

MANKIND OCCASIONAL PAPERS : 1

**PLANETARY
LAND
GRAB
BY
WHITES**

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Published from
5, Hansali
Damle Path,
Off Law College Road
Pune 411 004

MOP-01

January 2004
For Private Circulation Only
Suggested Price : Rs. 25/-

CONTENTS

1. Spanish and Portuguese Conquests of Latin America
2. US and Canadian Expansions from Coast to Coast and Greenland taken over by Denmark
3. British White Commonwealth, Establishment and Expansion
4. The Arctic Peoples
5. The Oceanic Peoples
6. India
7. Conclusion

We propose to serialise our Work-in-Progress on History of Capitalism :
ERA OF DARKNESS : 1098-2004
FROM CRUSADES, COLUMBUS AND COLONIALISM,
TO HOLOCAUST, HIROSHIMA AND OZONE-HOLE
in this series of Occasional Papers.

AN ERA OF DARKNESS : 1098-2003:
FROM CRUSADES, COLUMBUS AND COLONIALISM
TO HOLOCAUST, HIROSHIMA AND OZONE-HOLE
PLANETARY LAND GRAB BY WHITES

Silently, relentlessly, at times creepingly, and at other times convulsively, a planetary land grab by European Whites has been proceeding apace for the last millennium, from the 11th century AD to the present.

At one time it was said that "the sun never sets on the British Empire", which extended over 1/4 of the world's land area. The Spaniards, the Portuguese, the Dutch, the French, the Belgians, the Danes, the Germans, and the Italians collectively were not far behind. The Russians expanded along their own periphery to almost encompass one-seventh of the world's land surface.

Thus, the two empires together formed a land area of about 39% of the world (British Empire = 25% + Russian Empire = 14%) At the end of the 19th century, there were only three ostensibly independent kingdoms left in the world, namely, Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Thailand. The first was a no man's land between the British and the Russians empires in Central Asia and the other two separated the British and the French spheres of influence in East Africa and South-East Asia, respectively.

The White Christian European Capitalists land grab has been carried out in roughly three waves, each wave representing a distinct geographical direction and a separate socio-political niche. We may describe them as follows:

First Wave: Latin America, i.e., South America plus Central America plus Caribbean plus Mexico. Time slot: 1492 to 1820s and 30s. Technically there had been an earlier attempt by White Christian Europeans in the shape of the Crusades, a series of eight or nine military expeditions spread over from 11th to 13th centuries, which were bourgeoisifying movements that failed in their objective of establishing direct trade links with the Indian Ocean traffic. In fact the Arab-Muslim feudal regimes of the Middle-East were so powerful that they defeated all European efforts to bypass them and forced

European feudalism to seek a capitalist way out, compelling a vast movement of social change in Europe, which had been marginal to world history till that time, and which had been able hitherto to project only weak and petty, divided and warring, poverty-stricken and backward feudal regimes that crumbled as soon as they touched the peripheries of the kingdom of Saladin the Great and his contemporaries.

The Eight or Nine Crusades, not counting the so-called Two Children's Crusades and similar barbaric affairs, having failed, the First Wave that actually succeeded was one that began with Columbus' voyage of 1492.

As a matter of fact, the Crusades had been such a total disaster that actually a **three-pronged backlash** had occurred. Saladin and his successors had shattered the pan-European forces that had set up in the Levant the four tiny principalities of Edessa, Jerusalem, Antioch and Tripoli. (*Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 1973 Edition, vol. VI, p. 830, hereinafter referred to as *EB73* of 24 Vols. *EB 83* of 30 Vols. stands for *Encyclo. Britannica*, 1983 ed. *Macro* 19 Vols, *Micro* 10 Vols, *Propaedia* 1 Vol.)

BACKLASH - FIRST PRONG : The Al-Moravid (1056-1147 AD) and Al Mohad (1130-1269 AD) Empires had subjugated Spain and Portugal, following the end of the Caliphate of Cordoba (711-1236 AD). The kingdom of Granada, the last Islamic foothold on the Iberian Peninsula, fell to the Christian Reconquista armies in 1492, the same year in which Columbus reached the Caribbean and called it the West Indies. The threat that enveloped South Europeans and all the seven major Mediterranean Islands was the Arab-Berber thrust.

BACKLASH - SECOND PRONG : The Il Khans (1256-1353 AD), the Seljuqs (1092-1250 AD) and the Ottomans (c 1250-1922 AD) had in the meantime taken over in Iran, Anatolia and the Balkans. This was the Turkic thrust. (The Il Khans were strictly speaking a Mongol offshoot, but had been highly Turkicised and Iranised.)

BACKLASH - THIRD PRONG : The Mongols (13th to 16th centuries AD) had overrun Russia and East Europe and formed the third pincer of the three-pronged Asiatic backlash to the European Crusades and Reconquista movement, and the occupation of South, South-east and East Europe by Arab-Berber, Turkic and Mongol armies respectively.

The European Christian Mercantilist wave succeeded because the Asiatic feudal (kingdoms) had not developed the sea power to match their immensely powerful land armies. The marauding, piratical, buccaneering activities, which were all essentially "primitive bourgeois" European strategies, remained unanswered. The land based, gigantic regimes had not allowed little capitalist subterranean networks to develop along their mighty riverways or extensive coastlines. Such a warren of connected passages had grown in Europe along the Rhine-Danubain waterways and North-Italian and Iberian Coastlines. Venice and Genoa had led Europe's mercantile interests during the Crusades and had attacked the Orthodox Christian Byzantium Constantinople's dominance of the Eastern trade, just as fiercely as they had assaulted the Levantine Muslim caravan centres.

Let us now return to the first European Wave of territorial expansion that actually occurred after 1492 and 1498. The so-called Voyages of Discovery not only caused the Universal Land Grab but also provided the Precious Metal Loot that enabled European participation in the Oriental Trade. As Francois Bernier, Walter Hamilton, George Forster, and many a visitor noted, India did not accept anything other than gold and silver against perennial export surpluses. The world's stock of bullion ultimately came to be buried in India. That is the story of the Precious Metal Loot from Latin America as far as commercial transactions on a global scale are concerned. However, the European Christian Mercantilist forces simultaneously looted and massacred the Native Americans. Their lands became vacant and empty. This led to the Triangular Trans-Atlantic Slave trade which substituted Blacks for Reds. That is another aspect of the Grand European Christian Saga, which we have described in these pages.

The standard European land grab strategy was to establish armed trading facilities called factories, transit depots and/or penal colonies of exiled convicts. The normal commercial sea traffic from and to these strategic points was then interfered with and taken over by armed naval might. Gradually, the commercial facilities were translated into political power and regimes were set up in foreign lands to further political interests of the various European East India companies that were engaged in slave, fur, timber and spice trading and similar ventures. In the meantime, European diseases and Christianity were introduced to decimate the local native populations. Once political power was seized in the region, Land Acquisition and

Immigration Policies would be laid down which would favour the European intruders. Genocidal massacres would be carried out to complete European mastery over the selected territory.

We may here recollect the notices printed in standard Western encyclopaedias:

"The original inhabitants of the Canaries were the Guanches, now extinct, a Berber people who were conquered by the Spanish in the 15th century." (*EB83, Micro, Vol.II, p.502*)

Here, as in almost every other respect, the British completed what the Spaniards had started:

"TASMANIANS, an extinct Negritoid people once found in Tasmania. Male average height was about 5 ft. 6 in.; they had flat noses and wide nostrils (the nasal index being the highest on record), shorter and broader heads than mainland Australian Aborigines, full, fleshy lips, bushy beards, and very curly to woolly hair..... The last full blood is recorded as having died in 1876. This peaceful people became fearful and resentful when faced with dispossession and with cruelty on the part of European convicts and settlers." (*EB73, Vol. 21, p.714.*)

As far as the genocidal massacre of the Native Americans i.e., the so-called Red Indians, is concerned, as we have seen elsewhere, Fidel Castro puts the estimate of total killings at 70 million, whilst our own calculation places the figure nearer 110 millions: "Until the 1960s it was thought that about 16 million people inhabited the Western Hemisphere at the time of European discovery. Demographers now realize, however, that epidemic diseases that accompanied European contact with aboriginal people often decimated the native group in very short order - in certain cases killing two-thirds of the population in one year.... It might be said, then, that the most effective instrument of subjugation throughout the New World was neither the sword nor the cross but, rather, the epidemic. The new estimates are usually of the order of 90,000,000 to 110,000,000, with all but about 10,000,000 living in what is now Latin America." (*EB73, Vol. 12, p.54.*)

We may analyse the Planetary Land Grab by Europeans under the following heads:

Table 1
A HISTORICAL CONSPECTUS

Category	Part of Planet Devastated	Criminal Strategy	Imperial Powers	Period
1. FIRST WAVE	Latin America	Genocide & Attendant Evils	Spain & Portugal	1492-1830s
2. SECOND WAVE	North America			
	USA ¹ & Canada ²	Genocide	England & France	1776-1950
	Central America ³	Wars, Purchases, & Slave Trade	Spain, Holland & France	1519-1848
	Greenland		Denmark	1380
3. THIRD WAVE	White Commonwealth ²			
	Australia	Genocide & Penal Colony Establishedment	British Imperialism	1779-1901
	Newzealand	Genocide and Maori Wars		1777-1907
	Canada	Genocide and Indian Wars		1785-1867
	South Africa & Adjacent Lands	Slave Trade, Apartheid & Ethnic Cleansing		1615-1988

Notes: 1. See for details Table no. 2 - Stages of US Expansion: 1785-1959

2. See for details Table no.3 British Imperialist Land Grab

3. Central America Includes Mexico, Caribbean Islands and the countries of the Isthmus that links North with South America, which has been divided and redivided by most of the European Imperialist powers into minute mini-states of, from North to South, Belize (formerly British Honduras), Guatemala, Honduras, EL Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama.

(contd. on next page)

FIRST WAVE : LATIN AMERICA: GENOCIDE — SPANISH STRATEGY: 1492-1830s

As Marx wrote in *Capital* Vol. 1, "The different moments of primitive accumulation distribute themselves now, more or less in chronological order, particularly over Spain, Portugal, Holland, France and England. The discovery of gold and silver in America, the enslavement and entombment in mines of the aboriginal populations, the beginning of the conquest and looting of the East Indies, the turning of Africa into a warren for the commercial hunting of blackskins, signalized the rosy dawn of the era of capitalist production." (p.703)

Marx continued: "The treatment of the aborigines was, naturally, most frightful in plantation-colonies in West Indies, and in rich and well-populated countries, such as Mexico and India, that were given over to plunder. But even in the colonies properly so-called, the Christian character of primitive accumulation did not belie itself. Those sober virtuosi of Protestantism, the Puritans of New England, in 1703, by decrees of their assembly set a premium of Pounds 40 on every (Red) Indian scalp; in 1744, after Massachusetts-Bay had proclaimed a certain tribe as rebels, the following prices: for a male scalp of 12 years and upwards Pound 100 (new currency), for a male prisoner Pounds 105, for scalps of women and children Pounds 50. The British Parliament proclaimed blood-hounds and scalping as 'means that God and Nature had given into its hands.' " (p.705)

(Table notes contd. from previous page)

4. INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS : Canada is the largest country in the Western hemisphere. Its area of 3,851,809 sq.mi. is 6.5% larger than the United States at 3,615,208 sq.mi. and 17.2% larger than Brazil at 3,286,470 sq.mi. (*EB73*, Vol.4, p.725)

The only national territory in the world larger than Canada is of USSR at 8,649,489 sq.mi. The USSR has shrunk since 1989-91 to 6,592,664 sq.mi., when it was renamed Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). This broke up into 15 constituent republics of which the Russian Federation of today is the largest unit. Thus, the Russian Federation is 2,056,825 sq.mi. smaller than the old USSR. But of course it remains the largest country in the world.

Further details of land grab in Canada are given in *Table 2: British Imperialist Land Grab*.

Apart from immuring of the aboriginal population in mines, the chief instruments devised by the Spanish for the enslavement and entombment of the native Red Indians were the ENCOMIENDA, ESTANCIA, FAZENDA, HACIENDA, REPARTIMENTO, POTOSI, ASIEN TO, BANDEIRAS and AUDIENCIA on each of which a brief note follows:

1. ENCOMIENDA, "in colonial Spanish America, a legal system by which the Spanish crown attempted to define the status of the Indian population in its American colonies. It was based upon the practice of exacting tribute from Muslims and Jews during the Reconquista of Muslim Spain.

"In practice it became a form of enslavement.

"As legally defined in 1503, an encomienda consisted of a grant by the Crown, to a conquistador, soldier, official, or others, of a specified number of Indians living in a particular area. The receiver of the grant, then could exact tribute from the Indians in gold, in kind, or in labour, and was required to protect them and instruct them in the Christian faith. The encomienda did not include a grant of land, but in practice the encomienderos gained control of the Indians' lands..... with the catastrophic decline in Indian population the system lost its effectiveness and was gradually replaced by the HACIENDA system of landed estates." (EB83, Micro, Vol. III, p.887. Reconquista is being dealt with in a footnote below.)

2. ESTANCIAS, "in the Rio de la Plata region of Argentina and Uruguay, the extensive rural estates largely devoted to cattle ranching and to some extent to the raising of feed grain. From the late 18th century *estancieros* began to acquire tracts of land in the *pampas* of Argentina, which by the late 19th century had been almost

* RECONQUISTA : The Reconquista was a movement directed towards the conquest of the Iberian Peninsula by Western European Christian armies, and the expulsion of the Islamic forces that had occupied parts or whole of Spain and Portugal from 711 to 1492. The Kingdom of Granada the last Islamic foothold on the North Shore of the Mediterranean fell in 1492, the same year that Columbus reached the Caribbean. The Spanish Reconquista succeeded whilst its Pan-European aggressive form, the Crusades, failed miserably (See Runciman, "Seen in the perspective of history the whole Crusading movement was a vast fiasco." Vol.III, of *History of Crusades*, OUP, 1951, p.469)

entirely fenced in to form these estates. By 1900 about 300 families owned most of the Argentine pampas, each with an estancia measured in hundreds of thousands of acres. A similar situation obtained in Uruguay. Like the *fazendeiro* in Brazil and the *hacindado* in Mexico, the *estanciero* exercised wide lawmaking and judicial powers over his tenant farmers and servants. These powers, reminiscent of those exercised by the feudal nobles of medieval Europe, were often abused by the *estancieros* themselves or by their overseers." (EB83, Micro, Vol. III, p.968)

3. FAZENDA, "a large plantation in Brazil, comparable to the Estancia in the Rio de la Plata region in Argentina and Uruguay, or the Hacienda in Mexico. In the colonial period (16th-18th centuries), the *Fazendeiros* (owners of Fazendas) were usually born in Brazil of Portuguese ancestry. When the Portuguese royal court fled from Lisbon in 1808, their feudal power became seriously weakened. Many were economically ruined, when Negro slavery was finally abolished in Brazil in 1888. Embittered, they helped to overthrow Emperor Pedro II and launch the first republic." (EB83, Micro, Vol., IV, p.2)

4. HACIENDA, "in large areas of Spanish America, the large landed estate originating in the colonial period, survived in many places late into the 20th century. Labourers were ordinarily Indians. Their employers were able to bind them to the land, especially by keeping them in an indebted state; by the 19th century probably up to a half of the rural population of Mexico was thus entangled in the *peonage* system. The counterpart of the Hacienda in the Rio de la Plata (Argentina and Uruguay) region and in Brazil are the ESTANCIA and the FAZENDA, respectively." (EB83, Micro, Vol IV, p.826)

5. REPARTIMENTO: "in which crown allowed certain colonists to recruit Indians for forced labour. Begun as early as in 1499 and given definite form in c 1595, about 25% of Indians in each district were required to work for Spaniards. Indians were brutally treated. The system was to continue in mines till the owners could purchase enough Negro slaves to replace the Indians. The system remained in force till 1820." (EB83, Micro, Vol.III, p.513)

As for the mining by the Spanish conquistadores, we will take POTOSI as typical:

6. POTOSI, "one of the highest cities of the world (altitude

over 13,700 ft.), it stands in the shadow of fabulous Cerro Potosi and its 5,000 mines. The Spanish mining industry in Bolivia began in 1540. The discovery in 1545 of Cerro Potosi, a conical mountain rising 15,680 ft. above sea level, established Potosi as the foremost silver producing region in the world It is estimated that the region subsequently produced \$ 1,000,000,000 worth of silver." (*EB 73*, Vol. 18, p.335)

Most of this silver ended up in India, as India accepted almost nothing save gold and silver against the European purchase of Indian textiles, spices and other specialties. (See forthcoming paper in the - Era of Darkness, for the Drain of Wealth to India from the Rest of the World up to c 1750.)

A feeble defense has been offered by the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*: "The evils and cruelties of the Iberian conquest cannot be overlooked, but they were the horrors common to all European colonial systems." (*EB73*, Vol. 13, p.745). That may be so, but how is it relevant for non-European students of world history?

White European Christian mercantilists and capitalists developed special institutions and laws to grab the possessions of the presumed uncivilized people of the world. The seizure of their properties and chattels was a sort of educational price to be paid by them in order to catch up with the achievements of the White Europeans. Of course, they could never actually equal their teachers i.e. tormentors. But like Sisyphus they could go on trying and repeating, start all over again from the beginning!

7. ASIENTO DE NEGRO (Spanish: "Negroes' Contracts"), "an agreement between the Spanish crown and a private person or another sovereign power by which the latter was granted a monopoly in supplying African slaves to the Spanish colonies in the Americas. The contractor agreed to pay a certain amount of money for the monopoly and to deliver a stipulated number of male and female slaves for sale in the American markets. The first such contractor was with a Genoese company that in 1517 agreed to supply 1000 slaves per annum over an eight year period. In 1528 an agreement was reached with a German firm to supply 4000 slaves. Each slave was sold at a price not exceeding 48 ducats." The foregoing is quoted from *EB83, Micro*, Vol II, p.449. A ducat was equivalent to \$ 16 in the year 1493.

To return to *EB83, Micro*, Vol I, p.584: Foreigners sought Asientos because they provided a chance to share in the Spanish American trade and especially to acquire the bullion by the slave trade (and to indulge in buccaneering, piracy and smuggling.)

The most notable Asiento was that granted the British South Sea Company in 1713 to supply 4,800 slaves to Spanish America annually for 30 years and to send one ship each year to engage in general trade against payment of an annual tax to the Spanish crown of £ 34,000 for the first 4,000 slaves whether or not they were imported. The legal trade was accompanied by illicit traffic leading to the War of Jenkins' Year in 1739. The Asiento was renewed at the Treaty of Aix-al-Chapelle in 1748, but two years later the British relinquished their rights in exchange for payment of £100,000 from Spain.

Between 1600 and 1750 an estimated 450,000 Africans were dispatched to Spanish America under the Asiento system.

The Portuguese crown also granted Asientos de Negros from 1678, to import slaves into Brazil.

The above price of 45 ducats per slave or \$ 720 per head is in alignment with the price of £ 600 per Negro slave in the West Indies, quoted by Brooks Adams in his *The Law of Civilization and Decay*, p.238, for the year 1562.

8. BANDEIRAS, Portuguese slave hunting expeditions into the Brazilian interior in the 17th century.

The Bandeiras, numbering anywhere from about 50 to several thousand men, and usually including writers, judges and priests, were organized and tightly controlled by wealthy entrepreneurs.

The first Bandeiras organized by Antonio Raposo Tavares in 1628 raided 21 villages in the upper Parana Valley and captured some 2,500 Red Indians. The Bandeiras netted large profits in slaves and thus wrecked great injury on the Red Indians. (*EB83, Micro*, Vol. I, p.783)

9. AUDIENCIA, One of the most important government institutions of Spanish colonial America.

The first was the Audiencia of Santo Domingo set up in 1511, that of Mexico City was founded in 1527. The Audiencias of Lima

and Guatemala were set up 1542 and 1543. By the end of the colonial era, a total of 13 had been established between the four viceroyalties.

Audiencias were charged by the crown with safeguarding the rights of the Indians (but not with safeguarding their lives as we have shown extensively above.)

**SECOND WAVE: NORTH AMERICA:
GENOCIDE, WARS AND PURCHASES:
US EXPANSION FROM COAST TO COAST, 1776-1950—
PARALLEL CANADIAN AGGRANDISEMENT TO 1867 —
SEIZURE OF GREENLAND BY DENMARK, 1814**

The British were the biggest land grabbers on a planetary scale, though chronologically the Spanish and the Portuguese may have preceded them. We will consider the seizure of land in the White Commonwealth countries of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa a little later in this study, but we can begin with USA, which was a British colonial and penal settlement to start with.

These "Thirteen Colonies" gave themselves a separate constitution in 1785-90, had an original area of just 841,918 sq. kms. They then entered upon an explosive expansionist phase, and through genocidal campaigns, wars with both Native American and foreign forces, and inter-imperialist transfers, acquired territories to the extent of 9,372,614 sq.kms. (The *New Webster's International Encyclopaedia* 91, pp. 1,124), a growth of about 1113% or of over 11 times.

We might say that "gold, glory and gospel" were the major motivations of the Iberians in the conquest of Latin America. Similarly, the Westward expansion of the USA, to California, Alaska and Hawali, was accomplished by "glory-mad cavalrymen, gold-hungry forty-niners and mountain men, zealous Calvinists and Indian-cheating, treaty-breaking land grabbing frontiersmen and farmers." (This was the facetious explanation of their own black deeds by the Western academicians, who contributed to *EB73*, Vol 13, p.745)

The story of American Westward march is a horror tale of indescribable barbarity. It has been romanticized and fantasized as "*Western*" novels, comics and movies, and as "*Country and Western*" music and dance, which have glorified the American cowboy,

frontiersman, bordello-owner and cardsharp. Where no law prevailed, the sheriff was presented as the prime "law enforcement agent"! He was the rough and tough, humorous and humane, and an essentially a just guy. The scalpers of Red Indian men, women and children, at particular rates, described vividly by Karl Marx, as quoted above, were transformed into folk heroes! Only Semi-Neanderthals from Europe could have added such on insult to injury!

The main stages of the Atlantic to the Pacific expansion of the USA after separation from Britain, around 1776, were as follows:

Table 2
STAGES OF US EXPANSION : 1785-1959

No.	Description	Year	Area (sq.kms)	Additionas % of Original Area
1.	Original Area of 13 Colonies	1785-90	841,918	-
2.	Louisiana Purchase	1803	2,144,000	+254%
3.	Annexation of Florida	1819	151,670	+18%
4.	Annexation of Texas	1845	692,408	+82%
5.	Acquisition through Mexican-American War	1846-8	2,050,971	+243%
6.	Oregon Territory seized by USA	1846	427,796	+51%
7.	Hawaii de facto seized	1851	16,705	+2%
8.	Gadsden Purchase	1853	77,700	+9%
9.	Alaska Purchase	1867	1,518,800	+180%
10.	Spanish-American War Puerto Rico seized	1898	8,860	+1%
11.	Present extent of USA	1991	9,372,614	+1.113% (i.e., USA has grown over 11 times)

PARALLEL CANADIAN EXPANSION

The only difference between the savages who turned the USA into a gigantic bobbing cauldron of blood, entrails and scalps, and

those who carried out similar tasks in territories further North, was that the Canadians opted to fight on the British side, whilst the Americans favoured a break, preferring to establish their distinct domain of dastardly devilry.

The story of Canadians promoting their own separate fur-trading, lumbering, whaling, mining and farming interests resembles in all essentials that of their proximate Southern neighbour.

European settlements in Canada began in about 1534, as overflow from British convict colonies established in U.S.A.

Canada was known as New France, in the years 1574-1760. In 1803 the USA acquired through Louisiana Purchase the entire territory stretching from the Mississippi river in the east to the Rocky Mountains in the West, north to the Canadian border and South to the Gulf of Mexico, i.e. some 828,000 sq. miles, or 2,144,520 sq. km., at a price of \$ 27.27 million. Due to the exigencies of the war that Napoleon was waging in Europe, he was in extreme financial distress. Therefore he was compelled to sell land in New France in North America, at the ridiculously low price of \$ 13 per sq. km. To the west of the Rocky Mountains lay California, and the original Oregon Territory, that included the present-day Oregon and Washington States. The old Oregon Territory lay between Russian Alaska and Spanish California. The U.S. Canadian boundaries were demarcated in 1846, at the 49th Parallel to meet the Pacific Ocean.

California became the 31st state of the USA in 1850, and Oregon became the 33rd in 1859. Out of old Oregon, Washington state was carved out as the 42nd state in 1889. Thus the Northwestern boundary between USA and Canada was defined by the year 1889.

The French of Quebec joined their British counterpart in Newfoundland, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Labrador, Hudson's Bay and similar territories to form the Dominion of Canada in 1867 with eleven provinces and two territories. We will deal with further details of the Canadian story in our Table 3 on White Commonwealth below.

**THIRD WAVE: AFRICA, CANADA AND AUSTRALASIA:
SLAVE TRADE, APARTHEID AND ETHNIC CLEANSING —
BRITISH WHITE COMMONWEALTH STRATEGY**

The British Empire of the 19th century was the true successor

to the Iberian conquests of the 16th century. Spain and Portugal had taken over the whole of South America, Central America and the Caribbean, from the American-Mexican border to the Strait of Magellan. (At one time, the Spanish colony of Mexico itself had extended northwards to engross the whole of Western United States upto the Canadian border and beyond)

We append below Table 3 on the planetary land grab carried out by British Imperialism principally in the 19th centuries and 20th centuries.

Table 3
BRITISH IMPERIALIST LAND GRAB

No.	Country	Date of Relative Independence	Area ^c mln. km ²	Area% of World	Pop. ^c mln. 2000	Pop. % of World	Density 1999 per km ²	Ethnic % of Whites
I WHITE COMMONWEALTH: 1867 TO 1907								
1.	Australia	1901	7.74	5.79	19	0.31	2	99.0
2.	New Zealand	1907	0.27	0.20	4	0.06	.14	87.0
3.	Canada	1867	9.97	7.46	31	0.51	3	97.0
	Total I		17.98	13.45	54	0.88	3	a
II SOUTH AFRICA & ADJACENT LANDS 1910 TO 1988								
4.	S. Africa	1910	1.22	0.91	43	0.71	34	18.0
5.	Bostwana	1966	0.58	0.43	2	0.03	3	5.0
6.	Namibia	1988	0.82	0.61	2	0.03	2	6.0
7.	Mozambique	1975	0.80	0.60	18	0.29	22	2.0
8.	Angola	1975	1.24	0.93	13	0.21	10	0.5
9.	Zimbabwe	1980	0.39	0.29	12	0.16	11	3.5
10.	Zambia	1964	0.75	0.56	10	0.16	13	1.1
11.	Malawi	1964	0.12	0.80	11	0.18	117	0.2
	Total II		5.92	4.41	111	1.77	19	b
	G. Total		23.90	17.86	165	2.65	9	-

Notes: a. Ethnic proportion of Whites taken from *HE98*.

b. Ethnic proportion of Whites taken from *EB83, Micro*.

(contd. on next page)

We may note that the racialist regime of South Africa has not been dismantled in essentials to this day, though Apartheid was formally abolished as State Policy in 1889-91, and the first multi-racial elections were held in 1994.

"Ownership of land by Africans was limited to designated Native Reserves comprising only 13% of the land surface in Apartheidist South Africa. Sexual relations and marriage between whites and non-whites were made illegal. The right to vote was denied to non-white persons and all Africans were required to obtain permission before they could enter or remain in urban areas." (EB73, Vol. P.103)

The South African Land Laws were designed not only to deprive the blacks of their natural patrimony, but also to force them to perform cheap labour: "Native's Land Act, 1913, South African Law securing labour by limiting African Land ownership and transforming African farmers into wage labourers." (EB83, *Micro*, Vol VI, p.218)

The ethnic composition of the population has been given in our Table 3. It was 18% White and 82% non-White in South Africa. Thus 87% of the land was owned by 18% of the population which was White and 82% of the population owned just 13% of the land. Except that, Nelson Mandela was given a grand bungalow and estate in the exclusive White area after its legal abolition of Apartheid!

For old Rhodesia, now divided into three, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi, EB83, *Micro*, Vol VI, p.19, notes laconically. "Land Apportionment Act, 1930, Rhodesian law *reserving one-half of all Rhodesian land for Europeans.*" Thus, at one stroke, half of 1.26 million km² of the best fertile land of Rhodesia was seized and native Africans excluded!

This is how Western Encyclopaedias treat the most important matters that concern the developing world. Millions of square kilometers are misappropriated by White Christian Europeans and this is the short note to be found in encyclopaedias !

(Table notes contd. from previous page)

c.Area and population from *World Bank Reports 2000/2001* and 2002.

COMPARISONS: Density per km²: India - 336; China - 134; Russia - 9; USA - 30; UK - 245; France - 107

(From *World Development Report 2000/2001*, pp.274-5)

AUSTRALIA : In addition to the facts which we have given above in the Table 5 of this note, the following data Australian Aborigines and Australian Antarctic Territory will be of interest to our readers.

"Most of the settlers arriving in the early 19th century were convicts. By 1830, 58,000 convicts had been sent from Britain. The early government was authoritarian, all Governors being military officers." (*EB83, Micro, Vol I, p.661*)

"Australian mainland area is of about 2,966,150 sq. miles (7,682,300sq. kms)

"By 1976 only 161,000 Austalians claimed to be Aborigines.

"Australian Antarctic Territory Acceptance Act 1933, was the law by which Antarctic Territory was transferred from Great Britain to Australia. The Territory comprised all islands and lands below 60° South latitude and between longitudes 160° and 45° east. Its total area was 2,400,000 sq. miles or 6,200,000 sq. kms."

In other words, the Australian Antarctic Territory was approximately 81% of continental Australian territory, transferred by Britain to Australia in 1933.

NEW ZEALAND : Special laws were passed to expropriate the original owners: "Native Land Act, 1862 and 1865 provided private purchase of Maori Land and abolition of tribal ownership of Maori holdings, leading to destruction of traditional Maori society. The Act succeeded in opening enormous areas for settlement by Whites. By 1892, the Maori had generally been reduced to rural labourers, their population fell rapidly." (*EB83, Micro, Vol VI, p.217*)

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA : We have chosen to include in our Table 3 most of the Sub-Saharan African lands which had common borders with South-Africa, because in this region the fascist racist regime of Apartheid (1948-90) had the maximum political and economic influence. Furthermore, some of these countries were defacto ruled by South Africa, e.g. Namibia and Botswana. Land ownership in Zambia and Zimbabwe (originally parts of Rhodesia, a British Colony, was highly skewed in favour of the insignificant White minority. Currently in Zimbabwe, President Mugabe has woken up, after a compradorist Rip Wan Winkle sleep (which may also be termed a Nehruvian siesta), and is engaged in a civil war, with White

settlers to hand over land to its original Black owners. It is as though, after two decades of compradorist bootlicking, suddenly Mugabe, had decided to change his role from that of a Nehru to that of a Lohia!

Angola and Mozambique were Portuguese possessions where White Christian superiority in every sphere was strictly enforced.

It is obviously scandalous that the insignificant White minority in Southern Africa just a million out of 111 million people living in the region should possess about 5% of the world's land area in Sub-Saharan Africa, i.e. in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Mozambique. This White minority owned almost all of the most fertile lands, out of the total area of nearly 6 million sq. kms in these 8 countries!

AN INSIGNIFICANT WHITE CHRISTIAN EUROPEAN CAPITALIST MINORITY HAS EXCLUDED BY GENOCIDAL EXTERMINATION, SLAVE RAIDING, RACIALIST SEQUESTRATION, AND RESTRICTIVE IMMIGRATION, A DISPROPORTIONATELY LARGE LAND AREA OF THE WORLD, AND CAUSED THIRD WORLD DEPRIVATION AND IMPOVERISHMENT!

As long as Apartheidist South Africa existed, it was not possible for any country on its borders, be it Botswana, Mozambique, Angola, Namibia or Rhodesia to follow any land policy which did not heavily favour the Whites and ensure the continued impoverishment of the Blacks. South Africa went so far as to finance and arm guerrilla movements in these borderlands during the entire recent period. Money and arms were used to combat all the Black regimes that came into being after the collapse of the Portuguese colonial Empire in Angola and Mozambique in 1975; after the entry of Cuban soldiers in the national liberation armies of Namibia, Angola, Mozambique and nearby African countries, and after the process of so-called decolonization that had overtaken Africa since the 1960s and which had finally engulfed South Africa's eight immediate neighbours in the 1980s (see map in Longman's *International Encyclopaedia of World History*, 1976, p.7)

For any of the eight countries which we have listed in the bottom half of our Table 3: British Imperialist Land Grab, it was highly dangerous to adopt a more just and equitable land policy in the entire Apartheidist / Racialist period of 1948 to 1990s (actually

from 1901 to the 1990s). For instance, in Zimbabwe, 4,500 commercial farmers, almost all White, owned 11.7 million hectares of the best land, acquired in the colonial period; whilst 7 million Black farmers were forced to eke out a miserable living from 16.4 million hectares of the poorest quality "communal land". (*Keesing's Archives*, News Digest for February 1992, Keesing's Publications Ltd., London.)

OCEANIC PEOPLE AND CULTURES : The world over diversity of human cultures is being rapidly destroyed and the promotion of a monoculture of the Christian European White Capitalist type is being promoted. The same sports, the identical pop music, the forceful projection of the same American fashions and films, is creating a terrible monotony and unbearable boredom.

Oceania is the collective name for the islands scattered throughout the Pacific Ocean, i.e., the region between Asia and America. A more common definition excludes the Ryuku, Kurile and Aleutian Islands, the Japanese Archipelago, Indonesia, Taiwan and the Philippines. This core Oceania consists of more than 10,000 islands divided into four parts as given in the Table below. The following table sums up the situation approximately.

Table 4
OCEANIA

No.	Zone	Land Area (sq. km)	Population (in 1980s/2000)	Notes
1.	Melanesia	525,475 ¹	8,350,000 ³	of which Papua New Guinea is 463,000 sq. km., with population 5 mln in 2000.
2.	Micronesia	24,525 ⁴		
3.	Polynesia	290,000 ¹		
4.	Australasia	8,012,000 ¹	23,000,000 ²	Oceania, excluding Australasia, 840,000 sq. km. Australia 7,741,000 sq. km. & NZ 271,265 sq. km. with pop. of 19 & 4 mln respectively in 2000.

(contd. on next page)

Prior to the impact of the Cross-and European Christian diseases, the Aboriginal population of Australia alone was estimated at over 3 lks (*EB83, Macro*, Vol. 13, p.486). It had been reduced to less than 40,000 by 1961. The last human being belonging to the Tasmanian Local Race has been exterminated by 1876.

With the density of population at 2 per sq. km., Australia has the lowest density amongst the continents of the world.

IT IS TO THE ETERNAL SHAME OF GREAT BRITAIN AS A COLONIAL POWER THAT IT GENOCIDALLY EXTERMINATED THE POPULATIONS OF VAST AREAS OF THE WORLD, WHICH TODAY ARE KNOWN AS WHITE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES, AND LANDS ADJACENT TO SOUTH AFRICA, AS DETAILED IN TABLE 3 ABOVE.

AMERICAN PURCHASES FROM RUSSIA, FRANCE AND MEXICO

It would have been noticed by the perceptive readers of these lines, that all the three waves unleashed by the White European Christian, Capitalist barbarians, all the devastating genocidal massacres and cleansings, followed a standard pattern. *The Europeans would arrive by sea, establish armed trading posts and empty the region and depopulate it, through the triple agencies of the Cross, the Sword and the Epidemic.*

Against the First and Second Waves, we have described the Hispano-American, the Anglo-American and the Franco-American strategies of genocidal massacres, ethnic cleansings and minor inter-imperialist transfers (Alaska sold by Russia to USA in 1867, for \$ 7.2 million, or about \$ 4.87 for a square kilometer; Louisiana Purchase in 1803 by USA from France for \$ 27.27 million at \$13 per square kilometer; Gadsden Purchase by USA from Mexico in 1883 of 77,700 sq. km. for 10 million at \$ 128.7 per square kilometer.)

(Table notes contd. from previous page)

1. Area given in *EB83, Micro*, Vol VI, p.766; VII VII, p.471; VII VIII, pp.99- 100.
2. Population from *World Development Report*, 2002, pp.232-3.
3. *EB83, Micro*, Vol VII, p.471
4. Derived figures from [Micronesia = Oceania - (Australasia + Melanesia + Polynesia)].

Once the Native Americans, mistakenly called Red-Indians, had been wiped out, the standard procedure followed by the same White Christian Capitalist aggressors was the undertaking of The Triangular-Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, to work in the mines and plantations established by all sorts of legal subterfuges called Hacienda, Encomienda, Fazenda, Repartimento, etc. (see above pages 7-10)

In turn Slave Trade and slavery had to be abolished in the course of the 19th century, (so called Emancipation Proclamation in 1863). Promptly the Westerners substituted Indentured Labour and Black-Birding for Negro slavery.

INDENTURED LABOUR WITHIN INDIA

Thus Indian Indentured Labourers were carried to South Africa, Fiji, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana- Suriname, East Africa, Old Rhodesia, Sri Lanka and similar outposts of the erstwhile British-Empire. (Recently, an International Conference of Non-Resident Indians and People of Indian Origin, NIRs and IPOs, has taken place in Delhi, where the descendants of the Indentured Labourers had gathered together claiming representation of 20 million NRIs and IPOs)

We have no space for the horrors perpetrated upon the poor Indians, who were forced to migrate to the four corners of the globe, under the guise of iniquitous Contracts, which they could not read. (See the tragic tale of "*Indian Serfs and Slaves of British Empire*" in R.C. Muzumdar's *HCIP*, Vol X, page 611 ff)

We can here merely mention two pockets of utter British brutality that aroused outcry within India, namely the Tea Gardens of Assam and the Coal and Iron Mines of Bihar, now Jharkhand. (See *ibid*, p.595 ff)

Under Act XIII of 1859, the Tea Garden Labourers were forced to sign a contract, which according to the chief commissioner, "may be enforced under this Act, though it is not in writing, though it is not stamped, though it is not registered, though it is not presented for verification before any official, though there is no proof, the labourers understood the terms of the engagement and though the terms may be manifestly unfair. A labourer cannot free himself by redemption, nor can he plead any misconduct of his employer as an excuse for non-performance. (*ibid.*, p.597)

Under these so-called Contracts of Indenture "these wretched

men and women, ill-fed, ill-clad, ill-housed, were mercilessly caned, kicked or otherwise assaulted openly in the presence of other coolies, and the female coolies had to minister to the White-Saheb's pleasure whenever he chose to send for them. ... Many of the coolies succumbed to the assaults and injuries but the criminals were hardly ever brought to trial." (*ibid*)

In all cases the death of murdered coolies was medically certified as due to "the rupture of enlarged spleen." (*ibid.*, p.595)

We will not repeat more true stories of this English colonial barbarity, or of "the normal rapes and murders" committed by White men in the plantations of Eastern India, and of the expropriations of all common village lands carried out by White colonial savages under the various Forest Acts of the second half of the 19th century.

The English racialist - imperialists, who ruled India from c. 1765 to 1947 AD, had the temerity to claim that "private property" was absent from land relations in Indian economic history, and under this piece of chicanery, millions of hectares of forest lands and common pastures were handed over to Guaranteed Interest Railway Companies, and other Pound Sterling Plantation and Mining Corporations functioning from London. Actually, at least from the times of Kautilya's *Arthashastra* (4th century BC), each cultivator's field was defined the boundaries of the surrounding private land-holdings. By late feudal times in the 18th and 19th centuries AD, the Indian economy had become so privatised and monetised that every state administrative post was saleable and inheritable upon payment of *peshkash* of 651% of its current yield (See Sharayu Mhatre, *Social Change in Nineteenth Century Maharashtra*, Ph.D. Thesis, Bombay, 1976, pp.159ff.)

CONCLUSION

To sum up the discussion so far, we may consider the overall planetary land grabs carried out by the White Christian Mercantilist Imperialist Powers of Europe in Three Waves :(See Table 5 on next page)

We may now consider certain peripheral areas.

ESKIMOS AND ARCTIC PEOPLES These are fast disappearing as a distinct culture, and are being assimilated by the White Europeans. Only about 50,000 to 70,000 Eskimos survive. (*EB73*, Vol. 2, p. 345 and *EB73*, Vol. 8 p.702)

TABLE 5
PLANETARY LAND GRAB BY WHITES

	Land Grab in Three Waves	Area in Sq mi./ sq.km	% of World
I	The First Wave led by Spain and Portugal: (1492-1830s)		
	a) South America	6,900,000/ 17,871,000	12.00
	b) Mexico	7,62,000/ 1,974,000	1.31
	c) Caribbean islands (See Table 1)	269,000/ 696,710	0.46
			13.77
II	a) The Second Wave: USA Expands from coast to coast (1785-1859)	3,679,000/ 10,669,000	6.35
	b) The Second Wave: Greenland seized by Denmark 1814 (Canada included in Third Wave below) (See Table 2)	840,000/ 2,176,000	1.45
III			7.80
	The Third Wave: White Commonwealth 1867-1907 (See Table 3)	9,181,000/ 23,780,000	17.86
			39.43

"Europe introduced diseases, notably small pox, in the earlier times, later measles, and after World War I, influenza, which wiped out whole groups." (*EB73*, Vol. 8, p.702)

The Arctic lands are shared between Canada (approximately 37%); the Soviet Union (28%); Denmark i.e. Greenland (28%); and the United States (Alaska 6%).

Lapland consists of the following territories:

Iceland (proclaimed a republic in 1944 at the end of 3 centuries of Danish rule) and Northern parts of Norway, Sweden and Finland.

We will now attempt a conspectus of the total tragic situation.

Table 6

A SUMMING UP

Continent	% of Total Land Area of the World ¹	% of Total World Population ²	% of World GDP-PPP (2001)
ASIA ⁵	30%	60%	38.57
EUROPE ⁵	7%	13	26.97 ⁴
AFRICA	20%	12%	2.66 ⁴
N. AMERICA ³	16%	8%	23.19 ⁴
S. AMERICA ³	12%	6%	7.32 ⁴
OCEANIA	6%	1%	1.29 ⁴
ANTARTICA	9%	nil	nil
WORLD TOTALS	57.9 mln. sq. miles. 149.46 mln. sq. km.	6.132 billion	\$46,403 billion

Sources :

1. *New Webster's International Encyclopaedia*, 1991.; pp.8-9, 1230
2. World Population in billions from *WDR 2003*, p.235
3. Mexico and Caribbean Islands included in South America.
4. GDP-PPD data compiled from *WDR 2003*, pp.234-5.
5. There are two countries of Europe which overlap geographically with Asia, namely Russia and Turkey. Russia was known as USSR/SU (Union of Soviet Socialist Republic or Soviet Union) from 1917-1989, when for a short while it became C I S, i.e. Commonwealth of Independent States. This again broke up in 1991, into 15 Constituent Republics, of which the Russian Federation was as follows: total USSR/SU 8.6 million sq.miles in both Europe and Asia.

The distribution of the 15 Constituent Republics between Europe and Asia, was 1.920 million sq.miles in Europe (including the three Baltic Republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania; and the 3 East European Republics of Belorus, Ukraine and Moldova) and 6.680 million sq. miles of Asiatic territories, including the 3 Caucasian Republics of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan; and the 5 Central Asian Republics of Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan,

Tadjikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Overall, 22% of Russia lies in Europe and 78% in Asia.

Similarly, Turkey stretched over 301,382 sq. miles of which the area in Europe was only 3%, or 9152 sq. miles and 97% fell in Asia, i.e. 292,222 sq. miles.

Continent	Area (sq. miles)	Population (millions)	Density (per sq. mile)
ASIA	44,000,000	3,500	0.08
EUROPE	4,000,000	700	1.75
AFRICA	30,000,000	1,000	0.03
AMERICA	17,000,000	300	0.02
AMERICA	3,000,000	250	0.08
OCEANIA	10,000,000	30	0.003
ANTARCTICA	14,000,000	0	0
WORLD	140,000,000	5,000	0.04
TOTALS	140,000,000	5,000	0.04

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