

IMPERIALIST VISION

Support for Imperialism

- In the 1880s, many Americans wanted to make the United States a world power
- This was a big change! No one was interested in this prior to the 1880s.
- Why did this change take place?

Desire for New Markets

- ◎ Tariffs reduced trade between industrial countries, forcing companies to look overseas for other places to sell their products
- ◎ Many European countries took over foreign countries
 - Colonies—controlled directly by the European countries
 - Protectorates—local rulers allowed to stay in power

Feeling of Superiority

- Social Darwinists argued that nations competed and that only the strongest nation would survive
- Believed that English speaking nations were superior---Anglo-Saxonism
- Manifest Destiny
 - America's destiny was to keep expanding

Josiah Strong

- He linked Anglo-Saxonism to Christian missionary ideas:
- “The Anglo-Saxon is divinely commissioned to be, in a peculiar sense, his brother’s keeper”
- He linked missionary work to Anglo-Saxonism

Expansion in the Pacific

- 1853-Commodore Matthew C. Perry made a US naval expedition to Japan to negotiate a trade treaty
- Japanese were impressed with the steamships and signed a treaty opening Japanese ports to American trade
- Japan “Westernized”—adopting Western technology and building their own navy

Hawaii

- ⦿ Problems in Hawaii
 - Treaties between the US and Hawaii in the 1870s and 1880s and relationships between the planters and the Hawaiian monarchy led to less power for the monarchy
- ⦿ 1891—Liliuokalani took the throne
 - She attempted to impose a new constitution that would have given her more authority
 - Planters backed an attempt to overthrow the monarchy
 - Liliuokalani gave up power

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- Pres. Cleveland did not want to annex Hawaii (make it part of the US)
- Hawaii was annexed five years later under a different president