**Unit 5 Test Study Guide**

**SS7H1a**

* In 1884, European countries met in Berlin, Germany. At this conference, European countries created rules for partitioning (dividing) Africa. One such rule was the Rule of Occupation that said countries needed to already have a presence in a region in order to colonize it. As a result, only seven European countries got colonies on the African continent with Great Britain and France getting the most territory. This conference was called to avoid going to war over different regions of Africa.
* Europeans wanted to colonize Africa for various reasons:

1. nationalism and competition—at that time, countries were considered more powerful and respected by the more land they controlled around the world.
2. natural resources—European countries wanted natural resources from Africa to fuel their own Industrial Revolution.
3. economics and new markets—European countries used African resources to create products and then not only traded them around the world, but forced them back on Africans boosting their own economies.
4. moral duty—Europeans thought of their culture as superior, known as ethnocentrism, and felt it was their responsibility to spread it around the world and “civilize” the people of their colonies.
5. technology—Technological advances such as the steam engine, quinine, and maxim guns, made it easier (gave them an advantage) for Europeans to take over Africa and pull out their resources.

* Some positives for Africans from the colonial period included more schools and hospitals, roads and railroads, and technology not used there before.
* However, most will agree that the colonial period had much more of a negative impact on Africa. Negative effects included losing the right to govern themselves, not getting equal return for natural resources, being used as forced laborers, and civil wars following independence.
* One such civil war as a result of the colonial period and creation of artificial political borders was in Sudan. Rival ethnic groups as well as religious groups were forced together eventually leading to periods of catastrophic conflict.
* Another conflict as a result of artificial political borders was the genocide in Rwanda. Here, two ethnic groups (the Hutus and Tutsis) were very similar and had lived together peacefully. However, the Tutsis were treated much better during the colonial period resulting in a growing rivalry over time and ending with an explosion of violence. Over 800,000 people were killed in a matter of 100 days as the world watched. The United Nations proved to be of little help in stopping genocide.

**SS7H1b**

* Eventually, African nations gained their independence. Ethiopia and Liberia were never colonized, but most of the continent gained their independence in the 1950s and 1960s after WWII.
* Nigeria gained their independence peacefully from Great Britain (even though violence followed independence due to unequal economic development by the British as well as religious differences) while Kenya went through a major struggle and violence to gain theirs.
* Technically, South Africa gained their independence in 1910 when they became a country; but in reality, the majority of South Africans did not receive many rights until the late 1980s and 1990s once apartheid ended.
* A number of African nations like Kenya and Nigeria have experienced numerous problems since independence including government corruption, collapsed infrastructure (transportation, education, and health systems), and high levels of crime and poverty.

**SS7H1c**

* Apartheid was the system of segregation used in South Africa. It became legal starting in 1948 when the National Party (Dutch/Afrikaners) started to pass laws to make it so. They did this in order to stay in power by denying non-white South Africans the right to vote. It limited the rights and personal freedoms of the non-white population.
* It took awhile for the world to react, but most countries disagreed with the policy and eventually put a trade embargo on South Africa in the 1980s in addition to protests against apartheid which raised global awareness.
* Nelson Mandela and the ANC (African National Congress) worked to eliminate apartheid and gain equal rights for all South Africans through peaceful protests and civil disobedience. F. W. de Klerk was the white President who then freed Mandela and other black South African leaders from prison and abolished apartheid laws in 1990. Nelson Mandela then became the first black President in the history of South Africa in their first free elections in 1994.

**SS7H1d**

* The Pan-African Movement, or Pan-Africanism, was a global movement started in the early 1900s and was led by such men as W. E. B. Dubois and Marcus Garvey from the US as well as Africans such as Jomo Kenyatta and Kwame Nkrumah. Its impact included uniting Africans worldwide, starting nationalist movements in African colonies which eventually led to their independence, and developing an organization of African countries known as the African Union (AU).