

Sectional Test VIII, World History

Q.1
Q.1(a)

Answer the following in about 150 words each: $10 \times 3 = 30$ निम्नलिखित में से प्रत्येक का लगभग 150 शब्दों में उत्तर दें: $10 \times 3 = 30$

"The Crimean War was the only perfectly useless war that has been waged." Critically examine Robert Morier's perspective. [10 Marks]

क्रीमियन युद्ध एकमात्र पूरी तरह से बेकार युद्ध था जो छेड़ा गया था।" रॉबर्ट मोरियर के परिप्रेक्ष्य का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण करें। [10 अंक]

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According to Robert Morier's perspective, Crimean war was a useless war as Russia was to gain very less in terms of territory or strategic location, and even Britain, France waged war based on perceived notions of threat only.

However, in history, this war has produced significant changes: -

(1) In the Crimean war, Austria did not support Russian cause and this caused a wedge between two ardent supporters of conservative order of Metternich system.

(2) Austria under Metternich became alone to maintain conservative order established

by Vienna Congress, for Russia had retreated back into its internal reforms issues.

This led to gradual challenge to Metternich system.

(3) In the aftermath of Criminean War only, Piedmont-Sardinia developed close relation with France that proved fruitful in Italian Unification. It is said that United Italy emerged from mud of Criminea.

Hence, it can not be said that Criminean war was a useless war in terms of results that it led in long run.

Q.1 (b)

"Some leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement wanted to keep the movement away from the military blocs during the Cold War" Critically examine. [10 Marks]

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"गुटनिरपेक्ष आंदोलन के कुछ नेता शीत युद्ध के दौरान आंदोलन को सैन्य गुटों से दूर रखना चाहते थे" आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण करें। [10 अंक]

With the end of 2nd World war, a process of decolonialisation started and a number of countries joined Comity of Nations. However, these "third world countries" faced a dilemma in wake of "Cold war politics".

During cold war, there emerged two military blocs in form of NATO under USA and Warsaw pact under USSR. Leaders of Third-world countries chose to become non-aligned and established Non-Alignment movement in Belgrade conference of 1961.

These leaders including J.L. Nehru (India), Dr. Sukarno (Indonesia), Nkrumah (Ghana), Nasser (Egypt), if chose not to join any military bloc because —

- 1) It would lead unnecessary economic burden of defence expenditure due to cold war politics.

- (2) It would make this foreign policy subservient to bloc politics and this leader, a freedom that was won with difficult and sacrifices.
- (3) With No alignment with any bloc, they can hope to get help from both blocs.
- (4) However, it did not mean isolation or neutrality, rather active stance on world issues based on National Interest.

However, with time and different geo-political conditions, different nations of NAM came in closer military friendships of USA or USSR. Some joined ~~the~~ blocs formally while others maintained very close and informal relationship. For Instance, India's friendship with USSR in 1972 in view of Pakistan's alliance with USA.

Hence, NAM nations did not remain completely away from military blocs despite the stated objective.

The anti-colonial struggles in West Africa were led by the new elite of Western-educated Africans.
Examine. [10 Marks]

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पश्चिम अफ्रीका में उपनिवेशवाद-विरोधी संघर्षों का नेतृत्व पश्चिमी-शिक्षित अफ्रीकियों के नए अभिजात वर्ग ने किया था। परीक्षण करें। [10 अंक]

The West Africa underwent liberation in the late 1950s and early 1960s starting with Ghana (1957). These anti-colonial struggles were led by the middle, western educated class of Africans.

These leaders were associated with western education and exposed to western liberal ideas of democracy, liberal rights etc.

They started modern political organisations in the nature of umbrella National Congress in Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria etc. and led struggle against colonial power in the same language of western countries that is France, and Britain.

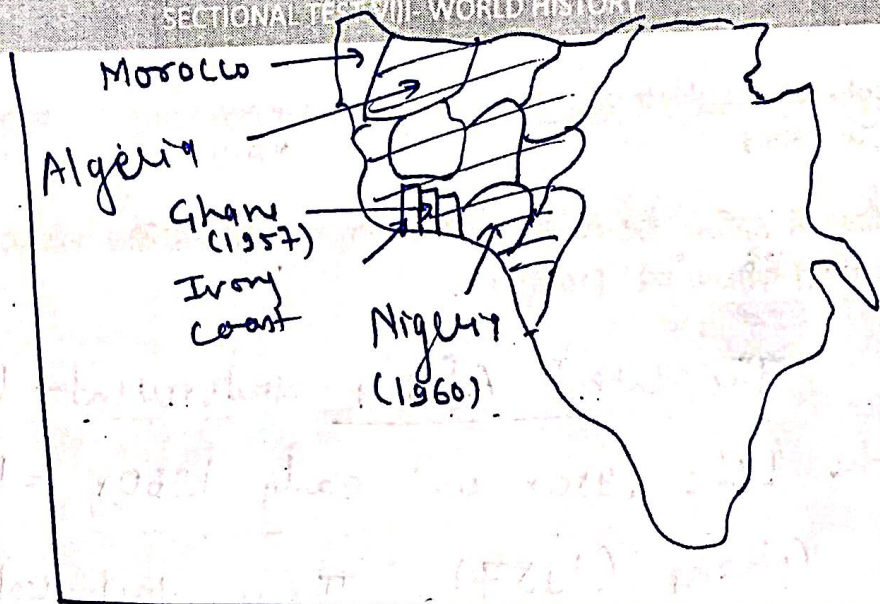


figure: African decolonisation.

However, all the anti-colonial struggles were not peaceful. The decolonisation of Algeria under control of France proved very bloody and violent and it was with help of popular militias that Algeria won its freedom from France.

Q.2 (a)

"German political unity was grafted on a solid material and cultural foundation." Comment in the light of factors responsible for German unification. [20 Marks]

"जर्मनी की राजनीतिक एकता, सुदृढ भौतिक एवं सांस्कृतिक नीव पर खड़ी की गई थी।" जर्मन एकीकरण के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों के प्रकाश में टिप्पणी कीजिये। [20 अंक]

German unification, a process that started in the early 19th century itself and culminated with battle of Sedan in 1870, was a long-drawn process with profound significance.

A number of factors converged together to bring a united Germany.

Factors responsible for German Unification

① Cultural foundation :-

(1.1) In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, German philosophers like Hegel, Fichte, Herder etc all emphasized upon the cultural unity among German states.

(1.2) Hegel and Friedrich Nietzsche believed that Germans still lived in the village.

② Napoleonic Era :-

(2.1) Napoleonic removed the last traces of Holy Roman empire that acted as obstacle in unification.

(2.2) Moreover, unconsciously he established German federation politically uniting the diverse states. This also gave a filip to German unification movement.

③ After Concert of Europe in 1815 that tried to revert to old system of political division, Vienna Congress divided region into 39 smaller states, setting back the movement of unification.

④ In this background, role of material factors became important that drove towards political unity.

(4.1) In the early 19th century, Prussia underwent significant economic transition emerging as economic powerhouse that established its position as leader of unification.

(4.2) In 1830s, the Constitution of Zollverein a custom union, among German states led to economic integration.

(4.3) Moreover, creation of railways, common market and proliferation of industrialization in German states, ensued German economic integration.

(4.4) Emphasizing upon economic factors, British economist John Maynard Keynes remarked — German unification was led by 'Coal and Iron' rather than Blood and Iron.

However, the role of Bismarck and military and diplomatic factors can not be denied.

(5.1) Austria was a obstacle behind unification that was decisively dealt with in Battle in 1866 and resulted in treaty of Frankfurt.

(5.2) Similarly, Another obstacle in the form of France was dealt in Battle of Sedan, completing the process of unification.

Thus, German unification was the result of economic and military-diplomatic factors, significantly altering the balance of power in Europe.

Q.2 (b)

"Multiple factors worked together to cause the disintegration and collapse of the Soviet Union during 1980s." Elaborate. [20 Marks]

"1980 के दशक के दौरान सोवियत संघ के विघटन और पतन के लिए कई कारकों ने एक साथ काम किया।" विस्तार में बताएं। [20 अंक]

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If in the early 20th century, one significant event was the Russian Bolshevik revolution in 1917 and creation of USSR, the more important event in closing, 20th century was disintegration of USSR.

The Disintegration of USSR was caused by coalescence of multiple factors.

Factors behind disintegration of USSR

① Stagnating Economy : -

(1.1) USSR economy was based on "command economy principle" with limited role of market factors. By the early 1980s, USSR economy stagnated, resulting into crisis.

(1.2) It was also over-dependence over oil export. But glut in crude oil market and resultant drop in prices led to crisis.

(1.3) It also faced the scarcity of consumer goods, as its industrialization was based on "Basic and heavy industry".

(2) Technological lag: except space and defence sector, USSR experienced technological lag, affecting standards of living of people.

(3) Political Authoritarianism: —

(3.1) During the Stalin era, USSR was converted into totalitarian state, extensively curbing political and civil rights.

(3.2) Despite some minute changes, even Nikita Khrushchev and Brezhnev era did not bring any substantial political reforms.

④ Forced Russification of different nationalities :
in the USSR caused discontent among
various nationalities. And the moment,
these nationalities got a chance to revolt,
they revolted.

⑤ Afghanistan Imbroglio : that started in
1979 led severe economic and political
strain over the already strained USSR.

⑥ Gorbachev's role :

(6.1) His policy of Perestroika and Glasnost
also play a crucial role. In fact, when
Perestroika was implemented to restructure
the economy, it led to substantial instability
instability in economy.

(6.2) And policy of Glasnost with right to
criticize the government ~~also~~ allowed
people to raise their grievances,

starting chain of reaction.

Gradually, with declaration of independence of Baltic countries of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, USSR disintegrated in 1991 and Cold war also came to an end, an event that led Francis Fukuyama to claim "the end of History".

Q.4 (a)

"Though sometimes taking different paths, Cavour, Mazzini and Garibaldi contributed greatly towards the Italian Unification." Elaborate. [20 Marks]

"यद्यपि कभी-कभी अलग-अलग रास्ते अपनाते हुए, कैवोर, माज़िनी और गैरीबाल्डी ने इतालवी एकीकरण में बहुत योगदान दिया।" विस्तार में बताएं। [20 अंक]

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Italian unification that completed in 1870 at the same time of German unification was a long-drawn process with contribution of multiple factors and personalities.

If it was Mazzini who started the movement toward united Italy, it was Garibaldi and Cavour who gave it the final shape.

• Role of Mazzini :

(1.1) Mazzini was a Nationalist, republican who dreamed to unite Italian states under a republican head.

(1.2) When Vienna Congress (1815) divided the Italy into "just a geographical nation" by dividing into different kingdoms and put Parma, Modena, Tuscany under

Austrian influence, and Naples and Sicily under Bourbon dynasty, Mazzini revolted.
 (1.2) Through his "young Italy" organisation, he popularized the idea of united Italy among the people.

(1.3) In 1830s revolutions of Europe, Mazzini also attempted a revolution in Italy Italian states. Although it failed, but it showed that to unite Italy, along with popular uprising, support of kingdom was also required.

(1.4) This led the movement towards the leadership of Piedmont Sardinia Kingdom. Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia attempted to wage a war against Austrian occupation but was defeated.

(1.5) In this background, role of Carouge became important.

(2) Initially, Cavour was appointed as finance minister and he undertook economic reforms to established Piedmont-Sardinia as economic power to challenge Austria.

(2.1) Later, as Prime minister, he also initiated defence reforms, making Piedmont-Sardinia militarily powerful as well.

(2.3) With the Criminean war of 1855, he got a chance to internationalize the issue and came closer to France.

(2.4) With support of France, he defeated Austria and got Northern Italy united, with referendum in Palme, Moderne and Tuscany.

(2.5) But, meanwhile with the withdrawal of support of France, the process of unification halted upto Northern Italy only.

(3) Here, the role of Garibaldi became important.

- (3.1) Garibaldi started the "Red Shirt" movement in the Southern Italian states and caused popular uprising.
- (3.2) This led to decline of Bourbon dynasty and Garibaldi declared himself as administrator under command of Piedmont Sardinia.
- (3.3) Later, with coming of emperor William, he abdicated and thus united the southern Italy with Northern Italy.
- (3.4) Later, with battle of Sedan and withdrawal of France from Rome (papal state), Rome was also united in 1870, thus completing unification.

Hence, all these personalities in various direct and indirect ways played a role in unification of Italy.

Q.4 (b) What were the events that led to the Suez Crisis in 1956? Critically discuss how did it deal a final blow to Britain's self-image as a world power? [20 Marks]

वे कौन सी घटनाएँ थीं जिनके कारण 1956 में स्वेज़ संकट उत्पन्न हुआ? आलोचनात्मक रूप से चर्चा करें कि इसने विश्व शक्ति के रूप में ब्रिटेन की आत्म-छवि को अंतिम झटका कैसे दिया? [20 अंक]

Suez Crisis in the Middle east in 1956 is regarded one of the important events that changed the fate of middle east politics and role of western power.

Events that led to Suez Crisis

- (1) In the late 1940s, British was forced to withdraw from strategic Egypt, and gave it a formal independence.
- (2) British was having stake in the Suez Canal and had invested heavily.
- (3) Moreover, it was having interest in the Crude oil polit economy of middle east.
- (4) Meanwhile, In 1952 and 1954, there occurred two coups in Egypt, bringing General Abdul Gamel Nasser to power.

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SECTIONAL TEST VIII WORLD
(5) Seeing the interest of USSR in Middle East and following policy of Containment, Egypt ~~was~~ became the part of Cold war politics with support of USA, Britain and France.

(6) The creation of Israel in vicinity of Egypt and First Arab-Israeli war of 1948 also created tension between Egypt and Israel.

(7) In an attempt to bring into its fold, Egypt under Nasser was offered economic aid by western countries for his project of Aswan dam.

(7.2) However, disagreement over condition of aid, there was halt of economic aid and this led stop of Aswan dam project.

(8) In retaliation, Abdul Naseer nationalized the Suez Canal, in order to earn revenue to finance his project.

(8.2) This caused irritation to Britain and France. They along with Israel without support of USA invaded Egypt.

(9) With pressure from USA, USSR and even UNO from General Assembly (overwhelming support), they ultimately had to withdraw.

• Blow to self - Image as world Power

(1) The disgrace faced by Britain due to unceremonial withdrawal from Egypt without achieving her objective proved that it was no longer a World power.

(2) The role played so far by Britain in Middle East was now being played by USA.

(3) From now onwards, British focussed on her internal affairs with little interest in the world politics.

Thus, Suez Canal Crisis of 1956 was brightly considered as the testimony of changing power relations in world politics.