

Lecture 2

HISTORICAL

GEOGRAPHY OF

THE UNITED

KINGDOM



5. English Oversees Colonies.



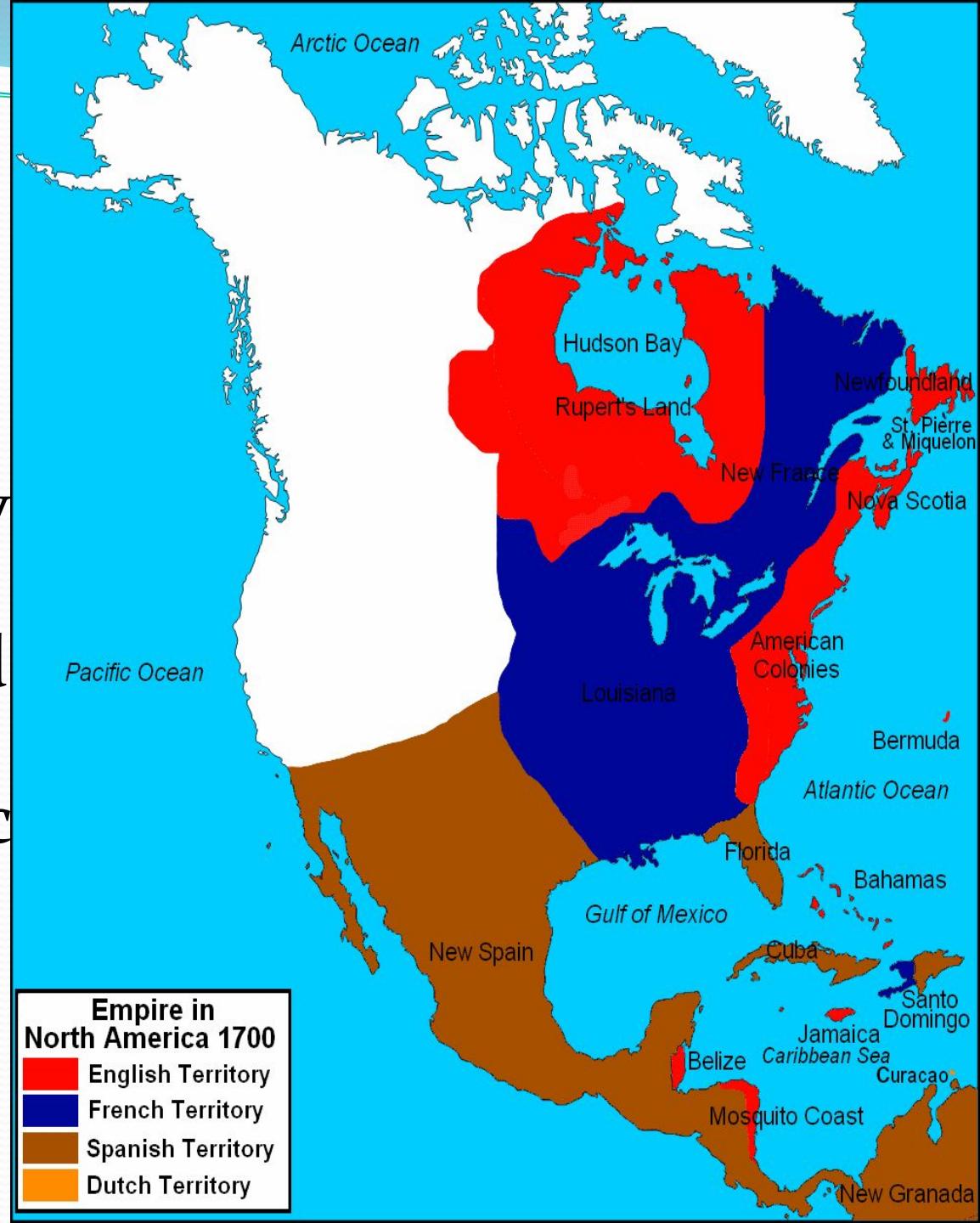


North America

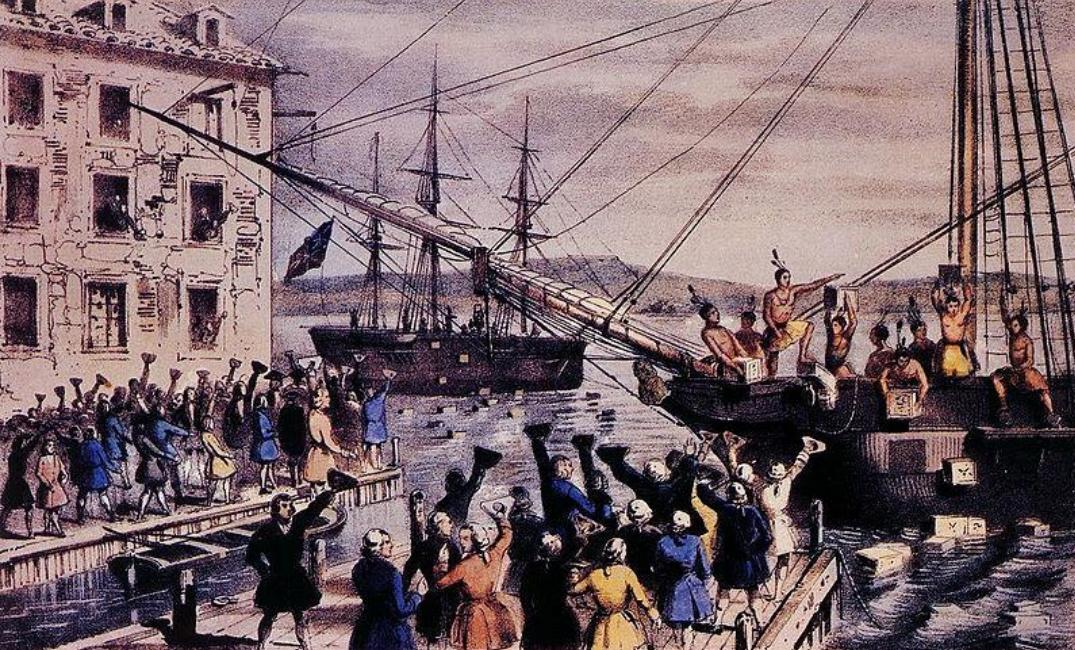
- 1492 Christopher Columbus discovered America.
- 1496 King Henry VII of England sent British ships to the new lands.
- They reached the coast of Newfoundland.

The 1580s the 1st
English
settlements in
America

In the 18th century
the British
colonies occupied
the territories
along the Atlantic
coast and around
Hudson Bay.



- during the 1760s and early 1770s relations between the Thirteen Colonies and Britain became increasingly complicated,
- the British Parliament tried to govern and tax American colonists without their agreement (they were not represented in the British Parliament).



Boston Tea Party

December 16, 1773
the Americans revolted
against tea tax and
threw all chests of
tea from ships into
Boston Harbor.



- The American Revolution
- In response Britain sent the army to control the colonies and in 1775 the War for Independence started.
- In 1776, the United States declared independence.

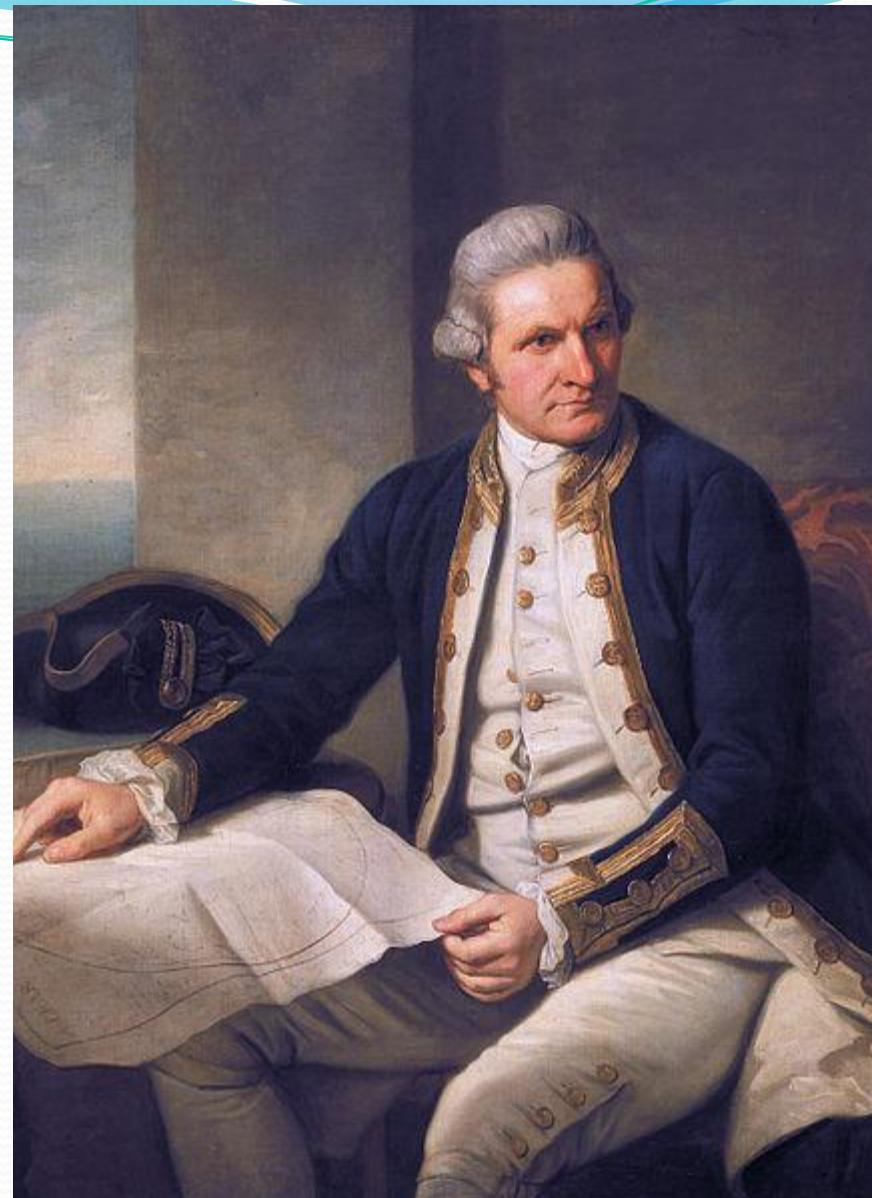


Australia

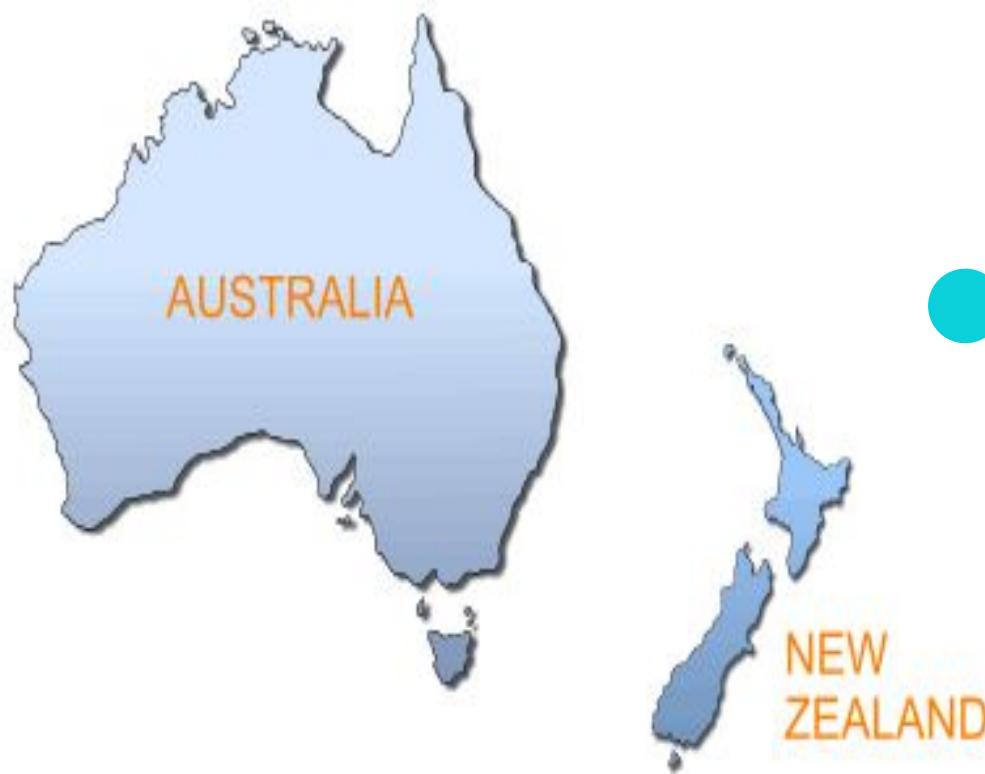
~~1606~~ the western coast of Australia were 1st discovered by the Dutch and named New Holland

~~1770~~ James Cook discovered the eastern coast of Australia, claimed the continent for Britain.

He named it New South Wales.



- Up to 1840 the British sent their criminals to New South Wales to reform them.
- In 1839 colonies in New Zealand were established





India

In 1858 Queen Victoria was crowned the Empress of India.



"the Jewel in the Crown"

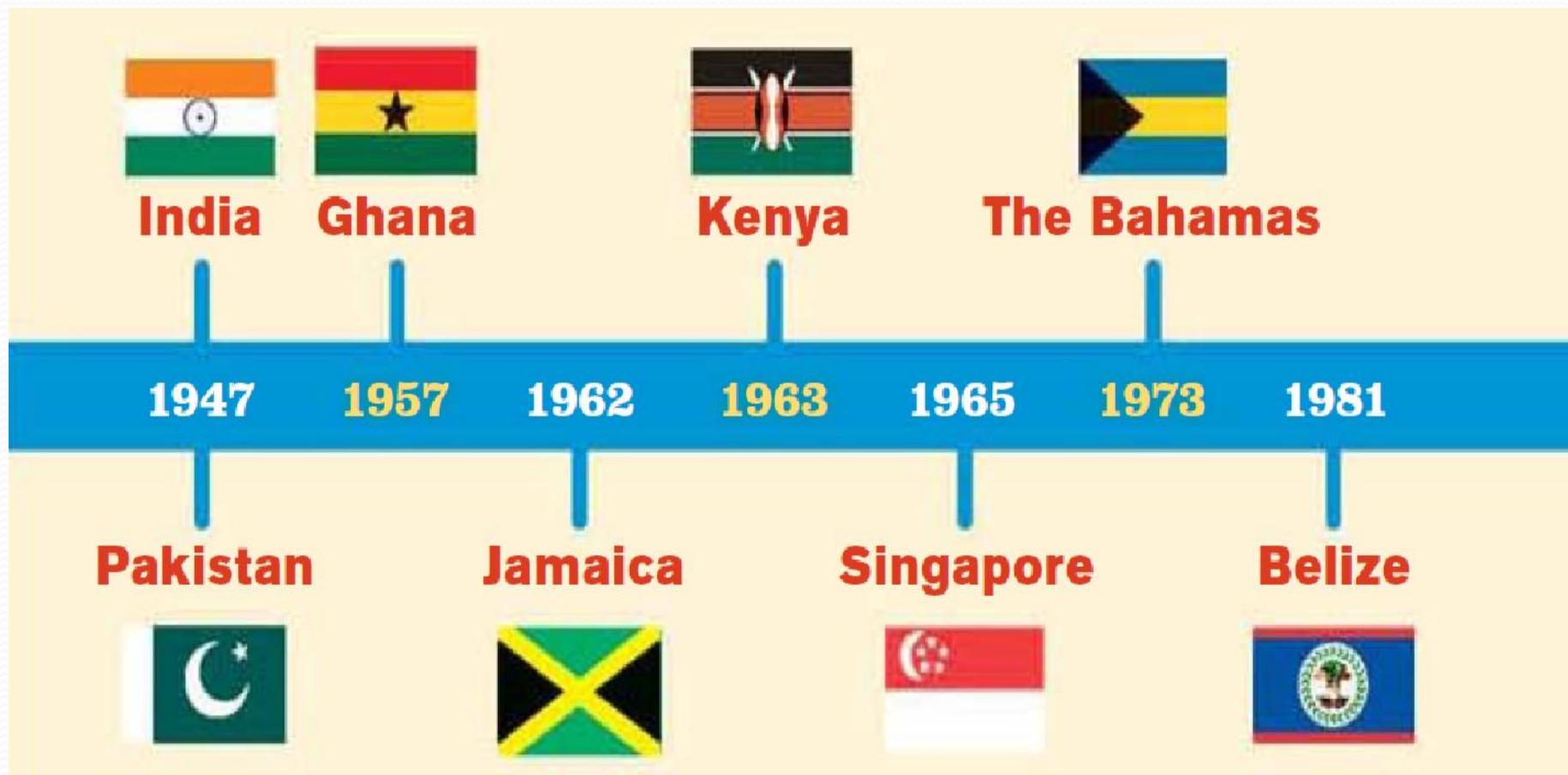
1815 - 1914 around
26,000,000 km² of territory
and roughly 400 million
people were added to the
British Empire





6. Decolonisation.

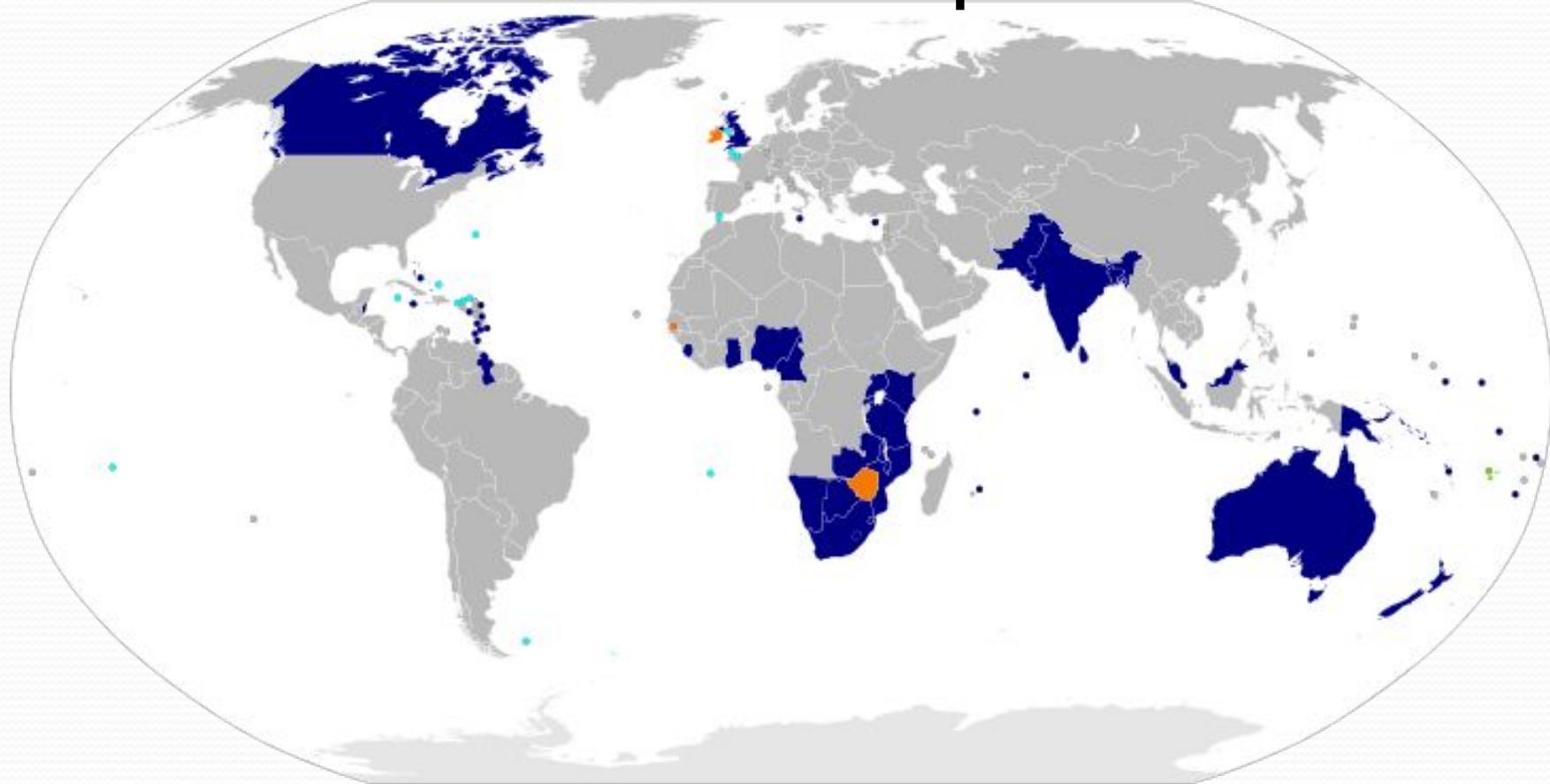
Between 1945 and 1965 most of the former British colonies were given independence.



- The number of people under British rule outside the UK itself fell from 700 million to 5 million, 3 million of whom were in Hong Kong.

the Commonwealth of Nations

a non-political, voluntary association of 53 equal member



A map of the world, highlighting the member states of the Commonwealth
(dark blue)

FLAGS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

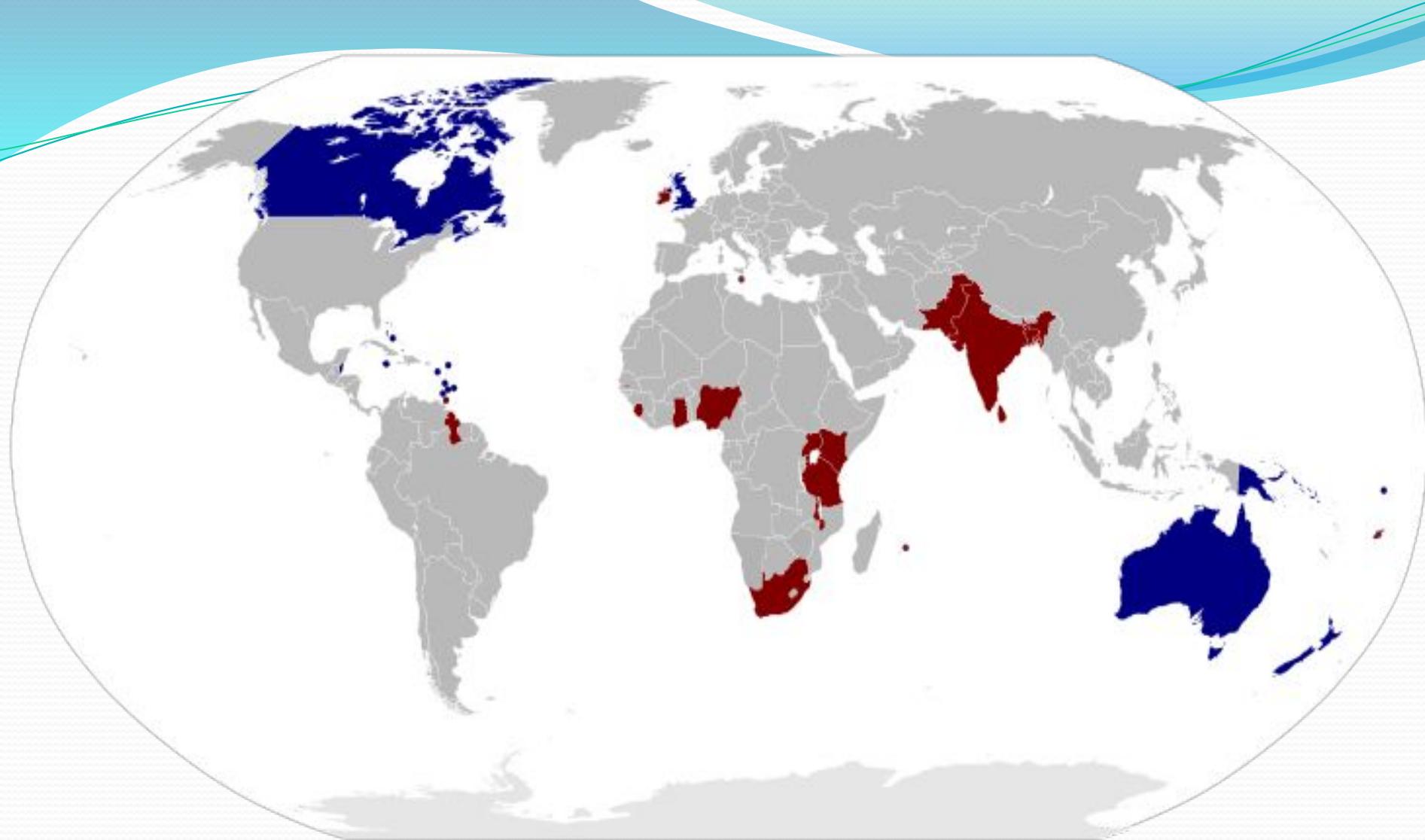


Flag of the Commonwealth of Nations
adopted 26 March 1976

Queen Elizabeth II



- the Head of the Commonwealth
- the monarch of 16 members of the Commonwealth (realms)
- Australia, Canada, Jamaica, New Zealand, etc.



**The Commonwealth realms, shown in blue.
Former Commonwealth realms are shown in red**

The Commonwealth

- 29,958,050 square km (a quarter of the world land area),
- spans all the continents.
- population of 2.245 billion, (a third of the world population).