

# Teacher Overview Objectives: *Imperialism Case Study: South Africa*

## NYS Social Studies Framework Alignment:

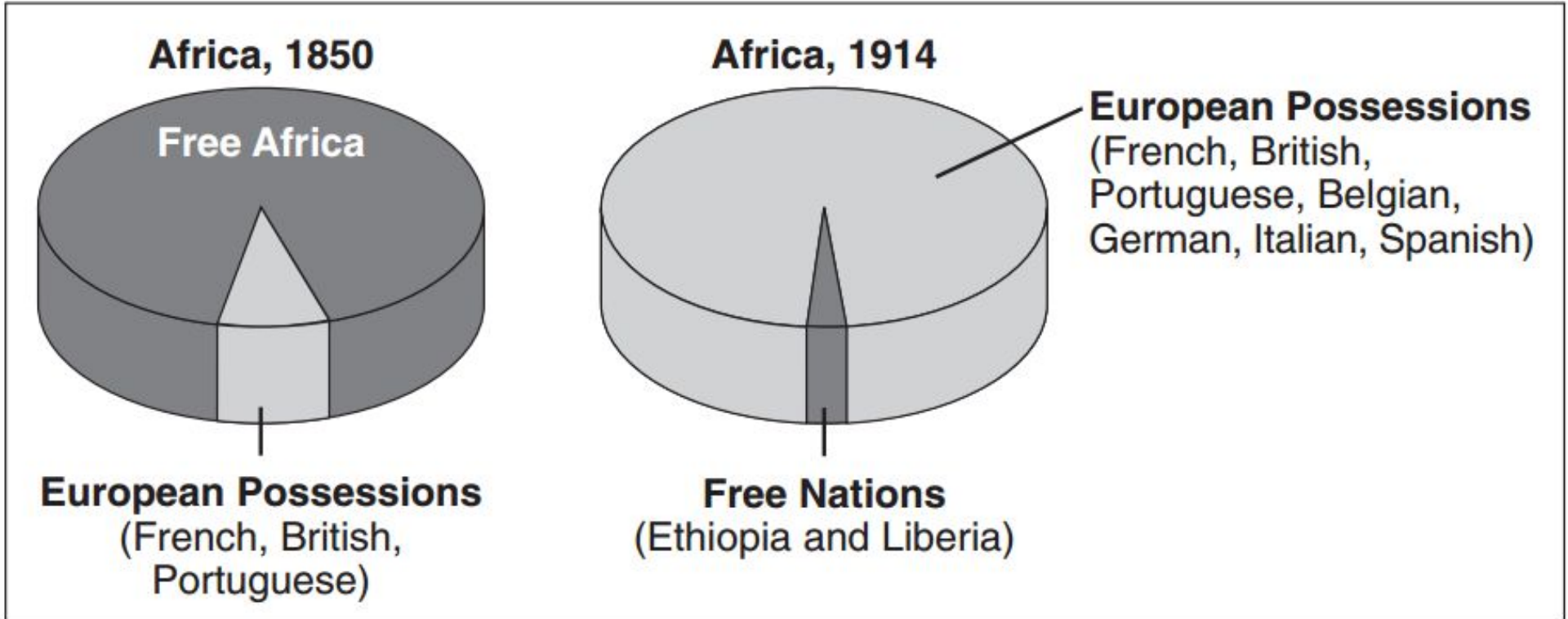
Key Idea	Conceptual Understanding	Content Specification	Objective(s)
<p>10.4 IMPERIALISM: Western European interactions with Africa and Asia shifted from limited regional contacts along the coast to greater influence and connections throughout these regions. Competing industrialized states sought to control and transport raw materials and create new markets across the world. (Standards: 2, 3, 4; Themes: MOV, TCC, GEO, GOV, EXCH)</p>	<p>10.4a European industrialized states and Japan sought to play a dominant role in the world and to control natural resources for political, economic, and cultural reasons.</p> <p>10.4c International conflicts developed as imperial powers competed for control. Claims over land often resulted in borders being shifted on political maps, often with little regard for traditional cultures and commerce (e.g., Berlin Conference).</p>	<p>Students will trace how imperial powers politically and economically controlled territories and people, including direct and indirect rule in Africa (South Africa, Congo, and one other territory), India, Indochina, and spheres of influence in China.</p> <p>Students will compare and contrast maps of Africa from ca. 1800 and ca. 1914, noting the changes and continuities of ethnic groups and regions, African states, and European claims.</p>	<p>Describe the motivations behind British imperialism in Southern Africa.</p> <p>Describe the methods used by the British to gain, consolidate, and maintain power in Southern Africa.</p> <p>Describe how European control of Africa changed between 1850 and 1914.</p>

1

# Why did the British colonize Southern Africa?

Objectives: Describe the motivations behind British imperialism in Southern Africa.

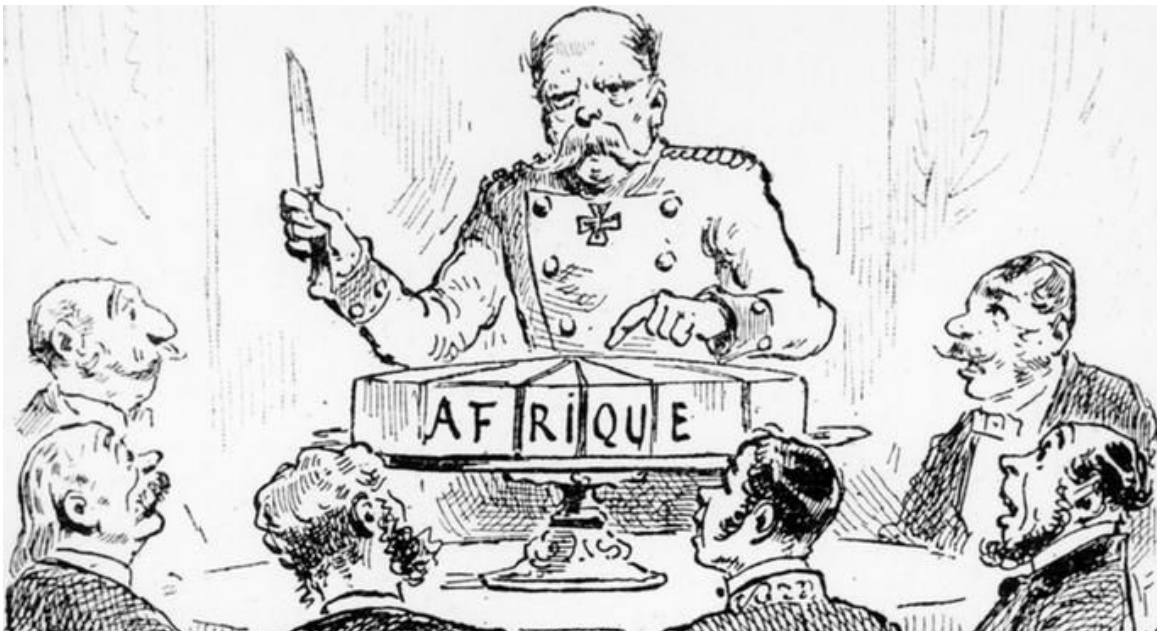
Directions: Examine the chart below, then respond to the questions.



Source: World History, Connections to Today, Core Support, Prentice Hall, 2001 (adapted) from the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam, January 2006.

Based on the pie chart above, what major change occurred between 1850 and 1914?	<b>How</b> do you think this change occurred?	<b>Why</b> do you think this change occurred?

## What was the 1884 Berlin Conference and the “Scramble for Africa”?



Source:

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Berlin\\_Conference\\_\(1884\)#/media/File:IMGCD82\\_-\\_Caricatura\\_sobre\\_conferencia\\_de\\_Berl%C3%ADn,\\_1885.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Berlin_Conference_(1884)#/media/File:IMGCD82_-_Caricatura_sobre_conferencia_de_Berl%C3%ADn,_1885.jpg)

### Observations

### Inferences

In the image, what is the continent represented as? Why do you think the cartoonist represented the African continent this way?

### What was the Berlin Conference?

The Berlin Conference of 1884–85 was organized by Otto von Bismarck, the first chancellor of Germany. The purpose of the Berlin Conference was to regulate European colonization and trade in Africa by identifying which European nations would be allowed to control which parts of Africa. The Berlin Conference was seen as the beginning of the “Scramble for Africa.” The “Scramble for Africa” was the invasion and colonization of African territory by European powers between 1881 and 1914. During the Berlin Conference, the European nations literally divided Africa up between themselves, often creating quite artificial states that divided cultural, linguistic and ethnic groups. No Africans were invited to the Berlin Conference and no Africans took part in deciding how the continent would be “carved up.” In 1870, only 10 percent of Africa was under European control; by 1914 it had increased to 90 percent of the continent. By 1914, only Ethiopia and Liberia were independent African nations not under the control of European powers.

Adapted from: [http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Berlin\\_Conference\\_of\\_1884-85](http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Berlin_Conference_of_1884-85)

**1. Who organized the Berlin Conference?**

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**2. Why was the Berlin Conference organized?**

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**3. Who attended the Berlin Conference?**

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**4. Who was not invited to attend the Berlin Conference? Why were they not invited?**

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**5. What impact did the Berlin Conference have on Africa?**

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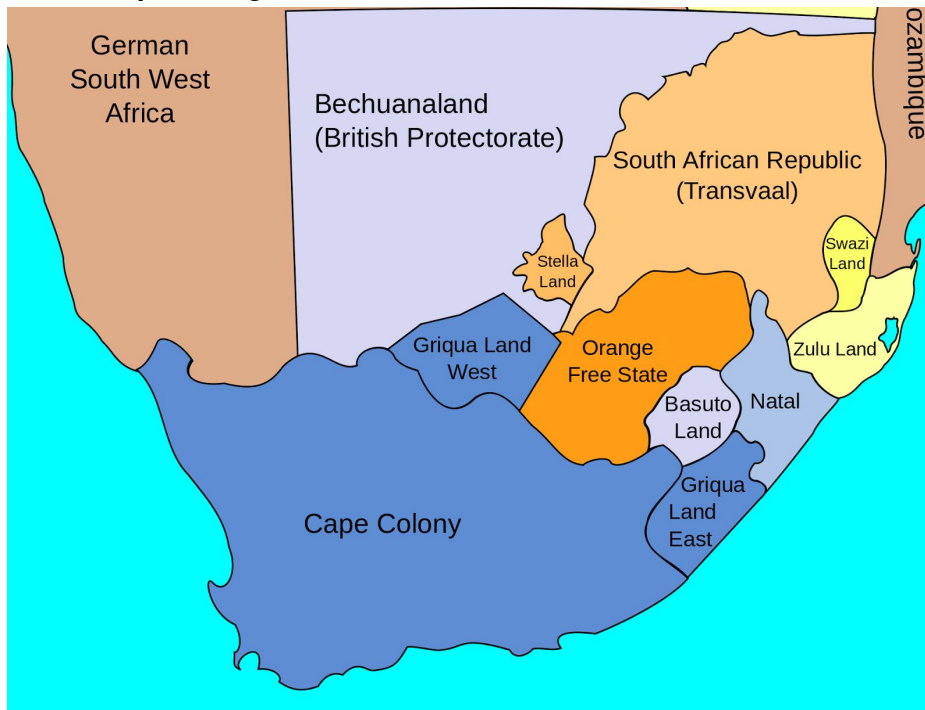
## The Struggle for Southern Africa



A map of the British Empire in 1921 when it was at its height.

Adapted from: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:British\\_Empire\\_1921.png](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:British_Empire_1921.png)

### The Disrupted Regions of Southern Africa in 1885



Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape\\_Colony#/media/File:SouthAfrica1885.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_Colony#/media/File:SouthAfrica1885.svg)

**Directions:** Read the excerpt below and respond to the questions.

#### The Dutch Control the Cape Colony

Before Britain controlled Southern Africa, it was controlled by the Boers. The Boers were descendants of Dutch settlers who founded the Dutch East India Company in the Cape Colony in 1652. The Dutch established a trading post and imported slaves from Dutch colonies to work on their farms. The indigenous people in the region known as the Khoikhoi were often in conflict with the Dutch over land ownership. After a series of wars, the Khoikhoi were eventually kicked off of their land. Many other Khoikhoi people were killed by a smallpox epidemic brought to the Cape of Southern Africa by Dutch sailors.

As Dutch power lessened in the area, the British seized the Cape in 1795 before returning it to the Boers in 1803. By 1814, the British had acquired the Cape from the Boers. There they established a colony where power was held in the hands of whites and slaves imported from Dutch colonies. Indigenous Africans were subject to the rule of the British. The Boers left Cape Colony in the 'Great Trek' and founded their own republics.

#### The Discovery of Diamonds and Gold

In 1867, diamonds were discovered in an area of Southern Africa known as Kimberly and in 1886 gold was discovered in an area called Transvaal. These diamonds and gold were located in the Boer lands. The discovery of these valuable natural resources caused a war between the Boers and the British known as the Boer Wars. The Boer Wars lasted from 1899 until 1902. In 1902, the Boers were defeated and the British took control of the former Boer lands as well as the diamonds and gold in these lands.

#### The Formation of the Union of South Africa

By 1910, the British decided to create the independent Union of South Africa which included the Cape Colony and the Boer republics. The new union adopted a constitution for a government run only by whites.

**6. Who were the two European powers fighting over control of Southern Africa?**

**7. What caused the Boer War?**

**8. What was the outcome of the Boer war for the British? What was the outcome of the Boer War for the Boers? What was the outcome of the Boer War for indigenous Africans and the slaves imported from Dutch colonies?**



**Directions:** Examine the image, read the excerpt below and respond to the questions.



### **The Rhodes Colossus**

Source: Punch, 1892 (adapted) from the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam, January 2007.

Cecil John Rhodes was a British imperialist, businessman, mining tycoon, and politician in South Africa. He was a strong advocate of British colonialism and imperialism. Rhodes was the founder of the southern African territory of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe and Zambia), which was named after him in 1895. Rhodes also founded the De Beers diamond company which eventually controlled 90% of the world's diamond production. His master plan was to establish a Cape-to-Cairo railroad line linking British colonial interests in Africa between Egypt and the Cape. This 1892 depiction of Rhodes as "The Rhodes Colossus, Striding from Cape Town to Cairo," became a common image of British imperial power in Africa.

Adapted from: [http://historyproject.ucdavis.edu/ic/image\\_details.php?id=13906](http://historyproject.ucdavis.edu/ic/image_details.php?id=13906)

#### **Observations**

#### **Inferences**

**What does this image and background text reveal about the motives of British imperialism in the 19th century?**

**What does this image and background text reveal about British imperialists attitudes toward the people they conquered?**

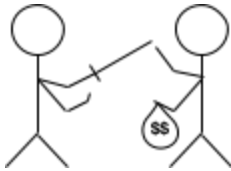
**What does this image and background text reveal about how Britain wanted to be viewed by the rest of the world?**

2

## How did the British gain, consolidate, and maintain power in Southern Africa through the 1913 Natives' Land Act?

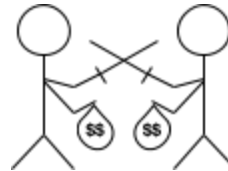
Objectives: Describe the methods used by the British to gain, consolidate, and maintain power in Southern Africa.

### GAIN



**Gaining power** is the process of getting it and expanding it.

### CONSOLIDATE



**Consolidating power** is the process of taking control from other people who also have power.

### MAINTAIN



**Maintaining power** is the process of keeping one's power.

**Directions:** Read the document below and respond to the questions.

## The 1913 Natives' Land Act

Act No. 27  
of 1913.

[Date of commencement—  
19th June, 1913.\*

Act of 1913.

### ACT

To make further provision as to the purchase and leasing of land by Natives and other Persons in the several parts of the Union and for other purposes in connection with the ownership and occupation of Land by Natives and other Persons.

(1932) IV PD 241

(Assented to 16th June, 1913).

(Signed by the Governor-General in English).

BE IT ENACTED by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate and the House of Assembly of the Union of South Africa, as follows :—

\* The Act was first published in *Gazette Extraordinary* No. 380 of the 19th June, 1913.

Source:

<http://www.sahistory.org.za/archive/natives-land-act-act-no-27-1913>

### The 1913 Natives' Land Act

The Natives' Land Act of 1913 was the first major form of segregation and discrimination legislation passed by the Union Parliament. It was designed so that only certain areas of the country could be owned by Africans who were named, "natives." At the time the law was passed in June 1913, it is estimated that white people constituted about 20% of South Africa's population, and Africans about 70% of the population. The law mandated the following:

- 93% of the farmable and useful South African land was reserved for whites, or Europeans
- 7% of agricultural land was set aside on reserve for blacks, or Africans.
- Africans were forbidden from buying or leasing land outside those reserves.
- Europeans, likewise, were unable to buy or lease land from Africans.

### The Impact of the 1913 Natives' Land Act

- White farmers began issuing notices of eviction to Africans
- Africans were denied access to land which they owned or had been leasing
- Africans were forced to move to the reserves often could not find enough fertile land to use for crops
- African families and their livestock roamed the countryside in search of accommodation and living space
- African farmers had to work for white landowners for small wages or small pieces of land
- White farmers took over land that was previously owned or farmed on by African farmers

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|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The government began to offer low-interest loans to White farmers which allowed them to make improvements to their farms and buy agricultural machinery and improve their yields.</li><li>● African farmers who owned land inside and outside the reserves did not receive any aid from the government in the form of loans and found it increasingly difficult to compete with White farmers who could use improved methods and now had more land for their crops.</li></ul> |
|--|---|

Adapted from: <http://www.parliament.gov.za/content/Land%20Act%20-%20Paper%20-%20Tshepo.pdf>,  
<http://www.sahistory.org.za/topic/natives-land-act-1913#sthash.3fAUqsYX.dpuf>, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/0/22786616>,  
<http://www.britannica.com/place/Southern-Africa/Southern-Africa-1899-1945#ref479812>

**1. What was the 1913 Natives' Land Act?**

**2. How did the 1913 Natives' Land Act impact whites in Southern Africa?**

**3. How did the 1913 Natives' Land Act impact Africans in Southern Africa?**

**4. How did the 1913 Natives' Land Act help the British to gain, maintain and consolidate their power?**

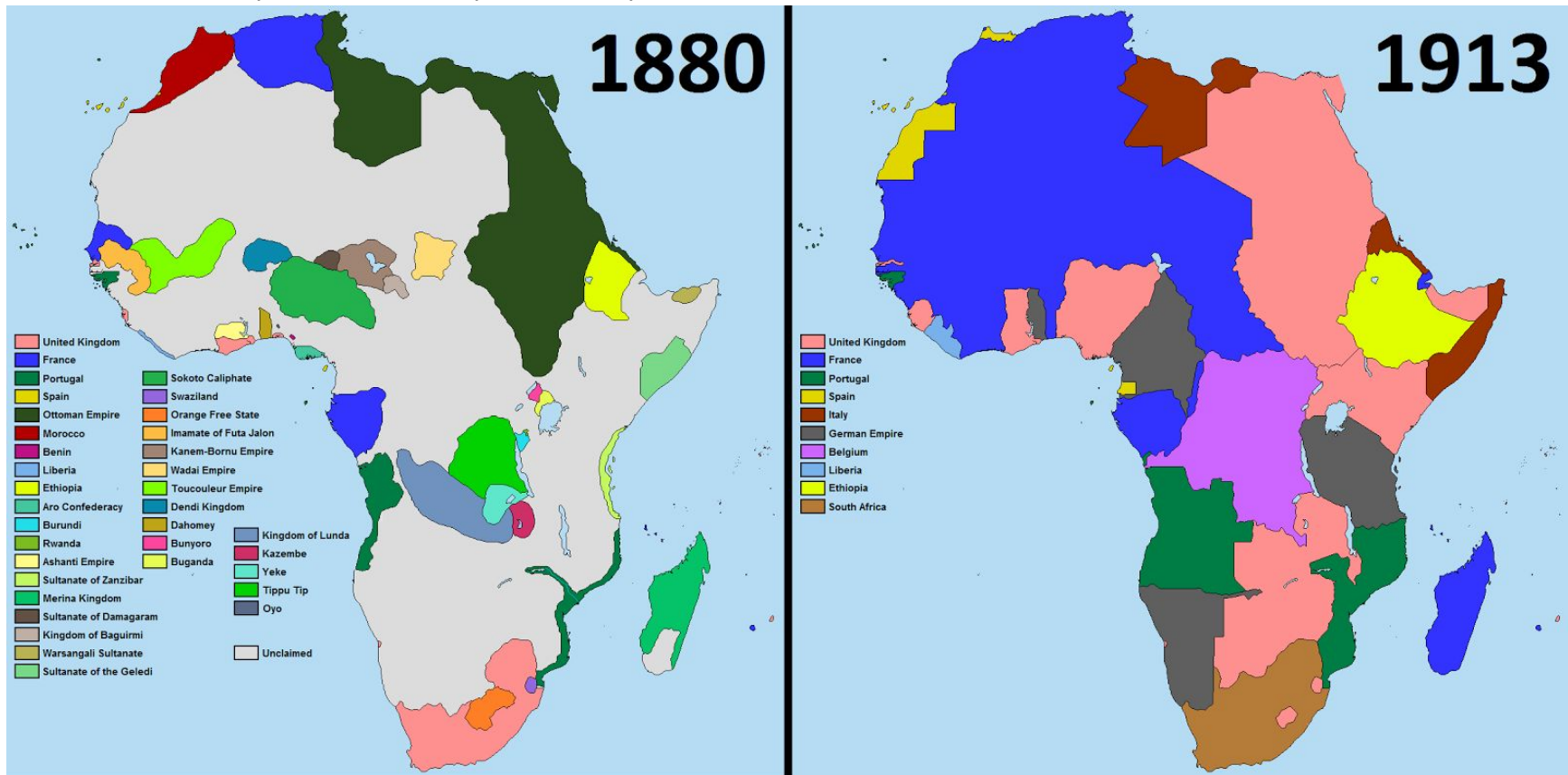


3

# How did European control of Africa change between 1850 and 1914?

Objectives: Describe how European control of Africa changed between 1850 and 1914.

Directions: Examine the maps below, then respond to the questions.



Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scramble\\_for\\_Africa#/media/File:Scramble-for-Africa-1880-1913.png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scramble_for_Africa#/media/File:Scramble-for-Africa-1880-1913.png)

Based on the maps above, what major change occurred between 1880 and 1914?



### Regents Multiple Choice Check for Understanding

1. Which situation was a result of the 1884 Berlin Conference?

- (1) Africa was divided without regard to ethnic groups.
- (2) Monarchies were restored throughout Europe.
- (3) The slave trade with South America was eliminated.
- (4) The League of Nations was formed.

2. Which of these developments in Africa was a cause of the other three?

- (1) Rival tribal groups fought wars.
- (2) The Berlin Conference of 1884 influenced colonial boundaries.
- (3) Traditional territories and culture groups were permanently fragmented.
- (4) African economies became dependent on the sale of cash crops and raw materials.

3. What was a major reason European nations competed for control of Africa during the second half of the 1800s?

- (1) Africa had a wealth of natural resources.
- (2) Slave labor was needed in the Americas.
- (3) African nations offered religious and political freedom.
- (4) Europeans needed land for their excess population.

4. Which description of trade patterns best represents the relationship between Africa and Europe during the late 19th century?

- (1) Trans-Saharan trade caravans led by Europeans were the most profitable.
- (2) South Africa was of no interest to European traders.
- (3) Raw materials were shipped from Africa to European industries.
- (4) Rivers were the key highways connecting Europeans to much of the African interior.