

The Rise of Nationalism in Europe

* The French Revolution *

In 1789, in France, revolution against monarchy started which brought some political and constitutional changes lead to constitutional monarchy and finally France became republic.

Measures and practices by the French Revolutionaries to create a sense of collective belonging among people

- A new tricolour flag was introduced.
- The Estate General was elected by the body of active citizens and renamed as National Assembly.
- Central Administrative System was introduced.
- Ideas of La Patrie (fatherland) and la citoyen (citizens) were promoted, which emphasized the notion of a united community enjoying equal rights under a constitution.

- Uniform System of weights and measurements was introduced.
- Regional languages were discontinued and French language was promoted.
- French army promoted the ideas of nationalism in other parts of Europe.

Rise of Napoleon

- In 1799, Napoleon Bonaparte invaded France.
- He destroyed democracy and established dictatorship.
- People accepted the entry of Napoleon because he introduced many good things in his civil code of 1804.
- There after, people realised that civil code of 1804 also have some bad things.

Napoleonic code or civil code of 1804

Good Points

- He abolished feudal system.

Bad Points

- He imposed censorship.



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| □ Freed peasants from serfdoms (Bandhua majdoori). | □ Right to vote not given to women. |
| □ He improved transportation and communication system. | □ Right to property not given to women. |
| □ He abolished privileges by birth. | □ He forced people to join army. |
| □ He introduced equality before law. | □ He increased taxes. |
| □ He also introduced proper measuring units. | |

* The Making of Nationalism in Europe. *

- In the mid 18th century Europe, there is no feeling of collective belonging and no nation state existed.
- Germany was divided into kingdoms.
- Italy was divided into duchies.
- Switzerland was divided into cantons.
- People spoke different languages.
- Habsburg empire had areas of today's Austria and Hungary.

- At that time, European society was mainly divided into two parts -

Society of Europe

Aristocratic class

Peasantry class

- Elite class (people from rich class).

- They had large amount of land.

- They spoke French.

- They were small in number but still they dominated the society.

- They were living in different regions but still connected to each other because of marriages.

- They were conservatives.

- Majority of European society were comprised of peasants.

- Inspite of being in huge population they had very less amount of land.

- They had been given no rights.

- Because of industrial revolution of

1750s, a new class of people emerged in European society which was known as middle class or educated class. This class comprises of businessmen, clerk, doctors, etc.

- The idea of nationalism started striking the minds of these middle class people.
- They started demanding equality and advocated the idea of nationalism and liberalism.
- Liberalism means freedom or equality. This was made from the word 'liber' that means 'to free'.
- They were demanding national unity in two terms: political and economical.

Political Freedom

Economic Freedom

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| □ Freedom of individual. | □ Freedom of market. |
| □ Equality before law. | □ Abolition of state imposed restrictions |
| □ Government by consent. | imposed on movement of capital goods. |

Loopholes: Right to vote and right to get elected given only to men owning property and men without property and women were excluded.

□ After this several measures were taken. Few of them were —

- In 1834, a custom union was formed in Prussia referred as 'Zollverein'.

- No. of currencies reduced from 30 to 2.

A new conservatism after 1815 :-

□ In 1815, the battle of Waterloo was fought between Napoleon and PRAR countries (Prussia, Russia, Austria and Britain).

□ Napoleon lost this battle.

□ After the defeat of Napoleon, European government started promoting their idea of conservatism. They support monarchy, traditional institution, church, etc.

□ Few conservatives wanted change but the change should be gradual.

Treaty of Vienna (1815)

□ Hosted by Austrian chancellor Duke Metternich.



- Bourbon dynasty was restored to power.
- France lost its territories which was annexed by Napoleon.

Settlement of Europe

- Kingdom of the Netherlands including Belgium was set up in the north.
- Genoa was added to Piedmont in the south.
- Prussia was given important new territories.
- Austria was given control of northern Italy.
- In the east Russia was given part of Poland while Prussia was given a portion of Saxony.

The main intention behind settlement of Europe was to restore the monarchies that had been overthrown by Napoleon, and create a new conservative order in Europe.

The Revolutionaries

- Conservative regimes set up in 1815 were autocratic.

- Fear of repression led to the formation of secret societies and liberal nationalists began to operate underground.
- They oppose autocratic regime, monarchical formations and they fought for liberty and freedom.

Giuseppe Mazzini

- Born in Genoa in 1807.
- He was a great Italian revolutionary.
- He founded 2 secret societies -
 - a. young Italy in Marseilles
 - b. young Europe in Berne
- He was sent to exile at the age of 24.
- He believed that God had created nations to be the natural units of mankind.
- His vision of democratic republic frightened the conservatives.
- Metternich described him as 'the most dangerous enemy of our social order.'

* The Age of Revolutions *

- Conservatives wanted monarchy and they tried to consolidate their power which was opposed by educated middle class people or liberals with revolutions in many regions of Europe such as - Ireland, Poland, Germany, Ottoman Empire, Italy.
- These revolutions were led by educated middle class.

Three Important Revolutions

1. First upheaval - France (July 1830) :-

- Bourbon dynasty which was restored to power in 1815 was overthrown by liberals.
- Constitutional monarchy was established with Louis philippe as its head.

2. Uprising in Brussels :-

- Belgium broke away from the United Kingdom of the Netherlands.

3. Greek war of independence :-

- Greece had been part of the Ottoman Empire since 15th century.
- Greece was considered as "the cradle of European civilization".
- Struggle for independence amongst the Greeks began in 1821.
- Greek nationalists got support from western nations.
- 'Lord Byron' an English poet also contributed in the struggle. He organised funds and later to fight in the war.
- Finally, the "Treaty of Constantinople" of 1832 recognised Greece as an independent nation.

The Romantic Imagination and National Feeling

- Romanticism is a cultural movement for binding or connecting people with nation, through art, poetry, stories and music.
- Romantic poets criticised the glorification reason and science. They believe in emotions or mystical feelings.



Example: A German philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder claimed -

- Das Volk - The true German culture was to be discovered among common people.
- Volkgeist - The spirit of nation would be popularised by folk songs, folk poetry and folk dances.

Case of Poland

- At the end of 18th century, Poland was partitioned by Russia, Prussia and Austria.
- 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.
- 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.
- Here, the use of Polish came to be seen

as a symbol of the struggle against Russian dominance.

Hunger, Hardship and popular Revolt

- The 1830s were years of great economic hardship in Europe.
- Enormous increase in population leads to increase in unemployment, further leads to rise of food prices or a year of bad harvest led to shortage of food.
- In 1848, the food shortages and unemployment brought the population of Paris out on the roads.
- Louis philippe was not able to control the situation and was forced to flee.
- Now, National Assembly —
 1. Replaced the monarchy and proclaimed a Republic.
 2. Granted suffrage to all adult men above 21.
 3. Guaranteed the right to work.
 4. Also national workshops to provide employment were set up.

Silesia Episode of 1848

What?

- Revolt of weavers against contractors.

When?

- 4th June, 1848.

Demand of weavers?

- Increase their wages.

Incident?

- At 2 PM weavers start marching towards the mansion of contractors.

Outcomes?

- Weavers smashed into the houses of contractors.
- Contractors ran away to nearby villages.
- Villagers did not give support to contractors.
- Clash happened there and 11 weavers died.

The Revolt of 1848

- A revolution led by the educated middle class for the abolition of monarchy and to achieve a republic based on universal male suffrage had been proclaimed.

Case of Germany :-

- Middle class people came together and decided to vote for 'The German Assembly'.
- 831 elected representatives marched to Frankfurt parliament convened in the church of St. Paul. This was happened on 18 May 1848.
- They drafted a constitution in which monarchy will be subjected to constitution (constitutional monarchy).
- They offered the crown on these terms to Friedrich Wilhelm IV (king of Prussia) but he rejected the offer.
- In the end troops were called in and the assembly was forced to disband.

Women's Participation :-

- Large no. of women had participated actively in the revolt.
- They -
 - Formed their own political institutions.

- Founded newspapers and taken part in political meetings.

- Despite of this hard work, women got nothing.

- In fact, in Frankfurt parliament, women were admitted only as observers to stand in the visitor's gallery.

Outcome of Revolt ÷

- Monarchs were realised that the cycle of revolutions and repressions could only be ended by granting concessions to the liberal - nationalist revolutionaries

- Thus serfdom and bonded labour were abolished and the Habsburg rulers granted more autonomy to the Hungarians in 1867.

* The Making of Germany & Italy *

Unification of Germany

- The initiative of liberals to unite Germany in 1848 was crushed by combined forces of monarchy and military.

- So, the responsibility to unify Germany was now on Prussia.

- Otto Van Bismarck was the chief Minister of Prussia who was the chief architect of German Unification.
- He fought 3 wars in 7 years against Austria, Denmark and France in which Prussia was the winner.
- So, finally in Jan. 1871 Prussian king William-I was proclaimed Emperor.
- On 18th Jan. 1871, assembly comprising of princess of German state gathered in Hall of Mirrors in palace of Versailles to proclaim the German Emperor.

Unification of Italy

- Italy was divided into 7 states in which one region called as Sardinia Piedmont was ruled by an Italian princely House.
- There were 3 regions in Italy -
North: Austrian Habsburg
Central: Pope
South: Bourbon King of Spain
- Giuseppe Mazzini started the process

of unification of Italy by forming secret society like young Italy (Marseilles) and young Europe (Berne) but failed to make impact.

- So, the responsibility of unification of Italy came on the king of Sardinia Piedmont - Victor Emmanuel - II.
- Emmanuel II commands chief Minister count Camilleo de Cavour. Cavour tactfully defeats Austria with the help of France and freed northern Italy from Austria.
- Garibaldi taking the help of locals was successful in defeating Bourbon king of Spain.
- Central party also came under Italy as pope gave up.
- In 1861, Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed Italian king.

The strange case of Britain

- Prior to the 18th century, there was no British nation.
- There were many ethnic groups of Britain - English, Welsh, Scot, Irish.

- The English parliament had seized power from the monarchy in 1688.
- Act of Union (1707) Between England and Scotland resulted in the formation of 'United Kingdom of Great Britain'.
- Now, England imposed its influence of Scotland which resulted into growth of British identity and culture of Scotland was suppressed.
- Speaking of Gaelic language and wearing national dress was forbidden.

Story of Ireland :-

- The society of Ireland was divided into 'Catholics' and 'Protestants'.
- With the help of English support, Protestants established their dominance of Catholics.
- After a failed revolt of Wolf Tone in 1798, Ireland was forcibly incorporated in UK in 1801.

Symbols of New Britain :-

1. The British flag - Union Jack
2. The national anthem - "God Save our Noble King".
3. English language

* Visualising the Nation *

- Allegory: Symbolic representation of nation based on imagination. It is generally a female figure.
- Marianne: Female allegory of France representing the idea of a people's nation. The red cap, the tricolour, the cockade were characteristics of Marianne.
- Germania: Female allegory of Germany. Germania wears a crown of oak leaves, as the German oak stands for heroism.

Meaning of the symbols :-

1. Broken chains - Being freed
2. Breastplate with eagle - Symbol of German empire - strength
3. Crown of oak leaves - Heroism

4. Sword - Readiness to fight
5. Olive branch around the sword - willingness to make peace.
6. Rays of the rising sun - Beginning of a new era
7. Black, red and gold tricolour - Flag of the liberal-nationalists in 1848, banned by the Dukes of the German state.

* Nationalism & Imperialism *

- Nationalism - Love for own nation.
- Imperialism - Nationalism + Territorial Expansion.
- Balkans was the region of geographical and ethnic variation in 1871.
- In Balkans region most of the people are known as 'slavs'.
- A large part of Balkans was under the control of ottoman Empire.
- With the disintegration of the ottoman Empire made this region very explosive.



- Balkans fight in their own region for independence.
- Balkans was the resource rich region.
- Now, independent Germany, Italy, Britain and Russia started fighting with each other for Balkans region.
- This leads to the beginning of world war - I.