

Five Motives for Imperialism

#1 ECONOMIC

The Industrial Revolution encouraged Imperialism:

Factories needed raw materials & colonies provided these **AND** a market for the goods made.

New markets for trade

Cheap labor

#2 POLITICAL

- To protect European investments
- To build an empire
- Recognition as a world power
- National pride - to have the biggest empire (hegemony)
- Competition with rivals—get there first

#3 MILITARY

National Security-to protect the mother country & the colonies

Military strategic position-allowed a country to control waterways & land areas

Gas Stations-served as refueling spots for the navy

#4 CULTURAL

Social Darwinism-strongest society will survive

Racial & Cultural Superiority-spread the superior culture

Humanitarianism-aid others--this was hypocritical since the REAL motivation was GREED!

#5 RELIGIOUS

Missionary Impulse-European Christians felt superior to all other religions; felt it was their *duty* to spread Christianity to Asia & Africa.

Missionaries encourage imperialism since that provided more areas to Christianize more people!