



Colonialism in Latin America, Asia and Africa

CHAPTER 15

Expansion of Europe and Early Colonialism

Look at the map of the world given below. It shows the world as it was known to the Europeans some 600 years ago.

Map 1: Map of world known to Europeans in 1400 known as Genoese.



Around 600 years ago, people of the world travelled very little. They usually travelled on horses or camels or by small boats and ships which only sailed along the sea coasts. However, the contact between people and countries began to increase as traders travelled to different countries and continents to buy exotic goods and sell them at high prices. Silk and porcelain ware from China, cotton textiles, steel and spices from India, fruits and scents from Arabia and wine from Europe were some of the most popular goods all over the world. The traders usually purchased and sold them in exchange for gold and silver and made huge profits. In fact, some of them were even richer than kings. Indian traders and sailors from Gujarat, Konkan, Malabar and Coramandel coast traded far and wide. They traded with China, South East Asia, the Red Sea ports and also eastern Africa. Their sailors used the monsoon winds to cross the Arabian sea and the Bay Bengal.

Most of the trade routes that connected Europe and Asia around 1400 were controlled by Muslim kingdoms, especially the Ottoman Empire. Ottoman Empire was constantly at war with the European Christian powers. The Italians had a good relationship with the Arab traders who brought Asian goods to Alexandria (in Egypt) and sold them to the Italians. Slowly, the traders and governments of Western European countries like Holland, Spain, Portugal

- Which continents were the traders not familiar with at all?
- Which were the continents whose coastal areas were known to them but not the interior regions?

and England realised the importance of this trade. They also wanted to find faster and easier routes to countries like India and China, without passing through regions controlled by Italian traders. The Portuguese, for example, wanted to find a route around Africa to reach India. The Spanish wanted to know if it was possible to reach India by crossing the Atlantic Ocean. They invested large amounts of money by hiring experienced sea mariners and giving them ships and other resources to explore new routes. This led to the discovery of the American Continent by Christopher Columbus in 1492 and of sea route to India around Africa by Vasco Da Gama in 1498. Columbus was working for the Spanish queen while Vasco da Gama was working for the Portuguese king. Soon, English and Dutch governments also started sending their sailors to these regions.

- Why do you think the Italians were controlling the trade with Asia in 1400 and not other Europeans like Portuguese or Spanish?
- Why were the Portuguese and Spanish keen to find other routes to reach India and southeast Asia?

European Colonies in America

Columbus landed on what are today known as the West Indies – the islands off the coast of South America. He had thought that he had reached India and called the local people ‘Indians’. (That is why the original inhabitants of America are called Native Indians today.) These were simple tribal people who welcomed the visitors and gave them food and shelter. However, these Spaniards enslaved and plundered them. They converted them into slave labourers to grow food and mine gold. Eventually, virtually all native people of the islands died or were killed.

After Columbus, the Spanish government sent several expeditions to conquer America and rob it. They expected to find gold and silver mines and vast quantities of these precious metals with the help of local kings. Cortez, a Spanish conqueror, led an expedition to kill the people and plunder Mexico. He eventually killed the local king and put an end to the independent rule of Mexico. Similarly, another conqueror named Pizarro plundered and conquered Peru.

The English also came to North America and began to set up colonies of English farmers along the eastern coast. The



Fig. 15.1: Columbus before the Queen, as imagined by Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze, 1843.

Native Americans mostly acted in friendship and extended help and cooperation to the Europeans. In England, this was the time when the small peasants were being deprived of their land by landlords. Many of these peasants migrated to North America and wished to settle down there. They forced the Native Americans to give up their land and killed them and drove them into the interior.

As the news of the natural resources available in America reached the people of Europe, a large number of land hungry people started going to America. They drove off the native people and took over their lands.

Once the killing and plunder had reduced, the Europeans wanted to settle there and exploit the natural resources of America. However, they needed slave labour to do the work. They realised that it was difficult to enslave the Native Americans. They therefore began to transport a large number of African slaves. These were people who had been captured from the interiors of Africa by European (especially Portuguese) traders and their agents. These African slaves were transported to America under very inhuman conditions and sold to large landlords and others. About 15 to 20 million African slaves were thus forcibly taken away to America. They were made to work on sugar cane farms, corn fields, tobacco fields and cotton fields. Their produce was taken away and sold in different countries including England and France for huge profits.

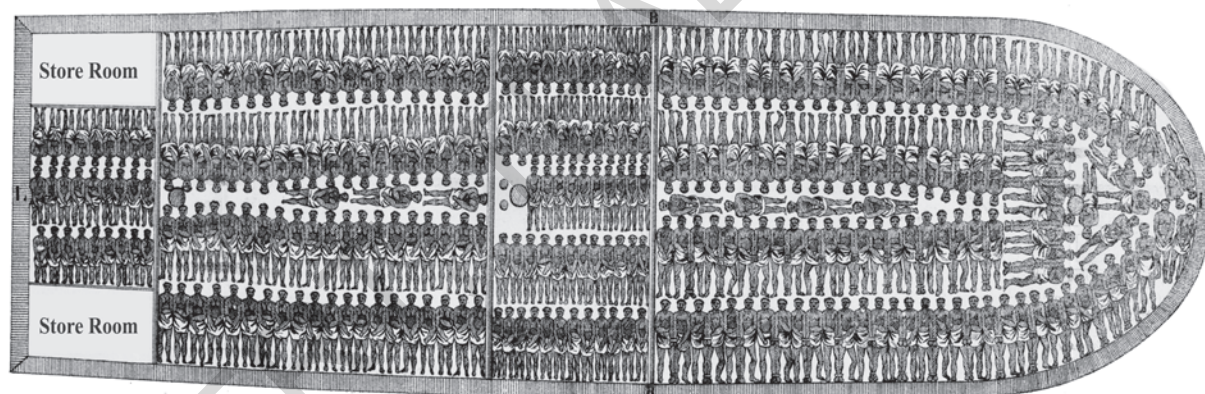


Fig. 15.2: Illustration showing 292 slaves being stowaged in the lower deck of ship

‘Latin’ America

In a period of three hundred years from 1500 to 1800, most of Central and South America had come under the control of Spain and Portugal. Since Spanish and Portuguese languages are considered as off shoots of Latin, these countries are called “Latin American” countries. About half of the original inhabitants of the continent had been killed or died of diseases brought by Europeans. A large number of people from Europe settled there who also purchased slaves from Africa. The residents of these countries today are a mix of native Indians, Spanish and Portuguese settlers and descendents of African slaves. A large number of people are descendents of mixed parents – Europeans who married Indians or Africans.

- Look at the map of South America around 1800 to identify the countries controlled by the different powers.

We read that a large number of native Indians had been killed. Many small tribal communities survived in deep forests while other communities came under the control of the Spanish. They had to pay heavy taxes, and had to work as labour in the mines and farms owned by the Spanish. Most of their temples were destroyed and they were all converted to Roman Catholic religion. There were several small and large rebellions in the 17th and 18th centuries by the Indians in South America, but these were mercilessly crushed by the Spanish who had arms and ammunitions.

In most of the Spanish ruled countries, all the power was in the hands of Supreme Council located in Madrid (capital of Spain). This council appointed high officials and nobles from Spain to govern the colonies in America. The Catholic Church also played an important role in the governance of the colonies. Then there were the Spanish settlers who controlled the land and mines of these countries. Some of them were large landlords who had vast estates called 'haciendas'. Haciendas were estates spread over thousands of acres which contained silver and copper mines, agricultural lands and pastures and factories. They were owned by landlords who employed peons or unfree Indians and African slaves to work on them. Besides these, there were ordinary Spanish who had settled as small farmers and animal herders. However, the settled Spanish did not have any role in the administration of the colonies which were controlled by the Spanish from Europe.

Over a period of time, the Spanish landlords and farmers developed trade and industry in these countries and exported large amounts of agricultural produce like sugar and meat to Europe apart from metals like tin and copper.

The economies of the colonies were controlled by Spain in such a way that they got cheap labor and natural resources and never worked on internal development.



Map 2:
South America
- 1800.

- Why do you think the Spanish Settlers were not allowed positions of importance in the government of the colonies?

The colonial powers wanted to have monopoly over their trade relations. To ensure these monopolistic privileges, the colonial powers planned the social and economical dynamics of the colonies.

The colonies were forced to cultivate commercial crops like sugarcane, tobacco or cotton, which were sold cheaply to the dominant countries. They were not allowed to develop industries or trade with other countries. It was possible for the European countries to grow commercial crops on a large scale at low costs because of the large estates which used unfree labour. These estate owners had no need to use modern methods of cultivation or production because they had a supply of cheap forced labour.

The profits earned by the local elites were used up in luxurious goods display, rather than saving and investing in production. This led to a very unequal agrarian social structure which also meant acute poverty for the majority of the people.

The colonial system also placed a lot of control on the colonial economy. Strict laws and other measures of social control were established in the colonised

- You studied about the zamindari system in the Nizam state in Class VIII. Compare the Zamindari system in the Nizam state and the haciendas of South America. What similarities and differences do you find between them?

- Try to formulate the grievances of the following people of the Latin American colonies:

1. Spanish settlers who owned haciendas
2. Small Spanish farmers settled in America
3. Native Americans
4. African slaves settled in Latin America

countries. The manufacture of even minimal industrial products such as nails was forbidden, artificially increasing the dependence of the colonies. Thus colonial control forced a kind of ‘underdevelopment’ of the colonies – prevented them from developing themselves by investing in productive sectors.

The people of the Spanish colonies including old Spanish settlers disliked the control of Spanish nobles over them. Many revolts broke out against Spain in Latin America from 1810. They were greatly influenced by the Declaration

of Independence by the North American colonies and French Revolution. Between 1816 and 1826, most of the Latin American countries became independent. Simon Bolivar led a revolutionary army which was supported by black slaves, small farmers and people from Europe who supported freedom and democracy under the influence of French Revolutionary ideas. This army liberated Venezuela. Another revolutionary army led by San Martin liberated Chile, Peru and Argentina by 1817 and Brazil which was a colony of Portugal became independent in 1822. Thus the colonial rule of European powers ended over much of South America.

By 1820s, United States of America had emerged as a major economic and political power. It felt that the South America should be under its influence and actively discouraged any European power to establish control over this area. The President of USA, James Munroe, formulated the 'Munroe Doctrine' according to which no European power would be allowed to build colonies in the American continents and US will not interfere in the affairs of Europe or colonies in other continents. Read below an extract of Munroe's speech of 1823:



Fig. 15.3: An Inca site of worship known as Machu Pichu in today's Peru

"The occasion has been judged proper for asserting, as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonisation by any European powers."

You may note that Munroe was not supporting the right of the American colonies to freedom but asserting the rights and interests of US. Although the doctrine said that European powers should not consider colonising any American country, it also said that an American country is allowed to colonise these countries.

Britain, which had a powerful navy, supported the Munroe doctrine. Britain was keen that the American colonies were not under political control of any European power so that they would be free to trade with England and purchase its industrial goods.

Thus even though the direct colonial rule ended, many aspects of the old colonial rule remained. Thus the Latin American countries had a social system which consisted of very large landlords on the one hand and a large number of slaves, semi slaves and poor small farmers on the other hand. There were also villages of poor Indian communities. Industry and trade was under the control of the landlords who had little interest in developing these villages. They received sufficient incomes by exploiting servile labour. Thus in many ways, old colonialism continued to influence the Latin American countries. The dependence upon developed industrial

- Why do you think the Latin American countries remained undeveloped despite getting independence from colonial rule?
- In what way did the Munroe doctrine protect the independence of Latin America? Did it also limit their freedom?
- How did Britain gain from the Munroe doctrine?

countries like Britain and US has continued to keep these countries undeveloped because of high levels of social and economic inequality and very high incidence of poverty due to landlessness.

European Colonialism in Asia

Most countries of Asia, like India, China and Japan were different from Latin American countries in many ways. Most of the Asian countries were densely populated by prosperous peasant communities. They were governed by powerful empires that had vast armies. Thus, when the European powers tried to attack the Mughal Empire, they were repeatedly defeated by Mughal armies. However, the Europeans were able to establish power over some important ports like Goa from where they controlled the oceanic trade. The Portuguese, for example, established a 'seaborne empire' over the Indian Ocean in 16th century. All ships travelling on the Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean or Bay of Bengal had to pay a special tribute to the Portuguese and if they failed to do so, they were attacked and looted.

The Portuguese control of the seas was finally ended by other European powers like Holland and England which were also reaching Asia for trade. Holland and England had set up their own East India Companies in 1600-1602 to handle trade with Asian countries. The Companies were keen to purchase produce from Asian countries like cotton and silk textiles, spices, steel etc. which were in great demand in Europe and fetched very high profit. For example, the first Dutch expedition fetched about 400% profit on its investment!

The European companies had set up trading posts in different port cities of India, African Nations and Indonesia. Some of them like Holland established political control over some port cities in Indonesia.

Dutch: The people of Holland are called the 'Dutch'. The official name of Holland today is Netherlands.

Soon, Europe started objecting to the activities of these companies. They were buying commodities from India in exchange for precious metals like gold and silver. By doing so, they were draining Holland and England of their accumulated wealth. Europe felt that India will become richer at the cost of European countries as a result of this trade. Hence, there was a great pressure on the Companies to finance their trade in Asia on their own.

The Dutch Company responded to this change by conquering lands in countries like Indonesia which did not have very powerful kingdoms at that time. They pressurized the local people to sell their products at a cheaper price to the Company. These companies had a monopoly and did not allow other countries to trade with

them. In 1800, the Dutch Government disbanded the Company and established direct rule over Indonesia. Since the government was in deep financial crises, it wanted to use Indonesia as a source of revenue. The Dutch forced the native people to deliver products like coffee, sugar and spices as taxes. This was sold in international markets by the government which earned huge profits. As much as 25% of the Dutch government budget came from these profits. This caused hardships for the native people who could not grow necessary food grains or get even minimum prices for their commercial produce. This resulted in acute poverty and famines. They started revolts which were brutally suppressed. This policy was criticised by many people in Holland.

The government finally ended the system of forced delivery of produce in 1870. It now encouraged Dutch capitalists to invest in Indonesia to set up 'plantations' in which a single crop (like rubber, pepper or sugarcane) was extensively planted and managed by Dutch planters. The Dutch introduced coffee, tea, cocoa, tobacco and rubber and large expanses of land became plantations. The plantations were worked by semi-servile workers under overseers. Many of them were even brought from distant countries like India. The produce of the plantations were sold by the owners in international markets especially in Europe. They also invested in mining tin and petroleum. To increase the transport of these goods, the government invested heavily in railway, as well as telegraph lines etc. The Dutch Indonesia produced most of the world's supply of quinine and pepper, over a third of its rubber, a quarter of its coconut products, and a fifth of its tea, sugar, coffee, and oil. The profit from the Dutch East Indies helped Holland to develop industries and made it one of the world's most significant colonial powers. This power was ended by Japan during the Second World War between 1939-45. Indonesia became independent after the world war along with India.



*Fig. 15.4: Dutch imperial imagery representing the Dutch East Indies (1916)
The text reads Our most precious jewel.*

China

China, like India, was one of the most populated countries of the world and had a powerful empire. It was also further east of India and the Europeans could not control it the way they could conquer Latin America or Indonesia. Chinese rulers realized that it was dangerous to allow Europeans to trade freely in China. So they permitted them to trade only in one city with specific traders only. They were not

Colonial Expansion in India

You have read about British conquest of India in the earlier classes. This is to help you to remember some of the important stages of this conquest. The Portuguese had established control over some ports like Goa in the early 15th century. Other European powers began to trade with India by the end of 16th century by establishing their trading outposts. Till the Mughal empire was strong, no European power could think of building political power in India. As the Mughal empire declined after 1700, the European companies gradually tried to establish political control over parts of the coastal regions. They began in South India, where the English gained control over Madras and the French over Pondicherry. They also fiercely fought with each other and wanted to establish monopoly trade with India. The English eventually succeeded in defeating the Nawab of Bengal and establishing political control over Bengal in 1757. This laid the foundation of British rule in India. The Company used the revenue of Bengal to finance its purchases in India and also used political power to force Indian artisans and farmers and traders to sell their goods at a very cheap price to it. This helped the company to make huge profits.

even allowed to move about the empire and were restricted to their residential quarters. In this way, the Chinese authorities tried to reduce the threat posed by the European traders. The European traders found the trade in Chinese silk and tea very profitable but since the Chinese did not want any European goods, they had to use silver and gold to pay. As we read earlier, this policy was opposed in Europe they did not want to give away precious metals from Europe. The European traders hit upon an item which was in great demand in China but was produced in India. This was opium. The English encouraged Indian peasants to produce large quantities of opium and purchased it from them at very low prices. This opium was smuggled illegally into China and sold there. In return, the Europeans purchased silk and tea

which they sold in Europe. In this way, they did not have to pay the Chinese in silver and gold. As the smuggling of opium increased, the Chinese authorities suspended all trade with European traders even in the one city they had allowed it. This led to what was called the Opium Wars which were fought between China and England between 1839-42. The war was supported by the other European powers China was



Fig. 15.5: British navy in the first Opium war.

defeated by England which imposed a series of unequal treaties on China. These treaties allowed England to trade with China without any restrictions. It also allowed the English to set up trading enclaves in China in which only English laws could be in force. England also forced China to give it the most favoured nation treatment, by which any concession given to any other country would be automatically apply to England too.

With this began the loss of independence of China even though the Emperor's rule continued till 1911. We can see that unlike India or the Latin American countries, China was not under direct political control of any European power. However, it was made to serve the interests of these powers through unequal treaties which forced China to accept terms of the European countries. China thus had to pay heavy war indemnity to the Europeans, allow free trading rights to them, keep the import duties to the minimum, allow the European powers to establish settlements on Chinese soil in which their laws applied and not the Chinese laws etc. Thus, while the Chinese government was responsible for handling the day to day administration of the country, the economy came under the control of the Europeans. Europeans could now sell their produce in China, purchase raw materials for their industries at low costs and at the same time ensure that local industries did not develop in China.

You may remember that England was not the only country to trade with China. Other European countries like France, Germany, and Russia etc. forced the Chinese government to recognise certain parts of China as areas of special influence of these countries, where they had a free entry but not the other countries. This was a kind of partitioning of China without actually doing so. Thus, China was controlled economically and politically not by one country but by several European countries. These European countries were joined by a new power that had emerged in Asia itself – Japan. Japan had a political revolution in 1868 and had begun rapid industrialisation and modernisation. Japan too was looking for colonies from where it could get cheap raw materials and where it could sell its industrial products. It started a war against China in 1894-95 and forced China to give up much territory and pay damages to Japan.



Fig. 15.6: Watercolour on paper titled 'Macao street scene' from 1840. Macao was one of the port cities in China where Europeans were allowed to conduct trade.

- Main products imported by western countries from China were _____.
- The product that western countries tried to sell in China was _____.
- An Asian country that tried to influence trade in China was _____.

In this way, various European powers and Japan increased their influence in China. That is why China is considered a semi-colony and not a fully fledged colony of any particular country.

Colonialism in Africa

Till the middle of 19th century, the Europeans had little interest in establishing colonial power in Africa. Between the 16th and early 19th century, they used Africa for slaves. Slaves were taken from Africa and sold off in America. Some powerful countries like England used important parts of African coast like the Cape of Good Hope to halt and refresh supplies to their ships on their way to India and China. These countries felt that Africa had little to offer to the colonial powers in terms of trade.

Explorations: Europeans had called Africa a 'Dark Continent' as they had very little information about the interiors of the continent. The entire continent was on a high plateau with a very narrow coastal region. Most of the rivers flowed through the plateau and reached the coasts through narrow gorges and steep waterfalls. Thus, European traders had avoided going into the interior regions. Throughout the 19th century and especially after 1850, European countries sent expeditions to explore the interiors of Africa. They asked the explorers to prepare maps of the places, natural features like rivers and mountains, mineral sources, forests and products and the people living there. They used this valuable information to make plans for conquering and colonising these interior regions. The most famous European explorers were David Livingstone and H. M. Stanley, both of whom mapped vast areas of Southern Africa and Central Africa for Belgium. In the 1850s and 1860s, Richard Burton, John Speke and James Grant located the great central lakes and the source of the Nile. By the end of the 19th century, Europeans had charted the Nile from its source, traced the courses of the Niger, Congo and Zambezi rivers. They now realised the vast resources of Africa. Many of these explorers were also linked to various Christian churches that were keen to spread Christianity among the people of Africa.

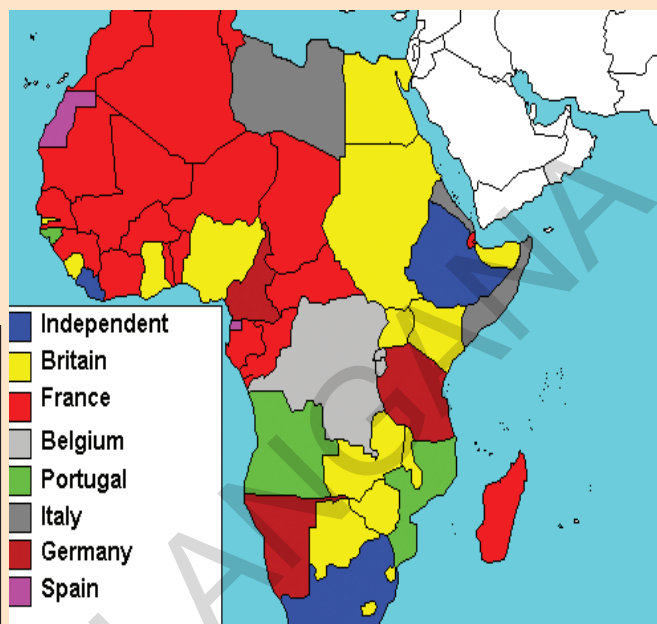
After 1850, industrialisation increased in different countries of Europe like England, France, Belgium, Germany, Italy etc. They desperately needed markets for their products in Africa. They now realised that Africa had many important industrial raw materials to offer like copper, tin, rubber, palm oil, cotton, tea, cocoa etc. The European manufacturers also saw Africa as a major market for their produce. Industrialisation and nation building started very late in countries like Germany and Italy. They were now keen to establish the power of their states by acquiring more colonies than other European powers. Africa was the only continent with a large population and natural resources which was left for Europe to colonise.

Look at the Map of Africa in 1913 to see the extent of colonial possessions of the European powers in Africa.

Compare the map with a modern map of Africa.

Make a list of the large African countries and write against their names the countries that had colonised them.

Map 3: Africa - 1913



Modern Country	Colonial power in 1913
South Africa	
Egypt	
Nigeria	
Ghana	
Libya	
Algeria	
Angola	
Congo	

A virtual 'Scramble for Africa' began in 1870s. In 1870s, only about 10% of Africa was under colonial powers. But, within the next forty years, almost the entire continent, with the exception of Ethiopia and a couple of small states, was colonized. Ethiopia was able to defeat Italy in a war and thus became the only traditional non-European empire to defeat a European army.

Scramble for Africa: It is used to describe the frantic claim of African territories by the European Countries.

As time proceeded, the competition for colonies and territories between the European powers increased and could no longer be peacefully 'managed' through negotiations. Thus, the First World War broke out in 1914. This was the most destructive war humanity had seen till then.

The Experience of Colonisation – Some case studies

Congo

In 1869, King Léopold II of Belgium secretly sent an explorer, Stanley, to the Congo region in Africa. Stanley made treaties with several African chiefs and persuaded them to give up their territories to him. Further, he added the kingdom of Katanga by killing its king. By 1882, Leopold's African territories grew up to 2,300,000 square



Leopold - II



Fig. 15.7: A cartoon published in 1906 in Punch showing Congolese man and Leopold - "In Rubber Coils". Rubber was a plant introduced into Congo under colonialism

kilometres, about 75 times larger than Belgium. It was called the Congo Free State. Léopold II personally owned the colony and used it as a source of ivory and rubber. The Congo Free State ruled and terrorised the African people, killing large number of people and forced labour. Each person in the village was forced to supply a quota of rubber. If anyone failed to do so, their hands were cut off. Out of the estimated population of 16 million native inhabitants, around eight to ten million died between 1885 and 1908. Leopold amassed a huge fortune. A part of this money was used to undertake many building activities in Belgium. There was much public criticism of this all over the world including Belgium. The Belgian government was finally forced to end the personal rule of its king over Congo and bring it under the rule of the Belgian Parliament.

A similar situation occurred in the neighbouring French Congo. A concession companies extracted resources from this region. Their brutal methods killed up to 50 percent of the indigenous population.

South Africa

The English had established an outpost in the Cape of Good Hope to help the passing ships to rest and replenish food supplies. Some Dutch farmers had settled in this area to cultivate and sell the produce to the passing ships. They started having conflicts with the local African people. They tried to drive the Africans away from their lands. These Africans were called Boers. When the British began to increase their control over the area, the Boers were dissatisfied. So, they migrated to new areas and even established independent republics. When gold and diamond mines were discovered in these new areas (1869 and 1886), a large number of people from Europe and Africa and India started migrating to South Africa. They wanted to earn money from the mining boom. The British government now wanted to end the independence of the Boers and establish British power over the mining regions. They fought two bitter wars, known as the Boer Wars, to gain control over much of what is today called South Africa. These wars ended in 1902 and the British consolidated all the regions of South Africa into one 'Union of South Africa'. By this time, South Africa had a mixed population of European migrants (mainly English

and Dutch), Black Africans, Indians and Chinese. The British developed a government system which favoured the Europeans who were called Whites (20% of the total population) and gave them civic rights of voting etc. This new system discriminated against the Africans who were known as Blacks (75% of population) and Indians (about 5%). Native Africans had to pay



Fig. 15.8: Boer war.

heavy taxes, and had to live in a very small demarcated area. They were not allowed to acquire land in any other areas which were reserved for the Whites. Thus, whites had about 90% of all lands. A number of discriminatory laws were passed to ensure that the Blacks and Indians worked for the British settlers in farms and mines. They were also denied civil rights of free movement and right to form associations to express their complaints. This policy of discriminating against the majority of the population based on racial differences is called Apartheid Policy. The African people fought against it for almost the entire 20th century and finally ended it in 1994.

You would have noticed that from 1400 onwards, almost the whole of America, Africa, Asia and Australia – that is all the continents other than Europe were colonised by European powers. They established their political and economic control over these countries and peoples. Yet, they were not colonised in the same manner or lead to similar results – you saw how in America, a large part of the native population was killed, and plundered and enslaved; how Europeans settled down there; how they brought millions of people from other continents like Africa as slaves to settle in America. You saw how they established control over the people of India but did not kill off the Indians or even enslave them. Nor did they try to settle down in India in large numbers. Rather they tried to establish control over the natural resources of India through taxation of agriculture, purchasing raw materials at low costs and at the same time selling their industrial products in

India. This led to impoverishment of Indian artisans and peasants. Millions of them died in famines and lakhs of them had to go to plantations in South East Asia, West Indies, Africa etc. to work as bonded labourers there. Europeans did not even establish complete political control over China but established spheres of influences where they could trade freely.

The European powers thus changed the economic and social lives of the people of the colonies in such a way as to suit the needs of the European powers. However, at the same time, they could not stop new ideas of freedom and democracy and nationalism from reaching the colonies. These ideas gave the people of the colonies a new power and identity with which to fight colonialism and eventually win freedom.

Keywords

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Colonialism | 2. Latin America | 3. Ottoman Empire |
| 4. Explorations | 5. Apartheid | 6. Haciendas |
| 7. Munroe doctrine | 8. Opium Wars | |

Improving your learning

1. "Trade played a major role in the colonisation". Do you agree? Why?
2. How did the lives of native people in different countries affect the colonisation – write two ideas each in the context of – crops cultivated/ religion/ use of natural resources – for the three continents.
3. Compare the nature of colonial rule over China and India and Indonesia. What difference and similarities do you find between them?
4. Locate the Portuguese, Dutch, British and French colonies in the world map and filled with different colours.



Project

If you were a person of Britain, could you support its colonisation? As an Indian could you support or reject colonisation. Give a brief account of your views.