

GRADE-X

Subject- History [Notes]

CHAPTER-1 RISE OF NATIONALISM IN EUROPE

Frédéric Sorrieu Vision of World

Frédéric Sorrieu, a French artist, in 1848 prepared a series of four prints visualising his dream of a world made up of democratic and Social Republics.

- The first print shows the people of Europe and America marching in a long train and offering homage to the Statue of Liberty as they pass it. The torch of Enlightenment was carried by a female figure in one hand and the Charter of the Rights of Man in the other.
- On the earth in the foreground lie the shattered remains of the symbols of absolutist institutions.
- In Sorrieu's utopian vision, the people of the world are grouped as distinct nations, identified through their flags and national costume.
- The procession was led by the United States and Switzerland, followed by France and Germany. Following the German people are the people of Austria, the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, Lombardy, Poland, England, Ireland, Hungary and Russia.
- From the heavens above, Christ, saints and angels gaze upon the scene. They have been used by the artist to symbolise fraternity among the nations of the world.

The French Revolution & Idea of Nation

Various measures and practices were introduced by French revolutionaries to generate sense of collective belonging:

- In 1789 Nationalism came with French Revolution and the political and constitutional changes led to the transfer of sovereignty from the monarchy to a body of French citizens.
- The ideas of **la patrie** (the fatherland) and **le citoyen** (the citizen) emphasized the notion of unity and nation.
- A new French flag, the **tri-colour** was chosen to replace the former one.
- New hymns (National Anthem) were composed, oaths taken and Martyrs commemorated, all in the name of a nation.
- These new ideas emphasized the notion of a united community enjoying equal rights under a constitution
- The Estates General was elected by the body of the active citizens and renamed the National Assembly.
- Regional dialects were discouraged and French, as it was spoken and written in Paris became the common language of the nation.

- A centralised administrative system introduced and it formulated uniform laws for all citizens within its territory
- Internal customs duties and dues were abolished and a uniform system of weights and measures was adopted.
- The revolutionaries further declared that it was the mission and the destiny of the French nation to liberate the peoples of Europe from despotism.

The Napoleonic Code

Napoleon had, no doubt, destroyed democracy in France, but in the administrative field he had incorporated revolutionary principles in order to make the whole system more rational and efficient.

The Napoleonic Code is also called the "French Civil Code of 1804". Its main features are:

- It defined the concept of equality before the law but Napoleonic Code made the authority of men over their families stronger, deprived women of any individual rights, and reduced the rights of illegitimate children.
- It also secured the *right to property*.
- It codified several branches of law, including commercial and criminal law, and divided civil law into categories of property and family.
- No recognition of privileges of birth to give everyone a fair chance to all.
- This code abolished the feudal system and freed peasants from serfdom and manorial dues but colonial slavery was reintroduced.
- It gave freedom of religion to all and separated religion from the State. It granted religious freedoms so that people had to have a fair trial.
- Freedom to work in an occupation of one's choice. It specified that government jobs will go to the ones who are most qualified
- Napoleon simplified administrative divisions, abolished the feudal system
- Uniform laws for trade & commercial activities, taxes, standardised weights and measures system were introduced for the growth of businessmen and economy.
- A common national currency 'Franc' introduced to facilitate the movement and exchange of goods and capital from one region to another.

Reactions of common people towards Napoleonic [French]

rule:

In the areas conquered by Napoleon, the reactions of local people to French rule were mixed. Initially, in many places such as Holland and Switzerland, Brussels, Mainz, Milan, Warsaw, the French armies were welcomed as harbingers of Liberty.

But the initial enthusiasm soon turned to hostility. It became clear that the new administrative arrangements did not go hand in hand with political freedom.

Increased taxation, censorship, forced conscription (recruitment) into the French armies required to conquer the rest of the Europe, all seemed to outweigh the advantages of the administrative changes.

Condition of Europe in Mid 18th century

[Autocratic Monarchy: It is a form of monarchy in which the monarch holds supreme autocratic authority or government in which one person has uncontrolled or unlimited authority over others]

- Germany, Italy and Switzerland were divided into kingdoms, duchies and cantons whose rulers had their autonomous territories.
- In eastern and Central Europe were under autocratic monarchies, in these area people of diverse background lived. They did not see themselves as sharing a collective identity or a common culture.
- The Habsburg Empire ruled over Austria & Hungary. It included the alpine region- the Tyrol, Austria and Sudetenland as well as Bohemia where the aristocracy was predominantly German –speaking.
- It also included the Italian-speaking provinces Lombardy and Venetia.
- In Hungary, half of the population spoke Magyar while the other half of the spoke a variety of dialects. In Galicia, the aristocracy spoke Polish. Besides these three dominant groups, there also lived within the boundaries of the empire, a mass of subject peasants people.

The only tie binding these diverse groups together was a common allegiance to the emperor.

The Aristocracy and the New Middle Class

Aristocracy- It is a form of government that places strength in the hands of a small, privileged ruling class. The term derives from the Greek word "Aristokratia", meaning 'rule of the best'

Aristocracy:

- The Aristocracy was the dominant class on the continent politically and socially.
- The members of this class were united by a common way of life that cut across regional divisions.
- The Aristocracy was the dominant class on the continent politically and socially.
- Their families were often connected by ties if marriages and they used French for diplomacy and communicating in high society.
- They owned estates in the countryside and also town houses.

Peasantry:

- The majority of the population was made up of the peasantry.
- To the west, the bulk of the land was farmed by tenants and small owners, while in Eastern and Central Europe the pattern of landholding was characterised by vast estates which were cultivated by serfs.

- They did not see themselves as sharing a collective identity or a common culture. Often, they even spoke different languages and belonged to different ethnic groups.

The Middle Class:

- The growth of towns and the emergence of commercial classes whose existence was based on production for the market.
- Industrialization began in England in the second half of the eighteenth century, but in France and parts of the German states it occurred only during the nineteenth century.
- In its wake, new social groups came into being: a working-class population, and middle classes made up of industrialists, businessmen, professional.
- It was among the educated, liberal middle classes that ideas of national unity following the abolition of aristocratic privileges gained popularity.

What did Liberal Nationalism stand for?

- *The term 'liberalism' derives from the Latin root liber, meaning free.*
- For the new middle classes, Liberalism stood for freedom for the individual and equality of all before the law.
- Politically, it emphasised the concept of government by consent. Since the French Revolution, liberalism had stood for the end of autocracy and clerical privileges, a constitution and representative government through parliament. Nineteenth-century liberals also stressed the inviolability of private property
- The right to vote and to get elected was granted exclusively to property-owning men. Men without property and all women were excluded from political rights. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries women and non-propertied men organised opposition movements demanding equal political rights.
- In the economic sphere, liberalism stood for the freedom of markets and the abolition of state-imposed restrictions on the movement of goods and capital

The Zollverein

- In 1834, a customs union or *zollverein* was formed at the initiative of Prussia and joined by most of the German states.
- The union abolished tariff barriers and reduced the number of currencies from over thirty to two.
- The creation of a network of railways further stimulated mobility, harnessing economic interests to national unification.
- A wave of economic nationalism strengthened the wider nationalist sentiments growing at the time.

A New Conservatism After 1815

After the defeat of Napoleon in 1815, European governments were driven by a spirit of conservatism.

Conservatives believed in monarchy, the Church, social hierarchies, property and that the family should be preserved.

Most conservatives realised due to changes initiated by Napoleon that modernization could in fact strengthen traditional institutions like the monarchy. It could make state power more effective and strong, such as- modern army, an efficient bureaucracy, a dynamic economy, the abolition of feudalism and serfdom could strengthen the autocratic monarchies of Europe.

The Vienna Congress and Treaty of Vienna (1815)

In 1815, representatives of the European powers – Britain, Russia, Prussia and Austria – who had collectively defeated Napoleon, met at Vienna to draw up a settlement for Europe.

Decisions taken by conservatives in Vienna Congress-

- The Bourbon dynasty, which had been deposed during the French Revolution, was restored to power.
- France lost the territories it had annexed under Napoleon.
- A series of states were set up on the boundaries of France to prevent French expansion in future.
- Thus the kingdom of the Netherlands, which included Belgium, was set up in the north and Genoa was added to Piedmont in the south.
- Prussia was given important new territories on its western frontiers.
- Austria was given control of northern Italy.
- German confederation of 39 states that has been set up by Napoleon was left untouched.
- Russia was given part of Poland while Prussia was given a portion of Saxony.
- The main intention was to restore the monarchies that had been overthrown by Napoleon, and create a new conservative order in Europe
- Autocratic did not tolerate criticism and dissent, and sought to curb activities that questioned the legitimacy of autocratic government.

The Revolutionaries

- During the years following 1815, the fear of repression drove many liberal-nationalists underground.
- Revolutionary at this time meant a commitment to oppose monarchical forms and to fight for liberty and freedom.
- In 1815, secret societies were formed in many European states to train revolutionaries and spread their ideas. Revolutionary opposed monarchical forms, fight for liberty and freedom.

Giuseppe Mazzini

- The Italian revolutionary Giuseppe Mazzini, born in Genoa in 1807, founded two more underground societies, first, Young Italy in Marseilles. He was sent into exile in 1831 for attempting a revolution in Liguria.
- Secondly, he founded Young Europe in Berne, whose members were like-minded young men from Poland, France, Italy and the German states.

- Mazzini believed that god had intended nations to be the natural units of mankind. Metternich described him as ‘The most dangerous enemy of our social order’.

THE AGE OF REVOLUTION 1830-1848

- Conservative regimes tried to consolidate their power, liberalism and nationalism came to be increasingly associated with revolution in many regions of Europe such as the *Italian and German states, the provinces of the Ottoman Empire, Ireland and Poland*.
- These revolutions were led by the liberal-nationalists belonging to *the educated middle-class elite, among whom were professors, school teachers, clerks and members of the commercial middle classes*.

Revolution in France (July, 1830) and its impact:

- The first upheaval took place in France in **July 1830**.
- The Bourbon kings **Charles -X** who had been restored to power during the conservative reaction after 1815, were now overthrown by liberal revolutionaries who installed a constitutional monarchy with **Louis Philippe** at its head.
- The July Revolution sparked an uprising in Brussels which led to Belgium breaking away from the United Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The Greek War of Independence

- Greece had been part of the Ottoman Empire since the fifteenth century.
- The growth of revolutionary nationalism in Europe sparked off a struggle for independence amongst the Greeks which began in 1821.
- Nationalists in Greece got support from other Greeks living in exile and also from many West Europeans who had sympathies for ancient Greek culture.
- Poets and artists lauded Greece as the cradle of European civilisation and mobilised public opinion to support its struggle against a Muslim empire.
- The English poet Lord Byron organised funds and later went to fight in the war, where he died of fever in 1824.
- Finally, the Treaty of Constantinople of 1832 recognised Greece as an independent nation.

The Romantic Imagination and National Feeling

- Romanticism- It is a cultural movement which sought to develop a particular form of nationalist sentiment.
- Romantic artists and poets generally criticised the glorification of reason and science and focused instead on emotions, intuition and mystical feelings.
- Other Romantics such as the German philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder (1744-1803) claimed that true German culture was to be discovered among the common people. It was through folk songs, folk poetry and folk dances that the true spirit of the nation was

popularised. So collecting and recording these forms of folk culture was essential to the project of nation-building.

- The emphasis on vernacular language and the collection of local folklore was not just to recover an ancient national spirit, but also to carry the modern nationalist message to large audiences who were mostly illiterate.
- In subjected country like Poland, national feelings were kept alive through music and language. Karol Kurpinski, for example, celebrated the national struggle through his operas and music, turning folk dances like the polonaise and mazurka into nationalist symbols
- Grimm Brothers' Fairy Tales is a familiar name. They spent six years travelling from village to village, talking to people and writing down fairy tales, which were handed down through the generations. The Grimm brothers believed that the folktales they had collected were expressions of a pure and authentic German spirit and their work will help in creating a German national identity.

Role Of Language In Developing Idea Of Nation:-

- Language too played an important role in developing nationalist sentiments. After Russian occupation, the Polish language was forced out of schools and the Russian language was imposed everywhere.
- In 1831, an armed rebellion against Russian rule took place which was ultimately crushed. Following this, many members of the clergy in Poland began to use language as a weapon of national resistance.
- Polish was used for Church gatherings and all religious instruction. As a result, a large number of priests and bishops were put in jail or sent to Siberia by the Russian authorities as punishment for their refusal to preach in Russian.
- The use of Polish came to be seen as a symbol of the struggle against Russian dominance.

Hunger, Hardship and Popular Revolt

Factors responsible for hunger and other difficulties in Europe:

- In most countries there were more seekers of jobs than employment. Population from rural areas migrated to the cities to live in overcrowded slums.
- Small producers in towns were often faced with stiff competition from imports of cheap machine-made goods from England.
- In those regions of Europe where the aristocracy still enjoyed power, peasants struggled under the burden of feudal dues and obligations.
- The rise of food prices or a year of bad harvest led to widespread pauperism in town and country.

1848: The Revolution of Liberals

Impacts of French Revolution (February, 1848)

- In 1848, food shortages and widespread unemployment brought the population of Paris out on the roads. Barricades were erected and Louis Philippe was forced to flee.
- National Assembly proclaimed France a Republic, granted suffrage to all adult males above 21, and guaranteed the right to work. National workshops to provide employment were set up.
- Parallel to the revolts of the poor, unemployed and starving peasants and workers in many European countries in the year 1848, a revolution led by the educated middle classes was under way.
- Events of February 1848 in France had brought about the abdication of the monarch and a republic based on universal male suffrage had been proclaimed.
- In other parts of Europe (such as Germany, Italy, Poland etc) men and women of the liberal middle classes combined their demands for constitutionalism with national unification. They took advantage of the growing popular unrest to push their demands for the creation of a nation-state on parliamentary principles – a constitution, freedom of the press and freedom of association.

The Frankfurt Parliament (May,1848)

- In the German regions a large number of political associations of middle class came together in the city of Frankfurt and decided to vote for an all-German National Assembly.
- On 18 May 1848, 831 elected representatives marched in a festive procession to take their places in the Frankfurt parliament convened in the Church of St Paul.
- They drafted a constitution for a German nation to be headed by a monarchy subject to a parliament. When the deputies offered the crown on these terms to Friedrich Wilhelm IV, King of Prussia, he rejected it and joined other monarchs to oppose the elected assembly.

Impacts of Revolutions and reforms in Conservative Order:

- Though conservative forces were able to suppress liberal movements in 1848, they could not restore the old order.
- Monarchs were beginning to realise that the cycles of revolution and repression could only be ended by granting concessions to the liberal-nationalist revolutionaries.
- After 1848, the autocratic monarchies of Central and Eastern Europe began to introduce the changes that had already taken place in Western Europe before 1815.
- Thus serfdom and bonded labour were abolished both in the Habsburg dominions and in Russia. The Habsburg rulers granted more autonomy to the Hungarians in 1867.

Unification of Germany:

- In 1848, Middle-class Germans tried to unite the different regions of the German confederation into a nation-state governed by an elected parliament.

- This liberal initiative to nation-building was, however, repressed by the combined forces of the monarchy and the military, supported by the large landowners (called Junkers) of Prussia.
- After 1861 Prussia took on the leadership of the movement for national unification. Its chief minister, Otto von Bismarck, was the architect of this process carried out with the help of the Prussian army and bureaucracy.
- Three wars over seven years – with Austria, Denmark and France – ended with Prussian victory and completed the process of unification.
- In January 1871, the Prussian king, William I, was proclaimed German Emperor in a ceremony held at Versailles.
- The nation-building process in Germany had demonstrated the dominance of Prussian state power.
- The new state placed a strong emphasis on modernising the currency, banking, legal and judicial systems in Germany.

Unification of Italy:

Condition of Italy before unification:

- During the middle of the nineteenth century, Italy was divided into seven states, of which only one, Sardinia-Piedmont, was ruled by an Italian princely house.
- The north was under Austrian Habsburgs, the centre was ruled by the Pope and the southern regions were under the domination of the Bourbon kings of Spain.
- During the 1830s, Giuseppe Mazzini had sought to put together a coherent programme for a unitary Italian Republic. He had also formed a secret society called Young Italy for the dissemination of his goals.

Unification of Italy:

- The failure of revolutionary uprisings both in 1831 and 1848 meant that the mantle now fell on Sardinia-Piedmont under its ruler King Victor Emmanuel II to unify the Italian states through war.
- Chief Minister Cavour who led the movement to unify the regions of Italy was neither a revolutionary nor a democrat. Like other Italian elite, he spoke French much better than he did Italian.
- Through a tactful diplomatic alliance with France engineered by Cavour, Sardinia-Piedmont succeeded in defeating the Austrian forces in 1859.
- Apart from regular troops, a large number of armed volunteers under the leadership of Giuseppe Garibaldi joined the fray. In 1860, they marched into South Italy and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies and succeeded in winning the support of the local peasants in order to drive out the Spanish rulers.
- In 1861, Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed king of united Italy.

- In 1866, Venetia and in 1871 Papal States (Kingdom of Pope) became the part of united Italy.

The Strange Case of Britain (Unification of United Kingdom of Great Britain):

- In Britain the formation of the nation-state was not the result of a sudden upheaval or revolution. It was the result of a long-drawn-out process.
- There was no British nation prior to the eighteenth century. The primary identities of the people who inhabited the British Isles were ethnic ones – such as English, Welsh, Scot or Irish. All of these ethnic groups had their own cultural and political traditions.
- The English parliament had seized power from the monarchy in 1688.
- The Act of Union (1707) between England and Scotland that resulted in the formation of the ‘United Kingdom of Great Britain’ meant, in effect, that England was able to impose its influence on Scotland.
- The growth of a British identity meant that Scotland’s distinctive culture and political institutions were systematically suppressed.
- The Catholic clans that inhabited the Scottish Highlands suffered terrible repression whenever they attempted to assert their independence. They were forbidden to speak their Gaelic language or wear their national dress, and large numbers were forcibly driven out of their homeland.
- Ireland suffered a similar fate. It was a country deeply divided between Catholics and Protestants. The English helped the Protestants of Ireland to establish their dominance over a largely Catholic country.
- Catholic revolts against British dominance were suppressed. After a failed revolt led by Wolfe Tone and his United Irishmen (1798),
- Ireland was forcibly incorporated into the United Kingdom in 1801.
- A new ‘British nation’ was forged through the propagation of a dominant English culture. The symbols of the new Britain – the British flag (Union Jack), the national anthem (God Save Our Noble King), the English language – were actively promoted and the older nations survived only as subordinate partners in this union.

Visualising the Nation

- Artists in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries found a way out by personifying a nation. Nations were then portrayed as female figures. the female figure became an **allegory** of the nation.
- During the French Revolution artists used the female allegory to portray ideas such as **Liberty, Justice and the Republic**. These ideals were also represented through specific objects or symbols.

- In France she was christened *Marianne*, a popular Christian name, which underlined the idea of a people's nation. Her characteristics were drawn from those of Liberty and the Republic – the red cap, the tri-colour, the cockade (**A cockade is a knot of ribbons, or other circular- or oval-shaped symbol of distinctive colours which is usually worn on a hat**). Statues of Marianne were erected in public squares to remind the public of the national symbol of unity and to persuade them to identify with it.
- Similarly, Germania became the allegory of the German nation. In visual representations, Germania wears a crown of oak leaves, as the German oak stands for heroism.

Nationalism & Imperialism:

- By the last quarter of the nineteenth century nationalism no longer retained its idealistic liberal-democratic sentiment, during this period nationalist groups became increasingly intolerant of each other and ever ready to go to war.
- The most serious source of nationalist tension in Europe after 1871 was the area called the Balkans.
- **THE BALKANS:-** The name itself referred to a large peninsula sandwiched between four seas: the Black Sea, the Mediterranean, the Adriatic and the Aegean. The Balkans was a region of geographical and ethnic variation comprising modern-day Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro whose inhabitants were broadly known as the Slavs.
- A large part of the Balkans was under the control of the Ottoman Empire. The spread of the ideas of romantic nationalism in the Balkans together with the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire made this region very explosive. One by one, its European subject nationalities broke away from its control and declared independence.
- The Balkan peoples based their claims for independence or political rights on nationality and used history to prove that they had once been independent but had subsequently been subjugated by foreign powers.
- The Balkan states were fiercely jealous of each other and each hoped to gain more territory at the expense of the others. Matters were further complicated because the Balkans also became the scene of big power rivalry.
- These rivalries were very evident in the way the Balkan problem unfolded. Each power – Russia, Germany, England, Austro-Hungary – was keen on countering the hold of other powers over the Balkans, and extending its own control over the area. This led to a series of wars in the region and finally the First World War.