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General introduction to development in Africa

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Colonialism - Scramble for Africa

- In the 19th centry Europeans divided Africa among themselves
- National boundaries in Africa established by Europeans using latitude and longitude rather than natural borders.
- Separating population centres from their supplies of food and natural resources.
- The artificial borders cut across cultural, tribal, linguistic and religious boundaries
- Creating ethnic and religious cleavages which impede national unity and induce internal violence

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Colonial Powers

- Britain
- France
- Spain
- Portugal
- Belgium
- Germany
- Italy

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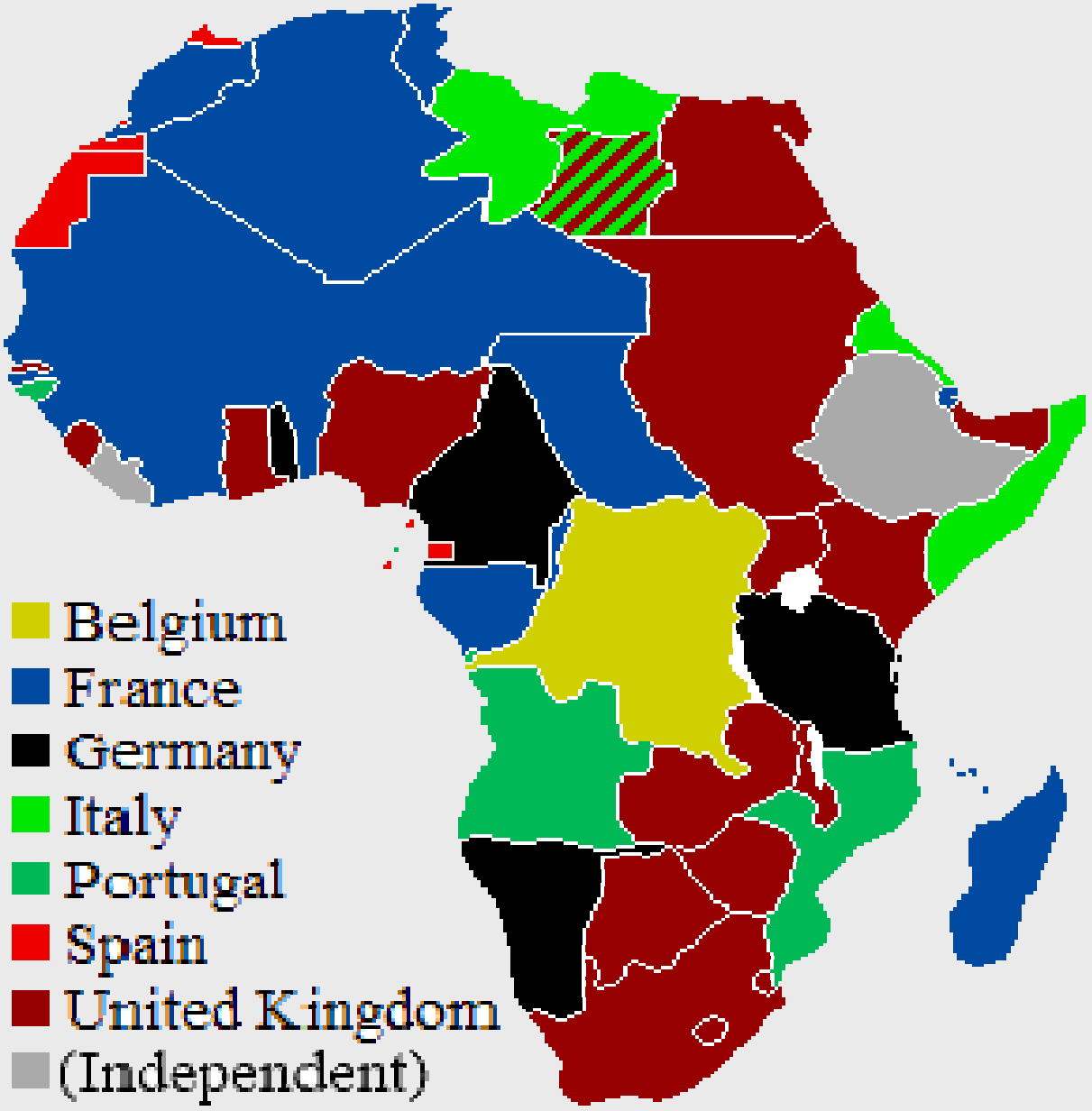
Percentage of Territories

- Region Percentage Controlled
- Africa 90.4%
- Polynesia 98.9%
- Asia 56.5%
- Australia 100.0%
- Americas 27.2%

Colonies


Belgium
France
Germany
Italy
Portugal
Spain
United Kingdom
(Independent)

Types of Colonialism

- **Settler colonialism** involved a large number of colonists, typically seeking fertile land to farm.

- **Exploitation colonialism** involved fewer colonists, typically interested in extracting resources to export to the metropole.

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Systems used in Africa

- Direct Rule
- Indirect Rule
- Settler Rule

Neocolonialism

- Socialism
- Autarchy (Autarky – Economic independence)
- Liberalism
- Indebtedness
- Foreign Aid

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Negative Impacts of Colonialism

- Spread of virulent diseases
- Unequal social relations
- Exploitation of resources
- Enslavement
- Creation of Language barriers
- Boundaries
- Conflicts

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Positive Impacts

- Developed Infrastructure
- Medical Advances
- New Institutions
- Technological Advancement
- Education
- Religion
- Acculturation

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Brief Geography of Africa

- size: 30 221 532 km^2
- population: 1 billion (14,72% total of word population)
- second largest continent
- 54 countries
- climate: tropical and subtropical



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Dimensions of Poverty

Economic

- Lack of food
- Lack of water in or near the villages
- Lack of land or clear title to land
- Lack of productive resources and equipment
- Lack of income-generating skills valued by the market
- Limited access to markets, local and more distant
- Lack of economically useful information (prices etc.)
- Lack of bargaining and marketing power in those markets
- Low incomes and low consumption from self-production
- Lack of economic security or lack back-up resources for emergencies

Dimensions of Poverty

Health-related

- Poor health, low resistance to illness and diseases
- Lack of local health facilities and medicines
- Lack of basic health information and practices

Political

- Lack of political power, often even at the local level
- Lack of access to power centers to initiate, correct or improve political decision

Dimensions of Poverty

Educational

- Lack of literacy/numeracy and other basic skills, and skills for adding economic value to work

Infrastructure

- Lack of basic access to infrastructure, transportation and storage facilities.

Housing

- Lack of adequate, sound shelter and sanitation at affordable prices.

Dimensions of Poverty

Institutional

- Lack of organized and recognized institution to bid for/channel/monitor use of resources.

Environmental

- A poor and deteriorating environment, from pollution, lack of clean water; erosion, deforestation, overuse etc.

Characteristics of Poverty

- Low production
- Low level or lack of education
- Low income
- Poor health
- Environmental degradation
- Water
- Uncontrolled human settlements

Low Production

- lack of access to land/assets
- low productive inputs
- low agricultural technology
- lack of access to credit/capital
- pricing and marketing constraint
- climatic factors
- low soil fertility
- lack of research extension service
- low productivity

Inadequate Education

- low primary enrolling rate
- poor quality of education
- inadequate resources
- inability to pay school fees
- inadequate classrooms
- limited facilities
- poor access (distant factor)
- absenteeism

Low Income

- lack of marketable skills/untrained labour
- lack of employment facilities
- lack of small enterprise credit
- low wages
- lack of income generating opportunities

Poor Health

- food insecurity
- poor nutrition
- lack of access to portable water
- insanitary conditions
- poor access to health facilities (distant factor)

Environmental Degradation

- farming in environmentally sensitive area
- soil erosion
- over-grazed/depleted ranges
- fuelwood shortage
- deforestation
- bushfires
- poor environmental sanitation

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Uncontrolled human settlements

- water-borne diseases
- inadequate services delivery
- isolated settlements
- lack of access to land
- environmental sanitation
- slums
- inadequate transportation
- unaffordable housing rent

Water

- poor quality water
- inadequate supply
- long distance to fetch water
- inability to pay for portable water



Areas for further discusions

- Urbanization
- Agriculture
- Mining
- Industries
- Tourism
- Migration
- Women and development
- Health and environment

Thank you for your attention

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