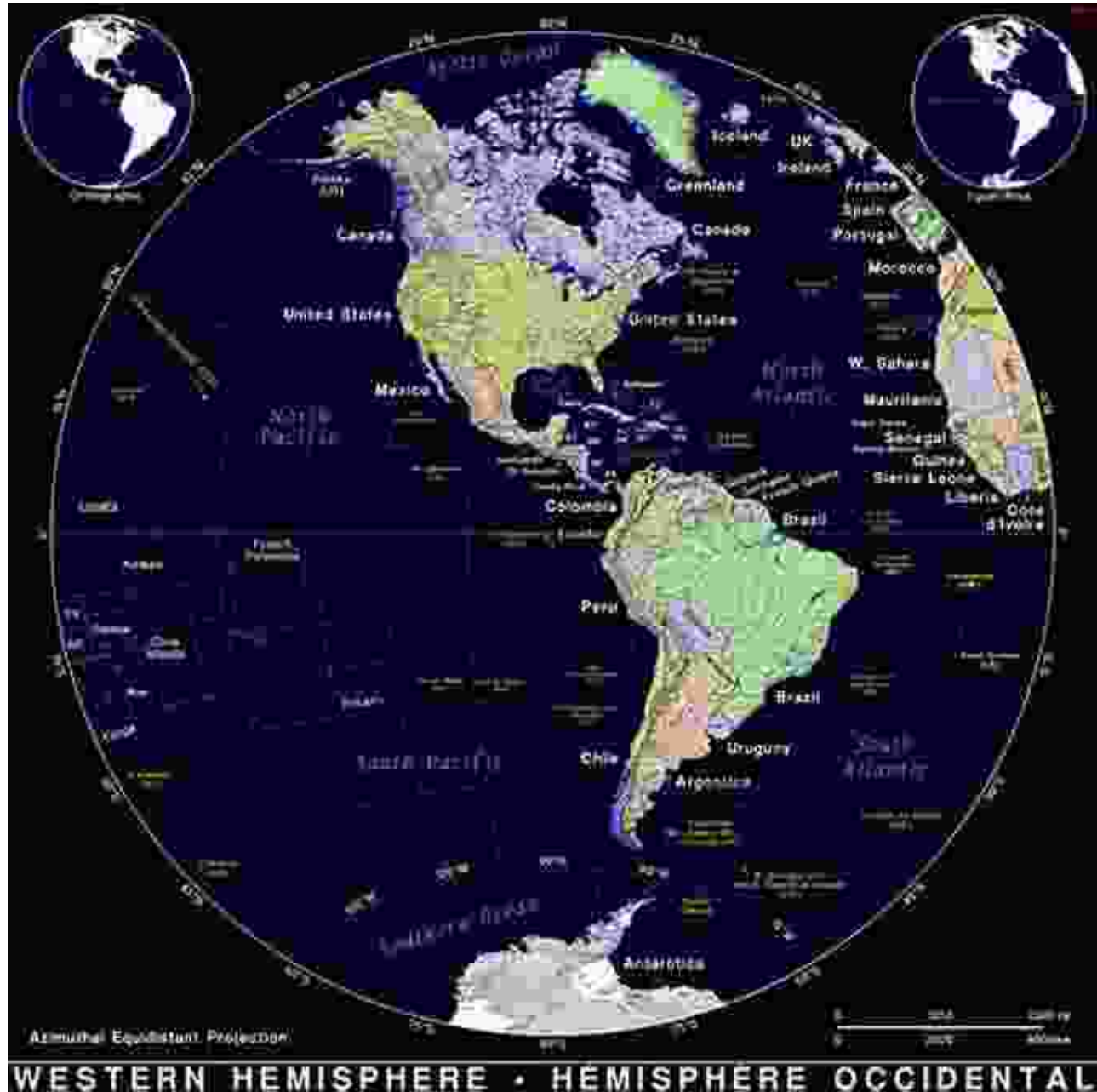
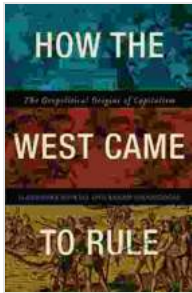


# How the West Came to Rule the World: A Comprehensive Historical Analysis



The rise of the West to global dominance is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that has shaped the course of human history. Over the centuries, Western nations have played a leading role in technological

innovation, economic development, and political and cultural affairs. But how did the West come to achieve such a position of prominence? This article delves into the historical factors that contributed to the West's rise to power, examining the key developments and turning points that have shaped the global landscape.



## How the West Came to Rule: The Geopolitical Origins of Capitalism by Alexander Anievas

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3296 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 402 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



### Navigating the Age of Exploration and Discovery

One of the most significant factors in the West's rise was the Age of Exploration and Discovery. Beginning in the 15th century, European explorers set out on voyages to find new trade routes to the East. These expeditions led to the discovery of new lands and resources, which expanded European knowledge of the world and fueled the rise of global trade. The establishment of colonies in the Americas, Africa, and Asia gave Western powers access to valuable raw materials and markets, laying the foundation for economic expansion and industrialization.

### The Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment Ideals

The Scientific Revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries marked a turning point in human knowledge and understanding. European scholars and scientists made significant advancements in fields such as astronomy, physics, and mathematics. These advancements led to the development of new technologies and industries, which further strengthened the economic and political power of Western nations. The Enlightenment ideals of rationalism, individualism, and progress fostered a spirit of inquiry and innovation that fueled the West's rise.

### **Industrialization and Technological Advancements**

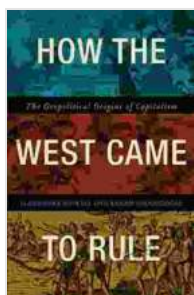
The Industrial Revolution, beginning in the late 18th century, transformed Western economies and societies. The invention of new machines and methods of production led to a surge in productivity and economic growth. Western nations capitalized on these technological advancements to establish manufacturing centers and dominate global markets. The development of steam engines, railways, and steamships facilitated the transportation of goods and people, further expanding Western influence.

### **Political and Military Supremacy**

The West's rise to power was also driven by political and military factors. European powers established vast empires through conquest and colonization. These empires not only provided access to resources and markets but also served as strategic bases for military operations. Western nations developed powerful navies and armies, which allowed them to project their power across the globe. The establishment of military alliances and the balance of power system created a favorable environment for Western domination.

### **Cultural and Ideological Influences**

Beyond economic and political factors, cultural and ideological influences played a role in the West's rise to power. Western culture, with its emphasis on individualism, competition, and technological progress, became a dominant force in global affairs. The spread of Western ideas through education, media, and missionary activities influenced the values and aspirations of people around the world. The West's promotion of democracy, human rights, and free trade further enhanced its appeal and legitima



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