The British Empire - Decolonial Voices

Pitt Rivers Museum

Key Stage 3-5

National Curriculum area: History, History A Level British Empire 1857-1967, GCSE History Migration and Empire

Length of session: 90 minutes

Maximum group size: 32



Session Outline

Students will have the opportunity to work with objects from the museum's archive, handling collection and core collections to gain an understanding of key issues relating to the history of the British Empire.

Students will take a guided tour around the galleries to look in-depth at objects that were made and owned by peoples affected by Colonialism and the expansion of the British Empire.

Students will examine historical accounts, oral histories and archival material both from those who were being colonised and from colonialists. They will also engage with the voices of academic historians and local communities from the countries connected to these histories.

Learning Outcomes

- To understand what coloniality is and how and why the Pitt Rivers collections can be seen as a 'footprint' of colonialism
- To look at different places, people and events that connect to British Empire through the perspective and voices of those who were colonised
- To analyse and discuss specific objects that connect to case studies in African countries and the Indian subcontinent, as requested by teachers covering this topic

Pre visit activities

Understand what colonialism is and which countries were colonised by Britain.

Learn about ways in which colonialism affected people in countries colonised by Britain.

Find when different countries and polities gained independence from Britain.

Post visit activities

Look at all of the countries and polities covered in the session on a map.

Draw your own graphic map and write on key facts, draw or add photos of objects and note border changes as a visual reminder.

Look for more historical and current voices from people from those countries in the suggested reading given in the session.



For further details and how to book visit:

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