

I. Reasons for decolonization

Economic

Loss of civilizing mission

Nationalist movements

II. Problems in the post-colonial world

Creating nations! (India)

Ethnic, linguistic, and religious differences (Nigeria, Middle East)

European-imposed boundaries (Africa)

Lack of modern self-government

1. Traditional elites

2. Discrimination against new elites

Lack of economic development

AFRICA

Explain the positives of colonialism in Africa.

- Westerners brought some benefits
- improved transportation
- improved communications
- laid foundation for modern industrial and commercial sector
- improved sanitation
- improved medical care and life expectancy
- laid basis for gradual development of democracy

Why did independence come later to Africa?

- colonialism established later in Africa than in most areas of Asia
- reaction from Africans was delayed
- with only a few exceptions in West Africa and the Mediterranean only a few strong, coherent states had existed in Africa
- mostly traditional states in Africa were collections of people
- Europeans often used "divide and rule" tactics
- British urged political decentralization by using traditional chiefs
- difficulty for Africans to achieve unity

Explain the problems that have beset Africa in independence.

- great disparities in education and income
- many dictators have seized power due to discontent
- most African nations depended on export of a single crop or resource; prices fluctuated; economies were weak
- often economies still controlled by foreigners
- had to import technology and manufactured products; imbalance of trade
- often squandered resources on military or consumer goods rather than building an infrastructure
- much corruption
- population growth has been tremendous
- drought conditions hurt growing of food; Sahara is growing
- widespread hunger and starvation has weakened population
- spread of AIDS
- expansion of cities has overwhelmed transportation and sanitation