**Scramble for Africa**

**Board Notes**

[**http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CgzSnZidGuU**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CgzSnZidGuU)

**“PLUNDER OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**PLUNDER OF HUMAN RESOURCES”**

**Tools of Colonialism**

* Used taxation
* Used forced labour – slavery
* Used ‘Gunboat Diplomacy’ – threat of military force ensures compliance
* Used military force - imperialism armies
* Used unrepresentative / undemocratic political system

**Goals of Colonialism**

* Enrichment of European nations
* Imperial Competition – nations were vying for supremacy
* Source of raw materials for industrial revolution and advancements in technology and innovation
* Source of human resources – cheap labour / slave labour to do the jobs Europeans wouldn’t do

**EVENTS / TIMELINES**

**Act of Berlin 1885**

Formalized the division of Africa – drew borders and arbitrarily divided 6000 – 10000 ethnic / tribal groups into countries that had no basis of reality to the land, resources or the Africans themselves.

**“They just drew lines on a map”**

Some justified intervention in Africa through religious enlightenment (Christianity) and civilizing the natives (in need of enlightenment)

**Case Study: Algeria**

France wanted to assimilate the population but did not grant them rights or the ability to travel to France and be French citizens..

This lead to resentment, discontent, rising African nationalism, and in some cases the roots of Terrorism against the colonial master and often a heavy handed European response to uprisings.

In the 50’s and 60’s there was a rise of African nationalism and self sovereignty, with the ‘United States of Africa’ being promoted by new African intellectuals

1060 – British Prime Minister – MacMillan gave his famous **‘Winds of Change’** speech outlining changing views of Africa – and highlighting the unacceptable Apartheid policy in South Africa.

**Cold War**

Soviets and Americans competed for influence in Africa – often destabilizing new countries by supporting rebel groups in coups against the other side – thereby installing a regime favorable to their political and economic ideology.

Soviets – Communism and Command Economy

USA – Democracy and Free Market (Capitalism)

At the same time as the Cold war was in progress, the infant nations had no trained people to lead the country, no one to stop the ‘bubbling over’ of the pot when the lid of Colonialism was removed… militaries were consistently used to secure political power for strong men and dictatorial leaders and undemocratic regimes

**Today (neo-colonialism)**

Foreign banks, multinational companies operate in Africa (on behalf of their parent countries) to extract wealth from African nations

437 Billion has left Africa illegally between 2000 – 2008.

Now China wants in and is wooing African leaders for a foothold in the resource extraction to drive the huge Chinese manufacturing economy.