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... races and nations, and for world peace and international co-operation. It advocated the resolution of international disputes by recourse to negotiation. SENGHOR welcomed the conference as marking the 'death of the inferiority complex of coloured peoples'. Hailed by the leaders of the newly independent nations as a symbol of the ideal of co-operation, peace and progress for Third World peoples, it was also seen as a source of hope by nationalist leaders, especially in France's colonial empire. It was the birth of the notion of Asian-African solidarity and the beginning of the NAGANAGI MOVEMENT. (Tony Chafer)

Banlieue Literally 'suburbs', although the term is increasingly synonymous with so-called 'inner-city' areas in the UK and North America. As a result of progressive industrialisation throughout the nineteenth century, the rural area around Paris was rapidly transformed into a ring of working-class towns, where factories and heavy industry were situated. Low-cost housing for workers was found in these suburbs, but a housing crisis following the First World War led to the districts' rapid politicisation by the French Communist Party. The *banlieue* began to acquire a reputation as marginal territories, separated from the city of Paris yet remaining a permanent political and social threat to it. This idea was consolidated in the 1970s when ethnic minority families were increasingly housed in publicly owned tower blocks in these peripheral urban areas. By the early 1980s, such areas were suffering from high unemployment, and social tensions (triggered in part by the rise of the National Front) led to violence between young people and the police. The suburbs of Paris and other major French cities (such as Lyons) became the focus of ongoing debates about IMMIGRATION, INTEGRATION and national IDENTITY. The term *banlieue* now designates a deprived urban area, usually associated by the media and politicians (i.e. in the imaginations of those who live elsewhere) with stereotypical ideas of immigration, delinquency and criminality. In response to the transformation of the *banlieue* into a falsely homogeneous and exclusively threatening territory, its inhabitants (e.g. Azouz BEGAG, Mehdi CHAREF, Mounsi) have written a series of novels and used hip-hop music (e.g. Lionel D, Suprême NTM, MC SOLAAR) to offer a more realistic portrait of everyday life. There has also been a series of *banlieue* films, of which the most influential was Kassovitz's *LA HAINE* (1995). Maspero, *Les Passagers du Roissy-Express* (1990) is the account of a Parisian narrator's journey through the *banlieue* along the RER-B line. Engaging with and undermining stereotypes of the suburbs, it goes beyond political and media stereotypes to underline the ethnic and social DIVERSITY of suburban areas. (Charles Forsdick)

Further reading

Hargreaves (1996); Rosello (2001); Stovall (2001).

Bao Dai Born Hue, 1913; died Paris, 1997. Last emperor of VIETNAM. Bao Dai never enjoyed real power, his rule taking place first under the French occupation, then that of the Japanese during World War II. He abdicated in 1945 and left for exile, but returned in 1949, with the support of the French, who saw a role for him as puppet emperor. Upon the division of the country, he attempted to take control in South

Vietnam, but was outmanoeuvred by the Prime Minister, Ngo Dinh DIEM, and ousted from the monarchy in 1955.

Barcelona Agreement See also EUROMED POLICY. This is the name given to the agreement which was signed following a Conference held on the 27–28 November 1995 between foreign ministers of the EU and twelve MEDITERRANEAN countries (ALGERIA, EGYPT, Jordan, LEBANON, MOROCCO, SYRIA, TUNISIA, Turkey and the Palestinian Authority plus Israel, Cyprus and Malta with Libya having observer status). It led to the creation of what is referred to as the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. It aims to ensure Europe's security in the Mediterranean, bring about economic development and develop human capital resources in the south. (Kay Adamson)

Further reading

Xenakis and Chrysochoou (2001) – Chapter 4 provides a detailed discussion of the Barcelona Agreement.

Basri, Driss Born Settat, MOROCCO, 1938. Moroccan politician. Powerful figure in the regime of HASSAN II. Interior Minister in control of national security for several decades, until his dismissal by MOHAMMED VI in 1999.

Bastien-Thiry, Jean-Marie 1927–63. French airforce colonel and a supporter of *Algérie française*, who was executed in 1963 for his part in the attempted assassination of DE GAULLE at the Petit Clamart in 1962. Commemorated as a martyr by the Extreme Right.

Battle of Algiers This began in earnest on 7 January 1957, when General Jacques Massu, commanding the 10th paratrooper division of the French army, was given a free hand to wipe out the FLN networks, engaged in a violent guerrilla campaign of bombing and attacks in the Algiers area. The means employed were ruthless and brutal, including torture and summary executions. A few months later, Massu boasted of having won the Battle of Algiers, with 3000 or so suspects captured or killed, including Larbi Ben M'Hidi, Yacef Saadi and Ali-la-Pointe.

The Battle of Algiers The historical film *The Battle of Algiers* (PONTECORVO, 1966) is a beautifully made film about the ALGERIAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE (1954–62). Inspired by the testimony of eyewitnesses, the film recreates the historic moments that played a decisive role in this war of national liberation. It shows two forces clashing: the powerful French army represented by its élite soldiers, the parachutists, and the Algerian people, whose only weapons are their faith and determination. *The Battle of Algiers* is unique in being the vehicle for an account of the combat, singular reflections on the heroism of the common people and a film of the highest artistic quality, which has been the subject of many works of academic research in the areas of POSTCOLONIAL studies and history. It is still highly relevant for the contemporary world, and many studies of Algerian culture have found that it provides the keys to an understanding of the country's colonial history and postcolonial theory. (Kamal Salhi)