Three African Kings Visit Brighton in 1895:
An Online Black History Education Resource

Scramble for Africa sources

Source A: a speech given by British Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamberlain, 1897.

No doubt when these conquests have been made, there has been bloodshed, there has been loss of life among the native populations, loss of still more precious lives among those who have been sent out to bring these countries into disciplined order…You cannot have omelettes without breaking eggs; you cannot destroy the practices of barbarism, of slavery, of superstition, without the use of force.

Source B: a speech by Kaiser (Emperor) Wilhelm II of Germany, 1901.

We have conquered for ourselves a place in the sun. …This place in the sun shall remain our undisputed possession, in order that…our industry and agriculture may develop.

Source C: this French magazine cover from 1911 suggests that France will bring civilization, peace, and wealth to Morocco.



Source D: this 1903 French cartoon is about the competition between Spain, Germany, Britain, and France for Morocco.



Source E: a British cartoon about the Belgian conquest of the Congo, a massive region of central Africa.

Source F: from a History website, describing the views of the German leader, Bismarck.

He doubted that Germany needed African colonies at all. Yet pressure from the press and pro-imperialist groups began to mount. Bismarck resisted the pressure for a time, but finally told one German official, "All this colonial business is a sham, but we need it for the elections.