

The British Empire and China



Journal Activity

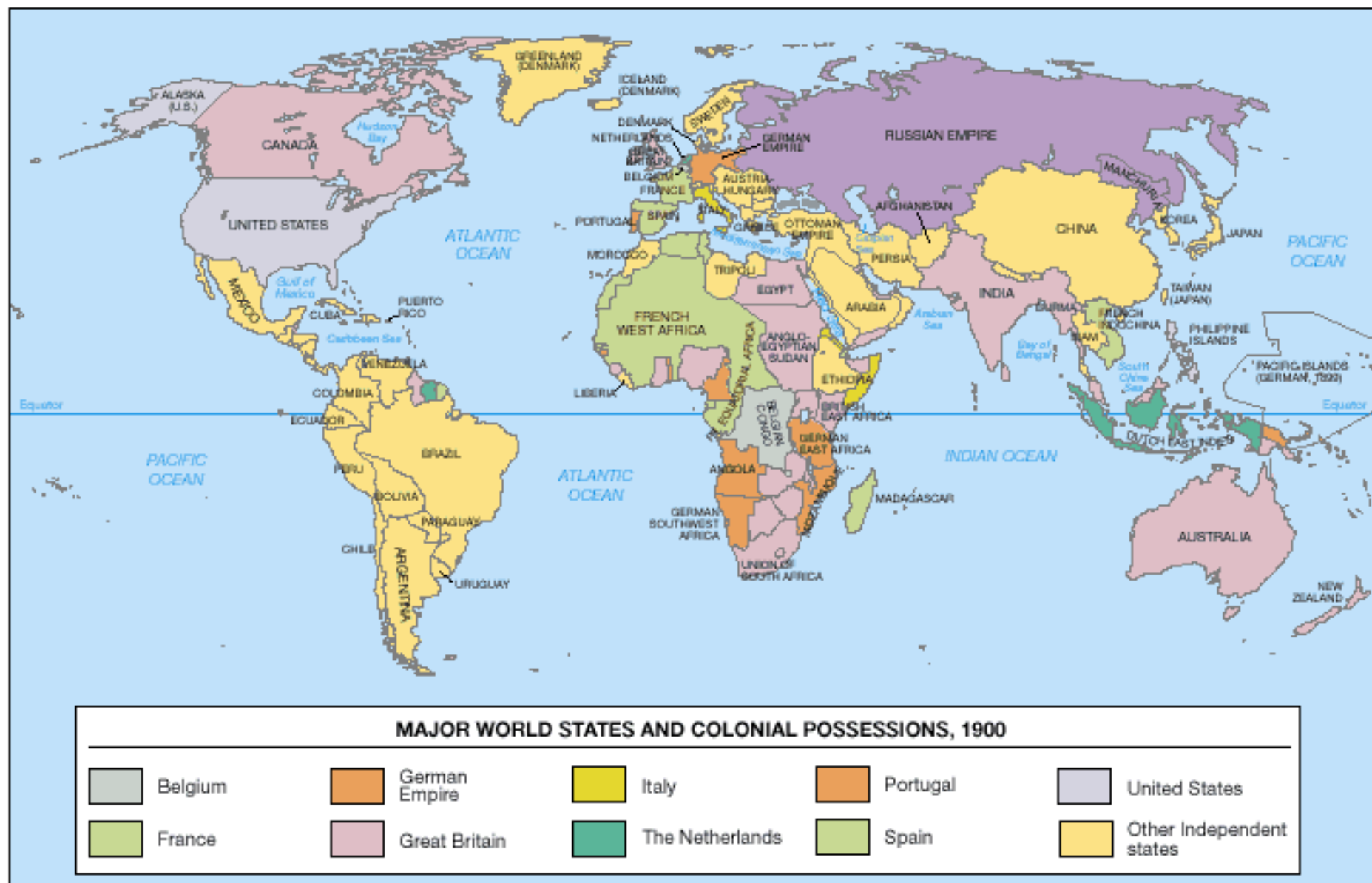



“The empire on which the sun never sets”

- What do you think the quote means? Consider the picture below.



- Who do you think is the strongest country in the world today? Explain.



 World Colonial Holdings, ca. 1914. The European powers, great and small, competed with each other for world empires and world influence by 1900.

British Empire (1800s — 1945)

The largest empire in human history

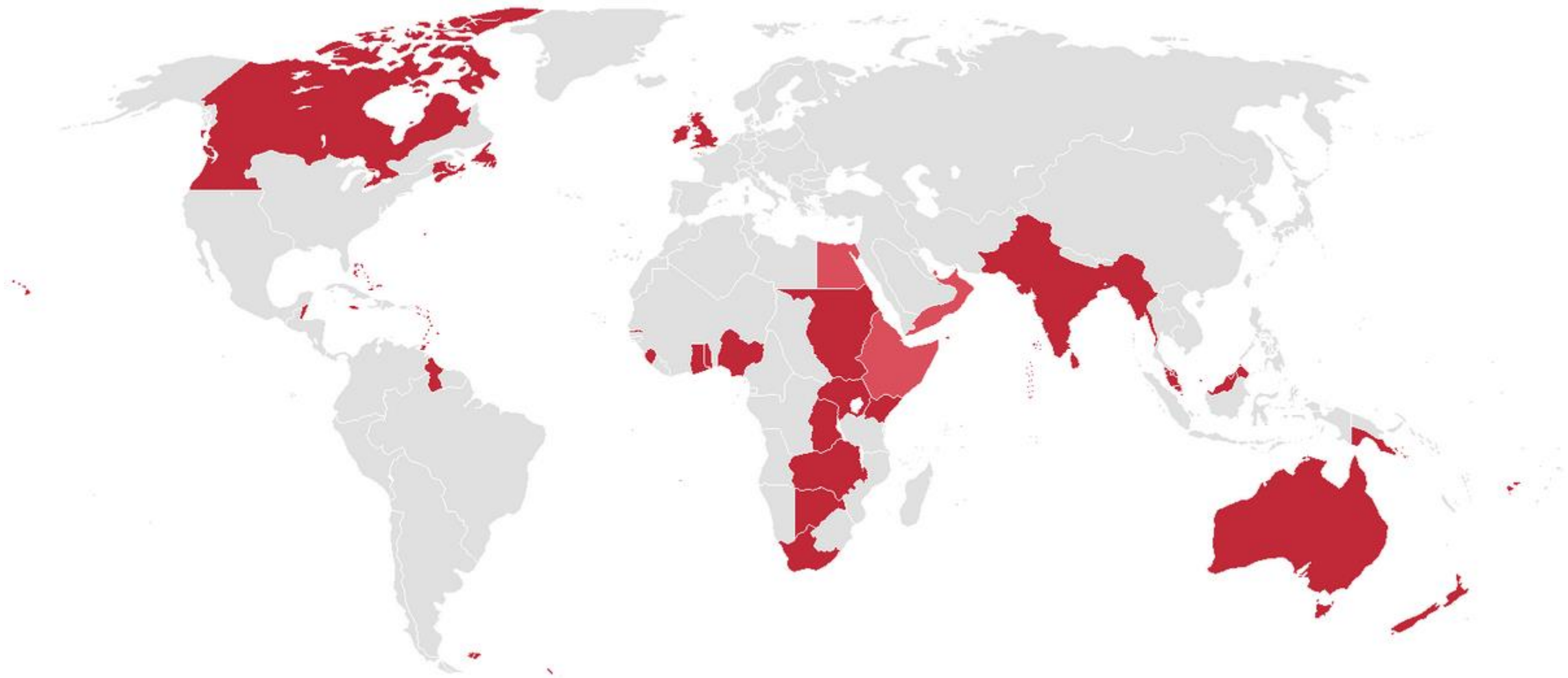
The first global power

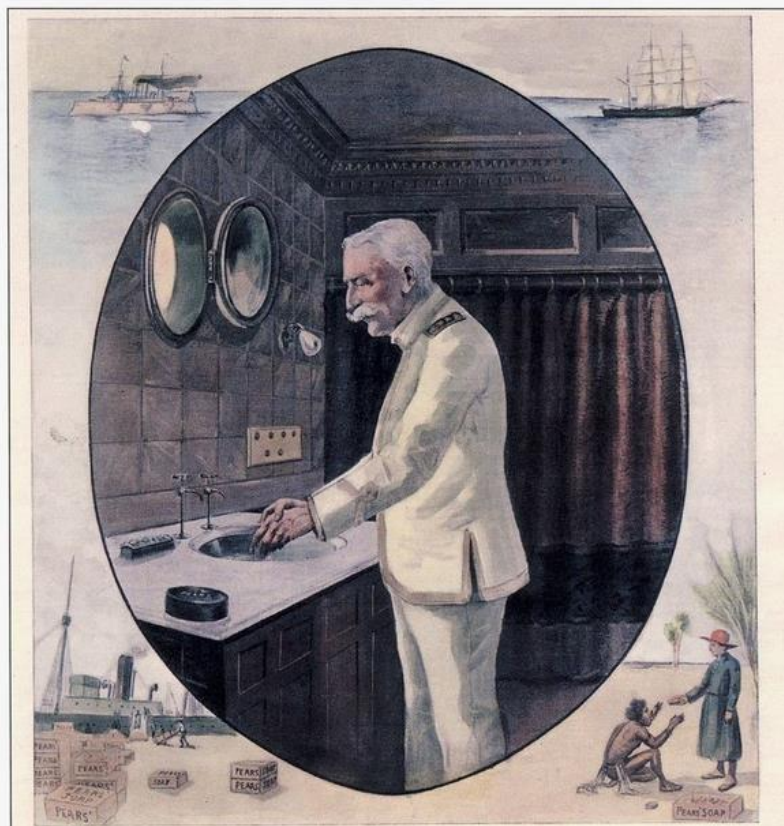
- Industrial Revolution and victories in Europe won its place
- At one point controlled about 20% of the world's population at the time
- About 25% of the world's land
- Started to decline after World War I
- Replaced by the United States after World War II

Today China has about 18.8%, India has 17.6%, and US has 4.42% of world's population



British Empire (1800s — 1945)





The first step towards lightening

The White Man's Burden

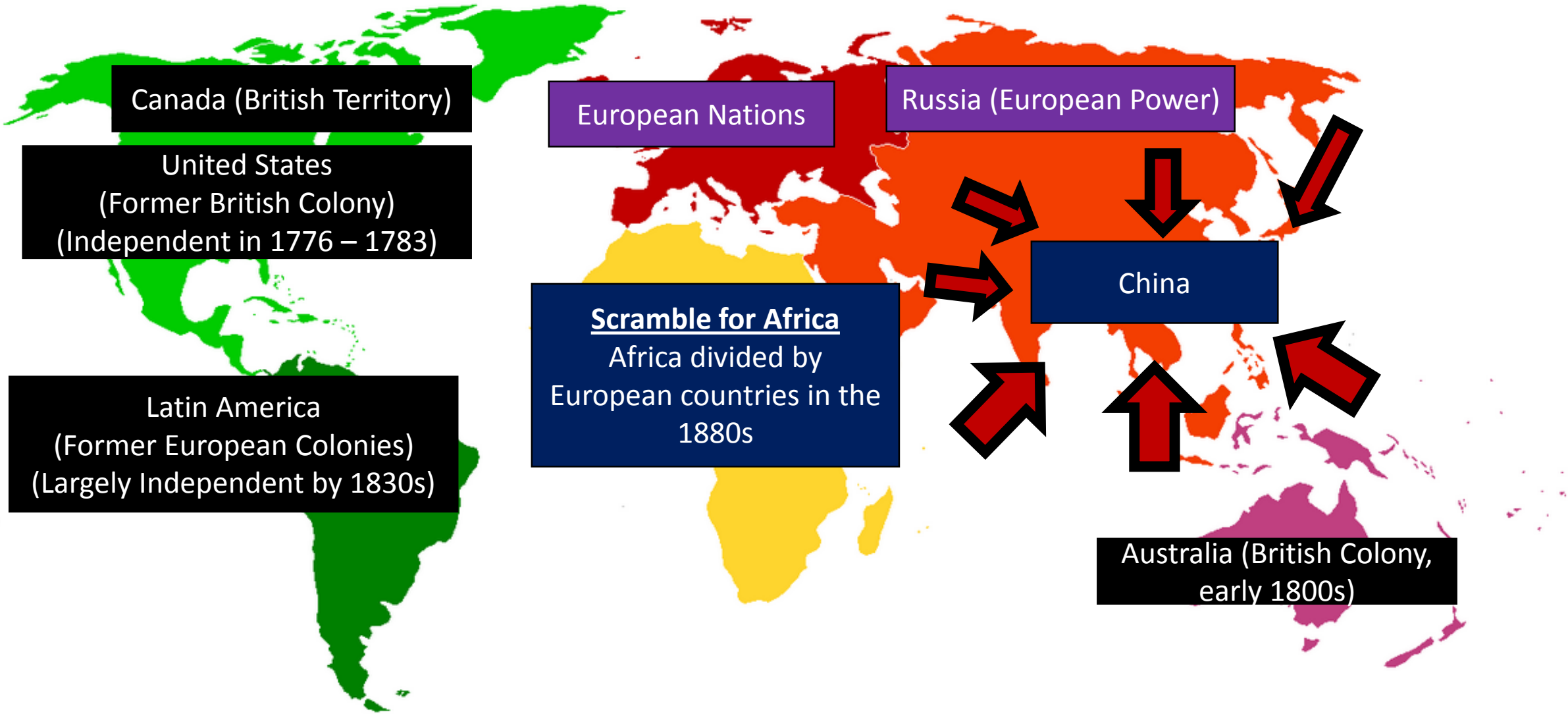
is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness.

Pears' Soap

is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances, while amongst the cultured of all nations it holds the highest place—it is the ideal toilet soap.

Take a look at Rudyard Kipling's "The White Man's Burden"

- Review stanzas #1, #3, and #7.



Canada (British Territory)

United States
(Former British Colony)
(Independent in 1776 – 1783)

Latin America
(Former European Colonies)
(Largely Independent by 1830s)

European Nations

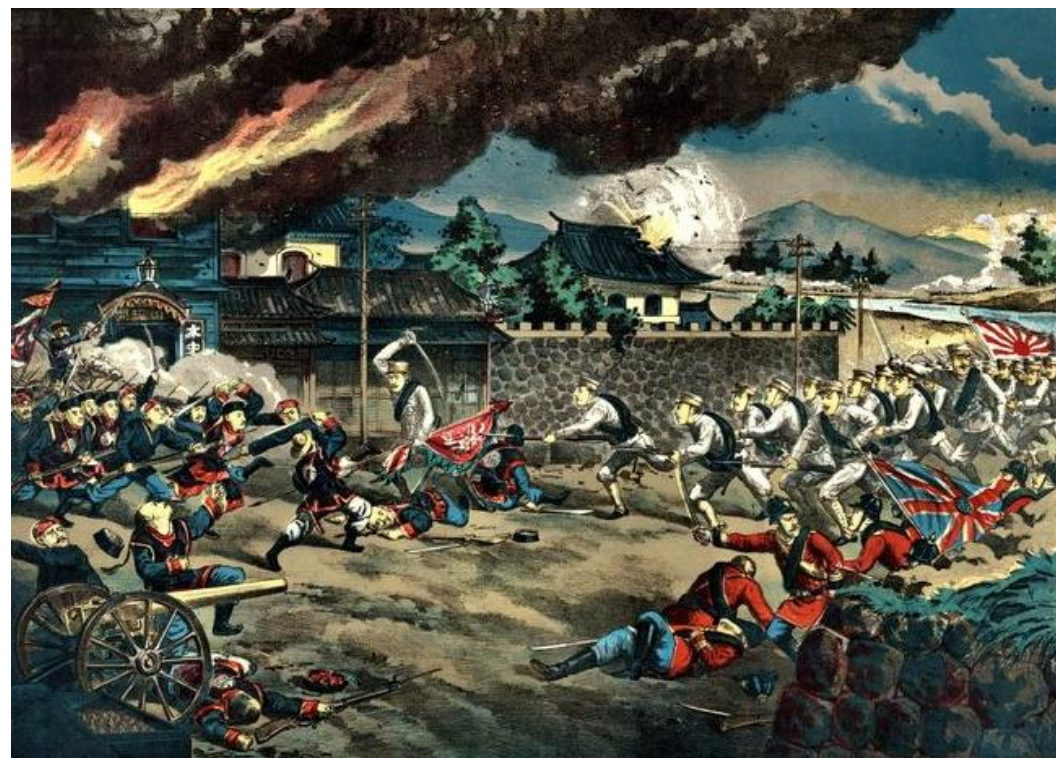
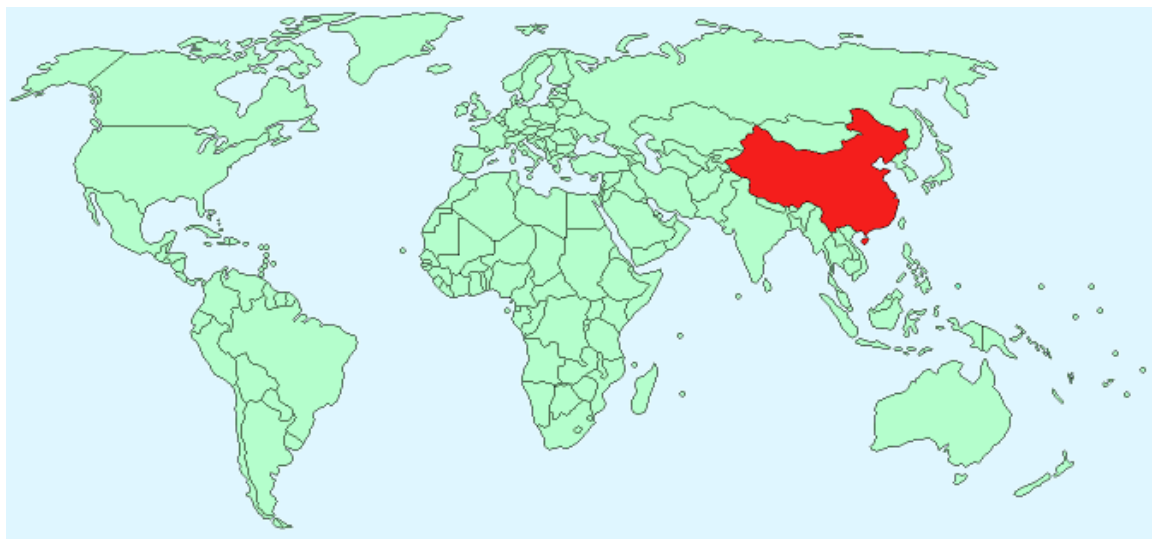
Russia (European Power)

Scramble for Africa
Africa divided by
European countries in the
1880s

China

Australia (British Colony,
early 1800s)

(Qing) China





(Before Western Imperialism)

Qing China (1644 – 1912)

- Vast empire
- Believed to be center of the world
- Self-sufficient with plenty of resources
- Chinese goods HIGHLY desirable by Europeans
 - Tea
 - Silk
 - Porcelain

“Our Celestial Empire possesses all things in prolific abundance and lacks no product within its borders. There is therefore no need to import the manufactures of outside barbarians in exchange for our own produce.”

— [Qianlong Emperor](#), *Second Edict to King [George III](#) of England*, 1792





(Before Western Imperialism)

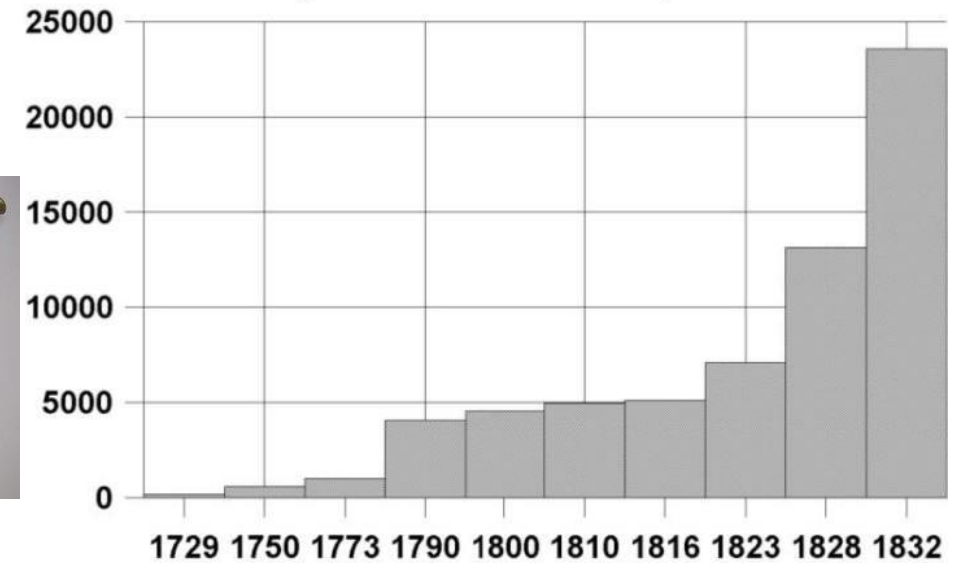
Qing China (1644 — 1912)

- Trade benefitted China, receiving plenty of silver
- Europeans wanted to tip trade in their favor
 - British smuggled opium in China
 - Opium smoking became an addiction
 - China asked Great Britain to stop, unanswered



BRITISH OPIUM SALES TO CHINA

(Numbers of Chests)



(Before/During Western Imperialism)

First Opium War (1839 — 1842)

- Great Britain vs. Qing China
- Extraterritorial rights
- Opened the door for unequal treaties from Great Britain and other European countries
 - Treaty of Nanjing
 - Great Britain received Hong Kong as a colony (until 1997)
- Treaty ports



(Before/During Western Imperialism)

Growing Internal Problems

- Population growth
- Hunger
- Opium addiction
- Corruption in government
- **Empress Dowager Cixi** (held power from 1862 – 1908) resisted change
 - Traditional views
- **Boxer Rebellion** (1900)
- European nations took advantage and carved out **spheres of influences**, areas where a foreign nation controlled trade and investment





Colonial Powers Carve Up China, 1850-1910

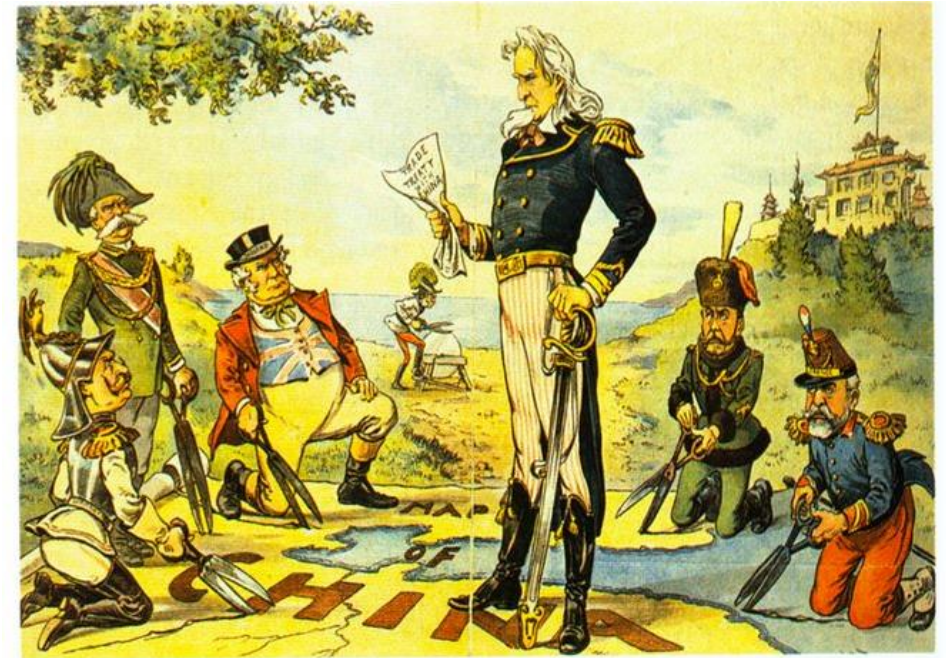


(Before/During Western Imperialism)

Open Door Policy

In 1899, the U.S. proposed to European nations that China's "doors" be open to merchants of all nations — free market.

- Protected U.S. trading rights
- Protected China from colonization

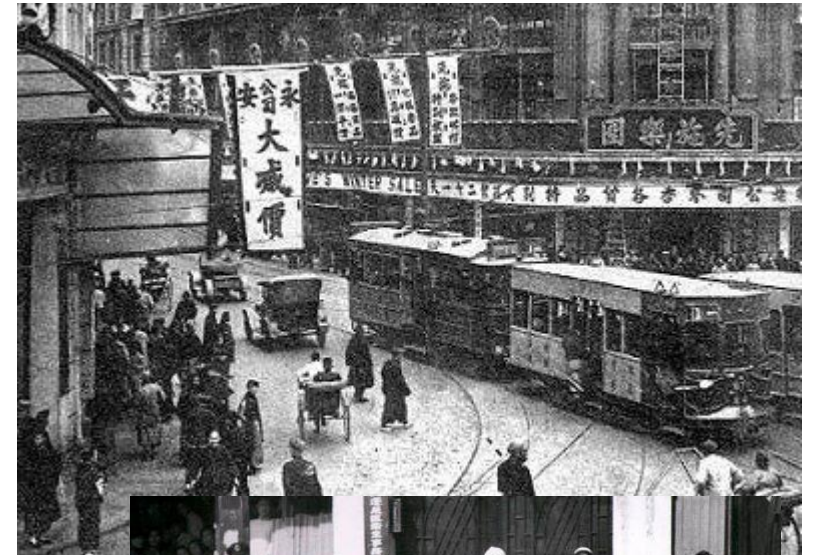


(During/After Western Imperialism)

Chinese Nationalism

Continued loss of power, many Chinese pressed for changes and reforms.

- Nationalist movements, such as one led by **Sun Yat-sen**, rose up in 1911 (Chinese Revolution)
 - Wanted democracy
- Qing Dynasty ended in 1912
- Early Republican era of China begins
 - Civil War



(After Western Imperialism)

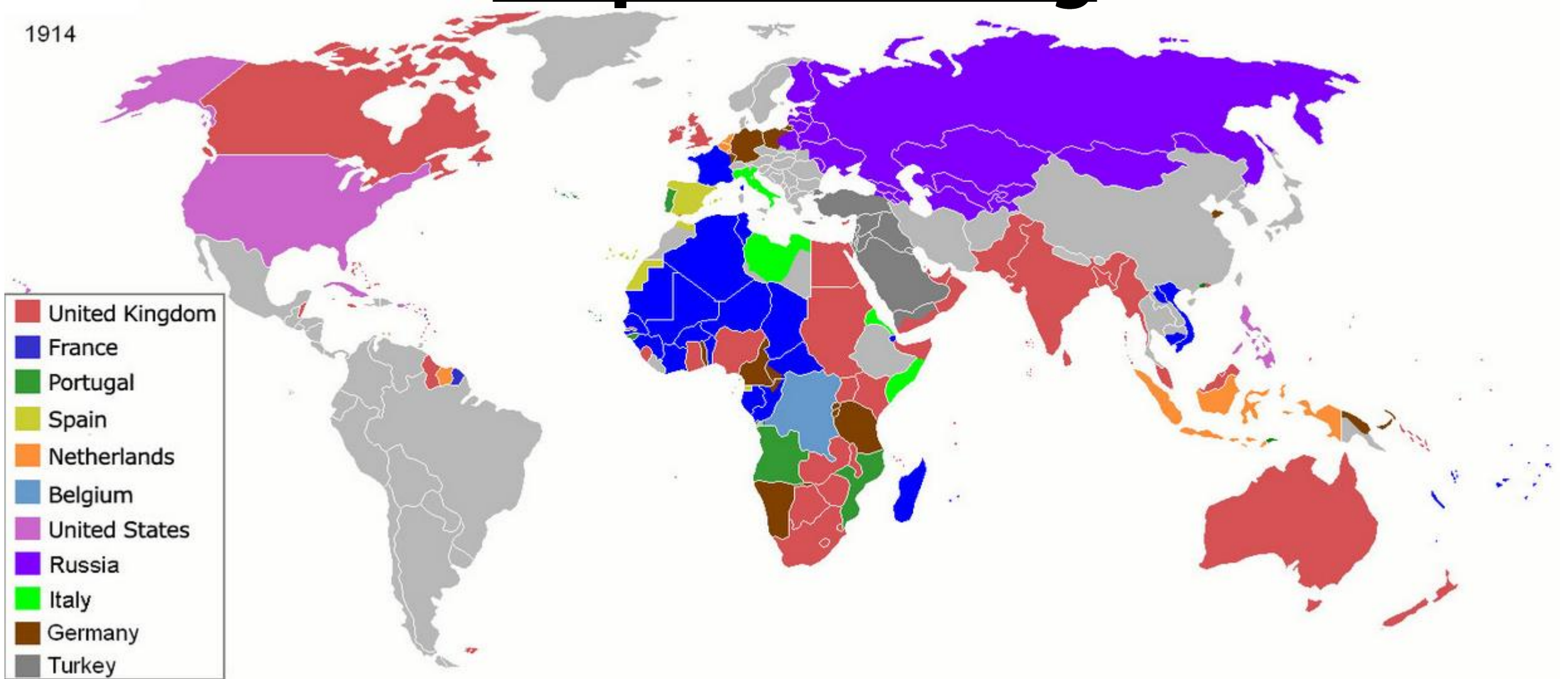
China Today

- Many new western ideas
 - Communism
 - Capitalism
 - Education
- Modernization and technology
 - Factories
 - Almost everything is made in China
- A strong country today that rivals the United States



Empire-Building

1914



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3XAYlr0478>

Reading Through History: The Boxer Rebellion and Open Door Policy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4QdEKjEg88&list=PL51EB571611E00663>

The Boxer Rebellion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BujhFOoXxWQ>

55 Days in Peking (film)

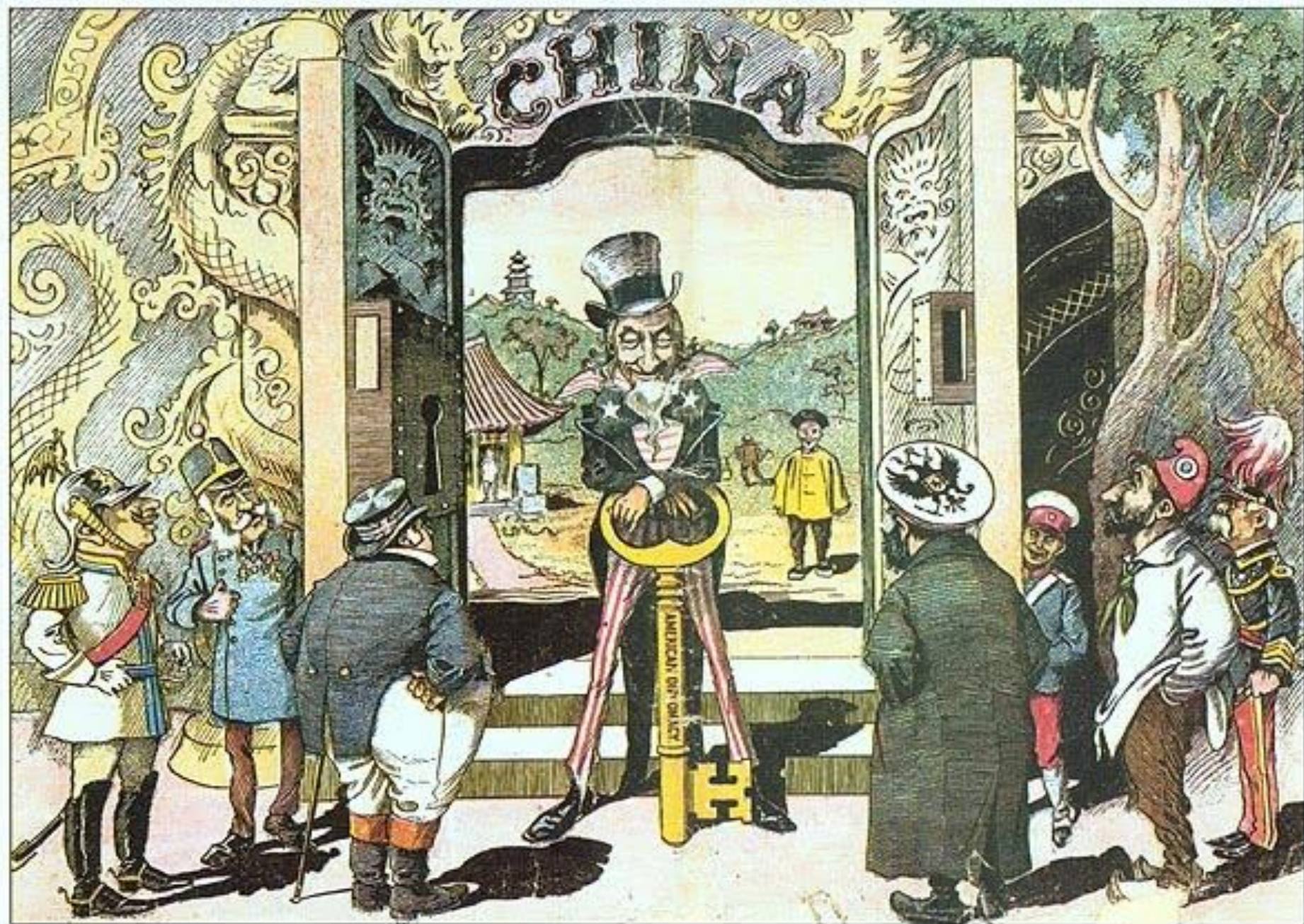
**Look at this cartoon.
What message does
this cartoon convey?**

**Who do each of the
characters represent?**



Look at this cartoon. What message does this cartoon convey?





THE OPEN DOOR





A FAIR FIELD AND NO FAVOR!
UNCLE SAM: "I'M OUT FOR COMMERCE, NOT CONQUEST!"