Communism
- In the Western democracies, citizens elected representatives and leaders
- The Soviet Union was a dictatorship controlled by Communist Party leaders
- In the Western democracies, citizens had basic rights such as freedom of speech, press, and religion
- Under Communism, citizens had few rights
- Under capitalism, people could own land and businesses
- Under Communism, private property was abolished and state ownership and central planning occurred
- Under Communism, private farms became state-owned collective farms



The Cold War in Europe

- When World War II ended, the Soviets were more interested in creating a safety zone around their country to protect it from future attack
- The Soviet army occupied Eastern Europe at the end of World War II
- In 1946, an “Iron Curtain” fell on Eastern European nations and they became Soviet satellites or puppet states

- Trade and communication between Eastern and Western Europe was cut off
- Eastern European governments were forced to follow policies dictated by the Soviet Union
- In 1947, Communists threatened to take over both Greece and Turkey
- President Truman (U.S.A.) offered to support all free peoples resisting Communism
- The Truman Doctrine was an American policy to prevent Communism from spreading any further
- The Truman Doctrine became known as the “containment policy” because it aimed to contain Communism
- In an attempt to prevent the spread of Communism in Europe, the United States announced the Marshall Plan (1947)
- Under the Marshall Plan, the United States gave Western European nations billions of dollars to rebuild their war-torn economies in order to resist Communism
- When the Allies merged their zones of occupation in Germany, the Soviets reacted by closing all highways and railroads to Berlin (Berlin as the former capital of Germany had been occupied by all four powers)
- The Western Allies began a massive airlift to feed and supply West Berlin
- Within a year, the Soviets ended their blockade
- In 1949, the three allied zones of occupation were merged into a new West German state
- The Soviets responded by turning their zone into the independent country of East Germany
- Germany was divided into two states
- In 1949, the United States, Canada, and ten Western European countries formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- The main aim of NATO was to protect Western Europe from Communist aggression
- The Soviet Union responded to the creation of NATO by forming the Warsaw Pact with its Eastern European satellites in 1955



The Communist Revolution in China

- China became a communist nation in 1949
- The leader of the Communist Revolution in China was Mao Zedong
- During the Chinese civil war, the Communists battled the Nationalists under the leadership of Chiang Kai-Shek (Jiang Jeishi)
- During the civil war, Mao Zedong, the Communist leader, was forced to retreat with his forces in a Long March to northwestern China
- In 1937, the Japanese invaded China and a truce was called between the Chinese Nationalists and the Communists in order to cooperate against the Japanese

- After Japan was defeated in 1945, fighting resumed between the Chinese Nationalists and Communists
- The Communists were able to win the support of many peasants through their land-reform programs
- In 1949, Mao Zedong and the Communists drove Chiang and his supporters out of mainland China
- Chiang retreated to the island of Taiwan
- This created “Two Chinas” – Mao’s Communist China and Chiang’s Nationalist China on Taiwan



Mao Zedong - Creation of a Communist State in China

- Although a follower of Marx and Lenin, Mao developed a new form of Communism that emphasized the role of peasants over workers
- Mao encouraged a form of revolutionary warfare that would first begin in the countryside and only later spread to industrial workers living in the cities
- Under Mao, all aspects of life were brought under the control of the Communist Party
- Landowners, factory-owners, village leaders, and better-off peasants were considered to be the “capitalist class”
- At least, one million of these so-called capitalists were killed
- Education, media, and the arts were brought under the direct supervision of the government
- Family authority was replaced by the authority of the Communist Party
- Mao’s sayings were published in *The Quotations of Chairman Mao*
- Communist Party members and students were expected to memorize Mao’s quotes
- Students were taught to praise Mao
- In 1958, Mao introduced the “Great Leap Forward,” a five-year plan designed to increase China’s industrial productivity and turn it into an industrial power
- China’s vast population was put to work building dams, bridges, roads, and factories
- Because of poor planning, the Great Leap Forward failed
- By 1962, Mao was concerned about the loss of enthusiasm among the people for Communism
- Mao blamed the Chinese elite for this loss of enthusiasm and announced a “Cultural Revolution”
- Mao closed China’s schools and invited students to gather in Beijing as Red Guards
- The Red Guards travelled throughout China attacking writers, scientists, doctors, and professors for abandoning Communist ideals
- Scholars and professionals were sent to work as laborers in the fields
- China became so disrupted that Mao called out the army to control the Red Guards

- In 1969, Mao sent the Red Guards home and brought the Cultural Revolution to a close



The Korean War

- North Korea was occupied by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II and became Communist
- In 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea
- The United States and other member countries of the United Nations intervened and drove the Communist Koreans back to North Korea
- Led by General Douglas MacArthur, U.N. forces invaded North Korea
- MacArthur even hoped to invade China to throw out the Communists but President Truman refused to take this step
- This disagreement led Truman to relieve MacArthur of his command
- In 1953, a compromise ended the war, leaving North and South Korea divided along the same boundary line as before the war



Nikita Khrushchev

- In 1953, Stalin died
- Nikita Khrushchev emerged as the new Soviet leader
- Khrushchev criticized Stalin's brutality for killing millions of Soviet citizens
- This criticism marked the start of a policy in which the Soviets tried to rid themselves of Stalin's memory
- When Hungarian leaders threatened to leave the Warsaw Pact in 1956, Soviet troops were sent into Hungary
- Popular demonstrations in Soviet satellite nations were brutally repressed
- In East Germany, large numbers of people were escaping through West Berlin to West Germany.
- Khrushchev finally ordered a wall built between East and West Berlin in 1961
- For the next 28 years, the Berlin Wall served as a constant reminder of the Cold War



Fidel Castro and Revolution in Cuba

- Widespread poverty made much of Latin America ripe for the spread of Communism
- In 1959, Fidel Castro overthrew a dictatorship in Cuba and seized power
- Once in power, Castro nationalized (had the government take over) many businesses
- Castro also executed his opponents
- The United States reacted by breaking off trade with Cuba (a trade embargo)
- Castro turned to the Soviet Union for support and transformed Cuba into a Communist state
- Castro then threatened to export Communism to other Latin American nations
- In 1961, Cuban exiles, armed and trained by the United States, invaded Cuba at the Bay of Pigs
- The Bay of Pigs invasion failed
- In 1962, American leaders discovered that Cuba was secretly building bases to install Soviet missiles with nuclear warheads
- If the plan succeeded, Soviet nuclear missiles would be within easy striking distance of major U.S. cities
- President Kennedy blockaded Cuba and threatened to invade if the missiles were not withdrawn
- Khrushchev finally agreed to withdraw the missiles for a pledge that the United States would not invade Cuba



The Vietnam War

- Vietnam was divided into two nations when the French withdrew from Indochina in 1954
- Nationalist leader Ho Chi Minh created a Communist state in North Vietnam, while South Vietnam established ties to the West
- South Vietnamese leaders refused to hold promised elections to reunite the country
- South Vietnamese Communists, known as the Viet Cong, with North Vietnamese support, launched a guerrilla war against the South Vietnamese government
- Once again, the United States stepped in to resist Communism
- American combat troops were sent to Vietnam in 1964

- The United States was unable to turn the tide against the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese
- In 1973, American troops withdrew from Vietnam in accordance with an agreement reached in Paris
- In 1975, South Vietnam fell to North Vietnamese forces and the country was reunited under Communist rule



Cambodia and Pol Pot

- The withdrawal of American forces from Vietnam also led to the collapse of the government in neighboring Cambodia
- In 1975, Cambodian Communists, known as the Khmer Rouge, seized control of Cambodia, changing the country's name to Kampuchea
- Pol pot, the Khmer Rouge leader, carried out a policy of genocide against city-dwellers and all people suspected of being unsympathetic to the Communist cause
- City-dwellers were forced into the countryside, where they faced starvation and disease
- It is estimated that the Khmer Rouge killed as many as four million Cambodians between 1975 and 1978
- Pol Pot and his followers were finally overthrown by the Vietnamese army in 1978



Issues Facing Post-Colonial Africa

- Like most developing nations, countries in Africa generally followed a policy of non-alignment (not taking sides) during the Cold War
- Many Nationalist leaders assumed dictatorial powers
- The majority of Africans remained poor and lacked formal education
- Africans also struggled with problems of ethnic disunity and political instability
- Most African nations were based on former colonies and had been created without regard for tribal boundaries
- Often there were rival tribes within the same country which increased ethnic violence
- Many Africans were subsistence farmers, growing only enough food to meet the needs of their own family
- Urbanization increased as many Africans migrated to cities in search of opportunities



Apartheid in South Africa

- In 1948, white South Africans began a policy of apartheid or racial “separateness”
- Blacks could not travel freely, use many public facilities, or marry whites
- Many black South Africans resisted apartheid by violent means
- When police killed demonstrators in the Sharpeville Massacre in 1960, a general strike broke out among black Africans
- In the Soweto Uprising in 1976, riots against spread throughout South Africa
- The United States and other countries finally cut their economic ties with South Africa in order to promote social change
- Nelson Mandela, a leader in the anti-apartheid movement – a leader who had been jailed for twenty-seven years, was released in 1990
- By 1991, Nelson Mandela was elected President of the Republic of South Africa in the nation’s first multiracial elections – formally ending the apartheid system



Israel and the Palestinians

- After the British handed Palestine to the United Nations, the United Nations voted to partition Palestine in 1947 and create Israel as a Jewish homeland
- Israel declared its independence in 1948
- Arab nations refused to recognize Israel
- Arabs launched an attack on Israel but were defeated
- During the war, many Palestinians Arabs fled and became refugees in neighboring Arab lands
- Later wars erupted again in 1956, 1967, and 1973
- In the 1967 war, Israel defeated its enemies and acquired the Gaza Strip and Sinai Peninsula from Egypt, the West Bank from Jordan, and the Golan Heights from Syria
- In 1978, Egyptian President Anwar el-Sadat and Israel’s Prime Minister Menachim Begin visited the U.S. President Carter at Camp David
- It was agreed at Camp David that Israel would return lands taken from Egypt in exchange for establishing peace between the two nations, ending thirty years of official hostility
- Other Arab countries broke off diplomatic ties with Egypt and denounced the Camp David Accords
- Continuing hostility between Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Jews further complicated Israel’s relations with its Arab neighbors

- In 1964, Palestinian Arabs formed the Palestinian Liberation Organization vowing to win back their homeland and refusing to recognize Israel
- In the 1960s and the 1970s, the PLO used terrorism as a political weapon
- In 1987, young Palestinians who had grown up under Israeli occupation began a series of violent demonstrations (the Intifada or “Uprising”) – Israel imposed harsh measures to stop the protests
- Conflict still persists between Israelis and Palestinians over land



OPEC

- The Middle East contains a large part of the world’s oil reserves
- In the early 1970s, oil-producing countries formed the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
- Many OPEC members are located around the Persian Gulf, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates
- In 1973, during a war with Israel, Arab OPEC members refused to sell oil to countries friendly with Israel
- This reduction in the supply of oil set off a tremendous rise in the price of oil
- After the war, OPEC nations continued to cooperate to keep up the price of oil
- The West and non-oil-producing developing nations suffered high inflation and unemployment throughout the 1970s because of these high oil prices



The Iranian Revolution

- Iran (known in earlier times as Persia) was never part of Ottoman Turkey or colonized by European powers
- The ruler of Iran in the post-war period, Shah Pahlavi, tried to adopt Western culture and technology
- In 1979, public demonstrations overthrew the Shah in the Iranian Revolution
- An Islamic Fundamentalist, Ayatollah Khomeini, became Iran’s new ruler
- Reacting against Western culture and values, Khomeini established a new constitution for Iran based on the Qur’an
- Civil law was replaced by Islamic law
- Women were required to wear traditional dress



The Green Revolution

- With one billion people, India is the world's largest democracy
- When India became independent, most Indians were farmers living in villages, who worked by hand
- In the 1960s and 1970s, the government tried to improve agricultural production by applying modern science and technology
- This effort became known as the Green Revolution
- New seeds, fertilizers, and equipment were introduced by the Green Revolution



Bangladesh

- When Pakistan was formed in 1947, it consisted of two halves separated by nearly a thousand miles
- In 1971, East Pakistan broke away from west Pakistan to become Bangladesh
- Civil War erupted
- The new country suffers from periodic floods
- Flooding causes crop destruction, property loss, and death



Latin America Today

- A continuing gulf between the rich and the poor, economic dependence on the West, and political instability are continuing problems
- Military governments continued to rule many Latin American countries from the 1930s to the 1980s
- Military governments frequently violated their citizen's human rights
- In Argentina, thousands of people disappeared during the military rule that ended in 1984
- In Chile, the military overthrew an elected government and tortured and killed opponents
- In Cuba, Fidel Castro imprisoned and killed opponents of his rule
- In Venezuela, Chavez increased the powers of the presidency

- Economic development has been hampered by a lack of capital for investment, an unskilled work force, and foreign competition
- Population growth forced many Latin American nations to spend money on importing food instead of making improvements
- In the 1970s and 1980s, some Latin American countries borrowed heavily from Western banks leading to various financial crises



Ferdinand Marcos and the Philippines

- Once a United States colony, the Philippines became independent just after World War II
- Ferdinand Marcos served as President from 1965 to 1986
- Ruling the Philippines as a dictator, Marcos grew increasingly corrupt
- In 1986, Marcos was defeated in a reelection bid by Corazon Aquino
- At first, Marcos refused to accept his election defeat, but mass demonstrations at home forced him to flee
- His defeat was seen as a triumph for democracy



The Collapse of the Soviet Union

- The sudden and unexpected collapse of Soviet Communism led directly to the end of the Cold War
- Mikhail Gorbachev was leader of the Soviet Communist Party from 1985 to 1991
- Gorbachev wanted to preserve Communism, but sought reform through a number of new policies
- Gorbachev introduced Glasnost or “openness” to Soviet society – restrictions on speech and press were lifted and dissidents were released from prison
- Gorbachev also introduced Perestroika or economic reform (“restructuring”) – Gorbachev hoped to move away from central planning to encourage more individual initiative in the Soviet economy
- People were permitted to form small businesses, factory managers were given greater control over the production of their factories, and foreign companies were invited to invest in the Soviet Union
- Many non-Russian nationalities began demanding independence

- The spirit of nationalism even spread to the Russian republic
- In 1991, Boris Yeltsin was elected President of Russian Republic, and began to assert Russian authority over Gorbachev's Soviet government
- Communist hardliners overthrew Gorbachev in a coup but they lacked popular support and the coup collapsed
- The Communist Party was discredited
- Gorbachev recognized the independence of Lithuania and other Baltic States
- In December 1991, Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine also declared their independence
- The former Soviet Union was dead and Gorbachev resigned at the end of 1991
- The nations of the former Soviet Union began the process of transitioning to free market economies
- Rising unemployment, inflation, and crime occurred



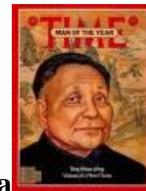
The Solidarity Movement in Poland

- Lech Walesa organized an independent trade union named Solidarity in Poland
- Poles became the first East Europeans to elect a non-Communist government in the post-cold war world
- These changes led to a lifting of the “Iron Curtain” between Western and Eastern Europe



Taking Down the Berlin Wall

- The Berlin Wall, which had separated East and West Berlin, was taken down in 1989
- Free elections were held
- West Germany's leader, Helmut Kohl, helped negotiate the reunification of Germany which became official at the end of 1990



Deng Xiaoping and Economic Reform in China

- China introduced a free market economy gradually without abandoning the Communist Party's monopoly of political power
- After the death of Mao Zedong in 1976, Deng Xiaoping became China's principal leader

- Deng had opposed Mao's Cultural Revolution and once in power he set out making practical reforms
- Deng wanted to "modernize" China while reforming its economy
- Deng disbanded communes or state-run farms and peasants were allowed to rent former communal lands – productivity increased, making China self-sufficient in food
- China began producing more consumer goods, such as radios and televisions
- Central planners lost some degree of control to local factory managers
- Managers and workers were allowed to sell some of their production to private buyers for a profit
- Individuals were allowed to own small businesses
- New laws encouraged foreign investment
- While Deng made economic reforms, he did not make political reforms
- In 1989, students peacefully demonstrated in Beijing's Tiananmen Square for greater personal freedom and democracy
- When the students refused to disperse, army tanks fired on the demonstrators, killing hundreds
- In 1997, China gained control of Hong Kong
- Deng's successors have generally continued his policies

Ireland and Religious Conflict



- Back in the 16th century, England became Protestant but the people of Ireland remained Catholics
- In an attempt to control Ireland, the English sent Protestant settlers to Ireland in the 1600s
- The Protestants settled mainly in the north
- In 1922, Ireland became independent but the Protestant majority in Northern Ireland chose to remain a part of Great Britain
- Many Catholics objected to the division of Ireland and formed the Irish Republican Army (I.R.A.)
- In 1969, open fighting erupted in Northern Ireland between the I.R.A. and armed units of Northern Protestants
- The British sent troops in to preserve the peace and open warfare ensued
- In 1993, British leaders negotiated a cease-fire
- In 2005, the I.R.A. announced an end to its military campaign and Britain withdrew its troops

Genocide in the former Yugoslavia



- The liberation of Eastern Europe was accompanied by a revival of age-old ethnic rivalries in Yugoslavia

- With the collapse of Communism, Croatia and Slovenia declared their independence
- Serb-dominated Yugoslavia responded by attacking Croatia
- Fighting then erupted in Bosnia between Muslims and Serbs
- Yugoslavia intervened on behalf of Bosnian Serbs
- Some Bosnian Serbs began murdering Muslim civilians in Serb-controlled areas in what they called ethnic cleansing
- Later, Serbs attacked Muslims in the province of Kosovo
- After several years of civil war, the United States and NATO countries finally stopped the fighting in an uneasy truce
- Bosnia was divided into two republics – Muslim and Serb
- Serb leaders were put on trial by the World Court for crimes against humanity



Genocide in Rwanda

- Ethnic tensions also erupted in Rwanda, a country in Africa
- In 1994, Rwanda's President, a member of the Hutu tribe, was assassinated
- Government-sponsored Hutu troops began taking revenge against the Tutsi minority, who were blamed for the assassination
- The Hutu-dominated print and radio media fueled the killings with frequent broadcasts to people to kill all Tutsis
- Eventually, the killings stopped



The European Union

- In 1991, members of the European Economic Community (an organization to promote free trade in Europe) voted to move towards a united Europe
- E.U. members began using the Euro, a unified European currency
- In 2004, a large number of countries from Eastern Europe joined the European Union



Conflict in Iraq

- In 1979, Saddam Hussein seized power in Iraq and imposed a brutal dictatorship
- When Saddam ordered the invasion of Kuwait, the first Persian Gulf War began in 1990

- The United States and other nations responded
- Iraqi troops were forced out of Kuwait
- When Hussein did not honor his agreement to permit United Nations inspectors to monitor Iraq to ensure that he did not stockpile nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons of mass destructions (WMD), the United States, Great Britain, and other allies invaded Iraq in March 2003 for the Second Persian Gulf War
- Hussein was tried and executed



Conflict in Afghanistan

- In 1978, local Communists with Soviet support seized power in Afghanistan
- Local guerrilla fighters with U.S. support overthrew Afghanistan's Communist government
- The Taliban, a group of radical Muslim Fundamentalists, gradually gained control of the country
- Women were forbidden to appear in public without their bodies and faces being covered
- Men were not allowed to trim their beards
- "Religious Police" roamed the streets beating those who disobeyed
- The Taliban also allowed the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda, led by Osama bin Laden (this terrorist organization ordered the attack on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and the World Trade Center in New York city in 2001)
- When the Taliban refused to turn over bin Laden, the U.S. invaded Afghanistan and overthrew the Taliban regime



Global Concerns

- Overpopulation has led to populations that outstrip food supplies
- Terrorism has led to the use of violence against civilians
- Pollution has led to the destruction of the environment
- Deforestation has led to the destruction of forests