

EUROPEAN CHALLENGES TO THE MUSLIM WORLD

Stresses in the Muslim World

Empires in Decline - 1700s - Muslim empires in India, Middle East, and Iran had been weakened - central govts. had lost control over powerful groups, widespread corruption
Islamic Reform Movement - sprang up in Middle East and Africa - stressed religious piety and strict rules of behavior - these groups resisted European expansion throughout the region

European Imperialism - Europeans took advantage of weakened Muslim empires, forced them to sign unfair trade treaties - European powers demanded special rights for their people living in the region

Problems for the Ottoman Empire - by early 1800s, the once-powerful Ottoman empire faced serious challenges - economic problems, corruption, and provincial rulers exerting greater power led to a weakened empire

Nationalist Revolts - nationalism from Western Europe led to internal revolts in many parts of the Ottoman empire (Eastern Europe, Middle East, N. Africa)

European Pressure - European nations sought to benefit from the slow crumbling of the Ottoman empire (France, Russia, Britain, Germany)

Efforts to Westernize - late 1700s - some Ottoman rulers believed in starting western-influenced reforms - brought in western education, military, medicine, farming - as living conditions improved, the pop. exploded - this led to competition for the best land, which led to unrest

Young Turks - liberals who overthrew the sultan in 1908, demanded reform

Massacre of Armenians - Muslim Turks distrusted Christian Armenians, accusing them of supporting Russian plans against the empire - when Armenians protested repressive Ottoman policies, sultan (ruler) had tens of thousands of them slaughtered

- over a million killed in the Armenian genocide - 1890s-1915 (genocide - the deliberate attempt to destroy an entire religious or ethnic group)

Egypt Seeks to Modernize - Muhammad Ali - "father of modern Egypt" - became gov. in 1805 - modernized Egypt: schools, western-style military, improved tax collection, new landholding system, large irrigation projects (to increase farm output) - put Egypt on the road to independence - died in 1849 - didn't want Suez Canal built (thought it would destroy Egypt's chances of becoming independent)

Suez Canal - 1859-1869 - Ferdinand de Lesseps - French entrepreneur who organized company to build canal - 1875 - Egypt couldn't repay loans for the canal, other modernization projects - forced to sell all their shares in the canal - Britain now had controlling interest in the canal

A British Protectorate - 1882 - Suez Canal became Britain's "lifeline" to India (its most important colony)

Iran and the European Powers - Russia, Britain set up spheres of influence in Iran in the 1800s - oil found in early 1900s - both nations received concessions (special economic rights given to foreign powers) from Iranian govt. - both nations sent troops there to protect their interests

THE BRITISH TAKE OVER INDIA

East India Company and Sepoy Rebellion

Exploiting Indian Diversity - India fragmented after fall of Mughal empire (different languages, traditions) - British took advantage of Indian divisions, encouraged competition and disunity among rival princes

British Policies - East India Company (private trading company) - main goal was to make profit - also improved roads, preserved peace, reduced banditry in India - British brought their western education, law, Christianity, worked to end slavery + caste system

Causes of Discontent - E. India Co. required sepoys (Indian soldiers in its service) to serve anywhere, even overseas (overseas travel against the Hindu religion) - passed law that allowed Hindu widows to remarry - 1857 - sepoy told to bite off tip of cartridges before loading rifles - tips greased with animal fat (Hindus can't eat beef, Muslims can't eat pork) - when they refused to load rifles, they were sent home without pay

Rebellion and Aftermath - Sepoy Rebellion - sepoy rose up against their British officers, massacred British men, women, children - revolt was crushed, some British took revenge by killing thousands of innocent Indians - 1858 - as a result of rebellion, British govt. took control from E. India Co. - after 1858, India became a British colony

British Colonial Rule

An Unequal Partnership - Britain made India the "brightest jewel" in the crown of its empire - Britain modernized India, bringing western tech. and culture

- Britain built roads, RRs to transport raw materials (cotton + coal), brought telegraph to improve communication - British flooded India with cheap, factory-made textiles (ruining India's prosperous hand-weaving industry) - farmers were pushed to grow cash crops (cotton) to sell on the world market

Population Growth & Famine - med. improvements, new farming methods -> better health care, increased food production -> pop. growth -> cash crops grown instead of food -> famine

Benefits of British Rule - peace/order, legal system, RRs, telegraph, upper classes sent kids to British schools, landowners/princes got rich from cash crops

Indian Nationalism

Indian National Congress - formed in 1885 - professionals, business leaders - wanted greater democracy, eventual self-rule

Muslim League - formed in 1906 - wished for a separate Muslim state

CHINA AND THE NEW IMPERIALISM

The Trade Issue - 1700s - China placed strict limits on foreign traders - they enjoyed a favorable balance of trade (export > import) - Westerners had a trade deficit with China (they bought more from China than they sold to them)

- late 1700s - Westerners had greater interest in China: 1. China entered period of decline 2. Ind. Rev. created need for expanded markets for European goods

The Opium War - British sold opium to China in exchange for tea -> Chinese became addicted to opium -> silver traded for opium -> hurt China's economy

- China outlawed opium -> told British to stop the trade -> British refused

- 1839 - British ships attacked Chinese ships + ports - Chinese easily defeated

- 1842 - Treaty of Nanjing (Nanking) - China had to pay for war losses, give Hong Kong (important trade port) to Britain, open 5 ports to foreign trade, give Britain extraterritoriality in China (right to live under British laws, tried in their own courts)

Internal Problems - Taiping Rebellion - 1850-1864 - peasants rebelled against the Qing dynasty - Why? 1. irrigation/canals poorly maintained 2. massive flooding of rich farmlands 3. pop. explosion 4. corrupt govt.

- govt. finally crushed rebellion (led by Hong Xiuquan) - 20-30 million Chinese killed

Reform Efforts - the "self-strengthening movement" - Chinese reformers imported western tech., tried to modernize

- Ci Xi - empress from 1862-1908 - conservative leader - gave little support to movement, blocked effort to modernize

War with Japan - 1894 - war broke out (Japanese imperialist wanted control of part of China) - Japan won, took island of Taiwan from China

Spheres of Influence - by late 1890s, Britain, France, Germany, Russia, Japan had carved up China

Hundred Days of Reform - 1898 - Guang Xu - young emperor - launched reform to modernize nation -> conservatives had him imprisoned -> Ci Xi regained the throne

The Qing Dynasty Falls - Boxer Uprising - 1899-1900 - Righteous Harmonious Fists were a rebel group who wanted to expel the "foreign devils" from China - western powers + Japan organized a military force, crushed Boxers - aftermath: Chinese conservatives began to support modernization -> education, expanded economy + industry

Three Principles of the People - Sun Yixian - father of modern China - 3 Principles:

1. nationalism - free China from foreign control
2. democracy - representative govt.
3. livelihood - economic security for all Chinese

Birth of a Republic - 1911 - Qing dynasty toppled, Sun Yixian named president of new Chinese republic - China at war with itself/fighting off foreign invasion for the next 37 years