The Rise of Nationalism in Europe - Class 10

1. Brief Notes on Key Figures and Events

a) Giuseppe Mazzini

Giuseppe Mazzini (1805–1872) was an Italian revolutionary and one of the most significant figures in the Italian unification movement. He believed that Italy should be united as a republic, free from foreign domination. In 1831, he founded 'Young Italy,' a secret society aimed at promoting the idea of a unified Italy. Mazzini was also a philosopher and a writer, whose works inspired many in Italy and beyond. His idea of ' Young Europe' promoted democratic ideals and the unification of European nations under republicanism. Although Mazzini's revolutionary attempts were unsuccessful, his vision of a united Italy laid the ideological foundation for the later unification movement.

b) Count Camillo de Cavour

Count Camillo de Cavour (1810–1861) was the Prime Minister of Sardinia-Piedmont and one of the key architects of the Italian unification. Cavour was a skilled diplomat who used alliances, particularly with France, to isolate Austria and drive the process of unification. Unlike Mazzini, Cavour was not a revolutionary but a pragmatist, and he believed in constitutional monarchy rather than a republic. He played a crucial role in the defeat of Austria in 1859 and in the incorporation of northern Italian regions into Sardinia-Piedmont, setting the stage for the unification of Italy.

c) The Greek War of Independence

The Greek War of Independence (1821–1832) was a revolution against the Ottoman Empire, aiming to establish an independent Greek state. The war was supported by many Europeans, including intellectuals and artists who saw it as a struggle to revive the classical Greek civilization. Lord Byron, a British poet, not only contributed financially to the cause but also fought alongside the Greeks. The war eventually ended in 1832 with the recognition of Greece's independence through the Treaty of Constantinople, which was largely supported by European powers such as Britain, France, and Russia.

d) Frankfurt Parliament

The Frankfurt Parliament (1848) was an attempt by liberal nationalists to unify the German states under a democratic constitution. The parliament convened in the city of Frankfurt, where representatives of the various German states met to draft a constitution for a unified Germany. However, the parliament was unable to achieve its goals, as it was opposed by the monarchies and military forces of the German states. When the parliament offered the

German crown to the King of Prussia, Friedrich Wilhelm IV, he rejected it, effectively ending the hopes for a united Germany under a liberal constitution at that time.

e) The Role of Women in Nationalist Struggles

Women played an important yet often underappreciated role in nationalist struggles across Europe. While women were excluded from formal political rights, they were active participants in many revolutionary movements. In the 1848 revolutions, women took part in protests, formed political clubs, and contributed to the cultural and intellectual side of nationalism. Despite their contributions, their demands for equal political rights were often ignored, and they remained excluded from the political decision-making processes of the time.

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2. What steps did the French revolutionaries take to create a sense of collective identity among the French people?

The French revolutionaries introduced several symbolic and institutional measures to create a collective identity among the French:

- **La Patrie (The Fatherland)**: The concept of national unity was emphasized, with the French people seen as the sovereign body of the nation.

- **Le Citoyen (The Citizen)**: The idea that all citizens, not just the monarchy, should participate in the political process.

- **National Symbols**: A new flag (the tricolor), the national anthem, and the establishment of a common language were key.

- **Centralized Administration**: A unified legal system and standardization of weights and measures helped to create a sense of belonging.

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3. Who were Marianne and Germania? What was the importance of the way in which they were portrayed?

- **Marianne**: She was the personification of the French Republic, symbolizing liberty, equality, and fraternity. She was often portrayed with a red Phrygian cap and the tricolor flag, emphasizing her connection to revolutionary ideals.

- **Germania**: She represented the German nation, especially during the time of its unification. Often depicted with a crown of oak leaves, symbolizing strength and unity, Germania became an emblem of national pride for the German people. Both figures were important because they personified the ideals and struggles of their nations, providing an allegorical figure around which people could rally during times of revolution and unification.

4. Briefly trace the process of German unification.

German unification was a complex process that took place in stages:

- **1834**: The creation of the Zollverein, a customs union that helped to integrate the German states economically.

- **1862-1871**: Under the leadership of Otto von Bismarck, Prussia waged three wars (against Denmark, Austria, and France) to unify the German states. The wars were successful, and in 1871, the German Empire was proclaimed at Versailles, marking the completion of unification.

5. What changes did Napoleon introduce to make the administrative system more efficient in the territories ruled by him?

Napoleon introduced several administrative reforms:

- **Napoleonic Code**: These abolished feudal privileges and established legal equality for all citizens.

- **Centralized Administration**: Napoleon streamlined governance and created a more efficient bureaucracy.

- **Economic Reforms**: He established uniform laws, abolished internal customs duties, and introduced standardized weights and measures.

- **Modernization**: Napoleon modernized infrastructure, including transport and communication systems, which helped integrate the regions under his rule.

Discuss

1. What was the 1848 revolution of the liberals? What political, social, and economic ideas did the liberals support?

The 1848 revolution was a series of protests and uprisings across Europe. These protests were mostly led by middle-class people who wanted more political freedom and changes in how their countries were run. They wanted to create democratic governments with constitutions

(rules for how a country should be governed), and more rights for citizens.

- Political Ideas: The liberals wanted elected governments, freedom of speech, and more rights for citizens.

- Social Ideas: They believed in equality for all people, including the right to work and the end of old systems that gave special rights to kings and nobles.

- Economic Ideas: Liberals wanted free trade (to allow goods to move freely between countries) and wanted the government to stop controlling businesses too much.

Even though many of these revolutions were unsuccessful, they helped spread the idea of democracy in Europe.

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2. Give three examples of how culture helped the growth of nationalism in Europe.

a) Folk Music in Germany
In Germany, the philosopher Johann Herder said that national identity was built on folk culture – like songs, poems, and dances. This helped people feel proud of their shared culture and history. The Grimm Brothers collected folk tales from all over Germany, which made Germans feel connected to their past.

b) Art in France
In France, artists like Eugène Delacroix painted powerful pictures that helped people feel proud of their national struggles. For example, his famous painting "The Massacre at Chios" showed the suffering of the Greeks during their fight for independence from the Ottoman Empire. This created sympathy and helped spread nationalist ideas.

c) Music in Poland
In Poland, even when the country didn't exist as a free state, people

used music and language to keep their national identity alive. Composers like Karol Kurpinski used Polish music and dances to celebrate their national struggles. They kept the Polish language alive in the churches to resist foreign rule.

Culture helped spread national pride and unity across Europe!

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3. Explain how two countries developed their nations in the 19th century.

a) Germany
Germany wasn't a single country until the 19th century. It was made up of many smaller kingdoms and states. Otto von Bismarck, the leader of Prussia, used wars to unite the German states. After three successful wars (against Denmark, Austria, and France), Germany became a unified country in 1871.

b) Italy: Italy was also divided into many states. The idea of a unified Italy was first pushed by Giuseppe Mazzini who formed the Young Italy movement. Later, Count Cavour led the movement and made alliances with France. With help from Giuseppe Garibaldi and his army, Italy became united in 1861 under King Victor Emmanuel II.

Both countries faced challenges from different regions but eventually became united through leaders and wars.

4. How was the history of nationalism in Britain unlike the rest of Europe?

In Britain, nationalism developed differently because:

- Slow and peaceful: Britain didn't go through revolutions like other countries. Instead, the country slowly grew together over time through acts like the Act of Union (1707), which brought England and Scotland together.

- No big revolution: Britain didn't have a huge revolution like France or Germany. Instead, England's parliament grew in power, and it slowly shaped a British national identity.

- Mixed cultures: In Britain, there were different cultures like English, Scottish, and Welsh. But over time, English culture became dominant, creating a British identity.

Britain was different because its nationalism developed gradually without violent upheavals.

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5. Why did nationalist tensions emerge in the Balkans?

Nationalist tensions in the Balkans grew because:

- Different ethnic groups: The Balkans were home to many different ethnic groups like Serbs, Greeks, and Albanians, who all wanted their own independent countries.

- Decline of the Ottoman Empire: The Ottoman Empire (which controlled the Balkans) was weakening. As it lost power, the people in the Balkans wanted to be free and create their own nations.

- Conflicts between countries: The countries in the Balkans fought each other to gain land and independence. Larger European countries, like Russia, Austria, and Britain, also got involved, making things more complicated.

So, the mix of different ethnic groups, the weakening Ottoman Empire, and the competition for power led to tensions in the Balkans.

Project: Nationalist Symbols in Countries Outside Europe

1. India:

In India, nationalism has been symbolized through various cultural, religious, and political representations that resonate with the country's long struggle for independence from British colonial rule. Below are some of the key nationalist symbols:

- **Symbol:** **The Indian Flag (Tricolor)**
  The Indian national flag consists of three horizontal stripes: saffron at the top (representing courage and sacrifice), white in the middle (representing truth and peace), and green at the bottom (representing faith and chivalry). In the center is the Ashoka Chakra, a 24-spoke wheel that symbolizes the eternal wheel of law.

  - **Difference from European Flags:** While many European flags also have color symbolism (like France's tricolor representing liberty, equality, fraternity), India's flag incorporates symbols of ancient Indian heritage like the Ashoka Chakra and the use of colors tied deeply to Indian cultural and spiritual traditions.

- **Music:** **"Vande Mataram"**
  "Vande Mataram", written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, became an iconic nationalist song in the late 19th century. The song praises the motherland and inspired the masses during India's fight for independence.

  - Difference from European National Anthems: Unlike European anthems, which often focus on royalty or military victories, "Vande Mataram" connects with the idea of motherland as a mother figure, signifying a spiritual connection to the land, which is more common in Asian nationalism.

- Nationalist Poster: "Quit India Movement" Posters During the Quit India Movement (1942), several posters with slogans like "Do or Die" and "Quit India" were widely circulated. These posters portrayed Gandhi's image and promoted peaceful resistance, urging people to demand independence through non-violent means.

  - o Difference from European Posters: European nationalist symbols, especially during the World Wars, often had militaristic imagery, while Indian nationalist posters were more inclined toward spirituality and non-violence.

2. Japan:

Japan's nationalism has often been tied to its history, including its period of imperial expansion and the restoration of the emperor in the 19th century. The following are symbols of Japanese nationalism:

- **Symbol: The Japanese Flag (Hinomaru)**
  The Japanese flag, or Hinomaru, features a red circle in the center on a white background. The red circle represents the sun, which is central to Japan's identity as the Land of the Rising Sun.

  - o Difference from European Flags: Unlike many European flags, which have multiple colors and symbols representing different ideals (e.g., France's tricolor), the Hinomaru uses a single color and simple geometry to emphasize the Sun as a symbol of the nation's spiritual core.

- **Music: "Kimigayo" (National Anthem)**
  "Kimigayo", Japan's national anthem, is one of the shortest national anthems in the world. Its lyrics focus on the longevity of the Emperor's reign and the prosperity of the nation, expressing the bond between the emperor and the Japanese people.

  - o Difference from European Anthems: Unlike the European anthems, which often emphasize national pride, "Kimigayo"

is centered around the Emperor and divine symbolism, which ties into Japan's deep-rooted monarchic traditions.

- **Poster: Imperial Army Propaganda**
  During the Meiji Era and World War II, Japanese military posters depicted emperor's pride and military strength. These posters often included the rising sun symbol and appeals for unity to defend the nation.

  - Difference from European Posters: While European wartime posters often showcased patriotism and militarism, Japanese posters also heavily focused on spiritual unity, the emperor, and the ancestral duty to protect the nation, blending nationalism with Shinto religious beliefs.

Comparison with European Nationalism:

- European Examples: In countries like France and Germany, nationalism was often represented by symbols like the tricolor flag and Germania (an allegorical figure of the nation). The focus was on the nation-state and democratic principles, with cultural and military symbols reflecting a sense of collective struggle and liberty.

- **Asian vs. European Nationalism:**

  - Asia (like India and Japan) often emphasizes a spiritual or cultural connection to the land, including the idea of the nation as a mother or a divine force (e.g., India's "Vande Mataram" or Japan's Emperor symbolism). The idea of peaceful resistance in Indian posters also contrasts with the militaristic symbolism seen in European wartime posters.

  - In Europe, nationalism frequently connected with revolutionary ideals (France's liberty and democracy) or

the imperial ambition (in Germany), while Asian symbols often revolved around cultural heritage and spiritual unity with the state.