

Chapter 17
The New Imperialism
(1800-1914)

During the 1800s, European powers embarked on a period of aggressive expansion known as the **Age of Imperialism** (time when the policy of growing a country's power and influence over other countries through diplomacy or military force began). Despite fierce resistance from **anti-imperialists** (those who believed imperialism was wrong), these powers brought much of the world under their control between 1870 and 1914.

Section 1- A Western-Dominated World

From 1870 until 1914, the major nations of **Europe** (continent bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, Africa, and Asia) searched for new **colonies** (land away from a “mother” country who settles the new land to benefit from it). Their industries needed raw materials. They also needed markets in which to sell their goods.



Section 1- A Western-Dominated World

The **Industrial Revolution** (during the 1700s and 1800s when production shifted from simple hand tools to complex machines and new sources of energy were invented) and the feeling of nationalism gave western powers like England the motives to seek global domination and **imperialism** (the domination by one country of another, usually by force). Soldiers, traders, settlers, and **Christian missionaries** (Christians on a mission to help others) were most eager to colonize new lands.

Section 1- A Western-Dominated World

Many believed in **humanitarianism** (humans helping humans) and **social Darwinism** (based on Darwin's survival of the fittest, the idea that countries can do what they want because they are the strongest). Still, some Europeans were against empire building. They said it was wrong to seek democracy (a system of government led by and for the whole population of a country, usually through representation) at home but take freedom away from others.

Section 1- A Western-Dominated World

The western powers also had strong armed forces and new weapons. They gained lands in **Africa** (continent south of Europe and east of the Atlantic Ocean) and **Asia** (continent east of Europe and west of the Pacific Ocean) with little trouble. Some countries fought the invaders but had little success.



Section 1- A Western-Dominated World

Some western powers set up colonies and chose officials to rule the local people. The French used direct rule. They sent officers from France to run their colonies. The British used indirect rule. They chose local officers.



Section 1- A Western-Dominated World

Some powers set up **protectorates** (where local rulers in a country follow the directions of the controlling country). Other powers set up a **sphere of influence**. In this case, an outside country claimed all rights to make investments or conduct trade in the area being controlled by them.



Section 2- The Partition of Africa

Christian missionaries came to Africa to convert people to Christianity. They built churches, schools, and clinics. Missionaries believed in humanitarianism and intended to help the people they came in contact with. Many others tried to replace the native culture with their own.



Section 2- The Partition of Africa

Westerners had long traded on the coasts of Africa. In the 1800s, explorers went inland. The king of Belgium formed a company to trade in the Congo. Soon, other nations of Europe moved deep into Africa.



Section 2- The Partition of Africa

These nations wanted to avoid conflict over African lands. In 1884, they met at a conference in Berlin, Germany. They did not invite any Africans. The **Berlin Conference** set up rules for colonizing Africa so none of the conquering European nations would get into a conflict with another European nation.



Section 2- The Partition of Africa

By 1914, Europe ruled almost the entire continent. France gained large areas in the northwest of Africa. Britain took smaller regions, most of them rich in resources. Belgium, Portugal, Italy, and Germany also gained lands.



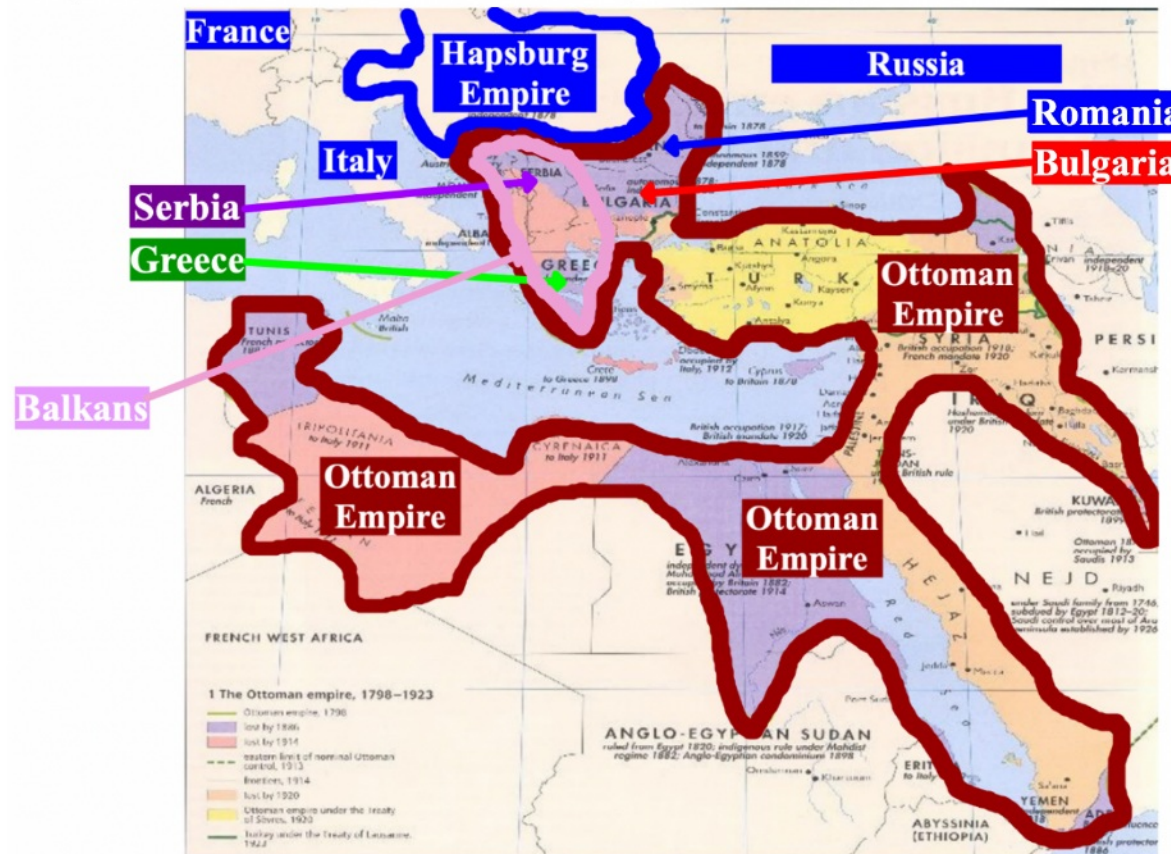
Section 2- The Partition of Africa

In many regions, Africans battled the invaders. In 1896, Ethiopia fought off Italian forces. It was the only successful fight for freedom.



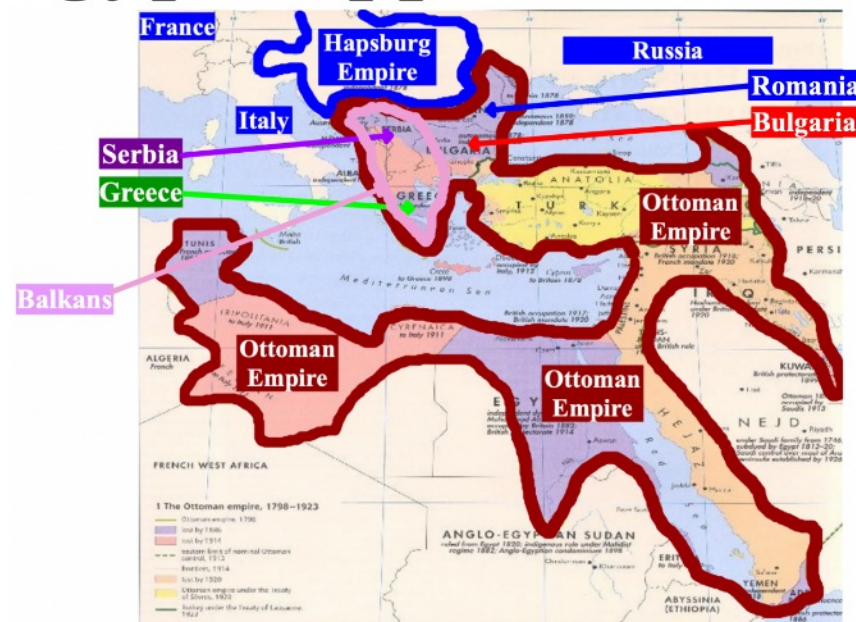
Section 3- European Challenges to the Muslim World

In the 1500s, huge **Muslim** (followers of or those who practice the religion of Islam) empires ruled from western Africa to Southeast Asia. The largest, the Ottoman empire, stretched across the Middle East, North Africa, and part of Eastern Europe.



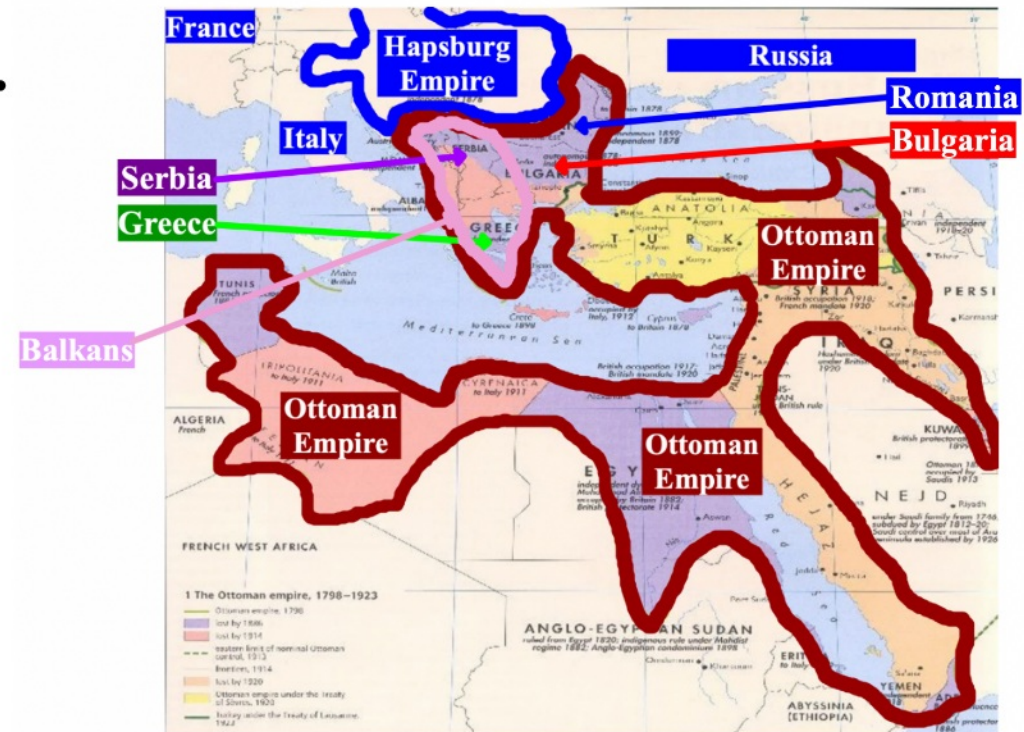
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By 1800, the **Ottoman Empire** (huge empire that controlled parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa from the 1300s to the 1900s) faced internal revolts and pressure from foreign countries that would soon tear it apart. Regions talked of breaking from the empire. Some Balkan states gained freedom, and Egypt slipped from Ottoman control.



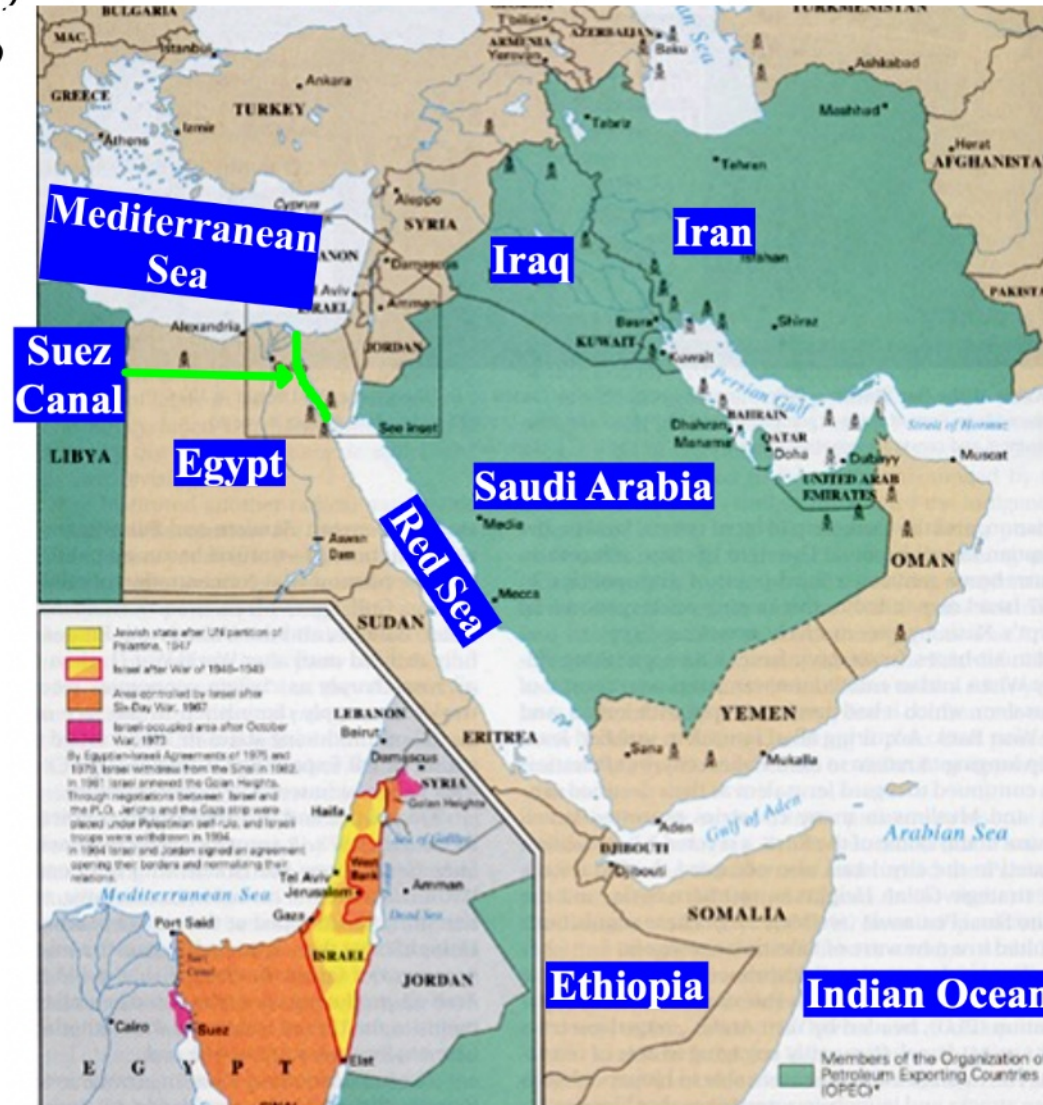
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Revolts shook Arabia, Lebanon, and Armenia. In the 1890s, Turkish Muslims accused Christian Armenians of supporting plans against the empire. The Turks killed tens of thousands of Armenians. Europe watched the empire crumble, with Britain, France, Germany, and Russia all hoping to gain control.



Section 3- European Challenges to the Muslim World

Egypt in 1800 was on its way to becoming a modern nation. Its Ottoman governor, Muhammad Ali, became known as the “father of modern Egypt.”



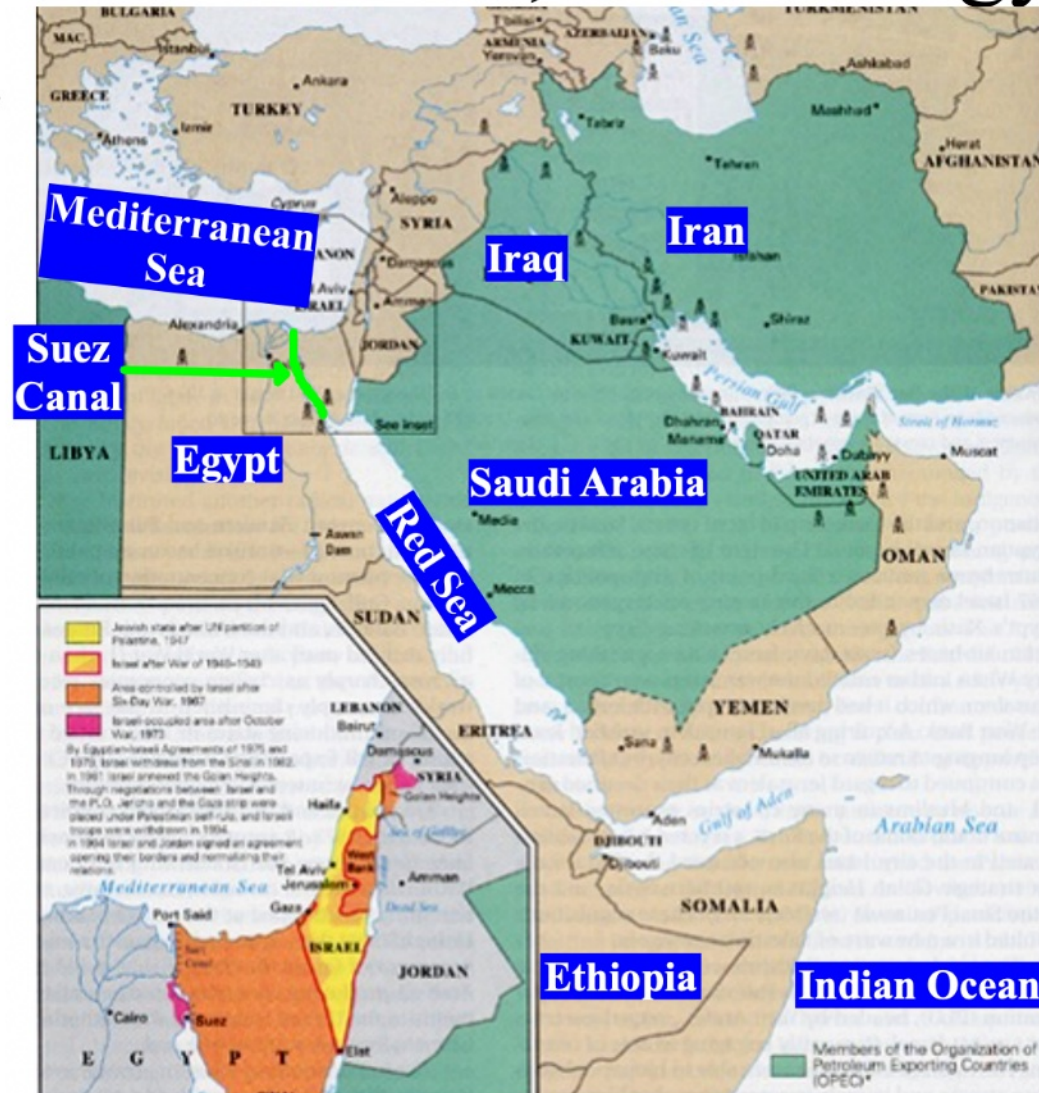
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He built up industry, backed irrigation projects, and encouraged world trade. Before Ali died in 1849, Egypt was becoming a major power in the Middle East. Leaders after Ali, however, allowed more foreign control.



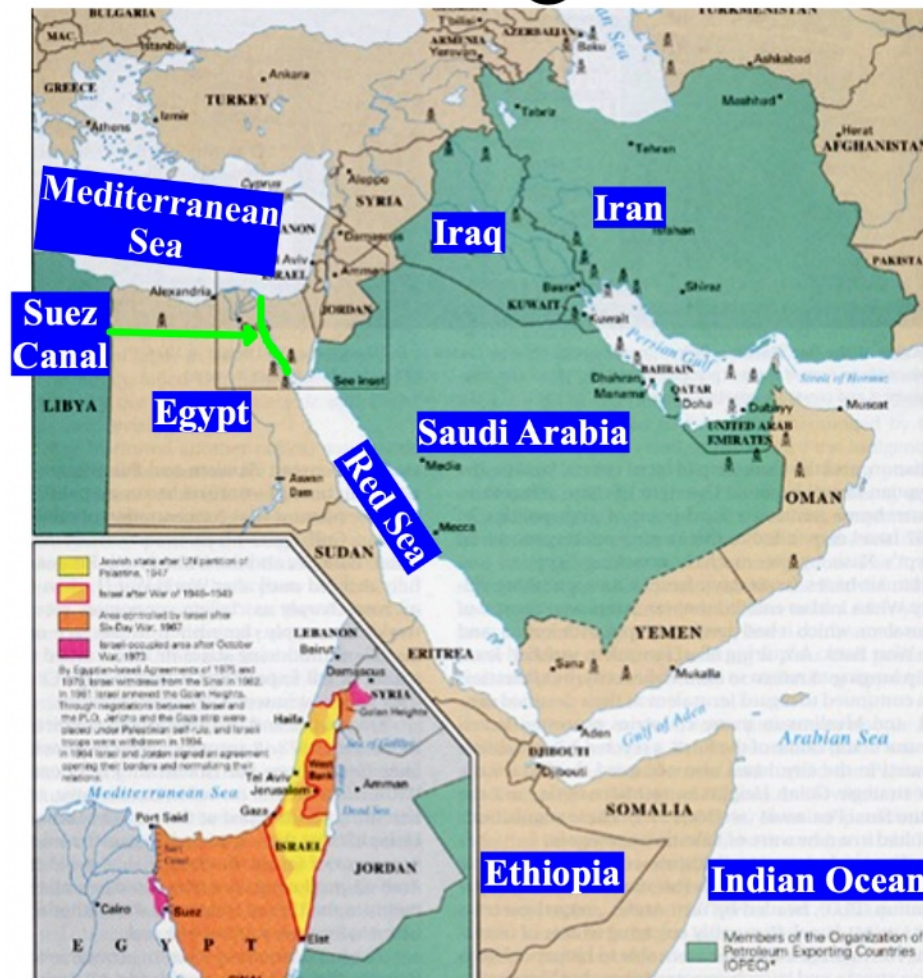
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Britain gained the **Suez Canal** (water shortcut between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, like the Panama Canal) in 1875. In 1882, it made Egypt a British protectorate.



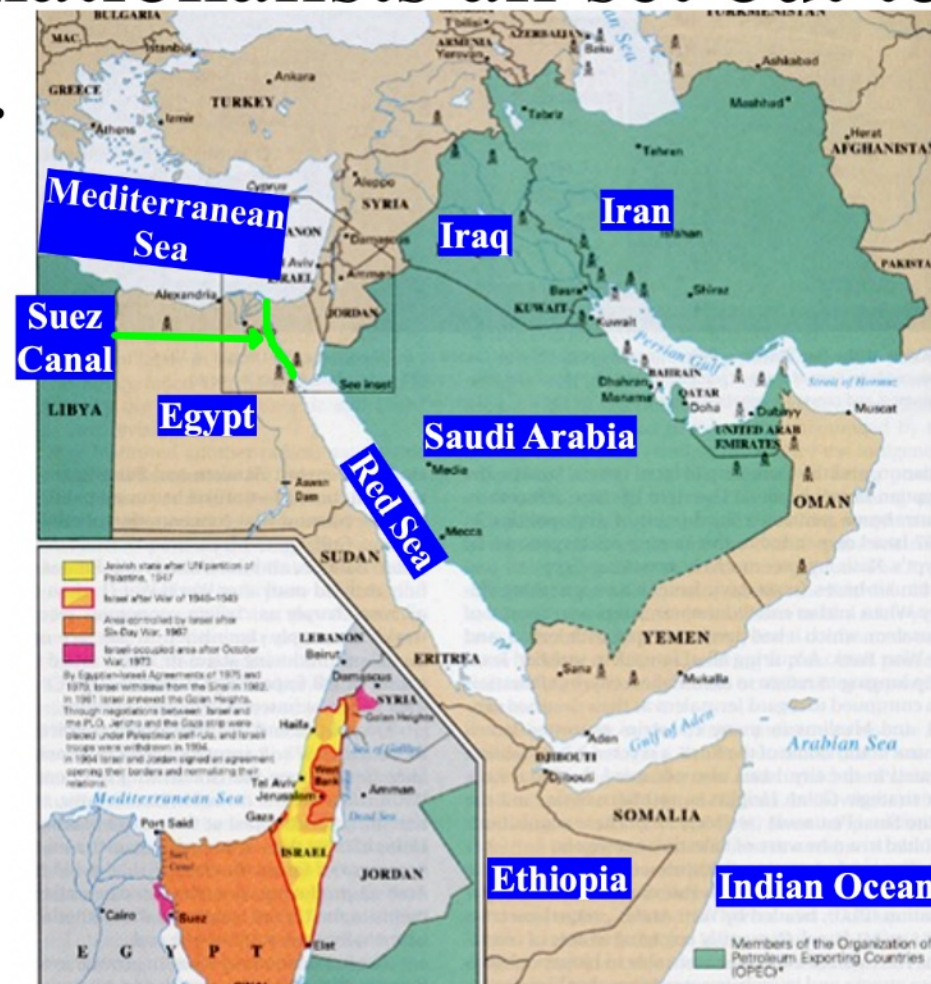
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Like the Ottoman Empire, **Iran** (Muslim country that is the second largest country in the Middle East) drew interest. Russia gained some power in the north. Britain gained some in the south.



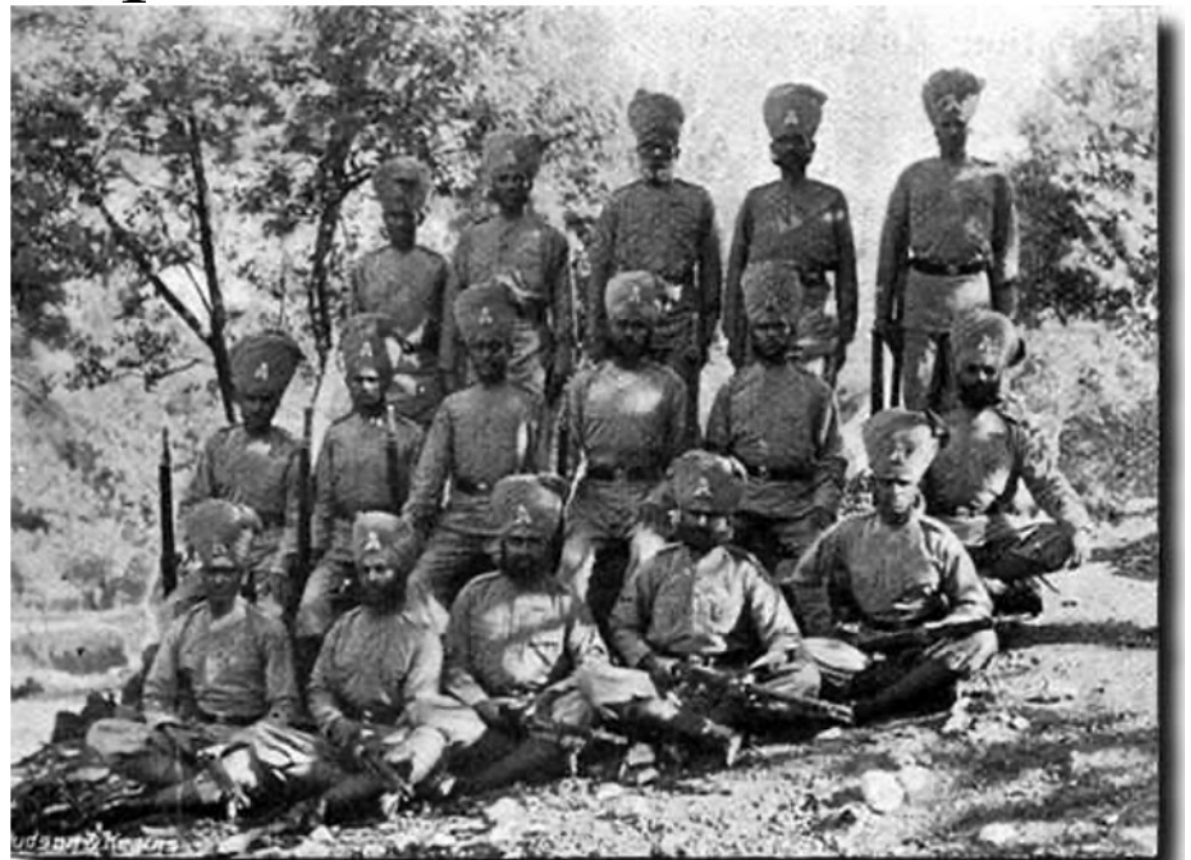
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In the early 1900s, the discovery of **oil** (natural resource best know from what gas is made from) in Iran upset the balance. The Russians, the British, and Iranian nationalists all set out to control the oil fields.



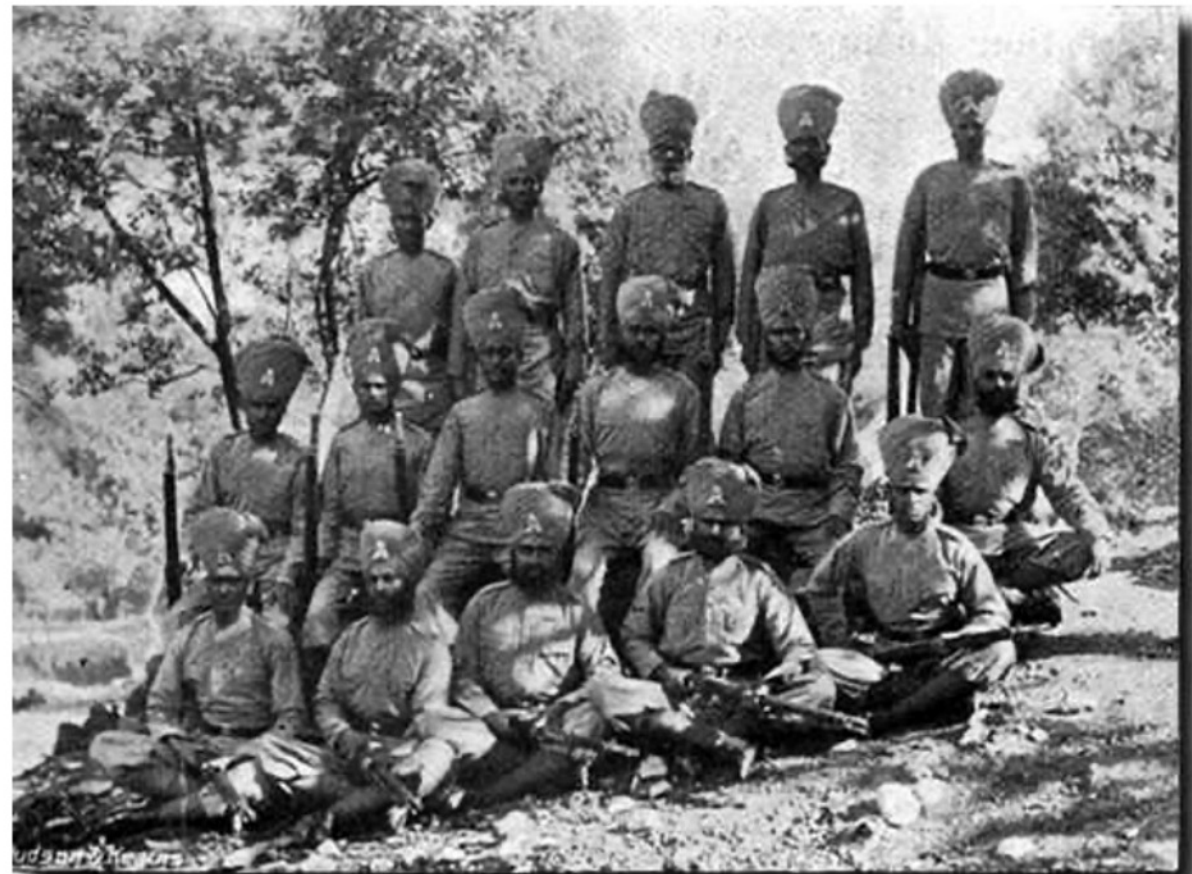
Section 4- The British Take Over India

In the 1800s, a trade group called the British East India Company controlled over half of **India** (Muslim country south of Asia and bordering the Indian Ocean). British agents used **sepoys** (Indian soldiers) to protect their power.



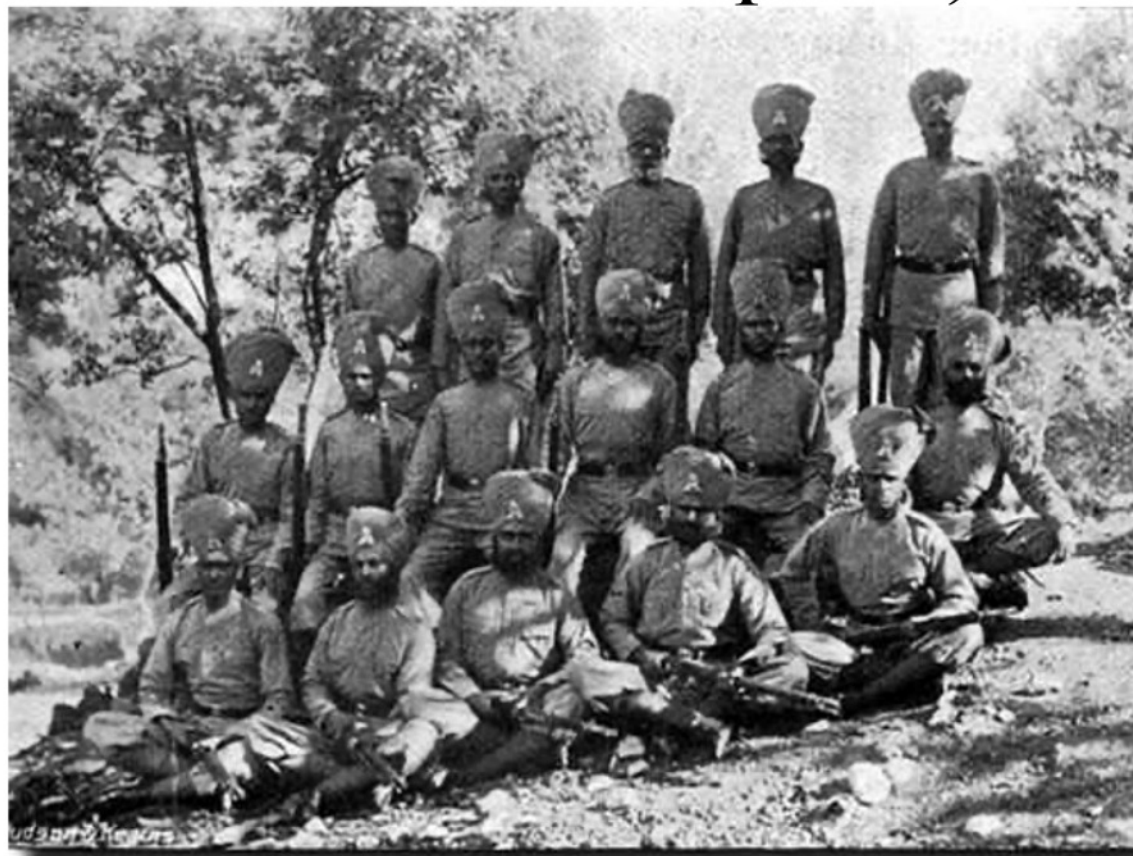
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The British angered the sepoys by ignoring Indian customs and demanding that the soldiers follow rules that were against their religion. In 1857, anger turned into the **Sepoy Rebellion**.



Section 4- The British Take Over India

Many lives were lost before Britain crushed the revolt. Britain saw that the East India Company could not keep control. In 1858, it made India a colony and installed a **viceroy** (someone who governed in the name of the British queen).



Section 4- The British Take Over India

The British tried to solve problems in India but also caused new ones. Better farming methods and health care sparked a population boom that increased poverty and brought famine. Imported goods put local industries out of business. Top jobs went to the British. It was clear to the Indians that the British looked down on them.



Section 4- The British Take Over India

Sons of the upper classes often went to school in Britain. As Indians learned about democracy, many wanted freedom for their own people. In 1885, they founded the Indian National Congress (or Congress party). The early 1900s brought demands for self-rule. By 1906, Muslims began to fear the Hindu-run Congress party. They formed the Muslim League and talked of a separate Muslim state.



Section 5- China and the New Imperialism

Since 1644, rulers of the Qing dynasty had isolated **China** (the largest country in Asia). They allowed foreign trade only through one small area in southern China.



Section 5- China and the New Imperialism

In the 1800s, western nations looked to China for trade rights and new markets for goods. When British merchants brought in opium, the Chinese outlawed the drug. In 1839, the **Opium War** began. Britain quickly won the war. China had to pay war costs and open ports to British trade. It also had to give Britain the island of **Hong Kong** (Chinese island off the coast of China).



Section 5- China and the New Imperialism

By the mid-1800s, some Chinese saw a need to import western ideas. Others, including Qing rulers, saw new ideas and Christian missionaries as threats to Confucian traditions.



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Wars and rebellions continued to weaken China, and western powers carved out spheres of influence along the Chinese coast. China tried unsuccessfully to resist foreign influence with belated efforts at modernization and reform due to unequal treaties, British control, and internal revolts. In 1850, peasants rose up in the 14-year **Taiping Rebellion** (Chinese civil war). At its end, a weakened Qing dynasty still held power.



Section 5- China and the New Imperialism

In 1868, China lost **Taiwan** (a democratic island nation off the coast of China that China says it still controls) and **Korea** (peninsula country in East Asia today split into two nations, North and South Korea) to Japan.



Section 5- China and the New Imperialism

The powers of Europe swiftly gained holds in weakened China. In 1898, the United States called for an “**open door policy**” that gave every country equal rights to trade in China, but in reality, the Open Door Notes threatened other countries to not get in the way of America’s trade and profit in China.



Section 5- China and the New Imperialism

In 1900, rebels known as Boxers set out to drive all foreigners out of China. Armies from Japan and the West crushed the uprising, and China had to give up more rights, but China enjoyed a **trade surplus** (exporting more than you import). Westerners, on the other hand, had a **trade deficit** with China (buying more from someone than you sell to them).



Section 5- China and the New Imperialism

Reformers felt only a new government could save China. In 1911, nationalist Sun Yixian led a revolution that ended the Qing Empire. By the early 1900s, leaders in many colonized regions were forging their own nationalist movements and China and Japan began to modernize their nations.

