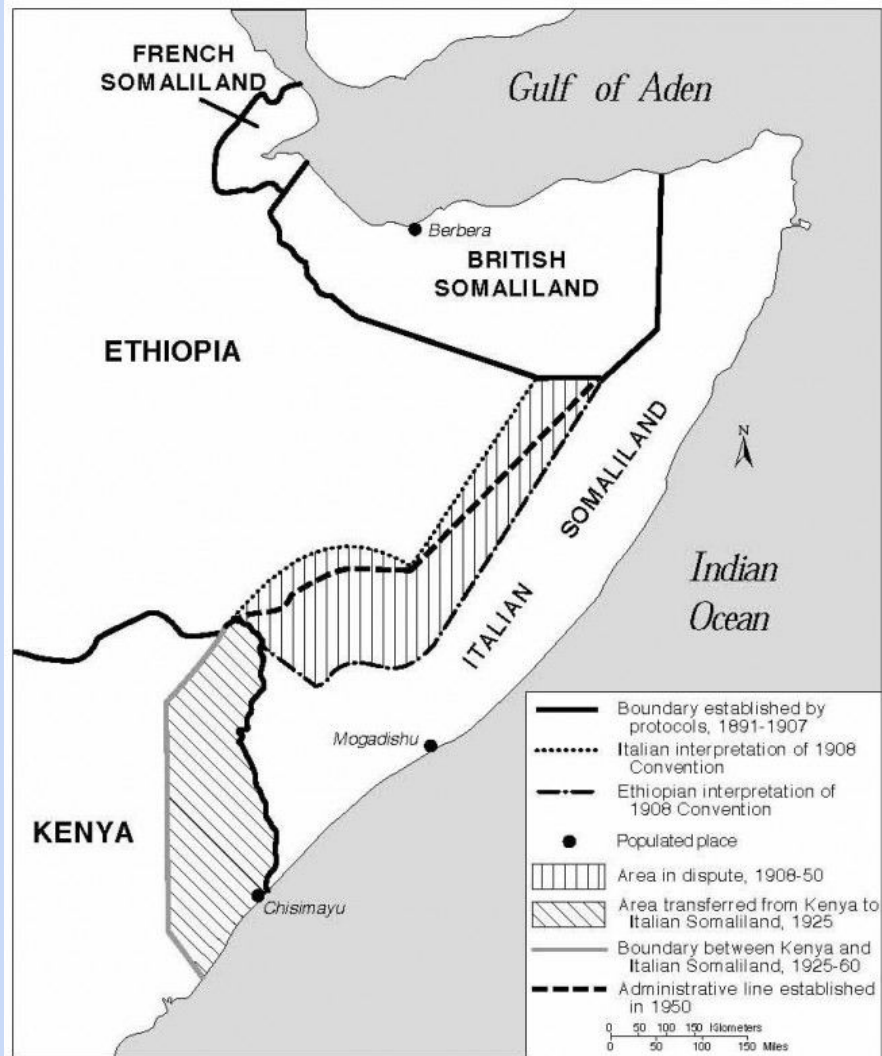


# Colonization of Somalia and its Impact



# Warm Up:

What do you think were the **motivations** behind European colonization of countries in Africa, Asia, and the Americas?

# Essential Question

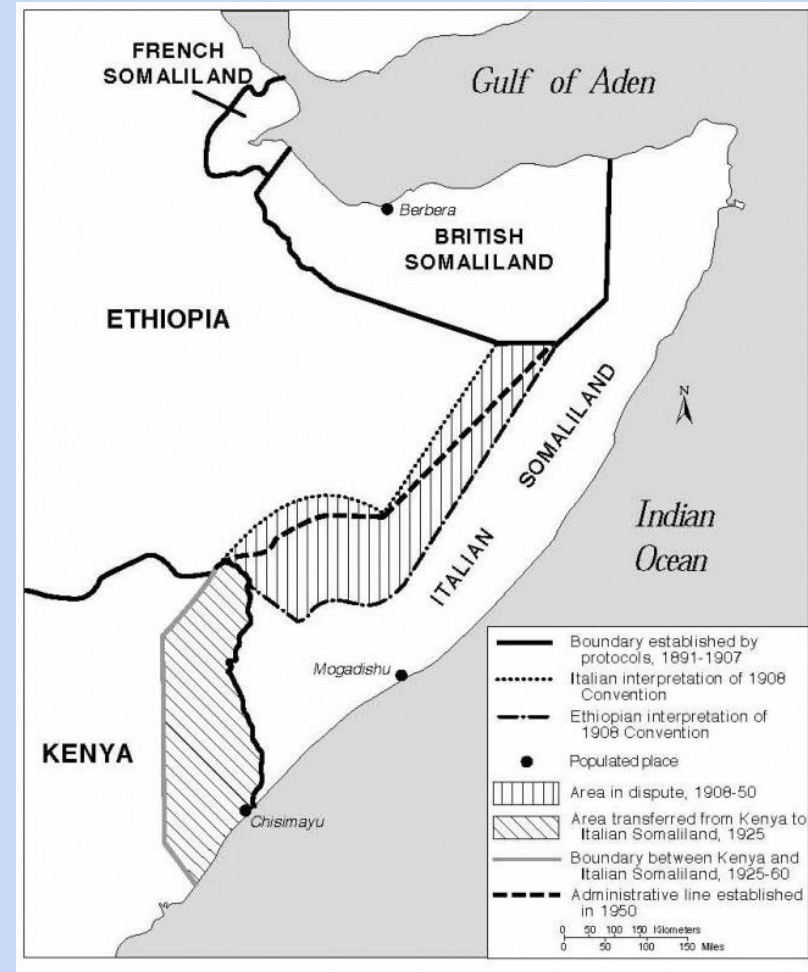
In what ways did the **colonization** of Somalia by European and regional powers influence its **territorial divisions**, and **cultural identity**, and have **long-term effects** on the nation?

# Learning Targets

1. **I can analyze the historical context of Somalia's colonization** by identifying key European and regional powers involved and their motivations for seizing Somali territories.
2. **I can evaluate the consequences of the colonial partition of Somalia** by discussing the social, political, and economic impacts on the Somali population resulting from territorial divisions.
3. **I can explore how colonization has shaped the cultural identity of the Somali people** and their diaspora, considering factors such as migration, adaptation, and the preservation of cultural heritage.
4. **I can engage in critical discussions about the legacy of colonialism and historical injustices** by reflecting on contemporary issues faced by Somali communities in Minnesota and beyond.

# Early Colonization

- In late 18<sup>th</sup> century, Somalia became a battleground for **European imperialism**.
- In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century England, France, Italy, Ethiopia, and Egypt all seized land from Somalia for their own interests.
- Egypt became the first country to seize territories in Somalia in 1875.



# Colonial Partition of Somalia

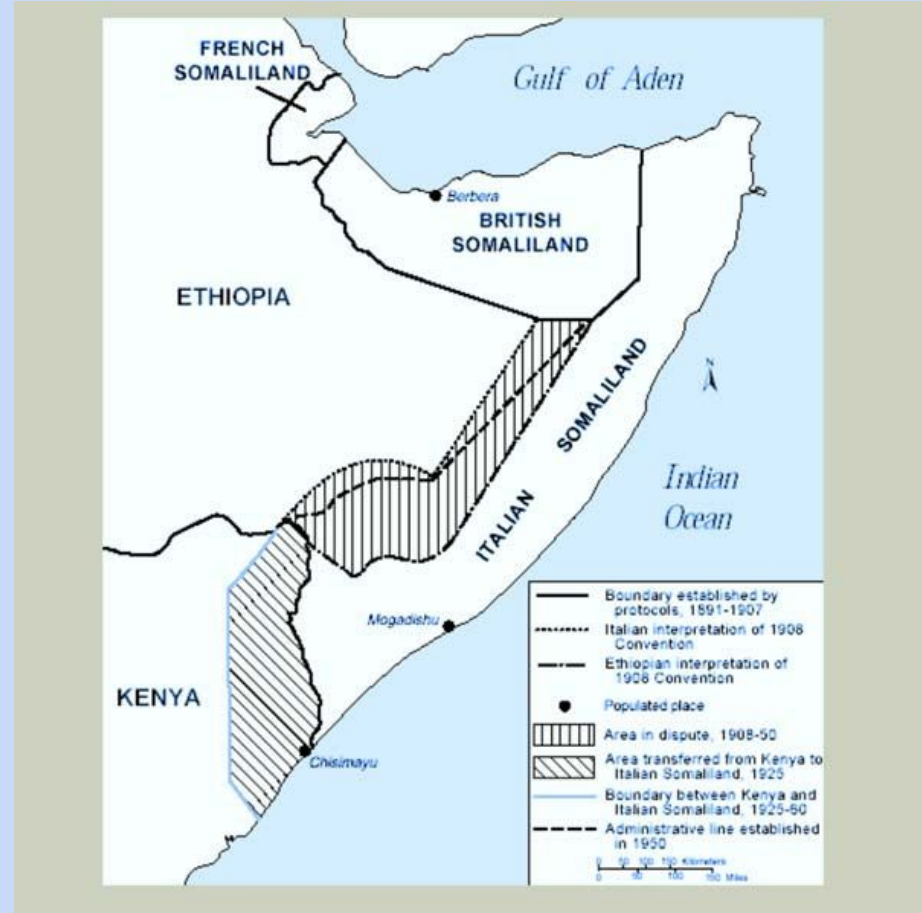
The area where Somalis originally lived was divided into 5 territories

1. British Somaliland
2. Italian Somaliland
3. French Somaliland
4. Ogaden Region
5. Northern Frontier districts (NFD)



# Colonial Division and Its Consequences

- **British Somaliland** gained independence on June 26, 1960.
- **Italian Somaliland** followed on July 1, 1960. The two territories united to form the country known as Somalia.
- **French Somaliland** gained independence in 1977, becoming **Djibouti**.
- The **Ogaden Region** and **Northern Frontier District (NFD)** remained part of Ethiopia and Kenya, respectively.



# Impacts

The partition created long-standing conflicts between Somalia and its neighbors:

- The **Shifita War** in Kenya (1963-1967)
- The **Ogaden War** in 1977

Ethnic Somalis faced marginalization in both Kenya and Ethiopia.



The regions inhabited by ethnic Somalis are among the least developed in their respective countries.

# Guest Speaker

## Topics:

1. The **cold War** and its impact on Somalia civil war.
2. The **proxy war** between Ethiopia and Somalia
3. U.S and European intervention.
4. Personal immigration story, challenges and opportunities.



# Task for Students:

- Read the article linked above: [Why Did Somalis Locate Here?](#)
- Write a response discussing whether you agree or disagree with the points made in the article.
- Share your thoughts with the group.



# Discussion Prompts

- How does understanding the **historical context** of Somalia help us understand current issues?
- What are the **implications of historical injustices** on present-day Somali communities?
- How can we relate the experiences of Somali immigrants to broader themes of **migration and identity**?

# Resource for Teachers

Explore the Somali and Somali American experiences in Minnesota through this comprehensive resource from the Minnesota Historical Society. It offers valuable insights, historical context, and educational materials that can enhance your understanding of the Somali community in the state.

Visit related resources here: [Minnesota Historical Society - Somali and Somali American Experiences](#)