Chapter 39

The End of Empire
Decolonization in Asia
India

- The Jewel of the Crown
  - Legacy of British colonialism
- Deep division between Hindus, Muslims
- Role of Mohandas Gandhi
“Vivisection” of India (Gandhi)

- Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Muslim League
- Jawaharlal Nehru, Congress Party
- 1947 partition
  - 500,000 killed
  - 10 million refugees
- India moves toward nonalignment position
  - The “third path”
Muslims leave India, 1947
Nationalist Struggles in Vietnam

- French reassert control after WW II
- Ho Chi Minh (1890-1969), Communist leader mounts guerilla war, defeats France in 1954
- Vietnam divided at 17th parallel
- Civil war between north (Communist) and south
- President Lyndon Johnson (1908-1973) begins increasing US involvement
Vietnamese Protest French Occupation
The Issue of Palestine

- After World War II, Arab states increasingly gain independence
- Palestine ruled by Great Britain between the wars
- Proclaims support for Jewish “homeland” in Palestine (Balfour Declaration, 1917)
- Growing Jewish immigration from Europe from 1880s
- Arab protests in 1920s and 1930s
Demonstration against the Balfour Declaration
Creation of the State of Israel

- Jewish, Arab pressure drives British to hand Palestine over to United Nations for a resolution
- Partition Plan of 1947 divides Palestine into seven regions: 3 Jewish, 3 Arab, Jerusalem internationalized
- May 1948 Jews declare independence of State of Israel
- Arab states invade, Israel successfully defends itself
The Six-Day War (June 1967)

- Gamal Abdel Nasser (Egypt, 1918-1970) takes leadership position in Arab world
- Attempts to block Suez traffic, conflict with Israel
- Threatens invasion of Israel in 1967, Israel launches hugely successful pre-emptive strike
  - Conquers and annexes East Jerusalem, Golan Heights
  - Conquers Sinai Desert, returned to Egypt after peace treaty signed
  - Conquers Gaza Strip and West Bank, status unresolved
The Arab-Israeli conflict, 1949-1982
Decolonization in Africa
Decolonization in Africa

- 19th century “scramble for Africa”
- Legacy of colonial competition
- Internal divisions
  - Tribal
  - Ethnic
  - Linguistic
  - religious
France and North Africa

- Abandonment of most territories
  - 1956 Morocco and Tunisia gain independence, 13 other colonies in 1960
- But determination to retain Algeria
  - Longer period of French colonization
  - 2 million French citizens born or settled in Algeria by WW II
Algerian War of Liberation

- 1954 Front de Libération Nationale (FLN) begins guerilla warfare against France
  - Simmering conflict since French massacre in Sétif, 1945
- 500,000 French soldiers in war by 1958
- War ends with Algerian independence in 1962
- Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961), manifesto against colonial rule
Négritude: “Blackness”

- Influence of “black is beautiful” from USA
- Revolt against white colonial values, reaffirmation of African civilization
- Connection with socialism, Communism
- Geopolitical implications
Post-Independence Difficulties

- *Pax Romana* of European colonists
- Civil wars in Rwanda, Burundi, Angola
- Economic hardship
- Instability of democratic regimes
Afrocentrism

- Kwame Nkrumah, leader of Ghana
- Celebrated visit of Queen Elizabeth II in 1961, affirmation of Ghanese independence and equality
Kwame Nkrumah leading Independence Celebrations
Kenya

- Kikuyu ethnic group begins attacks on British and “collaborationist” Africans, 1947
- 1952 state of emergency declared
- Overwhelming British military response, 12,000 Africans killed vs. 100 Europeans
- Bloody, but negotiated withdrawal, independence 1962
Tarnishing of Independence

- Decline of democratic regimes, rise of dictatorships
- Partial reflection of artificial European boundaries
- Political immaturity of colonies
Communism and Democracy in China

- Massive, pervasive policies of economic and cultural engineering
  - Great Leap Forward (1958-1961)
  - Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution (1966-1976)
- Both huge failures
- Deng Xiaopeng (1904-1997) comes to power in 1981, moderates Maoism
- Tiananmen Square pro-democracy rallies nevertheless subdued, 1989
Indian Democracy

- Indian democracy flourishes under Indira Ghandi (1917-1984)
  - Daughter of Nehru, no relationship to Mohandas
  - “Green Revolution” increases agricultural yields
  - Repressive policies to slow population growth, including forced sterilization
- Assassinated by Sikh bodyguards after attack on Sikh extremists in Amritsar, 1984
Muslim Revival and Arab Disunity

- Cold war splits Arab-Muslim world
- Israel defeats Egypt and Syria in 1973 Yom Kippur war
  - Attacked on Jewish holy day
- Anwar Sadat (Egypt, 1918-1981) negotiates peace treaty with Israel
  - Assassinated 1981 by Muslim extremists
Movements toward Peace in the Middle East

  - Yitzhak Rabin assassinated by Jewish extremist
- Creation of Palestine Authority in West Bank and Gaza
Islamism

- Muslims increasingly regard America in negative terms, move towards radicalism
- *Jihad*: holy war
- CIA support of Iranian Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi (1919-1980), overthrown in Iranian Revolution of 1979
  - Led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini
  - Held U.S. diplomats hostage for two years
  - Shut down US facilities, confiscated economic ventures
Blindfolded U.S. Diplomats
The Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988)

- Saddam Hussein (Iraq, 1937-2006) uses oil, US support to build huge military machine
- Attacks Iran, 1980
- Massive destruction, ends in stalemate
- Hussein attacks Kuwait, provokes Gulf War (1991)
- US-led coalition drives him out, imposes sanctions
- President George W. Bush (1946- ) attacks in search of Weapons of Mass Destruction, 2003, occupies Iraq
Developments in Latin America

- Mexico: failed attempts to redistribute land
- Argentina: military dominate politics
  - Juan Perón (1895-1974) elected president, 1946
  - Wife Eva (Evita) especially popular (1919-1952)
- Guatemala and Nicaragua: US intervention as local governments attempt to control US economic interests
- Under Reagan, US supports anti-communist Contra forces
Establishment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

- Formed 1962
- Declared boundaries permanent
  - Despite arbitrary nature, necessary to forestall conflicts
- Promotion of Pan-Africanism
- Failure to prevent ethnic strife, even Nkrumah deposed 1966
South Africa

- **Apartheid (1948)**
  - 87% of territory for whites
  - Division of Africans into tribes, settlement in “homelands”

- **African National Congress publishes Freedom Charter (1955)**

- **Repression of ANC causes worldwide ostracism of SA**
Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu in prison
Dismantling of Apartheid

- Release of Nelson Mandela, 1990
- Negotiation of end of white minority rule
- 1994 elections bring ANC to power
- Relatively calm transition to democratic society
- Strength of SA economy
Rwanda: Perils of Ethnicity

- Characteristic of ethnic divisions in African societies
- Civil war in 1994 after moderate President killed
- Hutu extremists vs. Tutsis, Hutu moderates
- Nearly 1 million killed