

COLONIAL SUBJECTS IN A EUROPEAN WAR

Both sides in World War I used soldiers from their colonies. The British relied heavily on Indian, South African and Austra-

lian soldiers. The French used African troops from Senegal, a French colony in West Africa. Though having fewer colonies

than the British and French, Germans still employed African troops from their colonies in German West and East Africa.

Examine the images below and answer the questions that follow.

British Colonial Troops from India and South Africa



Images 7. Indian Soldiers on Bikes.
Imperial War Museum.



Images 8. Indian Stretcher Bearers.
Imperial War Museum.



Image 9. South African Labor Corps.

From Hew Strachan, *World War I: A History*.



Image 10. French Senegalese Troops on Parade.

From Hew Strachan, *World War I: A History*.

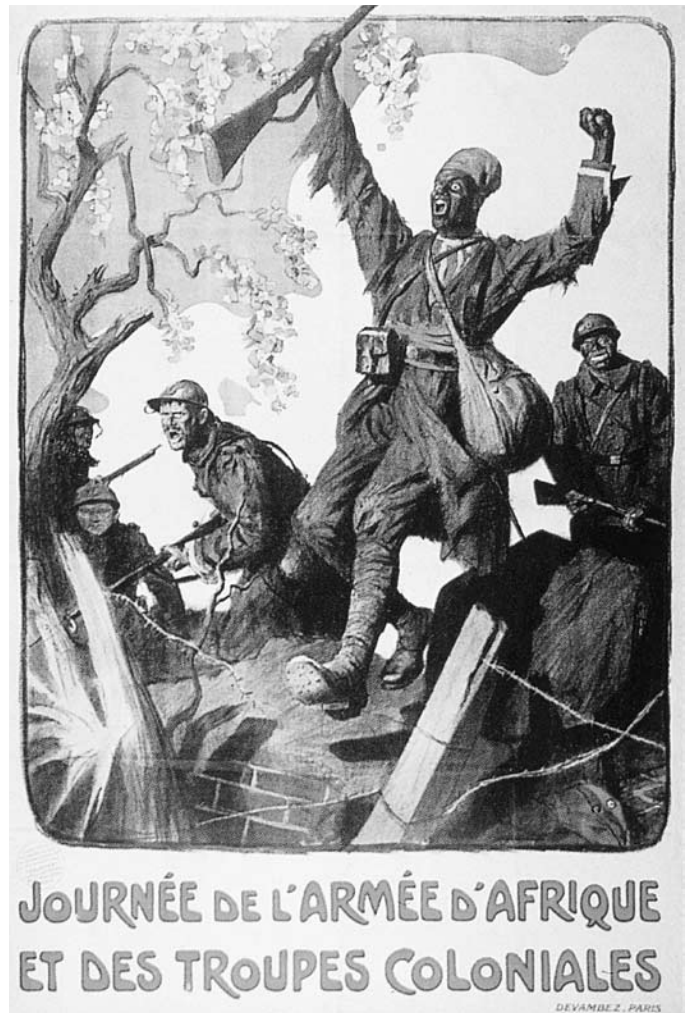


Image 11. French Recruiting Poster for Senegal.

Capetown Archives Repository, National Archives of South Africa.



Image 12. German Colonial Troops in East Africa.

Bundesarchiv.

Questions for British Colonial Troops from India and South Africa Images (IMAGES 7-12):

- List the regions of the world where these troops come from. Keep in mind that this is just a small sample of the regions and peoples involved in World War I.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
- List at least four tools and weapons that you see these troops using.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
- Describe some of the activities of the soldiers. What do you think their role was in the war?
- Compare the French Poster to the other images. What are some of the distinguishing differences? Who is fighting next to whom in the poster? Judging by the other images you have seen in this lesson, do you think this poster was telling the truth? Would you call this poster propaganda?
- Why do you think Africans and Indians fought for European countries that had colonized them? Do you think they had a choice?
- Who do you think was the audience for these pictures: Africans, Indians or Europeans?