

“White Man’s Burden” by Rudyard Kipling

Take up the White Man's burden--
Send forth the best ye **breed**—
Go **bind** your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;
To wait in heavy harness,
On **fluttered folk** and wild—
Your new-caught, **sullen** peoples,
Half-devil and half-child.

Take up the White Man's burden—
In patience to **abide**,
To **veil** the threat of terror
And **check** the show of pride;
By open speech and simple,
An hundred times made plain
To seek another's profit,
And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden—
The **savage** wars of peace—
Fill full the mouth of Famine
And **bid** the sickness **cease**;
And when your goal is nearest
The end for others **sought**,
Watch **sloth** and **heathen Folly**
Bring all your hopes to **naught**.

- People, children
- To place under legal obligation by contract or oath

- A group of people moving quickly
- unwilling to talk or be sociable

- To remain in a place
- conceal or disguise.
- The condition of being stopped or held back

- primitive or uncivilized
- issue a command to; direct,- put an end to
-
- looked for
- laziness - One who does not acknowledge the God of Judaism, Christianity, or Islam.
- Nonexistence

1. What words and phrases are used to describe the Kipling’s idea of the White Man’s Burden?
2. What words and phrases are used to describe the native peoples?
3. What does Kipling recommend in dealing with indigenous peoples?
4. Who do the Europeans believe are benefiting from Imperialism? Give two or three examples from the text.
5. Do you agree with the perspective of this poem? How does it make you feel?