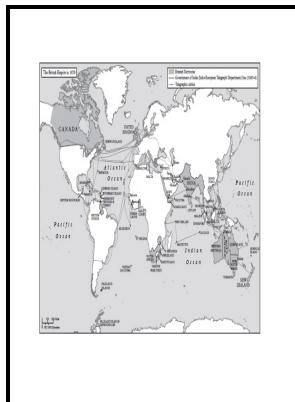


Britain and decolonisation - the retreat from empire in the post-war world

Macmillan - Learn about Decolonization and Independence, 20th Century



Description: -

- International economic relations
- Geopolitics
- Great Britain -- Colonies
- Decolonization
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- Insights into human geography
- Making of the 20th century (London, England)
- The Making of the 20th century
- Britain and decolonisation - the retreat from empire in the post-war world

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Britain and Decolonisation: Retreat from Empire in the Post

Challenging work by young historians as well as seminal articles by internationally regarded scholars. In Britain and Decolonisation, author John Darwin details British decolonization after World War II written from a British perspective. In the thirty years that followed, Britain shrank from the status of a global leader with far-flung imperial interests to a less certain position on the fringes of Europe.

Decolonisation and Postwar Consensus

Decolonisation as a global issue With the establishment of the League of Nations in April 1919 came the internationalisation of the colonial issue.

Western colonialism

In subsequent negotiations, punctuated by mass violence, the leaders finally accepted partition as preferable to civil war, and in 1947 the British evacuated the subcontinent, leaving India and a territorially divided Pakistan to contend with problems of communal strife. This was in marked contrast to the French and the Americans and was, it was argued, one of the main reasons why the British were so successful in defeating insurgency. Or had Britain weighed the costs and benefits of empire in an age of rapid economic and international change, and decided that the colonial game was not worth the financial candle? All of this changed when war came: where they had once been a substantial debtor to Britain, they were now a large creditor of the war treasury.

Britain and Decolonisation by John Darwin

As Martin Shipway correctly pointed out, the Second World War did not provoke change out of nowhere; many of the colonial grievances and other causes had been present before the war, and some even before the First World War.

Britain and Decolonisation: Retreat from Empire in the Post

In 1945, with two World Wars just recently complete, Britain successfully remained in control of her Commonwealth.

Western colonialism

Was Britain driven into imperial retreat by the main force of Afro-Asian nationalism and superpower pressure? India and Gandhi: the tip of the iceberg It is important to look to India to see where a large precedent for decolonisation lay.

Britain And Decolonisation: The Retreat From Empire In The Post War World by John Darwin

And, on top of this, the British did not ship emergency foodstuffs in sufficient quantity to India to alleviate the situation in Bengal. If so, how are the apparent contradictions in British policy to be explained - the dangerous adventure at Suez, the extensive commitments East of Suez not terminated until 1971 and the Falklands war? The US had, beyond doubt, an immense influence over the course of empire.

Decolonization and the Collapse of the British Empire

Since October 2014, he had been the Director of the Oxford Centre for Global History. .

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