SGS HISTORIAN

A magazine produced by the Lower Sixth at Stockport Grammar School
Issue 3, Summer 2018

The Story of Medicine's Relationship with Colonialism

An Evaluation of South Africa's Relationship with Imperialism

Book review of 'Fatherland'

Was the Roman Empire more Important than the British Empire?

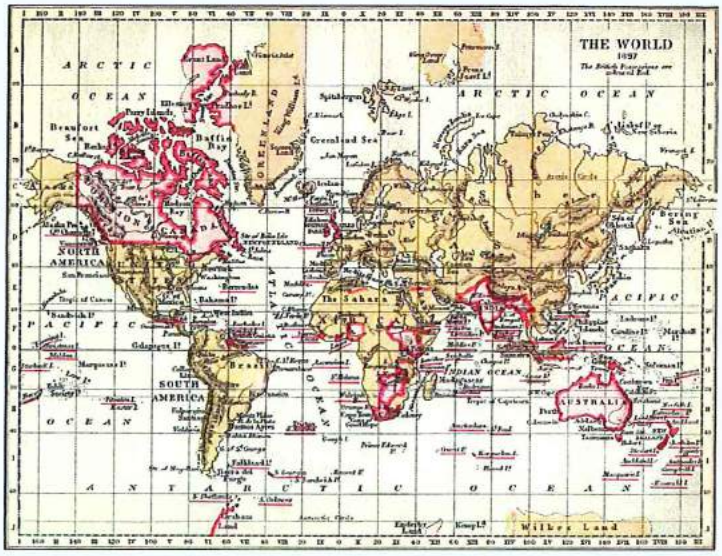
9 TAKES ON IMPERIALISM AROUND THE WORLD

A note from the Editors

With so many passionate young historians working on producing this magazine, we found it difficult to decide on a theme for this year's SGS Historian. After considering countless interesting topics, we settled on Imperialism as it incorporated many of our interests, from the ancient Romans to the Nazis. When most people first hear the word 'imperialism' their first thought is of the British Empire, particularly during the reign of Queen Victoria. This time period has influenced some of our articles, such as Anna Davies' on the Indian legal system. It has also inspired much of the design of the magazine, such as the blue and red colour scheme, inspired by the Union Flag.

However, many contributors chose to write their articles on other places and time periods. This topic also gave us the opportunity to explore topics we have covered as part of our school curriculum in more depth, while still allowing us to chose a completely new topic if we wished. This topic has also allowed members of our team who may not want to study a history-related topic at university to explore their main interests through the lens of a historian. A great example of this is from Victoria Massie, who wants to study Medicine at university, who wrote a piece on American imperialism in medicine.

While most people wrote their article on relatively modern history, Grace Patterson, a classics student as well as a history student, wanted to explore both her ancient and modern passions, resulting in an interesting comparison of British and Roman imperialism. The flexibility of our topic has allowed everyone to write about what they are passionate about, hopefully this passion will come across in our articles, making the magazine more enjoyable for you to read. This variety hopefully means there will be something all our readers will enjoy too.



A map of the British Empire (pink) during Queen Victoria's reign

While most contributors currently take A Level history, contributing to this magazine has reopened an interest that may have been lost after the final GCSE exam. Despite a heavy workload and tough Interim Examinations, we have managed to produce something that we are very proud of and we would like to thank everyone who contributed to this year's edition and created some fascinating pieces. We would also like to thank Mr Stone for helping us throughout the process. We hope you enjoy reading our magazine as much as we have enjoyed creating it.

Kitty Grant & Lydia Horne

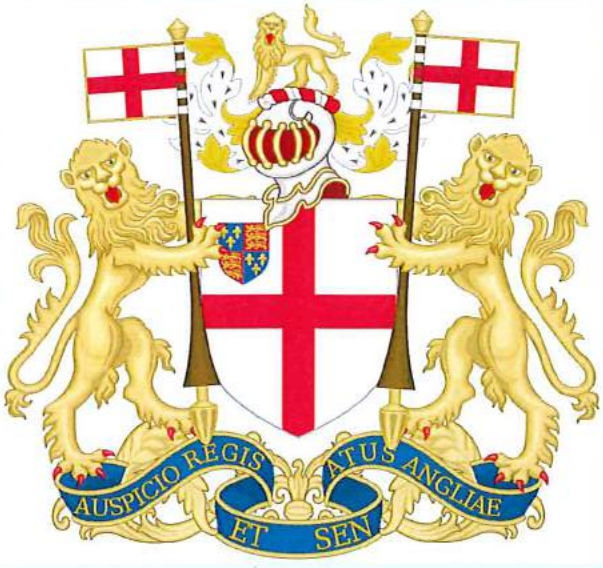
Contents

How did the English influence affect the structure and ways of the legal system in India?

The development of the Common Law-based legal system within India can be traced all the way back to the arrival and subsequent growing influence of the British East India Company in India in the 17th and 18th Century, during the reigns of Charles I, George II and George III. The East India Company increased their influence as a result of the Mughal emperor Jahangir granting them the right to set up a factory in the port of Surat in 1612 and, following this in 1640, the East India Company established a second factory in Madras on the South Eastern coast of India. In the early seventeenth century, the Crown and the East India Company, through a series of Charters and Acts, established a judicial system in the Indian towns of Bombay, Madras and Calcutta for the purposes of administering justice within the establishments of the British East India Company and, thus, the process of the English structuring the Indian legal system began.

King George II, strong advocate of EIC expansion

At the beginning, each judicial system was exclusive to the place it operated in and there was no great pattern in their structures, as the Governors and the Council of these towns formulated these judicial systems independently. An example of this is that the Courts in Bombay and Madras were called Admiralty Courts, whereas the court in Calcutta was called Collector's Court. These courts had the authority to decide both civil and criminal matters. Interestingly, the courts did not derive their authority from the Crown, but from the East India Company and this is an example of their increasing power. The Charter issued by King George I on 24 September 1726 marked an important development in Indian legal history as the crown then took over the legal system instead of the East India Company having autonomous control. This Charter formed the basis for the establishment of Crown's Courts in India, forming a remarkable change and a move from the almost medieval legal system prior to imperialism. The British East India Company requested King George to issue a Charter by which special power could be granted to the Company. Accepting the Letters Patent of 1726 and the subsequent Charters imposed by the crown, English Law had taken over the Indian legal system. The British found neither a uniform canon administering law for the diverse communities of India nor a Pope or a 'Shankaracharya', whose law or writ applied throughout the country. Due to discrepancies in opinions of Pandits (Hindu scholars who doubled as practising priests) on the same matters, the East India Company began training Pandits for its own legal service leading to the founding of Sanskrit Colleges in Banaras and Calcutta, to help them arrive at a definitive idea of the Indian legal system.



Coat of Arms of the East India Company (1698)

However, the expansion of its establishments brought new challenges to the East India Company. It requested the King to establish and issue a Charter by which special powers could be granted to the country. The Company was granted Charter by King George I in 1726 to establish "Mayor's Courts" in Madras, Bombay and Calcutta. Mayor's Courts were not courts of the Company, but courts of the King of England, thus the crown usurped the power that the Company had originally, creating India into more of a colony. Mayor's Courts could overrule all existing courts established in the places under English influence (Madras, Bombay and Calcutta). The Mayor's Courts were authorized 'to try, hear and determine all civil suits, actions and pleas' that may arise within the three towns or within the factories of the Company. The Court consisted of a Mayor and nine Aldermen, seven of whom, including the Mayor, were required to be 'naturally born British subjects'. Aldermen were elected from among the leading inhabitants of the settlement to hold the position for life. The Mayor was elected from the Aldermen and this saw a stark contrast to the legal system in place prior to English influence, as a result of imperialism, the English usurped the power to distribute legal justice in India.

The Mayor's Courts contributed significantly to the formulation of a uniform pattern of judicial functioning in India. The Mayor's Courts administered English law, which was assumed to be the lex loci ('law of the place') of the settlement and the inhabitants of the settlement were governed by the English Common Law, irrespective of their nationality. The Mayor's Courts established under the Charter of 1726 had severe limitations however. The jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court over natives was relatively uncertain. In several instances, the Mayor's Court annoyed the natives by applying the principles of English Law, and this completely undermined their personal laws and customs.

In 1746, the French occupied Madras, after which the functioning of the Mayor's Court was suspended in that City as a result of French rule. However as a result of the peace treaty of Aix-La Chappelle, Madras was returned to its original rulers, England. King George II issued another Charter on 8 January 1753, which by and large left the 1726 Charter intact much to the dismay of the company. By virtue of the 1753 Charter, the Mayor's Courts were re-established in the three settlements with the same jurisdictions and powers as in the Charter of 1726.

Judicial functions of the East India Company expanded substantially after its victory in the Battle of Plassey (1757). The battle established the Company rule in Bengal, which expanded over much of India for the next hundred years. After this battle, the real authority of the Nawabs of Bengal who claimed to rule India, was passed on to the British and thus in this situation, the Company claimed to have become the virtual sovereign and master of this territory instead of the crown.

The Regulating Act of 1773 was the first attempt at creating a separate judicial organ in India, under the direct control of the King George III. The Chief Justice and other 'puisne' (junior) judges were appointed by the King. Section 13 of the Regulating Act empowered the Crown to establish by Charter, a Supreme Court of Judicature at fort William. As a result of the Regulating Act of 1773 in Calcutta, on 26 March 1774, Letters Patent were issued to establish the Supreme Court of Judicature creating in India a legal system which reflected that of the English system massively. The Supreme Court was to consist of a Chief Justice and three 'puisne' judges.

The Supreme Court, under the Regulating Act of 1773, was a court of record and had the power and authority similar to that of the King's Bench in England, and this perpetuated English influence on the court system. The Supreme Court of Calcutta had jurisdiction over civil, criminal, and ecclesiastical matters. It had the power to issue writs such as 'mandamus' and 'certiorari', similar to the jurisdiction of the present day High Courts and Supreme Court in England and it had the power of 'Oyer and Terminer' which meant the court had power to try offences and imprisonment.

Thus, the English influence on the Indian legal system is easily identifiable and some bodies created e.g. the Supreme Court and High Courts remain in place to this day. The changes ultimately came through the East India Company's influence and ultimately grew as a result of England's growing interest in expansion for economic purposes. The system was affected by English influence as prior to the East India Company's control, each city in India was subject to its own individual and heavily religiously influenced law, the English united India in terms of the legal system and exercised their control through acts and writs enacted by Kings George I and George II.

Anna Davies

What did the Romans, or the British, ever do for us ?

Roman soldier and citizen in conversation...

Both the Roman and the British empires, despite existing centuries apart, increased their power and wealth by developing colonies outside of their own borders. The notion of empires involves more than just defeating and destroying enemies. It involves creating a culture and an economy that spread across territories. Undoubtedly both the Roman and British empires were influential, however ultimately, which empire was the greatest in this respect?

There are many similarities and differences between the two empires that can be clearly seen. The Romans conquered all the land of which they were aware of, from Britain, through North Africa and into the Middle East. Britain's empire, in an era of world trade, spanned the globe therefore it is evident that both empires operated on a similar scale relative to their time. A parallel can also be drawn regarding the bureaucracy and efficiency of the powers, since both empires brought wealth back to their country of origin through well-managed administration which enabled them to trade across huge distances. For example, the Romans relied on Egyptian grain and papyrus, and the British traded across continents in industrial goods. Above all, both powers created great infrastructure, the Romans with their famous roads and aqueducts and the British with factories, mills and the Indian railway system. There is also a darker side to the great empires of the past as both empires profited from slavery. It is estimated that roughly 30% of Italy's population in the 1st century BC were slaves and that 42,000 slaves were carried on British slave ships to America each year.

Empress Victoria, with her Indian servant. She was passionate about an empire she never visited!

However, the Roman empire lasted for a long duration as it remained powerful for over 500 years, much longer than the British empire did. Another visible difference is that the Roman empire had an emperor as its leader. From Emperor Augustus, to Vespasian and to Titus, Rome and all the countries under its control were ruled by a man who controlled religious and political life as well as the army. The British empire was instead headed by a quasi-democracy and although Queen Victoria was given the title the 'Empress of India', it was ultimately parliament that made decisions on how the empire was run and it was not simply for one man to decide like in Rome. Control of the army is also an important factor in determining other differences between the two empires since the Romans gained control over other countries through military conquests. Britain instead gained power through industrialisation since by building factories and railways Britain created a strong economy that spread worldwide over all of its colonies.

The legacy of each empire must also be addressed when considering which empire was the greatest. Both empires have strong legacies and possibly the most visible way in which their influence can be seen is in language. The Romans' legacy is evident since most of our words today have their root in the Latin language, not to mention the romantic,

Latin based languages of Italian and Spanish in which the influence of the language of the Romans is even more plain to see. However, language is also a large part of Britain's legacy since today 20% of the earth's population can speak English. If it were not for the power of the empire and the vast expanse of countries that it controlled, the English language would not be so prevalent in different parts of the globe. Leading on from the importance of language in everyday society, literature is also an important part of the legacy pf these empires since it is what shapes our education and defines our culture. Without the British empire and its influence worldwide, the works of Shakespeare may not have been recognised or have gained their high reputation, similarly the works of Virgil and Ovid may have been allowed to fade into the background if it had not been for the influence the Romans had across their colonies. Religion is also part of the legacy of these empires since the Roman empire spread Catholicism in Europe and the British spread Christianity around the world.

However, the difference that, to some, means that one empire is greater than the other is in regards to entertainment. The Romans enjoyed watching blood thirsty gladiatorial shows, shouting in the arena as a retiarus and a murmillo would fight to the death and as a result they have left us the impressive colosseum. The British empire has left us with arguably the most popular form of entertainment: football. This summer billions of people all around the world (even in places beyond the control of the former British empire) will come together to watch the World Cup.

Perhaps the main difference, and what determines the greatest empire, is paradoxically the way in which they ended. When the Roman empire collapsed, everything collapsed with it all at once in its colonies and in Rome itself. The British empire, however, is unique and its collapse was genteel and gradual. It is the only empire ever to give territory back voluntarily therefore preserving its influence when relinquishing its power. This can be seen through the Commonwealth, for example and thus perhaps the British empire is greater than the Roman empire because of this… and of course the football!

Grace Patterson

Two Empires collide, on the football pitch: Italy vs England, World Cup Qualifier 1997

Imperialism in South Africa: A Blessing or a Burden?

How has a country such as South Africa been able to develop into the powerful and politically advanced country it is today with its isolated geographical location and its unsettling past. Do the benefits of imperialism here outweigh the costs?

Anti-Apartheid protesters in 1960s South Africa

South Africa is prominent for its controversial past from being under European control, struggling to gain identity and independence to the takeover of Apartheid. South Africa's location at the bottom of Africa, furthest away from the European superpowers, made it unlikely to become one of the richest and most developed countries within Africa. However, as it is rich in diamond and gold, it soon became a race for the European powers for who was to colonise there first. The demand for South Africa resulted in a back and forth feud to claim it, much to the natives dismay who had no choice in the matter as they were very vulnerable due to their lack of modernisation. Colonisation started as early as 1652 when the Dutch East Indian Company established a base at the Cape of Good Hope, starting the legacy of the prominent Dutch colony, the Boers, within South Africa. The first colonisers started the trend of enslaving the natives of South Africa; many imperial nations followed this and seemed to believe it was an essential to having colonies. South Africa was never given a chance to create an identity for themselves as they were soon submitted to European powers and the tyranny to come. It wasn't too long before the British, who had been overcome by greed and power, arrived in Cape Town in 1722 led by the famous James Cook and the Dutch surrendered. South Africa became the playground for the British and Dutch to assert their dominance as in 1803 the Cape of Good Hope was returned the Dutch but then recaptured by the British in 1807. South Africa became a puzzle piece made up of different colonies; British, Natives and some with Dutch heritage.

Recruitment poster for the Boer War

There were also a series of 'civil wars' within South Africa during the 19th century however it can be questioned as a civil war because the British Empire on one side were not true citizens of South Africa. The Boers, also known as Afrikaners, were the descendants of the original Dutch settlers of southern Africa. The British had annexed the area of Transvaal where the Boers had settled and the Boers rebelled against the British in 1880 as they resented their hunger for even more land and power the English had. After this war another was triggered in 1899 due to the gold rush, after a large surplus of gold was discovered in the Transvaal. This showed the desire for power of the British Empire grew and grew even though there was a strong group of natives who could rule themselves. Therefore it could be argued South Africa still had the potential to become the powerful nation it is today whether it was the British or Boers that were ruling. However the development of South Africa was halted as discrimination against the Black population became more serious as the Land Act was introduced to prevent blacks, except those living in Cape Province, from buying land outside reserves and soon after the horrific events of Apartheid came along.

Daily Telegraph reporting on the Sharpeville massacre

My main question is how did imperialism lead to Apartheid and had the White British and Dutch not colonized, could Apartheid have been prevented? In 1948 the policy of Apartheid was adopted when National Party (NP) took power. It led to many shocking events persecuting the Black population including seventy Black demonstrators killed at Sharpeville, more than 3 million people forcibly resettled in black 'homelands' and more than 600 killed in 1976 as clashes between black protesters and security forces during uprising which started in Soweto.

It is difficult to suggest that the colonizers of the 17th century can be responsible for the emergence of the National Party so many hundreds of years later, however it would have been unlikely they would have had the support and capability to do so had South Africa not had a large population of White people caused by the settling of Dutch and English. Imperialism also created the divide between the Blacks and Whites as tensions had rose over the years and with the Whites always having dominance, due to their European heritage and power, allowing them to eventually institutionalize racial discrimination.

British desire for natural resources, slave labour and political dominance brought about long-term effects to South Africa. The negative effects include widespread racial discrimination through Apartheid and economic exploitation, although there were positive effects which were the advances in agriculture, mining industry and education. It can be argued that without Imperialism, South Africa would not be one of the most developed countries in Africa due to its isolated location in the southern most part of the world. Also as it is the furthest African country from Europe it would have had no European connections had they not colonised. South Africa has also become the political superpower of Africa which was helped by the education provided by the English. Would South Africa have become a superpower in Africa without Imperialism? This is unlikely, however the long term social effects such as the racial divide and tensions will never be forgotten in South Africa.

Hannah Stead

Nelson Mandela, accompanied by his wife, Winnie, upon his release from prison in 1990.

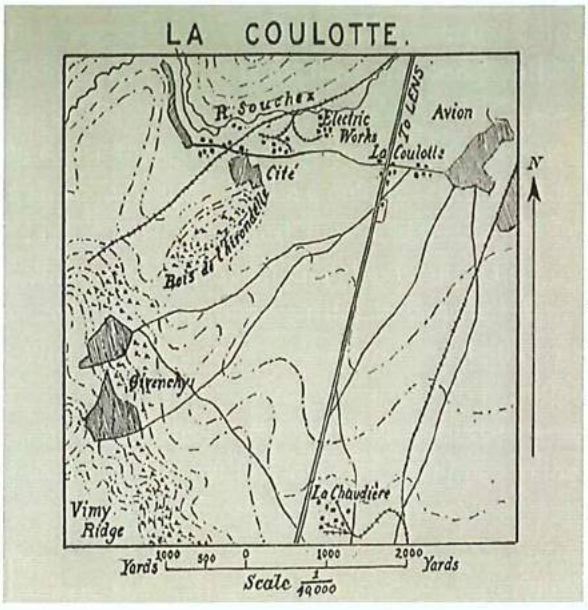
Rethinking the Great Men of the Great War

If much of the story of imperial history has been shaped by so-called Great Men, such as Robert Clive, Livingstone and Napoleon, the Great War Centenary that comes to an end this year has done much to challenge this view and support Herbert Spencer's counterargument that great men are the products of their societies, and that their actions would be impossible without the social conditions built before their life-times. The rise to prominence of Harry Patch, the last fighting Tommy and self-confessed reticent recruit, coincided with Richard Holmes' work looking at the contribution of junior officers (often drawn directly from the Sixth Forms and masters of schools like SGS) on the Western Front; whose life expectancy throughout the war stood at a paltry six weeks. Further academic work has focussed on the experiences of those in the trenches, and those working tirelessly behind the lines and at home.

William Eliot Stone (1880-1917)

If we have learnt much at all from the last four years, it is that rather than being shaped by men like Haig, French, Foche and Brusilov, the outcome of the First World War was defined by the actions of those ordinary men and women, some volunteers and some conscripts, serving in the trenches, the field hospitals, the skies and at sea (and under it!) between 1914 and 1918. My great-grandfather, William Eliot Stone, was one such ordinary man drawn into this global catastrophe. Born in 1880 in Dartmouth, Devon, prior to the war he was married to Ethel, a domestic servant, and worked as a sailor in a traditional naval and fishing community. A lucky escape in a boating accident in Southampton shortly after he became a father in 1904 seemingly persuaded him that a life at sea was too dangerous, and he became a labourer and then a cook's mate at the Naval College instead.

By the time of the war, my grandfather had been born (Wilfred John in 1912); one of eight children. Like many with families and responsibilities, such as Harry Patch, William did not join the initial stampede to the recruiting office. The records indicate that he enlisted under the Derby scheme in 1915, which was the last phase of voluntary recruitment. Almost immediately, he took the opportunity available under this scheme to attest – delay his service until called upon at a later date. The call came in June 1916 and Private W E Stone 26978 joined the 1st Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. This call was a controversial one, as there was considerable popular dissent that married men who had volunteered under the Derby scheme were being called up whilst some unmarried men still awaited conscription. It is likely that he arrived in France at the end of 1916, after some basic training at home and en route in Rouen, before joining the battalion as one of the replacements for the fallen of this regiment that served with such distinction on the first day and during the remainder of the Somme Offensive.



La Coulotte from The History of the 5th Division

William's first taste of the Western Front came in the Cuinchy sector, where during the winter months there was comparatively little action. This would not last for long, however, as the Devonshire Regiment were due to be deployed in the next phase of the Battle of Arras – a subsidiary attack on La Coulotte scheduled for 23rd April 1917. From 14th - 19th April, they held the new front line east of the village of Givenchy-en-Gohelle, facing a heavily fortified German defensive line running from the Souchez river through the village of La Coulotte, south of Lens, to the village of Avion. They sustained heavy casualties during this period, being in continuing contact with the enemy. On 19th April they were relieved from the front line, but four days later returned to the same area in the attack on La Coulotte, part of the subsidiary action launched by First Army in support of the larger attack taking place to the east of Arras by Third Army. The attack went in at 4.45am on 23rd April and was a costly failure.

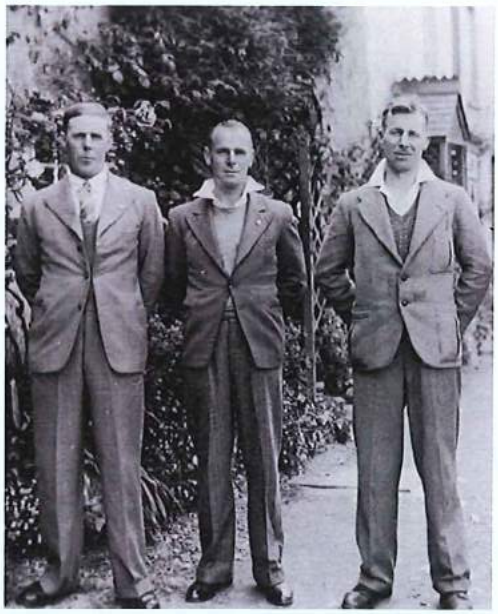
It is here that William was killed. Initially he was listed as being wounded, but as with so many others of the fallen, his body was never found and it was impossible to ascertain how he died. The three weeks where he was thought missing would almost certainly have created a sense of hope of a return home for Ethel and the children. Like so many other families, including two others from Dartmouth who also lost men in this section of the battle, they will then have had to deal with the devastation when the reality that William was not coming home became apparent. The Soldiers' Effects Register records William's death as "23rd April 1917 officially accepted previously reported missing" and The Medal Rolls also similarly record "death regarded 23rd April 1917". He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial, which bears the name of 35,000 missing men who fell between 1916 and 1918. In Dartmouth, he is remembered on the Town War Memorial and the St Saviours War Memorial Board.

William Eliot Stone commemorated on St Saviours memorial in Dartmouth

After the war, life went on. Undoubtedly the responsibility for looking after the family fell on Bert and the older siblings; supported by the strong family and community network at a time when every family was affected by loss. Bert and Syd were members of Dartmouth Amateur Rowing Club during a golden age in the 1930s. In 1933, the club won the West of England ARA Championships for Senior, Junior and Under 20's but an even greater achievement was to follow. The Senior and Junior crews, including both brothers and their brother-in-law, combined to form an eight to take on other crews from around the country, including at Henley, and went on to win the National ARA race for Champion Eights of England, rowed annually on the River Thames, to lift the Lord Desborough Cup.

Ethel and the Stone family, c.1920s

Bill and Syd became police officers and served in World War Two. Bert and my grandfather, Wilfred John (known to everyone as Jack), worked together in the dockyard at Phillips & Sons, before my grandfather moved to the Naval College and was an auxiliary fireman in World War Two, as he was in a reserved occupation. Whilst I never got to meet my grandfather as he passed away before I was born, I did meet Bert, Bill and Syd as I was growing up. In 2001, I travelled with my family to France to visit the Arras Memorial and we laid a wreath at the section where my great-grandfather is commemorated.

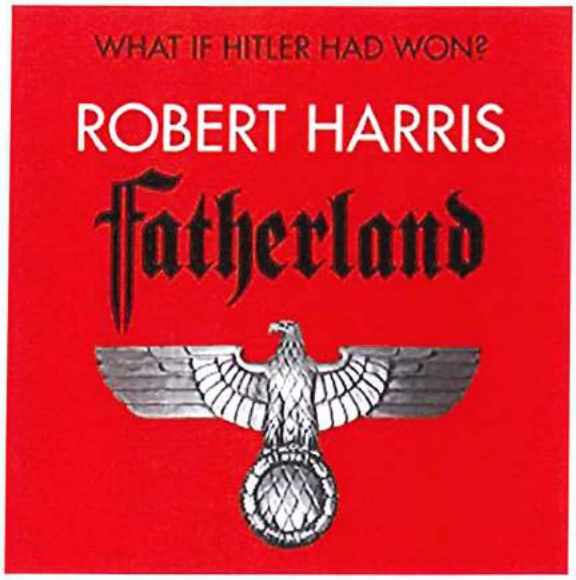


Bert, Jack (my grandfather) and Syd

As one of the 579,206 casualties in the region of Nord-Pas-de-Calais, William Eliot Stone is also commemorated on a new memorial at Notre Dame de Lorette, "The Ring of Memory". If we have learnt anything from the experience of the last four years, surely it is that the Great Men of the First World War were men like my great-grandfather, be they British, French, German, Austrian or Russian. Herbert Spencer was right to assert that without these foot soldiers, the so-called Great Men like Haig and Lloyd George would have been unable to shape the outcome of the conflict and the future of the world respectively. This is at the forefront of my mind when we say the words every November 'we will remember them.'

Mr D J Stone

Fatherland: A Tasteful Review



"What if the Nazis had won World War 2?' This is a question frequently asked and many have speculated on what would have happened if such an event had occurred. The 1992 novel Fatherland by Robert Harris, in my opinion, is one of the better and more realistic scenarios.

While books like SS-GB and The Man in the High Castle focus on life in the defeated countries after a Nazi victory, Fatherland follows the story of a German ex-Kreigsmarine sailor and now Kripo (criminal police) investigator Xavier March who has become increasingly disenfranchised with the world he help fight to create. Fatherland further differs from its counterparts as in reality it is more of a police detective thriller set in a 1960s Nazi Germany, which adds a further sense of tension to an already gripping story line. The war ends in 1946 when Hitler signs a peace deal with the US after demonstrating the world's first intercontinental ballistic missile, the V3 rocket, which explodes over New York. The British Royal family and government are forced to flee to Canada after the Battle of the Atlantic is won in 1944 and the British Isles are invaded.

Meanwhile, in the East, the Soviets still fight on in a Vietnam-style conflict far off in the Ural Mountains, and Japan is forced to surrender to the Americans after atomic bombs are dropped on the Home Islands. The story begins a week before Adolf Hitler's 75th birthday in April 1964, when March is called to the scene of suspected murder of a retired Nazi official whose body has been found in the Havel River. Just as the investigation gets going however, March is thrown off the case and it is handed over to the Gestapo. Despite this, March continues his work leading him to team up with American journalist Charlotte Maguire and what seemingly is just another murder investigation quickly spirals out of control to unearth a larger conspiracy dangerous to anyone who gets involved.

Despite being primarily focused on the detective side of the story, Robert Harris manages to beautifully enamel with bits of lore events in the timeline that led to the victory of the Nazis during WW2 and beyond throughout the novel. While one could argue that perhaps the timeline of Fatherland is very broad at times and that Harris gives overarching reasons for why some events happened (e.g. he rather simply describes the victory of over the USSR and UK and peace with the USA as "A triumph for the Führer's strategic genius… a triumph for the Führer's counter-intelligence genius… a triumph for the Führer's scientific genius!"), these oversights can be forgiven as Harris's book really focuses on the world that German society has become by the 1960s. And to say the least it is very dystopian. There is a pseudo-Orwellian atmosphere to the book with important Nazis like Reinhardt Heydrich and Albert Speer being mentioned often but never seen, a never ending war in a faraway land and an oppressed people living in brutal police state. The ideas of Nazi racial supremacy and obedience are still alive with many, including March's son Pili, being fanatically loyal to the state.

A still from the film Fatherland, which Alex does not recommend!

That said, Harris also mentions references a Beatles concert in Hamburg and so perhaps not all young Germans are as fanatical to Nazi beliefs as Pili. Speaking of the Beatles, Harris' decision to set the story during the Sixties is genius. It's close enough to the end of the war so that the characters (most of which are real people) are still alive and close enough to our time that names such as the Beatles and the Kennedys still ring a bell. This, coupled with Harris' detailed descriptions of terms that the reader may not of heard before one can really immerse themselves in the world Harris has created, entwines fiction with reality and makes this story hard to put down.

The only real problem I have with this book is the motivations behind March's decision to continue with his investigation despite being told not to. March is fairly high up in the police and would know better than most the price of defying orders. So why would he try to pursue the issue further? Robert Harris tries to explain this by saying due to March having a poor relationship with his son, his secluded lifestyle and that by being divorced, he has nothing else to live for but the job. He writes "...there was something else, the instinct that propelled him out of bed every morning into each unwelcoming day, and that was the desire to know." While this can be argued as a valid reason to continue the investigation to extent, it doesn't really explain why March would risk the career that he loves and possibly risk his life in the process. It's as almost as if March has just said "so the story just doesn't end here, I shall continue with the investigation".

Ultimately however, this is me being pernickety. Robert Harris' Fatherland is brilliantly crafted novel and is by far one of the best alternate history scenarios that can seriously contend with other similar books like The Man in the High Castle that ask "What if Germany won WW2?" Furthermore, it is also an excellent roller-coaster of a police thriller filled to the brim with action, suspense and betrayal. As a result I do recommend Fatherland to anyone interested in in history, alternate history and murder mysteries especially to those who have never read an alternate history book before.

Just don't watch the film. It's awful.

Alex Billingham

Politics, International Relations & Law: Our Trip to Westminster

*E*arlier this month, a group of 15 pupils woke at the crack of dawn to travel by train to London, to gain a further insight into many of the careers we are aiming for. This trip appealed to so many different students as it catered for those who want to study Law and Politics at university level, as well as those with a keen interest in History and Architecture. We had a hectically busy schedule; meeting local MPs and touring buildings that have colossal roles as part of the UK's legal system. Bleary-eyed yet bursting with excitement, we emerged from Westminster tube station anticipating a fascinating day out in the capital.

Grappling with legal dilemmas in the shoes of the Justices

Following a short walk through the hustle and bustle of early morning Westminster, we found ourselves at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the workplace of one of the UK's leading political personalities, Boris Johnson. There we met Stuart Brown, the current Head of Cyber Diplomacy in the Cyber Policy Department of the National Security Directorate. With previous jobs in China and Sudan in departments such as counter terrorism, we relished in the opportunity to question him on all aspects of life in the diplomatic core, the wider Civil Service and the gruelling application process. After our tour, we were taken across the Office courtyard to a large metal gate which stands less than ten metres from the iconic door of 10 Downing Street before setting off on foot towards Parliament.

Once through the airport-like security checks and having passed the rather imposing statue of Oliver Cromwell, we entered Westminster Hall, with many of us feeling overwhelmed by such a historically important location. After a short comfort break to recharge our batteries, we were met by a tour guide and proceeded to the House of Lords. Huge frescos covered the walls of every corridor and we passed many artists sketching the impressive pictures. Greens, reds and golds decorated each hall and chamber, and we were particularly in awe of the robing room ceiling, designed by Augustus Pugin in the mid 1800s.

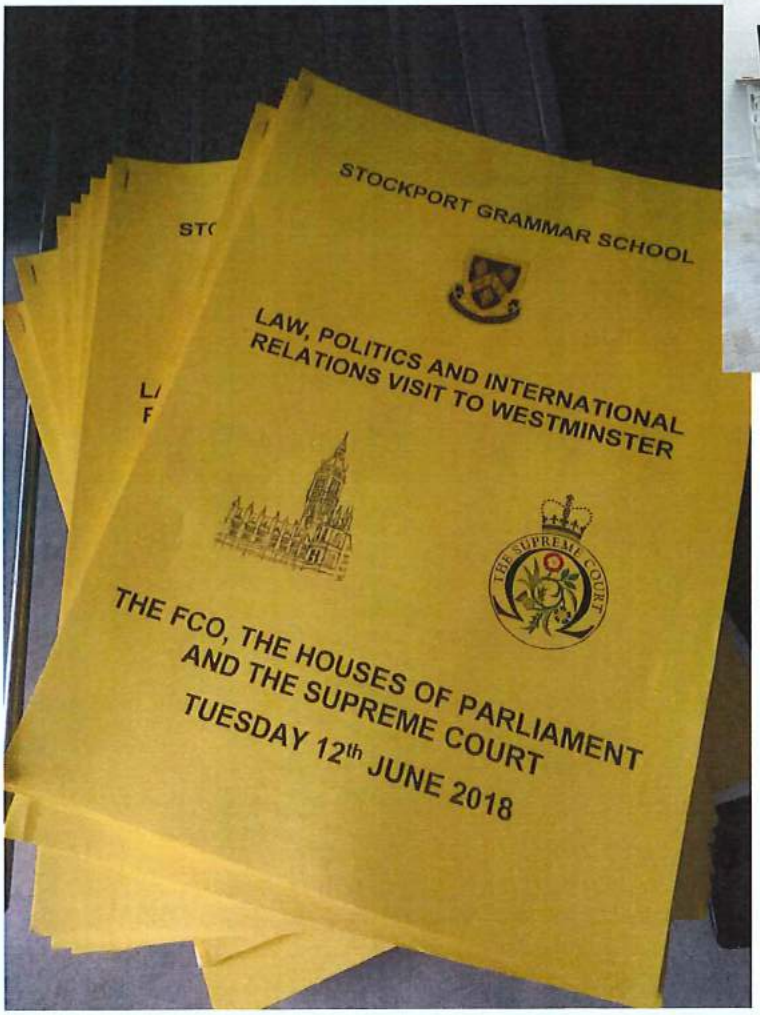
We moved swiftly on to the House of Lords before making our way up the gallery of the House of Commons. We were extremely lucky to be in Westminster on such an important day for Britain, with the debate on the Brexit Withdrawal Bill happening that afternoon. Back in Westminster Hall, we were met by Mary Robinson, MP for Cheadle, and her assistants who engaged in a brief question and answer session with our group. Mary Robinson became so enthralled by our interesting questions that she nearly missed her call to vote in the House of Commons!

Finishing our short lunch in the Parliament café, we walked through a crowded Parliament square to the Supreme Court. Our tour guide was animated and informative, giving us a blend of actual and fictional cases which we had to argue for and against, as well as letting us sit in the lawyer's chairs (a great photo opportunity, as you can see!) This guided tour was particularly enjoyed by the prospective law students amongst our group who experienced their first glimpse of court room life. From here we left Westminster and returned to Euston, where we boarded the 4pm train back to Stockport station.

As a Lower Sixth student thinking of studying a History degree, the trip not only allowed me to witness history in the making with the Withdrawal bill, but also gave me a much better understanding of my A Level course, as I got to see first-hand a place that was vital during the reign of Charles I and the English Civil War. After conferring with the rest of my group, it was clear to see that we had all taken a great deal away from such an informative day and felt encouraged by our improved knowledge of the careers we might pursue in the future.

A huge thank you goes to Mr Stone and Mrs Britton who gave us such a fantastic opportunity and an unforgettable day in London.

Lydia Horne



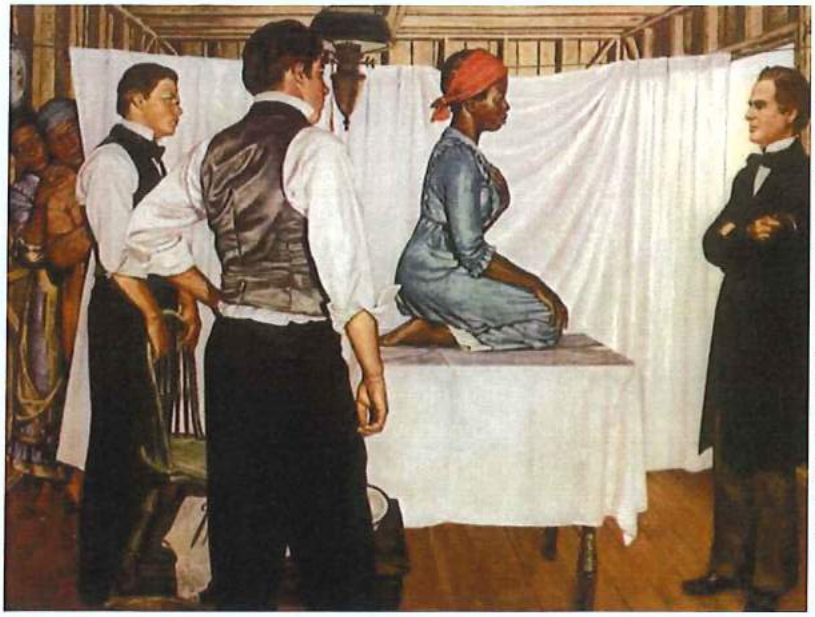
Above and then clockwise: SGS trip reading, meeting Stuart Brown at the FCO; Q&A in Westminster Hall with Mary Robinson MP

A story of how American colonialism has progressed and oppressed in modern medicine

The colonisation of North America by the British began in 1607 and two hundred years later the impacts were still being profoundly felt, as was the oppression of so many people which the colonisation entailed. James Marion Sims, often recognised as the "father of modern gynaecology", lived from 1813 to 1883. He is a man respected and detested in equal measure. In April 2018, after protests starting in 2017, his statue was removed from Central Park in New York. His reputation upon which this statue was made comes from his creation of the vaginal speculum device which is used for vaginal examination and in his development of the treatment of vesicovaginal fistulas which is still in use today. His treatment involves using silver wire sutures to repair the fistula which was a severe complication of childbirth and at the time had no cure. It is a condition that is caused by the foetal skull trapping the bladder, cervix and vagina of a woman. This cuts off blood flow and therefore leads to tissue death which then becomes necrotic tissue and leaves a hole out of which urine uncontrollably passes and so the woman suffers from incontinence. Incontinence, in the 1800s, was considered a personal hygiene issue that lead to isolation from society as a woman. Furthermore, an effected woman may suffer from infertility, irritation of the area and scarring.

John Marion Sims: Statue in Central Park, New York

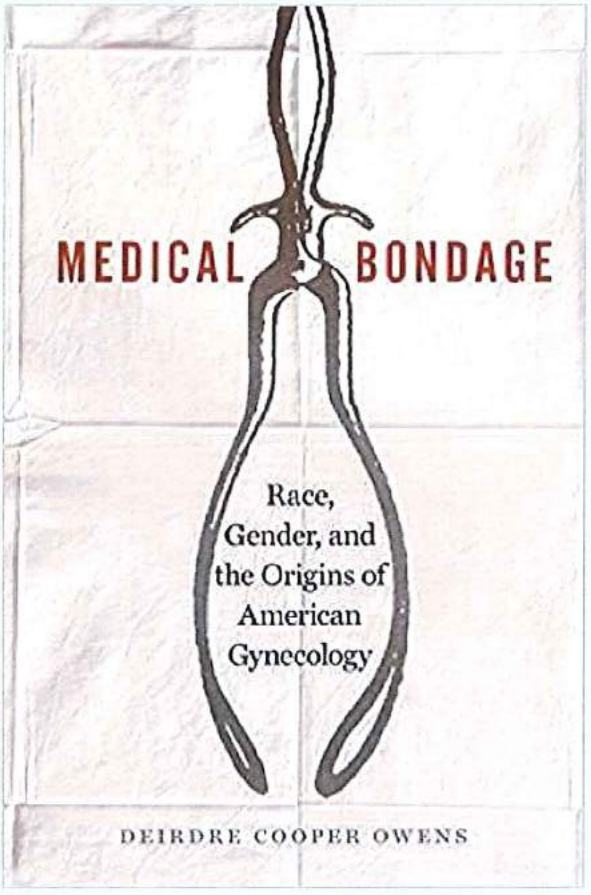
The question of his character lies not in his undisputed progression of modern medicine but in his methods to do this. Sims used twelve enslaved black women between 1845 and 1849 to experiment different methods of surgery, all of whom were given no aesthetic even though it had recently become available. One, called Anarcha in his reports, underwent surgery thirteen times before he decided he had cured her and another called Lucy suffered from septicaemia due to a sponge having being left by Sims in her bladder and urethra. This carelessness is interpreted by some to demonstrate his general lack of care for these women due to their race. Furthermore, the critical question of whether or not the women gave consent for these operations is unclear. Legally, consent could have been provided by the slave owners of the women with no say from the women themselves. A critique of Sims written by Spettel and White labels Sims work as, "A prime example of progress in the medical profession made at the expense of vulnerable people." Which further implies that Sims wrongly took advantage of slaves which he was able to do due to the white supremacy that America experienced for so long after colonisation. Furthermore, in 1993 Durrenda Ojenunga wrote that Sims', "fame and fortune were a result of unethical experimentation with powerless Black women" and that he, "manipulated the social institution of slavery to perform human experimentation, which by any standard is unacceptable." This report of his practice as 'unethical' leaves seemingly no justification for Sims to be respected as he was ultimately "unethical" in his work and regardless of his achievements, his methods were wrong and so his work too will forever be marred by the unthinkable sacrifices that the twelve women made.



An image depicting some of the practical research undertaken by Sims

However, few characters who've been vilified by history are so singularly evil and Sims is no exception. For example, his work was arguably, in part, progressive as it fought social stigma towards female reproductive organs as it was considered by many at the time that it was immoral to examine the female anatomy. Furthermore, a physician called L.L Wall wrote that the operation "would require cooperation from the patient, and would not be possible if there were any active resistance from the patient" which indicates that they were consenting to the surgery which is one of the major criticisms towards his work if he did not ascertain consent from the women themselves.

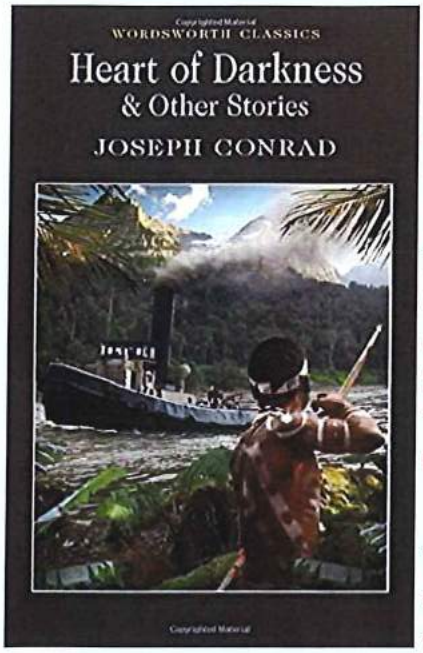
Moreover, in the New York Medical Gazette and Journal of Health, Sims claimed to have consent from all the women, as he wrote, "I agree to perform no operation without the full consent of the patients." Furthermore, Sims claimed in his autobiography that the women he experimented on even persuaded him to proceed with the experiments when he wanted to stop due to his initial failings. It is also worth noting that Sims did administer opium after surgery which indicated that he was conscious of the women's pain and that he didn't fully conform to the largely held belief of the time that black people were less sensitive to pain that white people. He also claimed in defence of his lack of anesthesia use that it was not yet fully accepted into surgical practice. However, L.L Wall quotes Sims as having said, "they are not painful enough to justify the trouble and risk of attending their [anethesias'] administration." This indicates that perhaps he was unconcerned after all with the pain he was inflicting upon these women. Finally, in Sims' defence, the historical marker where he was born merits him and makes a tribute to "his service to suffering women. Empress and slave alike." Which demonstrates clearly that all women now have ultimately benefited from his discoveries, regardless perhaps of how he got there.



To conclude, Sims has an interesting story of being, as Deirdre Cooper Owens expressed, he is "painted as either a monstrous butcher or a benign figure who, despite his slaveowning status, wanted to cure all women from their distinctly gendered suffering." Furthermore, regardless of any opinion on Sims and his work, it is fascinating but also crucial to further our understanding of, as the author Harriet Washington claims, the "diverse forms of racial discrimination have shaped both the relationship between white physicians and black patients and the attitude of the latter towards modern medicine in general" which have been so complexly bred from colonialism but are still around today.

Victoria Massie

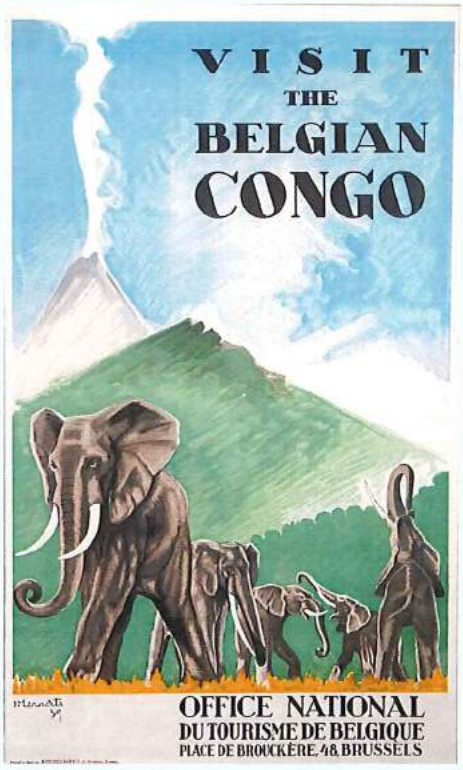
Imperialism at the Heart of Darkness



Cultural narratives define imperial conquest. Whether it is the establishment of Australia in Dickens' *Great Expectations* as a place chiefly used for England to transport the irredeemable and the unwanted excess of felons to a place that would also act as a penal colony, or the condemnation of England's intervention in Africa and the exploitation of resources in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. Narrative plays an integral part in the imperial conquest of England and Europe, as they are large powers in imperial conquest. That is not to say that Russia's domination over Central Asia, Istanbul's rule over the Arab world, or even Spain's dominance in the Pacific or in Latin America were any less imperialist. What connects the imperialist histories of England and Europe is narrative; with the unequalled tradition of novel-writing cemented within their culture.

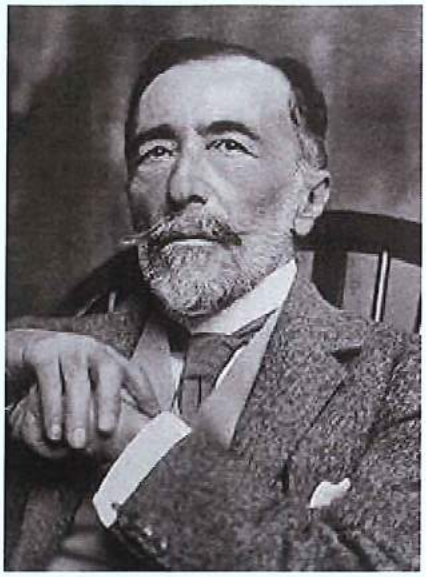
The imperial attitude is encapsulated by the narrator of *Heart of Darkness*. Conrad uses a frame narrative where the novel begins with an anonymous narrator who is with Marlow as he narrates his story on the *Nellie* and then switches to Marlow, who critics have supposed to be the voice of Conrad himself. Marlow is able to convey Kurtz's (a white trader in the Congo) own African experience through his narrative of his voyage through the African interior towards Kurtz whilst also acknowledging the tragic predicament of all speech - that "it is impossible to convey the life-sensation of any given epoch on one's existence - that which makes its truth, its meaning - its subtle and penetrating essence...We live, as we dream - alone". This narrative connects directly with Europe's imperial mission, its redemptive force, as well as its horror and waste. The goal of the West to civilise the barbaric, the primitive, and the savage. King Leopold II of Belgium held the same eurocentrism in his world view. Adam Hochschild's book *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror and Heroism in Colonial Africa* is a riveting list of the horrors committed by Leopold in his quest to colonise equicentral Africa. He sent the American explorer Henry Morton Stanley as his agent to "purchase as much land as you will be able to obtain" whereupon 450 "treaties" were negotiated with tribal chiefs who held no meaning to the papers. Leopold then used this to gain the support of other western colonial powers through the Berlin Conference of 1884-85 of his legal right to the Congo River basin which was an area more than fifty times the size of Belgium. This was the beginning of the harrowing Scramble for Africa upon the philanthropic front of the attempt to civilise the 'uncivilised'.

After the Berlin Conference the African land grab placed 90% of land under European colonial rule in under 20 years. King Leopold's philanthropic guise is seen at his monument in Arlon (Belgium) which is inscribed with: *"I have undertaken the work in Congo in the interest of civilization and for the good of Belgium."* Leopold's aim was to make himself rich by exploiting the brown hands and broad backs of those who were going to carry the wealth of Africa and load it onto ships for Leopold's personal gain. The advent of the bicycle, automobile and electrical wiring created a huge spike in the worldwide demand for rubber. Those who failed to collect and meet set rubber quotas in had their right hand severed. In 1896 a German newspaper reported that 1308 hands had been gathered in one day. Leopold used brute force to establish his power as one of his lieutenants wrote "only the whip can civilise the black". Conrad wants us to recognise the common theme running through Kurtz's ivory-trading empire, Marlow's journey up the Congo and the narrative itself: European performing acts of imperial mastery overseas and the brutality and ironic savagery used.

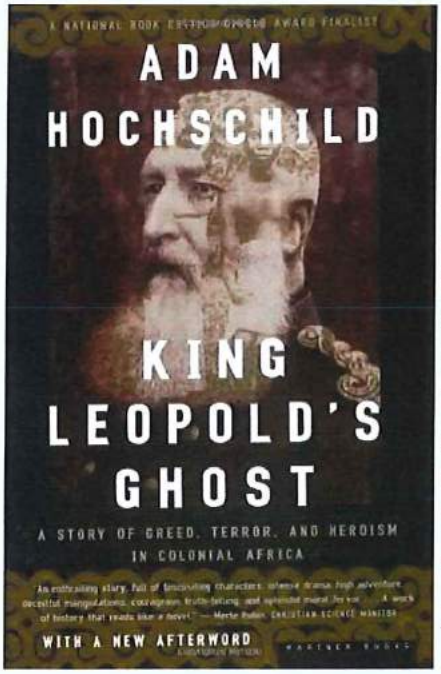


Tourist poster for Belgian Congo

The New York Times described the Congo conflict to be "one of the bloodiest conflicts since WW2" with over 5,000,000 dead. Leopold's 90,000 strong Army performed acts of ruthless brutality. Another form of punishment was the 'chicote' which was made from hippopotamus hide and used for whippings. In order to motivate the people to work more and gather as much rubber as possible, Leopold's army held the women hostage in order to force the men into labour to collect rubber for several weeks every month. This meant that there was no one available to plant and harvest food, to go hunting and fishing, to do the day-to-day tasks that needed to be done in order for a community to sustain itself. So from all of these causes: starvation, being worked to death and most of all from the disease which hit this famine-ridden population, the best estimate is that between 1880, when Leopold first arrived, to 1920, the population was slashed from around 20 million to around 10 million at the end of this 40 year period. It was truly, as Hochschild describes, an "enormous loss of human life".



Joseph Conrad



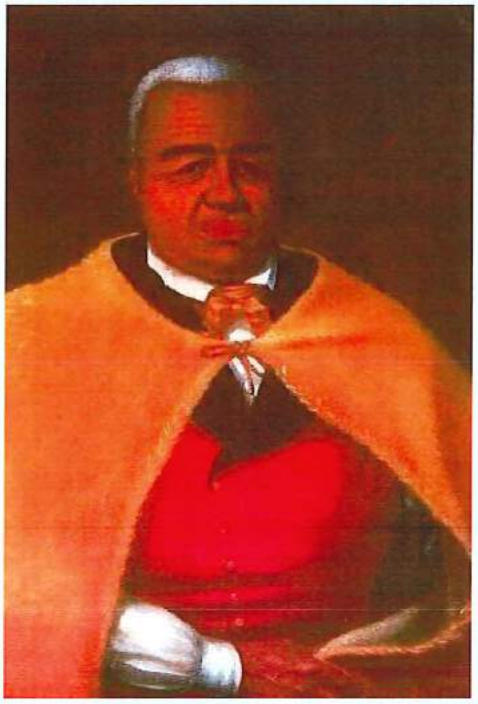
Symbolically, Conrad does not allow the reader to look beyond the world-conquering attitudes which Kurtz, Marlow, and the circle of white male listeners on the deck of the Nellie embody. We are only able to see the uncolonised areas of the world as an unexplored and unnamed *terra incognita* to which the white are entitled to colonise at will. It is this narrative which forms the basis of imperialism as Edward Said comments in *Culture and Imperialism* that we become dependent on the power and authority of individuals like Kurtz and the power he holds as a white man in the jungle or of Marlow in his role as the narrator. We have no need to look for other non-imperialist alternatives, nor does this occur to us. To Marlow, and the reader, independence was for the whites and Europeans, and the lesser were to be ruled and exploited for advances of the West. It is the narratives produced which shape and define our own imperial attitudes.

Basmah Ali

American Imperialism and the Annexation of Hawaii

The annexation of Hawaii by the United States in 1898 could perhaps have been predicted back with the arrival of Captain James Cook in 1778. The 'discovery' of this archipelago and the publication of Cook's illustrated memoirs advertised the islands to explorers, traders and missionaries from Europe and America. Its location would be seen as an important trading post, a site for sugar plantations and a provisions stop for whaling ships. The influence of these early settlers on the islanders, King Kamehameha's acceptance of protectorate status from the United Kingdom and a trade deal with the UK and France caused alarm for the United States. They did not want to see further European imperialism so close to home especially on islands they had already targeted for themselves.

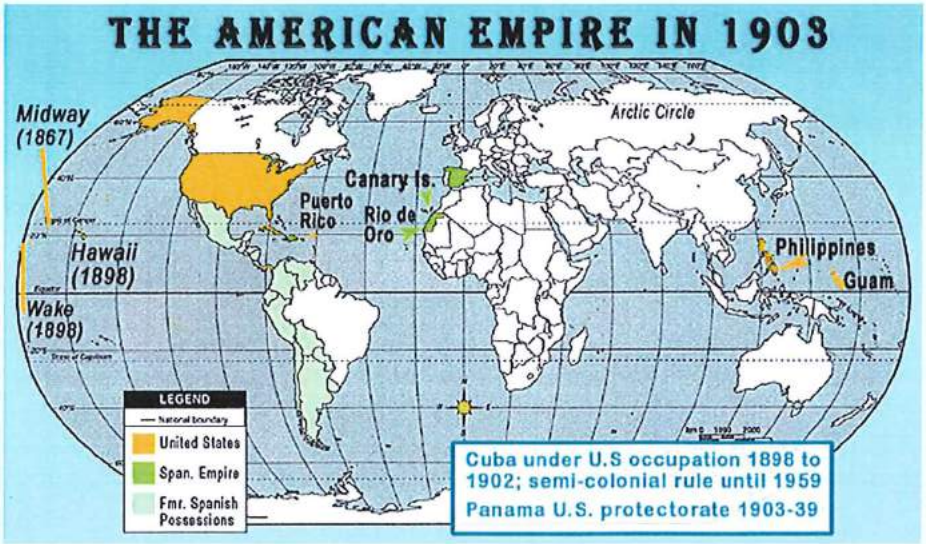
The unstable ruling power of Hawaii was another reason that its annexation by the United States was inevitable. King Kamehameha had united the islands in 1810 and instigated a monarchical government rather than individual rule by chieftains. He ruled for nine years, was succeeded by his first son who ruled for five years and then by his second son King Kamehameha III. In 1839 the King signed the Declaration of Rights, which meant a departure from the ancient Hawaii way of ruling the islands (a mixture of common law and ancient chieftain rules that had been passed down for centuries). The following year he relinquished his monarchical power, declared a constitutional monarchy and a government was created to protect the Declaration of Rights.



King Kamehameha I

By 1842 the United States had recognised the geographical and agricultural importance of Hawaii. Secretary of State Daniel Webster and in 1849, Hawaii became a protectorate of the U.S. This happened through the introduction of economic treaties. These treaties led to a build-up of wealthy foreign investment via European and American business people operating in Hawaii. Over time, these business people pressured the king to limit voting rights to wealthy landowners, restricting native Hawaiians (who usually were poor) from voting. From this time on, the Hawaiian legislature was dominated by foreign influence. This was the first step towards Hawaii's annexation.

Hawaiian military officer, 1819



Queen Lili'uokalani

With the foreign investors new power to vote for legislature, a new constitution was passed which denied the monarchy the power to veto. In 1887, the American, European and elite Hawaiian natives in the Hawaiian government passed the Bayonet Constitution (via military intimidation in the form of U.S Marines) stripping the monarchy of its power.

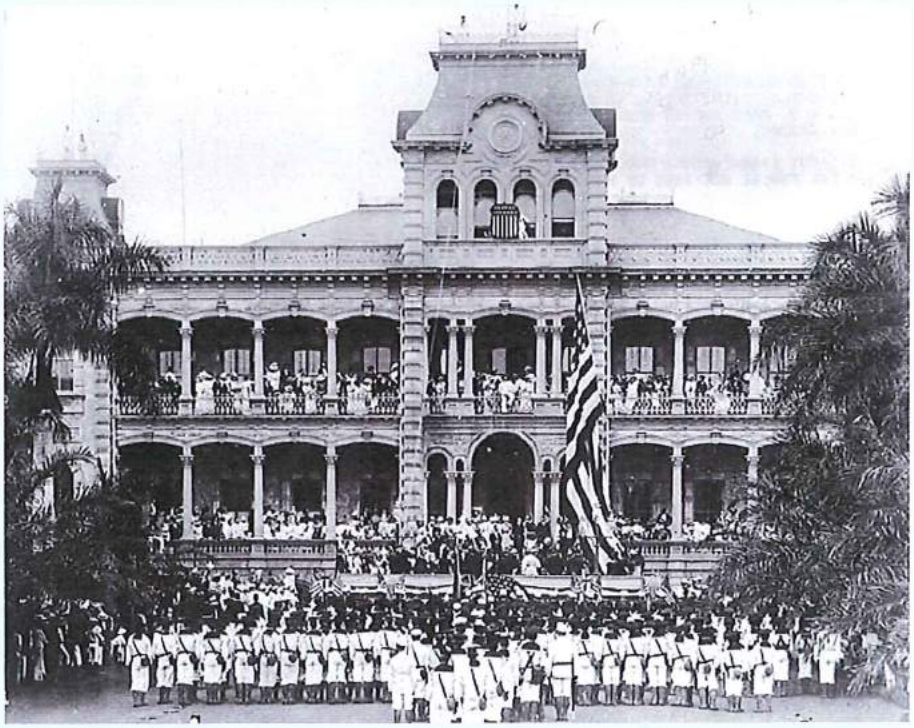
After The King's death, his sister Queen Lili'uokalani ascended to the throne in 1891, and in response to the public demand for the restoration of the monarchy and to have the power to vote again, she created a new constitution for Hawaii, which reinstated the monarchy's power to veto. However, prominent American and European business people, including, Sanford B. Dole (a wealthy businessman who's family owned many plantations), who were reluctant lose the control they had gained, seized power and had the Queen imprisoned. They demanded Hawaii was annexed to the U.S, which would remove taxes on goods from Hawaii, making further money for Dole and his fellow wealthy businessmen.

The Republic of Hawaii was officially established on July 4, 1894. Sanford B. Dole was the first president. The President of the United States, Grover Cleveland, and his administration, researched and found that the overthrowing of Queen Lili'uokalani was illegal, and so was eager for the Hawaiian monarchy to be restored. In 1895, a futile attempt by Hawaiian royalists to return Queen Liliuokalani to power and reinstate the monarchy resulted in the arrest of the queen. She was ordered to relinquish all future claims to the throne and was put on trial before a military tribunal in her own throne room. Liliuokalani was convicted, fined and sentenced to five years in prison at hard labour, which was later reduced to imprisonment in an upstairs bedroom of the Palace for nearly eight months. This marked the end of the Hawaiian monarchy. And so in 1897 Hawaii was made an American Territory.

Dole is a fruit manufacturing cooperation based in Hawaii

The tale of Hawaii's annexation is to me fascinating, as it clearly shows imperialism and its effects. The Hawaiian people slowly had all their rights taken away from them by rich American and European businessmen whose only goal was to be richer, no matter what effect it had on the populace of Hawaii, or the royal family.

Oliver Helme



The Annexation Ceremony in 1898

Imperialism at the Heart of the Nazi State

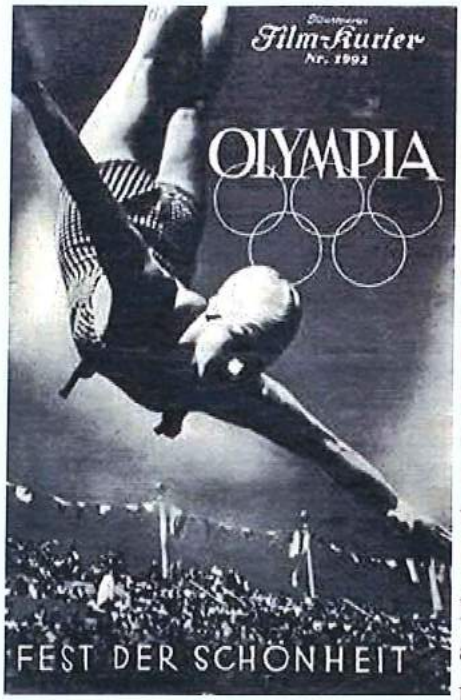
Adolf Hitler is one of history's most famous dictators; fascist by ideology and brutal in his nature. Imperialism, by definition, is a policy of expanding a country's power through colonisation, military force or other means. Hitler certainly followed this policy as one of his main aims was creating Lebensraum or living space which effectively meant the expansion of the German empire towards the East. However, it can be argued that Hitler was not only imperialistic in nature to the rest of the world but also in his own country of Germany. His tight control through use of the police state and his indoctrination of the population through the work of Joseph Goebbels and propaganda allowed him to expand, defend and consolidate Nazi ideology in Germany so that he could move on to the rest of the world. Statistically, the Nazis were responsible for the murder of 6 million Jews, 7 million Soviet civilians and thousands more such as homosexuals or the disabled. What cannot be ignored is that if Hitler had been able to expand and cement his ideology across Europe through his military campaign of the Second World War, our lives today would most probably be changed for the worse.

Hitler addressing a crowd at a rally c.1930s

Poster for the 1930 Presidential Election campaign

Hitler had an imperialistic attitude towards eastern Europe. He believed in the Aryan race or 'racial purity' as he put it. This was the belief that pure Germans were the superior race to all others and Hitler wanted this to expand over Europe; particularly into communist Russia whose ideologies completely opposed his own. Before the outbreak of war, Hitler continually pushed the boundary of what belonged to Germany and, because the countries in the collapsing League of Nations needed time to prepare for war, a policy of appeasement was followed allowing; Hitler to gain back lands which no longer belonged to Germany. For example, in 1938, Anschluss was reached with Austria which united the two nations. Later in the same year the Sudetenland (part of Czechoslovakia) was given to Hitler in the Munich agreement. however, he did not stop there. In March 1939, he invaded the rest of Czechoslovakia and later that year he invaded Poland; the final straw when it came to war. During the war Hitler invaded the Soviet Union breaking the pact they had previously formed together. All of this shows how Nazi ideology was imperialistic as through military force, Hitler was expanding the power of Germany across a wide expanse.

Sometimes it is assumed that the German population believed in the extreme ideology of Hitler and the Nazis but what is more likely is that they voted the Nazis into power because of negative cohesion; through negatives not positives. What we know is that he had to take steps to consolidate his power even after he had been appointed as Chancellor on 30th January 1933. One of the key aspects of a successful dictatorship is support of the army; something that Hitler did not have in early 1933 because the army officers were wary of the SA and their leader Ernst Rohm who was known to be power hungry. This all led to the Night of the Long Knives which took place in June 1934; 400 members of the SA (who had been loyal to Hitler in his rise to power) including Rohm were executed secretly in the middle of the night. This was the first step to consolidating Nazi rule in Germany.



Propaganda poster for the film Olympia (1938)

Another factor the has to be accounted for when looking into Hitler's imperialistic attitude towards Germany is his heavy usage of propaganda. Joseph Goebbels, the head of propaganda, used media, films, radios newspapers and any means possible to portray the image of Hitler the saviour; Germany's hero after the failure of the Weimar Republic before him. One of Goebbels' greatest propaganda achievements was the Olympic Games held in Berlin in 1936. It not only presented to the world the efficiency and power of Germany but also that they were not anti-Semitic because Hitler allowed one Jew to be on the Olympic team. The Nazis also adapted school textbooks to fit their ideology so that Jews and other minorities were discriminated against and German children are led to believe was acceptable. Though it was a slow process, the Nazis used propaganda to indoctrinate the population; gradually altering their mentally to accept the extremist terms of a Nazi government.

Militarily under the Nazis, Germany was ruled by fear. There were four main areas that Hitler used to create a strong police state; the SS, the Gestapo, the police and the concentration camps. The most feared among these were the Gestapo, otherwise known as the secret police. Because they had the ability to arrest citizens without trial or explanation, the tensions created around them led people to inform on one another which meant rebellious citizens could be stopped quickly. Another factor of the police state was the SS whose main aim was to crush Nazi opposition and further Nazi radical policies. Probably the most well remembered part of Hitler's police state is the concentration camps. They began as early as 1933 though they increased with severity during the war and were a way of controlling anyone who dared oppose Nazism. This key power was essential in extending his influence over Germany and moving him one step closer to the Aryan race.

This all shows that Hitler not only followed a policy of imperialism towards the East but also towards Germany as well. He used military impudence through tight control of the police state and heavy propaganda to expand his direct power over the country .

Bryony White

Heydrich and Himmler: Key leaders of the SS, integral to the workings of the Police State

'Work Sets You Free': the words on the gates of Dachau Concentration Camp