

ARALING PANLIPUNAN 8- LABORATORY HIGH SCHOOL

THE EUROPEAN EXPLORATION AND COLONIALISM ON AMERICAN CONTINENT

- Reasons of exploration and colonialism
- Rivalry of Spain and Portugal
- The effect of the colonialization to the civilization of America

Reasons

Gold – They were searching for new wealth, trade, and sources of riches such as spices and precious metals.

Glory – They wanted to expand their power as empires and be recognized as the greatest nations. **God** – They promoted the spread of Christianity to places that had not yet been reached by the religion.

The new navigation technologies, such as the **astrolabe, compass, and caravel ships**, made their expeditions easier.

Portugal led the search for spices and gold through sea voyages. Prince Henry **“The Navigator”** played a major role in Portugal’s success. He established a school of navigation and encouraged skilled astrologers, cartographers, sailors, and mathematicians.

Bartholomeu Dias

In 1488, he discovered the Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of Africa. This event proved that it was possible to reach East Asia by sailing around Africa.

Vasco da Gama

In 1497, he led four ships that sailed around the Cape of Good Hope and reached India. He encountered Hindus and Muslims trading fine silk, porcelain, and spices, which were major needs in Portugal. This proved the wealth of the East and the existence of a prosperous trade network.

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Because of Spain’s desire to gain wealth from the East, King Ferdinand V and Queen Isabella financed the country’s exploration.

Christopher Columbus

In 1492, he led an expedition with the goal of reaching India by sailing west across the Atlantic Ocean. He reached the island of the Bahamas and called the people there “Indians.” He also reached the lands of Hispaniola and Cuba, where he found large amounts of gold that could supply Spain’s needs.

Amerigo Vespucci

In 1507, he explained that Columbus had discovered the New World, which was later recognized as America, named after him. This was recorded on European maps along with other islands.

Ferdinand Magellan

- In 1519, his expedition traveled westward toward the East. He discovered Brazil, passed through the narrow waterway now known as the Strait of Magellan, and crossed the Pacific Ocean until reaching the Philippines. Because of this voyage, it was proven that the world could be circumnavigated and that one could return to the point of origin.

- Portugal and Spain led the first phase of exploration, with Portugal focusing on Asia and Spain sailing west to the Americas, leading to the Treaty of Tordesillas (prevent conflict between Spain and Portugal as they expanded) in 1494 that divided the world between them.

Effects of Colonization on the Aztec and Inca Empires

Two of the greatest civilizations in the Americas were the Aztecs in Mexico and the Incas in Peru. However, the Spaniards arrived with soldiers, guns, and diseases, which ultimately led to the collapse of these empires.

- Hernán Cortés conquered the **Aztec Empire in 1521.**
- War and diseases (**such as smallpox**) caused the deaths of millions of indigenous people.
- Emperor Montezuma II was removed from power.
- Francisco Pizarro overthrew the Inca Empire in 1533.
- Emperor Atahualpa was captured and executed.
- The political and religious systems of the Incas collapsed.

In Mesoamerican and Andean Societies

- Indigenous peoples lost control over their land and resources.
- Much indigenous knowledge and culture was erased.
- The Spaniards imposed their religion (Christianity) and culture.
- Spain's wealth increased due to the gold and silver obtained from the conquered lands.
- The political and religious power of the Church also intensified.
- However, this also led to the exploitation of the native labor force, especially under the *encomienda* system.

The Condition of Asia during the period of exploration and colonization

China did not explore for the purpose of colonization like European countries. Instead, Chinese exploration—especially during the voyages of Zheng He—focused on **diplomacy, tribute, and trade.**

MING'S GREATEST EXPLORER

Zheng He

was a Chinese admiral, explorer, and diplomat during the Ming Dynasty. He was born in 1371 as Ma He, a Hui Muslim, and later became a trusted official of the Yongle Emperor

- He led the treasure fleet on seven major sea voyages between 1405 and 1432, traveling across Southeast Asia, India, the Middle East, and East Africa.
- His missions focused on diplomacy, trade, and showing China's power, not on colonization.
- After the death of the Yongle Emperor, China gradually abandoned overseas exploration and adopted a policy of isolationism (is a policy in which a country limits or avoids contact, trade, and involvement with other nations to focus on its own internal affairs and security.)

Reason on China's Isolationism

- The government believed that foreign trade and naval expeditions were costly and unnecessary since China already possessed abundant resources.

Effect of isolationism in China

- China's isolationism led to reduced foreign trade and contact, a decline in naval power, and loss of global influence as European nations expanded overseas. While it helped China focus on internal stability, it eventually made the country less prepared to face foreign powers with advanced naval technology.
- During the era of exploration and colonialism (16th–18th centuries), the Mughal Empire was one of the strongest and wealthiest empires in the world.
- Mughals did not practice isolationism. Instead, they were actively connected to global trade networks
- The Mughal emperors allowed European powers such as the Portuguese, Dutch, and British to establish trading posts, but these foreigners were closely regulated and had no political control.
- Mughal power weakened in the 18th century due to internal conflicts, rebellions, and succession struggles, European trading companies—particularly the British East India Company—began to interfere in local politics.

EDICT OF SAKUKO

- During the era of exploration and colonialism, Japan chose a policy of isolation known as **Sakoku** under the **Tokugawa shogunate**.
- In 1635, Shogun Tokugawa issued the Edict of Sakoku, which banned Japanese from traveling abroad, forbade foreigners from entering Japan, and restricted trade to the port of Nagasaki (Dejima), where only the Dutch and Chinese were allowed.
- Shogun Tokugawa were Japan's military rulers during the Edo period (1603–1868). They held the real power in the country, controlled the government, and managed foreign relations, while the emperor had only a ceremonial role.
- The policy was motivated by fear of colonialism—Japan observed the Spanish and Portuguese conquering nearby lands like the Philippines.
- Although Japan remained mostly isolated for over 200 years, it still acquired limited Western knowledge through **Rangaku** (“Dutch learning”).
- Sakoku protected Japan from foreign conquest, but it also delayed technological and military development compared to Western nations. The era of isolation ended in 1853, when Commodore Matthew Perry of the U.S. Navy forced Japan to open its ports.

PERIOD OF IMPERIALISM (DISCOVERY AND EXPANSION)

EUROPEAN IMPERIALISM Refers to the expansion of European nations by conquering, controlling, and influencing other regions. Began around the 15th century and expanded rapidly. Aimed to gain wealth, power, and influence.

Reasons for the Emergence of European Imperialism

- Economic – search for gold, spices, raw materials, and markets
- Political – competition among European nations for power and prestige.
- Technological – improved ships, navigation tools, and weapons

COUNTRIES UNDER EUROPEAN NAME (BRITAIN, FRANCE, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, NETHERLANDS)

European Imperialism in the Americas

SPAIN

- Spain was the first major European imperial power in the Americas.

- Focused on conquest and extraction of gold and silver.
- Established colonies in Mexico, Central, and South America.
- Spread Christianity and Spanish culture.

PORTUGAL

- Controlled Brazil through early exploration.
- Focused on plantation agriculture, especially sugar.
- Used forced labor, including enslaved Africans.

BRITAIN

- Established colonies in North America.
- Focused on settlement, farming, and trade.
- Allowed local self-government but maintained economic control.

FRANCE

- Colonized parts of Canada and the Caribbean.
- Focused on fur trade and alliances with indigenous peoples.
- Had fewer settlers compared to Britain and Spain.

European Imperialism in the India

BRITAIN

- Entered India through the British East India Company.
- Began as traders, then gained political control.
- Used military power and local conflicts to expand rule.
- India became the “jewel of the British Empire.”

FRANCE

- Also traded in India but had limited control.
- Lost most influence after conflicts with Britain.
- Retained only small trading settlements.

PORTUGAL

- First European power to reach India.
- Controlled Goa as a trading and religious center.
- Influence declined due to stronger British presence.

European Imperialism in the East Indies

NETHERLANDS

- Entered India through the British East India Company.
- Began as traders, then gained political control.
- Used military power and local conflicts to expand rule.
- India became the “jewel of the British Empire.”

PORTUGAL

- First Europeans to reach the region.
- Controlled important spice ports.

- Gradually lost power to the Dutch and British

BRITAIN

- Competed with the Dutch for trade.
- Controlled some ports and nearby territories.
- Focused more on India than the East Indies.

Key Technological Innovations

A period from the early 15th century to the early 17th century when European ships traveled around the world in search of new trading routes, wealth, and knowledge.

ASTROLABE- Navigational instruments used to determine a ship's latitude by measuring the altitude of the stars.

COMPASS- A Chinese invention that became more reliable and allowed sailors to track their direction.

CARTOGRAPHY- Mapmaking became more precise, with new charts (portolans) detailing coastlines and harbors.

First Circumnavigation of the Globe

- The Epic Journey: The fleet sailed around the southern tip of South America (through the Strait of Magellan) and across the vast Pacific Ocean.
- A High Price: Magellan was killed in the Philippines, and only one of the original five ships, the Victoria, made it back to Spain, but the mission was a historic success.
- The Age of Exploration reshaped the world map and societies forever.

Positive Impacts:

- A globally connected world was established.
- Global trade networks were created.
- Diets improved worldwide with the exchange of new foods.

Negative Impacts:

- The conquest and colonization of indigenous civilizations (Aztecs, Incas).
- Catastrophic decline of native populations due to disease.
- The start of the transatlantic slave trade to supply labor for colonial plantations

FRENCH REVOLUTION

- After the reign of Louis XIV, the Bourbon kings continued to take up the residence in the lavish Versailles palace, a habit that was quite expensive.
- With droughts damaging the French harvest and the nobility scoffing at the spending restrictions, Louis XVI needed to raise taxes, but to do that he needed to get everyone on board.
- In 1789, he called a meeting of the Estates General, a "governing body" that hadn't met in some 175 years.

THE ESTATE GENERAL

- The First Estate compromised the clergy. Some were high ranking and wealthy; others were parish priests.

- The Second Estate was made up of the noble families.
- Third Estate comprised everyone else__ peasants farmer and the small but influential middle class, including merchants.

Louis XVI convened the Estates-General, where the Second Estate sought political power and a constitution, while the Third Estate demanded broader freedoms inspired by the American colThe third estates suggested to the king that the Estate General meet as unified body__ all Estate under one roof. However, the top court in Paris, the parlement, ruled in favor of the nobility and ordered that the estate meet separately.

- On June 17, 1789__the third estates declared themselves the National Assembly.
- On July 14, 1789, They stormed the Bastille, a huge prison
- By August, the National Assembly adopted The Declaration of the Rights of Man, a document recognizing natural rights and based on the ideas of the Enlightenment
- The Assembly also abolished the feudal system and altered monopoly of the Catholic Church by declaring freedom of worship
- In this sense, France became the first “modern” nation-state in 1789.

A New Constitution Causes Consternation

- In 1791, the National Assembly approved a constitution similar to the U.S. Constitution, but executive power remained with the king, creating a constitutional monarchy.
- In 1793, French leaders call for a meeting to draw up a new constitution. Under the new constitution, the Convention became the new ruling body, and it quickly abolished the monarchy and proclaimed France a republic. Led by radicals known as the Jacobins, the Convention imprisoned the royal family and beheaded the king for that reason
- The Convention feared that foreign threats and internal disorder would lead to its downfall, so it abolished the constitution and formed the Committee of Public Safety, which wielded absolute power and executed anyone suspected of being anti-revolutionary.
- In 1795, France then quickly reorganized itself again, wrote new constitution and established a new five-man government called the Directory

Effects of the French Revolution

- Fall of the monarchy: The French Revolution led to the collapse of the Bourbon monarchy and the establishment of the First French Republic.
- Rise of nation-states: The French Revolution paved the way for the emergence of modern nation-states, introducing concepts such as popular sovereignty, equality, and human rights.
- Influence on other countries: The French Revolution had a significant influence on other countries in Europe and around the world, leading to political and social changes.

The Spread of Nationalism in Asia and America

1. Modernization of Japan (Meiji Restoration

- During the Meiji Restoration, political power was restored to Emperor **Meiji**. The government introduced reforms that modernized Japan's: **Government system**
Educational institutions **Industrial and economic sectors**
- A new social class called the **Chōnin**, composed of merchants and traders, became more influential. At the same time, many samurai lost their traditional roles, especially when carrying weapons in public was banned.
- Not all leaders accepted these changes. One important figure was **Saigō Takamori**, a former supporter of the emperor who wanted to preserve traditional samurai values.
- His resistance led to the **Satsuma Rebellion in 1877**, which ended in defeat when forces used modern weapons.
- As part of its nationalist goals, Japan focused on militarization to protect itself and expand its influence in East Asia. In 1872, Japan introduced military conscription, requiring men to serve in the army. The Japanese military was trained using modern Western tactics, especially after the arrival of **Jakob Meckel**, a Prussian military adviser.
- Japan improved its weapons, replacing the Murata rifle with the more advanced Arisaka rifle, and strengthened its navy. These developments made Japan a powerful military state.
- This shows that while Japan resisted Western imperialism, it also became an imperialist power itself.

2. *Revolution in South America (Simon Bolivar)*

- At the beginning of the 19th century, Spain's control over its colonies in South America gradually weakened. One major reason for this decline was the **Bourbon Reforms** introduced in the 18th century, which aimed to strengthen colonial administration and increase Spain's control over its colonies.
- These reforms reduced the power of the Catholic Church and wealthy landowners, but instead of uniting the colonies, they caused dissatisfaction and resistance among the local population.
- The *Bourbon Reforms* angered the *criollos*, Spaniards born in the American colonies, because they were treated as second-class citizens. Important government positions were reserved for the *peninsulares*, Spaniards born in Spain.
- During this period, South Americans recognized **Simón Bolívar** as the leader of the independence movement against Spain. He was born in Caracas, Venezuela in 1783 to a wealthy criollo family and later became known as **El Libertador** for his role in freeing South American colonies from Spanish rule.
- From 1819 to 1830, Bolívar led campaigns that liberated Venezuela, Nueva Granada (Colombia), Ecuador, and Peru. His efforts weakened Spanish power and inspired nationalist movements across the region.
- Bolívar envisioned a United State called **Gran Colombia** to unite former Spanish colonies, promote independence, and protect the region from foreign domination.

3. Back-to-Africa Movement

- Slavery in the United States began in the 1600s when the British transported enslaved Africans to Virginia, one of the thirteen British colonies in North America. the thirteen British colonies.
- The forced journey of Africans to the Americas was called the Middle Passage. Slave ships crossed the Atlantic Ocean to the West Indies and the Americas. Many

Africans died during the voyage because of hunger, disease, and inhumane conditions.

- The Middle Passage was part of the Triangular Trade, a trading system among Britain, Africa, and America. Africans were forced to work without pay on plantations producing tobacco, cotton, sugar, rice, and other crops, which Britain sold to other countries.
- Even after the thirteen colonies gained independence from Britain in 1776, slavery continued in the United States. By 1790, there were about 760,000 enslaved people. In the 1800s, movements for freedom and equal rights of Africans and African Americans began.
- Several movements aimed to free enslaved Africans and return them to their original homeland, Africa.
- This movement was called the Back-to-Africa Movement. It developed because Africans continued to experience discrimination, inequality, and oppression in American society.
- Although many African Americans expressed interest in returning to Africa, only about 15,000 out of nearly 10 million were able to return. Reasons included lack of money, transportation problems, and health issues.
- Although the Back-to-Africa Movement was not fully successful, Africans and African Americans continued to fight for their freedom and civil rights.

4. *United League ni Sun Yat Sen*

- Conflict Under the Qing Dynasty

From the late 18th century to the early 19th century, conflicts continued between supporters of the Qing Dynasty and those who wanted revolution and reform in the government.

- Formation of the United League

On August 20, 1905, Sun Yat-sen and Song Jiaoren founded a secret organization called the Tongmenghui or Chinese United League.

- The league was formed by uniting revolutionary groups such as the Chinese Revival Society and the Chinese Restoration Society. It gained strong support in Singapore and the United States and actively encouraged revolution to end Qing rule, establish a republic, and distribute land to the people.
- On October 10, 1911, a revolt erupted in Wuchang, Hubei Province, to overthrow the Qing Dynasty. At that time, Sun Yat-sen was in the United States raising funds and immediately returned to China after hearing the news.
- On January 1, 1912, the Republic of China was established with Sun Yat-sen as leader. In February 1912, the Qing Dynasty officially collapsed, ending more than 200 years of imperial rule.

5. *Passive Resistance ni Gandhi (India)*

- In 1915, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi became known in India's struggle for independence. He was also called Mahatma, meaning "Great Soul."
- After spending over 21 years in South Africa as a lawyer for Indians, Gandhi returned to India to lead a peaceful struggle for independence. He followed ahimsa, the Hindu belief in nonviolence.

- Along with ahimsa, Gandhi encouraged people to boycott British products, courts, schools, and political institutions. Gandhi was considered a rebel and a threat by the British government and was imprisoned several times.
- In 1930, Gandhi led the Salt March to protest the British salt monopoly. After a long journey, they reached the coast and made salt from seawater.
- From 1930 to 1932, meetings called the Indian Round Table Conferences were held to discuss reforms. The Indian National Congress, led by Gandhi, did not attend the first session because they were practicing civil disobedience.
- The British passed the Government of India Act 1935, which shared governing powers between the British and Indians. Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru accepted it, but Muhammad Ali Jinnah opposed it, demanding a separate Muslim state.
- On August 15, 1947, Britain divided India into two countries: the Republic of India led by Jawaharlal Nehru, and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan led by Muhammad Ali Jinnah.