Name of Student

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Day Month Year

**Nationalism and Imperialism**

Nationalism, essentially, is stipulated as the potential dedication to the purpose, well-being and interest of a nation-state or a political entity. Nationalism has always advanced to take preference over competing loyalties to locality, religion and in some cases, family. None other political force in modern history matched its tendency to inspire both self-sacrifice and heroism. Unlike nationalism, European imperialism has a protracted history which dates back to the medieval crusades and the conquest of America. Despite the loss of American colonies, the European expansion continued to strengthen in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century. Nationalism emerged during the era of the French revolution. The most significant developments of the eighteenth century were underpinned by the spirits of nationalism. Primarily, the manifestations of nationalism and imperialism remained contested in European history. Nationalism was the driving force that urged the states to nurture the influence of imperial expansion and confront rivalries in the 18th and 9th century (*Nationalism and Imperialism - Surv World History/Civiliz II Section 07G Spring 2019 CO*).

 To begin, nationalism played an instrumental role to permit the states to witness intricate political and foreign manifestations. The revolutions evoked in 1830 and 1848, unification of Italy in 1870, the amalgamation of Germany in 1871 and the militarism of runways among the giant powers, all these developments were the fundamental ramifications of nationalistic sentiments. The values of extreme pride and patriotism were the essential forces of nationalism. Napoleon harnessed these values to arouse political resentment among the communities subjected to French domination. Even years after the debacle of the French Empire and Napoleon, the nationalistic movements continued to strengthen in the nineteenth century. For instance, the wave of famous discontent throughout the German states was an explicit illustration of the nationalistic developments in the 1840s.

In addition, the deliberated nationalistic indicators cause Western Europe to experience upheavals of the social and political system sooner than the Eastern states. The Eastern rulers proceeded to utilize the time to confront the dissenters and prevented the revolutionary developments within their own states. The Russian rulers strived to restrict the Western liberal ideas from attaining momentum among the educated public (*Carlton J. H. Hayes, From Nationalism to Imperialism (1941)*). For instance, censorship had reached an extreme extent. Anything capable of being measured as adverse abashment of the affairs or suspicious was strictly proscribed. Consequently, these actions and tactics assisted to potentially delay the radical Western ideas from permeating the Great Russian Empire (*Russian Nationalism: Between Imperialism and Xenophobia - Jadwiga Rogoża, 2014*). The bottom line is that the paradigm of nationalism lies at the very heart of Napoleon's impact. However, the institutional and political changes were not the only revolutionary developments witnessed by Europe. The implications of imperialism are also critical to be discussed.

Moreover, imperialism fueled the desires to accomplish tremendous resources as economic and military might across Europe. A critical appraisal of the matter indicates that nationalism contributed to the preliminary spread of imperialism. The closing decades of the nineteenth century were being deemed the era of imperialism. The protracted history of Western expansion ultimately culminated in astounding and unprecedented land acquisition. Between 1870 and 1914, Great Britain successfully annexed 5 million square miles of territory and the staggering amount of 66 million people. The Germans advanced to annex 1 million sq. Miles and 13 million people. The United States, Italy and the Netherlands also managed to maximize the colonial subjects and territories. A wide range of elements contributed to the immense expansion and annexation.

Furthermore, the crucial technological developments allowed the mentioned acquisitions. Medical advancements, replacement of the sailing vessels and the advent of the hulled steamships greatly assisted the voyages. Besides, the undersea network of telegraph lines allowed the businessmen and governments to communicate rapidly. Irrefutably, the primary reason for the expansion and growth of imperialism was the European aspiration to spread Christianity to civilizations under the influence. The absolute and extreme values of imperialism are also derived from the deeply racial paradigms of indigenous communities whom the Europeans deemed inferior to their way and culture of life. In essence, imperialism emerged as an impact of the industrial revolution taking place in Europe during the 19th century. The ventures for global colonization and ethnic superiority were further enhanced by the elements of nationalism.

A critical appraisal of the events reflects that the collective influence and combined spirits of nationalism and imperialism urged the Europeans to dominate the territory and influence. Vast empires were established. However, the combination of the forces of imperialism and nationalism further resulted in severe ramifications. The creation of vast empires caused an immense conflict and competition between the Europeans which ended in the intricate alliance of the late 19th century and the ultimate outbreak of the war. Several historians have declared imperialism as the second name of war. The radical subjugation of foreign entities exacerbated these complexities since their values were met with potential resistance. Amid this complex political scenario, Europeans approached other ways to address the issue of colonization. Mass-reprisals, large scale exterminations and brutality became the prominent modes adopted by Europeans to confront the unruly natives. However, some states implemented extreme measures than the rest for the sake of expressing their military and economic might. It was the very beginning of strengthening the potential economic and military might. Each state desired to showcase the tendency to influence and subjugate the subjects in true letter and spirits. As historians state the element of honor in possessing an empire is reflected in the ability to establish discipline and order. The successful rebel of the natives exposed the incompetence of the colonizers to address their rivals. This aspect of imperialism is imperative to be assessed. It helps to comprehend the distinct ways utilized by the European states to explore and experience colonization in the 19th century.

 In the end, both nationalism and imperialism contributed the major developments, annexations and technological advancements in European history as discussed above. Nationalism erupted after the Napoleon ventures which later translated into the spirits of radical imperialism. Even in the contemporary age, nationalistic sentiments are on the rise across the world. Consequently, states strive to supplement these sentiments with economic and military might. A wide range of historians has termed imperialism as the potential cause of wars in the previous centuries. The assessment of nationalistic and imperialistic manifestation also highlight a similar perception. Irrefutably, both these sentiments held a significant mark in the eighteenth and nineteenth century. Nationalism played a dominant role as it instigated the emergence of imperialism. Had the states and citizens not been engaged in patriotic expressions, they would have never proceeded to establish the technological, economic and military might. Thus, nationalism played a major role in comparison to imperialism. Several cynics abash the manifestations of nationalism and highlight the productive implications of imperialism. It remains a contentious debate to determine the conqueror between the two powerful sentiments. The state of affairs in Europe and throughout the world are attributed with the nationalistic sentiments. The spirits to stand for the national and cultural coherence resulted in religious coherence. Meanwhile, economics and political components also raised the intensity of the matter. Such critical is the timeline of history when observed by the view of the nationalistic and imperialistic lens.

Works Cited

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