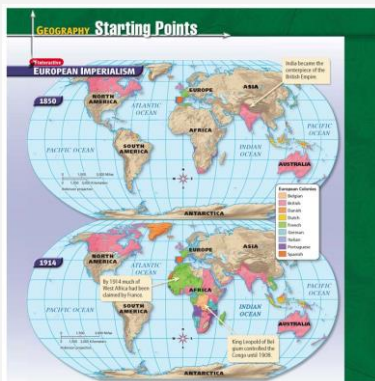# OLD V. NEW IMPERIALISM COMPARISON

PERIOD 5

IMPERIALISM

- process in which a state attempts to control the economic and/or political and cultural makeup of another state…

- 1914- West (Eur. and Am.) control 85% of the world

TYPES OF IMPERIALISM

- Existing Colonies
  - British in India
  - Dutch in Indonesia
- Empires in Africa
  - Britain in West Africa
  - Belgium in the Congo

- Settler Colonies
  - British in Australia
  - French in Algeria
- Economic Imperialism (Spheres of Influence)
  - British in China (Opium Wars)
  - United States in Latin America

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ECONOMIC CAUSES

OLD
- "God, Glory, Gold"
  – luxury goods
  – precious metals
  – route to Asia

NEW
- cheap raw materials to fuel Industrial Revolution
- markets for finished goods
- military bases
- outlet for surplus population

RELIGIOUS CAUSES

OLD
- Roman Catholic missionaries
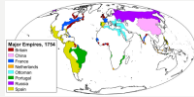 – conversion of "savages"

NEW
- Protestant and Catholic missionaries
  – "conversion of savages"
  – end African slavery
    • Christians could not enslave Christians

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

OLD
- coastal Africa
- coastal Asia
- Americas
  – primary focus

NEW
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- India
- China
- southeast Asia

TECHNOLOGY

OLD
- caravels
- cannon
- muskets
- map making

NEW
- quinine vaccine
  – to treat malaria
- machine gun
- railroad
- telegraph
- steamship

CHARACTERISTICS

OLD
- aspect of exploration and Commercial Revolution
- Africa and Asia
  – commercial control
- Americas
  – land empire and settlements

NEW
- aspect of Industrial Revolution
- Africa and Asia
  – land empires
- pushed social reform and western education
- Nationalism

ADMINISTRATION

OLD
- large geographic areas under single nation
- profit over empire
- trade monopolies
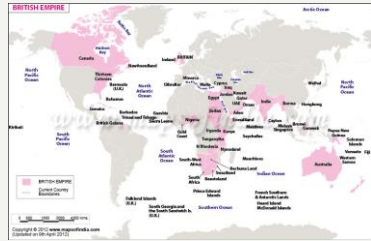 – Dutch and East India Companies
- forced labor
  – Spanish

NEW
- smaller colonial areas
- indirect rule
  – Brit and India (at first)
- direct rule
  – paternalism and assimilation
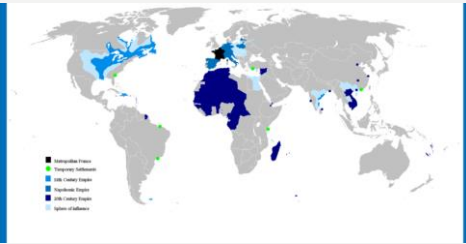- more control from mother country
- racism and segregation

LEADING STATES

- Old
  - 1500s
    - Portugal and Spain
  - 1600s
    - France, Britain, Netherlands
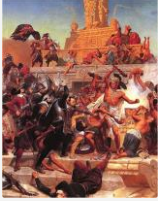
- New
  - British

- French

- Dutch

- Germany

- Belgium

METHODS OF CONQUEST

OLD
- military conquest

NEW
- concessions
- spheres of influence
- protectorates
- colonies

IMPACT ON NATIVES

OLD
- Negative
  – catastrophic native deaths
  – loss of traditions
- Positive
  – Columbian Exchange of food items and livestock

NEW
- Negative
  – death from war and disease
  – economic exploitation
  – political divisions
  – loss of traditions
- Positive
  – reduced local warfare
  – modernization
  – higher standard of living

SIMILARITIES

- political control shaped by elites
- colonial authority legitimized by claims of progress and order
- exports allowed colonies to be integrated into the world economy
- sharp social/racial divisions developed

- paternalist colonial culture based on race
- gender divisions of labor
- exploitation
- administration, legal and educational precedents are still in place
- European population concentrated in urban areas or provincial towns