



**CALIFORNIA CONTENT
STANDARD 10.4.1**

***Industrial Economies and
the Rise of Imperialism***

Specific Objective: Describe the rise of industrial economies and their link to imperialism and colonialism.

Beginning around 1850, European nations took control of much of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The policy of a powerful nation dominating the politics, economy, and society of another nation is known as **imperialism**.

- European imperialism went hand-in-hand with **industrialization**; European nations sought raw materials and new markets for industry and used new forms of transportation and weaponry to seize foreign lands.
- European leaders often justified their imperialism partly through the theory of **Social Darwinism**—the application of Darwin’s ideas about the “survival of the fittest” to social change. Social Darwinists believe that wealth, technology, success, and strength make some groups superior to others, thus giving Europeans the right to invade some non-European lands.

