

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY  
SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION 2002-2003  
SECOND ARTS AND VISITING

HI217: IMPERIALISM AND DECOLONISATION, 1900-PRESENT

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Time: TWO hours

Answer ONE QUESTION from SECTION A and  
TWO QUESTIONS from SECTION B

**Section A – Answer ONE question from this section**

1. 'We have, therefore, simply to deal with a popular movement of a similar kind to that of 1894 and 1895 before it was perverted and ruined by a conspiracy of which the great body of the Uitlanders were totally innocent.' (**Sir Alfred Milner, 1899**) Why did Milner stress the differences between the agitations of 1895 and 1899? How different were the two movements in reality?
2. 'Europe is in Africa for the mutual benefit of her own industrial classes, and of the native races in their progress to a higher plane... it is the aim and desire of civilised administration to fulfil this dual mandate.' (**Lord Lugard, 1923**) How, and in the face of what opposing views, did Lugard use the concept of the 'dual mandate' to justify colonial rule?
3. 'His Majesty's Government... desire to see established ultimately an independent Palestine State. It should be a State in which the two peoples in Palestine, Arabs and Jews, share authority in government in such a way that the essential interests of each are secured.' (**'Palestine: Statement of Policy', British White Paper, 1939**) How far does this statement constitute an accurate and realistic summary of British policy in Palestine?
4. 'In the year of my birth – 1894... the maps of the world were patterned with great areas of red, at a time when red was a respectable colour... It seemed to be a settled world, and on the whole a good one... I have seen all this change; and the changes have been far more than those of form.' (**Sir Robert Menzies, 1967**) Should we see Menzies' responses to the changing nature of the post-war British Commonwealth as those of an elder statesmen, or those of a political dinosaur?

[PLEASE TURN OVER FOR SECTION B...]

**[...Continued]**

**Section B – Answer TWO questions from this section**

5. In what ways, and to what extent, did the period 1900-1914 see the strengthening of the colonial state?
6. How far did the First World War undermine the foundations of the British empire?
7. Should colonial conflict in the years between 1914-1939 be interpreted as a sign of growing resistance to colonial rule, or of the increasing coercive power of the state?
8. How far can the Far East be seen as a sphere of informal British imperial influence in the period between 1919 and 1941?
9. 'In India, the British left too soon. In Algeria, the French stayed too long.' Why did some European powers decide to relinquish control of colonial states sooner than others?
10. How far can decolonisation be understood in terms of the breakdown of collaboration?
11. 'For British policy makers planning the retreat from empire, settler loyalism proved more problematic than did anti-colonial nationalism.' Discuss.
12. What role did the idea of federation play in determining the outcome of the process of decolonisation in the British empire?

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