

OMPU3112

PHILOSOPHY AND CURRENT ISSUES

SELF INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024

**FACULTY OF BUSINESS, HUMANITIES &
HOSPITALITY**

**BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (HONS) IN
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**

Topic 9 ► Decolonization

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this topic, you will be able to:

1. Differentiate between colonization and decolonization and their key features.
2. Describe the development and emergence of decolonization.
3. Analyze the factors contributing to the rise of decolonization movements.
4. Evaluate the social, political, and economic impacts of decolonization.

► INTRODUCTION

Decolonization is a significant historical and philosophical process that involves the dismantling of colonial systems and the restoration of independence to previously colonized nations. It is not only a political transformation but also a social, cultural, and intellectual movement that seeks to reclaim identity, autonomy, and self-determination.

Colonization, on the other hand, refers to the process by which powerful nations establish control over foreign territories, often exploiting resources and imposing their political, economic, and cultural systems. The legacy of colonization continues to influence many aspects of contemporary society, including governance, education, and cultural identity.

Decolonization emerged as a response to colonial domination, driven by the desire for freedom, equality, and national identity. It involves both the achievement of political independence and the ongoing effort to remove colonial influences from institutions, knowledge systems, and cultural practices.

This topic explores the concepts of colonization and decolonization, the historical development of decolonization movements, the factors that contributed to their emergence, and their impacts on modern societies.

9.1 COLONIZATION VS DECOLONIZATION

9.1.1 Meaning of Colonization

Colonization refers to the process by which a powerful country establishes control over another territory, often for economic, political, or strategic purposes. This control may involve settlement, governance, and exploitation of resources.

9.1.2 Meaning of Decolonization

Decolonization is the process through which colonized nations gain independence and restore control over their political, economic, and cultural systems. It represents a shift from external domination to self-governance.

9.1.3 Key Differences Between Colonization and Decolonization

Colonization	Decolonization
External control by foreign powers	Self-rule and independence
Exploitation of resources	Control over national resources
Imposition of foreign culture	Revival of local culture and identity
Political domination	Political sovereignty

9.1.4 Philosophical Implications

Colonization raises ethical questions about power, justice, and exploitation, while decolonization emphasizes freedom, dignity, and self-determination.

Example:

Malaysia's independence in 1957 represents a key moment of decolonization, marking the transition to self-governance.

 **Decolonization is not only political independence but also the restoration of identity and autonomy.**

9.2 DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGENCE OF DECOLONIZATION

9.2.1 Historical Development

Decolonization gained momentum after World War II, when many colonies began to demand independence. The weakening of colonial powers and the rise of nationalist movements contributed to this process.

9.2.2 Key Phases of Decolonization

- **Awareness and Resistance**
Colonized populations began to question foreign control and demand rights.
- **Nationalist Movements**
Organized efforts emerged to fight for independence.
- **Negotiation or संघर्ष (Struggle)**
Some countries achieved independence through peaceful negotiation, while others experienced conflict.
- **Independence and Nation-Building**
Newly independent nations established their own governments and institutions.

9.2.3 Global Context

Decolonization occurred across Asia, Africa, and Latin America, transforming the global political landscape and leading to the formation of new nations.

Example:

India's independence in 1947 inspired other countries to pursue decolonization.

 **Decolonization reshaped the global order by ending colonial rule and creating independent nations.**

9.3 FACTORS FOR THE EMERGENCE OF DECOLONIZATION

9.3.1 Political Factors

- Rise of nationalism and desire for self-governance
- Influence of global movements advocating freedom and human rights

9.3.2 Economic Factors

- Exploitation of resources by colonial powers
- Economic inequalities and lack of development in colonies

9.3.3 Social and Cultural Factors

- Growth of national identity and cultural awareness
- Rejection of foreign cultural dominance

9.3.4 International Factors

- Influence of international organizations such as the United Nations
- Support from other independent nations
- Global pressure against colonialism

Example:

International support and pressure played a role in accelerating independence movements in many countries.

 **Decolonization was driven by a combination of political, economic, social, and international factors.**

9.4 IMPACTS OF DECOLONIZATION

9.4.1 Political Impacts

- Establishment of independent governments
- Development of new political systems
- Challenges in governance and nation-building

9.4.2 Economic Impacts

- Control over national resources
- Opportunities for economic development
- Continued challenges such as inequality and dependency

9.4.3 Social and Cultural Impacts

- Revival of local cultures and traditions
 - Strengthening of national identity
 - Increased awareness of cultural heritage
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9.4.4 Ongoing Challenges

Despite independence, many countries continue to face:

- Political instability
- Economic dependency
- Influence of former colonial powers
- Cultural and identity struggles

👉 Example:

Some countries continue to rely on former colonial powers for trade and economic support.

💡 **Decolonization brings both opportunities and challenges in shaping independent nations.**



SELF CHECK 9.1

Differentiate between colonization and decolonization, and evaluate the factors and impacts of decolonization in shaping modern societies.

► CONCLUSION

In this topic, we learned that:

- colonization involves external control and exploitation;
- decolonization restores independence and self-governance;
- decolonization emerged through historical, political, and social movements;
- multiple factors contributed to the rise of decolonization;
- decolonization has significant political, economic, and cultural impacts;
- independent nations continue to face challenges after decolonization;
- understanding decolonization is essential for analyzing global history and contemporary issues.