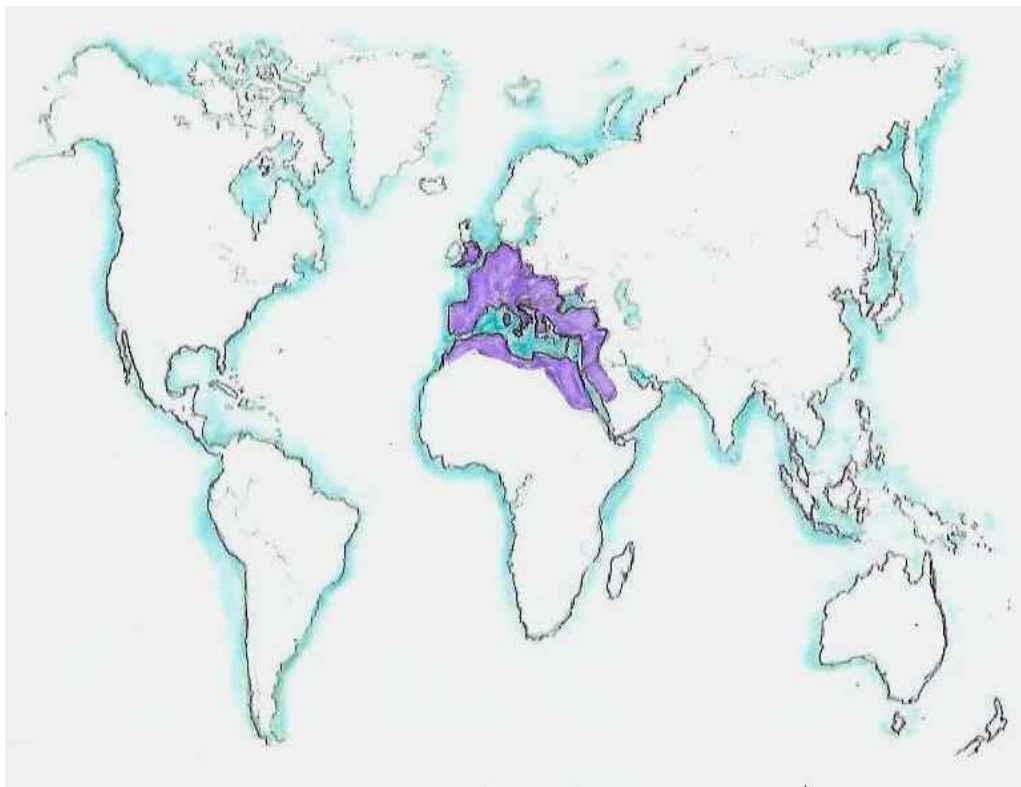
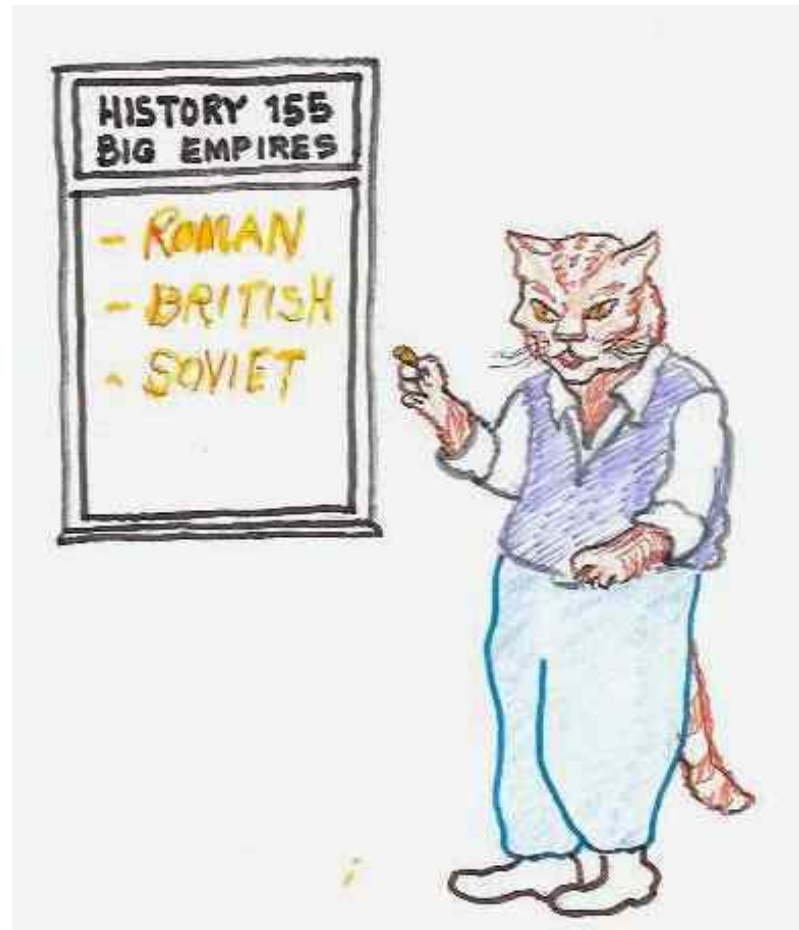
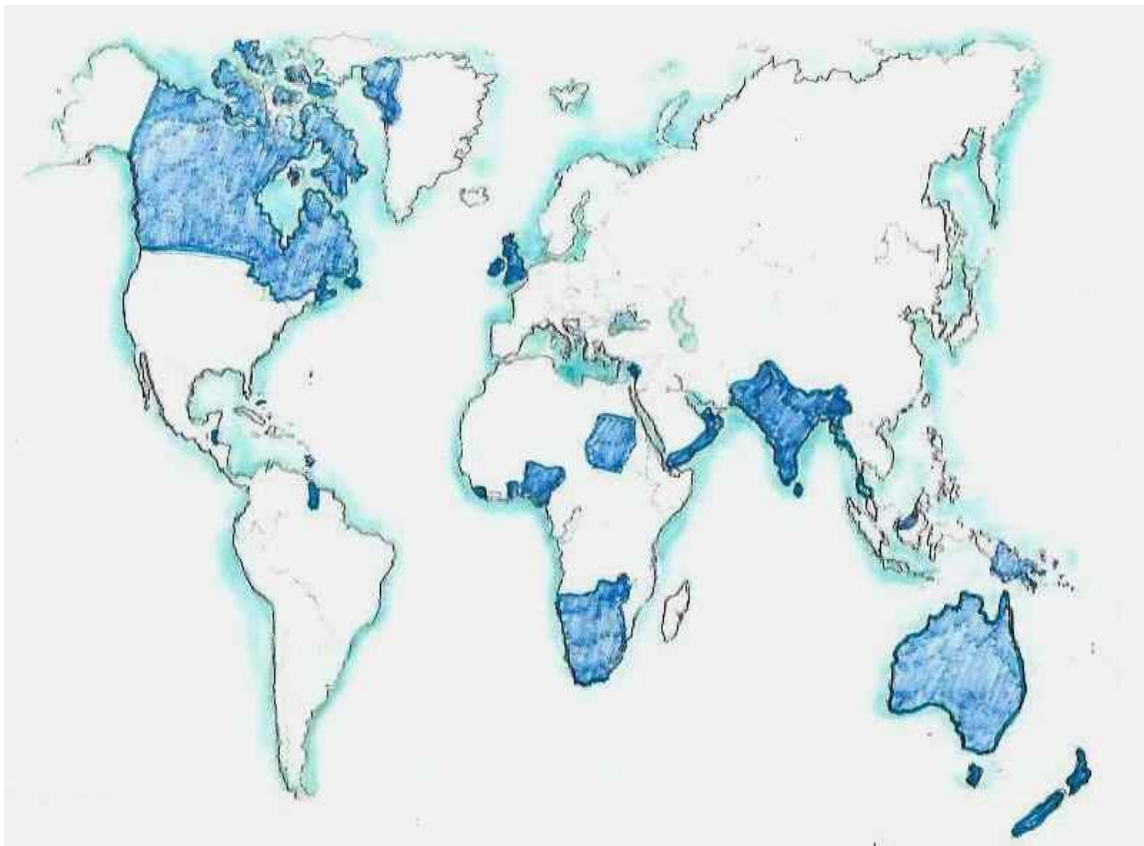


There were a few really big empires you might try to remember, even if there's comfort in forgetting.



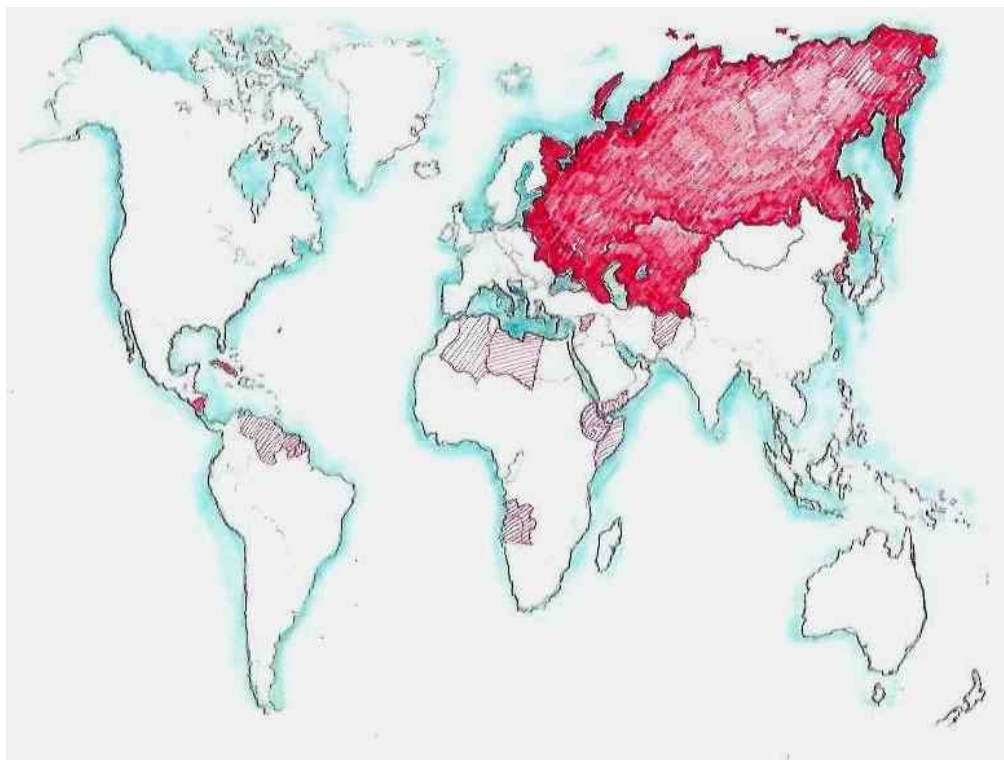
THE ROMAN EMPIRE

peaked around 117 AD under Trajan when anything thought worth having at the time, was conquered.



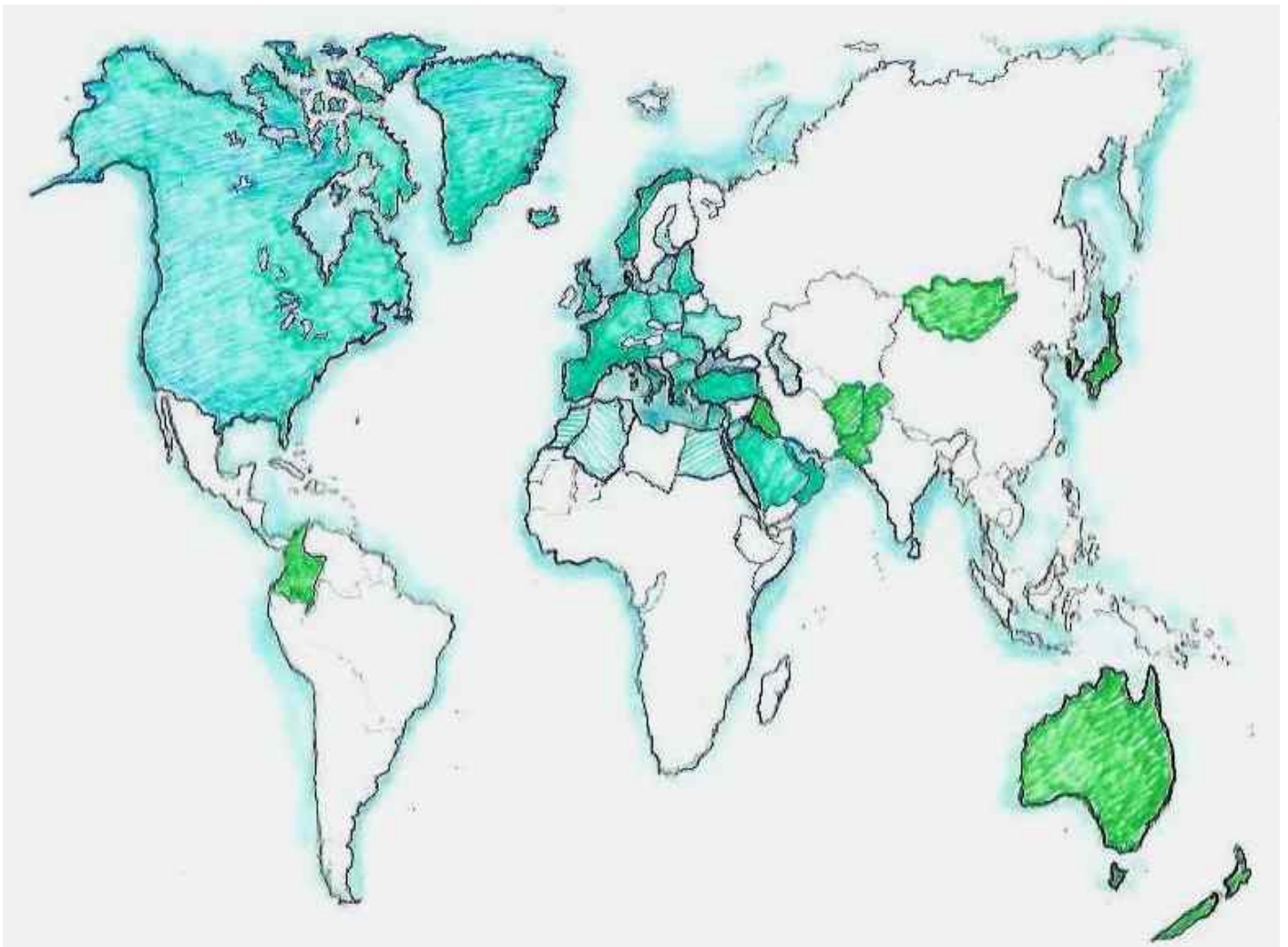
THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Its maximum extent came around 1900, although it had lost some American colonies by then.



THE SOVIET EMPIRE

It grew until it collapsed in 1989 leaving some dependencies looking for friends, without much luck.



THE JERUSALEM EMPIRE

The biggest empire so far, it was formed by a bizarre convergence of three historic events.

1. NATO, an alliance formed by the USA to contain the USSR, instead of disbanding when the Soviet Union collapsed, expanded to pursue US hegemony in other parts of the world. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization now has “partners across the globe” from Colombia to Japan, which also include Afghanistan, Pakistan, Mongolia and Australia (shown in green).
2. The bipartisan US Congress decided to delegate all US foreign policy decisions to Israel.
3. Israel created new alliances with the rich Arab countries, most notably Saudi Arabia, to more efficiently subjugate poorer, mostly Muslim countries and non-countries.

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