

# **Contested Meanings of Modernization in World History**

- I. Current Debates: Globalization, Traditionalism and Modernization**
- II. The Shaping of the Modern World**
- III. Modernization, Modernity and European Power**

# Current Debates Over Modernization

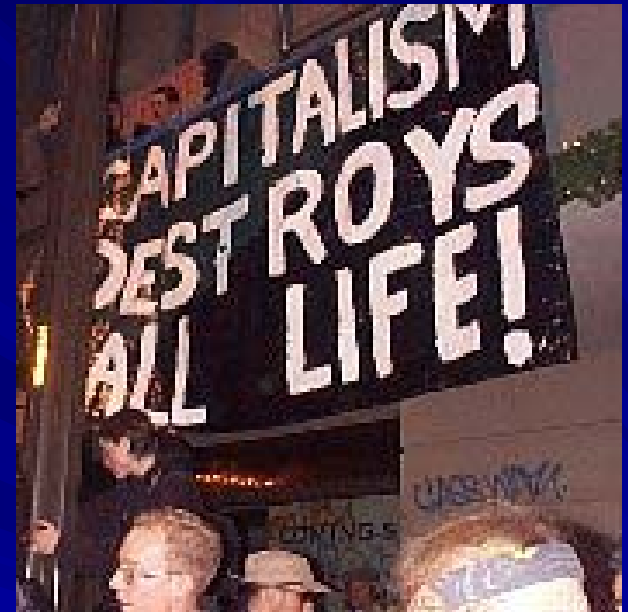
## Proponents

- Modernization is inevitable.
- Advances in science, technology and trade benefit global peoples.
- Creates higher standard of living worldwide.
- Creates interconnected, interdependent world.

## Critics

- Modernization is western ideology imposed on the world.
- Advances in science, technology and trade inherently unequal.
- Creates poverty and dependency among working poor worldwide.
- Creates world class system.

# WTO Protests



# WTO Protests



# 9/11 and Anti-Modernization

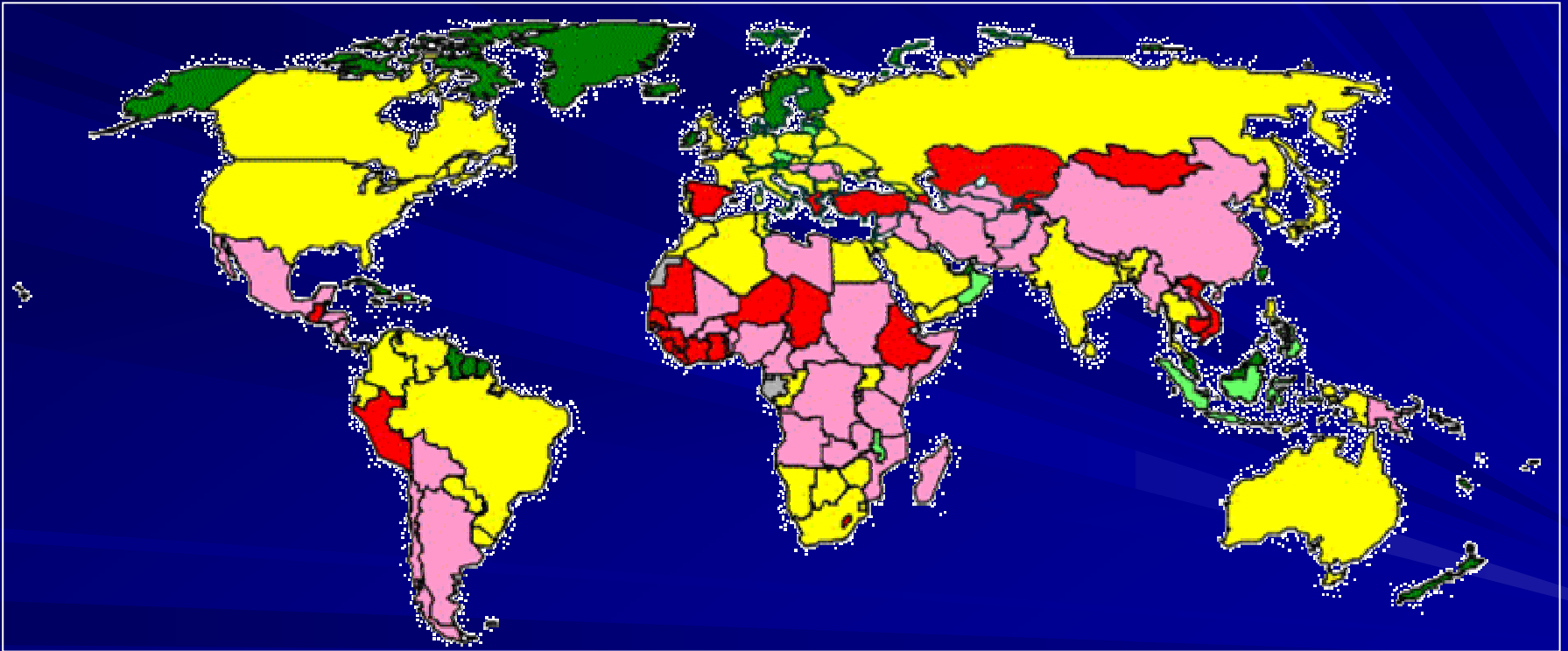
- **Events of September 11, 2001 can be represented as forces of modernization vs. forces of anti-modernization.**
- **Osama Bin Laden and Islamic fundamentalists attacked worldwide symbol of modernization-USA.**
- **USA represents materialism, secularism, global capitalism and values antithetical to fundamental religious beliefs.**
- **Attacked WTC (symbol of global capitalism), Pentagon (symbol of military power) and attempted attack of US Capito (symbol of political power)**

# Modernization in Historical Perspective

- Modernization throughout human history.
- Advances in science, technology and complex social systems.
- Acceleration of this processes since 16<sup>th</sup> century.
- Advances most dramatic in European nations.



# World Map



# Innovations and European Power

- **Agricultural-**leads to more food supply and population growth.
- **Military-** Guns and artillery increase in power of armies.
- **Economic-** banking and capitalism
- **Shipping and navigation-** leads to transcontinental contact and conquest.

