

# Colonial Legacy Research Project

## Global Studies - Colonial Encounters Unit Assessment

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### Project Overview

**Essential Question:** How did colonial history shape your chosen country and its modern relationship with its former colonizer?

**Your Mission:** Choose a country that was colonized by a European power and investigate how that colonial experience continues to influence the country and its international relationships today.

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### Project Requirements

#### Choose Your Focus Country

Select any country that has a recent history of being colonized. Some suggested options include:

- **Philippines** (Spanish 1565-1898, then American 1898-1946)
- **India** (British 1858-1947)
- **Algeria** (French 1830-1962)
- **Mexico** (Spanish 1519-1821)
- **Ghana** (British 1874-1957)
- **Indonesia** (Dutch 1602-1945)
- **Brazil** (Portuguese 1500-1822)
- **South Africa** (Dutch/British 1652-1994)
- **Vietnam** (French 1858-1954)
- **Kenya** (British 1895-1963)
- **South Korea** (Japanese 1910-1945)

#### Final Product

**Research Paper:** 4-6 pages (double-spaced, 12pt font) with proper citations and a bibliography

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### Source Requirements

#### Minimum 6 sources total:

- At least 2 primary sources (historical documents, speeches, letters, etc.)
- At least 2 academic sources (books, scholarly articles, educational websites)
- At least 2 contemporary sources (recent news articles, government websites, NGO reports)

## Project Overview

### Part 1: Colonial Experience Analysis

#### Historical Context

- Which European country colonized your chosen nation and when?
- What colonial strategy did they use? (territorial empire, settlement colonies, or trading networks)

#### Colonial Impact

- **Demographic:** How did colonization affect population size, distribution, ethnic makeup?
- **Economic:** What resources were extracted? What economic systems were imposed?
- **Political:** How was territory governed? What happened to existing political systems?
- **Cultural:** What happened to local languages, religions, traditions?

#### Local Responses

- How did Indigenous/local peoples respond to colonization?
- What forms of resistance, adaptation, or collaboration occurred?

### Part 2: Independence & Decolonization

#### Path to Independence

- How and when did your country gain independence?
- Was it through war, negotiation, gradual transition, or other means?
- Who were the key figures in the independence movement?

#### Comparative Analysis

- How does your country's independence process compare to examples we studied in class?

### Part 3: Modern Relationship Analysis

#### Contemporary Connections

- What is the current economic relationship between your chosen country and its former colonizer?
- Are there ongoing cultural, educational, or political connections?

#### Colonial Legacies Today

- **Continuities:** What colonial patterns persist in the modern relationship?
- **Changes:** What has fundamentally changed since independence?

### Part 4: Multiple Perspectives Today

#### Contemporary Viewpoints

- How do people in the formerly colonized country view their colonial history today?
- How do people in the former colonizer country view this shared history?
- Are there different opinions within each country?
- Any efforts at reconciliation, reparations, or addressing colonial legacies?