

SUBJECT: POLITICAL SCIENCE III

COURSE: BA LLB SEMESTER III

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MODULE: MODULE VIII, IMPERIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM AND THIRD WORLD

Structure:

- Definitions of Imperialism
- Method of Imperialism

1. IMPERIALISM

The aspiration for power is the distinguishing element of International Politics. Every nation possess the tendency to dominate and rule, and it tries to pursue the same policy by all means. Imperialism and colonialism are powerful instruments of national policy. Some nations tries to establish its dominance over others by conquering its territories or in other words, they want to expand their kingdom. Such expansionist policy has no limit and it is generally call the expansionist policy as imperialism.

The term ‘imperialism’ is used in a very vague way. It lacks any common definition. Imperialism like other ‘isms’ has been defined differently by different people. Imperialism remarks, **Palmer and Perkins** “can be discussed, denounced, defended and died for, but can’t be defined in any generally acceptable way. It means different thing to different people”

According to **Schuman**, “Imperialism is the imposition by force and violence of alien rule upon subject people’

According to **Morgenthau**, “Imperialism is the expansion of a state’s power beyond its borders”.

According to **Julius Bonn** “Imperialism is a policy which aims at creating, organizing and maintaining an empire.”

Methods of Imperialism

The following are the three general methods of imperialism.

1. Military Imperialism: In the words of Morgenthau, ”The most obvious, the most ancient and also the crudest form of imperialism is the military conquest. By military conquest new territories are acquired and thus new power relations are established. Any change in this situation is only possible by another war instigated by the defeated nation. But in the new war, the change of victory goes to the victorious nation. Thus the use of this method is a

great advantage to the imperialist nation. But it has a draw back. War is a gamble. Some times the Imperialist nation may fall, Napoleons' example can be cited.

2. Economic Imperialism : Economic imperialism is concerned with controlling policies, domestic or foreign of the economically weaker nations by means of economic investment and economic assistance. The most modern economic Imperialism does not change the power relation through the conquest of territory by way of economic control.

3. Cultural Imperialism: It is not at the conquest of territory or at the control of economic life, but the conquest and control of the minds of the man as an instrument for changing power-relation. If a state conquest the minds of men of other nations and is able to impose its ideology it would be far more superior to economic mastery and military victory. The cultural imperialism would win a more complete victory than any military victory and economic master.

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