COLONIAL RULE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Chapter 12 Section 1
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Southeast Asia
I. The New Imperialism

A. Europeans had set up colonies and trading posts in North America, South America, and Africa by the sixteenth century.

B. The imperialism of the late nineteenth century, called the "new imperialism" by some historians, was different.
   1. Earlier, European states had been content to set up a few trading posts where they could carry on trade and perhaps some missionary activity.
   2. Now they sought nothing less than direct control over vast territories.
C. Westerners begin to increase their search for colonies for several reasons.
   1. The West was looking for both markets and raw materials such as rubber, oil, and tin for their industries.
   2. Colonies were also a source of national prestige.
      a. To some people, a nation could not be great without colonies.

D. Imperialism was tied to Social Darwinism and racism.
   1. Social Darwinists believed that in the struggle between nations.
      a. Racists erroneously believe that particular races are superior or inferior.

E. Some Europeans took a more religious and humanitarian approach to imperialism.
   1. Europeans had a moral responsibility to civilize primitive people.
      a. "White Man's Burden." To bring the Christian message to the "heathen masses."
II. Colonial Takeover

A. 1819 Great Britain sent Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles to establish Singapore ("city of the lion").

B. The British will next move into Burma.
   1. Britain wanted control of Burma in order to protect its possessions in India.
   2. Land route through Burma into southern China.
C. France was especially alarmed by British attempts to monopolize trade.

1. To stop any British movement into Vietnam, the French forced the Vietnamese to accept French protection.

   a. Protectorate- A political unit that depends on another government for its protection.

D. In the 1880s, France extended its control over neighboring Cambodia, Annam, Tonkin, and Laos.

1. Renamed its new possessions Indochina.
E. Thailand was the only remaining free state in Southeast Asia.
1. British and the French threatened to place Thailand under colonial rule.

F. King Mongkut and his son, King Chulalongkorn prevented colonialization.
1. In 1896 Britain and France agreed to maintain Thailand as an independent buffer state between their possessions in Southeast Asia.
G. Spanish-American War, U.S. naval forces under Commodore George Dewey defeated the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay in the Philippines.

1. McKinley decided to turn the Philippines, into an American colony.

H. Many Filipinos did not wish to be under American control. Emilio Aguinaldo was the leader of a movement for independence in the Philippines.

1. Aguinaldo revoluted against both the Spanish and U.S.
III. Colonial Regimes

A. Western powers governed their new colonial empires by either indirect or direct rule.
   1. Their chief goals were to exploit the natural resources of the lands and to open up markets for their own manufactured goods.

B. Indirect rule allowed local rulers were allowed to keep their authority and status in a new colonial setting.
   1. Indirect rule was cheaper and affected local culture less.

C. However, indirect rule was not always possible.
   1. Some local elites resisted foreign conquest.
   2. Direct rule is where the local elites were replaced with Western officials.
D. The colonial powers did not want their colonists to develop their own industries.
   1. Colonial policy stressed the exportation of raw materials.
E. Benefits of colonial rule in Southeast Asia.
   1. A modern economic system.
   2. Colonial governments built railroads, highways, and other structures.
   3. Created an entrepreneurial class in rural areas.
IV. Resistance to Colonial Rule

A. Many subject peoples in Southeast Asia resented colonization.
   1. Resistance came first from the existing ruling class.

B. Sometimes resistance to Western control took the form of peasant revolts.
   1. Peasants were often driven off the land to make way for plantation agriculture.
c. Early resistance movements were overcome by Western powers.

1. In the early 1900s, however, a new kind of resistance emerged that was based on nationalism.
2. The leaders were often from a new class that the colonial rule had created: Westernized intellectuals in the cities.
   a. They were the first generation of Asians to embrace the institutions and values of the West.
   b. Many were educated in the West, spoke Western languages, and worked in jobs connected with the colonial regimes.