

BRITISH INFLUENCES ON COLONIES (1603-1949)

**By Daniel
Granda**

“This vast empire on which the sun never sets, and whose bounds nature has not yet ascertained.”

George MaCartney
1773



Starting in 1603 and ending in 1949 the British Empire controlled almost a third of the world at its height of power, having dominion over countless colonies across the world.

The British Empire introduced many new materials, ideas, and cultures to the world thanks to the colonies that they controlled. Each colony had an impact on British society and customs. Now we will go more in depth on how the colonies influenced British culture and how Britain influenced their colonies.

SETUP

Each Colony page will have these three topics.

1. The Established date of the colony and who found it
2. The influence that the colony had on the British Empire
3. The influence that the British Empire had on the colony

In the end I will discuss the results of the British Empire on the colonies.



King George III

INDIA



■ Established

First established in 1750's by various wars declared on Dutch and Indian forces (Wars later developed East India Company through conquest)

■ Culture Influence on Britain

Spices for cuisine and preservatives (mainly used in fresh food preserving and Indian specialty plates). The development of the East India Company helped expand spice trade among British society.

■ Culture Influence on India

The British established a slave labor system for plantations and also serfdom. They also established an imperial government with a British Raj as a minister.



AUSTRALIA



■ Established

First discovered by James Cook in the 17th century (1770) for Britain and established it as a penal colony.

■ Culture Influence on Britain

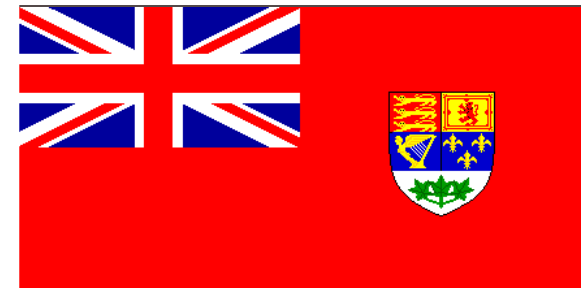
Rare and exotic animals of Australia were either caught or killed and sent across the British Empire. Aborigines were the natives of the land (they believed in spiritual religion called “Dreamtime” - all life as it is today Human, Animal, Bird and Fish is part of one vast unchanging network of relationships which can be traced to the great spirit ancestors)

■ Culture Influence on Australia

Australia was made as a penal colony for all of Britain's prisoners throughout the empire. Cattle and other pasture animals grazed on the outback. Aborigines were killed or enslaved and taken to other parts of the British Empire



NORTH AMERICA



■ Established

The first English settlement in America was Jamestown in 1608

■ Culture Influences on Britain

Many exotic animals (beavers, bears, and more) were hunted and stripped to make pelts for warmth or luxury. Crops and Pasture animals were grown and raised in the Americas and sent overseas to Britain.

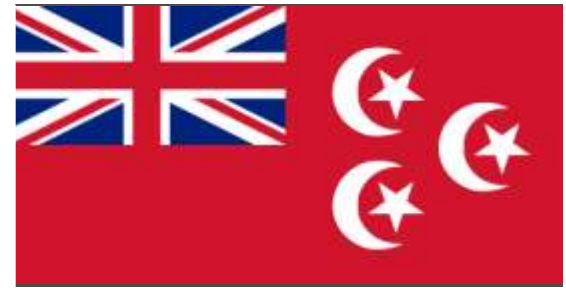
■ Culture Influence on North America

Most of the natives were driven out of the region and pushed back constantly as the European population grew. The British America was one of the first colonies to rebel and declare independence from Britain.



[illegible]

NORTH AFRICA



■ Established

Established under British control in 1882 but had no definite control over North Africa until the fall of the Ottoman Empire in 1918.

■ Culture Influence on Britain

The North African area provides valuable sea trade routes that allowed trade between the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean.

■ Culture Influence on North Africa

The British Empire provided subsidies on Mosques (for Islamic Services) and also for houses in the Islamic Community.



SOUTH AND WEST AFRICA



■ Established

First colony establishment after the Boer War (war against the natives and the Dutch settlers) in 1880 in South Africa.

■ Culture Influence on Britain

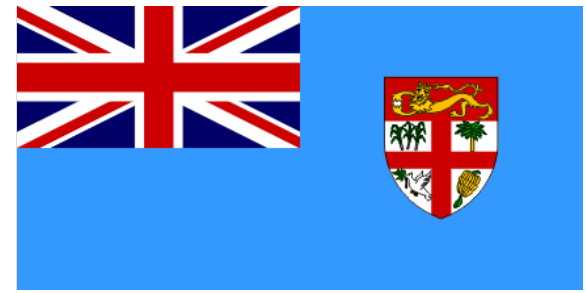
Most of the material that came from South Africa was gemstones, diamonds, special ores (gold, silver, bronze). This boosted Britain's wealth and economy among the empire. Most of West Africa was used to take natives and trade them as slaves across the colonies.

■ Culture Influence on South & West Africa

Natives adopted the customs and systems of the British Empire making them more “civilized” among the British. The British also introduced an owning system (instead of paying taxes people paid with a percentage of their product).



PACIFIC



■ Established

After Australia (which has already been discussed and was colonized in 1770) Pitcairn Island was claimed and settled in 1838.

■ Culture Influence on Britain

Many islands that dotted the Pacific provided ports and resupply points for trading ships of the British Empire. Many Islands were too small to provide a huge crop or material output for trade. Pearls and other luxury marine resources were brought into the British market.

■ Culture Influence on Pacific

British Introduced a trade system to the natives and brought in a owning system like in South & West Africa. Some natives (not many) were brought into the slave trade as well.



WHAT WE LEARNED?

British Culture Influences

■ GOOD

- Introduced many new tradable items (spices, minerals, luxury resources)
- Established major trade routes throughout the world
- Established “civil” governments and laws to native lands
- Vastly increased world wide wealth with expansion of market

■ BAD

- British were dicks to all natives (sent to slavery, denied equal rights, lowered standard of living)
- Enforced and seized control of land that previously wasn't theirs
- Didn't provide government seats to natives of the region
- Set British standard of living as the highest standard (anything different than a British way of life was “barbaric”)

SOURCES

- India Humphreys, “Indian Influence on British Culture”, Academia, 2012, web article. 2014.
http://www.academia.edu/4429360/Indian_Influences_on_British_culture
- Austrailance. “Australian History”, 2010. Web Page. 2014.
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/>
- Swirk. “Impact of European Settlement on Indigenous People”, 2012. Web Page. 2014. http://www.skwirk.com/p-c_s-56_u-426_t-1075_c-4149/WA/10/Impact-of-European-settlement-on-Indigenous-people/_tb-v
- The National Archive. “Case Study 3 Background: Living in the British Empire: Africa”, 2010. Web Page. 2014.
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/empire/g2/cs3/background.htm#bullet2>
- Stephen Luscombe. “Africa and the British Empire”, 2009. Web Article. 2014.
<http://www.britishempire.co.uk/maproom/africa.htm>
- Marjorie H Morgan. Historical Geography. “Caribbean and the British Empire”, January 16, 2011. Web Blog. 2014.
<http://historicalgeographies.blogspot.com/2011/01/caribbeans-and-british-empire.html>
- Stephen Luscombe. British Empire. “The Pacific Region and the British Empire”, 2009, Web Page, 2014. <http://www.britishempire.co.uk/maproom/pacific.htm>