

UNIT TWO

DEVELOPMENT OF CAPITALISM, NATIONALISM AND COLONIALISM

2.1. Unification of Italy

- Rome was under the control of the French troops since 1848. Lombardy and Venetia were under Austria domination. The duchies of Parma, Modera, Tuscany and the kingdom of the Two Sicilies to which Naples was a part were under local rulers dominated by Austria. The Papal States were under the control of the Catholic Church. Approach for the unification were:
 1. Giuseppe Mazzini and his organization, "**Young Italy**" wanted to create a united and a free Italian republic through a popular revolution.
 2. The second approach came from the **north Italian state of Piedmont**. This group wanted to unify Italy under the leadership of Piedmont's monarchy.
 3. The third approach called for the unification of Italy under the **Pope of the Roman Catholic Church**. This group wanted the federation of all Italian States under the papacy.
- In 1848 an uprising took place in the Italian peninsula. The uprising started in Sicily, in the south. It was a republican revolution which was led by Italian nationalists inspired by Mazzini and spread to Venetia and Lombardy.
- When the war broke out between the Italians and Austrians, **King Charles Albert** of Piedmont declared war on Austria. Popular pressure also forced the rulers of Naples, Tuscany and the Papal States to send troops in support of an Italian uprising against Austria and defeated and withdrew from Italy.
- The Pope of Roman Catholic church had always been against Italian unity, fearing that a United Italy might threaten papal power and territory.
- Piedmont alone confronted the Austrian force. As the result of this the Austrians easily defeated the army of Piedmont and restored their domination in Lombardy and Venetia.
- A nationalist patriot dedicated to Mazzini's plan of an Italian republic was **Giuseppe Garibaldi**. The outcome of 1848 uprisings discredited both Mazzini's republic and the **federation of Italian states under the papacy**.
- But the plan of uniting Italy from the north, under the monarchy of Piedmont, won much popular support. Thus, the unification of Italy becomes the main task of Piedmont and its rulers, King Victor Emmanuel, and Cavour, the Prime Minister.
- The leading personality in the unification of Italy was **Count Camillo Cavour** (1810-1861), who became Prime Minister of Piedmont in 1852.
- To expel the Austrians, he needed the support of foreign powers like France and Prussia. Hoping to win such aid, Cavour sent his army to fight on the side of France and Britain against Russia in the **Crimean war (1854-1856)**. By this move,

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Cavour won the good will of the great powers, particularly of the French ruler, Napoleon III. Finally Napoleon III promised support for the expulsion of Austria from Italy. In return Cavour promised to cede the provinces of Nice and Savoy to France.

- In June 1859 France and Piedmont won two victories at the Battles of **Magenta and Solferino**. But Napoleon ignored his promise to Piedmont and concluded separate treaty with Austria. By this agreement Lombardy was given to Piedmont and Venetia remained under Austrian rule.
- In 1860, a popular uprising took place in Sicily. In May 1860 **Garibaldi** hurried to the south leading his famous volunteer army of one thousand known as the **"thousand" or "Red Shirts"**. Sicily and Naples came under his control with in short period of time.
- In 1861 the kingdom of Italy was proclaimed. Venetia and Rome were also restored as a result of international politics.
- Italy allied with Prussia in the Austro-Prussian war of 1866. By the peace treaty after the war, Austria ceded Venetia to Italy.
- In 1870 because of the war with Prussia the French troops supporting the pope were withdrawn. Then Italian troops seized Rome in September 1870. Thus, the unification of Italy was completed and Rome became the capital of united Italy in 1870. However; Italian nationalists believed that Italian unification was still not complete, because Austria still ruled the **Trenton** province and the city of **Trieste**, where many Italians lived and Italy wanted this area. This demand became known as Italian **"irredentism"**

2.2. German Unification

- Developments leading to German Unification:
 1. The Napoleonic wars
 2. Development of capitalism
 3. Rise of nationalism
 4. The creation of German confederation
 5. The formation of the Zollverein
- As the result of the wars of Napoleon, German nationalism aroused. The wars also weakened Austrian authority by abolishing the Holy Roman Empire and reducing the number of German states from more than 300 to less than 100.
- The congress of Vienna in 1815 reduced the number of German states to 38 and organized them into an Austrian dominated German confederation.
- In 1819 Prussia formed a German Custom Union which became known as the **Zollverein or Customs Union**. It was realized in 1834 and by the 1840s it included all the German states except Austria. This was designed by Prussia to isolate

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Austria from other German states.

- Austria emerged from the congress of Vienna as an influential central European Empire containing many different peoples. The Austrian rulers did not like the growth of nationalism in Germany fearing that this might empire subject nationalities to seek independence.
- A series of revolts were carried out in 1848 aimed at ending autocracy and unifying Germany. These revolts were led by liberals who sought constitutional democracy.
- After all these, the way was open for the successful attempt at German unification under autocratic leadership. **Wilhelm I** became King of Prussia in 1861.
- In 1862 **Otto von Bismarck** (1815- 1898) was appointed prime minister of Prussia.
- Bismarck in his famous speech said "Germany is not looking for Prussia's liberalism, but its power...The great questions of our time will not be decided by speeches and majority decisions-that was the mistake of 1848 and 1849-but by **"Blood and Iron"**

What were the steps taken by Bismarck to achieve German unification?

In order to achieve the German unification Bismarck waged three wars against Denmark, Austria and France.

1. In 1864 he declared war on Denmark over the principalities of Schleswig and Holstein. The war was fought for three month and finally the Danish army was defeated. Prussia and Austria administered these two provinces jointly. In 1865 both Prussia and Austria reached to an agreement that Austria took the administration of Holstein, while Prussia took that of Schleswig.
2. The agreement of 1865 was a temporary half to Bismarck move against Austria. Bismarck knew well that Austria was the main obstacle to wards German unification. In order to create ground for the inevitable conflict with Austria, he diplomatically approached the following countries and won their support during the war against Austria in 1866. These countries were Russia, France and Italy.
3. The Austro- Prussian war broke out in June 1866. This war was provoked by Bismarck who sent army to Holstein when Austria presented the question of Schleswig-Holstein before the Diet of the confederation. After seven weeks of fighting the Austrian army was defeated at the battle of **Sadowa** in 1866. This victory enabled Bismarck to isolate Austria from Germany. On the other hand, the victory of Bismarck ended the chance for a united Germany under Austrian control.
 - By the treaty of Prague, the German confederation, where the Austrian

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influence was strong, was dissolved.

- In 1867 Prussia set up a new north German confederation in which Austria was not allowed to join. Following the Austro-Prussian War, Bismarck annexed several north German states and compelled the remaining ones to join in a Prussian dominated North-German confederation. The South German states remained outside the confederation was also tied to Prussia by the Zollverein and defensive military alliance.
- Thus all German states north of the Rhine joined the confederation. In this respect, the new confederation was a stepping stone for the unification of the German empire. What was required to complete the unification was only the inclusion of the south German states.

The Franco- Prussian war (1870-71)

- Bismarck used different issues to provoke Napoleon in to declaring war on July 19, 1870. The south German states joined the war on the side of Prussia. Napoleon III, who was pushed by his wife, personally led the French army.
- On September 2, 1870, Napoleon and his 100,000 troops were defeated and surrendered at the battle of **Sedan**.
- France surrendered in early 1871 and gave up her two provinces of Alsace and Lorraine at the **Treaty of Frankfurt**.
- On January 18, 1871 a united German Empire was proclaimed in the **French palace at Versailles**. Wilhelm I became Emperor of Germany. Bismarck was also proclaimed as Chancellor of the German Empire.

2.3. The American Civil War (1861-1865)

- The main cause of this civil war was the contradiction between antagonistic socio-economic Systems that existed in the U.S.A. Northern and western America developed a capitalist system. But the south maintained large plantations and used slave labor.
- During the war of independence (1775-1783) a progressive document known as the "**Declaration of independence**" (1776) had been issued.
- To bring about the abolition of slavery in South America. Thus the north and west stood in contrast to the south. The north constituted Free States and the south slave states. This socio-economic difference between the north and the south became the main cause for the bloody civil war that came to plague America.
- The election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 was a break through that led to the beginning of civil war in America because followed anti-slavery policies.
- Lincoln was a democrat and one the opponents of slavery (abolitionists).

Following Lincoln's election, **Carolina State** declared secession from the Union. Finally, eleven slave owning states seceded from the USA. In February 1961 the slave- owning

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states formed a new state called the **Confederacy** the confederate Southern States of America. **Colonel Jefferson Davis** was elected president of the confederacy.

- Finally Abraham Lincoln appointed efficient Generals like **Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman**.
- Abraham Lincoln issued two proclamations. The first was "**Emancipation Proclamation**" and the second was the "**Homestead law**". In the first he declared slaves in the south to be free as of January 1, 1863. And the second decree allowed all citizens including the freed slaves to own plots of land for personal use.
- The long years of combating created disadvantage on the part of the south. This was because, they **faced shortage of man power, artillery, munitions, food and medical supplies and poor transportation**.
- The war came to an end in April 1865 when Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses Grant, the commander of the Union Army.
- On April 14, 1865, five days after the Southern army had capitulated, President Abraham Lincoln, who had led the American people throughout the critical years of the civil war, was shot by John Wilkes Booth, agent of the defeated slave owner and died on April 15, 1865.

Major effects of the war were:

- * Abraham Lincoln was shot dead by an agent of the slave owners.
- * The south was defeated as the result of the civil war.
- * Slavery was abolished.
- * Capitalism expanded in the USA very rapidly.
- * The unity of American states was maintained.

2.4. Nationalism and Multi National Empires

- The demand of national groups for independent states of their own is often called **nationalism**.
- This was the way in which the **Italians and the Germans succeeded in forming** their own national states.
- In the Balkan region also the subject peoples of the Ottoman Empire took up arms against their rulers. Balkan countries include: **Bulgaria, Albania, Rumania, Serbia, Montenegro, Herzegovina, Greece**, etc.
- The liberation struggle of the Balkan peoples and the great power politics that accompanied it was one aspect of the so- called **Eastern Question**.
- Among the European powers, **Britain, Austria and Russia** were deeply involved in the Eastern Question.
- The crisis in the Balkans went beyond the European powers and finally led to the emergence of five independent Balkan states were **Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia**,

Rumania and Montenegro. Albania also emerged independent as a result of the Balkan wars of 1912-1913.

The outcome of the Crimean war Peace terms were:-

1. No great power to maintain war ships in the Black Sea.
2. Moldavia and Walachia were to be evacuated by the Russians and to be autonomous principality while the remaining under Turkish suzerainty.
3. Danube River to be open to all trading nations'ship.

What were the major causes of the Balkan Wars of 1912-1913?

- The most aggressive nationalism in the Balkans was that of the **Serbs because they fought against Turkey and planned to control Yugoslavia.**
- The **annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria- Hungary in October 1908**, created boundless indignation in Serbia.
- **In 1912, Four Balkan states- Montenegro, Serbia, Bulgaria and Greece declared war on Ottoman Turkey and Turkey was defeated.**
- **In 1913, the out Break of the Second Balkan war was in the interest of Austria-Hungary and Italy which was provoked by Bulgaria attacked on Greece and Serbia but Bulgaria defeated**

2.5. Colonization of Africa since 19th Century

- With the development of capitalism (1769-1870), the need for raw materials and market places for finished goods (surplus products) became very important
- Britain was busy in colonizing and giving more attention to Far East and South East Asian region like India, New Zealand, and Australia.
- In 1830 France occupied **Algeria and later Senegal.**
- Britain also occupied **Cape colony and Gold Coast (Ghana).**
- Portugal was deeply involved in **Mozambique and in Angola.**
- What intensified the partition of Africa after 1882? Because of:
 1. **British takeover of Egypt in 1882.** Since the opening of Suez Canal in 1869, Egypt had become the focus of British and French political and economic interest. Therefore, Britain alone intervened and occupied Egypt in June 1882. Then, France as European power moved to act quickly to make colonial conquests in other parts of Africa.
 2. **The involvement of Germany and Belgium in the colonization of Africa.**
- The main outcome of the Berlin Conference were:
 1. Dealt with the **colonial conquest of Africa.** It was agreed that all powers had to notify others about their claim over a portion of territory and to establish **"effective occupation"** in these areas. Legalized the African partition.
 2. The right to **trade on the Congo River.** The partition of Africa had already been

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started before the Berlin Conference. Thus, Leopold II of Belgium was able to get international recognition over the Congo Free State in 1884. The Belgian king won recognition by promising an unrestricted freedom of trade in the Congo basin for all.

- In 1883, France had controlled territories in the Upper Niger. But the same move of France in the lower Niger failed. In subsequent year, France and Britain partitioned West Africa between themselves.
- Between 1883 and 1885 Germany occupied many territories in South West Africa, Togo land, the Cameroon and East Africa.
- Britain moved Northward from South Africa to central and East Africa. Britain also moved southward from Egypt and controlled Eastern Sudan.
- By 1900, with exception of **Ethiopia, Morocco (until 1912)**
- **Resistance against colonialism in Africa:**
 1. In German East Africa, **Tanzania** against the German colonialism called the **Maji- Maji Rebellion (1905-1907)**.
 2. **Samore's** struggle against the French expansion in **West Africa (1882-1898)**. He was a Fula warrior who confronted the French around the Niger River.
 3. Ethiopia was the only African country which succeeded in warding off European colonialism.

Why did Africans fail in their resistance to European colonialism? Because of:

1. Africans were not united to challenge the European conquests.
2. The Europeans had the advantage of modern fire arms which the Africans did not possess. European troops were disciplined, experienced and well trained.
3. Europeans signed deceptive treaties with Africans, like for instance, the Treaty of Wuchale, a Treaty signed between Emperor Menilik and Italy.

The British Administration Policy

- The British Administration policy came to be known as "**indirect rule**" due to shortage of staff.
- The architect of this policy **was Lord Frederick Lugard**.
- The British also practiced a **divide and rule policy**, which was very important to weaken African resistance against the British colonialism.

The French Colonial Policy

- ✓ The French policy of colonial administration came to be known as "**direct rule**".
- ✓ This policy was designed by the French colonial Minister, **Albert Sarroul**.
- ✓ The French also believed in the **policy of assimilation or association**. This was designed to make Africans copy French culture and French way of life so as get French citizenship.

- ✓ Other European colonial powers like Portugal, Italy, Belgium and Spain followed largely preferred **direct rule**.

Effects of Colonialism in Africa

1. Economy and culture of the Africans were destroyed,
2. Africans lost their freedom,
3. The Africans were exploited and oppressed,
4. The Africans were disunited and were forced to accept foreign culture, etc.

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ከ9-12 ላላችሁ ተማሪዎች

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Thank You