

## Hist. 2c, L 15: World War I & Its Consequences

What caused the the "Great War," and how did it usher in the modern era?

0. Please turn papers in to your TA (e: Wed. 12:30)
1. The "Great War": What was it?
2. Causes
3. Consequences (int'l; social: women)
4. Colleen Ho: Footbinding in China

## What was the Great War?

- Your associations?
- countries involved / sides?
- name? dates?
- causes?
- consequences?
- Why is it important?

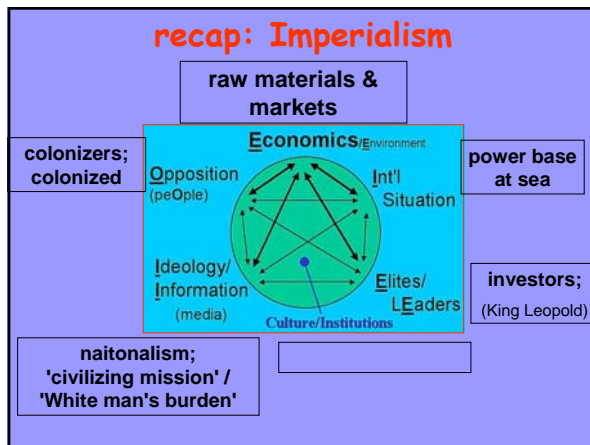


Indian troops at the Somme, 1916

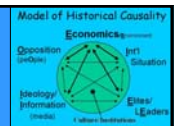


Arab Delegates at Versailles, 1919

## recap: Imperialism



## Causes



1. **Nationalism (Ideology & peOple):** ethnic and religious minorities in the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman empires; popular upheaval in China and Japan; elsewhere
2. **Alliance system (Int'l):** Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria-Hung., [Italy]) Triple Entente (Britain, France, Russia)
3. **Economics** macro: colonial competition (1878 Congress of Berlin) micro: "primacy of domestic policy"
4. **Leadership/gov't:** Bismarck vs. William II

## 2 leaders, 2 paradigms



Otto v Bismarck  
(1815-1898)



William II  
(1859-1941)



"dropping the pilot"

## "Little" events: trigger vs. cause



Assassin Gavril Princip, 1914



World Trade Center, 2001

## Course of Great War

- 1914: June 28 assassination of Franz-F & So.
  - July 28: Austria-Hungary on Serbia
  - Aug. 1: Germany vs. Russia, Aug. 3 G vs. F
  - Aug. 4: Britain vs. Germany
- 1915-16: huge casualties on Western front
- 1917:
  - Feb: German submarine warfare [Feb.-Apr. '15]
  - Feb. and Oct.: Russian revolutions
  - Apr: US entry into war
  - Dec. last German offensive
- 1918: summer German retreat; Nov. armistice

## The Great War: deeper cause

- Decline of Ottoman Empire:
  - power vacuum in Balkans
  - 1908: Austria takes Bosnia
  - 1912: Italy takes Libya
  - 1912-13: Balkan Wars
- "Place in the Sun"



## Germany's "Schlieffen Plan"



- take France quickly through neutral Belgium
- use railroads to move against slow-mobilizing Russia



## The Great War: beginning

- 1914: Schlieffen Plan for 2 front war
  - First defeat France, then by train to Russian front
  - Not "home by Christmas," but stagnation
  - Hindenburg's victories in East: Sept. 2 in Tannenberg

## New type of warfare

- Supply system (railroads)
  - "total mobilization"
- Machine guns
  - 500 -> 1000 rounds/minute
- Tanks (Sept. 1916)
- Artillery & trenches
- Poison gas (Jan/Apr/Sept 1915)
- Submarines (Lusitania, May 1915)
- Aircraft



## War casualties

- **Horses** at start of war:
  - Germany 715,000; A-H 600,000
- **Verdun**, from Feb. 1916:
  - France+Germany: over 1 million dead
- **Somme** river, from June 1916
  - British lost 58,000 on first day (=US in Vietnam, 1965-75)
  - Total Allied deaths: 600,000 in 6 mos. June-Nov.
- **Totals:**

A-H	90% of 7.8 mio=7mio
Russia:	76% of 12 mio= 9.1 mio [4.9 mio. wounded]
British Empire:	73% of 8.9 mio=6.1mio [4.2 mio. w.]
France:	73% of 8.4mio= 6.2 mio [3.6 mio. w.]
Germany:	65% of 11 mio.= 7.1 mio [3.6 mio. w.]
US:	8% of 4.4mio= .32mio [ .2 mio. w.]

## Great War: Int'l Consequences

- US & Japan emerge as world powers
- created openings for intellectual resistance in Asia and Africa
  - Ho Chi Minh in Europe (source in reader)
  - Bolivar (1815), Jacobs (1915), Gandhi (1921), Sun Yat-Sen (1923), Ho (1945 & 1968)
- Peace settlement: New order in Europe Versailles Treaty & "self determination" (Compare Congress of Vienna, 1819)

## Versailles Treaty and the World

- Germany: "Diktat" (dictated peace) as insult
  - ambivalence of sides in and outcome of war

### Global ramifications

1. 4 empires ended: Russian, German, Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman
2. Arab World: Britain and France reneged on wartime promises
3. Asia: no protection for China against Japan  
Ho Chi Minh: no audience with Wilson
4. India: 100,000s of soldiers and laborers in WW1

## More Consequences

- Influenza pandemic
- Russian Revolution
- Women mobilized in war
  - work
  - clothing: hemlines, underwear (corset->bra)
  - smoking, dating
  - political activism

## Women's suffrage around the globe

- 1893 New Zealand [Wyoming 1859, Colorado 1893]
- 1902 Australia
- 1906 Finland
- 1913 Norway
- 1914-1939: 25 years, 28 countries
  - 1917 Soviet Russia
  - 1918 Canada [15 states in US], GB (over age 30; 1928: 21)
  - 1919 Germany, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia
  - 1920 US [Tennessee=36<sup>th</sup> state], Hungary
- 1945 France, Italy, Romania, Yugoslavia, China
- 1949 India, Pakistan