

# 3.5 Historic Causes of Diffusion

## Objective and Essential Learning

3.5 Explain how historical processes impact current cultural patterns.

- Interactions between and among cultural traits and larger global forces can lead to new forms of cultural expression; for example, creolization and lingua franca.
- Colonialism, imperialism, and trade helped to shape patterns and practices of culture.



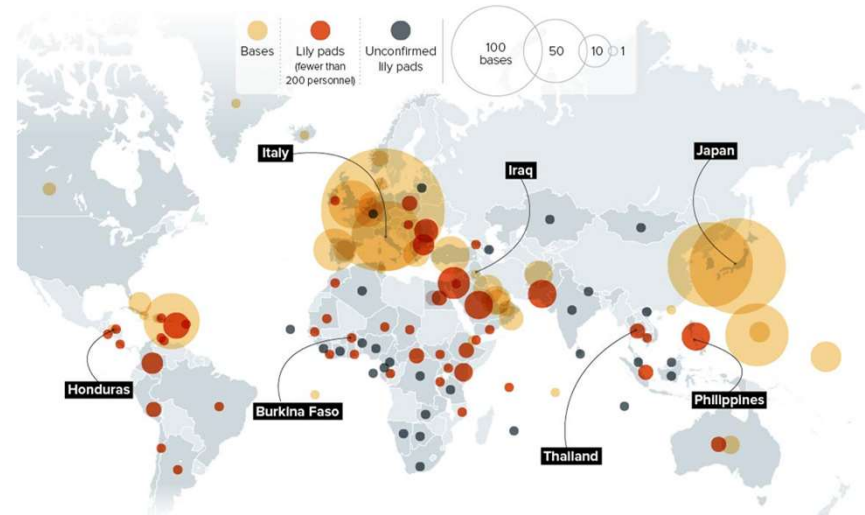
# What factors led to the diffusion of language?

The historic causes of cultural diffusion are:

1. Colonialism/Imperialism
2. Military Conquest
3. Trade
4. Migration



How did Spanish and Portuguese end up in Latin America?



As a 2009 article in *Foreign Policy Focus* explains, "Officially the Pentagon counts 865 base sites, but this notoriously unreliable number omits all our bases in Iraq (likely over 100) and Afghanistan (80 and counting), among many other well-known and secretive bases."



**What are the historic causes of  
cultural diffusion?**



# Imperialism

The dominance of one country over another country through diplomacy or force.

## Colonialism

When a powerful country establishes settlements in a less powerful country for economic and/or political gain.

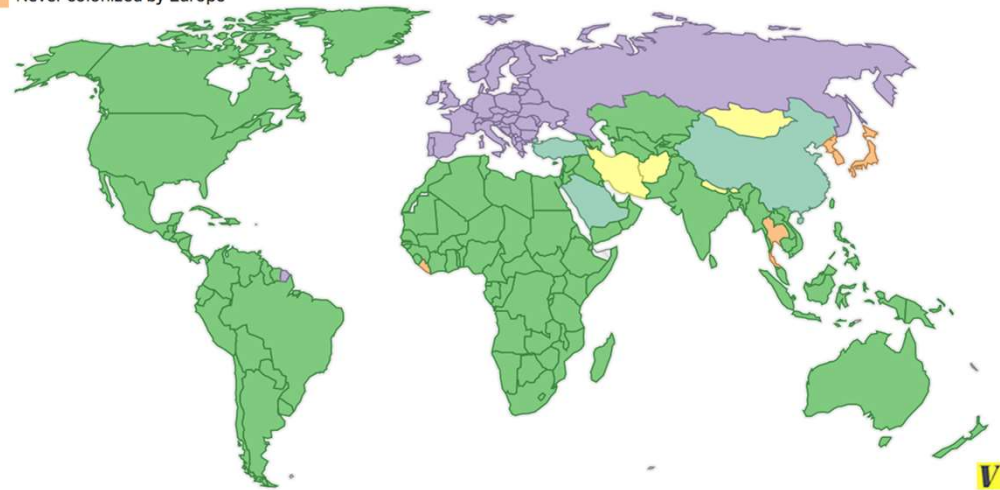
## Neocolonialism

"New" colonialism - term to describe how in more modern times, imperialism can be pursued through the assertion of political, economic and cultural influence rather than occupation.

**The Effects:** As European powers took over colonies they imposed their language and religion on the indigenous people. This interaction between people resulted in new forms of communication and cultural traits.

### **Countries that have been under European control**

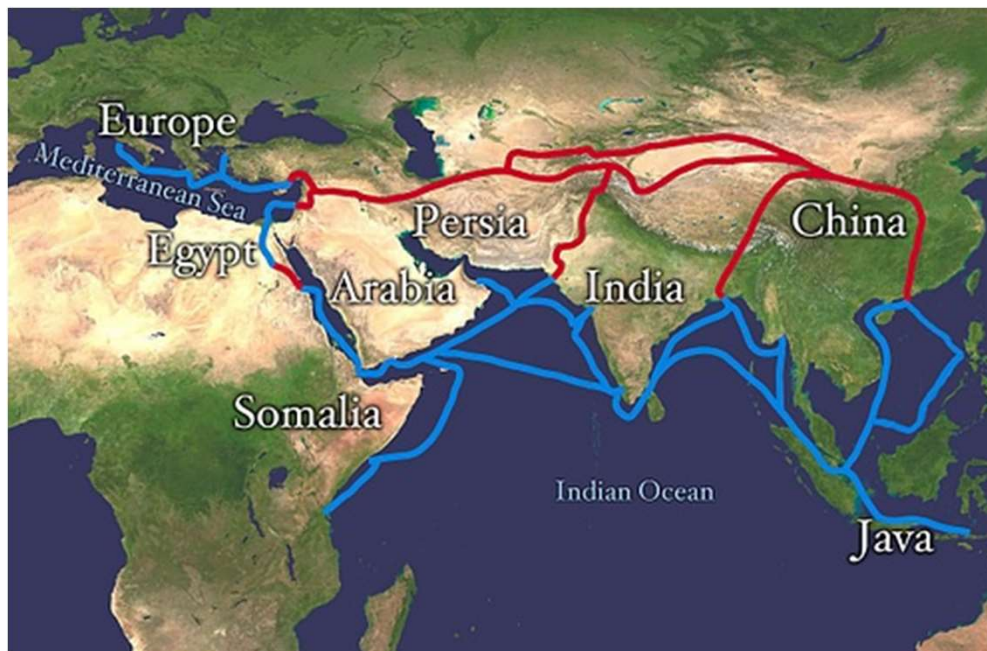
- Europe
- Colonized or controlled by Europe
- Partial European control or influence
- European sphere of influence
- Never colonized by Europe



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# Trade

People interact in order to buy and sell goods - interaction results in the exchange of culture and ideas.



The Silk Road was a network of trade routes which connected East Asia and Europe, and was central to the economic, cultural, political, and religious interactions between these regions from the 2nd century BCE to the 18th century.



# What new forms of interaction developed?





## What new forms of interaction developed?

**Pidgin Language:** An extremely simplified, limited non-native language used by two people that speak two different languages.

- Papua New Guinea: mixture of English & Papuan languages. Result of British colonization of the territory.
- An example of early Hawai'i Pidgin English (HPE) spoken in Honolulu since the late 19th century: *"What for Miss Willis laugh all time? Before Fraulein cry all time."*



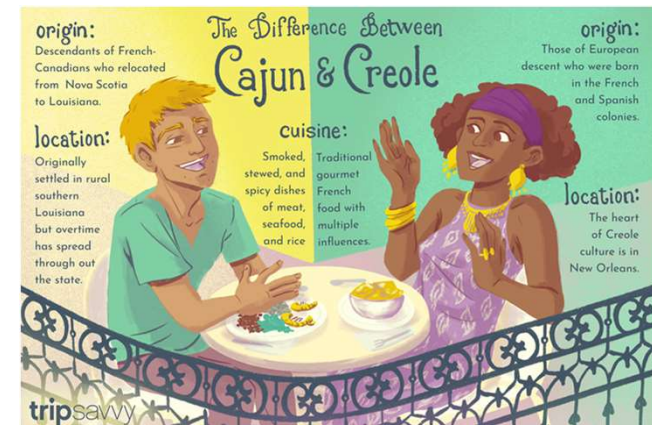
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## What new forms of interaction developed?

**Creole Language:** A pidgin language that develops into a new combined language with native speakers. Frequently developed through settings of colonization or slavery.

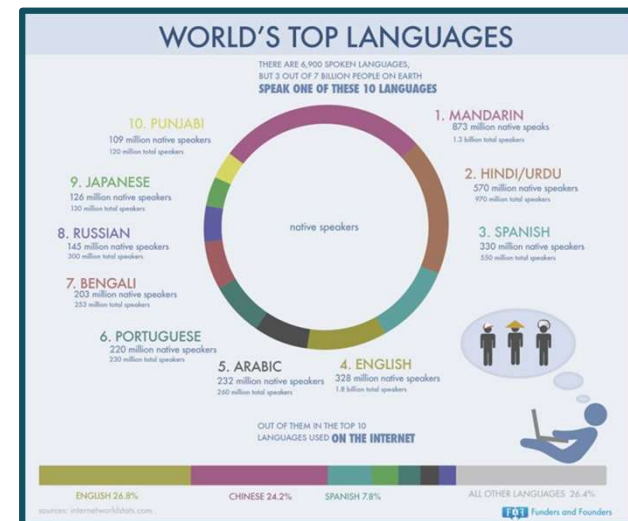
- Cajun/Louisiana Creole: Spoken in Louisiana, traits of English and French
- Haitian: Spoken in Haiti, traits of indigenous West African and French



# What new forms of interaction developed?

**Lingua Franca** is a common language used by speakers of two different languages for communication. Usually for business, trade, commerce or in popular culture.

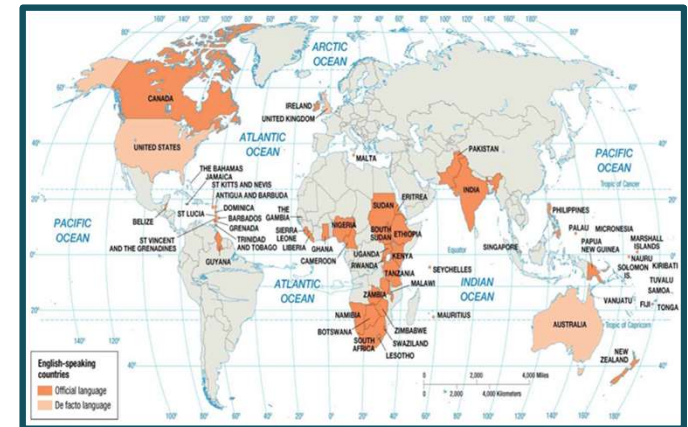
- World Lingua Franca: English
- Regionally:
  - Mandarin in China,
  - Swahili in Africa,
  - Arabic in Southwest Asia,
  - Russian in Eastern Europe & Russia



# What new forms of interaction developed?

**Official Language** is used by the government of a country for laws, reports, signs, public objects, money, stamps.

- Can be centripetal or centrifugal:
  - Positives: creates unity in diverse states, efficient, aids in communication, cheaper costs (only print in 1 language)
  - Negatives: Language of powerful majority and/or former colonial power, marginalizes/isolates or endangers other languages and cultures.



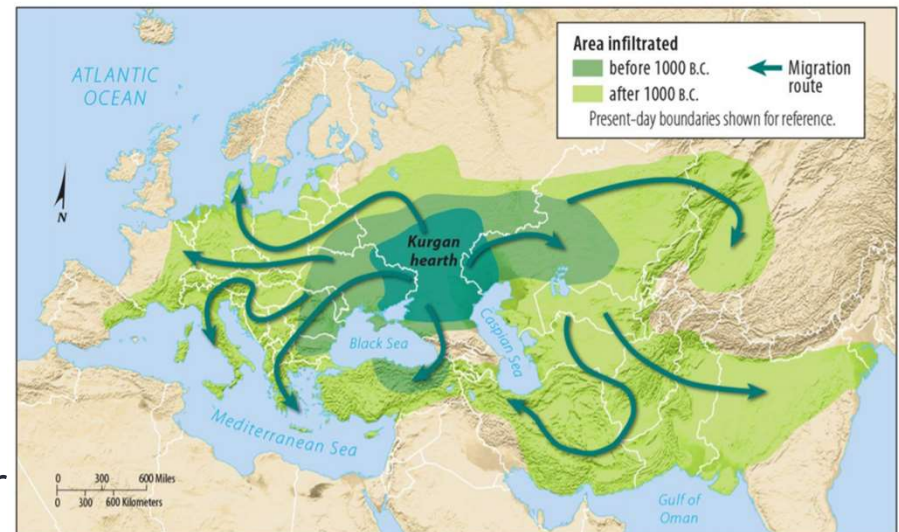
English

## Other terms

- **Monolingual** – countries where almost everyone speaks the same language
  - Examples: Japan, Uruguay, Iceland
- **Multilingual states** – countries in which more than one language is used
  - Examples: Canada (French & English – based on region)

# Diffusion of the Indo-European Language Family

**Kurgan Warrior Theory:** Indo-European language first diffused from a hearth located in modern Russia/Ukraine around 1,000 B.C.E. The Kurgans, who were nomadic warriors conquered their way through Europe and South Asia and spread language.



**Diffusion?** Migration/Military Conquest

# What factors led to the diffusion of language?

**Anatolian Farmer Theory:** The adoption of the Indo-European language was facilitated through successful agricultural practices. As agriculture became more successful, surplus foods were available and the population began to increase. As population increased, people migrated out of the hearth and throughout the European and Asian continents.



**Diffusion?** Migration