

Theories Of Imperialism

This book aims at presenting and assessing imperialism as a theoretical concept. It aims to provide a comprehensive evaluation, focusing specifically on the tension between Marx's theoretical system of the Critique of Political Economy and the theories of capitalist expansion and domination.

The tension and disparity between developed and underdeveloped nations will be a major challenge to world stability in the twenty-first century. In an era of international markets and global economy, it is thus important to understand the dynamic forces that have led to the development and expansion of capitalism, which continues to transform society at a galloping pace. The key essays in this valuable collection present different perspectives but they are all united by the fundamental premise that capitalism is at the root of both development and imperialism. Editor Ronald H. Chilcote has selected major contributors in the field of economic development and divided their articles into four thematic sections. The first section provides a conceptualization of imperialism in the context of capitalism and a definition of the limits of imperialism elaborated by Paul Sweezy. Classical theories of imperialism are then reviewed, including those of J. A. Hobson, Rudolf Hilferding, Nicolai Bukharin, V. I. Lenin, Rosa Luxemburg, and Joseph Schumpeter. The second set of selections focuses on the relationship of imperialist theory to contemporary views of development and underdevelopment, taking into account both the legacy of Marx and of Lenin. The third section builds on the earlier theoretical contributions of the classical thinkers, links imperialism to the underdevelopmental literature, and traces the evolution of development-underdevelopment theory after the Second World War. The final section reminds us that some of these presumably dated theories and concerns remain current and relevant today. This well-designed anthology provides an excellent basis for a sophisticated understanding of current political and economic realities and the historical developments that went into their making. First published in 1984, this study examines closely the shifting attitudes towards, and theories concerning, imperialism, from the colonial wars of the late nineteenth century to America's involvement in Vietnam. This lucid investigation encompasses the World Wars, the disintegration of the Colonies and the Cold War. It also gives fascinating insight into the theories of imperialism advocated by such diverse writers as Hobson, Wilshire, Angell, Brailsford, Luxemburg and Lenin. Throughout, the author objectively evaluates the theory that capitalism is a cause of aggression – a fundamental tenet of anti-imperialist writers. It is Norman Etherington's contention that further investigations into the sources, causes and effects of imperialism can only take place if the various theories concerning it are analysed. A fascinating and detailed study, this reissue will be of particular value to students interested in the theories and history of imperialism.

For Marxists, imperialism is the highest stage of capitalism. Critical analysis of imperialism has been a feature of Marxist thought throughout the twentieth century. The conceptualising and theorising of imperialism by Marxists has evolved over time in response to developments in the global capitalist economy and in international politics. Murray Noonan here provides the first complete analysis of Marxist theories of imperialism in over two decades. Presenting three phases of imperialist theories, he analyses and compares 'Classical', 'Neo' and 'Globalisation-era' Marxist theories of imperialism. The book moves chronologically, tracking the origins of imperialism theorised by J.A. Hobson at the beginning of the twentieth century up to the present day. He critically identifies and engages with a new 'Globalisation-era' phase of Marxist imperialism theory. Through a detailed scholarly analysis of the history and evolution of these theories, Noonan offers vital new perspectives on imperialist theory and its relevance and application in the twenty-first century.

Vladimir Ilich Lenin's *Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism*, originally published in 1916, was one of the first attempts to account for the increasing importance of the world market in the twentieth century. The essay is a synthesis of Lenin's modifications and developments of economic theories that Karl Marx formulated in 'Das Kapital'. This remarkable Marxist text explains fully the inescapable flaws and destructive power of Capitalism. Lenin offers a predictive scenario of a world shaken by competitive instability, warfare and crisis, dominated by monopolies, the merging of finance and industrial capital, and fierce territorial competition. Its pertinence is now greater than ever. Lenin vaticinated that those third world countries used merely as capitalist labour would have no choice but to join the Communist revolution in Russia. His theoretical framework remains the best method for understanding recent global developments.

This book analyzes the role played by initial endowments and colonizer identity in seeking to explain institutional development in former colonies. It presents a model of two styles of imperialism that integrates the colonial origin and endowment views explaining current institutions. The authors argue that Great Britain and Portugal adopted an 'economically-oriented' style, which was pragmatic and sensitive to initial conditions. For this style of imperialism the endowment view is applicable. In contrast, France employed a 'politically-oriented' style of imperialism, in which ideological and political motivations were more present. This led to a uniform colonial policy that largely disregarded initial endowments. In turn, the case of Spain represents a hybrid of the two models. The empirical analysis presented here reveals a remarkable degree of heterogeneity in the relationship of endowments and colonizer identity with current institutions.

"In recent years the discussion of imperialism has become so compartmentalized that it is difficult for somebody who is not directly involved to put the often polemical discussion and the various scientific and political positions forward into a relevant context. Mommsen's survey is an excellent guide."—German Studies, on the German edition. "Theories of Imperialism is the most succinct, fairest, and most sophisticated statement I have seen of the range of theories of imperialism. Each set of theorists is come at in their own terms, described fairly, and summarized fully. The book is objective, readable, and short."—Robin W. Winks, Yale University

"The Accumulation of Capital" by Rosa Luxemburg (translated by Agnes Schwarzschild). Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

How valid is the Marxian theory of imperialism? This book traces the historical development of the theory of imperialism, the internationalisation of capital and theories of capitalist nation-state formation

Claude Ake's study is primarily concerned with what he terms 'the most pernicious form of imperialism' namely scientific knowledge. Ake analyses how Western social sciences, whether consciously or inadvertently, foist capitalist values and capitalist development on the Third World, and serve imperialist ends. He unravels the theory of political development/'westernisation', exposing its ideological character and condemning 'Western development studies as worse than useless'. He then develops his analysis of the imperialist and ideological characteristics of Western social sciences to posit alternatives which may more successfully overcome permanent underdevelopment; and advocates a struggle for

a new model of social sciences which is socialist-orientated, and that developing countries reject Western models. The study was first published in 1979, revised in 1982, is newly reissued, and for the first time, widely available outside Africa. Claude Ake (1939-1996) was one of Africa's most distinguished political and social scientists and democrats of the twentieth century, writing widely and polemically on what were his life-long concerns of democracy and the future of the African continent.

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A comprehensive survey of capitalism's colonialist roots and uncertain future Those who control the world's commanding economic heights, buttressed by the theories of mainstream economists, presume that capitalism is a self-contained and self-generating system. Nothing could be further from the truth. In this pathbreaking book—winner of the Paul A. Baran-Paul M. Sweezy Memorial Award—radical political economists Utsa Patnaik and Prabhat Patnaik argue that the accumulation of capital has always required the taking of land, raw materials, and bodies from noncapitalist modes of production. They begin with a thorough debunking of mainstream economics. Then, looking at the history of capitalism, from the beginnings of colonialism half a millennium ago to today's neoliberal regimes, they discover that, over the long haul, capitalism, in order to exist, must metastasize itself in the practice of imperialism and the immiseration of countless people. A few hundred years ago, write the Patnaiks, colonialism began to ensure vast, virtually free, markets for new products in burgeoning cities in the West. But even after slavery was generally abolished, millions of people in the Global South still fell prey to the continuing lethal exigencies of the marketplace. Even after the Second World War, when decolonization led to the end of the so-called "Golden Age of Capitalism," neoliberal economies stepped in to reclaim the Global South, imposing drastic "austerity" measures on working people. But, say the Patnaiks, this neoliberal economy, which lives from bubble to bubble, is doomed to a protracted crisis. In its demise, we are beginning to see – finally – the transcendence of the capitalist system.

The Rise of Free Trade Imperialism seeks to uncover some of the intellectual origins of the imperialism of the classic period, the sources from which later theories of imperialism were constructed, and the character of the ideology which underlay the dismantling of the old colonial system and the construction of the Victorian Pax Britannica. The author discusses the development and diffusion of a number of the central arguments of the 'science' of political economy, from the standpoint of a historian rather than an economist, which were crucial not only to the construction of theories of capitalist imperialism, but also served as a spur both to efforts at colonization, and to establishing a British Workshop of the World.

Cover -- Half Title -- Title -- Dedication -- Copyright -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- 1 Marxist Foundations and the Theory of Imperialism -- 2 Early Marxist Theories of Imperialism -- 3 Monopoly Capital and Imperialism I: Surplus Absorption -- 4 Monopoly Capital and Imperialism II: Dependency Theory -- 5 The Theory of Imperialism and Unequal Exchange: Arghiri Emmanuel -- 6 Samir Amin: An Eclectic Synthesis -- 7 Recent Currents in Marxist Theory of Imperialism -- Appendix I A Critique of Baran and Sweezy -- Appendix II A Critique of Emmanuel's Theory of Unequal Exchange -- Notes

This book brings together important essays by distinguished scholars who have devoted past attention to the study of imperialism and development. It complements an anthology of previously published essays that brings together important theoretical perspectives around the issues and debates on these themes; this volume will be published by Humanity Press (forthcoming). Both projects relate to a lengthy chapter "Theories of Imperialism," which will be published in my book *Theories of Comparative Political Economy* (Forthcoming). These projects represent a culmination of many years of teaching in both economics and political science. During that time I taught two political science courses on development and underdevelopment, but I was unable to convince my colleagues of the usefulness of a course on imperialism that linked historical issues and debates with the more recent developmental literature. When in 1990 I was welcomed into economics, my colleagues endorsed a graduate seminar on the political economy of imperialism. Thus, this volume evolved out of that experience in an effort to encourage new analysis that reflects retrospectively on past contributions as well as the prospects for imperialism and development in the contemporary world. A critical analysis of the Marxists view of the role imperialism played in the spread of world capitalism. The text also follows the recent shift in focus of theory to the explanation of underdevelopment, which has prompted a renaissance of Marxist thought.

In *Imperialism and Global Political Economy* Alex Callinicos intervenes in one of the main political and intellectual debates of the day. The global policies of the United States in the past decade have encouraged the widespread belief that we live in a new era of imperialism. But is this belief true, and what does 'imperialism' mean? Callinicos explores these questions in this wide-ranging book. In the first part, he critically assesses the classical theories of imperialism developed in the era of the First World War by Marxists such as Lenin, Luxemburg, and Bukharin and by the Liberal economist J.A. Hobson. He then outlines a theory of the relationship between capitalism as an economic system and the international state system, carving out a distinctive position compared to other contemporary theorists of empire and imperialism such as Antonio Negri, David Harvey, Giovanni Arrighi, and Ellen Wood. In the second half of *Imperialism and Global Political Economy* Callinicos traces the history of capitalist imperialism from the Dutch East India Company to the specific patterns of economic and geopolitical competition in the contemporary era of American decline and Chinese expansion. Imperialism, he concludes, is far from dead.

This is a new introductory text providing an up-to-date account of leading theories of development. The book includes a discussion of classical accounts of development, particularly that of Marx, but also considers current debates on the issue. Theories of imperialism, neo-imperialism, dependency, world systems theory and other conceptions are all given full and balanced consideration. A feature of the work is the connections drawn between theoretical interpretation and

empirical application: in this respect, the author concentrates particularly upon drawing materials from the Latin American experiences. Readable, accurate and incisive, the book also provides an original standpoint upon problems of development. It will be of interest to students and professionals in sociology, political sciences and anthropology. As Great Britain and other Western nations built empires--both formal and informal--writers on economic and social questions developed theories to explain why and how advanced industrial states exercised control over colonial regions. Different schools of thought emerged: some anticipated the growth of a cosmopolitan economic order, others believed in a brutal imperialism necessary for an expanding capitalism, still others saw evil precapitalist forces at work. In *The Liberal Ideal and the Demons of Empire*, noted historian Bernard Semmel traces the evolution of the ideas about imperialism and discusses four major schools of thought: the classical economists, the social theorists, the national economists, and the Marxists. From Adam Smith to Lenin, the subject of colonialism--and then imperialism--remained controversial. Although classical economists offered visions of a prosperous world economy based on free trade, and liberal idealists argued that rational self-interest would eliminate aggressive mercantilism and wars of conquest, such "utopian" ideals proved elusive. Even defenders of capitalism noted contradictions between the harsh realities of the emerging industrial system and the optimistic economic theories that attempted to describe it. In the end the critics--including liberal sociologists, national economists, and Marxists--would win the day by defining imperialism in terms of historic demons: feudal aristocrats, medieval usurers, and evil empires. These ideas, Semmel concludes, became props of the liberal, socialist, and fascist ideologies of our time. "A generation ago, Richard Koebner traced the changing meanings of the word imperialism from its rather surprising Napoleonic beginnings. Now, building on a succession of books with which he has enriched the literature, Bernard Semmel addresses the wider question of the evolution in thought to which the evolution of the word was, so to speak, an index. Semmel's book will be unquestionably useful to historians--particularly those outside the confines of European expansion--and will be valuable as supplemental reading in college courses. One wonders if it will have the effect one would most like to see--on politicians, publicists, and praters who continue to use the word imperialism so inappropriately."--Robert K. Webb, University of Maryland, Baltimore County Bernard Semmel is Distinguished Professor of History at the Graduate School of the City University of New York. His studies of imperialism include *Imperialism and Social Reform*, *Jamaican Blood and Victorian Conscience*, and *The Rise of Free Trade Imperialism*. He has also written on Methodism, John Stuart Mill, and naval strategy.

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In *A Theory of Imperialism*, economists Utsa Patnaik and Prabhat Patnaik present a new theory of the origins and mechanics of capitalism that sounds an alarm about its ongoing viability. Their theory centers on trade between the core economies of the global North and the tropical and subtropical countries of the global South and considers how the Northern demand for commodities (such as agricultural products and oil) from the South has perpetuated and solidified an imperialist relationship. The Patnaiks explore the dynamics of this process and discuss innovations that could allow the economies of the South to achieve greater prosperity without damaging the economies of the North. The result is an original theory of imperialism that brings to light the crippling limitations of neoliberal capitalism. *A Theory of Imperialism* also includes a response by David Harvey, who interprets the agrarian system differently and sees other factors affecting trade between the North and the South. Their debate is one of the most provocative exchanges yet over the future of the global economy as resources grow thin, populations explode, and universal prosperity becomes ever more elusive.

The last two hundred years have seen a massive increase in the size of the world economy and equally massive inequalities of wealth and power between different parts of the world. They have also witnessed the rise to dominance of the capitalist mode of production. Marxists, from Marx himself through to present day thinkers, have argued that these changes are profoundly interconnected. This book offers a unique account of Marxist theories of Imperialism. It has been fully updated and expanded to cover all the developments since its initial publication and will be essential reading for any student of Marxism.

This volume addresses the 'impoverishment of state theory' over the last decades and insists on the continued salience of class analysis to the study of capitalist states – neoliberal restructuring, the political architecture of imperialism, and the potentials for democratic transformation.

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