

## HSST HISTORY MODULE

### WORLD HISTORY PART 3



#### World War – I

What was the scenario in Europe during the Pre-war Era?

#### **World in 1914**

- Germany was the leading power in Europe both militarily and economically during the first phase of the 19th century.
- There was a great burst of imperialist expansion amongst European powers to get access to new markets and resources
- Europe had divided itself into two major alliance systems

**What were the two alliance systems prevailing in Europe then?**

#### **The Triple Alliance:**

- o Germany
- o Austria-Hungary
- o Italy

## **The Triple Entente:**

- o **Britain**
- o **France**
- o **Russia**

• The two major groups termed as 'the armed camps' had already brought Europe on verge of war numerous times.

### **What were the major causes of friction amongst these nations?**

#### **Three major crises between 1900 and 1914**

- Between 1900 and 1914 there had been three major crises between the great powers exposing differences between the powers and hostility between them.
- Two were over Morocco (1905, 1911) and the other was over the Austrian annexation of Bosnia (1908).

#### **First Moroccan Crisis**

- In 1905 Kaiser Wilhelm II visited the Moroccan port and denounced French influence in Morocco.
- The visit provoked an international crisis, which was resolved in France's favour at the Algeciras Conference, 1906.

#### **Second Moroccan Crisis**

- This crisis erupted when the Germans sent the gunboat "Panther" to the Moroccan port of Agadir, to protect German citizens there.
- Germany claimed that the French had ignored the terms of the Algeciras Conference. The Germans agreed to leave Morocco to the French in return for rights in the Congo, leading to its humiliation

#### **The Annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina**

- Austria annexed Bosnia after tricking Russia during negotiations between their respective foreign ministers.
- The action outraged Serbia as there was a large Serbian population in Bosnia

- Russia bowed to German pressure when they supported Austria and they agreed to the annexation.

### **The Germans**

- There was a lot of resentment among Germans against the 'the triple Entente', as Germany remained wary of it getting 'encircled'
- Germany was disappointed with the results of their world policies as it was not as fruitful as compared to the other European powers.
- There was a Naval contention between Germany and Britain

### **The Serbian Nationalism**

- Following the second Balkan war, Austria-Hungary became wary of the rising regional power in form of Serbia
- The relations between Serbia and Austria-Hungary were tense despite King Milan, the ruler of the Serbian kingdom being pro-Austrian
- This triggered a sense of distrust by many Serbian nationalists for him leading to his assassination.
- The change of regime caused a dramatic shift in the Serbian policy towards Russia
- This further seeded a sense of nationalism amongst many Serbians and Croats who were part of the Hapsburg Empire.

### **The Russians**

- The Russians were suspicious of the Austrian ambitions in the Balkans
- They were also bothered about the rising military and economic strength of Germany

### **Britain and Germany Rivalry**

- The desire for economic mastery caused many German businessman and capitalist to want a war with the English

### **Naval Domination**

- Sea power was one of the benchmarks to a successful and a strong military buildup. Both Germany and Britain were involved in an arm race.

## What were the key reasons that led to the World war?

### Russia backing Serbia

- Serbia's anti-Austrian policy was only encouraged by the Russian backing that led to the great mobilisation of armies between Russia and Germany.
- Bulgaria and Turkey were both under the German influence enabling Germans to control Dardanelles, the outlet of the Black sea, which was the main trade route for RussiaGermany backing Austria ("Blank Cheque")
- Ambitious Germany in 1914, gave Austria a green signal to attack Serbia, in order to remain the sole power in Europe.
- Germany always remained a strong ally to Austria-Hungary as they helped them to gain control over the Balkans

### Immediate Cause: Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

- On 28 June 1914, a Serbian-nationalist terrorist group called the Black Hand sent groups to assassinate the Archduke.
- A Serbian nationalist named Gavrilo Princip assassinated him and his wife while they were in Sarajevo, Bosnia which was part of Austria-Hungary.
- This led to Austria-Hungary declaring war on Serbia.
- When Russia began to mobilise due to its alliance with Serbia, Germany declared war on Russia.

### Timeline (Summary of events)

- **Archduke Franz Ferdinand**, the prince to the Austria-Hungary command was assassinated in Sarajevo by a Serbian named Gavrilo Princip.
- **July 28** - Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia. Russia begins mobilising its troops.
- **August 1** - Germany declares war on Russia.
- **August 3** - Germany declares war on France as part of the Schlieffen Plan.
- **August 4** - Germany invades Belgium. Britain declares war on Germany.
- **August 23** - The Battle of Tannenberg is fought; the Germans defeat the Russian Second Army.

- **October 19** – The Allies defeat the Germans at the First Battle of Ypres.
- **November 11** – The Ottoman Empire declares war on the Allies.
- **December 24** – An unofficial truce is declared between the two sides at Christmas.

## 1915

- **April 25** – The Allies attack the Ottoman Empire at the Battle of Gallipoli.
- **October 14** – Bulgaria enters the war by declaring war on Serbia.

## 1916

- **February 21** – The Battle of Verdun begins between France and Germany. This battle will last until December of 1916 and will finally result in a French victory.
- **May 31** – The largest naval battle of the war, the Battle of Jutland, is fought between Britain and Germany in the North Sea.
- **July 1** – The Battle of the Somme begins. Over 1 million soldiers will be wounded or killed. 1917
- **April 6** – The United States enters the war, declaring war on Germany.
- **November 7** – The Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin, overthrow the Russian government.
- **December 17** – The Russians agree to peace with the Central powers and leave the war. 1918
- **January 8** – President Woodrow Wilson issues his "Fourteen Points" for peace and an end to the war.
- **March 21** – Germany launches the Spring Offensive hoping to defeat the Allies before reinforcements from the United States can be deployed.
- **July 15** – The Second Battle of the Marne begins. This battle will end on August 6 as a decisive victory for the Allies.
- **November 11** – Germany agrees to a settlement and the fighting comes to an end at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month.
- **June 28** – The Treaty of Versailles is signed by Germany and World War I comes to an end

## Post war

### What the Treaty of Versailles held?

- World War I officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919.

### What were the terms of the Treaty of Versailles?

- There were a total of 440 clauses in the final treaty.
- The first 26 clauses dealt with the establishment of the League of Nations.
- The remaining 414 clauses spelled out Germany's punishment.

## General Clauses

- The establishment of the League of Nations
- War Guilt clause – Germany to accept blame for starting the war.

### Financial Clauses

- Reparations – Germany was to pay for the damage caused by the war. The figure of £6,600

## Military Clauses

- Germany was asked to disarm and abolish conscription
- Army – was to be reduced to 100,000 men and no tanks were allowed
- Navy – Germany was only allowed 6 ships and no submarines
- Air Force – Germany was not allowed an Air Force
- Rhineland – The Rhineland area was to be kept free of German military personnel and weapons
- Germany was asked to dismantle her fortifications along the river Rhine and open the Kiel canal to all nations

## Territorial Clauses

- Anschluss – Germany was not allowed to unite with Austria.
- Land – Germany lost land to a number of other countries.
- Alsace-Lorraine was returned to France

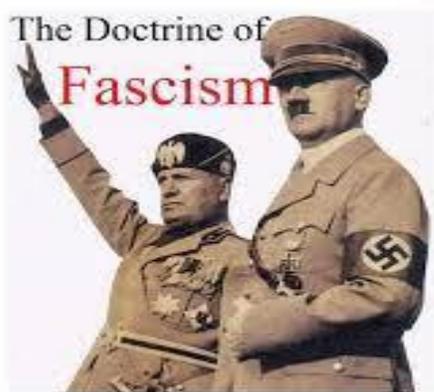
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- Eupen and Malmedy were given to Belgium
- North Schleswig was given to Denmark.
- Land was also taken from Germany and given to Czechoslovakia and Poland.
- The League of Nations took control of Germany's colonies

### **Political clauses**

- Germany recognized the independence of Belgium, Poland, Czechoslovakia and GermanAustria
- She was asked to give her consent to the invalidation to the treaties of Brestlitovsk and Bucharest (signed with Russia and Romania in 1918
- She had to permit the Allies to make new arrangements regarding the affairs of Eastern Europe

## **FASCISM**



### **What is Fascism and what does it stand for?**

- Fascism is a political ideology that developed after World War I in Italy and Germany.

- Fascism is characterised by strong nationalism, an extreme level of authoritarianism, corporatism, militarization and hostility towards both liberalism and Marxism.
- Fascism involves a high degree of nationalism, which is a strong feeling of patriotism to your state and its people. The nationalism of fascism is so strong that it often involves feelings of national and racial superiority over others.
- Fascist governments employ an extreme form of authoritarianism. Authoritarian governments have power concentrated in one small group of people or even one person.
- Fascism is also characterised by militarism, where military institutions and military force have a heavy influence in society.
- Hostility to democracy, liberalism and Marxism is also present.

What were the Fourteen Common Features of Fascism by Umberto Eco?

Umberto Eco was a novelist, literary critic and philosopher from Italy.

Eco has defined the Fourteen common features of 'Eternal Fascism'. Following is the list of 14

## **characteristics of the fascist, according to Eco:**

### **1. The cult of tradition.**

"One has only to look at the syllabus of every fascist movement to find the major traditionalist thinkers.

The Nazi gnosis was nourished by traditionalist, syncretistic, occult elements."

### **2. The rejection of modernism.**

"The Enlightenment, the Age of Reason, is seen as the beginning of modern depravity. In this sense UrFascism can be defined as irrationalism."

### **3. The cult of action for action's sake.**

“Action being beautiful in itself, it must be taken before, or without, any previous reflection. Thinking is a form of emasculation.”

#### **4. Disagreement is treason.**

“The critical spirit makes distinctions, and to distinguish is a sign of modernism. In modern culture the scientific community praises disagreement as a way to improve knowledge.”

#### **5. Fear of difference.**

“The first appeal of a fascist or prematurely fascist movement is an appeal against the intruders. Thus

#### **6. Appeal to social frustration.**

“One of the most typical features of the historical fascism was the appeal to a frustrated middle class, a class suffering from an economic crisis or feelings of political humiliation, and frightened by the pressure of lower social groups.”

#### **7. The obsession with a plot.**

“The followers must feel besieged. The easiest way to solve the plot is the appeal to xenophobia.”

#### **8. The enemy is both strong and weak.**

“By a continuous shifting of rhetorical focus, the enemies are at the same time too strong and too weak.”

#### **9. Pacifism is trafficking with the enemy.**

“For Ur-Fascism there is no struggle for life but, rather, life is lived for struggle.”

#### **10. Contempt for the weak.**

“Elitism is a typical aspect of any reactionary ideology.”

### 11. Everybody is educated to become a hero.

“In Ur-Fascist ideology, heroism is the norm. This cult of heroism is strictly linked with the cult of death.”

### 12. Machismo and weaponry.

“Machismo implies both disdain for women and intolerance and condemnation of nonstandard sexual habits, from chastity to homosexuality.”

### 13. Selective populism.

“There is in our future a TV or Internet populism, in which the emotional response of a selected group citizens can be presented and accepted as the Voice of the People.”

### 14. Ur-Fascism speaks Newspeak.

“All the Nazi or Fascist schoolbooks made use of an impoverished vocabulary, and an elementary syntax, in order to limit the instruments for complex and critical reasoning.”

## What was the Impact of World War I on Fascism?

- Fascists viewed World War I as bringing revolutionary changes in the nature of war, society, the state, and technology, as the advent of total war and mass mobilisation had broken down the distinction between civilian and combatant, as civilians had become a critical part in economic production for the war effort, and thus arose a "**military citizenship**" in which all citizens were involved in the military in some manner during the war.
- Fascists viewed technological developments of weaponry and the state's total mobilisation of its population in the war as symbolising the beginning of a new era fusing state power with mass politics, technology, and particularly

the mobilising myth that they contended had triumphed over the myth of progress and the era of liberalism.

### **What was the Fascist Manifesto of 1919?**

- The Manifesto supported the creation of universal suffrage for both men and women, proportional representation on a regional basis; government representation through a corporatist system of "National Councils" of experts, selected from professionals and tradespeople, elected to represent and hold legislative power over their respective areas, including labour, industry, transportation, public health, communications, etc.; and the abolition of the Italian Senate.
- The Manifesto supported the creation of an eight-hour work day for all workers, a minimum wage, worker representation in industrial management, equal confidence in labour unions as in industrial executives and public servants, reorganisation of the transportation sector

## **NAZISM**



## **What is Nazism?**

- National Socialism (or Nazism) is the ideology and set of practices associated with the 20th century German Nazi Party, Nazi Germany, and other far-right groups.
- In its intense nationalism, mass appeal, and dictatorial rule, National Socialism shared many elements with Italian fascism.
- Nazism was far more extreme both in its ideas and in its practice. In almost every respect it was an anti-intellectual and a theoretical movement, emphasising the will of the charismatic

## **What was the role of Hitler in the Rise of Nazism?**

- ❖ • Under the leadership of Adolf Hitler (1889–1945), the National Socialist German Workers' Party, or Nazi Party, grew into a mass movement and ruled Germany through totalitarian means from 1933 to 1945.
- ❖ • In 1933, he became chancellor of Germany and his Nazi government soon assumed dictatorial powers.
- ❖ • The Treaty of Versailles (1919), the formal settlement of World War I drafted without German participation, alienated many Germans with its imposition of harsh monetary and territorial reparations. The significant resentment expressed toward the peace treaty gave Hitler a starting point.
- ❖ • Hitler's most important individual contribution to the theory and practice of National Socialism was his deep understanding of mass psychology and mass propaganda. He stressed the fact that all propaganda must hold its intellectual level at the capacity of the least intelligent of those at whom it is directed and that its truthfulness is much less important than its success.

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- ❖ • Hitler found this common denominator in the Jews, whom he identified with both Bolshevism and a kind of cosmic evil.
- ❖ • National Socialism attempted to reconcile conservative, nationalist ideology with a socially radical doctrine.
- ❖ • Hitler presented the Nazis as a form of German fascism. Hitler spoke of Nazism being indebted to the success of Fascism's rise to power in Italy.
- ❖ • Hitler declared that racial conflict against Jews was necessary in order to save Germany from suffering under them and he dismissed concerns that the conflict with them was inhumane and unjust.
- ❖ • Hitler believed that private ownership was useful in that it encouraged creative competition and technical innovation, but insisted that it had to conform to national interests and be "productive" rather than "parasitical".
- ❖ • Hitler declared that "every activity and every need of every individual will be regulated by the collectively represented by the party" and that "there are no longer any free realms in which the individual belongs to himself".
- ❖ • As per Hitler's World View there was no equality between people, only racial hierarchy.

### **Similarities and Differences between Fascism and Nazism**

#### **Similarities:**

1. Both were intensely anti-communist and drew a solid basis of support from all classes.
2. Both were anti-democratic and attempted to create a totalitarian state.
3. Both tried to make their countries self-sufficient.
4. Both emphasized the supremacy of the state, were very nationalistic, and cult of hero/mass leader who would guide the rebirth of the nation from its troubles.

5. Both pursue collectivism (ownership of the land and the means of production by the state) as a part of an economy led by the state, the establishment of a dictatorship led by a leader who

### **Differences:**

1. The Italian system was not as efficient as that in Germany. The Italians never reached self sufficiency and never eliminated unemployment.
2. The Italian system was not ruthless or as brutal as that in Germany and there were no mass atrocities.
3. Italian Fascism was not particularly ant-Jewish or racist.
4. The Nazis rejected corporatism although they supported state intervention in the economy and cultural production. They viewed modernism as a sign of cultural degeneration and promoted "healthy" art that emphasized the ideas of the Nazi doctrine.

The Fascists in Italy, on the other hand, did not restrict artistic expression and encouraged creativity rather than promoting the Fascist style.

## **World War 2**



### **How did World War-II begin?**

Germany's attack on Poland

- It was started by Germany in an unprovoked attack on Poland.

- Shortly after the attack, Prime Minister of Britain, Neville Chamberlain, declared war on Germany.

### **What started World War - II?**

- On July 7, 1937, when the “Marco Polo Bridge Incident” led to a prolonged war between Japan and China
- On September 1, 1939, when Germany invaded Poland, leading to Britain and France declaring war on Hitler’s Nazi state in retaliation

What were the 2 sides in World War - II?

The war was fought chiefly between - II major alliances:

- **The Axis**
- **The Allies**

<b>ALLIES</b>	<b>AXIS POWERS</b>
USA	ITALY
BRITAIN	JAPAN
FRANCE	GERMANY
USSR	

### **What were the causes for the outburst of the Second World War?**

#### **Failure of the policy of appeasement.**

- Appeasement means giving in to someone provided their demands are seen as reasonable.
- Neville Chamberlain, Prime Minister of Britain, believed that the Treaty of Versailles had treated Germany badly and Hitler’s demands were reasonable

#### **Munich Agreement of September 1938**

- The Munich Agreement, signed by the leaders of Germany, Britain, France and Italy, agreed that the Sudetenland would be returned to Germany
- However, on a condition that no further territorial claims would be made by Germany.

## **Failure of the League of Nations**

- The League of Nations was an international organisation set up in 1919 to help keep world peace.
- In theory, the League of Nations was a good idea and did have some early successes. But ultimately it was a failure.

### [The main reasons for the failure of the League of Nations can be summarised into the following points:](#)

#### **Not all countries joined the League**

- Apart from the United States, as a punishment for having started World War One, Germany was not allowed to join and Russia was also excluded due to a growing fear of Communism
- Other countries decided not to join and some joined but later left.

#### **The League had no power.**

- The main weapon of the League was to ask member countries to stop trading with an aggressive country. However, this did not work because countries could still trade with non member countries.
- When the world was hit by depression in the late 1920s countries were reluctant to lose trading partners to other non-member countries.

#### **The League had no army**

- Soldiers were to be supplied by member countries. However, countries were reluctant to get involved and risked provoking an aggressive country into taking direct action against them and failed to provide troops.

#### **Unable to act quickly**

- The Council of the League of Nations only met four times a year and decisions had to be agreed by all nations.
- This process meant that the League could not act quickly to stop an act of aggression.

## Rise of Hitler



- Adolf Hitler became Chancellor of Germany in January 1933 and almost immediately he started secretly building up Germany's army and weapons.
- In 1936 Hitler ordered German troops to enter the Rhineland.
- Hitler also made - II important alliances during 1936. The first was called the Rome-Berlin Axis Pact and allied Hitler's Germany with Mussolini's Italy.
- The second was called the Anti-Comintern Pact and allied Germany with Japan.

### **Reunification of Germany**

- Hitler's next step was to begin taking back the land that had been taken away from Germany.
- In March 1938, German troops marched into Austria.
- Six months later demanded that the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia be handed over to Germany.
- The Munich Agreement stated that Hitler could have the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia
- In March 1939 invaded the rest of Czechoslovakia.
- Finally, German on 1st September 1939, troops invaded Poland leading to the beginning of the Second World War

## **Why did the axis powers lose the war?**

### **Shortage of raw materials**

- Both Italy and Japan had to import supplies including Germany which was short of rubber, cotton, nickel and, after mid-1944 oil.

### **The allies learned from their mistakes**

- By 1942 the allies understood the importance of air support and aircraft carriers. Consequently, they built up air and naval superiority which helped them dominate the warfare.
- The combined resources of the US, the USSR and the British Empire
- The resources of the combined nations were so great that the longer the war lasted the less chance Axis had of victory.

### **Serious Tactical mistakes**

- The Japanese failed to learn the lesson about the importance of aircraft carriers.
- Hitler should have defeated Britain before invading the USSR, which led Germany facing a two front war.
- Both Hitler and Japan made a fatal mistake of attacking the US

### **Nazi racial policy**

- Nazi treatment of Jews, gypsies and homosexuals in occupied territories of USSR alienated many of the conquered people who would have otherwise supported the Germans against the Stalinist regime.

### **The Final solution**

- Over 5.7 million Jews were murdered including Socialists, communists, Poles, prisoners from USSR, homosexuals and handicaps by Hitler regime.
- There were at least 20 concentration camps to give away what they called 'the Jewish problem'.

### **How did the First World War lead to the Second World War?**

- The main way in which the peace settlement after World War I led to World War II was by making Germany feel a strong desire for revenge.
- After WWI, the Treaty of Versailles was imposed on Germany.
- The treaty was very harsh. It took away much of Germany's territory, including all of its colonies.
- It made Germany admit the war was its fault and it made them pay reparations to the French and the British.
- When Hitler came to power, he promised to make them strong again. This led people to support him.
- The desire for revenge and greater power caused Hitler to do things like taking Czechoslovakia and, eventually, invading Poland.
- The peace settlement after WWI made Germany want revenge and that desire for revenge led to WWII.

### **How did the treaty of Versailles lead to the Second World War?**

#### **Unfair treaty of Versailles**

- After World War one ended in 1918, Germany had to give up land and was banned from having armed forces.

The main terms of the Treaty of Versailles were:

#### **War Guilt**

- The significance of this clause in the path to WWII is mainly that Germany took on paying damages, but there is also the fact that this clause infuriated many Germans.

- Germans remembered the humiliation that the Allies had put upon them convincing them the need for more war.

### **Damages**

- The Allies demanded 33 billion in damages from the Germans.
- The economic devastation drove Germany's government into the ground and that is not the

### **Territorial Losses**

- The loss of almost all of Germany's colonies angered many Germans. As stated above, the damages paid out by Germany had destroyed the German Economy.
- Many Germans realised that losing their territories had contributed to the crash of the German economy and they resented the Allies for causing the collapse of the economy.

### **Disarmament**

- Germany was only allowed to have a small army and six naval ships. No tanks, no air force and no submarines were allowed and the Rhineland area was to be demilitarised.
- The military restrictions placed upon Germany caused unrest in Germany.

### **Wrapping Up**

- The economy collapsed, the government lost power, the military was weak, and the Germans were angry.
- All of these factors together combined to make a perfect storm in Germany.

## **Results and Aftermath of World War II**

### **Division of Germany**

- After the end of the war, a conference was held in Potsdam, Germany, to set up peace treaties.

- The countries that fought with Hitler lost territory and had to pay reparations to the Allies.
- Germany and its capital Berlin were divided into four parts. The zones were to be controlled by

- **Great Britain**
- **The United States,**
- **France**
- **The Soviet Union.**

- The three western Allies and the Soviet Union disagreed on many things and as time went on Germany was divided into - II separate countries:

- **East Germany (Communist)**
- **West Germany (democratic)**

- Berlin was also divided into East and West Berlin.
- Austria was also occupied by the four Allies from 1945 to 1955.
- The division of Europe was the beginning of the Cold War, between the democratic nations of the west and the Communist countries of Eastern Europe.
- After the war, many Nazi leaders were arrested and punished for what they had done in the war. The most famous war trials were held at Nuremberg, Germany.
- Those who were responsible for brutal crimes were sentenced to death.

### **City of Berlin**

- One of them focused on the city of Berlin which was deep inside the Russian zone.
- In June 1948, the Soviet Union tried to drive the western powers out of Berlin by blocking all routes to the city.

- In 1961 the Russians built a wall around Berlin to stop their citizens from escaping to the west.
- In 1948 the United States set up the Marshall Plan to help Europe's economy.

### **Assembly of the United Nations**

- During World War II, four of the Allied powers agreed to create an organisation that should work for peace.

- o **The United States,**
- o **Great Britain,**
- o **The Soviet Union**
- o **China**

- In April 1945 fifty countries signed a charter and gave birth to the United Nations

### **Enormous destruction**

- Almost 40 million people were killed
- 21 million had been uprooted from their homes
- The holocaust (deliberate killing of over 6 million Jews)

### **There was no all-inclusive peace settlement**

- The distrust between the USSR and the west made the agreement on various points impossible
- However, several separate treaties were made

### **The war led to important social changes**

- Millions of people were forced to leave homes
- Almost 10 million Germans were forced to leave their homes from East

### **Germany to the west**

so that no one can claim the lands in the future.

- In countries such as the USSR and Germany extensive rebuilding took place as cities were ruined due to war.

### **The war led to the production of nuclear weapons**

- The first ever use of nuclear weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki showcased the horrifying powers of destruction.

### **The European domination ended with the war**

- The four European countries which played a leading role in the world affairs were all weaker than before. Germany was devastated and divided.
- France and Italy were both on verge of bankruptcy.
- Britain although seemed strong and victorious, the cost of war left her in ruins.

### **Emergence of Superpowers**

- The USA and the USSR emerged as the world superpowers as they were no longer isolated.
- The US had suffered relatively less than the USSR and prospered from supplying allies with food and war materials.

### **The war encouraged decolonization**

- The war ended the domination of the European powers and almost all the nations colonised were gaining independence.
- These new emerging independent states were categorised as the third world nations

### **The United Nations Organization**

- This emerged as the successor to the League of Nations.
- Its main objective was to achieve world peace

## **Timeline of all important events**

### **1939**

- Hitler invades Poland on 1 September. Britain and France declare war on Germany - 11 days later.

### **1940**

- Rationing starts in the UK.
- German 'Blitzkrieg' overwhelms Belgium, Holland and France.
- British Expeditionary Force evacuated from Dunkirk.
- British victory in Battle of Britain forces Hitler to postpone invasion plans.

### **1941**

- Hitler begins Operation Barbarossa - the invasion of Russia.
- The Blitz continues against Britain's major cities.
- Allies take Tobruk in North Africa, and resist German attacks.
- Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, and the US enters the war.

### **1942**

- Germany suffers setbacks at Stalingrad and El Alamein.
- Singapore falls to the Japanese in February - around 25,000 prisoners taken.
- American naval victory at Battle of Midway, in June, marks a turning point in the Pacific War.

### **1943**

- Surrender at Stalingrad marks Germany's first major defeat.
- Allied victory in North Africa enabled the invasion of Italy to be launched.
- Italy surrenders, but Germany takes over the battle.

### **1944**

- Soviet offensive gathers pace in Eastern Europe.

- D Day: The Allied invasion of France. Paris is liberated in August.
- Guam liberated by the US Okinawa, and Iwo Jima bombed.

### 1945

- Auschwitz liberated by Soviet troops.
- Russians reach Berlin: Hitler commits suicide and Germany surrenders on 7 May.
- After atomic bombs are dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan surrenders on 14 August

## World Organisations – League of Nations and U.N.O



- **The League of Nations** was the first worldwide intergovernmental organisation whose principal mission was to maintain world peace.
- It was founded on 10 January 1920 by the Paris Peace Conference that ended the First World War. The main organisation ceased operations on 20 April 1946 but many of its components were relocated into the new United Nations.
- The League's primary goals were stated in its Covenant. They included preventing wars through collective security and disarmament and settling international disputes through negotiation and arbitration.
- Its other concerns included labour conditions, just treatment of native inhabitants, human and drug trafficking, the arms trade, global health, prisoners of war, and protection of minorities in Europe.

## ENTRI

- The Covenant of the League of Nations was signed on 28 June 1919 as Part I of the Treaty of Versailles, and it became effective together with the rest of the Treaty on 10 January 1920.
- The first meeting of the Council of the League took place on 16 January 1920, and the first meeting of the Assembly of the League took place on 15 November 1920.
- In 1919 U.S. president Woodrow Wilson won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role as the leading architect of the League.
- The diplomatic philosophy behind the League represented a fundamental shift from the preceding hundred years.
- The League lacked its own armed force and depended on the victorious First World War Allies (Britain, France, Italy and Japan were the permanent members of the Executive Council) to enforce its resolutions, keep to its economic sanctions, or provide an army when needed.
- The Great Powers were often reluctant to do so. Sanctions could hurt League members, so they were reluctant to comply with them.
- During the Second Italo–Ethiopian War, when the League accused Italian soldiers of targeting International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement medical tents, Benito Mussolini responded that "the League is very good when sparrows shout, but no good at all when eagles fall out."
- At its greatest extent from 28 September 1934 to 23 February 1935, it had 58 members. After some notable successes and some early failures in the 1920s, the League ultimately proved incapable of preventing aggression by the Axis powers in the 1930s.
- The credibility of the organisation was weakened by the fact that the United States never joined the League and the Soviet Union joined late and was soon expelled after invading Finland.
- Germany withdrew from the League, as did Japan, Italy, Spain and others. The onset of the Second World War in 1939 showed that the League had failed its primary purpose; it was inactive until its abolition. The League lasted for 26 years; the United Nations (UN) replaced it in 1946

## ENTRI

and inherited several agencies and organisations founded by the League.

- Current scholarly consensus views that, even though the League failed to achieve its ultimate goal of world peace, it did manage to build new roads towards expanding the rule of law across the globe;
- strengthened the concept of collective security, giving a voice to smaller nations; helped to raise awareness to problems like epidemics, slavery, child labour, colonial tyranny, refugee crises and general working conditions through its numerous commissions and committees; and paved the way for new forms of statehood, as the mandate system put the colonial powers under international observation.
- Professor David Kennedy portrays the League as a unique moment when international affairs were "institutionalised", as opposed to the pre-First World War methods of law and politics.

### Principal organs

Further information: Organisation of the League of Nations, Permanent Court of International Justice, and Leaders of the League of Nations

#### League of Nations Organisation chart

- ❖ A drive leads past a manicured lawn to a large white rectangular building with columns on its facade. Two wings of the building are set back from the middle section.
- ❖ Palace of Nations, Geneva, the League's headquarters from 1936 until its dissolution in 1946
- ❖ The main constitutional organs of the League were the Assembly, the council, and the Permanent Secretariat. It also had two essential wings: the Permanent Court of International Justice and the International Labour Organization. In addition, there were several auxiliary agencies and commissions.

- ❖ **Each organ's budget was allocated by the Assembly** (the League was supported financially by its member states).
- ❖ The relations between the assembly and the council and the competencies of each were for the most part not explicitly defined.
- ❖ Each body could deal with any matter within the sphere of competence of the league or affecting peace in the world. Particular questions or tasks might be referred to either.
- ❖ Unanimity was required for the decisions of both the assembly and the council, except in matters of procedure and some other specific cases such as the admission of new members.
- ❖ This requirement was a reflection of the league's belief in the sovereignty of its component nations; the league sought a solution by consent, not by dictation. In case of a dispute, the consent of the parties to the dispute was not required for unanimity.
- ❖ The Permanent Secretariat, established at the seat of the League at Geneva, comprised a body of experts in various spheres under the direction of the general secretary.
- ❖ Its principal sections were **Political, Financial and Economics, Transit, Minorities and Administration (administering the Saar and Danzig), Mandates, Disarmament, Health, Social (Opium and Traffic in Women and Children), Intellectual Cooperation and International Bureaux, Legal, and Information.**
- ❖ The staff of the Secretariat was responsible for preparing the agenda for the Council and the Assembly and publishing reports of the meetings and other routine matters, effectively acting as the League's civil service. In 1931 the staff numbered 707.
- ❖ The Assembly consisted of representatives of all members of the League, with each state allowed up to three representatives and one vote. It met in Geneva and, after its initial sessions in 1920, it convened once a year in September.

## ENTRI

- ❖ The special functions of the Assembly included the admission of new members, the periodical election of non-permanent members to the council, the election with the Council of the judges of the Permanent Court, and control of the budget. In practice, the Assembly was the general directing force of League activities.

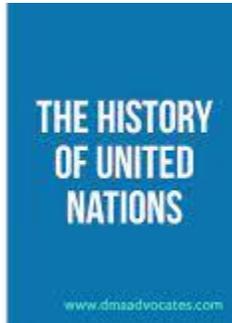
The League Council acted as a type of executive body directing the Assembly's business. It began with four permanent members – Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan – and four non-permanent members that were elected by the Assembly for a three-year term. The first non-permanent members were Belgium, Brazil, Greece, and Spain.

The composition of the council was changed several times. The number of non-permanent members was first increased to six on 22 September 1922 and to nine on 8 September 1926. Werner Dankwort of Germany pushed for his country to join the League; joining in 1926, Germany became the fifth permanent member of the council. Later, after

**Germany and Japan both left the League**, the number of non-permanent seats was increased from nine to eleven, and the Soviet Union was made a permanent member giving the council a total of fifteen members.

The Council met, on average, five times a year and in extraordinary sessions when required. In total, 107 sessions were held between 1920 and 1939

## UNITED NATIONS



## **Brief Introduction**

- The United Nations (UN) is an intergovernmental organisation tasked to promote international cooperation and to create and maintain international order.
- A replacement for the ineffective League of Nations, the organisation was established on 24 October 1945 after World War II in order to prevent another such conflict.

## **What is the main purpose of the United Nations?**

Article I of the Charter of the United Nations specifies the purposes of the UN. The Charter of the United Nations (UN Charter) is the UN's governing document, much like the Constitution of the United States of America.

The UN Charter sets out the following four main purposes:

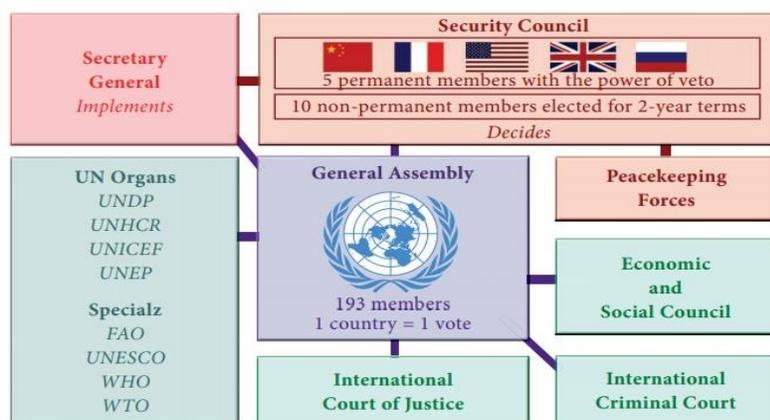
1. Maintaining worldwide peace and security.
2. Developing relations among nations.
3. Fostering cooperation between nations in order to solve economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian international problems.
4. Providing a forum for bringing countries together to meet the UN's purposes and goals.

## **History of United Nations**

## E ▶ ENTRI

- • The predecessor entity to the UN was the League of Nations.
- • The League of Nations was established during WWI in 1919, by the Treaty of Versailles (one of the peace treaties adopted at the end of WWI).
- • The League of Nations goal was to encourage cooperation between countries and keep international peace and security.
- • Unfortunately, the League of Nations failed to prevent WWII and, therefore, was seen as a failure.
- • After WWII ended, the representatives of the Allied Powers and twenty-four other countries met in San Francisco for the United Nations Conference on International Organization.
- • The conference's sole purpose was to draft the UN Charter.
- • On June 26, 1945, the United Nations Charter was signed by 51 countries, including Poland, which did not attend the conference but signed later.
- • After the ratification of the UN Charter, the remaining members of the League of Nations met and unanimously voted to transfer all of its assets to the United Nations and formally dissolve the League of Nations.

## Structure of the UN



- The UN system is based on five principal organs: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Secretariat, and the International Court of Justice.

- A sixth principal organ, the Trusteeship Council, suspended operations in 1994, upon the independence of Palau, the last remaining UN trustee territory.

### **UN General Assembly**

- May resolve non-compulsory recommendations to states or suggestions to the Security Council (UNSC).
- Decides on the admission of new members, following a proposal by the UNSC.
- Adopt the budget.
- Elects the non-permanent members of the UNSC, members of ECOSOC, UN Secretary General, and judges of the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

### **UN Secretariat (Administrative organ of the UN)**

- Supports the other UN bodies administratively (for example, in the organisation of conferences, the writing of reports and studies and the preparation of the budget).
- Its chairperson, the UN Secretary General, is elected by the General Assembly for a five-year mandate and is the UN's foremost representative.

### **International Court of Justice**

- Decides disputes between states that recognize its jurisdiction.
- Issues legal opinions.
- Renders judgement by relative majority.
- Its fifteen judges are elected by the UN General Assembly for nine-year terms.

### **UN Security Council**

- Responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security.
- May adopt compulsory resolutions.
- Has fifteen members: five permanent members with veto power and ten elected members.

## How different is the United Nations from the League of Nations?

- • The League's failure to prevent the outbreak of World War II in 1939 did not destroy the belief in the need for a universal organisation. On the contrary, it bred a determination to learn from the mistakes of the past and to build a new world body more adequately equipped to maintain
- international peace in the future.
- • The differences between the League of Nations and the UN begin with the circumstances of their creation.
- • Whereas the Covenant of the League was formulated after hostilities were ended, the main features of the UN were devised while war was still in progress.
- • The UN is committed to safeguarding human rights, which the League did not get involved in.
- • The Covenant was hammered out behind closed doors, first by the five major powers of the era – France, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States and eventually in conjunction with nine other allied nations.
- • The UN Charter, on the other hand, was the product of combined efforts of 50 nations represented at the 1945 San Francisco Conference and therefore took into account the views of the smaller nations, especially their concern to give the new organisation far-reaching responsibilities in promoting economic and social cooperation and the independence of colonial peoples.

## How successful has the UN been as a peacekeeping organisation?

- The UN, after approval by the Security Council, sends peacekeepers to regions where armed conflict has recently ceased or paused to enforce the terms of peace agreements and to discourage combatants from resuming hostilities.
- Since the UN does not maintain its own military, peacekeeping forces are voluntarily provided by member states.

## **Following are the successes and failures of UN peacekeeping organisation:**

### **Successes:**

- **Palestine (1947):** The dispute between Jews and Arabs in Palestine was brought in 1947. After investigating, the UN decided to divide Palestine, setting up the Jewish state of Palestine.

However, the decision was not accepted by the majority of Arabs. The UN was then unable to prevent a series of wars between Israel and Arab states. Though, UN did useful work in arranging ceasefires and providing supervisory forces.

- **Korean War:** The UN took decisive action in a crisis directly involving the superpowers. South Korea was invaded by communist North Korea. UN called member states to send help to South Korea. It was claimed as a great success by the UN.

- **Suez Crisis (1956):** In 1956, the first UN peacekeeping force was established to end the Suez Crisis. Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser had announced the nationalisation of the Suez Canal Company, the joint British-French enterprise which had owned and operated the Suez Canal since its construction in 1869.

- **1991 Gulf war:** UN action during the Gulf War of 1991 was impressive.

- **Iran-Iraq war:** The UN was successful in bringing an end to the long-drawn war between Iran and Iraq.

### **Failures:**

- **The Hungarian Rising (1956)** – This event showed the UN at its most ineffective. Hungary had been controlled by Russia since 1945. Russia crushed the revolts by Hungarians while exerting their independence. Russians did not cooperate with the UN and no progress could be made by the UN.

- **Cyprus** – A civil war broke out in Cyprus in 1963. The civil war broke out between the Greeks

and the Turks. The UN condemned the invasion but was unable to remove the Turks. The UN has still been unable to reach a final conclusion. An acceptable constitution has not yet been arrived at.

- **Kashmir** – The UN faced a similar situation in Kashmir, like that in Cyprus. The original dispute still remains. There seems little prospect of the UN or any other body finding a permanent solution.

Other works and responsibilities of United Nations

- **The Human Rights Commission**
- **International Labour Organization (ILO)**
- **World Health Organization (WHO)**
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**
- **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**
- **United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)**
- **United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)**
- **Financial and Economic agencies like IMF, World Bank, GATT and UNCTAD**

## **THE COLD WAR**



Towards the end of the Second World War, the harmony which had existed between the USSR, the USA and the British empire began to wear thin and all the old suspicions came to the fore again.

Relations between Soviet Russia and the west became so difficult that, although no actual fighting took place directly between the two camps, the decade after 1945 saw the first phase of what became known as the Cold War. Instead of allowing their mutual hostility to express in open fighting, the rival powers attacked each other with propaganda and economic measures, and with a general policy of non-cooperation.

This continued, in spite of several 'thaws', until the collapse of communism in eastern Europe in 1989- 91.

## **What caused the Cold War?**

### **• Differences of principle**

The basic cause of conflict lay in the differences of principle between the communist states and the capitalist or liberal-democratic states:

- Ever since the world's first communist government was set up in Russia in 1917, most capitalist states viewed it with mistrust.
- They were afraid of communism spreading to their countries.

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- Capitalist states- the USA, Britain, France and Japan sent troops to Russia in 1918 to help the anti-communist during the civil war.
- Communists won the civil war but Stalin, who came to power in Russia in 1929, was convinced that there would be another attempt by the capitalist forces to destroy communism.
- The German invasion of Russia in 1941 proved him right.

### **Stalin's foreign policies**

- As Nazi army collapsed, Stalin occupied as much German territory as he could. He also acquired land from countries such as Finland, Poland and Romania.
- The west was alarmed at this, as they believed that Stalin was committed to spreading communism over as much of the globe as possible.

### **US and British politicians to the Soviet government**

- President Roosevelt was inclined to trust Stalin. However, he died in April 1945. President Truman was suspicious of Stalin.
- Many believe his main motive of dropping the atomic bombs on Japan was not simply to defeat Japan, which was ready to surrender, but to give a warning to Stalin.
- Stalin was suspicious of the USA and Britain as during the Second World War they delayed the invasion of France. He believed it was intended to keep Russia under pressure on the first front.
- Stalin was also miffed with them as they hid the information on the existence of an atomic bomb from him.
- They also rejected Stalin's request that Russia should share in the occupation of Japan.

Above all, the west had the atomic bomb and the USSR did not.

## How did the Cold War develop between 1945 and 1953?

### The Yalta Conference (February, 1945)

- Held in Russia.
- Attended by three allied leaders- Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill.
- Purpose- to plan the road ahead after the war got over.
- Agreements reached:
  - The United Nations should be formed to replace the failed League of Nations
  - Germany to be divided into zones- **Russian, American and British (a French zone was included later)**- while Berlin, which was in the middle of the Russian zone would also be split into corresponding zones.
  - Similar arrangements were made for Austria.
  - Free election to be held in the states of Eastern Europe;
  - Stalin promised to join the war against Japan on condition that Russia received the whole of Sakhalin island and some of Manchuria.
- However, there are signs of trouble over the issue of Poland. Stalin pursued a policy of expanding the area under communist influence, causing irritation to Roosevelt and Churchill.

### The Potsdam Conference (July, 1945)

- The war with Germany was over, but no agreement was reached about her long-term future.
- It was agreed that the Germans should pay reparations to the USSR. \* It was over Poland that the main disagreements occurred. The pro-communist government in Poland had expelled 5 million Germans; this was not agreed to at Yalta.

- Truman did not inform Stalin about the exact nature of the atomic bomb, though Churchill was informed about it.
- A few days later, two atomic bombs were dropped on Japan and the war was over without the Russian help.
- Although, Russians declared war on Japan and annexed south Sakhalin as agreed at Yalta, they were allowed no part in the occupation of Japan.

### **Communism established in Eastern Europe**

- In the months following Potsdam, the Russians systematically interfered in the countries of eastern Europe to set up pro-communist governments.
- This happened in Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Albania and Romania. This alarmed the west. Churchill responded to this in a speech where he said that an iron curtain has descended across the continent from the Baltic to the Adriatic.
- He called for a western alliance against the communist threat. \* Stalin described him as a warmonger.
- The speech widened the rift between the east and the west.

### **The Russians continued to tighten their grip on eastern Europe**

- By the end of 1947 every state in the area, except Czechoslovakia, had a communist government.
- The Russians used fair and foul means to bring up these governments. In addition, Stalin treated the Russian zone of Germany as if it were a Russian territory.
- It was Stalin's methods of gaining control which upset the west.

### **• The Truman Doctrine**

#### **The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan**

**The Truman Doctrine** - In 1947, President Harry S. Truman pledged that the United States would help any nation resist communism in order to prevent its spread.

His policy of containment is known as the Truman Doctrine. - The world was in flux in the aftermath of World War II, and political upheaval reigned in many countries. - Already wary of communism, the United States was dismayed when a number of countries in Europe and Asia adopted communist governments in the late 1940s. - When England notified the United States that it could no longer afford to fight communist insurgencies in Greece and Turkey, US President Harry S. Truman issued what would become known as the Truman Doctrine: a promise that the United States would do whatever was necessary both economically and militarily to contain the spread of communism around the world. - With this step, the US signalled that its role on the world stage would not conclude after World War II, ending a century and a half of isolationist foreign policy in America. - During Truman's presidency, the Truman Doctrine would result in another conflict in Asia, this time in Korea, as the US attempted to prevent the unification of Korea under a communist government. - Truman's policy would continue to drive American interventions through the 1980s. - To help rebuild after the war, the United States pledged \$13 billions of aid to Europe in the Marshall Plan.

**The Marshall Plan:** - One of the most pressing problems in the immediate aftermath of World War II was the reconstruction of Europe. - The war left a swath of destruction that crippled infrastructure and led to massive food shortages in the winter of 1946-1947. -

The United States feared that a hungry, devastated Europe might turn to communism (as China would do in 1949). -

To stabilise the European economy, US Secretary of State George C. Marshall proposed a plan to provide Europe with \$13 billion in economic aid. The Marshall Plan proved enormously successful, helping to rehabilitate European nations that accepted the aid. - It also provided a boost to the American economy, since Marshall Plan funds were used to purchase American goods. - However, its main aims were political; communism was less likely to gain control in a prosperous western Europe. - Russia denounces the whole idea as "dollar imperialism". - The USSR rejected the offer, and neither her satellite state nor Czechoslovakia, were allowed to take advantage of the plan. - The "iron curtain" seemed a reality.

### **The Cominform**

- This was the communist response.
- Set up by Stalin in 1947, this was an organisation to draw together the various European communist parties.
- All the satellite states were members, and the French and Italian communist parties were represented.
- Stalin's aim was to tighten the grip on the satellites.
- Eastern Europe was to be industrialised, collectivised and centralised. States were expected to trade primarily with Cominform members.
- In 1949, the Molotov Plan was introduced, offering Russian aid to the satellites.
- Another organisation known as Comecon (Council of Mutual Economic Assistance) was set up to co-ordinate their economic policies

### **The Communist takeover of Czechoslovakia (February, 1948)**

- This came as a great blow to the western bloc.
- It was the only democratic state in Eastern Europe.
- The western powers and the UN protested but felt unable to take any action because they were unable to prove Russian involvement.
- The “iron curtain” was complete.

### **The Berlin Blockade and airlift (June 1948- May 1949)**

- Believing that a reunified Germany would prevent a repeat of the economic catastrophe that had followed World War I, the US, Britain, and France decided to consolidate their zones of Germany.
- The USSR, which wanted to make sure that Germany would never attack it again, strongly objected to this plan.
- In 1948 the USSR flexed its might by cutting off all highway and railroad access to the city of Berlin (which fell within its occupation zone), hoping to absorb all of Berlin under Soviet control.
- West Berlin would either starve or the Western Allies would surrender to the Soviets' wishes for Germany.
- The US, Britain, and France refused to allow Russia to hold Berlin hostage. Instead, they arranged for a massive support mission to supply West Berlin.
- From June 1948 to May 1949, they sent hundreds of aeroplanes filled with food and fuel every day in what became known as the Berlin airlift. They also instituted a counter-blockade on East Berlin.
- After 11 months, the Soviets realised that the blockade was a failure and ended it.
- But the standoff over Berlin had crystallised the divisions of the Cold War. The Western Allies turned their combined occupation

zones into the new country of West Germany, and the Soviets responded by creating East Germany.

- In Berlin, the Soviets began the process of building a barrier between its eastern and western zones that would stand for the next forty years.

## **NATO**

- As tensions raged in Europe, the United States realised that long-lasting peace was not going to follow on the heels of World War II.
- When Britain, Belgium, Holland, and Luxembourg asked the United States to join its defensive alliance in 1948, the US broke its longstanding aversion toward entangling alliances abroad and signed on.
- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), as the pact was named, started with twelve-member nations (today, it has twenty-eight). NATO promised that an attack on one of its members would provoke a response from all of its members.
- NATO became the major international body opposing communism in the twentieth century.

## **The Warsaw Pact**

- The Warsaw Pact was created in reaction to the integration of West Germany into NATO.
- It is also considered to have been motivated by Soviet desires to maintain control over military forces in Central and Eastern Europe.
- The Warsaw Pact, formally the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance was a collective defence treaty signed in Warsaw among the Soviet Union and seven Soviet satellite states of Central and Eastern Europe during the Cold War.

- The Warsaw Pact was the military complement to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CoMEcon).
- While the Warsaw Pact was established as a balance of power or counterweight to NATO, there was no direct confrontation between them.
- Instead, the conflict was fought on an ideological basis and in proxy wars.
- Both NATO and the Warsaw Pact led to the expansion of military forces and their integration into the respective blocs.

### **The Berlin Wall**

- The communists were embarrassed at the large number of refugees escaping from East Germany to West Germany.
- In 1961 Russia suggested to the USA to withdraw from Berlin.
- When Kennedy refused, the Berlin Wall was erected, a 28-mile-long monstrosity across the entire city, effectively blocking the escape route.

### **Nuclear arms race**

- After the USSR exploded an atomic bomb in 1949, an arms race began to develop.
- Truman responded by giving the go-ahead for the USA to develop a hydrogen bomb.
- What followed was a competition to create more and more nuclear bombs.
- The Americans remained ahead in numbers of nuclear bombs and bombers.
- However, Russians took the lead in 1957 when they produced an Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile. Americans soon followed.

## ENTRI

- Russians successfully launched the world's first earth satellite—Sputnik 1, in 1958. Americans followed within a few months.
- The race continued into the 1970s. By this time both the sides had enough horrific weapons to destroy the world many times over.

### **Protests against Nuclear weapons**

The world has become an increasingly dangerous place to live in. \*There were calls and campaigns for disarmament.

Earlier there were calls for unilateral disarmaments and then multilateral disarmaments.

In the 1980s there were protest demonstrations in many European countries, including West Germany, Holland, USA and Britain.

Perhaps the enormity of it all and the protest movements did play a role in bringing both sides to the negotiating table.

### **Détente**

- Détente (a French word meaning release from tension) is the name given to a period of improved relations between the United States and the Soviet Union that began tentatively in 1971 and took decisive form when President Richard M. Nixon visited the secretary-general of the Soviet Communist party, Leonid I. Brezhnev, in Moscow, May 1972.
- Both countries stood to gain if trade could be increased and the danger of nuclear warfare reduced.
- In addition, Nixon—a candidate for re-election—was under fire at home from those demanding social change, racial equality, and an end to the Vietnam War.

- The trip to Russia permitted him to keep public attention focused on his foreign policy achievements rather than his domestic problems.
- Nixon's trip to China had also heightened the Soviets' interest in détente; given the growing antagonism between Russia and China. On May 22 Nixon became the first U.S. president to visit Moscow. He and Brezhnev signed seven agreements including the prevention of accidental military clashes; arms control, as recommended by the recent Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT).
- In June 1973, Brezhnev visited the United States for Summit II; this meeting symbolised the two countries' continuing commitment to peace.
- Summit III, in June 1974, was the least productive; by then, the SALT talks had ground to a halt, several commercial agreements had been blocked in Congress because of Soviet treatment of Jews, and the Watergate investigation was approaching a climax.
- Nixon's successor in the talks, President Jimmy Carter, supported SALT II, but also pressed a military build-up and a human rights campaign, which cooled relations between the countries. With the election of Ronald Reagan, who emphasised military preparedness as the key to Soviet-American relations, détente as Nixon had envisioned it came to an end.

### **The Cuban missile crisis, 1962**

- Cuba became involved in the cold war in 1959 when Fidel Castro, who had just seized power from the corrupt, American-backed dictator Batista, outraged the USA by nationalising American owned estates and factories.
- The Cuban Missile Crisis was a 13-day (October 16–28, 1962) confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union

concerning American ballistic missile deployment in Italy and Turkey with consequent Soviet ballistic missile deployment in Cuba.

- The confrontation is often considered the closest the Cold War came to escalate into a full-scale nuclear war.
- In response to the failed Bay of Pigs Invasion of 1961 and the presence of American Jupiter ballistic missiles in Italy and Turkey, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev decided to agree to Cuba's request to place nuclear missiles on the island to deter a future invasion.
- The missile preparations were confirmed when an Air Force U-2 spy plane produced clear photographic evidence of medium-range (SS-4) and intermediate-range (R-14) ballistic missile facilities.
- The US established a military blockade to prevent further missiles from reaching Cuba.
- It announced that they would not permit offensive weapons to be delivered to Cuba and demanded that the weapons already in Cuba be dismantled and returned to the Soviet Union.
- After a long period of tense negotiations, an agreement was reached between **US President John F. Kennedy and Khrushchev**. The Soviets would dismantle their offensive weapons in Cuba and return them to the Soviet Union, subject to United Nations verification, in exchange for a US public declaration and agreement to avoid invading Cuba again.
- The United States also agreed that it would dismantle its missiles, which had been deployed in Turkey and Italy against the Soviet Union.
- When all offensive missiles had been withdrawn from Cuba, the blockade was formally ended on November 21, 1962.
- The negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union pointed out the necessity of a quick, clear, and direct communication line between Washington and Moscow. As a result,

the Moscow–Washington hotline was established. However, the arms race continued into the 1970s.

## **The fall of USSR and the end of Cold War**

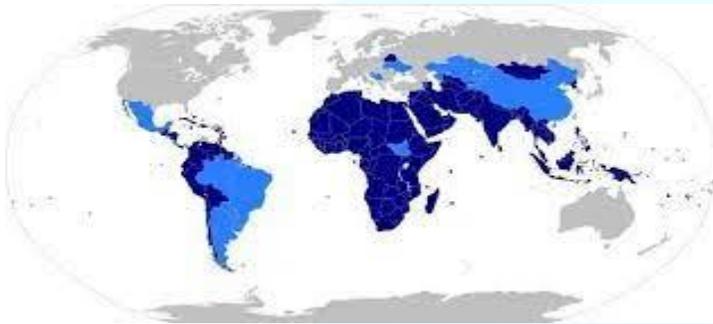


- ❖ Throughout the 1980s, the Soviet Union fought an increasingly frustrating war in Afghanistan.
- ❖ With the passing of several Soviet leaders, Mikhail Gorbachev assumed control of the Soviet Union. His rise to power ushered in an era of perestroika (restructuring) and of glasnost (openness).
- ❖ At the same time, the Soviet economy faced the continuously escalating costs of the arms race.
- ❖ Dissent at home grew while the stagnant economy faltered under the combined burden.
- ❖ Attempted reforms at home left the Soviet Union unwilling to rebuff challenges to its control in Eastern Europe.
- ❖ As the decade of 1980s came to an end, much of the Eastern Bloc began to crumble. The Hungarian government took down the barbed wire on its border with Austria and the West. The Soviet Union did nothing in response. Although travel was still not completely free, the Iron Curtain was starting to unravel.

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- ❖ On November 10, 1989, one of the most famous symbols of the Cold War came down: The Berlin Wall.
- ❖ By the end of the year, leaders of every Eastern European nation except Bulgaria had been ousted by popular uprisings.
- ❖ By mid-1990, many of the Soviet republics had declared their independence. Turmoil in the Soviet Union continued, as there were several attempts at overthrowing Gorbachev.
- ❖ In late 1991 the Soviet Union itself dissolved into its component republics. With stunning speed, the “Iron Curtain” was lifted and the Cold War came to an end.

## **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)**



### **Background**

- ❖ The Non-Aligned Movement was formed during the Cold War as an organisation of States that did not seek to formally align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union, but sought to remain independent or neutral.
- ❖ The basic concept for the group originated in 1955 during discussions that took place at the Asia-Afrika Bandung Conference held in Indonesia.
- ❖ The first NAM Summit Conference took place in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in September 1961.
- ❖ It has 120 members as on April 2018 comprising 53 countries from Africa, 39 from Asia, 26 from Latin America and the Caribbean and 2 from

## ENTRI

Europe (Belarus, Azerbaijan). There are 17 countries and 10 international organisations that are Observers at NAM.

- ❖ The Non-Aligned Movement was founded and held its first conference (the Belgrade Conference) in 1961 under the leadership of Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Jawaharlal Nehru of India, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, and Sukarno of Indonesia.
- ❖ The purpose of the organisation was enumerated in the Havana Declaration of 1979 to ensure "the national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of non-aligned countries" in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, and all forms of foreign subjugation.
- ❖ During the cold war era the NAM played a vital role in stabilising the world order and preserving peace and security. Non alignment of NAM doesn't mean the neutrality of the state on global issues, it was always a peaceful intervention in world politics.

### Principles

As J.L Nehru was founding members, the principles of NAM was largely guided by Panchsheel principles, some of them are:

Respect for the principles enshrined in the charter of the United Nations and international law.

Respect for sovereignty, sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States.

Peaceful settlement of all international conflicts in accordance with the charter of the United Nations.

Respect for the political, economic, social and cultural diversity of countries and peoples.

Defence and promotion of shared interests, justice and cooperation, regardless of the differences existing in the political, economic and social systems of the States, on the basis of mutual respect and the equality of rights.

Respect for the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence, in accordance with the charter of the United Nations

Non-interference in the internal affairs of States. No State or group of States has the right to intervene either directly or indirectly, whatever the motive, in the internal affairs of any other State.

Promotion and defence of multilateralism and multilateral organisations as the appropriate frameworks to resolve, through dialogue and cooperation, the problems affecting humankind.

### **Objectives**

NAM has sought to "create an independent path in world politics that would not result in member States becoming pawns in the struggles between the major powers."

It identifies the right of independent judgement, the struggle against imperialism and neo-colonialism, and the use of moderation in relations with all big powers as the three basic elements that have influenced its approach.

At present, an additional goal is facilitating a restructuring of the international economic order.

### **NAM in Cold War Era**

Against Apartheid: The evil of apartheid was massively prevalent in African countries like South Africa, its was on the agenda of NAM right from first conference. During 2nd NAM conference at Cairo the government of South Africa was warned against the discriminatory practices of apartheid.

**Disarmament:** The Non-aligned Movement repeatedly comes out for maintenance of peace, the cessation of arms race and the peaceful coexistence of all States. In the General Assembly, India submitted a draft resolution declaring that the use of nuclear weapons would be against the charter of the United Nations and crime against humanity and should therefore be prohibited.

**UNSC reforms:** Right from its inception NAM was in favour of UNSC reforms, it was against the domination of the US and USSR. It wanted the representation of third world countries to make the UNSC more democratic. Members echoed the same demand at the 17th NAM conference in Venezuela.

**Failed to resolve regional tensions:** In the era of cold war the tension in South Asia escalated due to regional conflict between India- China and India-Pakistan. NAM failed to avoid tensions in the region, which further led to the nuclearisation of the region.

### **India's Position**

India being a founder and largest member in NAM was an active participant in NAM meetings till 1970s but India's inclination towards erstwhile USSR created confusions in smaller members. It led to the weakening of NAM and small nations drifted towards either the US or USSR.

Further disintegration of the USSR led to a unipolar world order dominated by the US. India's New Economic Policy and inclination towards the US raised questions over India's seriousness over non alignment.

The Prime Minister of India skipped the 17th Non Aligned Movement (NAM) summit held in Venezuela in 2016, it was only the second such instance when the Head of a state didn't participate in the NAM conference.

Moreover, NAM continued losing relevance for India in a unipolar world, especially after the founding members failed to support India during the crisis.

For instance, during the 1962 War with China, Ghana and Indonesia, they adopted explicitly pro-China positions. During 1965 and 1971 wars, Indonesia and Egypt took an anti India stance and supported Pakistan.

India in particular, but also most other NAM countries, have integrated themselves to varying degrees within the liberal economic order and have benefited from it.

India is a member of the G20 and has declared itself as a nuclear weapons power and has for all practical purposes abandoned the call for global nuclear disarmament.

India has also engaged itself with new and old global powers. India joining the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, a coalition seen by many as a counterforce to China's rise in the Indo-Pacific and Shanghai cooperation organisation led by China, showed India's balancing approach in the new world order.

India is striving hard for a multipolar world order and asserting itself as one of the players. Multi polar world order is very much closed to NAM principles.

### **Emerging Global Order**

NAM has to adopt and change itself to suit the newly emerging challenges and geopolitics such as:

World has again moved towards bi-polarity, one led by the US and the other by China-Russia. The war torn Syria is a prime example of this, where both the US and Russia are asserting power.

The escalating tension in the Indo-Pacific region due to China's assertion and the US acting as a counterweight to check the Chinese expansionist policy.

The large-scale migration in Europe and Asia due to the unstable regimes and ethnic conflict in different parts of the world.

Issue of global climate change and occurrence of catastrophic disasters raising demand to form global consensus to deal with it.

Changing US policies, protectionism, prevalent terrorism and nuclearisation of middle east.

Formation of multiple regional economic groupings like TPP and RCEP and fading away of multilateral bodies WTO from global arena.

### **Relevance of NAM**

- ❖ NAM continues to hold relevance as a platform and due to its principles.
- ❖ World peace - NAM has played an active role in preserving world peace. It still stands by its founding principles, idea and purpose i.e. to establish the peaceful and prosperous world. It prohibited invasion of any country, promoted disarmament and a sovereign world order.
- ❖ Territorial integrity and sovereignty - NAM stands with this principle and proved its repeated relevance with the idea of preserving the independence of every nation.
- ❖ Third World nations - Third world countries fighting against socio-economic problems since they have been exploited for a long time by other developed nations, NAM acted as a protector for these small countries against the western hegemony.
- ❖ Support of UN - NAM's total strength comprises 118 developing countries and most of them being a member of the UN General Assembly. It represents two third members of the general assembly, hence NAM members act as an important vote blocking group in the UN.
- ❖ Equitable world order - NAM promotes equitable world order. It can act as a bridge between the political and ideological differences existing in the international environment.

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- ❖ Interest of developing countries - If disputes arise between developed and developing nations at any point of a concerned topic for example WTO, then NAM acts as a platform which negotiates and concludes disputes peacefully securing the favourable decisions for each member nation.
- ❖ Cultural diversity and human rights - In the environment of gross human right violation, it can provide a platform to raise such issues and resolve the same through its principles.
- ❖ Sustainable development - NAM supports the concept of sustainable development and can lead the world toward sustainability. Can be used as larger platform to make consensus on global burning issues like climate change, migration and global terrorism.
- ❖ Economic growth - The countries of NAM have inherent assets, such as a favourable demography, demand and favourable location. The cooperation can lead them to higher and sustainable economic growth. Can be an alternative to regional groupings like TPP and RCEP.

### **How the WEST ASIAN Began and Ended?**

#### The Iraqi Invasion of Kuwait

In 1990, confrontation between Iraq and Kuwait intensified on oil policies and other matters.

Amid this situation, crude oil prices dropped. Iraq blamed Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates for the price drop,

Iraq demanded that Kuwait write off its debt obligations. Kuwait countered that Iraq's claim was totally unfounded.

Iraq began to deploy troops on the border with Kuwait. Reacting to this, Egypt and Saudi Arabia attempted to mediate between the two countries

Iraq announced the unification of the two countries, which was annexation of

Kuwait.

## **2. Peace Restoring Efforts by the International Community**

- The U.N. Security Council declared on the very day of the invasion, that the Iraqi action of ignoring the basic order of the international community was a violation of international law
- The UN adopted Resolution 660, which required the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces.
- Since Iraq ignored this resolution and did not withdraw from Kuwait, the U.N.

The Security Council adopted a resolution which obligated member countries to take economic sanctions against Iraq and declared the invalidity of the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq.

- The economic sanctions against Iraq based on the U.N. Security Council resolutions took hold on a global scale and army, navy and air forces from 28 countries were deployed in the Gulf area for enforcing sanctions against Iraq as well as to restrain Iraq
- Despite these steps taken by the international community, Iraq did not show any intention of accepting the resolutions adopted by the U.N. Security Council.

- Moreover, Iraq forbade foreign residents in Iraq and Kuwait, who
- were under its control, to exit from the country
- Took further steps to hold foreign residents of the major Western
- countries, including Japan, as hostages and to send them to military
- and oil facilities as "human shields.

Since Iraq did not show any sign of withdrawal despite the arrival of the deadline stipulated by the U.N. Security Council, the multinational forces led by the United States launched an air operation against Iraq at dawn in 1991.

Despite Russian diplomatic ways of reaching a resolution there was no outcome. Finally, after four days of ground action Iraq accepted defeat and Kuwait was Liberated

## **New world order:**

The disintegration of the Soviet Union and the communist bloc implies the emergence of a unipolar world order.

### **• Salient features of the new world order are:**

- Nature of dominance of the Hegemon—the US
- This dominance inevitably culminates in unilateralism and discriminatory regimes.
- Marginalisation of UN
- Intensifying the dependence of the third world nations in relation to G7 especially US.
- More recent trends indicate a trend towards multi-polarity from unipolarity. This

The trend is led by the rise of emerging economies and regional powers.

### **India's Foreign Policy in the Post-Cold War Era or India in the new world order:**

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- One of the more pronounced shifts in foreign policy came through the "Look East Policy" initiated in 1991.
- The other visible and tangible departure from the past was in the field of foreign economic policy as India decided to open its door for foreign investments and to deregulate and let its economy come out of insulation and

face the challenges through globalisation and be part of the global market economy.

- Several other important steps in the next two decades were made; these include for instance strategic partnerships with all major players such as the USA, China, Russia and the EU.

- In addition, India has forged some important regional links through grouping such as BRICS and IBSA. In the context of anti-piracy initiatives, India has emerged as a net security provider for the small island countries in the Indian Ocean.

- India adheres to its benign and noble policy of non-interference into internal affairs of other countries in the region.

- India advocates the policy of constructive engagement, despite such serious provocations as have been in the past (attack on Parliament, Mumbai terrorist attacks etc).

- India recognized the break-away states like Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan of the former Soviet Union without delay and tried to establish diplomatic contacts with Russia's political leadership. India tried to forge with them the same level of close relationship which it had with the Soviet Union.

- India's position on West Asia remained in favour of the US in the UN Security Council. India's

drift in its US policy came when India agreed for joint naval exercise with it. This shift can be regarded as one where India was exposed to new technological development.

- India has shifted its stand on Israel during the last few years, having established full diplomatic relations with it. This change in India's attitude can be seen more in the light of the developments in West Asian politics.

- Recently, economic grouping and economic diplomacy have been on the rise, India's contribution in these groupings is significant. With the liberalisation of the Indian economy, the thrust for investment and trade is natural.

The emergence of South-South cooperation, integration of the European economic system and creation of new economic blocs are recent developments.

The Indian response to these developments has been positive which is obvious from the fact that India tried to forge trade cooperation with South Asian countries on priority basis

The end of the Cold War has led to the end of threat to India from the Cold War context of US-Soviet power rivalry.

- o In the post-Cold War period, threat from the Cold War context has disappeared. Similarly,

India does not face direct security threat from the US, but the continuing US-Pak connection poses a threat

- India's views of non-proliferation, Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, missile development and deployment, transfer of technology etc. differ substantially from the views of the US government when one goes into details

- India has adopted a proactive approach to the UN peace-keeping as parts of its new foreign policy orientations in the post-Cold War era

- As part of its new UN policy, India has been actively participating in UN deliberations on areas such as environment management, human rights, sustainable development, population and women, and disarmament.

- India participated actively in the discussions on human rights issues in session of the UN

Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

India actively participated in the first Humanitarian Affairs Segment of **Economic and social Council (ECOSOC) held in July 1998.**

### • **Environmental and Sustainable Development Issues**

India emphasised the importance of transfer of environment friendly technologies on concessional and preferential terms as well as the provisions of predictable and adequate financial resources in achieving the objectives of economic growth and sustainable development.

### **Implications for India of this new world order are:**

- The absence of the soviet bloc and the end of the cold war makes the policy of non-alignment to that extent irrelevant.
- The changed situation implies that there is so much less room for manoeuvre. Russia is in no position to offer economic aid
- Adjusting to the new situation, India in the late 1990s has sought US attention.

## **GLOBALISATION**

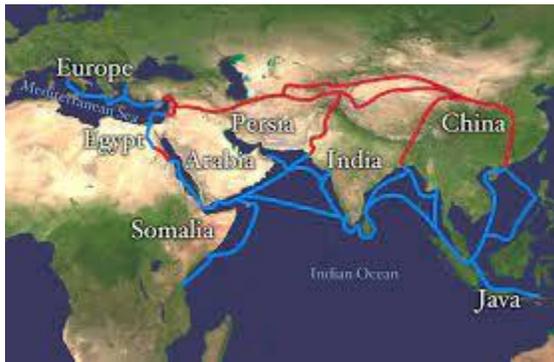


Globalisation means integration of markets in the global economy, leading to the increased interconnectedness of national economies. By having an idea of the history of globalisation, students can precisely understand the causes which led to such social and economic change. The nineteenth-century Industrial Revolution was one of the significant periods in the history of globalisation

### **The Pre-modern World**

Globalisation refers to an economic system that has emerged since the last 50 years or so. But, the making of the global world has a long history – of trade, of migration, of people in search of work, the movement of capital, and much else. From ancient times, travellers, traders, priests and pilgrims travelled vast distances for knowledge, opportunity and spiritual fulfilment, or to escape persecution. As early as 3000 BCE an active coastal trade linked the Indus valley civilisations with present-day West Asia.

## Silk Routes Link the World



Silk routes are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world. Several silk routes have been identified by historians, overland and by sea, connecting vast regions of Asia, and linking Asia with Europe and northern Africa. In exchange of textile and species from India, precious metals – gold and silver – flowed from Europe to Asia.

## Food Travels: Spaghetti and Potato

Food offers many examples of long-distance cultural exchange. New crops were introduced by traders and travellers. Ready foodstuff such as noodles travelled west from China to become spaghetti. Our ancestors were not familiar with common foods such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chillies, sweet potatoes, and so on about five centuries ago. Many of our common foods came from America's original inhabitants – the American Indians.

## Conquest, Disease and Trade

The Indian Ocean, for centuries before, had known a bustling trade, with goods, people, knowledge, customs, etc; crisscrossing its waters. The entry of

Europeans helped in redirecting these flows towards Europe. America's vast lands and abundant crops and minerals began to transform trade and lives everywhere. The Portuguese and Spanish conquest and colonisation of America was decisively underway by the mid-sixteenth century.

Europeans' most powerful weapon was not a conventional military weapon, but germs such as those of smallpox that they carried on their person. It proved to be a deadly killer. Until the nineteenth century, poverty and hunger were common in Europe. Until well into the eighteenth century, China and India were among the world's richest countries. However, from the fifteenth century, China is said to have restricted overseas contacts and retreated into isolation. Europe now emerged as the centre of world trade.

### **The Nineteenth Century (1815-1914)**

- In the nineteenth century, economic, political, social, cultural and technological factors interacted in complex ways to transform societies and reshape external relations. Three flows or movements were identified by economists.
- The first is the flow of trade referred largely to trade in goods (e.g., cloth or wheat).
- The second is the flow of labour – the migration of people in search of employment.
- The third is the movement of capital for short-term or long-term investments over long distances.

### **A World Economy Takes Shape**

In the nineteenth-century self-sufficiency in food meant lower living standards and social conflict in Britain. It happened because of population growth from the late eighteenth century. Corn laws were imposed which means restriction

in the import of corn. British agriculture was unable to compete with imports and vast areas of land were left uncultivated. So, thousands of men and women flocked to the cities or migrated overseas.

In Britain, food prices fell and in the mid-nineteenth century, industrial growth led to higher incomes and more food imports. In order to fulfil British demand, in Eastern Europe, Russia, America and Australia, lands were cleared to expand food production. In order to manage linking of railways to agricultural fields and building homes for people required capital and labour. London helped in terms of finance and terms of labour. People emigrated from Europe to America and Australia in the nineteenth century.

By 1890, a global agricultural economy had taken shape, adapting complex changes in labour movement patterns, capital flows, ecologies and technology. In West Punjab, the British Indian government built a network of irrigation canals to transform semi-desert wastes into fertile agricultural lands to grow wheat and cotton for export. Even the cultivation of cotton expanded worldwide to feed British textile mills.

**Role of Technology** Some of the important inventions in the field of technology are the railways, steamships, the telegraph, which transformed the nineteenth-century world. But technological advances were often the result of larger social, political and economic factors.

For example, colonisation stimulated new investments and improvements in transport: faster railways, lighter wagons and larger ships helped move food more cheaply and quickly from faraway farms to final markets. Animals were also shipped live from America to Europe till the 1870s. Meat was considered an expensive luxury beyond the reach of the European poor. To break the earlier monotony of bread and potatoes, many could now add meat (and butter and eggs) to their diet.

## **Late nineteenth-century Colonialism**

Trade flourished and markets expanded in the late nineteenth century. But, it has a darker side too, as in many parts of the world, the expansion of trade and a closer relationship with the world economy meant a loss of freedoms and livelihoods. In 1885 the big European powers met in Berlin to complete the carving up of Africa between them. Britain and France made vast additions to their overseas territories. Belgium and Germany became new colonial powers. The US also became a colonial power in the late 1890s by taking over some colonies earlier held by Spain.

## **Rinderpest, or the Cattle Plague**

In Africa, in the 1890s, a fast-spreading disease of cattle plague impacted people's livelihoods and the local economy. Africa had abundant land and a relatively small population. In the late nineteenth century, Europeans were attracted to Africa due to its vast resources of land and minerals.

Europeans came to Africa hoping to establish plantations and mines to produce crops and minerals for export to Europe. But there was an unexpected problem – a shortage of labour willing to work for wages. Inheritance laws were changed and according to the new one, only one member of a family was allowed to inherit land. In the late 1880s, Rinderpest arrived in Africa carried by infected cattle imported from British Asia to feed the Italian soldiers invading Eritrea in East Africa. The loss of cattle destroyed African livelihoods.

## **Indentured Labour Migration from India**

Indentured labour illustrates the two-sided nature of the nineteenth-century world. A world of faster economic growth as well as great misery, higher incomes for some and poverty for others, technological advances in some areas and new forms of coercion in others. In India, indentured labourers were hired under contracts and most of them came from the present-day regions of eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, central India and the dry districts of Tamil Nadu.

Indian indentured migrants main destinations were the Caribbean islands (mainly Trinidad, Guyana and Suriname), Mauritius and Fiji. Indentured workers were also recruited for tea plantations in Assam. Nineteenth-century indenture has been described as a 'new system of slavery'. In Trinidad the annual Muharram procession was transformed into a riotous carnival called 'Hosay' in which workers of all races and religions joined.

Similarly, the protest religion of Rastafarianism is also said to reflect social and cultural links with Indian migrants to the Caribbean. From the 1900s India's nationalist leaders began opposing the system of indentured labour migration as abusive and cruel. It was abolished in 1921.

### **Indian Entrepreneurs Abroad**

People need huge capital to grow food and other crops for the world market. So, for the humble peasant Shikaripuri shroffs and Nattukottai Chettiars were amongst the many groups of bankers and traders who financed export agriculture in Central and Southeast Asia, using either their own funds or those borrowed from European banks.

### **Indian Trade, Colonialism and the Global System**

Cottons from India were exported to Europe. In Britain, tariffs were imposed on cloth imports. Consequently, the inflow of fine Indian cotton began to decline. Over the nineteenth century, British manufacturers flooded the Indian market. By helping Britain balance its deficits, India played a crucial role in the late-nineteenth-century world economy. Britain's trade surplus in India also helped pay the so-called 'home charges' that included private remittances home by British officials and traders, interest payments on India's external debt, and pensions of British officials in India.

### **The Inter-war Economy**

The First World War (1914-18) was fought in Europe, but its impact was felt around the world. During this period the world experienced widespread economic and political instability and another catastrophic war.

### **Wartime Transformations**

The First World War was fought between the Allies – Britain, France and Russia (later joined by the US); and the Central Powers – Germany, Austria-Hungary and Ottoman Turkey. The war lasted for more than four years which involved the world's leading industrial nations. It was considered as the first modern industrial war which saw the use of machine guns, tanks, aircraft, chemical weapons, etc; on a massive scale. During the war, industries were restructured to produce war-related goods. Britain borrowed large sums of money from US banks as well as the US public, transforming the US from being an international debtor to an international creditor.

### **Post-war Recovery**

Post-war economic recovery, Britain, the world's leading economy, faced a prolonged crisis. Industries had developed in India and Japan while Britain was preoccupied in the war. Britain, after the war, found it difficult to recapture its earlier position of dominance in the Indian market and to compete with Japan internationally. At the end of the war, Britain was burdened with huge external debts. Anxiety and uncertainty about work became an enduring part of the post-war scenario.

### **Rise of Mass Production and Consumption**

The US economy recovered quicker and resumed its strong growth in the early 1920s. Mass production is one of the important features of the US economy which began in the late nineteenth century. Henry Ford is a well-known pioneer of mass production, a car manufacturer who established his car plant in Detroit. The T Model Ford was the world's first mass-produced car. Fordist industrial practices soon spread in the US and were also copied in Europe in the 1920s. The demand for refrigerators, washing machines, etc. also boomed, financed once again by loans. In 1923, the US resumed exporting capital to the rest of the world and became the largest overseas lender.

### **The Great Depression**

The period of The Great Depression began around 1929 and lasted till the mid 1930s, most parts of the world experienced catastrophic declines in production, employment, incomes and trade. The most affected areas were agricultural regions and communities. Combination of several factors led to depression. The first factor is agricultural overproduction, second is in the mid-1920s, many countries financed their investments through loans from the US. The rest of the world is affected by the withdrawal of US loans in different ways. The US was also severely affected by depression. Unfortunately, the US banking

system collapsed as thousands of banks went bankrupt and were forced to close.

### **India and the Great Depression**

Indian trade is immediately affected by depression. The prices of agriculture fell sharply but still, the colonial government refused to reduce revenue demands. In those depression years, India became an exporter of precious metals, notably gold. Rural India was thus seen with unrest when Mahatma Gandhi launched the civil disobedience movement at the height of the depression in 1931.

### **Rebuilding a World Economy: The Post-war Era**

Two decades after the end of the First World War, the Second World War broke out. It was fought between the Axis powers (mainly Nazi Germany, Japan and Italy) and the Allies (Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the US). The war continued for six years over land, on sea, in the air. The war caused an immense amount of economic devastation and social disruption. Post-war reconstruction was shaped by two crucial influences. The first one is that the US emerged as the dominant economic, political and military power in the Western world. The second was the dominance of the Soviet Union.

### **Post-war Settlement and the Bretton Woods Institutions**

Two-key lessons were drawn out from inter-war economic experience. First, mass production cannot be sustained without mass communication. The second lesson related to a country's economic links with the outside world. The Bretton Woods conference established the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

to deal with external surpluses and deficits of its member nations. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (popularly known as the World Bank) was set up to finance postwar reconstruction. The IMF and the World Bank commenced financial operations in 1947.

### **The Early Post-war Years**

An era of unprecedented growth of trade and incomes was inaugurated by the Bretton Woods for the Western industrial nations and Japan. During this decade, technology and enterprise were spread worldwide.

### **Decolonisation and Independence**

After the end of the Second World War, large parts of the world were still under European colonial rule. The IMF and the World Bank were designed to meet the financial needs of the industrial countries. The IMF and the World Bank from the late 1950s shifted their attention more towards developing countries. Most developing countries did not benefit from the fast growth the Western economies experienced in the 1950s and 1960s. They organised as a group – the Group of 77 (or G-77) – and demanded a new international economic order (NIEO). NIEO meant a system that would give them real control over their natural resources, more development assistance, fairer prices for raw materials, and better access for their manufactured goods in developed countries' markets.

### **End of Bretton Woods and the Beginning of 'Globalisation'**

The US's finance and competitive strength were weakened due to rising costs of its overseas involvements from the 1960s. In the mid-1970s the international financial system also changed and the industrial world was also hit by



unemployment. MNCs began to shift their production to low-wage Asian countries. China became attractive destinations for investment by foreign MNCs. In the last two decades, the world's economic geography has been transformed as countries such as India, China and Brazil have undergone rapid economic transformation.

