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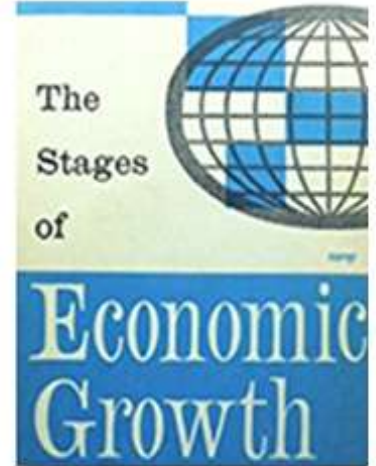
# European Colonial Expansion & Its Aftermath

The Historical, Ecological and Cultural Consequences of 1492



An Interactive Online Teaching Initiative  
created for  
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as a project of the  
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by  
Timothy C. Weiskel

Research Director, Cambridge Climate Research Associates  
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## The Principal Ecologic, Economic and Political Legacies of European Colonialism

31 July 2019

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## Files

### My files

Sharing

File requests

Deleted files

Personal

Only you



## Dropbox > YSOLI > 2019 - Colonialism Participants

Name ↑

Modified ▼



Alice - Zhang Yifei

--



Ashley - Cong Ashley

--



Class - Assignments

--



Class - Resources

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Class - Weekly Questions

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Jane - Wang Jianyi

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**Britain begged the Chinese Emperor for access to the “tea” market that was controlled by the Chinese Empire.... But the Emperor refused.... This precipitated the “Opium Wars.”**

**<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/19/empires-opium-trade-empire-episode-4-bbc-one-excerpt-britain-and-china/>**





# Hong Kong (from space)

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2019/07/30/how-hong-kong-changed-countries/>

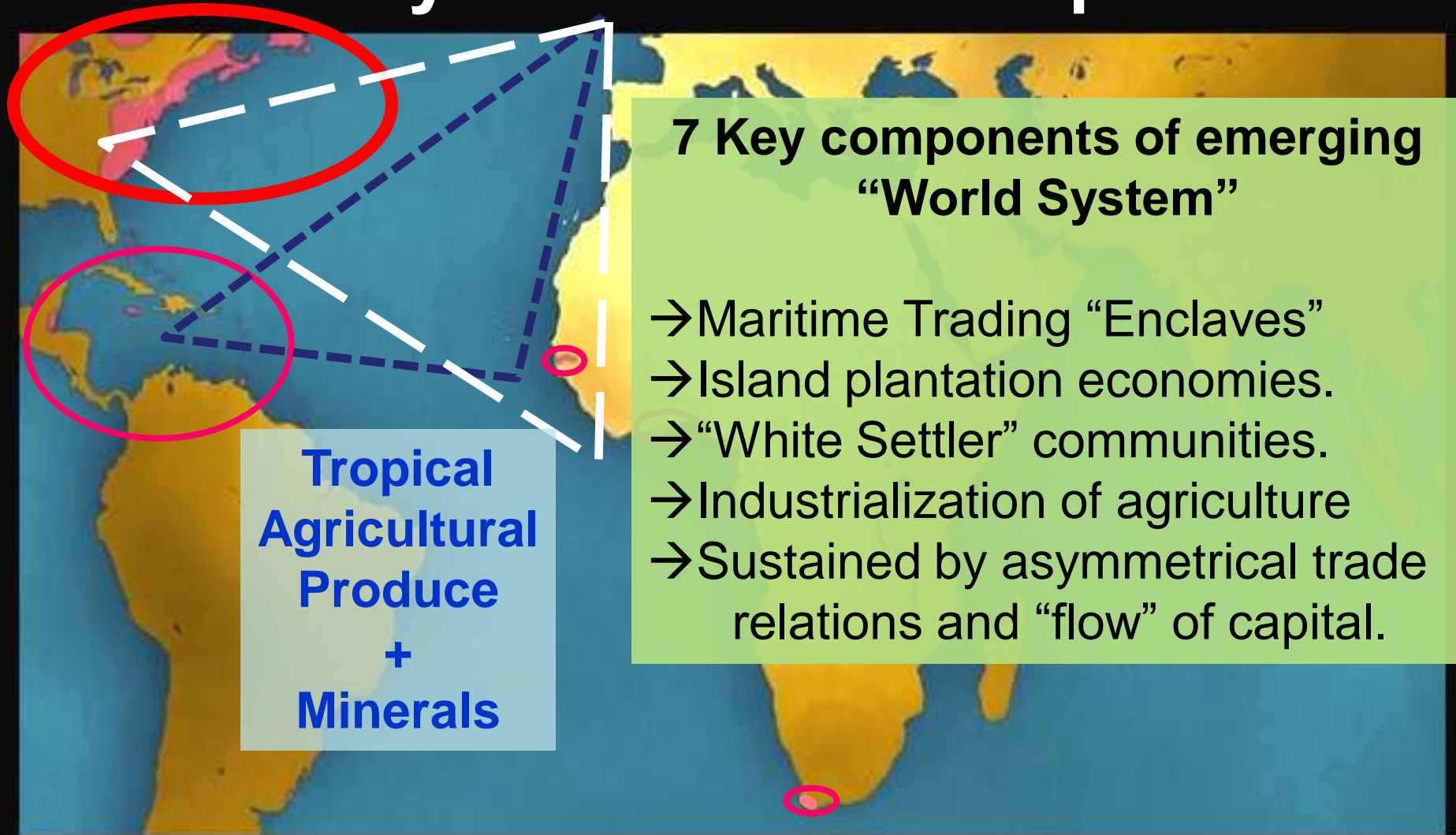
Over time a wide variety of *native tropical plants* – more than gold plunder – made European maritime empires “rich”



See excerpt from

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/19/bbc-empire-episode-4-making-a-fortune-jeremy-paxman/>

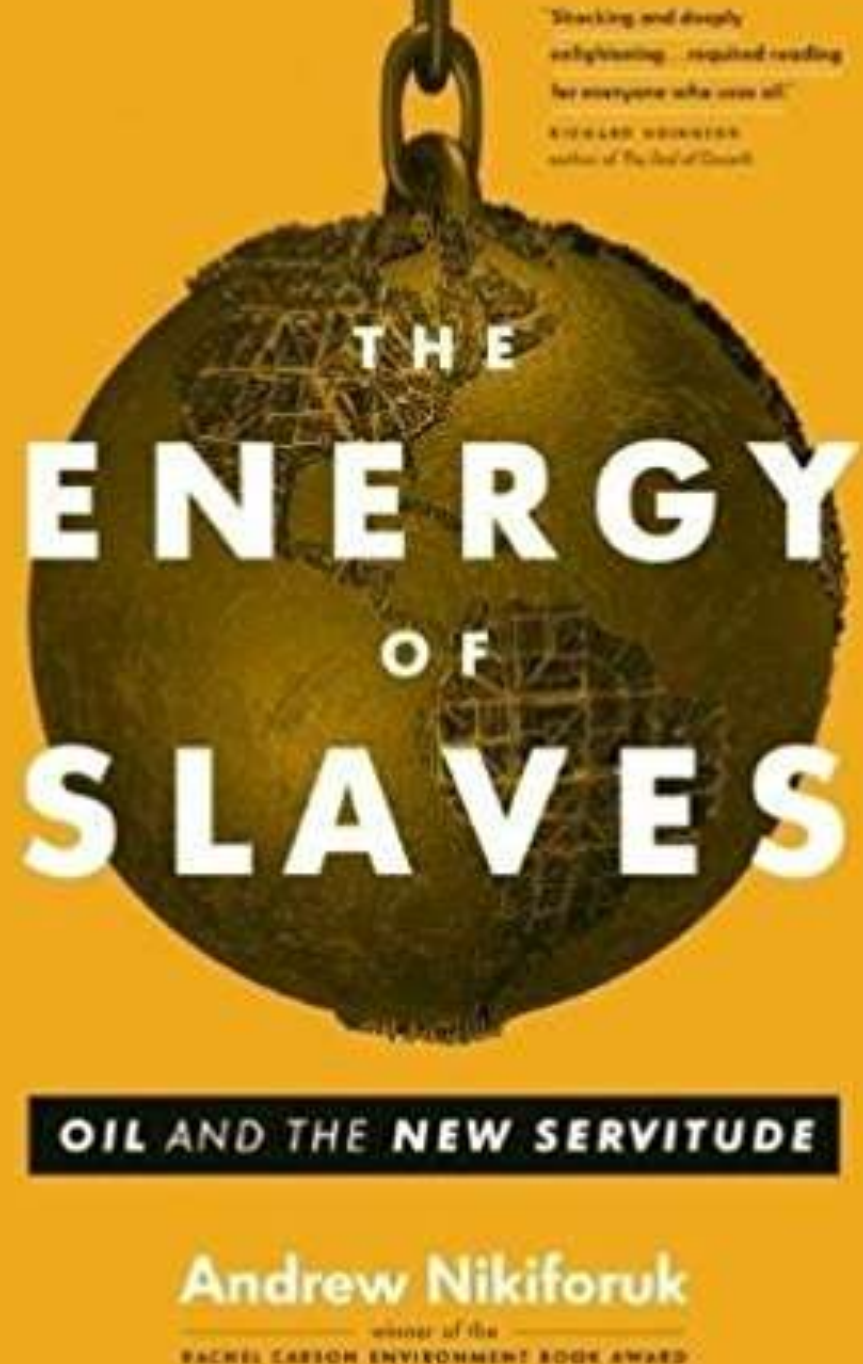
# Characteristics of the Emerging “World System” – 1492 to “present”





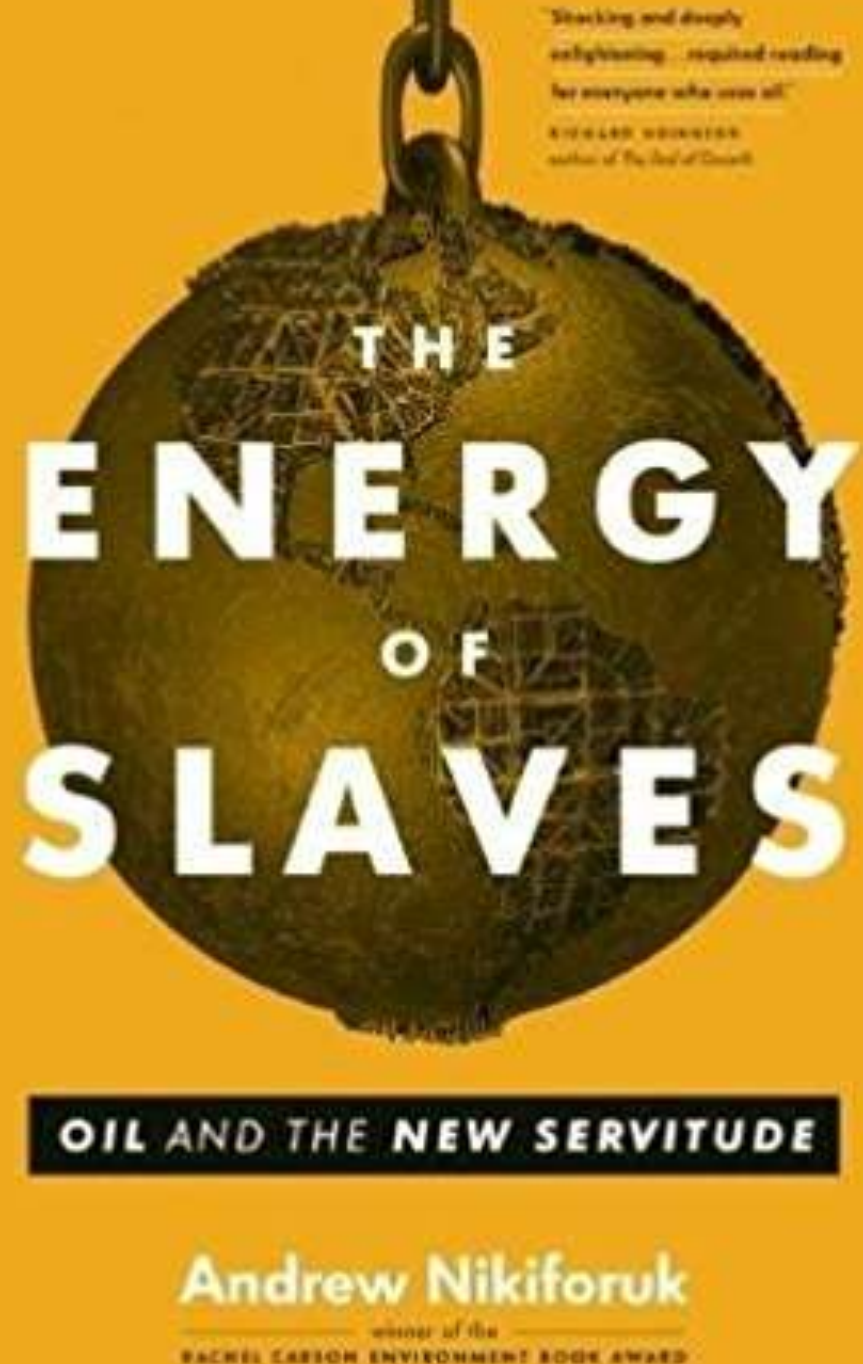
Prior to the 1780s it all rested on the energy of slaves.... ..an energy which was *relatively* “expensive” – *the most expensive of the 3 inputs to production:*

- \* Land (was cheap)
- \* Capital (was available)
- & \* Labor ( which had to be imported ! thousands of miles....)



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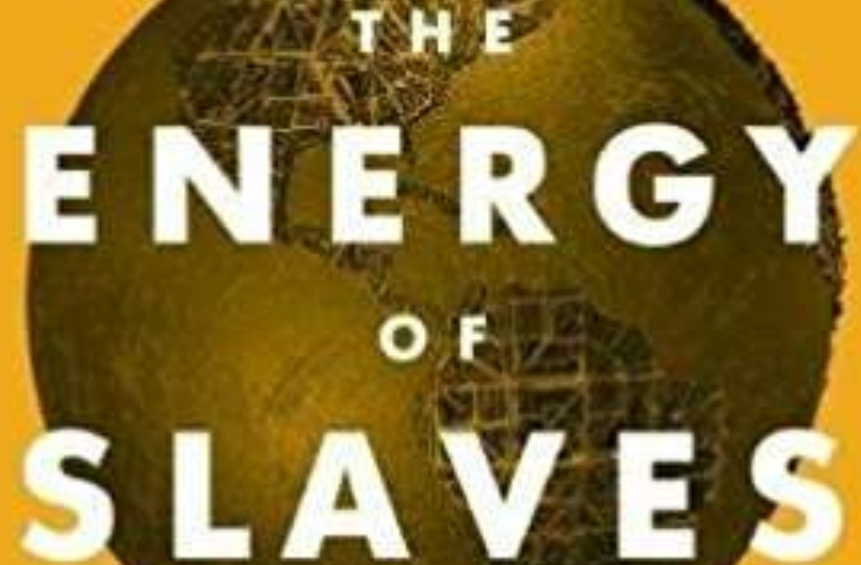
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Shocking and deeply enlightening... required reading for everyone who cares at all.  
— STEVEN WILKINSON  
author of *The End of Oil*

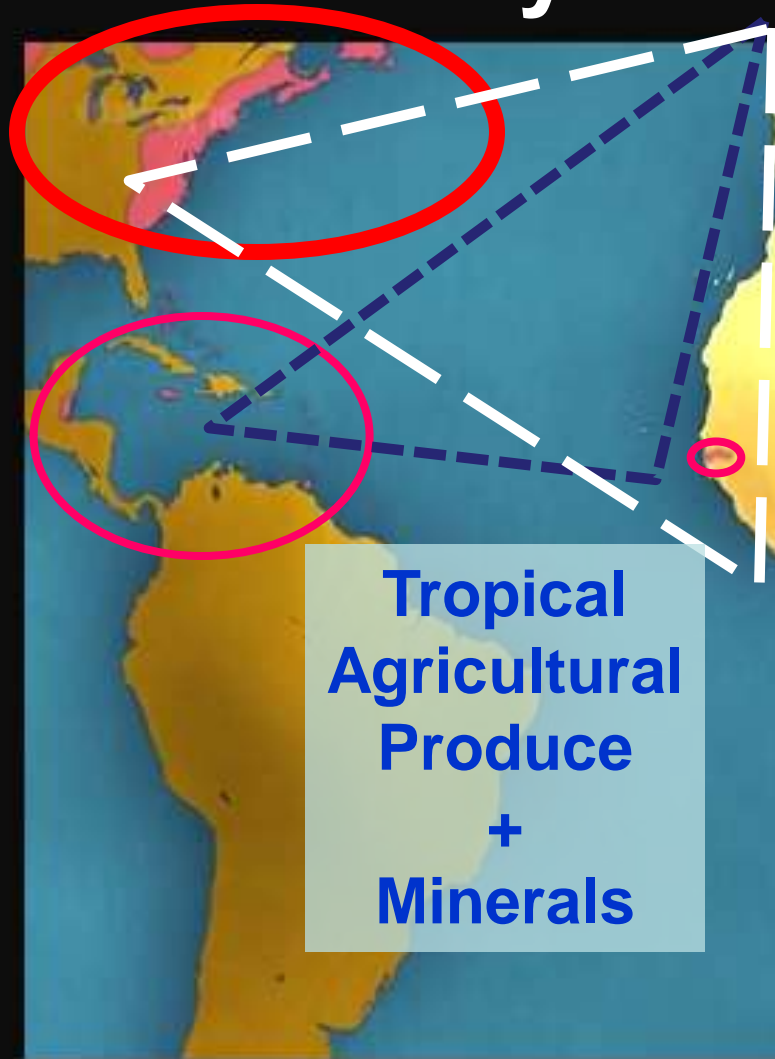
# THE ENERGY OF SLAVES

OIL AND THE NEW SERVITUDE

Andrew Nikiforuk

winner of the  
RACHEL CARSON ENVIRONMENT BOOK AWARD

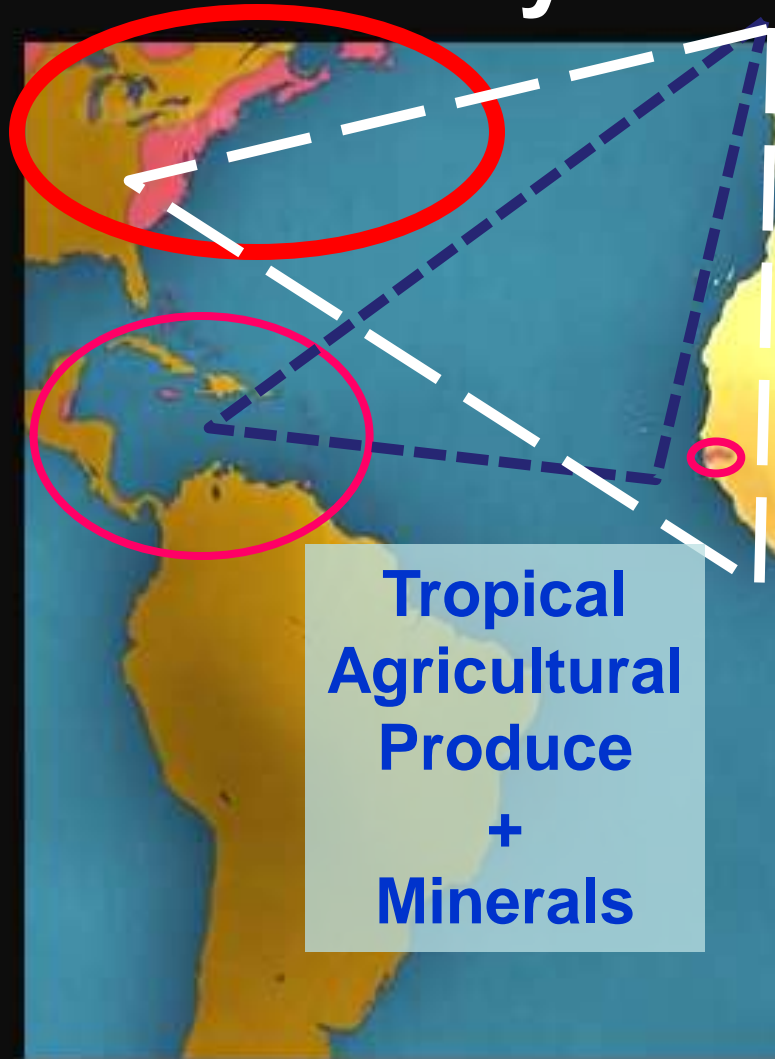
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## 7 Key components of emerging “World System”

- Maritime Trading “Enclaves”
- Island plantation economies.
- “White Settler” communities.
- Industrialization of agriculture
- Sustained by asymmetrical trade relations and “flow” of capital.
- Private capital was “invested overseas” for raw materials & expanded markets for sales.

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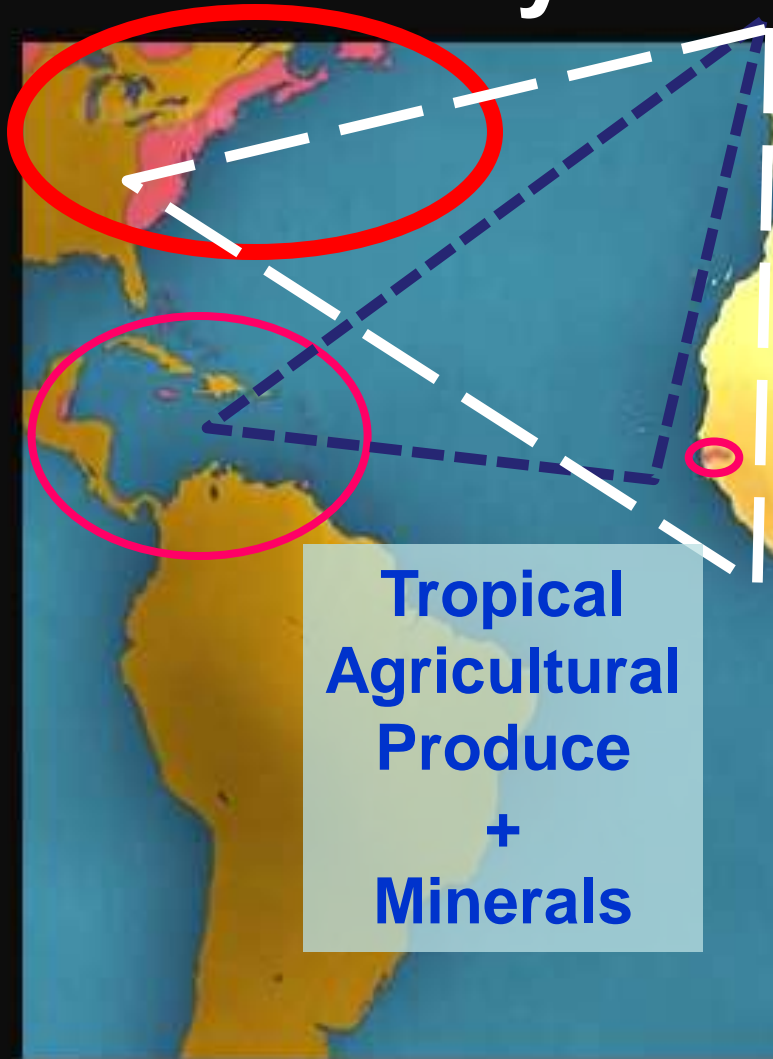


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**Tropical  
Agricultural  
Produce  
+  
Minerals**

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- Industrialization of agriculture
- Sustained by asymmetrical trade relations and “flow” of capital.
- Private capital was “invested overseas” for raw materials & expanded markets for sales.
- **Expectations of continuous growth** created worldwide.

# Let's keep in mind, then....

The historical evolution of European colonialism over time –

both in terms of

1) how it differed from previous modes of existence

# Let's keep in mind, then....

The historical evolution of European colonialism over time –

both in terms of

1) how it differed from previous modes of existence

AND

2) in terms of how it evolved from roughly 1492 until the late 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.....



# Historical Evolution of Cultural Worldviews

(with emphasis on succession of colonial worldviews  
in “Modern History” – ie. 1492-to-present)



1 M BCE

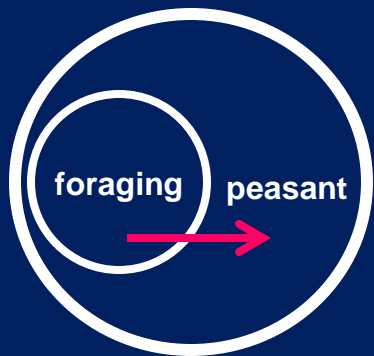
Present Day



History

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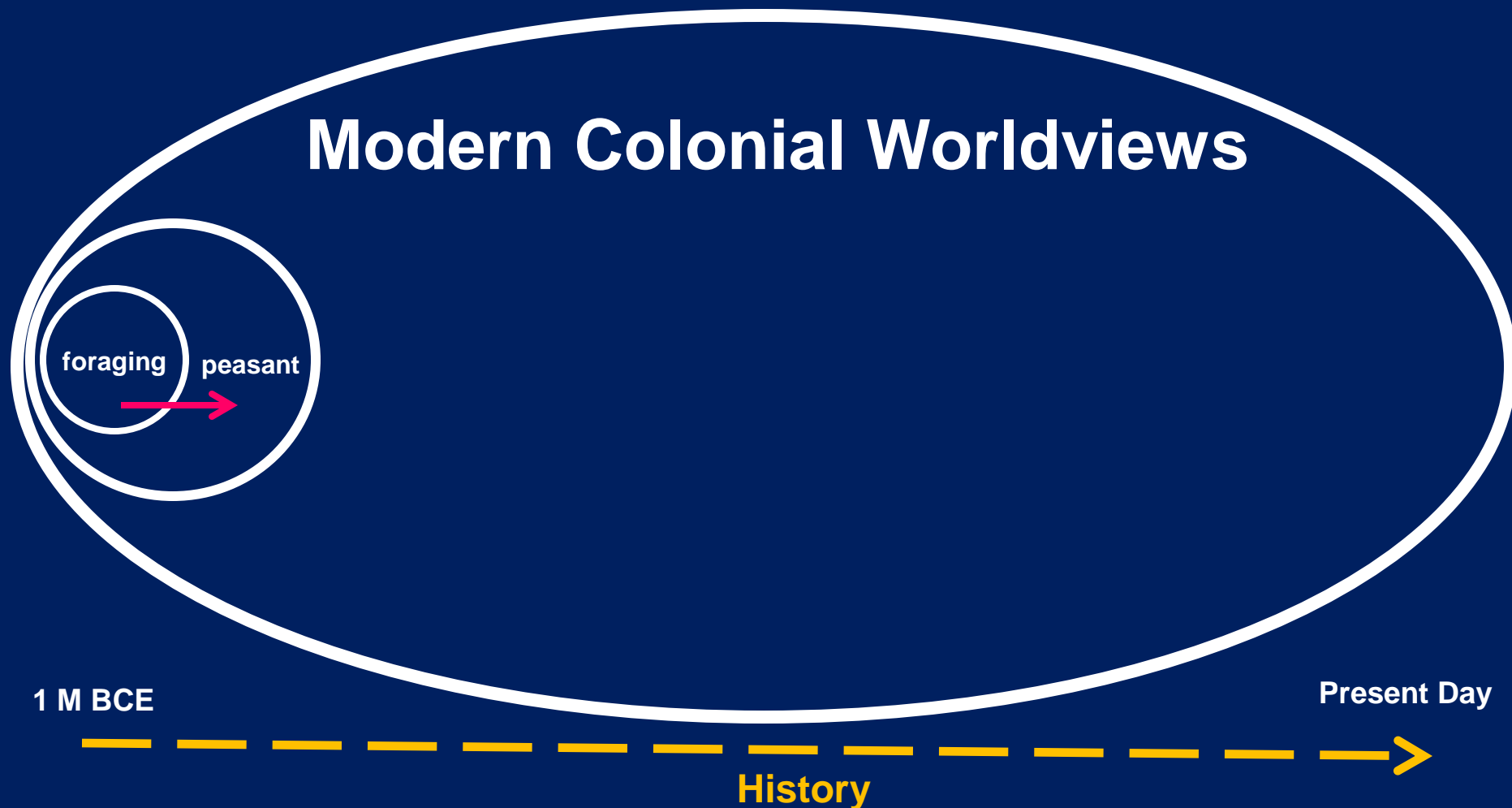
1 M BCE

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# Historical Evolution of Cultural Worldviews

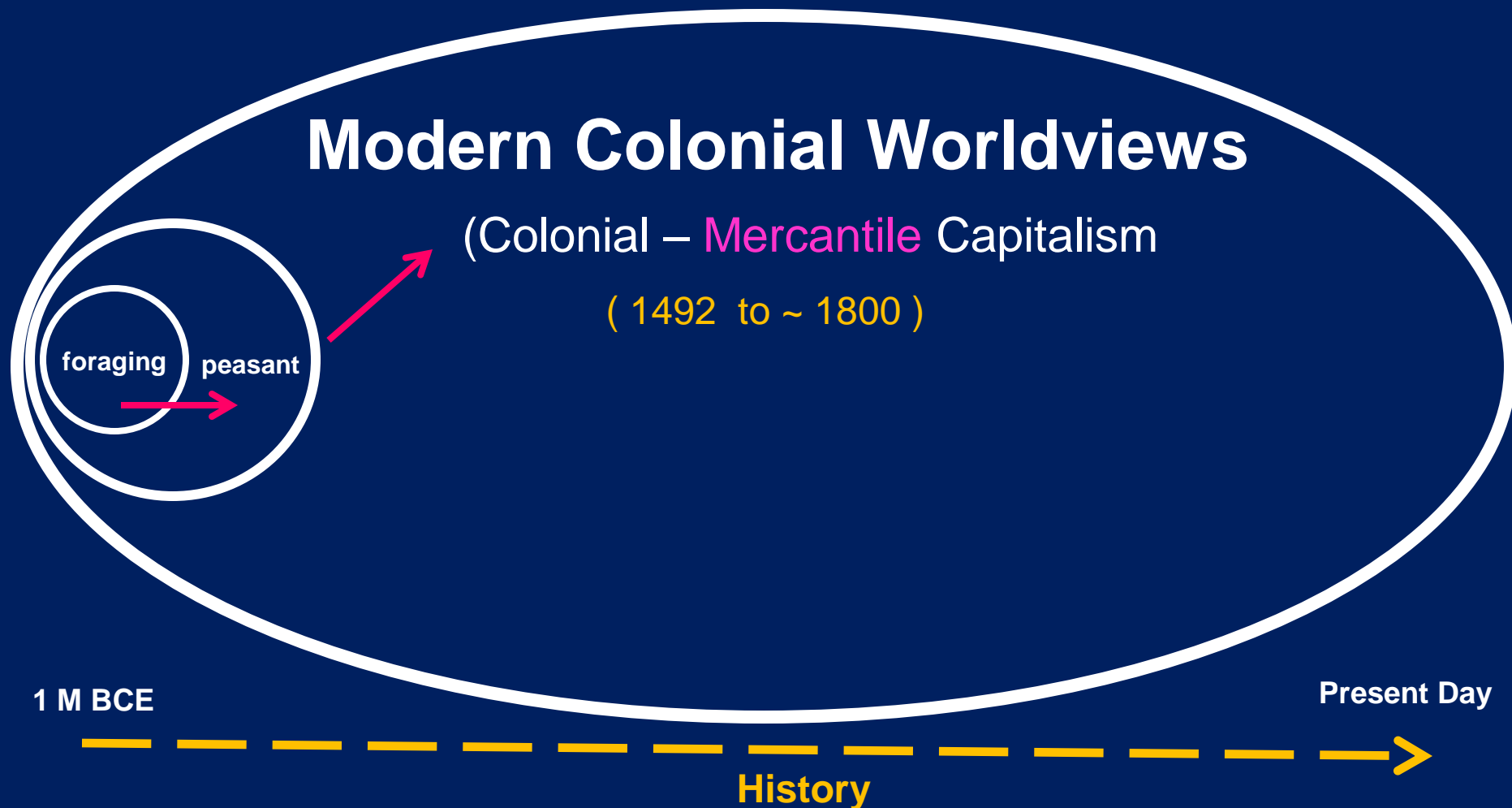
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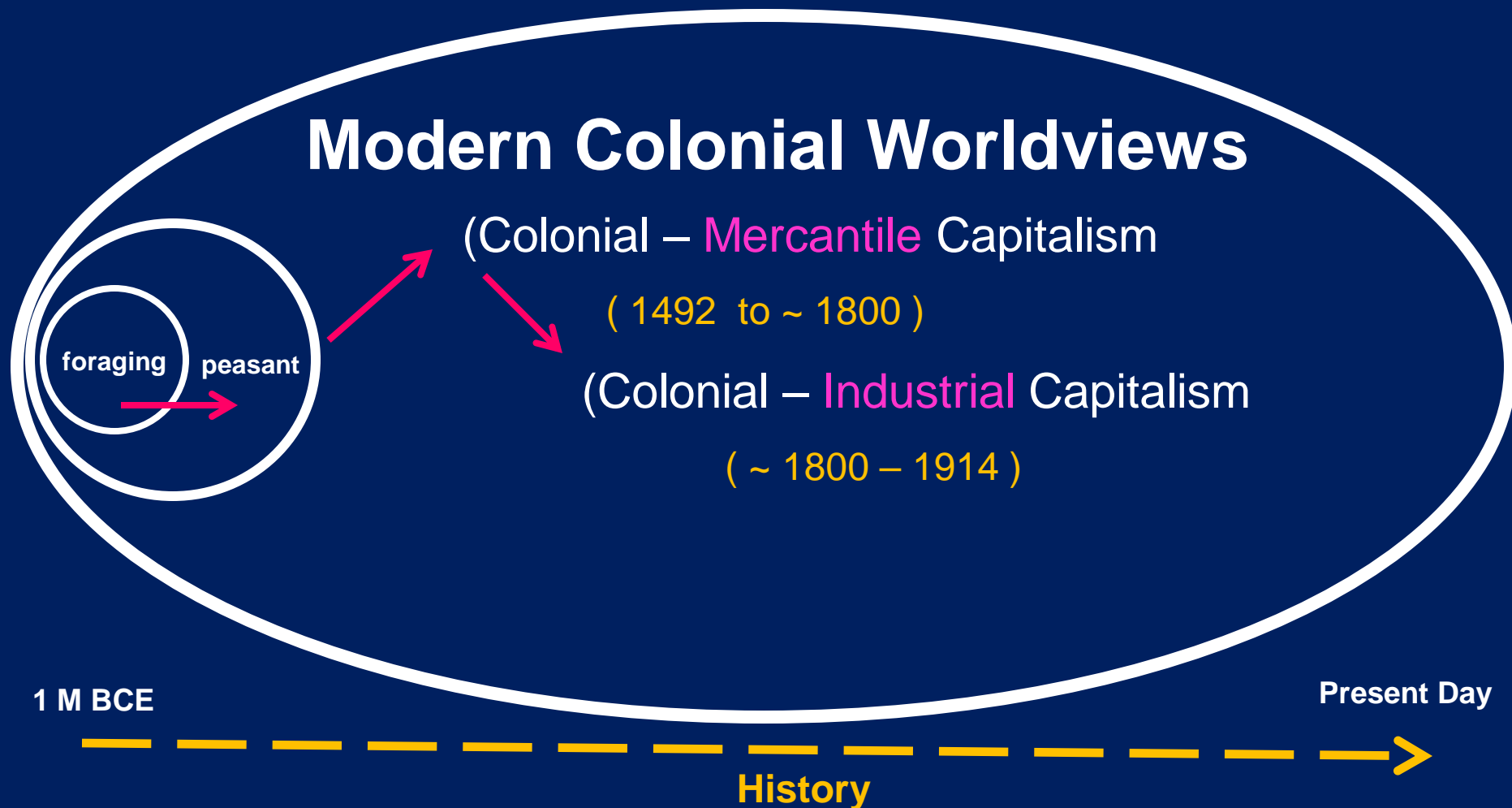
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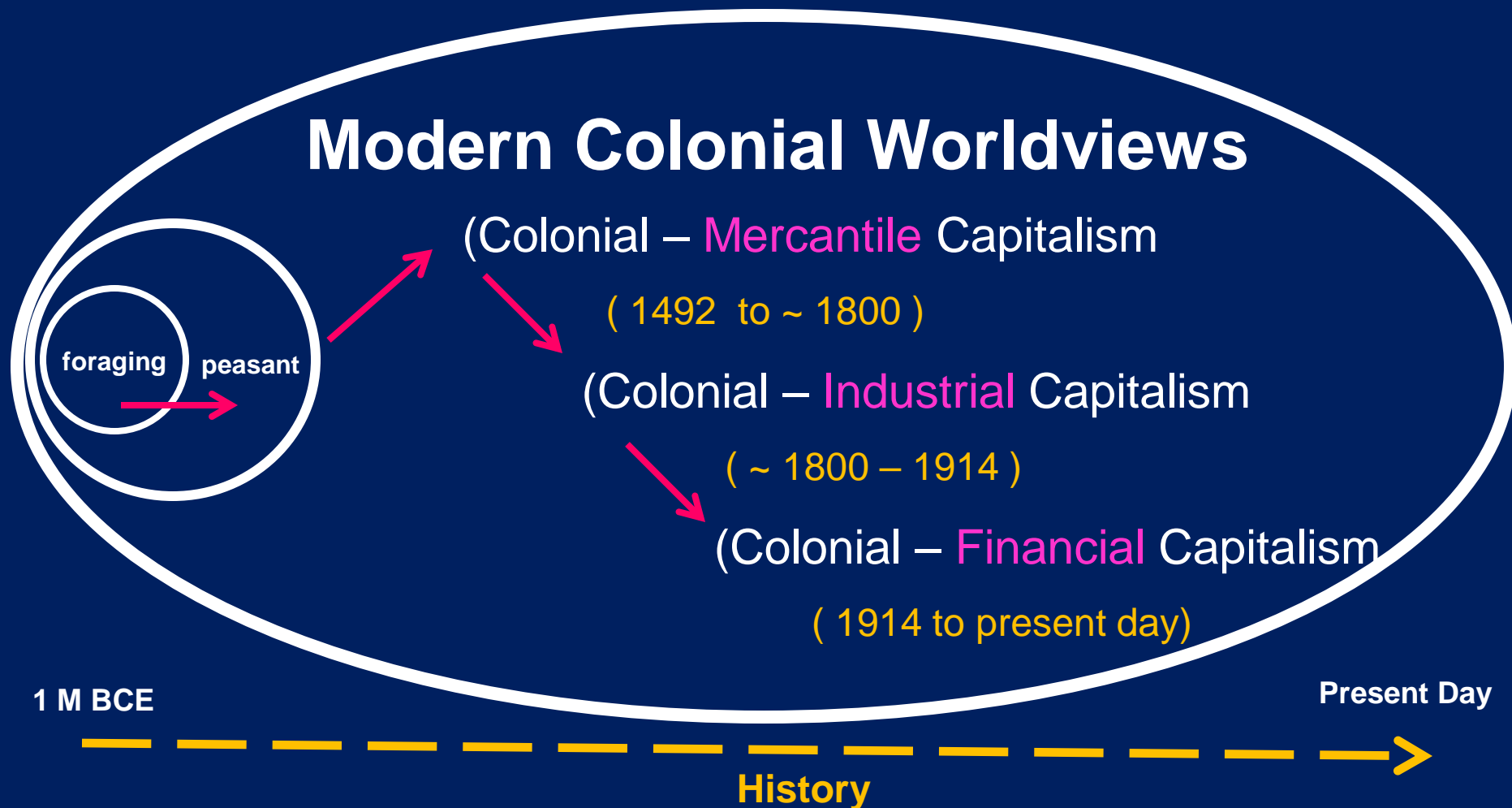
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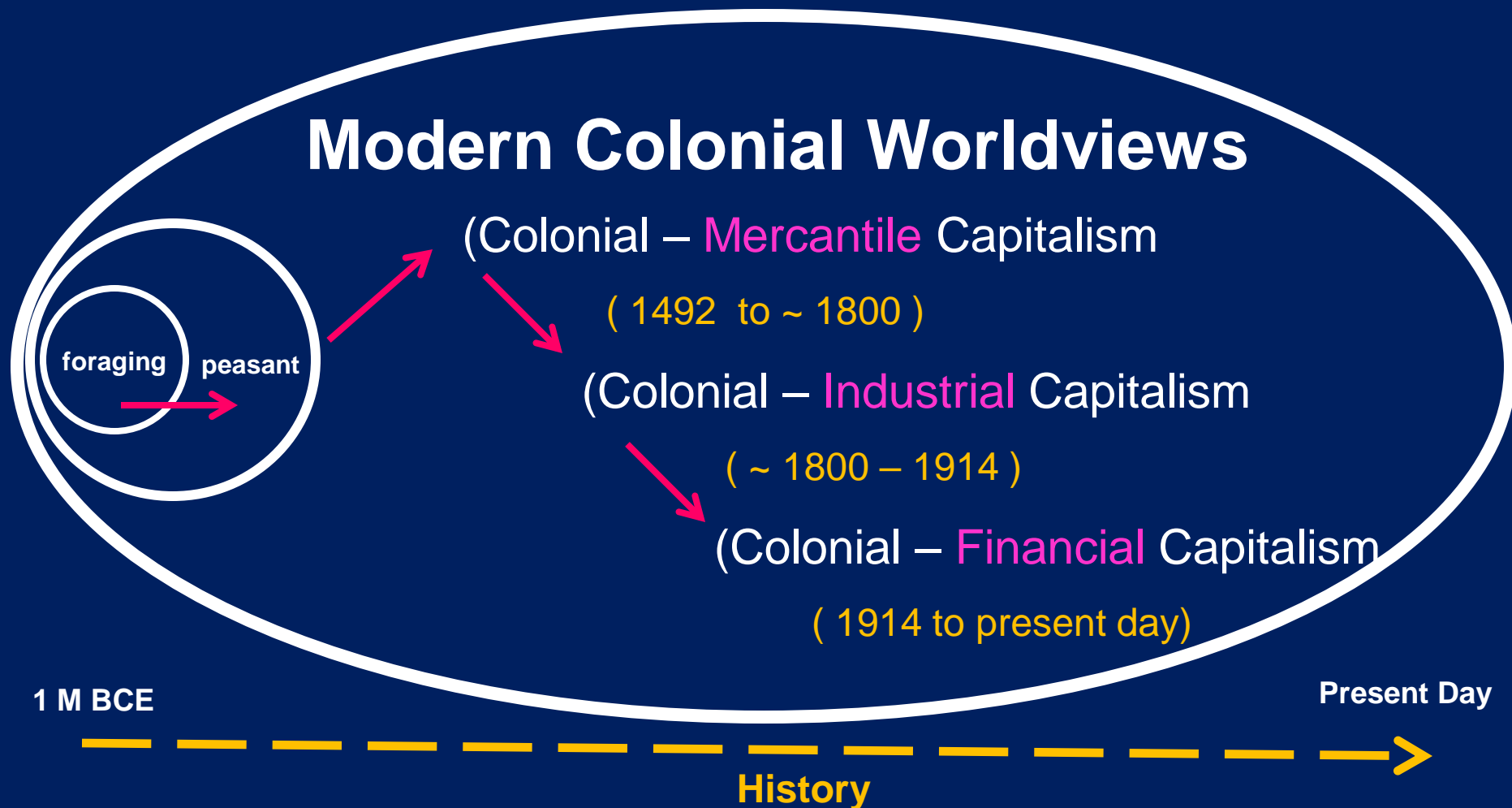
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An overview of the online course  
structure and sequence

## Course Session Sequence

# An overview of the online course structure and sequence

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10 July 2019

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The European Mercantile Empires –  
15<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries

17 July 2019

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The Industrialization of Empire and the  
Growth of Overseas "Investments"

24 July 2019



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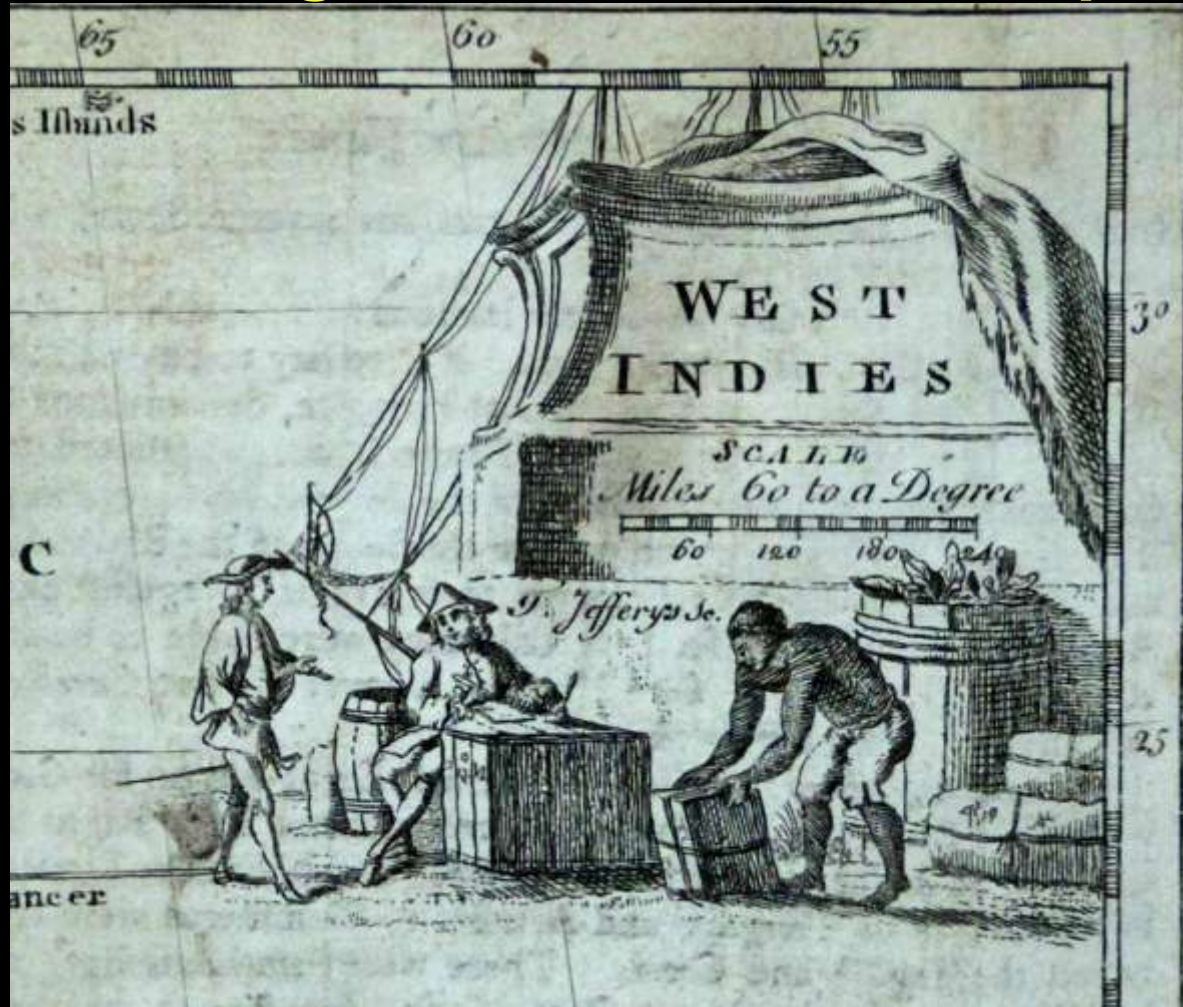
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**The Stages of Economic Growth**

**The Principal Ecologic, Economic and Political Legacies of European Colonialism**

31 July 2019

**Mercantile colonialism was based on plantation economies growing tropical agricultural products with slave labor in a pattern of “triangular trade” with Europe**



But in the “industrial” phase of colonialism this changed dramatically.



“Maritime Empires” consisted of widely dispersed coastal ports dominated by fortified “castles”. These were developed for the long-distance trade of “high-value-to-weight ratio” items, like gold and spices....and eventually human slaves.



Throughout most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the interior of Africa was not known...



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/03/15/africa-states-of-independence-the-scramble-for-africa-2/>



Throughout most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the interior of Africa was not known...



The image contains two maps of Africa, labeled 1880 and 1913, illustrating the process of colonialization. The 1880 map shows a continent with many small, independent states and a few larger colonies. The 1913 map shows a much more unified continent, with most of Africa under colonial rule. A legend for the 1913 map identifies the colors for various powers: United Kingdom (pink), France (blue), Portugal (green), Spain (yellow), Italy (brown), German Empire (grey), Belgium (purple), Liberia (light blue), and Ethiopia (orange).

# There were a mixture of motives for European “conquest”...



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/03/15/africa-states-of-independence-the-scramble-for-africa-2/>



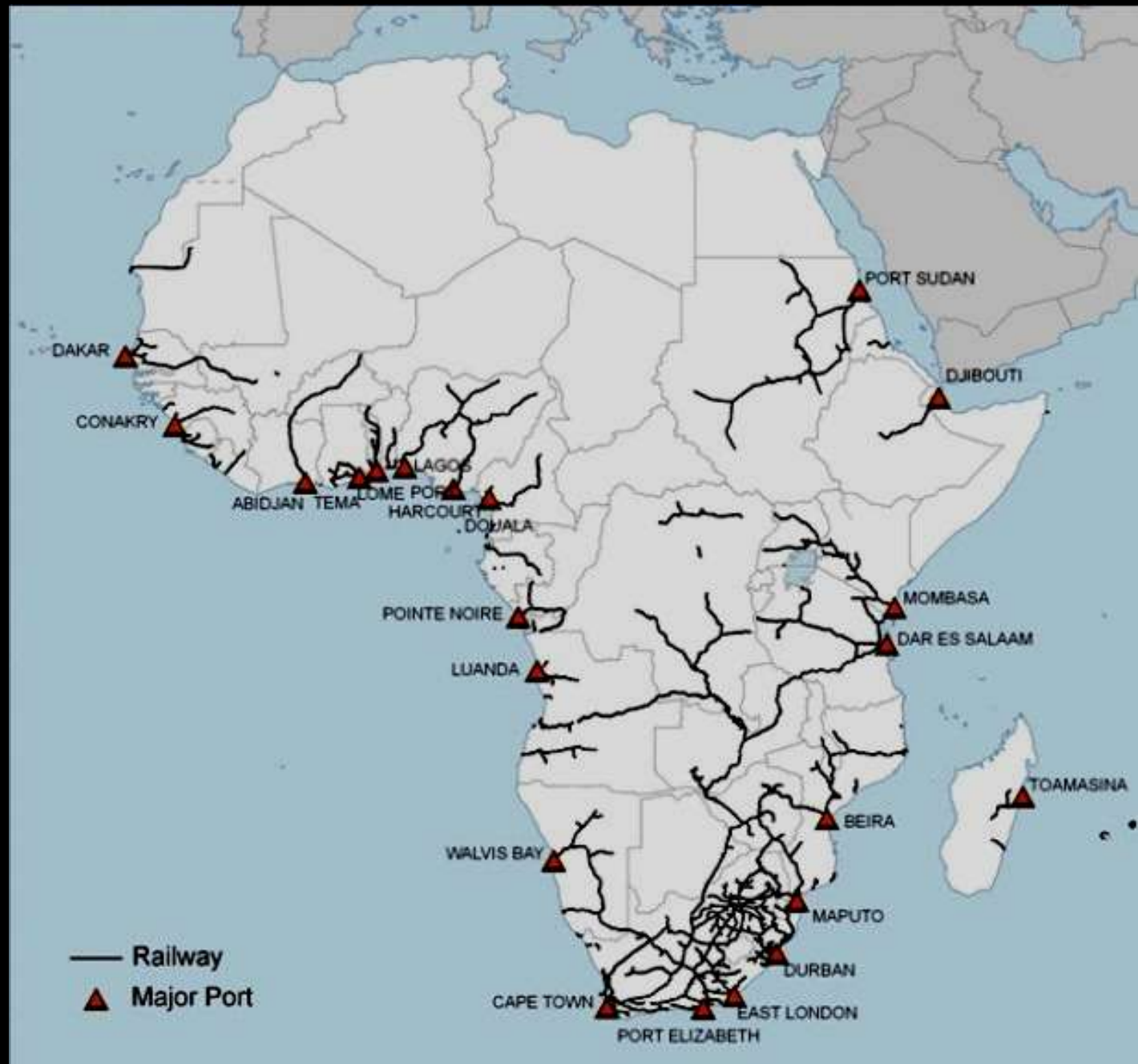
Whatever the different motives, the political outcome was clear...and the economic outcomes were similar in each colony.



**African territories were sought for their potential “raw materials” AND their potential “markets.” Very rapidly territorial “boundaries were drawn in ‘scramble’ of preventive occupation.**



**African  
railroads  
mimicked  
the rivers –  
rivers and  
rails were  
aimed at  
“draining”  
Africa of  
its  
resources.**



Africa was also important to Europe for its manpower – military manpower recruited for inter-European wars.



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/03/15/africa-states-of-independence-the-scramble-for-africa-2/>

After World War II nationalist leaders emerged to challenge the legitimacy of European colonial rule and they won “independence” as new “states.



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/03/15/africa-states-of-independence-the-scramble-for-africa-2/>

# What has been the legacy of colonialism?



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/25/colonialism-and-impact-on-africa-development-chinese-interest/>



# What has “development” been so difficult in Africa?



Director, Royal African Society

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/25/colonialism-and-impact-on-africa-development-chinese-interest/>



# What has China's role been in Africa?



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/25/colonialism-impact-on-africa-development-chinese-interest/>

# What about China's larger role in the world economy? And Africa?

## Noam Chomsky on "The So-Called Rise of China" (2017)

Posted on [November 25, 2017](#) | [Leave a comment](#)



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/25/noam-chomsky-on-the-so-called-rise-of-china-2017-2/>

# What kind of “investments” have the Chinese made?

## China ranks number one in jobs creation in Africa

Posted on [November 25, 2017](#) | [Leave a comment](#)



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/25/china-ranks-number-one-in-jobs-creation-in-africa/>

# What kind of “investments” have the Chinese made?



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2017/11/24/chinas-african-gold-rush-101-east/>



# What kind of “investments” have the Chinese made?

## Talk Africa: China Africa Agriculture Co operation

Posted on [February 27, 2016](#) | [Leave a comment](#) | [Edit](#)





[CCTV Africa](#)

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2016/02/27/talk-africa-china-africa-agriculture-co-operation-2/>



# What kind of “investments” have the Chinese made?

'Land-grab' for food security - 18 Nov 09

AlJazeeraEnglish 24,920 videos   Subscribed 



<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2014/08/04/land-grab-for-food-security-18-nov-09-2/>

# How Africa is Becoming China's China

Posted on [July 27, 2019](#) | [Leave a comment](#) | [Edit](#)



Published on Jul 27, 2019

<https://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2019/07/27/how-africa-is-becoming-chinas-china-5/>

For next week, please review the sequence of lectures over the course... and think about the problems we now face in common as a whole human community.

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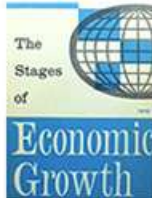


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The Principal Ecologic, Economic and  
Political Legacies of European  
Colonialism

31 July 2019

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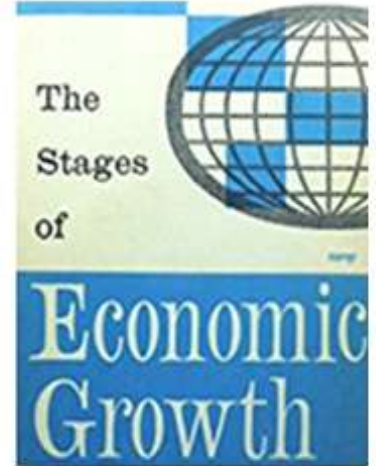
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31 July 2019

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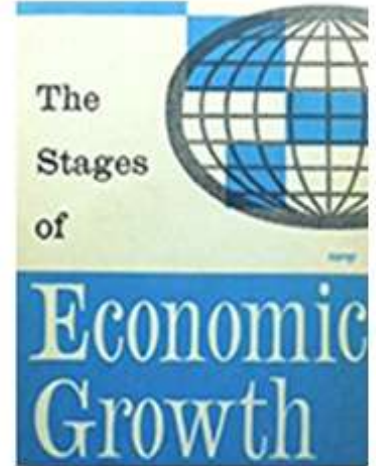
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## The Principal Ecologic, Economic, ~~and~~ Political <sup>and Cultural</sup> Legacies of European Colonialism

(at the beginning  
of next class)

31 July 2019

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#OffTheCouch





00:21  
47:54

## Executives 'Are Legally Obligated To Act Like Sociopaths,' Former Corporate Lawyer Says

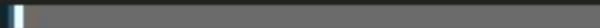
July 31, 2019



Businessmen and shoppers walk along Madison Avenue on Nov. 1, 2011 in New York City. (Spencer Platt/Getty Images)



00:21



47:54



With Meghna Chakrabarti

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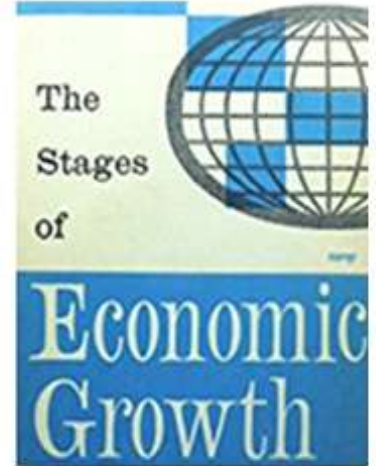
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## The Post-Colonial World and the Global Problems it Must Address

Main topic  
for next week.

7 August 2019

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