

Name:

AP World History

Chapter 37 Study Packet

The End of Empire

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Overview

One of the most dramatic developments of the postwar era was the rapid breakup of the colonial empires that had dominated the world at the beginning of the century. Between 1945 and 1975, most of the former colonies of Africa and Asia became independent states. (Namibia was the last, in 1990.) A number of forces contributed to the process of decolonization and helped shape postcolonial societies, including the following:

- Wars of liberation. The road to independence was sometimes amicable, as in Ghana and Morocco, but was often fiercely contested, as in Kenya and Algeria. Colonial powers fought to recover the empires that once attested to their world dominance. Concern for local settler populations also contributed to their resistance. In Vietnam the struggle for national liberation began with resistance to the Japanese during the war and continued afterward against the French.
- Cold war politics. In the global conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, new states were pressured to choose between the superpowers. Foreign aid and military support were often contingent on an alliance. Stronger nations like India presented a third alternative, nonalignment, with limited success.
- Ethnic and religious conflicts. Nationalism was a powerful force in postwar independence movements. In states where the national identity was defined by religion or ethnicity, however, this force could lead to internal and regional conflicts. The partition of India into Muslim and Hindu states did little to ease tensions in that region. The Iran-Iraq war was fueled by both religious and ethnic differences. In sub-Saharan Africa, where national boundaries bore little relation to tribal lands, each new nation was a potential hothouse for ethnic conflict.
- Fragile new democracies. Many of the new states were ill-prepared for self-government, lacking both the institutions and traditions that support democracy. In sub-Saharan Africa, democratic governments were soon taken over by military dictators, and those states often plunged into prolonged civil wars. South Africa was technically a democracy but, until 1990, only for a small white ruling class. Likewise in east Asia, new states were governed by military regimes until the late 1980s. Notable exceptions to this global retreat from democracy are Mexico and India, both relatively stable and continuous democracies.
- Creation of Israel. The creation of a new Jewish state in previously Muslim Palestine eased western guilt over the atrocities of World War II. The achievements of modern Israel are undeniable. Lacking significant oil or mineral resources, Israel is nonetheless the most prosperous and democratic state in the region. Unresolved tensions over the status of Muslim Palestinians and the future of the occupied territories continue to threaten the region and hamper efforts to find a peaceful resolution.

When World War II ended, the British considered granting India independence, but this led to religious problems within the nation. The Muslims demand for a separate country grew, fearing domination by the Hindus. Gandhi condemned this plan, but in 1947 independent India was divided into Hindu India and Muslim Pakistan. As ten million refugees moved from one country to the other, one million died. The stable democracy of India, although marked by the assassinations of two prime ministers, is an exception in Asia.

Nationalist movements also occurred in other countries in Asia, including Vietnam. The invasion of Vietnam by Japan ended the French occupation but with the war's end, the French attempted to reassert control. Fought by Ho Chi Minh and his followers, and aided by Communist China, the French were defeated in 1954. The Geneva Conference in 1954 split Vietnam in two. The Soviet Union and China supported the communist government of Ho Chi Minh in the north and the United States supported the government in the south. This led to a prolonged struggle, which ended with the north victorious in 1973.

In the Middle East, nationalism was also an issue. Conflict increased between the independent Arab states created after 1920, and the increasing number of Jewish settlers who arrived in the 1920s and 1930s. After the end of WWII, large numbers of Jews fled Europe for Palestine and the problems increased. The British mandate in Palestine could not solve the problems between the two groups and turned the issue over to the United Nations. The area was divided into Palestine and Israel. When the British withdrew in 1947, civil war broke out between the two sides and the Jews proclaimed Israel a nation. In Egypt, an Egyptian nationalist, Nassar, came to power and seized control of the vital Suez Canal to help build up his nation's economy. This led to conflict between Egypt and Great Britain, France, and Israel.

In the Middle East, many of the problems continued to revolve around religion. The continuing conflict between Israel and her neighbors, with wars in both 1967 and 1973, and the rise of Islamic revivalism - the idea that religious values should provide a base for political decisions - add to the unrest in the area.

In Africa, the French were forced out of Algeria in a violent war that ran from 1954 to 1962. This war was perhaps the most violent example of the fight for African nationalism. In sub-Saharan Africa, more and more states gained independence, some violently like the Mau-Mau uprising in Kenya, and others not so, like in Ghana.

After the European powers withdrew from Africa, it still suffered from the aftermath of colonialism, with many unstable governments. In South Africa, the continuation of apartheid, the legal separation of the races, continued until 1994 with the election of Nelson Mandela as the first black president. Most of sub-Saharan Africa continues to lag behind the world in industrial output.

Starting in 1958, Mao Zedong attempted to modernize China with programs that would turn out badly. The Great Leap Forward (1958-1961), an attempt to increase industry and agriculture, ended with no great change in industrial production and resulted in mass famine. The Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), an attempt to make China even more communistic, ended with thousands of deaths and a major setback for Chinese education. After Mao's death in 1976, Deng Xiaoping opened China to the west and instituted market reforms.

The end of imperialism in Latin America led to many issues. The region remained unstable long after imperial withdrawal. The region was plagued by unstable governments such as the military governments of Peron in Argentina and Armas in Guatemala.

Key Concept 6.2 Global Conflicts and Their Consequences

- II. Emerging ideologies of anti-imperialism contributed to the dissolution of empires.
- III. Political changes were accompanied by major demographic and social consequences.

Chapter 37 Geography



Label the following on the map above

Moscow	Cuba
Yugoslavia	Hungary
Czechoslovakia	China
Vietnam	India
Pakistan	Kashmir
Palestine (mandate)	Syria
Iraq	Lebanon
Jordan	Suez Canal
Egypt	Israel
France	Algeria
Ghana	Kenya
Mexico	Argentina

Independence in Asia (Read Pages 1-12)

India's Partitioned Independence

1. How did **Muhammad Ali Jinnah's** view on Indian independence differ from **Gandhi** and **Nerhu**?
2. Explain how and why India was partitioned.
3. What were the results of the **Partition of India**?
4. What was the **Bandung Conference** and how did it influence the **Nonaligned Movement**?

Nationalist Struggles in Vietnam

5. Who was **Ho Chi Minh** and what were his goals?
6. How did **Lyndon Johnson** turn Vietnam into an American war?
7. How did the North Vietnamese win the Vietnam War?

Arab National States and the Problem of Palestine

8. What was the **Balfour Declaration** and how did lead to an Arab-Jewish conflict?
9. Who were **Zionists** and what was their goal?
10. How was the state of **Israel** created?
11. Describe the **intifada** that occurred in Israel in 1987.
12. Who was **Gamal Abdel Nasser** and what type of government did he favor?
13. Describe Nasser's Cold War politics.
14. How did the **Suez Crisis** start? How did it end?

Decolonization in Africa (Read pages 12-19)

Forcing the French out of North Africa

1. Why did France want to prevent **Algerian Independence** at all costs?
2. What role did the **FLN** play in the Algerian war for independence?

Black African Nationalism and Independence

3. What role did **Kwame Nkrumah** play in African independence movements?
4. What was the **Mau Mau** rebellion?
5. What role did the **Kikuyu** fighters and **Jomo Kenyatta** play in Kenyan independence?

Internal Colonialism in South Africa

6. What is **apartheid** and how did it start?

7. How did the African National Congress and Nelson Mandela fight apartheid in South Africa?
8. What resulted from the Sharpeville massacre?
9. What happened to Nelson Mandela in 1963?
10. Who was F.W. de Klerk and how did he help to end apartheid?
11. What was the result of the first free elections held in South Africa (1994)?

After Independence (Read pages 20-31)

Communism and Democracy in Asia

1. What was the **Great Leap Forward** and what were its results?
2. What effect did the **Cultural Revolution** have on Chinese society?
3. How did **Deng Xiaoping** reform China's economy?
4. Why were students protesting in **Tiananmen Square**? What were the results?
5. Who was **Indira Gandhi** and what was the **Green Revolution** she initiated?
6. What resulted from **Sikhs** in **Punjab** wanting greater autonomy in India?

Islamic Resurgence in Southwest Asia and North Africa

7. How did **sharia law** affect the post colonial Muslim world?
8. How did **jihad** affect the post colonial Muslim world?
9. How did the policies of **Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi** help cause the **Iranian Revolution**?
10. In what direction did the **Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini** take Iran after the revolution?
11. What caused the **Iran-Iraq War**? What were the results?

Colonial Legacies in Sub-Sahara Africa

12. Was the **Organization of African Unity** see successful in its goals? Why?/Why not?

Politics and Economics in Latin America

13. What type of political leader was **Juan Peron**?

14. How did Eva Peron help her husband hold onto power in **Argentina**?

15. What role did **Castillo Armas** of Guatemala play in Cold War politics?

16. What role did the **Sandinistas** of Nicaragua play in Cold War politics?

17. Why was **Oscar Romero** of El Salvador assassinated in 1990?