

Translation k05e00

Welcome to chapter 5 on "Post|colonial Transformations". In this chapter you will learn about the relevance of the topic of colonialism for our course on diversity and which effects colonialism and neo-colonialism have until today, not only on former colonies, but above all on the power inequality in economic relations especially, but not only, between the global North as a whole and the global South. There are three episodes in this chapter, they are presented by Prof. Knopf and Dr. Chatterjee from the University of Bremen.

In episode 1, Prof. Knopf and Dr. Chatterjee provide an overview of the colonial history of European nations and explain how colonialism and neocolonialism continue to shape our world today. After a brief overview of different types of colonies, Prof. Knopf and Dr. Chatterjee introduce you to the colonial history of Great Britain, France, Germany, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands and Belgium, of course not the entire colonial history, but important milestones, certain events and developments that are significant, where experiences and certain structures also overlap, but where they are also quite country-specific different.

In the second episode, Dr. Chatterjee goes into more detail about colonialism and neocolonialism in South Asia. This will be a deepening of the bigger overview from the first episode, using the example of the colonization of India by Great Britain. In this episode, Dr. Chatterjee deals with the effects of the colonial past and neocolonialism on India up to the present.

In episode 3, Professor Knopf deals with German colonial rule in more detail. So here we have a second, one could say, deep drilling into this topic, related to a colonial state, namely with the German colonial rule in today's Namibia, which is insofar once again of special importance for the University of Bremen because in various subjects at the University of Bremen there is intensive cooperation with universities in Namibia and in these cooperations we deal with this colonial past in many ways. This episode is about the neo-colonial consequences and the episode should help to develop a critical awareness of the German colonial history in Namibia and the genocide of the Herero and Nama and to enable you to mentally locate today's racism and stereotypes. In addition, this episode is about becoming aware of German colonial responsibility, among other things, with regard to the economic situation of Namibia and the glorification of German colonialists that is still present today, for example in street names in Bremen and in other German cities. Perhaps you encounter this saying "Bremen, city of colonies", in fact Bremen has played a very special outstanding position in connection with the German colonies and here with Namibia.

So use this chapter to acquire a critical awareness of the colonial history of Germany and other European nations and to understand how you can position today's racisms within the context of colonialism and neocolonialism, where their origins lie. Furthermore, I hope that this chapter will also inspire you to perhaps walk through Bremen, for example, with a different view and to become attentive to where you find traces of Germany's colonial past and postcolonial present in this city.