

Lesson 2

Imperialism in Africa



The Big Idea

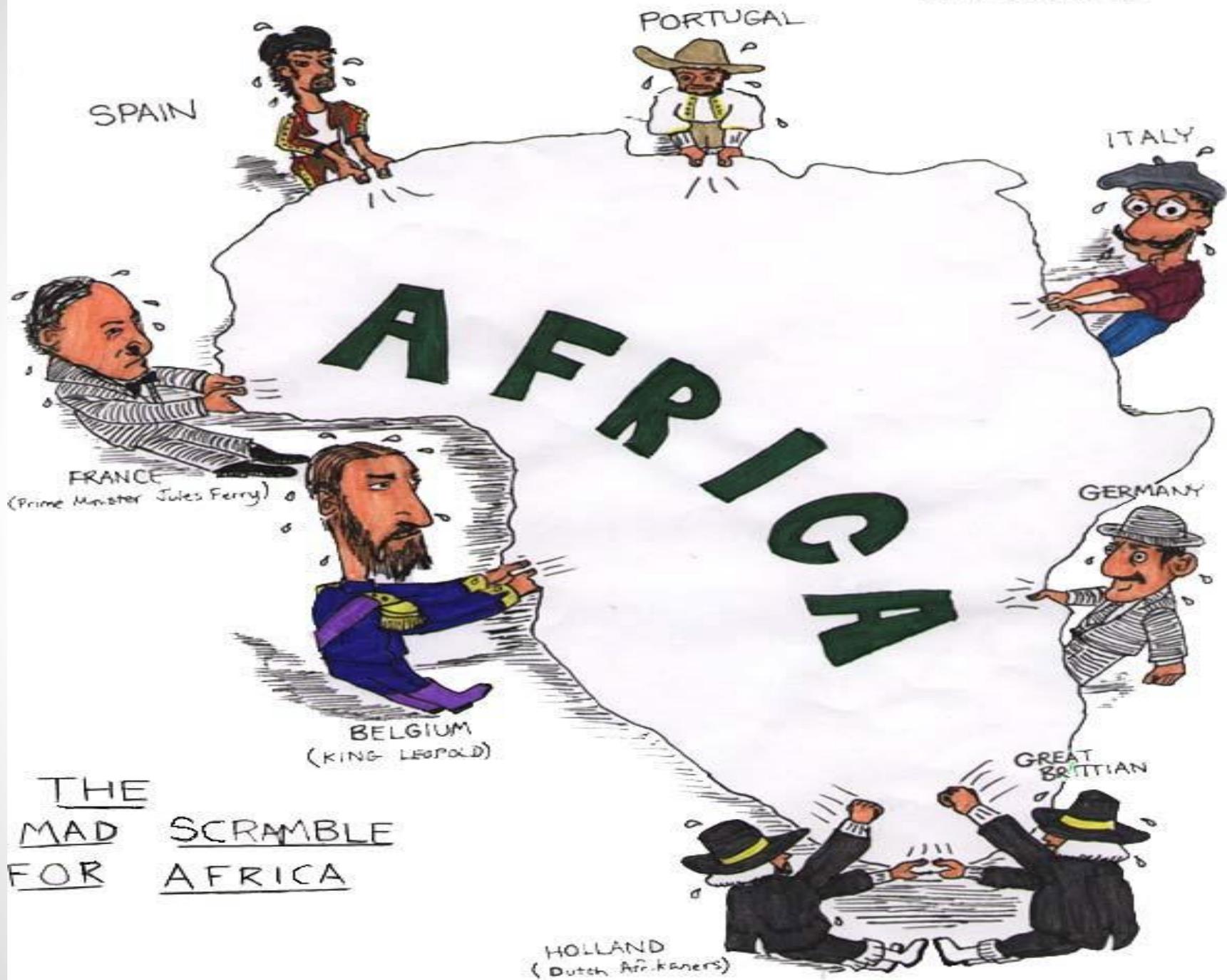
Europeans embarked on a new phase of empire building that affected both Africa and the rest of the world.

Why It Matters Now

Many former colonies have political problems that are the result of colonial rule.

Setting the Stage

- The **Berlin Conference** of 1884-1885 was a European Conference. And, although black South Africans participated in it, the **Boer War** was largely a European War (**in Zulu territory**). Europeans argued and fought among themselves over the lands of Africa. In carving up the continent, the European countries paid little or no attention to historical political divisions or to the many ethnic and language groupings in Africa. Uppermost in the minds of the Europeans was the ability to control Africa's land, its people, and its **resources**.



A New Period of Imperialism

- During the new period of imperialism (Industrial technology), the Europeans demanded more influence over the economic, political, and social lives of the people.
- They were determined to shape the economies of the lands to benefit European economies.
- They also wanted the people to adopt European customs, called **assimilation**. Local populations would adopt their European colonial rulers culture, language, and customs (schools, courts, businesses).
- They viewed Africans as unable to handle the complex business of running a country.
- Based on this attitude, the Europeans developed a policy called **paternalism**.
- Using that policy, Europeans governed people in a parental way by providing for their needs but not giving them rights.

Forms of Imperialism

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

Imperial Management Methods

Indirect Control	Direct Control
Local government officials were used	Foreign officials brought in to rule.
Limited self-rule	No self-rule
Goal: to develop future leaders	Goal: assimilation
Government institutions are based on European styles but may have local rulers.	Government institutions are based only on European styles.
Examples: British colonies such as Nigeria, India, and 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.

#2

Answer the Lesson Assessment Questions.

European nations used various forms of colonial control.

1. How did the British control Nigeria and other British colonies?

• Pg. 349

2. What method of management did the French use with their colonies?

• Pg. 347

African societies try to resist European attempts at colonization

3. How did Algeria's resistance to French rule differ from the East Africans' resistance to German rule?

• Pg. 351

4. Why was Ethiopia able to successfully resist European rule?

• Pg. 352

Document-Based Investigation: *The Black Man's Burden*

5. What reasons does Morel offer for why African resistance had waned?

• Pg. 351

Ethiopia: A Successful Resistance

- Ethiopia was the only African nation that successfully resisted the Europeans.
- Its victory over Italy was due to one man – Menelik II.
- He became emperor of Ethiopia in 1889 and successfully played Italians, French and British against each other, all of whom were striving to bring Ethiopia into their **sphere of influence**.
- Menelik II modernized his military by building up a large of modern weapons purchased from France and Russia.





Ethiopia Battles Italy

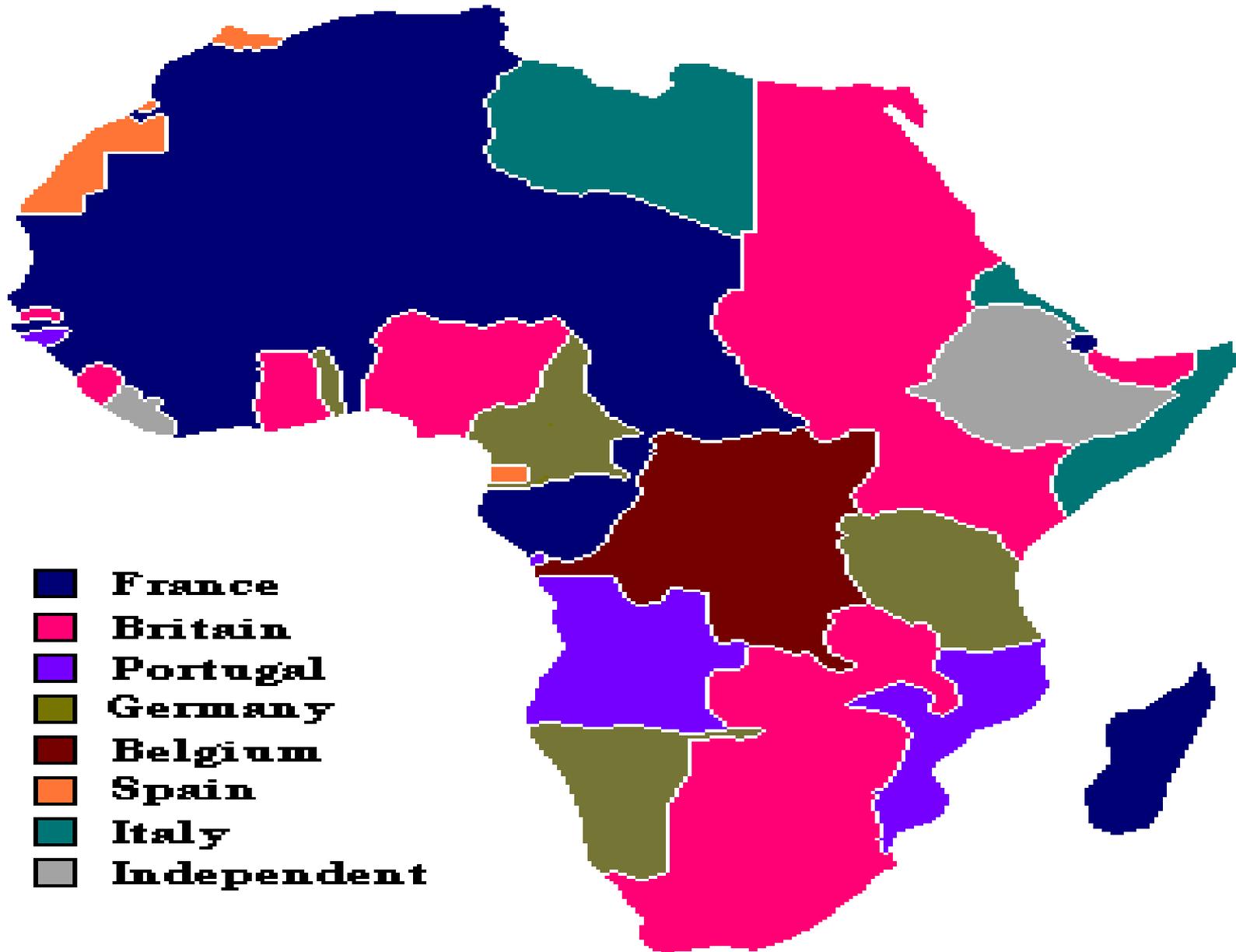
- In 1889, shortly after **Menelik II** signed a treaty with Italy, he discovered differences between the wording of the treaty in the Ethiopian language and in Italian.
- Menelik believed he was giving up a tiny portion of Ethiopia. However, the Italians claimed all of Ethiopia as a protectorate.
- Meanwhile, Italian forces were advancing into northern Ethiopia.
- Menelik declared war on Italy. In 1896, in one of the greatest battles in the history of Africa – **the Battle of Adowa** – Ethiopian forces successfully defeated the Italians and kept their nation independent.
- After the war, Menelik continued to stockpile rifles and other modern weapons in case another foreign power challenged Ethiopia's liberty.

Legacy of the Battle of Adowa

- After the victory over Italy in 1896, Ethiopia acquired a special importance in the eyes of Africans as the only surviving African State. After Adowa, Ethiopia became emblematic of African valor and resistance, the bastion of prestige and hope to thousands of Africans who were experiencing the full shock of European conquest (imperialism) and were beginning to search for an answer to the myth of African inferiority.



European Colonization of Africa



The Legacy of Colonial Rule

#3

Chart the Negative and Positive effects of European imperialism in Africa.

Negative Effects	Positive Effects
1. Pg. 353-354 2. 3. 4.	1. Pg. 354 2. 3. 4.