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Start Time: 9:00 am End Time: 1:00 pm

ANSWER SHEET

FULL TEST- IV

(WORLD HISTORY)

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Time Allowed: 180 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 250

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There are EIGHT questions in this paper.

Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.

Question No. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each Section.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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Comments after evaluation

Ans.
1(a)
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Turkey (Ottoman Empire) was referred to as the "old, sick man" of Europe because of the perceptible decline in its power in the 19th century.

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Reasons for being the "sick man" →

① Weak administration: →

(1.1) There was widespread corruption.

(1.2) Control over outlying provinces like Egypt, Algiers and Tunis was very weak.

(1.3) By the 19th century, the empire had splintered into a loose agglomeration of territories.

② Backward looking outlook - The Ottoman institutions were NOT very responsive to modernisation and industrialisation. → inefficient economy.

③ Decline of military power that threatened the unity of the empire - especially

with the rise of an aggressive nationalism of the Balkan people.

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④ Role of external powers in destabilizing Turkey - (e.g) Turkey had lost Hungary in 1699; Russia encouraged Slavic nationalism.

Why the 'sick man' was temporarily saved →

① Conflicting interests and rivalries in Europe - The efforts of Russia to weaken Ottoman Empire were countered by Britain and France (as they were suspicious of growing Russian influence in the region).

② Britain wanted to maintain Turkish Empire as a barrier to Russia.

③ The Crimean War (1853-56) → delayed the breakdown of Turkish empire. It was admitted as a member in Concert of Europe - and thus given some 'importance'.

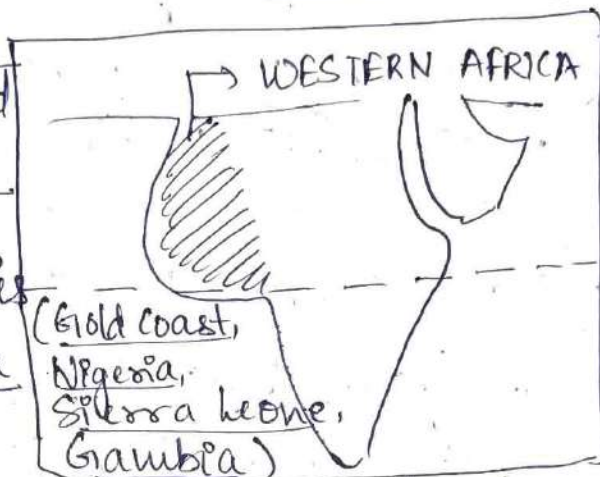
However, Turkey couldn't be saved for long and the "old man" eventually died in 1922.

Ques 1
(b)

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The anti-colonial struggles in West Africa were a part of the larger wave of decolonisation that swept over colonies worldwide post the WWII (1939-45).

Role of western educated Africans: →



① Just like in other colonies (like India), in Africa also more and more people were being educated in UK and USA and exposed to liberal ideas of equality, liberty, fraternity, self-determination etc.

② In Gold Coast, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah played a stellar role for independence. He was educated in London and USA, and led the Convention Peoples' Party in Gold Coast (which was renamed Ghana). Kwame Nkrumah also went on to become

one of

the founding fathers of NAM (1961).

- ③ Nnamdi Azikiwe, educated in US, led Nigeria to a successful anti-colonial struggle. It led to its independence in 1960.

He founded a series of newspapers to flare up the nationalist movement.

- ④ Amílcar Cabral led Guinea towards freedom from Portugal. He was educated in Portugal. He even inspired revolutionary leaders like Fidel Castro in Cuba.

- ⑤ Similarly, Leopold Sedar Senghor led Senegal, and Félix Houphouët led Ivory Coast to independence.

While most of these movements used constitutional means (like press, strikes, literature, political mobilization); however some also turned violent and led to ~~peace~~ ^{violence} and instability that can be felt even today.

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Ans 1.
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The achievements of Napoleon in France and entire Europe are so celebrated that the period from 1799 to 1815 is referred to as the era of Napoleon only.

Napoleon brought in reforms in a number of spheres: —→

- + Politico-Administrative
- + Economic Reforms
- + Educational Reforms.
- + Role of State over religion (e.g) Concordat.
- + Judicial Reforms
- + Military Reforms.

[Code of Napoleon as standing apart] :-→

① Unification of France :-→ as French philosopher Voltaire commented "a man travelling across France changes laws as often as he changes horses". Napoleon unified

and assimilated the laws into Civil Code.

② Step towards Rule of Law - Napoleon once said, a "law should be as succinct as to fit in a coat's pocket, and as simple as to be understood by a peasant."

③ Gave France a coherent, logical system of laws concerning individual rights and other aspects.

④ Continuing the legacy of the French Revolution

freedom of speech

religious freedoms

Civil Code
(1804)

public and fair trials

focus on 'merit',
rather than birth

⑤ Napoleonic code has influenced the legal systems of more than 70 nations.

Thus, of all achievements of Napoleon, the Civil Code of 1804 had the most lasting and impressive legacy.

Ques.
(d).

Tentiles sector was the most dominant sector that transformed, and got transformed by the Industrial Revolution of the late 18th century in Britain.

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How cotton contained the seeds of Industrial Revolution : —→

① The tentile production in Britain was already sufficiently developed before the advent of Industrial Revolution.
Spinning wheels and handlooms were used to produce fabric.

② The tentile sector witnessed some degree of "proto-industrialisation" under the putting-out system or 'cottage' industry.
In this system, the merchant clothiers got the work done in homes of artisans.
(eg) take cotton from farms to get spun into yarn, then weaving, then dyeing etc.

① Even before Industrial Revolution, cotton industry had started coming up in areas like Manchester, Lancashire, Yorkshire etc.

② The manufacture and import of textiles was very important for British economy in 17th and 18th centuries.

Industrial Revolution and Cotton

James Hargreaves invented Spinning Jenny that fuelled the Revolution further.

Flying Shuttle by John Kay

Waterframe by R. Arkwright
↓
more mechanisation

Thus, during the period from 1780-1840, textile production increased by more than 50 times.

⇒ As Eric Hobsbawm said "Whoever says Industrial Revolution, says cotton".

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Ans. 1
(e)

Thomas Hobbes and Jean Jacques Rousseau were influential social thinkers and philosophers of the 17th and 18th centuries whose philosophies continue to have relevance even in present times.

[Thomas Hobbes' Leviathan] : →

- In this book, Hobbes talk about a social contract theory in which a political community is ruled by an absolute sovereign.

- He argues that in a "state of nature," human life would be very brutish and gruesome - where there will be "war of all against all."

- Thus, to arrive at a social order, free men would have to come together and give away their sovereignty to an absolute sovereign.

- This absolute sovereign will keep anarchy in

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check and preserve peace and order.

[Rousseau's Sovereign] :—→

• In his work 'The Social contract', Rousseau talks about the need to create a social order that creates "public" good.

• In this, all members of a group sacrifice their private interests for good of all.

Thus, for Rousseau, this General Will was the Real Sovereign.

⇒ How Rousseau's Sovereign chopped the head off of Hobbes' Sovereign :—→

→ This is because unlike Hobbes' Sovereign which could be an absolutist person -

Rousseau's idea of sovereignty doesn't have a single absolutist. The whole community becomes sovereign.

→ Rousseau's theory turned out to be vague, and thus prone to be misused.

→ No way to differentiate between general will and absolutist will.

Thus, Rousseau's Sovereign promoted absolutism without any real power to an absolutist.

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Ans 2
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French revolution (1789-99) turned out as a significant milestone in the history of not only Europe, but the entire world - as with this revolution - a wave of Republicanism and Liberty flew across Europe - threatening monarchies far and wide.

Nature of French Revolution : —→

(1) Intellectual Revolution : Early historians of French revolution like Alexis De Tocqueville, Hippolyte Taine, Daniel Mornet etc. described the revolution as being originated by French intellectuals and 'philosophes'. They argued that these 'men of letters' imparted revolutionary ideas to the French revolution.

(e.g.) Voltaire's Ideas of Enlightenment,
Rousseau's (Social Contract) theory,
Montesquieu's Spirit of Laws.

Later, even historian François Furet supported this view.

(II) [Social Revolution] - Many historians (notably Marxist historians) argue that French Revolution was a struggle to overthrow feudalism (ancien régime) and establish capitalism. Thus, it was a bourgeoisie revolution by rising capitalist and middle class :

(e.g) Third Estate coming together and convening the Estate General, right to property

Notable historians of this school are Alphonse Aulard, Albert Mathiez; Georges Lefebvre.

(III) [Mass Revolution] - every group participated in the revolution - turning it from a class to a mass upheaval.

(III)(1) Middle class - arguing for equal political and economic rights (e.g) sufrage, public offices based on merit, property rights

(III)(2) Peasants - They had to pay high taxes under the ancien régime, perform

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forced labour (corvée) for feudal lords.
Thus, they were at the forefront of the revolution.

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(III). (3) Sans-culottes revolution was also a part of this French revolution as they reflected defiance against authority. They were common people of the lower classes who got radicalised (eg. 'Conspiracy of Equals')

(III). (4) Women : → From the very beginning, women participated in the revolutionary uprisings.

(eg) Women's march against high bread prices in October 1789 ushered in the revolution.

- soap note were pioneered by women.
- Political rights were demanded.

(eg) Olympe de Gouges, Madame Tallien

(IV) [Cultural Origins] : →

Some historians like Roger Chartier

showed that french revolution was made possible due to an emerging public cultural sphere - books, meetings, societies, cafes, ~~print~~ print-culture and literature.

(IV) Trans-Atlantic Revolution :—→

Some historians argue that French Revolution was not an isolated revolution, but a part of a larger phenomenon called Trans-Atlantic revolution.

(e.g) beginning from America, France, Geneva, Netherlands, Italy etc.

Thus, rather than being just a political overthrow of french monarchy, french Revolution was a composite movement containing socio-economic, cultural and philosophical strands.

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Ques.
(b).

The Suez crisis of 1956 was an invasion of Egypt by Britain, France and Israel, with the objective of regaining control over the strategic Suez Canal that had been nationalised by Gamal A. Nasser (Egyptian President).

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Events that led to Suez crisis : →

① Leading role of Gamal Abdel Nasser : →

He was the hero of revolutionary nationalism in Middle East and staunch supporter of Pan-Arabic unity (including Palestine). This irked the western powers.

② Closeness to USSR : → Egypt under Nasser signed an agreement with USSR to train and supply arms to Egyptian military. This alarmed the western nations - highlighting cold-war tensions. America cancelled its grants to Egypt to build Aswan dam.

③ The tipping point of the crisis came with the nationalisation of Suez Canal by Egypt that threatened the West's influence and oil supply from this region.

Thus, a strategy was planned to secretly invade ~~British~~ Egypt by a tripartite alliance of Britain, France and Israel.

Final blow to the image of Britain : →

① The nationalisation of Suez Canal was internationally recognised → strengthening the cause of Egypt.

On the other hand, a Security Council Resolution of the UN condemned the actions of Britain and France.

Thus, international opinion turned against Britain.

② The war failed to overthrow Gamal A.

Nasser in Egypt. On the contrary, his prestige and standing increased manifold.

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- ③ Role of Britain was minimised to a negligible extent in areas east of Suez. USA now gained the upper hand in this area
(e.g) Eisenhower Doctrine (1957) of USA to contain communism.
- ④ The crisis hastened decolonisation in other parts of the world (e.g) in Algeria - further ending British influence in world politics.

Thus, the Suez canal crisis began a new chapter in the Middle East, signalling Britain's eventual exit from this region. Consequently, Britain turned its focus on Europe.

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Ans 2.
(c)

The Second World War (1939-45) was one of the most destructive wars fought in human history. The principal belligerents were

[Allied Powers]

(US, France, UK, USSR)

[Axis Powers]

(Germany, Italy, Japan)

Second World War as a destructive war :-→

① Large scale deaths :-→ The WWII killed about 50-80 million people - estimated to be about 3% of the world population in 1940.

② The worst violence was caused in what came to be known as Hitler's Holocaust - in which 6 million Jews were brutally exterminated in concentration camps between 1941 to 1945 alone.

③ Enormous human displacement - About 21 million

people were uprooted from their homes. (e.g) from areas taken by Russia from Germany and Poland.

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③ [Socio-cultural Impact] - The WW II, like WW I, was a total war that involved and affected every part of human lives.

Large scale death and destruction caused a serious demographic crisis (men were killed, women and children left behind).

Moreover, large scale disillusionment also took place - especially due to nuclear bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki by USA.

④ Economic impact was equally devastating. As much as 50% wealth and resources of participating nations had been lost.

Thus, the WW II was one of the bloodiest periods of history - ~~leaving~~ ^{wreaking} havoc throughout the globe.

Ans 4.
(a)

Otto von Bismarck was a Prussian Junker (noble) who was appointed as the Chancellor in 1862 under the emperor Wilhelm I. Bismarck is credited with unification of Germany through his ruthless policy of 'blood and iron'.

Role of Bismarck : —→

(I) Bringing about German unification in 1871 : —→

① Bismarck adopted the ruthless and strong policy of 'Blood and Iron' to bring about quick changes.

② 'Blood' reflected violence - that is, Bismarck fought wars in order to achieve his vision of Germany.

e.g) Battle of Solowea against Austria (1866)
or Battle of Sedan against France (1870)

③ Iron reflected 'Strength'. Bismarck strongly suppressed all his opponents through his 'Realpolitik' or pragmatic policy.

(e.g) He bypassed the lower house of Prussian parliament and got the budget for military reforms approved.

④ Use of shrewd and tactful diplomacy.

(e.g) He started a war with Denmark by befriending Austria (1864). This was done to gain control over northern German states of Schleswig and Holstein.

→ Hereafter, Bismarck waged war on Austria by befriending Russia and France (1866). (Battle of Sadowa leading to unification of North Germany).

→ Similarly, Bismarck played off with his diplomacy to instigate France into war (1870). The resulting Treaty of Frankfurt completed German unification.

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11. State Building After Unification : —→

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1. Domestic Policy : —→

(1.1) Social sphere - Unification was brought about by imperial codes of law that were uniformly applicable across the empire.

(1.2) Improved conditions of workers, artisan classes etc. to prevent any social upheaval.

(1.3) Economic sphere - Encouragement to industries —→ accelerate industrial revolution.

- Imperial coinage and Bank for financial stability.

- Berlin - 'capital of Europe'.

- Protectionist policy for material growth of Europe.

2. Foreign Policy : —→

- German dominance increased in Europe.
- Alliance system of Bismarck to protect Germany's interests through peace and stability in Europe.
- Ensuring 'Balance of Power' in Europe.
(e.g) Berlin Congress (1878)
- Isolation of arch rival France was sought for.

Thus, till the time Bismarck remained German Chancellor, not a single event took place in entire Europe that was not dictated by Germany.

Ans. (b)

often referred to as the 'springtime of people in Europe' - the 1848 revolutions shook the monarchical regimes in entire Europe - through a series of popular uprisings.

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How 1848 revolutions frightened monarchies
in Europe : —→

Austrian Empire : —→

① 1848 Revolution in Vienna forced Metternich - the most powerful symbol of the conservative order - to flee.

The downfall of Metternich was a huge symbolic victory to the liberal forces.

Emperor Ferdinand I was forced to grant a liberal constitution to Austria.

⇒ This ensued : —→

+ liberal constitution

+ Universal male suffrage

+ Hungarians and Czechs were given more autonomy and rights.

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[Germany] :—→

- The German nationalists attempted unification of their country using liberal parliamentary methods.
- Frederick Wilhelm IV granted a constitution, followed by other liberal constitutions in Saxony & Hanover, Bavaria etc.

Similarly, ~~some~~ kingdoms like Netherlands, Denmark and Switzerland also saw liberal constitutions under monarchy.

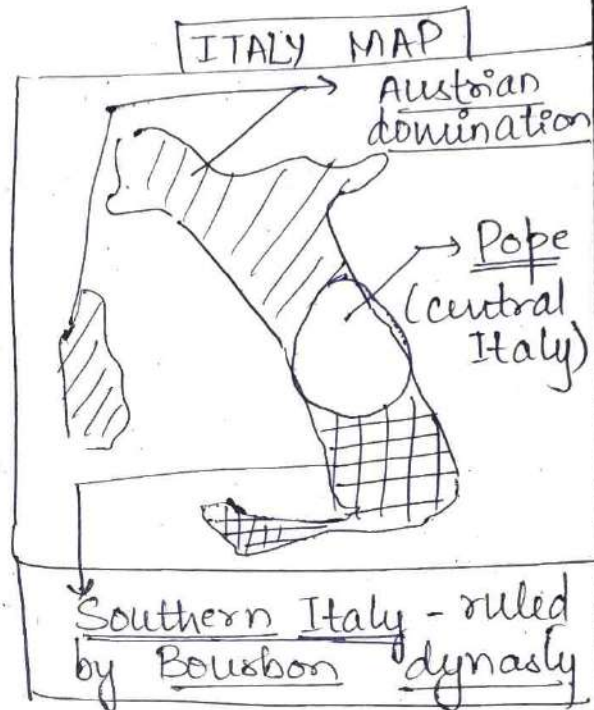
1848 Revolutions leading to abdication of throne altogether :—→

[France] - most important centre of 1848 revolutions that led the ruler Louis

Phillipe to abdicate the throne →
republican government was established.

Italy : →

→ while in central Italy, the Pope Pius IX undertook liberal reforms, revolts broke out in southern Italy (Sicily, Naples).



→ In southern Italy, Bourbon ruler king Ferdinand II had to allow a provisional Government.

→ In northern Italy, Austrian empire tried to curtail reforms. Eventually, Charles Albert came to the throne in Piedmont Sardinia → paving way for Italian unification later (under Victor

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Emanuel II).

In other places like Bavaria, rulers had to totally abdicate the throne.

Thus, the revolt of 1848 across Europe led to a lot of trouble for absolutist-regimes - and shook them to the core.

In some cases, they led to liberal reforms by monarchs, while in others, they led to total abdication of emperors in support of people.

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Ans.
4. (c)

The American war of Independence (1765-1783) was a significant revolution not only in American, but even the world history. It is often touted as the "mother of all revolutions".

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One such revolution that originated from the inspiration of American war of Independence was the French Revolution of 1789.

Role of American revolution in French : →

① Intellectual Inspiration : → The American revolution was premised on the ideas of 'life, liberty and pursuit of happiness'. These ideas also fired the imagination of French people - especially 'philosophes' - who catalysed the French Revolution. (e.g) Rousseau, Voltaire.

Ideas like liberty, equality, Nationalism, anti-imperialism gained grounds.

② Military experience and support - Many French soldiers fighting with American soldiers in (against Britain) also brought their experiences and ideas back to France. (eg) one such military commander Lafayette became the head of the famous Paris Municipality in French Revolution.

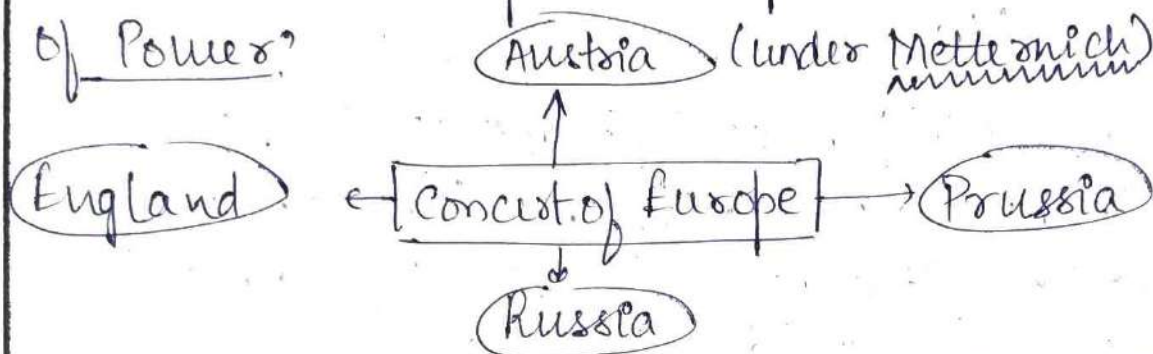
③ People-to people contacts :→ Some American diplomats and revolutionaries - like Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin etc. - lived in Paris and interacted freely with the people there. This trend of public interactions and support was very common in French revolution (eg) Salons, book-cafés etc.

④ Last, but not the least, French participation in American revolution had caused a lot of economic burden on France. This precipitated the misery of common people → French Revolution. Thus, these 2 revolutions had lot of connections.

Ans.

5(a)

The Concert of Europe or the Congress System (1815-1822) was an alliance of major conservative powers of Europe to uphold this status quo, oppose the tide of revolutionary movements in Europe and uphold the Balance of Power.



However, this system eventually collapsed due to : —→

(I) Divergence of Principles : —→

→ from the very first meeting of the quadruple alliance in Aix-la-Chapelle (1818) differences started showing up.

→ While Austria, Prussia and Russia wanted an interventionist policy to maintain status quo, Britain (under Lord Castlereagh and Canning) was strictly against the policy of intervention.

(e.g) Despite Britain's opposition, policy of intervention was accepted in Troppau meet (1820).

→ Differences over role of France - When France intervened with Spain (endangering British trade interests), Britain withdrew from the Congress (1822).

→ Under the leadership of Metternich, the Congress of Europe had virtually turned into a symbol of autocracy - while Britain stood for parliamentarianism and peace.

(II) Mutual Jealousy : →

→ As Napoleon Bonaparte (common enemy) of European powers was defeated by 1815, mutual jealousy and rivalries revived.

→ for instance, Britain didn't suppress Barbary pirates in Mediterranean due to fear of Russia's dominance.

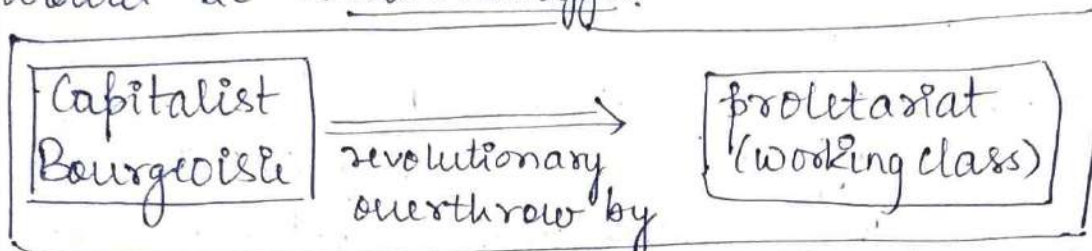
→ All other powers were jealous of Britain's naval supremacy.

Thus, without having common cause, Congress of Europe soon collapsed.

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Ques 6)

Karl Marx famously argued that the driving cause of Communist Revolution would be class struggle.



↳ Model of dialectical materialism by Marx.

Why Communist Revolution took place in Industrially Backward Russia? :→

- Other industrially advanced nations like Britain, Germany and France had a fairly stable political order (e.g. Parliamentary representation for working class in Britain after 1832 Reform Act).
- Even in other western European countries, wave of revolutions in 1830s and 1840s had led to liberal constitutional reforms — thus preventing Communist Revolution.
- Reasons for communist revolution in Russia
 - ① Political :→ ①.1 Tsarist regime in

Russia was very despotic and inefficient. Its anti-people policies (e.g) forced 'Russification' alienated people and pushed towards revolution.

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(1.2) Bad policy decisions like defeat in Russo-Japanese war (1905) and pushing Russia into WWI (1914-18) further worsened the situation.

② Economic - Scholars like Laura Engelstein, Steven Smith etc. argued that workers ~~play~~ and peasants were highly revolutionised due to economic agrarian crisis. By 1900, 52% peasants were unable to support themselves.

③ Intellectual - Ideas of Marrxism, Nihilism etc. created unrest.

④ Role of Lenin and Bolsheviks - who could effectively mobilize the masses against these grievances and organise 1917 revolution.
Thus, poor socio-economic state of Russia acted as catalyst for the 1917 Revolution.

Ans 5.
(c)

The Berlin Conference (1878) was a diplomatic meeting of major European powers under the chairmanship of Bismarck to resettle the balance of power post the war between Russian and Ottoman Empire (1877-78).

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How the aspirations and settlements of Balkan peoples were ignored: →

① From 1875 onwards, a tide of nationalism had swept over the Balkan states - demanding freedom from the "sick" Ottoman empire.
(eg) Bulgaria (1878), Romania (1881), Greece (1829).

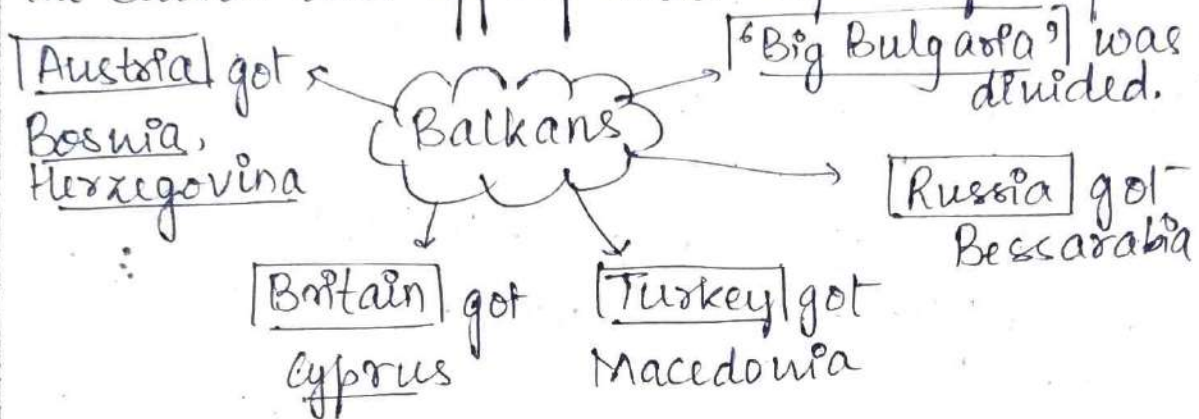
② Russia took the opportunity to unilaterally solve this 'Eastern Question' by creating a Russian (Slavic) domination — as reflected in the Treaty of Stefano (1878).

③ However, to counter Russia's growing dominance in the region, the European powers

(Britain, Austria Hungary and Prussia) also joined in - leading to reorganisation of the Balkans.

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① Without caring for Slavic nationalism, the Balkan was appropriated by European powers.



How long term peace wasn't achieved

① The destability in the region was not suppressed (e.g) Balkan war (1912-13)

② Nationalistic desires of Balkan not addressed (e.g) Serbia eventually attacked Austro-Hungarian Empire (Killing Archduke Ferdinand) causing WWI.

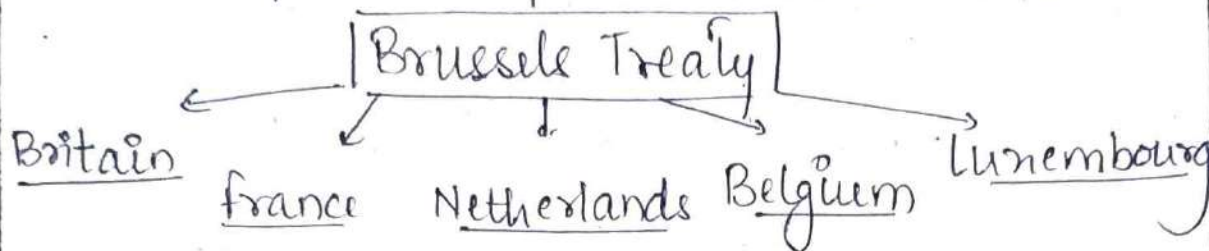
③ Tensions between Russia and Germany increased - pushing Germany into Alliance with Austria-Hungary.

The unfortunate consequence was WWI.

Ans
5.(d)

The Brussels Treaty of 17th March 1948 was a collective defence treaty of 5 western European powers. post ww II (1939-45).

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⇒ How Brussels Treaty paved the way for NATO

- First step in post-war reconstruction of Western European security.
- 1st expression of collective self defense
→ which later got manifested in NATO.
- By 1947, almost all eastern European nations were under communist (USSR's) influence - except Czechoslovakia.
However, in 1948, communists organised a coup d'état in Czechoslovakia as well causing western Europe to unite militarily.

→ Following this, many more European nations joined (e.g.) Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway, US, Canada - giving rise to North Atlantic Treaty (1949).

↓
NATO → with headquarters at Brussels.

→ Any attack on any member of NATO was to be considered as a collective attack on all.

⇒ NATO as revolution in American attitude to world problems : →

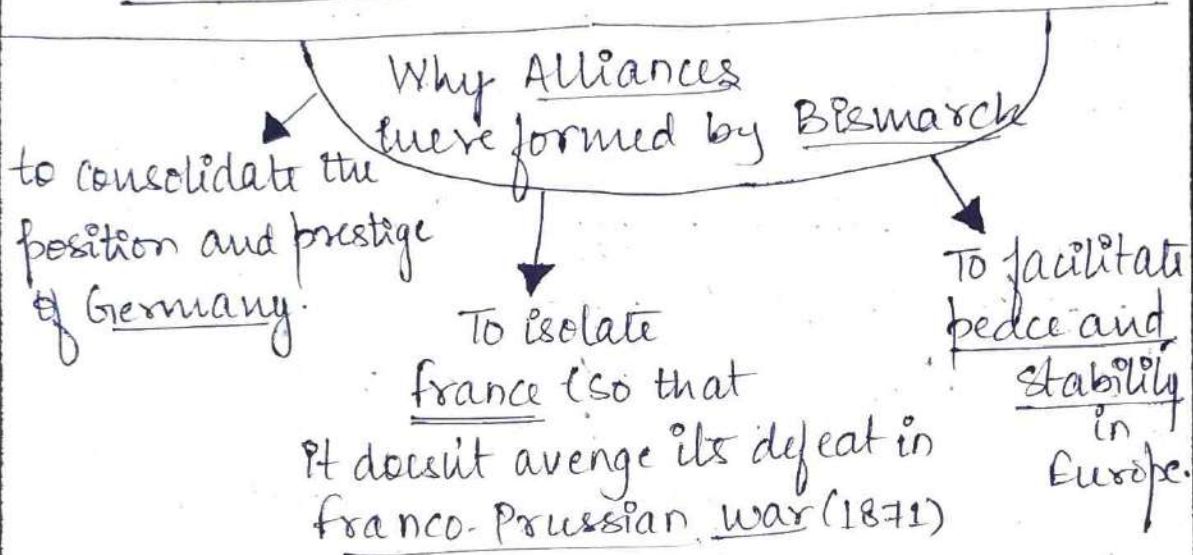
① Before NATO, America followed a largely non-interventionist policy in Europe, but now, it took active military interest.

② Economic superiority (as revealed by Truman Doctrine & Marshall Plan) now combined with military presence → US hegemony and unipolar order.

The ramifications of NATO and US are felt ~~As the~~ even till this date - as can be seen from Russia-Ukraine crisis.

Ans 5.
(e)

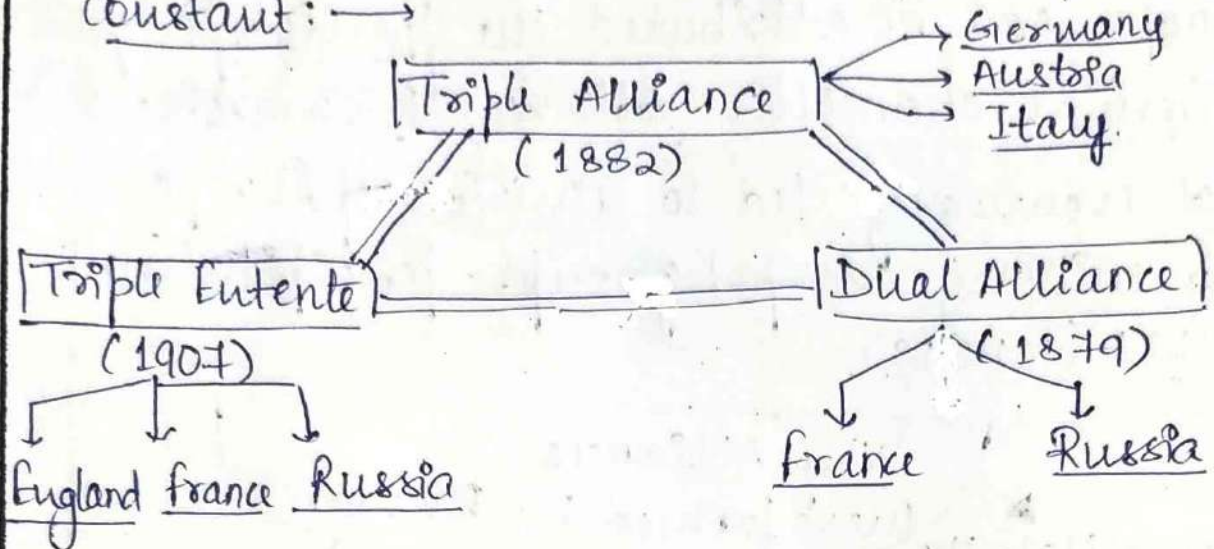
The Alliance system or Armed camps in Europe can be attributed the foreign policy of German chancellor Otto von Bismarck - that eventually led to division of Europe into military camps / groups - precipitating WWI (1914-18).



[Alliance system leading to world war I] :-

(1) Internal instability within the alliances were common → (e.g.) The League of 3 Emperors Alliance (1879) between Germany, Austria-Hungary and Russia collapsed when Russia opposed the Berlin Conference (1878).

(2) Mutual rivalries were becoming constant: →



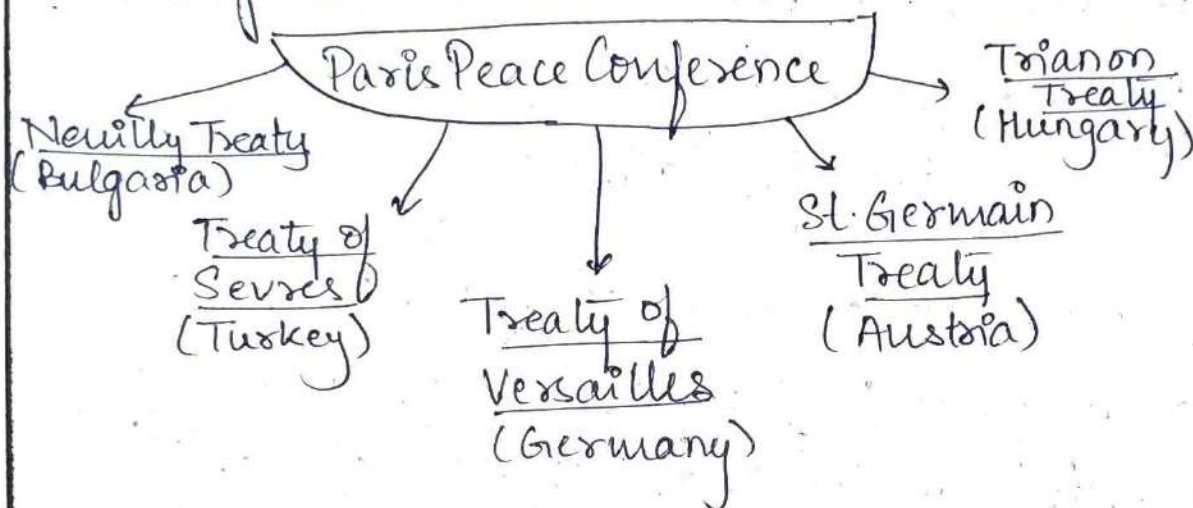
(3) Secret nature of these alliances fuelled mutual suspicion and fear → rapid militarization and arms race.

While causes for WWI are very complex → (e.g.) rise of nationalism in the Balkan peninsula, colonial rivalries, economic rivalries, role of press etc, nonetheless, the militarization of Europe through armed camps catalyzed the war by increasing hostilities in Europe.

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Ans 7.
(a)

The Paris Peace Conference was an assembly of WWI victor powers to decide the terms of peace following Germany's surrender on 11th Nov 1918.



Paris Treaty as a Failure : —→

① Extremely harsh treaty for Germany revealing its revengeful nature : —→

①.1 German representative was not allowed to participate or even sit in the discussion.

①.2 All the provisions were unilaterally decided by victor powers and forced down the throat of Germany.

①.3 All the German colonies - including

Alsace and Lorraine, coal-rich region of Saar were snatched from Germany and distributed among victor powers.

④ The treaty was deliberately signed in Palace of Versailles (where unification of Germany was proclaimed 50 years ago).

⑤ The Treaty of Versailles failed to provide lasting peace to Europe. In fact, on the contrary, it led to widespread instability in Germany → giving rise to Nazism under Adolf Hitler (who wanted to avenge German humiliation) → eventually causing WWII (1939-45).

Paris Treaty as failure of human Intelligence and Wisdom :→

⑥ Treaty was not only politically unstable, but also very impractical.

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While 70% of German industrial areas were given to newly created nations, a huge war indemnity (6,600 million pounds) was imposed on Germany as well.

→ In such a harsh term of treaty, expecting peace and stability was a huge error.

"Germany suffered more during peace than war."

② The high idealism (as reflected in Woodrow Wilson's '14 Points') was soon discarded after the WWI and all the victor powers started pursuing their selfish interests.

(e.g) Britain under Woodrow Wilson did NOT want complete destruction for Germany as it was Britain's market.

On the other hand, Italy under G.B. Clemenceau wanted

an aggressive approach towards Germany

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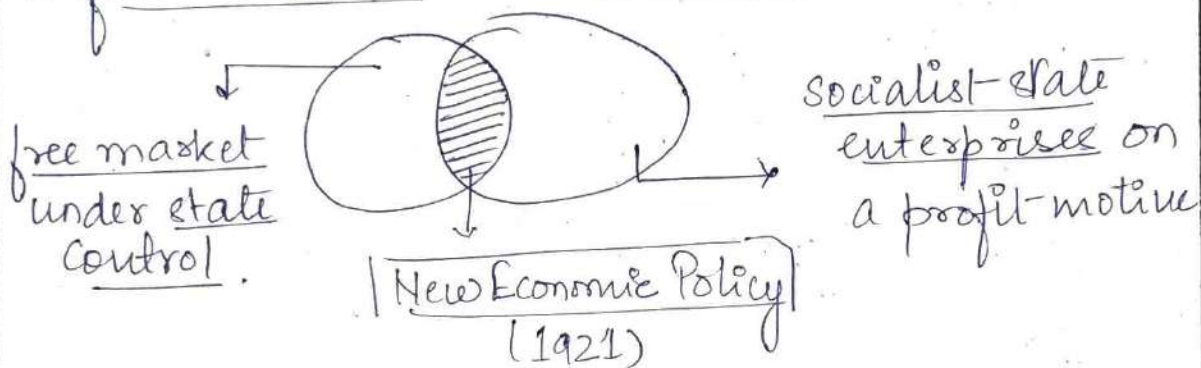
Thus, this short-sighted approach of
victor powers couldn't assure any
tangible results.

" Treaty of Versailles was just another
armistice for 20 years. It contained the
Seeds of another war."

Ans 7
(b)

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The New Economic Policy (NEP) of Soviet Union was an economic framework proposed by Vladimir Lenin in 1921. As described by Lenin himself, the NEP was characterised by an economic system that would have both a free market and state control.



Need for NEP :- →

- need to rebuild the economy that had been shattered by WWI.
- Negative fallouts of war communism
 - Agrarian crisis and droughts in 1920-21 had created a lot of unrest.
 - Industry was not developing as there was no incentive to further promote production (all was appropriated)

by the state).

→ Public unrest was gradually turning dangerous — (eg) naval mutiny at Kronstadt (1921) — which finally convinced Lenin to bring in some economic policy.

Agriculture

— peasants allowed to keep surplus produce.

— Agricultural tax at fixed rate.

NEP

Industry

— critical industries under state control and others under private sector.

— foreign investment was encouraged.

Labour

- Salary of worker linked with productivity.
- Efficiency improved by hiring engineers and other experts from market.
- Labour unions became independent civil organisations.

⇒ Positive Results of NEP : —→

① The economy began recovering to pre-war level.

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② Agricultural production steadily increased ("kulaks" → affluent peasants)

③ Industrial development caught pace.
e.g. electrification policy of Lenin was focused.

④ By 1940s, Russia got transformed into a superpower.

⇒ Limitations of NEP : —

(i) While the agricultural sector was reliant on small family farms, heavy industries, banks etc. continued to be owned by the state → creating an imbalance.

This is also known as the 'scissor crisis'.

(ii) Unemployment was still high.

(iii) Corruption and exploitation became rampant under a new class of intermediaries known as 'NEP men' - who obtained items wholesale, and sold them for commission.

(iv) NEP was widely criticised by Bolshevik.

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Party hardliners - who wanted to do away with capitalism altogether. They believed NEP was a threat to Soviet Russia.

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→ How NEP influenced Post-independence India's policies : →

- ① NEP of 1921 greatly inspired India's 'mixed-economic model' after independence.
(e.g.) Nehruji himself claimed to have been inspired by Soviet achievements.
- ② The NEP's focus on agrarian reforms was reflected in 1st five year plan of India, Land Reforms, cooperatives.
- ③ NEP's focus on social legislations - like 8-hour working day, sick leave, unemployment allowance etc. are duly reflected in Indian constitution's Directive Principles of State Policy (Article 42, 43 etc.)

~~Thus~~ Though NEP was eventually abandoned in Russia, yet it did play an important role in saving Russia from a grave crisis.

Ques 1
10
The Chinese Revolution was a significant movement in ^{the} modern history of not only China, but the entire world. It led to the success of communism in China under revolutionary leader Mao Zedong ~~in~~, leading to the establishment of People's Republic of China (1949).

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How it affected world politics :-→

① Emergence of a strong and aggressive China was destabilizing for the entire region. Chinese government strongly pursues a "one-China" policy that can be seen from annexation of Tibet, Aksai Chin (illegally from India) and even very recent issues with Taiwan.

② Intensification of the Cold War :-→

In Feb. 1950, China joined eastern bloc by signing a friendship treaty with Soviet Union.

③ Communist forces all over the world were inspired, especially because Mao's communism was driven by peasants (unlike Karl Marx's theory of proletariat). Mao's communism reached larger masses (e.g.) Maoist movements in India, Nepal.

④ Led to increasing intervention of USA in world politics to contain communism.

(e.g.) Korean war, Vietnam war.

It was a serious dent to the prestige of USA (as Mao was successful even after hindrances by USA).

⑤ Impacts on Africa: Communist revolution provided impetus to nationalist movements in Africa - thus ushering and catalyzing decolonisation.

Thus, Chinese revolution was a momentous moment in history - with ramifications felt across space and time.