

Prompts: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap24-frq-world-history-set-2.pdf>

SAQ #1

a) One argument the author makes in the first paragraph is that Muslims wrote and developed extensive historical records due to there being a market for readers due to imperial expansion and to reinforce traditional religious institutions. The author made his argument clear through explaining that Muslims wrote more history than any Jew or Christian during this time period and argued his two points (readers and religious reinforcement) for why that is.

b) The author used the existence of large-scale learning in and spread by urban areas to support his argument that the existence of so much Muslim-written history was only possible due to both state sponsorship and interest of historians. Before the Mongol conquests, major cities in Dar al-Islam such as Baghdad (in the Abbasid Empire) indeed contained an enormous amount of knowledge, such as the Library of Baghdad which was destroyed during the Mongol invasions. This catalog and maintenance of such a large collection of historical knowledge was only possible through state sponsorship as well as a willingness by historians to maintain them, and it indeed legitimized state power by maintaining a record of state establishment and achievements.

c) One development in the period 1200-1750 that could be used to support the author's argument here is establishment of new states after the Mongol conquests and the need to demonstrate to their subjects that their rule over often diverse populations is legitimate. For example, the Sultans of the Ottoman Empire, founded in Anatolia during the times of the Mongols (13th century) but later expanding into vast portions of EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa), often sponsored the writings of their histories and their conquests to show that they are rightful rulers of the land, containing Muslims, Jews, Christians, etc. This practice was replicated by other land-based empires such as the Safavids and Mughals, all with the purpose of demonstrating their legitimacy through recording their conquests and achievements. Even Mongols themselves wrote histories to legitimize their rule, with the Il-Khan sponsoring the writings of histories and promoting art creation to legitimize Mongol rule by documenting their conquests and the history of their rule over Southwest Asia.

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(I'M SORRY AP GRADER MY SAQS TEND TO BE REALLY LONG)

Word count: 367

SAQ #2

a) One development during the period 1450-1750 that contributed to the activities in the image is the colonial expansion of European states into other parts of the world. Starting in the late 15th and early 16th centuries, European states such as Portugal, Spain, and England used new navigational technologies to sail to new lands such as the Americas and the Indian Ocean Basin. Especially in the Americas, the European colonial powers sought to convert the indigenous population to Christianity by restricting their native religious practices and traditions. This effort to convert local populations to Christianity persisted well after this time period, contributing to the existence of a missionary school in majority-Hindu India when it was under British colonial rule in the 19th century.

b) Imperialist governments often supported the efforts shown in the image to consolidate their rule over colonies with diverse populations. In this time period, European empires often held a vast amount of territories in Africa and India, which are often both culturally and religiously diverse. In the case of India, it was majority Hindu with a significant Muslim minority. To consolidate its rule over such a population, the colonial government needed to keep their subjects uniform and adapt to the imperial culture in order to quell any potential dissent movements, which is why the colonial powers sponsored efforts to convert local peoples to Christianity to restrict this diversity.

c) However, many groups in Asia and Africa resisted the efforts shown in the image of colonial powers attempting to impose their culture onto their colonies. The most notable example of this is the Sepoy Rebellion in India, which occurred not long before the picture shown was taken. The rebellion started due to sepoys, Indian soldiers formerly loyal to Britain, were angered by new British weapons violating Hindu and Muslim religious traditions due to the use of pig grease and cow fat in guns, and rebelled. Although the rebellion was crushed within a year, it is a strong testament to how local colonized groups attempted to resist not only European colonial expansion but also their ignorance to local religious and cultural traditions.

Word count: 353



SAQ #3/4

a) One political factor in the period after 1945 that led to African independence was the rise in influence of right-based movements that advocated for self-determination of peoples. During the early 20th century, movements demanding equality for women also inspired other oppressed groups, such as colonial subjects, to demand their rights as a free people too. This can be signified by the United Nations' adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which contained a section that stated that all people have the right to self-determination. With this and significant international pressure for colonial states to withdraw from their colonies, African states were gradually able to gain independence with African peoples being adamant supporters of their own independence, fulfilling the principle of self-determination.

b) One economic factor that hastened African independence after 1945 is the resource exhaustion of European colonial states during World War II due to total war. During the Second World War, most European imperial states adopted a policy of total war where all resources, civilian or military, of a state were to be dedicated to fighting and winning the war. However, this policy thoroughly exhausted the economies of those states, and they no longer have the power to maintain their colonies (one of the primary objectives of even having colonies was to export manufactured goods there, but obviously that was not happening nearly as much during WWII) let alone their own state. For the economic well-being of their own countries, European empires decided to gradually grant their African colonies independence post-World War II.

c) One reason why postcolonial states in Africa adopted communist/socialist policies is because their former colonial overlords were European states that have adopted capitalism, so they saw communism/ socialism as more friendly ideologies towards them. It should be noted that the colonized peoples of Africa and elsewhere suffered primarily due to capitalist policies, with European states' colonies being mere chunks of land where they can exploit natural resources from and export products to in order to strengthen and maintain their capitalist systems. These factors all contributed to many newly-independent African states adopting communist/socialist policies as a way to distance themselves from their colonial past and former colonizers.

Word count: 365

DBQ

In the middle of the 19th century, after imposing the "closed country" policy for centuries, Japan finally established contact with the outside world due to an American fleet threateningly forcing Japan to open up to foreign trade. After realizing the underdevelopment of their nation, local rulers rose up and ousted the Shogun from power, and restored the power to rule over Japan to the Emperor in an event called the Meiji Restoration. After the Restoration, significant reforms were made to modernize Japan's economy and society all in order to make Japan into an industrial powerhouse and great power, which they saw as the most effective method to resist further foreign encroachment. Their efforts succeeded, with Japan rapidly industrializing and becoming the leading power in the Asia-Pacific region. However, with this boom in manufacturing and industrialization, so did the problem of needing raw materials for industries and markets to export products to rise, similar to European colonial powers. As a result of this, Japan went on a campaign of imperialistic expansions starting in the early 20th century. This wave of imperialistic expansion, similar to other colonial powers at the time, was primarily fueled and caused by economic factors such as extracting raw materials and securing trade, though other factors, such as geopolitics and Japan's strategic positioning, were also in play.

To start, it can be said that one of the biggest motives for Japanese imperial expansion in this time period is to extract natural resources in order to fuel and support its newly-developed industrial economy, similar to many European empires, which makes the primary reason for this imperialism to be economic. To start, Japan is an island country situated on an archipelago in East Asia, which means it does not have a lot of the natural resources needed to sustain large-scale industrial production. The author in Document 2 admits this, saying that Japan is "poor in natural resources" as a justification for imperialism. This is a clear indication that acquiring natural resources for manufacturing is a primary concern for Japanese policy during this time period. Without valuable agricultural and industrial materials, Japanese industry and its economic potential will not be able to compete on the same level as European countries and the United States, who all possess large amounts of territory/colonies where they have access to resources for industry and exports. This fact can be confirmed by remarks

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made in Document 3, which stated that Japan has already built "[o]ne major railroad in Manchuria" and is preparing to build more". What is the use of these railroads? To transport extracted natural resources, of course. This mirrors the pattern of railroad-building in European colonies in Africa, which were built to transport natural materials to port cities. The fact that Japan is so invested in those Manchurian railroads is probably to achieve the same motives of transporting natural resources, further showing how economic motives were the primary reason for Japanese imperialism during this period, because they need the resources to fuel their industry and exports. However, it should be noted that the rest of the information contained in Document 3 may be biased, since it is written by a Korean-American organization, and because Korea has been occupied by Japan since 1910, they of course would have a hatred towards Japan and might've exaggerated the scale of Japan's intrusion into Manchuria, which can also be seen in the document's aggressive tone. Additionally, the author of Document 5 also stated that Japan needs the natural material in China since it's "facing coal shortages" and that acquiring Shaanxi steel is the only way for "Japan's steel industry...to become self-sufficient". This is a clear indication that Japan invaded Manchuria for economic reasons, since the raw materials contained within are crucial for the survival of Japan's industry and its ability to compete with European countries. This analysis was probably accurate because it was published in an American newspaper before the start of WWII when there were no hostilities between the US and Japan, so the reporter was probably an impartial observer. Even rejections of Japanese imperialism show that the primary motive was economic: Document 6, though not supporting Japan's recent encroachments in Asia, does mention that China does have resources that Japan desperately needs, such as "rich cotton fields". And even then, it did not support Japan's imperialistic activities in the region due to concerns about Japan draining its own resources while developing the region, further demonstrating how economic factors were a top priority in Japanese policy during this time, no matter if it's in support of imperialism or not.

Additionally, Japan's economic motives can not only be seen by the fact that it wants to extract resources, but also wanting to dominate trade in the region. For example, Document 1 mentions the fact that another motive for Japan to expand into Manchuria is to ensure that Russia does not take over trade in this region, due to Russia's imposition of a large tax on foreign vessels in Port Arthur and the desire to prevent

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Russia from "hold[ing] Japan's trade down". This demonstrates that Japan's motive for expanding its empire in this time period is almost wholly economic. Not only does it want to extract Manchuria's valuable resources, but it also wants to dominate trade in the region so that it can have a monopoly for everything economic-related, from industry to exchange, in the Asia-Pacific region. Additionally, Document 7's demonstration of the Japanese occupation of Singapore also shows the economic motives underlying its imperialistic expansion. Singapore, with its location on the tip of the Malaysian Peninsula near the Strait of Malacca, has been known as a regional hub for trade passing from the Indian to the Pacific Ocean. The fact that Japan took the effort to take its military forces all the way down to Singapore and occupy it shows its strong desire to control trade in the region. However, the image showing Singaporeans happily learning Japanese was probably not an accurate representation of Singapore's overall attitude towards their Japanese occupiers since it was taken for a major Japanese newspaper, so it was probably used as propaganda to justify Japanese imperialism and convince the Japanese people that their colonized populations were happy with Japanese rule when in fact they were not. With both Manchuria, Singapore, and other important ports under its control, Japan can truly have complete dominance and control over everything that's imported and exported in this region, furthering its own industries, exports, and economic prosperity.

But it should be noted that Japan also expanded its empire due to strategic reasons too. This can be most clearly shown in Document 4, where a Japanese army officer mentioned nothing about economics nor materials in his essay arguing for a Japanese invasion of Manchuria, with his only main point being that "the Manchuria-Mongolia region is of enormous strategic importance". The author stated all the foreign powers that Japan had to combat, from Russia to Britain to the United States, and how taking Manchuria would solve the Russian problem. This does illustrate to us the fact that though Japan's imperialistic expansion in this time period was primarily based on economic factors, concerns for Japan's strategic location, being sandwiched between several major powers, was also a major motive for its expansion. By taking Manchuria, Japan can reduce the Russian threat on its Northern front. The opinion was probably well-informed because it was written by a high-ranking Japanese army officer who probably had a good understanding of national strategic matters and what needed to be done to improve Japan's geopolitical position. What is not mentioned in the documents

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is that during World War II, Japan also conquered many territories such as French Indochina, the Dutch East Indies, and the Philippines, as well as countless islands in the Pacific. Many of these places, such as French Indochina and Pacific Islands, had no resources valuable enough to extract, and its population was either too small or too underdeveloped to be worthy of expanding its market to. Which means that these conquests were done out of primarily strategic reasons rather than economic; since, for example, taking control of small islands in the Pacific Ocean does grant Japan an advantage in the Pacific theater of WWII. These examples show that although Japan expanded its empire primarily to acquire materials and control trade in order to maintain the competitiveness of its industry, exports, and economy as a whole, strategic aims were also in play.

In conclusion, Japan expanded its empire in the time period circa 1900-1945 primarily for economic objectives such as acquiring natural resources and controlling trade in the region to support its own industries similar to European colonial powers at the time, but strategic factors such as using the conquered territories to fend off foreign threats also played major roles.

Word count: 1,469



LEQ

In the time period immediately before, many European states sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and established vast colonial territories there, primarily enabled by more advanced navigational technologies such as caravels and astrolabes. This was mainly done either to extract resources such as gold or silver or to find land to cultivate cash crops for export. The most powerful populations in these new colonies were Europeans, though there were also Africans and Natives. However, they have increasingly felt that their voices were not being heard by their home countries' governments. The Enlightenment also took place in this time period, emphasizing the importance of natural rights and the social contract, which is directly contradictory to many monarchies at the time. All of this caused an extreme amount of discontent towards empires and absolute monarchies that caused significant political change and several revolutions. In the time period circa 1750-1900, discontent with monarchist and imperial rule was indeed the main source of new political ideologies or systems of government during this time period, though other factors, such as class differences and nationalism, also played major roles.

To start, most new political ideologies and systems of government during this time period were in fact caused by a discontent towards monarchist or imperial rule. The most glaring examples of this are the famous revolutions that took place in the United States, South America, and France. Let's take a look at the American Revolution. This Revolution was caused by the colonists' dissatisfaction over British policies such as excessive taxation and not granting the colonists seats in the British Parliament, which culminated in a lengthy war that eventually led to the independence of the United States from British rule. The primary cause of this revolution was clearly discontent with imperial rule. The colonists could no longer tolerate being ignored by the British government and having their rights squashed, and rose up in the first example of a colony in the Americas successfully gaining independence. What was created out of the American Revolution was a first in world history: a republic organized as a federation of states, united by a Constitution based on natural rights and the social contract (the existence of slavery does ruin that, but that's not important here). Another significant change in government due to dissatisfaction with imperial rule can be seen in South America, where the educated peninsulares declared their independence from Spanish

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rule after centuries of being subverted under policies implemented by the Spanish government without their voice being heard at all. While the Napoleonic Wars raged in Europe, revolutionary hero El Libertador Simón Bolívar led several revolutions all at once and successfully liberated several South American countries from Spanish rule. The entire Spanish colonial governmental structure toppled: no longer are territories ruled by viceroys appointed by the king, but instead a federal republic similar to the United States was created, named Gran Colombia, though it would disintegrate fairly soon after its creation. Significant governmental changes can also be caused by discontent with monarchist rule due to it being a violation of the Enlightenment ideals of natural rights and the social contract. This can be seen in France, where the French Revolution represented one of the first successful overthrows of an established monarchy in European history. King Louis and most members of the noble class were executed, and a French Republic was created in its place granting equality and representation to all, a stark contrast to the hierarchical society of the monarchy, the *ancien régime*. Though the following political turmoil rendered the revolution quite ineffective, it was still a strong testament to how newfound dissatisfaction towards monarchical rule can lead to significant changes to governmental structure.

However, other factors such as class divisions and nationalism can also cause major changes to governmental systems and new political ideologies to arise. For example, the Haitian Revolution was more of a slave revolt than resistance towards imperial rule. The importation of a large amount of slaves from Africa to work on plantations caused a significant amount of social tension on the French-controlled island of Haïti, and eventually, this tension was so great that an organized slave revolt led by Toussaint L'Ouverture led to the establishment of an independent state headed by former slaves. This demonstrates how factors such as class and social tensions can also lead to political changes in addition to discontent with imperialism. Additionally, back in Europe, the mistreatment of workers due to factory owners wanting to extract as much labor and profit for themselves as possible also led to the development of a new and important political ideology - communism, which was first expressed in a book published by Karl Marx in the mid-19th century. This ideology did not develop due to any particular dissatisfaction with monarchical rule (since most monarchies in Europe were constitutional monarchies at this point), but rather simply due to class and social tensions that plagued European societies during this time period. Additionally, intense

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nationalism unrelated to imperialism, such as efforts to unite all German and Italian speaking states into singular governments, also led to governmental change. The unification of Germany and Italy overturned the centuries-old political system of fragmented small states existing in Central Europe and on the Italian Peninsula, but was not due to dissatisfaction with any monarchy or empire. In fact, the united Germany and Italy, all brand-new states, operated under monarchical systems of government. This illustrates to us the fact that though discontent with monarchies or empires in this time period can lead to governmental changes, other factors, such as social divisions or nationalism, can also inspire new ideologies or political structures.

In conclusion, anger and discontent towards monarchist and imperial rule was a major source of new political ideologies and systems of government between 1750-1900, but other factors, such as class differences and nationalism, were also important conductors of governmental and social change.

Word count: 977