Decolonization

Europe was weakened after two world wars. A major sign of Europe’s decline as a world power was successful colonial independence movements after WWII. Some colonies gained independence peacefully, but others gained independence with violent revolutions. By the mid-1970s, almost all former European colonies returned to local control. Decolonization is one of the major themes of the twentieth century.

Global Events Influential in Decolonization

- Imperialism
- Growing Nationalism
- World War I
  - Promises of ____________________________
  - Use of colonial _________________ in trenches
  - Locals filled posts left by colonial powers during war
  - Financial _________ on empire
  - Treaty of Versailles and Wilson’s Fourteen Points
- World War II
  - Increased nationalist uprisings following WWI and as a result of the global __________________________
  - Costs of empire
  - US support of anti-colonial _________________ movements
  - Atlantic Charter (1941) “right of all people to choose the form of government under which they live”
  - __________________ condemned colonialism
- Cold War
  - Provided inspiration for a ______________ of capitalist and socialist economies and agendas.
  - Provided ________________ to those who sided with one or the other (proxy wars and arms races).
  - Encouraged violent ____________________ for some as a result of the power politics of Cold War competition.

- Process of Decolonization and Nation-Building
  - Surge of anti-colonial nationalism after 1945. Leaders used lessons in mass politicization and mass mobilization of 1920’s and 1930’s.
  - Three patterns:
    - Civil war (China)
    - Negotiated independence (India and much of Africa)
    - Incomplete de-colonization (Palestine, Algeria and Southern Africa, Vietnam)
China

- Nationalism
  - In 1911, a group of nationalists had taken over China.
    - The Chinese Nationalist Party was able to overthrow the ______ Dynasty, which had been in power since the 1600s.
  - Unfortunately, the new government was failing to __________ for the Chinese people and many were living in poverty.
  - Many Chinese were angry and became interested in the __________ Revolution in Russia.

- Communist Party
  - In 1921, a group of young men met in Shanghai to form the first Chinese Communist Party, headed by __________________________.
    - The party promised to improve __________ living conditions and won the support of many Chinese people.
  - A __________ soon began between the Nationalists and Mao’s communist followers.
  - In 1933, Mao led over 600,000 people on the __________________________ through the mountains for over 6,000 miles to avoid being captured by the nationalist government.

- People’s Republic
  - The Communists and Nationalists had to call a __________ during WWII as both were fighting to keep the Japanese out of China.
  - The civil war continued from 1946 to 1949, until the Communists, now called the ______________________, took control of China’s government.
    - On October 1, 1949, Mao declared the creation of the People’s Republic of China, a communist country.
  - Mao was appointed head of China’s government and had almost complete __________ over China.
    - He became popular with many Chinese people when he took land from __________ citizens and gave it to peasants.
    - He wanted to improve living conditions for the ________.

- Great Leap Forward
  - Mao implemented a program in 1958 to organize all farms into __________ where large communes of about 25,000 people farmed together under __________ supervision.
    - He believed this would speed China’s economic development, so the program was called the Great Leap Forward.
  - The Great Leap Forward was a __________.
    - Chinese farmers did not like the government making all of the decisions and, because they no longer __________ the land, they had little reason to __________ hard.
    - Droughts and floods damaged the food supply that year and made things even worse.
  - As a result, about __________ people died from 1958 to 1960 during one of the largest __________ in history.

- Cultural Revolution
  - The __________ of the Great Leap forward made many Chinese lose confidence in Mao’s leadership.
  - In response, Mao created the Cultural Revolution in 1966 to stop all __________ to the Chinese Communist Party.
    - He urged __________ to quit school and wage war on anyone who opposed communism.
  - The students were organized into an army known as the __________________________.
    - They attacked, imprisoned, and even killed those suspected of not agreeing with Mao.
  - The Cultural Revolution created mass __________ in China for almost 10 years.
    - Many schools and factories were closed, and people were denied healthcare and transportation by the government.
  - Mao’s “Little Red Book”
This was a collection of excerpts from past speeches and publications. It was required for citizens to read, memorize, and carry this with them at all times.

**New Leader**
- Mao Zedong died in 1976 and the Cultural Revolution finally ended.
- China’s new leader, **Deng Xiaoping**, made many ________________ to Mao’s rules, but the government still stuck to its ________________ roots.
  - He began to allow farmers to own their own land and to make decisions about what they should grow.
  - He allowed some ________________ businesses to open.
  - He opened China to ________________ investments.
- Unfortunately, the Chinese people were still not given basic ________________ like freedom of speech and religion or the right to a fair trial.

**China after Mao**
- **______________ Policy adopted – 1979**
- **Tiananmen Square Massacre – 1989**
- Today – issues include:
  - Balancing limited ________________ with communist ideals
  - Environmental pollution
  - ________________ male-to-female ratios resulting from One-Child Policy
  - Control of Tibet

**Tiananmen Square**
- In 1989, communist governments were under siege in numerous places around the world.
- Over ________________ Chinese students gathered to protest China’s ________________ communist government in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square.
  - They filled the square for ________________ weeks, peacefully speaking against communism and calling for a move toward democracy in China.
- On June 4, 1989, the Chinese government sent soldiers and tanks into the square, killing ________________ of innocent people.
  - Countries around the world ________________ this violence and began urging China to improve the human rights of its citizens.
Decolonization Case Studies

Use the PPT provided to take detailed notes on each of the following countries and their experience in gaining independence. You may need to research additional information for “status after independence” to get an understanding of that country today.

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<tr>
<th>Colony Name</th>
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<th>Leader(s) and Participants</th>
<th>Year of Independence</th>
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**Outcomes of Decolonization**

- Some former colonies had economic ____________ and political ____________ after decolonization – India, Singapore, and Indonesia are three examples.
  - However, many colonies struggled, facing ________________, crumbling ________________, and continued economic ________________. Malawi and Zaire are but two examples in Africa alone.
  - One continuity over the centuries has been Africa’s lack of ________________. It remained an _______________ primarily of natural resources such as oil, gold, and other minerals.

**The Unique Case of South Africa**

- South Africa wasn’t a colony per se. It became an independent country in ________, but it retained strong political and economic ties to ____________.
  - South Africa had a long-standing policy of white minority rule called ________________. Under apartheid, whites of Dutch, German, and British descent had full political rights, but the majority black and mixed-race population had __________ for most of the twentieth century.
  - The policy had originated with European settlements there in ________ but was made in to law in ____.
- A series of laws in the 1950s reinforced apartheid.
  - Different races were assigned to specific residential and business _______________ in cities and to specific ________ categories.
  - Greater restrictions curbed the already limited rights of black Africans to ________. ____________ and to _______________ in the government.
  - Most forms of social _________________ were prohibited between the races.
Public facilities were ________________.
- Separate standards of ________________ were established.
- Apartheid policies included government ________________ of opposition and severe ________________ for ongoing resistance – which was often violent – by black political groups, with some support from sympathetic whites.
- The international community ____________________ apartheid in South Africa in ________.
- By the late 1980s, Britain, the U.S., and more than 20 other countries imposed ________________ sanctions on it.
- Both internal and external pressures caused South African President ________________ to begin to abolish some apartheid policies in the early ________.
- In ________, a new constitution was in place, with free general elections held for the first time in its history.
  - ________________________, who had been a leading protester of apartheid and had therefore been imprisoned for ____ years, was elected South Africa’s first black president.
  - Mandel and de Klerk were jointly awarded the __________________________ in 1993 for their efforts to end apartheid.
- In the following years, the government struggled to find effective ________________ to manage South Africa’s new challenges in the face of national political and social changes, as well as changes within Africa.
- Adding to the difficulties was the long-standing problem of ________________ and ________________ (fear or hatred of foreigners).
  - Up until 1991, the government had required that official immigrants have specific ________________ and ________________ that enabled them to ________________ into its white culture, which blatantly excluded all black Africans.
  - However, South Africa had a history of allowing huge numbers of people from neighboring African countries to enter the country as ________________ workers (i.e. ________________) which the country relied on for its ______ and ________________ mining industries as well as ________________ farming.
  - Widespread ________________ (among the highest in the world – 22% for all workers and 41% for black Africans) and competition for jobs in the 1980s and 1990s led to ________________ between South Africans and other African migrant workers.
  - Between 1994 and 2010, the South African government arrested and ________________ nearly 2 million migrant workers to bordering nations against the worldwide ________________ ________________ expectations of the new government.
  - Despite international pressure, the government has failed to implement ________________ changes and incidents of violence against foreign workers and shopkeepers have continued.
Changing Latin America

Economic Imperialism

- L.A. had been ____________________ by European powers since the Age of Exploration, and it then had to deal with constant U.S. ____________________ as the U.S. became more and more imperialistic.
  - Some economists argue that L.A. economies were ____________________ by their dependence on industrial nations.
- In the wake of WWII, many L.A. countries fought vigorously ____________________ U.S. and other foreign influences, and especially against U.S. intervention in their politics and economies.
  - Most L.A. countries had enormous foreign ____________.
  - Countries such as Brazil and Argentina worked to ________________ land and resources

BRAZIL

- Brazil attempted to create a ____________________ economy under the leadership of Getúlio Vargas (1930-1945).
  - ____________________ occurred rapidly, supported with high ____________ on imports.
- President Juscelino Kubitschek continued the policy, and through heavy ____________ from international powers, attempted to achieve “______ Years’ Progress in _______.”
- In the 1960s, President João Goulart attempted to promote greater social ________________ by breaking up large estates and allowing those of lower classes, even those who were illiterate, to _____________. The result was a conservative backlash that resulted in ____________ takeover in 1964.

ARGENTINA

- Juan Perón won the presidency in 1946 on the basis of his ____________________ to foreign, especially U.S., intervention.
- His wife, _______, was herself from the lower classes, and she personally and very ________________ implemented aspects of his program of assistance to the poor.
- Perón also advocated ____________________ and protection of workers’ rights.
- Under Perón, the ____________________ controlled the banking, railroad, shipping, and other industries, and he was in many ways an authoritarian leader.
- While the couple was very popular with the lower classes of Argentina, others saw them as ____________________ and believed that they sympathized with ________________. The military overthrew Peron in 1955 and he went into ____________ in Spain.
Economic Imperialism

- During the _______________ of the 1970s and 1980s, the debt problem became worse.
  - Despite the movements to separate L.A. from U.S. interference, economic issues continued to force many L.A. areas to accept _____ and thus also to accept ________________.
  - U.S. investments in ________________ resulted in American control over the ________________ mining industry in Chile and Peru through the Anaconda and Kennecott companies, the ______ industry in Mexico, Peru, and Bolivia, and the ______ industry through the United Fruit Company in Guatemala.
- Further U.S. involvement came as a result of the growing influence of _______________ in L.A., with the U.S. supporting ________________ against many governments.

**CHILE**

- Chile suffered from serious economic difficulties, including the decline of the ____________ industry, which provided the bulk of the exports in Chile.
- In 1970, Salvador Allende was elected president and quickly moved to _______________ the copper industry, largely owned by Americans, and socialized other industries.
  - In response, U.S. President _______________ cut off U.S. aid to Chile
  - Acting on Marxist ideology, Allende also broke up _________________. As in many other L.A. countries, conservative backlash followed.
  - _______________ were organized with U.S. support from the CIA.
- Allende held on to power until a military government led by Pinochet took power in a _________________ coup d'état. Allende, along with thousands of supporters, was killed.
  - Pinochet would lead Chile through massive economic reforms called the _________________ before open elections removed him from power in 1990.
  - Pinochet’s regime was one of severe _________________. Thousands fled to avoid torture and other abuses, while thousands more just disappeared.
  - Some people viewed him as ____________ Chile from communism and believed that his repressive measures were ________________ in the face of increasingly violent resistance.
  - However, Pinochet was one of the most brutal rulers in Chile’s history and U.S. support of such figures is indicative of policy throughout this time – obtain political and other ________________ for the U.S. while often overlooking the ________________ of the various populations governed by U.S.-supported governments.
GUATEMALA

- ____________ investors virtually controlled Guatemala’s economy after WWII. The economy was heavily dependent on exports of ____________ and ____________________.
- In 1953, President Jacobo Arbenz Guzman began a program of economic nationalism and took control of ____________ and the _________________ network.
- Arbenz then attempted to take unused lands from large estates, including a sizeable amount of property from the ____________ (controlled by U.S. investors). Land was to be redistributed to ____________________.
- Although U.S. President Eisenhower offered compensation for the land, he reacted by ordering the ______ to overthrow the government.
  - Eisenhower believed that ____________________ influences were at work behind the nationalization of the United Fruit Company land.
  - The U.S. trained non-Communist forces under Colonel Carlos Castillo Armas to combat the government
  - Armas toppled the government in 1954, _________________ the land taken from the United Fruit Company, and ruled as a military dictator, killing and torturing opponents.
    - Under Armas, the deaths and disappearance of over _________________ people were reported.
    - These events were investigated by various agencies as acts of ____________________ against the Mayas.
    - Armas’ brutality resulted in intense rebel activity and his _________________ in 1957.