Imperialism

Imperialism is a policy in which one country seeks to extend its authority by conquering other countries or by establishing economic and political dominance over other countries. The first chart below discusses the four forms of imperialist authority. The second chart shows the two management methods that can be used to control an area.

### Forms of Imperialism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colony</td>
<td>A country or a territory governed internally by a foreign power</td>
<td>Somaliland in East Africa was a French colony.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protectorate</td>
<td>A country or a territory with its own internal government but under the control of an outside power</td>
<td>Britain established a protectorate over the Niger River delta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sphere of Influence</td>
<td>An area in which an outside power claims exclusive investment or trading privileges</td>
<td>Liberia was under the sphere of influence of the United States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Imperialism</td>
<td>An independent but less-developed country controlled by private business interests rather than other governments</td>
<td>The Dole Fruit company controlled pineapple trade in Hawaii.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Imperial Management Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indirect Control</th>
<th>Direct Control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Local government officials used</td>
<td>• Foreign officials brought in to rule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Limited self-rule</td>
<td>• No self-rule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Goal: to develop future leaders</td>
<td>• Goal: assimilation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Government institutions are based on European styles but may have local rules.</td>
<td>• Government institutions are based only on European styles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples:

- British colonies such as Nigeria, India, Burma
- U.S. colonies on Pacific Islands

Examples:

- French colonies such as Somaliland, Vietnam
- German colonies such as German East Africa
- Portuguese colonies such as Angola

### Connect to Today

- **1. Forming and Supporting Opinions**
  Which form of managing imperial interests do you think would be most effective and why?

- **2. Recognizing Effects**
  Use the Internet or library resources to research the problems many African nations are facing today as a result of imperialism. Report your findings to the class.
The Legacy of Colonial Rule

Negative Effects
Africans lost control of their land and their independence.
Many died from new diseases (smallpox).
Thousands died in resistance efforts (warfare).
Change from subsistence agriculture to cash crops resulted in famines.

Breakdown of traditional cultures.
  Traditional authority figures were replaced.
  Homes and property taken.
  Migration of men --- tried to find means to support families.
  Europeans did not value traditional cultures and beliefs.

Division of African continent caused the most harm.
  Artificial boundaries combined or unnaturally divided groups.
  These boundaries continue to cause problems today.

Positive Effects
Colonialism reduced local warfare.
Improved sanitation, medical care, education.
Technological developments (Railroads, dams, telephone, telegraph)