

Modern Politics & Govt
Assignment 2

A Review of 'Discourse on Colonialism'
by Aimé Césaire

Aimé Césaire's *Discourse on Colonialism* presents a powerful argument against European Colonialism, particularly in Africa and the Caribbean. Originally written in French in 1950, it was later translated into English to reach a wider audience. It exposed how colonialism was never about helping or civilizing other nations but was instead about greed, exploitation and financial gains only. Césaire strongly criticizes the European powers for their brutality, hypocrisy and simply put 'Barbaric Nature'. They claimed to bring progress and prosperity, instead they only caused pain, suffering and injustice.

Colonialism Hurts Everyone: Césaire explains that colonialism doesn't just harm the people being colonized but also takes its toll on the colonizers. When the European nations took over other lands, they committed horrible acts like massacres, forced labour, forcefully removing people from their lands, destroying complete families and total destruction of the local culture. Césaire argues that this has made them lose their own sense of humanity.

False Idea of Superior Culture: One of Césaire's main arguments is that the idea of colonizers bringing civilization to indigenous people is a lie. European powers claimed that they were helping

less developed societies by introducing them to modern systems and religion. The colonizers believed their culture, way of living and religion was somehow superior. Césaire argues that these societies already had their own cultures, traditions and ways of life. Colonial rule simply destroyed these civilizations and replaced them with modern systems that only benefited the colonizers, essentially creating more problems than it solved.

Colonialism simply about money and power: Césaire makes it clear that colonialism was never about helping others. It was simply about making money and gaining power. European nations stole resources, used local people for cheap labour, and kept the colonized countries poor. Even though the European nations always claimed moral superiority, they were exploiting people for their own benefit. Césaire exposes this hypocrisy and argues that colonialism was just ~~so~~ a way for the rich and powerful to take advantage of others.

It's Relevance Today: Even though Césaire wrote this essay in 1950, its message is still important today. Many countries are still dealing with the effects of colonialism and are even more economically unstable than they were when they were colonized. Césaire encourages the colonized people to fight for their freedom and believed that societies affected by colonialism can recover and thrive once they ~~are~~ are free from outside control.

My Opinion: I personally agree with Césaire's critique of colonialism. He successfully exposes the hypocrisy of the European colonizers ~~and~~ and this colonization even applies in the modern day. Most of the countries that were colonized are still facing political and economic turmoil. The so-called leaders of these countries are simply puppets who still largely follow the commands of the initial colonizers. However, we're also seeing this whole situation unravel considering that fact that European Nations have forgotten basic human biology and are confused about their genders.

The rise of extremism, mass protests and the economic collapse in countries like France and Britain feel a lot similar to the instability that they left behind in their colonies. Europe spent centuries stealing wealth from the rest of the world, building its prosperity on stolen resources, forced labour and the blood of innocent civilians. Now, the world is coming back to collect. The colonial past is not something that can be forgotten or buried. The suffering that Europe inflicted on the world has come full circle, in the form of economic decline, cultural transformation, political collapse and outright degeneracy and the destruction of their religion and culture.