

Chapter 10

Globalization

For most of human existence people have rarely traveled very far from where they are born

Thus humans have had very little interaction with other humans until about 5000 years ago when states and empires began to develop

Today humans are able to interact with each other from every place on earth through technology

The Cultural Legacy of Colonialism

Colonialism – the political conquest of one society by another, followed by social domination and forced cultural change

The greatest expansion of colonialism took place from the end of 19th century until just after WWII

Though the political domination was removed it did not bring complete independence thus neocolonialism developed

Colonialism and more so with neocolonialism the main component was economic in nature

Colonialism was often used to control land and people (corvee – forced labor)

New economic practices were forced on the local people thus they adapted to and incorporated certain parts into their own practices Cultural imperialism

Analyzing Sociocultural Change in the Postcolonial World

People living under colonialism realized they never would be able to get out from under colonial rule so many of the educated people began to seek independence

The spread of nationalism began in earnest in the 1950's and 1960's throughout Africa

The first of the new leaders believed the country needed “development” and “modernization”

Early own modernization theory believed that the newly liberated countries could “advance to highly developed economic systems”

Western countries began to act as “parents” to the “juvenile” developing countries

The cold war brought about the belief people and places who wanted to through out capitalism all together (Cuba and Latin America)

Dependency theory argues that poverty was a consequence of capitalist intervention to “help” countries. Some even suggested the west could not live as well as it did without other countries being impoverished

By the 1970’s the dependency theory appeared to simplistic so the world theory system was developed. The belief was that capitalism connected many parts of the world by economic means alone

The theory sees countries relative to the role they play:

1. core – countries that are fully industrialized, monopolize innovation and technology and control financial decisions.
2. periphery – main contributions are raw materials
3. semi periphery – once part of the core or may someday will move into the core

The cold war came to a close in 1989 so many thought capitalism had “won” but that was not the case

Over the past 20 years technology has greatly changed the economic and territorial role of countries and people

Globalization

Globalization is the intensifying flow of capital, goods, people (tourists, immigrants and refugees), images and ideas around the world

Tourism has become an important of area of study

Of course a person does not even need to leave their chair to experience the world with the advent of certain technologies

Time has become compressed and distances annihilated

During the cold war there was a “helpful” us and them but not anymore

How “borders” be defined in the future? Will this lead to a greater multiculturalism?

The Cultural Effects of Contact

Acculturation – a process by which cultures in contact borrow ideas and practices from one another, thereby modifying or replacing traditional ideas and practices

Syncretism – a mixing of elements from two or more traditions

Cargo cults

How far should assimilation be taken or pushed?

Does any single culture become the “norm”?

Cultural hybridization is where culture borrowing creates something completely new though there often is still a level of control

Been to a music festival lately?

Globalization, Citizenship, and Human Rights

You may live in one country but still support your home country through long-distance nationalism

Immigration is a major issue in many countries

How will the United States deal with immigration?

Issues of Human Rights

Cultural Rights

Cosmopolitanism (being at ease with more than one culture) may be one way to deal with hybrid experiences

Global Assemblages

Global assemblages are new social arrangements that bring together people, objects, meanings, and institutions

Where does your food come from?

Millennium villages started by Jeffery Sachs

The role of nongovernmental organizations (NGO's)