

Decolonization: Politics and Independence in Former Colonial and Commonwealth Territories

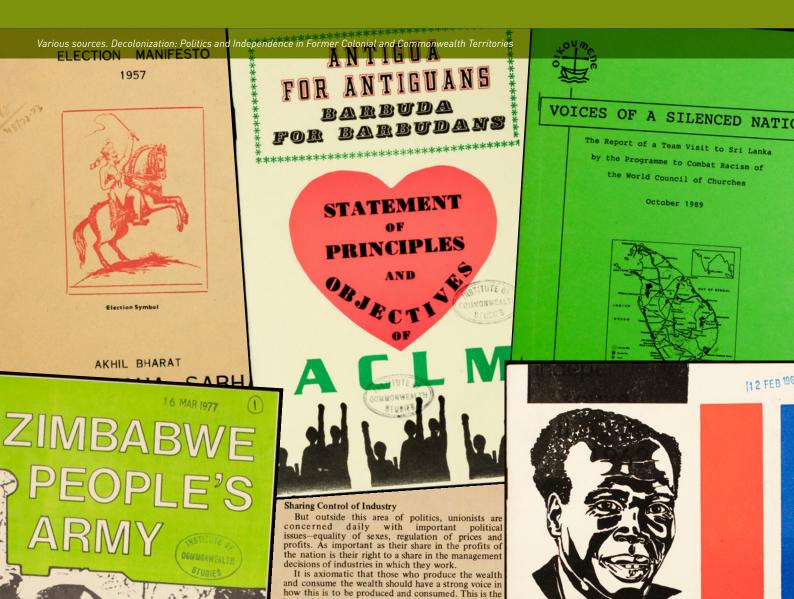
A crucial source for those studying a broad range of regions and the international and global politics of the 20th century.

DATE RANGE

1906-1997 (majority 1950-1975)

SIZE

250k pages



ABOUT THE COLLECTION

Decolonization: Politics and Independence in Former Colonial and Commonwealth Territories presents thousands of items of ephemera from over seventy countries and territories around the world, representing local politics, trade union movements and pressure groups across a wide spectrum of political views and issues. The three collections brought together here help address the need for primary sources produced in former colonial and commonwealth regions for and about those regions.

VALUE OF THE ARCHIVE

Sourced from:

- Political Pamphlets from the Institute of Commonwealth Studies
- Marjorie Nicholson Papers (subject files) from the Trades Union Congress Library
- Papers of African Trade Unions, Nuffield College, University of Oxford

These collections allow researchers insight into:

- The development of party politics, trade unions and other local and national movements in former colonies across Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Oceania and the Americas.
- The impact of key figures that were influential in the development of modern political thought, such as Cheddi Jagan, Nelson Mandela and Eric Williams.
- Information on trade unionism and international links between organisations.
- Major events such as the strikes in Guyana in 1953 and 1964, protests around civil rights in India in the 40s and 50s, and moments of political violence in South Africa, Grenada or Zimbabwe.
- Debates around economic development and policy, particularly those of Australia, New Zealand, Canada and India.
- Discussion and development of national constitutions, alongside election manifestos from many parties.
- Burgeoning issues of increasing importance in this period, such as women's rights and environmental questions.
- Comparisons of different political movements within each newly independent country, as well as examples of how and why self-rule developed differently in different places, providing a broad picture of political processes of and after decolonization.

Bringing together a wealth of material focused on a wide array of regions allows researchers to study the politics and processes of national political developments that followed decolonization and through which the former colonies negotiated their own agency and their own futures. The grassroots politics in these regions often took many different forms (for example socialism, regional independence movements, trade unionism or student activism) and this material allows insight into this variety and into the individuals that rose to power in the new systems.

FEATURES AND TOOLS

Term Frequency

See the frequency of search terms within a content set to begin assessing interactions and how they developed over time.

Topic Finder

Developing research topics by identifying and organising frequently occurring themes, and revealing hidden relationships between search terms.

Text & Data Mining

At request, Gale will deliver data and metadata associated with the collection for use in data mining and textual analysis, supporting the digital humanities.

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