

II AGE OF REVOLUTIONS AND NATIONALISM

2.1 THE AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

Causes, Course, Results

INTRODUCTION: The second half of the 18th Century witnessed two important Revolutions namely 1. **American war of Independence (1776-85 A.D)**
2. **The French Revolution (1789-95 A.D)**

These two revolutions in fact gave a deathblow to the absolute monarchy and produced considerable effect upon the subsequent history of the human race.

DISCOVERY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF 13 COLONIES :(1607 to 1682A.D)

The discovery of American Continent is associated with Christopher Columbus, a Spanish navigator who invented the new land in 1492 A.D. In fact the name America came in honor of Amerigo Vesputty who further tried in 1500A.D. The Spanish, the English, and the French established their own colonies in America. Majority of them were English. They founded between 1607-1682A.D. 13 colonies on the East coast in America.

They are 1. **New Hampshire** 2. **Massachusetts** 3. **Rhode Island** 4. **Connecticut** 5. **New York** 6. **New Jersey** 7. **Mary Land** 8. **Virginia** 9. **North Carolina** 10. **South Carolina** 11. **Delaware** 12. **Pennsylvania** 13. **Georgia**. These were under the protection of England, the mother country and a governor supported by English army ruled each colony.

CAUSES: 1. Britain's economic policy. 2. Policy of taxation. 3. Boston Tea Party episodes. 4. Quebec Act-First Congress of Philadelphia. 5. Second Congress of Philadelphia. 6. Influence of Philosophers.

1. **Britain's economic policy:** The policy of Britain was that, colonies should exist for the sake of benefit of the mother country i.e. England. But colonial people stood for free trade policy. Britain imposed restrictions on colonial trade by enacting **Navigation Act**. Thus English ships secured the monopoly of carrying goods to and from the colonies of America and colonies could not trade with other countries except through British. The colonies were forbidden to manufacture such articles as might injure the British manufacturers. As a result, the Americans began to develop hatred towards the mother country.

2. **Policy of taxation: Sugar Act (1764 A.D) Stamp Act (1765 A.D)**
England first imposed tariff on Sugar and Molasses. The second required that all legal documents and even News Papers in the colonies should be written on Stamped Paper. Demonstrations were

started condemning these Acts by shouting slogans such as “**No Taxation without Representation**”. Then British ministry replaced the Stamp Act but issued a Declaratory Act maintaining England’s constitutional right to tax on colonies. Then came **taxes on tea, glass, lead, paper and other articles (1767 A.D)** People became angry-riots followed. England cancelled all taxes except on tea.

3. **Boston Tea Party episodes:** (Dec, 16, 1776 A.D) England’s this policy of taxation further exited the colonists when tea loaded British ships arrived at Boston harbor, a group of colonists disguised as Red Indians, boarded the tea ships and threw all the tea in to the sea. This episode popularly known as Boston Tea Party.
4. **Quebec Act-First Congress of Philadelphia:** (1774A.D) The passing of the **Quebec Act** by the British Parliament in **1774A.D.** granted the French-Canadians religious freedom and the use of their own civil rights. When Massachusetts, who were suspected for Boston Tea Party episode, suffered as a result of the intolerable acts of the British Govt. Other colonies came to her help. All the colonies except Georgia met at Philadelphia to decide the future plan of action. **The first Congress of Philadelphia (1774 A.D)** drew up “**Declaration of Rights**”. It confirmed that the colonists could not be taxed without their consent.
5. **Second Congress of Philadelphia:** (1775 A.D) The First Congress of Philadelphia followed by a few clashes between the British soldiers and the colonists at Lexington in Massachusetts. This resulted in the Second Congress of Philadelphia in 1775 A.D. The delegates appointed George Washington to lead the colonial forces against the British. Colonists still requested the British Crown for a peaceful solution. George III the British monarch considered colonists as rebels. So in 1776 A.D. the colonists declared their independence from the control of their mother country England on **4th July 1776 A.D.**
6. **Influence of Philosophers:** Several writers like **Thomas Paine, Locke, Sydney, Harrington, Samuel Adams and Thomas Jefferson** encouraged agitation for total independence.

Thomas Jefferson, a famous lawyer issued the famous “**Declaration of Independence**” He argued that whenever any government tries to interfere in the fundamental rights of people, it is perfectly right to overthrow such government and establish a new one by force if necessary.

COURSE OF WAR: (1776-1885 A.D) **George III** rejected the colonial request. War was inevitable. The Second Continental Congress appointed George Washington as the c-in-c of the colonial army. In the beginning the colonists fared badly, but gradually gained upper hand. In 1778 A.D. France came to the help of the colonists. In 1781 A.D. combined forces of French and the colonist's defeated British army at Yorktown. The British forces under Corn Wallis surrendered and England readily gave its consent to the American demands by the Treaty of Paris in 1783 A.D. Thus colonists threw off the English Yoke. One of the main reasons for the success of the Americans in the war was the efficient leadership of George Washington.

GEORGE WASHINGTON: George Washington, son of a farmer of **Virginia**. He gained military experience during the Seven Years War in Europe. This earned a great reputation as a capable leader. After the close of war he went to his estates. Then he was called upon to lead the colonial army. He filled in the army fresh enthusiasm and led it to success. George Washington became the **first president of independent America**.

RESULTS OF WAR:

1. Birth of New Nation –United States of America (USA)- in place of 13 colonies.
2. England lost 13 resourceful colonies.
3. In 1787 A.D. New Written Constitution was adopted for USA with Federal Structure of government. George Washington became its First President.
4. The success of American War of Independence encouraged the sprit of Nationalism abroad.
5. British learnt a lesson over her Imperialistic Policy.
6. This also led to the French Revolution in 1789 A.D., because many French were participated in it.

2.2 THE FRENCH REVOLUTION OF 1789 A.D.

Causes, Course and Results Life and achievements of Napoleon

INTRODUCTION: The French Revolution, which took place in 1789 A.D., was a political one and it played an important role in shaping the history of Europe and the World. It also gave the humanity the new ideas of **LIBERTY, EQUALITY and FRATERNITY**. The revolution broke out during the reign of Louis XVI, which transformed the France from an absolute monarchy into a middle class republic. The revolution swept away the existing political institutions and aimed at establishing a more egalitarian society and responsible government than that which existed before. **The revolution began with the siege of Bastille on July, 14, 1789 A.D** and continued until the rise of Napoleon Bonaparte to power.

CAUSES FOR THE OUTBREAK OF FRENCH REVOLUTION OF 1789 A.D:

1. Political causes 2. Social causes 3. Economic causes 4. Intellectual causes a. Montesquieu b. Voltaire c. Rousseau. 5. Influence of American War of Independence.

1. **Political causes:** French Monarchy was absolute. **Louis XIV** went to the extent of saying **"I am the State"** **Louis XV** increased the opposition by his **oppressive rule**. **Louis XVI** was an easygoing ruler and **did not take any interest in the state affairs**. The revolution broke out during his rule in 1789 A.D, which transformed the France from absolute monarchy into a middle class republic.
2. **Social Causes:** There was too much of **social inequality in French society**. On the eve of French Revolution the society was divided into two broad divisions. 1. **Privileged Class, consisting of Clergy and Nobility**. 2. **Un-privileged Class, the commoners, consisting of Peasants, Workers, Teachers, Lawyers, Doctors etc.**

Politically the French people were divided into three estates viz: 1.Clergy 2.Nobility 3.Commoners. The first two monopolized all the highest offices in the army, church and the Govt. They were also exempted from paying certain Taxes and free from the authority of the court. The condition of the un-privileged class or the commoners was deplorable. The peasants had to pay their Lord, Church and the King. The middle class disgusted and disappointed owing to their social inferiority.

3. **Economic Causes: There was also inequality in Taxation.** The burden mostly fell on the Commoners. The amount of Taxation was not fixed, which was collected by the Nobles. Commoners had to pay **Property Tax**

(taille) and **Salt Tax (gabelle)**. Nobles paid certain lump sum to the government after collecting the Tax. The privileged Class did not pay any Tax even during the period of bankruptcy, when Louis XVI came to the French throne in 1774 A.D. France joined American War of Independence, which resulted in financial crisis. Even then Nobles enjoyed all the benefits in France. This system gave rise to much tyranny.

4. Intellectual Causes: France was intellectually alert during the 18th Century. Existing order of the things in society, state and church criticized by many philosophers such as;

1. **Montesquieu** (1689-1775 A.D): Who wrote “**The Sprit of the Laws**” stood for the separation of power (Decentralization) A. Legislature B. Executive 3. Judiciary- these should not be rest with one person, which tends to become absolute.
2. **Voltaire** (1694-1778A.D): Who wrote “**The Letters on the English**” , in which he asked people to apply “**Reason**” in every field. He exposed the follies of the Church and the State.
3. **Rousseau** (1712-1778 A.D): He is known as the **PROPHET of the Revolution**. In his famous work “**The Social Contract**”, he proved that, the Government was the result of social contract between the people and the ruler. The ruler should look to the welfare of the people. He advocated the right to revolt, if the ruler failed in his duties. The French were highly influenced by the ideas of **Liberty, Equality and Fraternity** as they went turning the pages of Social Contract. The Social Contract lit the fire of the Revolution.

5. Influence of American War of Independence: The French who were also participated in American War of Independence, returned home with

the ideas of establishing Democratic Government here, as established in the United States.

COURSE:

Beginning of the French Revolution: French Parliament met in May 1789A.D. Louis XVI called it to solve the financial crisis. Formerly the three estates were sitting separate chambers. The third estate (middle Class) insisted for joint sitting, which was not agreed by the first two estates and the king. There by the third estate declared that, the third estate itself formed the National Assembly, which was in majority. They met at a tennis court on 20th June 1789 A.D and took an oath that they should not move until a constitution for France had been prepared. There spread news that king was intending to dissolve the

assembly. At this Parisians revolted and the mob took the Paris administration and **attacked the Bastille in July 1789 A.D. The fall of Bastille marked the beginning French Revolution.**

Spread of the Revolution: The Revolution spread over France. Church and State were reformed. Church property nationalized and salaries of the clergy were fixed. **Paris mob marched to Versailles and brought the king and queen and their son, and were kept in captive. In 1791 A.D.** a Constituent Assembly was set up and prepared a constitution for France and thereby declared The Rights of Man. The new political order was based on the principles of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. The declaration granted individuals the **freedom of Property, Speech, Writing, Religious Belief and Political Opinion.**

Once again The Constituent Assembly was dissolved and a new Legislative Assembly came in to existence. King attempted to escape from France. Paris mob asked assembly to suspend the king. Then assembly known as National Convention came in to existence. It was asked to draft a new constitution.

SEPTEMBER MESSACRE: Then suspected loyalists were massacred in **September 1792 A.D** by a machine called “**GUILLOTINE**” The National Convention abolished Monarchy. **France became Republic on 22nd September 1792 A.D** The National Convention treated king **Louis XVI** as a traitor and **sent to guillotine in January 1793 A.D** This resulted in the formation of First Coalition by Austria, Prussia, Britain, Holland and Spain against France. **The National Convention** granted all executive authorities to the “**Committee of Public Safety**”. It was successful in breaking the Coalition. But internally it let loose a **reign of Terror, Robes Pierre**, who suspected people of all classes and were guillotined. The reign of error **came to an end in July 1794 A.D.** when he was guillotined.

NEW ORDER: The National Convention drafted a new constitution for France in **1795A.D.** There was a provision for “**Bicameral Legislature**” and a “**Directory of 5 Members**” The Directory appointed **Napoleon** to lead the France soldiers. Again the **Directory was discredited and Napoleon dissolved the Legislature** and captured the French Government in 1799 A.D. **A new Constitution was framed** and there made a provision for “**Consulate**” **Three Consuls were appointed for 10 years** duration and among them First Consul was powerful. **Napoleon becomes the First Consul and later on Military Dictator.**

EFFECTS OF FRENCH REVOLUTION:

1. It was of Worlds Significance.
2. It abolished Absolute Monarchy.

3. It established Republic
4. It taught watch ward Liberty-Equality-Fraternity.
5. Declaration of Rights of Man-The Doctrine of Popular Sovereignty by National Assembly.
6. It taught the Principle of Nationalism and Oneness among the French people.
7. The Chaos and Confusion of the French Revolution gave opportunity for the Rise of Napoleon Bonaparte as a Military Dictator by marking a New Era.

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE (1799-1815 A.D)

Early Life and the Rise of Napoleon: Napoleon Bonaparte was one of the greatest and outstanding generals of the world. He was **born on August 15th, 1769** in Corsica to Countess Litizia Romalin and Count Charles Bonaparte. At the age of 16 He was **serving under Louis XVI** on the eve of the French Revolution. Later on he served in many capacities like Brigadier General-in-c, etc. He also participated in many wars. By the time the Directory in France had failed to manage the state affairs, Napoleon took the advantage of the situation and overthrew the Directory and became the First Consul of France in 1799 in new Consul Government set up by him, which was headed by three Consuls.

Achievements of Napoleon as Consul and Emperor: As a ruler he was a great and outstanding **military genius** and also **administrator**. After he became First Consul later in 1804 declared himself, by plebiscite, as Emperor. Napoleon carried on number of reforms both in domestic and foreign affairs, which have made his name immortal.

Napoleon Code: In order to give a **Uniform System of Laws** which made administration of justice cheaper, reliable and quick in procedure and execution, he introduced **legal codes**. His legal code is known as **Napoleon Code**. As a result equality was established and also justice was accessible to common man very easily.

Concordat (1802): **Religious toleration** was the keynote Napoleon's policy of administration. He framed a code of laws of the Clergy and entered in to an **agreement with Pope Pius VII known as "Concordat"**, which made the **Church to depend on State**.

Other Reforms: Napoleon launched **National Education Policy** and **primary education improved**; Special schools were opened for **technical education**, military and civil service. The transportations and communication facilities were improved and laid many **highways**. **Bank of France** was established. **Revenue Boards** were set up and systematized the **Tax collection**. The **National Debt was reduced** and took strong measures to root out corruption. Napoleon had the ability to inspire the French soldiers who had confidence in them. He was good **patron of art and literature**. **Paris was beautified** with splendid palaces and big mansions.

Napoleon's Conquests: The First Coalition combining Prussia, Austria, Russia, Spain and others, which formed an opposition to the French Revolution, was shattered during the victorious campaign against Italy. Now Napoleons task was to meet the Second Coalition consisting of Russia, Austria, Turkey, Naples and England. Napoleon was able to win over Tsar of Russia to

his side. Austria was defeated at Hohenzollern in 1801. Now England was left without a friend. Napoleon could not attack her because France had no powerful fleet.

The Battle of Trafalgar (1805): Napoleon had control in Italy and Netherlands by alliance with Spain, which was threat to England. Now Napoleon had to face Third Coalition consisting of England, Russia, Austria and Sweden. In the battle of Trafalgar Napoleon was defeated by the English Admiral Nelson.

Battle of Austerlitz (1805): Napoleon took the advantage of his superiority on the land; he inflicted a crushing defeat over the combined forces of Austria and Russia at Austerlitz in 1805, which brought them under his subordination. Now Napoleon concluded the Treaty of Tilsit with the Tsar of Russia in 1807. He was at his zenith of power and the entire Europe was under his influence, except England, which remained his enemy and the Tsar his ally.

Continental (Blockade) System (1806): England's strength was her navy. The strength of France laid in her commerce. Hence Napoleon decided to attack England by destroying her trade and commerce. He issued two decrees from Berlin in 1806 and Milan in 1807. Accordingly British goods were fully excluded from the whole of Europe. This was called the Continental System. Since Europe was dependent on England, the application of this system harmed France than the England. The European nations suffered a lot, which depended on imports from England. As a result Spain and Portugal were attacked for not observing the Continental System. There started in Spain a national revolt. Napoleon rushed to Spain, reinstalled his brother Joseph on the Spanish throne against the wishes of the people. Finally there came a Fourth Coalition consisting of Austria, England and Prussia against France.

Russian Campaign (1812): Tsar of Russia violated Tilsit Treaty and withdrew from Continental System. Napoleon invaded on Moscow by taking 6,00,000 French army in which 3,00,000 men perished due to cold.

Battle of Leipzig (1813): After this Napoleon's enemies increased. The combined army of Austria and Prussia, with the help of England defeated Napoleon and was transported to Island of Elba. He escaped from there and reached France. On his arrival, Louis XVIII vacated French throne and took refuge in Belgium.

Battle of Waterloo (1815): On his return, Napoleon, attempted to crush England. This led to the Battle of Waterloo in which he was completely defeated and was sent to Island of St. Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean, where he died in 1821.

Causes for the Downfall of Napoleon:

1. Napoleon's unlimited **ambition of power**.
2. There was **no rest** for him and his army.
3. When he lost most of the army, he began to **recruit** men of **different Nationalities**, with no experience.
4. People showed loyalty to Napoleon because of his despotism but **he was not loved and respected**.
5. He did mistake by decreeing **Continental System**.
6. As he admitted himself, The **Spanish ulcer** ruined him, the placing of his brother on the Spanish throne against the wishes of people, which hurt the National Sentiments.
7. Many of **his deputies were not trustworthy** who revealed the secrets to enemies.
8. He **lost the support of his own people** (Jacobins) through whom he came to the power.
9. His **bad handwriting**, which led to the improper mobility of army, caused a great disaster.
10. He believed till the end that **he was the man of destiny**, till everything turned against him.

Estimate: Napoleon the “Child of the Revolution” and “the Destroyer of the Revolution”: Napoleon said I am the “Child of the Revolution” and “I destroyed the Revolution”. As a “Child of the Revolution”, he had secured Equality, Fraternity and limited Liberty to French people in the real sense. Napoleon abolished all the class privileges social injustice and evils that existed in French society. As the “Destroyer of the Revolution” he can be pronounced as a Dictator. Because He concentrated in his hand all the powers of local-self government. He never allowed the French people full political liberty. He is compared with great rulers like Alexander and Julius Caesar etc.

2.3 UNIFICATION OF ITALY (1815-1870)

Role of Mazzini, Cavour, Garibaldi and Victor Emmanuel

Introduction: Italy the original home of Renaissance, was politically disunited during the middle ages. It was fragmented in to hundreds of small kingdoms and was often at war with each other. The picture of Italy during the beginning of 19th century was a different one. Most of Italy was dominated by foreign rule. The Italian provinces of Lombardy and Venetia were in the hands of Austria. The central states of Italy were controlled by Austria only. The Pope exercised considerable power over them. The king of Sardinia was the only Italian king who controlled Piedmont and Genoa. Naples and Sicily were under the French kings. Thus Italy was suffering under the foreign rule.

Birth of spirit of Nationalism: During the 19th century spirit of Nationalism began to develop. The working class exhibited the spirit of Nationalism during the middle ages. The nobles and the clergy successfully suppressed the middle class. Gradually under the Napoleon's rule, the whole of Italy except Naples came under his united administration. He improved communication system in Italy. He also gave Italy the uniform system of law. All these developed free intercourse between the Italians residing in different parts of the country and infused in them the sense of Nationality. After the fall of Napoleon the Congress of Vienna (1815) again disunited the country.

Unification Movement in Italy: During the 19th century Italians were desirous to become free and united. They organized the secret societies called "**Coronary**", whose duty was to revolt against the kings in Italy. These secret societies carried on the war of liberation and unification. In this movement the names of Mazzini, Cavour, Garibaldi and Victor Emmanuel are important.

Joseph Mazzini (1805-72) The Soul of Italy: A great Italian patriot who dedicated himself to the task of uniting the Italy. Mazzini believed that '**Pen is Mightier than the Sword**'. He started a revolutionary organization called "**Young Italy**", through which he awakened the people to work for his ideals. He had to go in exile for this movement to South America and came back at later stage to continue his work. In 1840 he organized All-Italy revolt and as a result Mazzini set up a republic at Rome, which later fell at the French hands. Poet George Meredith called him **The Soul of Italy**

Count Cavour (1810-61) The Brain of Italy: Cavour was the minister of the king of Sardinia, Victor Emmanuel. He aspired to liberate Italy from the foreign yoke and unite the country under Sardinian king. For his task he sought the help of France against Austria. The French gave help and in 1869, the combined forces of France and Sardinia defeated Austria. As a result, Sardinia got the Italian province of Lombardy from Austria and as per promise the French got from Sardinia Savoy and Nice for her help. In the meanwhile Parma, Modena, Romagna and Tuscany in central Italy revolted against their kings and became free. They joined Sardinia in 1860. Thus the whole of Italy was liberated and was united under the king of Sardinia. He was the editor of famous journal "**Risorgimento**". Poet George Meredith called him **The Brain of Italy**

Garibaldi (1807-82) The Sword of Italy: Another fantastic figure of Italian unification movement. He joined the "Young Italy", the revolutionary organization founded by Mazzini. Garibaldi believed in sword to achieve Italian unification. He collected many of his followers referred to as "Red Shirts" in large number to fight against the Austrians. He trained the freedom fighters and who were well equipped with arms. It was who started the "**Red Shirt Movement**" in Italy and drove foreigners from Sicily and Naples. Poet George Meredith called him **The Sword of Italy**.

Victor Emmanuel: Victor Emmanuel the king of Sardinia, who proclaimed as the king of Italy was a great patriot and was one of the chief architects of Italian Unification. After he proclaimed as the king of Italy, had to perform more tasks. Venetia was in the hands of the Austrians and it was to be conquered. Rome was in the hands of French and it was to be taken over. These would complete the Italian Unification. Prussia declared war against Austria in 1870. Italy became an ally of Prussia and helped it. After the war was over, Emmanuel got Venetia for Italy as a reward for the support to Prussia. In 1870 the Franco-Prussian war broke out. The French king was engaged in life and death fight against Prussia. So he withdrew his army from Rome. Victor Emmanuel immediately sent his army and captured Rome. The people of Rome and Venice voted to join the Italian union. The unification of Italy was complete on October 2nd 1870. Thus by 1871 the whole of Italy was united and was brought under one rule. Rome became the capital of Italian empire.

2.4 UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

Stages of Unification-Bismarck

Introduction

Condition of Germany before Unification: Before the unification of Germany in 1871 the whole of German territory was divided into 300 small petty states. Though Germany had a common language, common culture and common traditions, England, Denmark and Sweden were the masters of many of these territories. When Napoleon conquered Germany he combined all these 300 small states into 39 big states and among them Prussia was the leading state. In a sense, Napoleon unified Germany to some extent and it was brought under a single rule and provided it a good administration. At this time Germans developed a sense of Nationalism and hoped to achieve its unity. After the fall of Napoleon the Congress of Vienna, in 1815, created a 'Confederation of Rhine' consisting of 39 German States and were placed under the control of Austria.

Stages in the Unification of Germany:

1. 1st Stage 1815-48 Zollverein System.
2. 2nd Stage 1848-64 Bismarck and Frankfurt Parliament.
3. 3rd Stage Bismarck's Wars

1st Stage- The Zollverein System: Among the 39 States of Germany, Prussia alone was big and strong. And also it was in a position to achieve German Unification. Some kind of economic union of Germany was achieved by Prussia in 1834 when it formed a Customs Union called '**Zollverein**'. Before the Zollverein was set up each state had its own customs. The internal trade of Germany was hampered by innumerable customs charged by each state. All the states of Germany, for the first time joined the Zollverein as the members. Free trade between these states was also allowed. Austria however did not join this union. Zollverein indeed achieved economic unity of Germany.

2nd Stage- Attempts for German Unification: The first attempt for the unification of German states into one was started in 1848. The Germans rose against their kings and secured liberal concessions. The German parliament met at Frankfurt to plan for the German union. But most of the German Princely states did not co-operate. Thus parliament dispersed and the first attempt for unification failed.

Rise of Bismarck (1815-98): Edward Leopold Otto Von Bismarck was born in 1815 in a rich family of Prussia. He studied philosophy, law and diplomacy. He traveled widely in France and England. He was appointed Prussian Ambassador in Russia in 1859 and later in France. In 1862 he became the Chancellor to the king William I of Prussia. Soon he developed in his mind

the idea of unifying Germany under the leadership of Prussia. As a Prussian representative in the Frankfurt parliament he had foreseen that Prussia and Austria would be rivals and war with her also inevitable. Therefore, he began to prepare grounds for getting the sympathy and support of the other countries to his side against Austria.

In 1861 William I became the King of Prussia. He appointed Bismarck as his Prime Minister. This event was a turning point in the history of Germany. Both had in their mind that, Prussia alone had the ability to achieve the German unification. Bismarck was man of steel and his was "Blood and Iron Policy". He knew that Austria was German's enemy and unless her defeat German unification was impossible. According to Bismarck, defeat of Austria was not possible only by resolution in parliament. It was possible only by increasing the military strength of Germany. So he began to collect money to build strong army.

3rd Stage- War with Denmark (1864) and Austria (1866): Bismarck waged his first war with Denmark demanding two German districts of Holstein and Schleswig which were under the possession of the Danish king. In this war Prussia had joined with Austria to fight the Danes. War in which Denmark was defeated and German districts were taken back. Now a quarrel arose between Austria and Prussia over the two conquered German districts. Bismarck took this opportunity and declared war against Austria. His plan was to oust Austria from the German politics and to unify Germany. The war between Austria and Prussia began in 1866 and lasted for only seven weeks. Austria suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of Prussia. Treaty of Prague was concluded and accordingly Austria gave Venice to Italy and gave up her claims to the two German districts and withdrew from the German Confederation. This made Prussia supreme in Germany and now the way was opened to Prussia to bring all the German states in to one nation state. The old German Confederation was dissolved.

Creation of North German Confederation: Bismarck immediately set to re-organize Germany. He annexed North German states such as Hanover, Hesse, Nassau, Frankfurt-on-main and the two districts of Holstein and Schleswig which sided Austria. Now these states including Prussia were joined in to a North German Confederation under the president ship of Prussia. In all 21 North German states joined the Confederation. They also assured that, they would hold Prussia in the event of war.

Franco-Prussian War (1871): The Franco-Prussian War was fought in 1871 and brought about a complete German unification. The war broke out primarily to recover the two rich provinces viz., Alsace and Lorraine from the French dominion. By then Napoleon III was the French emperor. He did not like the idea of German unification under the leadership of Prussia. He picked up a quarrel with Prussia over the succession issue to the Spanish throne and it resulted in the Franco-Prussian War.

When the war began the Southern German states joined the Northern German Confederation to fight the common enemy. Combined German army

defeated the French and the Napoleon III and was taken as prisoner at Sedan. Paris surrendered in 1871. The Treaty of Frankfurt was concluded by which France gave Alsace and Lorraine and paid heavy war indemnity to Prussia. Then all the Southern German states joined the North German Confederation, which was renamed "German Empire" on 18th January 1871. William I, the King of Prussia was made the Emperor of United Germany and Bismarck continued as his Prime Minister. Thus after the Franco-German war the German Unification was achieved and the German Nation State was born. All this brought Bismarck the title "The Founder of Modern Germany".

2.5 RUSSIN REVOLUTION (1917)

Causes, Courses, Results and Importance

Introduction: The Russian Revolution, which broke out in 1917, brought a thorough change in the basic principles of Social, Economic and Political life of the Russians. This Revolution resulted in establishment of first ever-Communist government in Russia and paved the way for the establishment of similar governments in other parts of the world.

Causes: The Russian emperors, Tsars, were despots. Most of the countries in Western Europe had established Limited Monarchy in the 19th Century. Where as Russia still had an Absolute Monarchy in the 20th Century. The Tsars remained absolute. Under them only Nobles held high posts in both civil and military. Privileged class paid less tax holding large estates and unprivileged class, peasants, paid high taxes holding small estates. Under Tsars there was no liberty of press, freedom of thought etc. The condition of workers in industries was miserable. There existed in society exploitation, corruption and too much of class distinction. The gap was widening between upper and middle class.

The man who was mainly responsible for the out brake of revolution was Tsar Nicholas II, who was a despot. His mal-administration was also responsible for the defeat of Russia in the hands of Japan, in Russo-Japanese war in 1904-05. The philosophers like Robert Owen, Saint Simon, Louis Blanks, Leo Tolstoy, Maxim Gorky and Karl Marx specially their writings awakened the Russians.

The immediate cause was that, Russia was defeated in the 1st world war. A great number were drafted to the army. Agriculture was neglected and the result was food shortage, price rise and starvation. The corrupt and incompetent leadership was exposed. People began to listen to the leaders like Lenin, who began to promise them land and wealth taken from the rich.

Course: The peasants who joined the army began to shout for the bread, which was not supplied properly. When they could not face the well-equipped German soldiers, the Russian soldiers rebelled against their officers. Mob with hungry and angry wondered in the streets. Troops were called out to put down rioting. But the troops were also joined the crowds against Tsars. Thus Russians made up their mind to destroy the old order and establish a new.

Legislative assembly, Duma, was established. But limited reforms introduced by Tsars did not satisfy any one. Food shortage and hungry continued. Assembly called upon the Tsar to abdicate. He did so on March 15th 1917.

Mensheviks the Moderate Socialists set up a provincial government in Russia. Their leader was Kernesky. The government introduced certain reforms, which did not satisfy the Russians. Russians wanted radical changes and demanded bread, peace and land.

Bolsheviks, the Radical socialists, continued their agitation. They wanted to establish the dictatorship of the workers. Lenin and Trotsky were their leaders. Trotsky organized Red Army, which was used by Lenin for the confiscation of property of the rich, to control the railways, banks and the public buildings. By the end of October 1917 Lenin and his followers were successful in capturing the Royal Court by defeating Kernesky.

Lenin's Radical Program NEP (New Economic Policy-1921): The new Constitution for Russia was drafted and a peace Treaty with Germany was concluded. Lenin's Radical Program began. All banks, factories, mines, railways and other properties nationalized. Lenin had to face some difficulties. He had to face Mensheviks supported by landlords and capitalists. The system of common property, common work and equal participation in production and distribution, rationing was not liked by the Russians, who were not accustomed to it. England and France who hated this new ideology supported the Counter Revolution in Russia. But by about 1920 Lenin was successful in crushing the foreign and domestic danger with the help of Red Army and the Cheka the Secret police. A new constitution was adopted in 1923 for Russia. Russia became federation of several states known as "Union of Soviet Socialist Republic"(USSR)

Results:

1. Tsars autocratic rule came to an end.
2. The workers and peasants government was established in Russia.
3. Russia became USSR (11 states with equal rights)
4. Supreme power vested in committee of all the soviets or councils. 'Supreme Soviet' which was the most powerful organ.
5. The only Communist party is allowed to exist and control the government in Russia.
6. There launched in Russia 5 years plan and achieved political and economic stability.