# Colonialism & its Impact on Climate Change

# WHAT IS COLONIALISM?

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philisophy defines it as: a practice of domination, which involves the subjugation of one people to another.

### It seeked:

- Wealth & power
- Metals, crops, minerals, people
- Political might, economic growth, industrialization

### WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

David Suzuki Foundation defines it as: when long-term weather patterns are altered — for example, through human activity. Global warming is one measure of climate change, and is a rise in the average global temperature.

# HOW ARE THE TWO RELATED?

Essentially, nature was the main key that the colonialists needed to achieve their goals. To achieve this, colonialists divided land, destroyed it, mapped it to separate the 'useful' from the 'useless'. However, these lands were not empty: thousands of people, Indigenous people, claimed that land years ago. However, due to the fact that the colonialists had greater weapons (such as guns), the Indigenous people were unprotected, and so were forced to obey, or else they would face consequences (such as death). This brought to the growth of colonialism, and so Industrialization, which as we know today is the leading anthropic cause of Climate Change.

### **EVIDENCE:**

# LOSS OF KNOWLEDGE

"Historical environmental injustices have really

weakened people's
ability to use
knowledge

they've accumulated over generations, sometimes millennia,"
- Archaeologist Kristina Douglass

# THE MOST DESRUCTIVE AGRARIAN PRACTICE

In the Cape Verde islands, deforestation allowed for sugar production.

# Slaves were transported

from the Canary Islands, and dug canals for these sugarcane fields. This caused erosion.

# MADAGASCAR

Madagascar's forests were
destroyed by Europeans for
economical profit. This land, on
which Indigenous people live today,
has marks of:

erosion, deforestation and soil degradation.

This increases climate change

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