

MODULE 3

HISTORY

The Rise of Nationalism in Europe

Making of Germany and Italy

- Liberal initiative to nation-building in Germany was repressed by monarchy and military and supported by the large land owners (called Junkers) of Prussia.
- Prussia took leadership for national unification with **Otto Von Bismarck** as the architect.
- 3 wars over 7 yrs. with Austria, Denmark and France ended in Prussians victory and unification.
- In January 1871, the Prussian king, William I was proclaimed German Emperor in a ceremony in Hall of Mirrors, at Versailles.
- New State emphasized modernization of currency, banking, legal and judicial systems in Germany.

Italy Unified

- Italy had scattered dynasties and Habsbury Empire.
- In mid- 19th century – it was divided in 7 states of which Sardinia-Piedmont was ruled by Italian princely house.
- North was under Austrian Habsburgs, the centre was ruled by the Pope and the southern regions were under the domination of Bourbon kings of Spain.

Giuseppe Mazzini-

- Unitary Italian Republic and formed Young Italy.
- Failure of uprisings in 1831 and 1848 meant Sardinia was now under king Victor Emmanuel II to unify Italy states for war.
- Unified Italy gave possibility for economic development and political dominance.

Chief Minister Cavour-

- Led unification was neither revolutionary nor democrat.
- He spoke French better than Italian.
- In alliance with France in 1859, Sardinia defeated Austria.
- Garibaldi in 1860 marched to South Italy and kingdom of Two Sicilies and removed Spanish rulers.
- In 1861 Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed king of united Italy.
- Much of Italy was illiterate and unaware of liberal- nationalist ideology.
- Supporter of Garibaldi had never heard about Italia and thought 'La Talia' was wife of Emmanuel.

Giuseppe Garibaldi-

- Garibaldi was sailor. Joined Young Italy movement in 1834 with Mazzini.
- He lived in exile till 1848 in South America.
- In 1860, Garibaldi led the expedition of the thousand to South Italy.
- Volunteers joined and were known as Red Shirts.
- In 1867, Garibaldi led an army of volunteers to Rome to fight the last obstacle to the unification of Italy, the Papal states where a French garrison was stationed.
- In 1870, French withdraw forces from Rome and Papal states joined to Italy.

Case of Britain

- Nation state formation was not sudden but a long drawn out process.
- Prior to 18th century there were ethnic groups like English, Welsh, Scot or Kish with their own culture and traditions.
- As it grew in wealth and power, influence extended to other nations.
- English parliament seized power from the monarchy in 1688.
- Act of Union (1707) between England and Scotland resulted in the formation of 'United Kingdom of Great Britain'- England was able to impose its influence on Scotland.
- British parliament was dominated by English members and Scotland's suffered repression.

- Scottish Highlands were forbidden to speak their Gaelic language or wear their national dress and large numbers were forcibly driven out of their homeland.
- Ireland was divided between Catholics and Protestants.
- English helped Protestants to establish power over Catholic nation.
- Catholics were suppressed.
- After failed revolt led by Wolfe Tone and his United Irishmen (1798), Ireland was forcibly incorporated into UK in 1801.
- Symbols of the New Britain: British flag (Union Jack), the national anthem (God Save Our Noble king), the English language were actively promoted.

Visualizing the Nation

- Nations were portrayed as females.
- Female figure became an allegory (abstract idea expressed through person or things) of the nation.
- French used female allegory to portray liberty (red cap or broken chains), justice (blindfolded woman carrying a pair of weighing scales) and republic ideas.
- In France, she was christened Marianne, a popular Christian name, which underlined the idea of a people's nation.
- Her Characteristics were drawn from those of- Liberty and Republic- the red cap, the tricolour, the cockade.
- Statues positioned in public, also marks on coins and stamps were made.
- Germania became the allegory of the German nation.
- Germania wears a crown of oak leaves, as German oak stands for heroism.

Nationalism and Imperialism

- By last quarter of 19th century, nationalists groups became intolerant and waged war.
- Most serious tension happened in Balkan after 1871.

Balkans- geographical and ethnic variation included Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro- people called as Slavs.

- Majority of Balkans was under Ottoman Empire.
- Spread of romantic nationalism and disintegration of Ottoman Empire made this region very explosive.
- Balkans placed claims of independence on nationality and used history to prove it.
- Intense rivalry among European powers over trade and colonies as well as naval and military and was seen in Balkans.
- Russia, Germany, England, Austro-Hungary were trying to control Balkan and led to 1st WW.
- This nationalism and imperialism led Europe to disaster in 1914.
- Nations colonized by Europe began to oppose imperial domination.
- Anti-imperialist movements were nationalists and inspired by collective national unity.
- European ideas of nationalism were nowhere replicated, for people everywhere developed their own specific variety of nationalism.
- But idea that societies should be organised into nation-states came to be accepted as natural and universal.

Useful link-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLNHHKkasWo&feature=youtu.be>

Self-Assessment Questions-

1. Describe the process of Unification of Britain.
2. Who was proclaimed German Emperor in a ceremony held at Versailles in January 1871?
3. Explain any three causes of conflict in the 'Balkan area' after 1871.
4. Explain the events leading to the Unification of Germany.

