

Imperialism In India and Ghana

Imperialism is when one stronger country takes over a weaker country. The three possible responses to imperialism are violence, acceptance, and nonviolence. I think the best response is nonviolence because it is the most effective and doesn't necessarily kill many people.

India used violence during the Sepoy Rebellion. It took place on May 10, 1857. There were many reasons that caused the sepoys to revolt against the British rulers. They were not getting along for months so there was tension between the sepoy Indians and the British for a while. The Indians refused to bite off their cartridges because they were sealed with pork and beef. Also, the British rulers were imposing Christianity in India but they wanted their freedom of religion because they were mostly Hindu and some Muslims. I do not think violence is a good response to imperialism because India did not gain independence until 1947, about 90 years later. (Page 5)

India used acceptance by choosing to work for the British. Even though the Indian's British bosses were racist, they still were willing to work for them. The good side for working for the British was that they got regular pay, pride, and prospect after they retired. The Indians that accepted being imperialized didn't lead to independence for India at all. I think that it was the least effective because it showed the Indians weren't going to protest in any way for their freedom, they seemed okay with it when they agreed to work for the British. (Page 7)

India used nonviolence in the mid 1800s. Gandhi was willing to get imprisoned and die before he used violence. He boycotted British goods which had a major impact on the government. They gained worldwide support and finally independence in 1947. (Notes 6) Ghana used nonviolence when the British ruled the Gold Coast. Kwame Nkrumah led the nonviolent protests in Ghana. Like in India, many of the African supporters of the nonviolent movement were imprisoned. In 1957 Ghana finally won its independence and was the role model for many other African countries. (Textbook) Nkrumah was the first president of the nation and party. When he was in Beijing Ghana took over. (Britannica) Ghana had their first open elections in 2000. (Textbook)