

## THE RISE OF NATIONALISM IN EUROPE

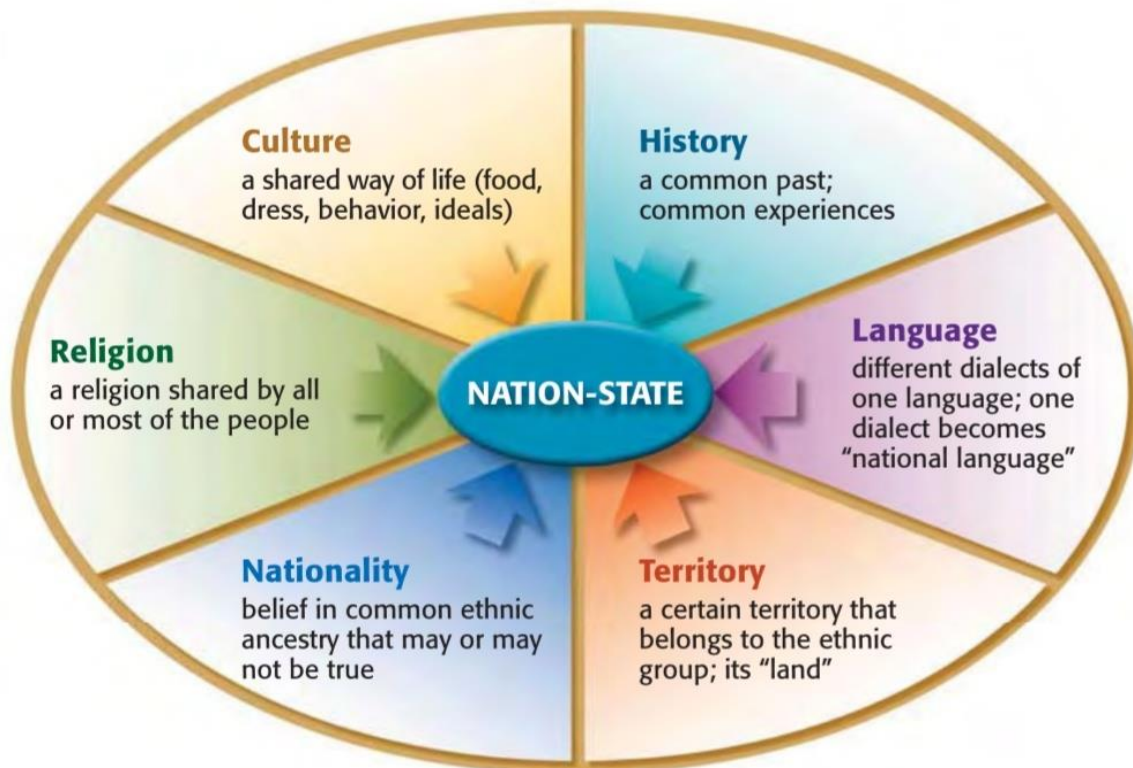
This chapter will help you in understanding-

1. Emergence of nationalism in Europe.
2. Nature of nation states that developed in 18<sup>th</sup> century.
3. Comprehend the role of great national leaders of Europe such as Napoleon, Mazzini, Garibaldi and so on.
4. The importance of national symbols and icons.

### Frederic Sorrieu

- He is a French artist, who presented a series of paintings in 1848.
- He visualized his dreams, that is, a world of social and democratic republics.
- In Sorrieu's utopian vision, the people of the world are grouped as distinct nations. They are identified through their flags and national costume.
- Leading the procession are USA and Switzerland, which is followed by France and Germany. Following Germany are Austria, Kingdom of the two Sicilies, Lombardy, Poland, England, Ireland, Hungary and Russia.

### Bonds That Create a Nation-State



## The French Revolution and the idea of the Nation

**Ab raja ka beta raja nahi banega. Raja woh banega jo hakdaar hoga. We want equality in opportunities and decision making.**



### How French revolution promoted the idea of nation state?

1. The revolution proclaimed that from now on people of France will be the driving force of nation and all major decisions will be taken by people.
  2. To promote the sense of common identity the ideas of the fatherland and the citizen were promoted.
  3. All must have equal rights under a constitution.
  4. A new tricolor flag was adopted to replace the former royal standard.
  5. A centralized administrative system was adopted and it formulated laws for all citizen.
  6. Uniform weight and measurement were adopted and French was promoted as the common language of the nation.
- When all these ideas given above reached other parts of Europe, Jacobian clubs came up in other parts of Europe as well. A series of wars called revolutionary wars were fought by France against the monarchies of Britain, Russia, Prussia, Austria and others. During these wars French armies further promoted the ideas of nationalism abroad.
  - Though Napoleon destroyed the democracy in France but his administrative pattern popularly known as Napoleon code further promoted the idea of equality. Privileges based on birth were abolished, established equality before law and secured the right to property.
  - In Switzerland, Italy and Germany, Napoleon abolished the feudal system and freed the peasants from serfdom and manorial dues. In towns guild restrictions were removed. Uniform system of measurement, measurement and currency further promoted the idea of commonness.

**Important- Refer to some important dates on page number 8.**

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### **The making of Nationalism In Europe**

The entire Europe was divided into kingdoms and these kingdoms were ruled by monarchs. These kingdoms did not share any collective identity and common culture. The only tie binding these diverse groups together was a common allegiance to the emperor.

#### **The rise of new middle class.**

- A landed aristocracy was the dominant class. This class owned much of the land and formed very minor portion of the population. They were often connected by ties of the marriage. They owned large estates and enjoyed a privileged position in the society.
- Due to rise in the commercial activity and industrial revolution in England, a new class emerged called middle class. It was among the educated, liberal middle class that idea of national unity and abolition of aristocracy gained popularity.

#### **Liberals**

- They believed in the freedom of individual and equality of all before law.
- They wanted concept of government by consent, a constitution and representative government through parliament.
- They also believed that only men with property must have right to get elected and elect. They did not believe in the idea of universal suffrage.
- During French revolution as well men without property and women were denied voting rights.
- Initially their main focus was to improve trade activities by abolishing custom duties and bringing uniform system of weight and measurement. This uniform system of weight and currency and single custom duties also promoted the idea of common interest.
- In 1834 a customs union called Zollverein was formed at the initiative of Prussia and joined by most of the German states.

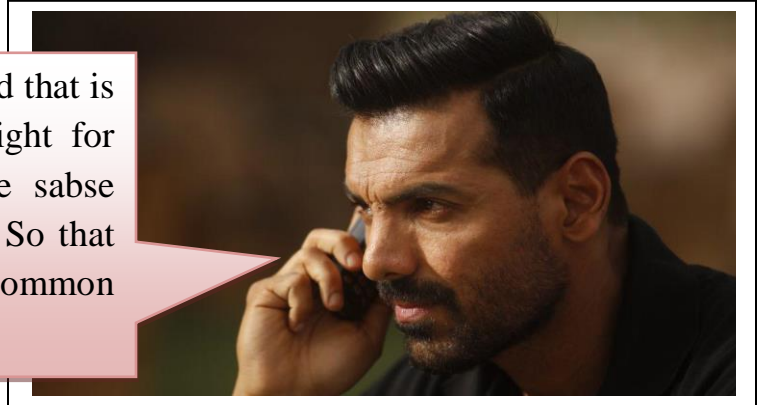
#### **Return of conservatism after 1815.**

- Major European powers in 1815: Britain, Russia, Prussia and Austria had defeated Napoleon.
- The major European powers after the defeat of Napoleon met at Vienna to draw the resettlement of Europe. Following changes were made in the treaty of Vienna of 1815-
  - I. The Bourbon family was restored to power in France.
  - II. France lost all its territories that it has annexed during Napoleon.
  - III. On the French boundary, borders were made to prevent France from expanding.
  - IV. The German confederation of 39 states that had been set up by Napoleon was left untouched.

- V. The major aim was to restore the power of monarchy that had been overthrown by Napoleon.
- VI. The conservative regime after 1815 were autocratic. Censorship laws were implemented to prevent the spread of liberal ideas.

### The revolutionaries

Aaj se hamara ek hi maksad hoga and that is to stop the conservatives and to fight for liberty and freedom. Aur iske liye sabse jaruri hai formation of nation state. So that masses can come together for common future of liberty and freedom.



- Due to rising censorship many liberals went and formed secret societies. The main aim of these societies was to spread ideas of freedom and liberty and oppose monarchy.
- Giuseppe Mazzini born in Genoa in 1807 joined the secret society of Carbonari.
- He founded two secret societies, Young Italy in Marseilles (France) and Young Europe in Bern (Switzerland). He believed that nations are the natural units of mankind.
- His main aim was unification of Italy as a nation state.
- Following his model many other secret societies came up in Germany, France, Switzerland and Poland.
- Austrian Chancellor Duke Metternich described him as the most dangerous enemy of our social order.

### The Age of revolutions: 1830-1848

- The first upheaval took place in France in July 1830. France's king Charles X tried to consolidate his powers. The attempt sparked riots and Charles was replaced by Louis Philippe. Metternich once remarked 'when France sneezes, the rest of Europe catches cold.'
- The July revolution sparked an uprising in Brussels which led to Belgium breaking away from the United Kingdom of the Netherlands.
- The first people to win self-rule during this period were the Greeks. The Ottomans controlled most of the Balkans and Greece had been part of the Ottoman Empire since the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Greeks had kept alive the memory of their ancient history and culture. Poets and artists

like Lord Byron lauded Greece as the cradle of European civilization and supported Greece fight for independence.

- The struggle began in 1821. In 1827 a combined British, French and Russian fleet destroyed Ottoman fleet and finally Treaty of Constantinople of 1832 recognized Greece as an independent nation.

### **The Romantic imagination and National feeling.**

- Culture played a vital role in creating the idea of the nation through art and poetry, stories and music. It helped to express and arouse nationalist feelings.
- German philosopher, Johan Gottfried discovered the culture in common people through music, dance and folk poetry.
- In Poland nationalist feeling was kept alive using music, dance and language. Karol Kurpinski took efforts in turning folk dance like the Polonaise and Mazurka into nationalist symbols. The use of Polish came to be seen as a symbol of struggle against Russian dominance.
- The 1830s were years of great economic hardship in Europe. The first half of the nineteenth century saw an enormous increase in population all over Europe which gave rise to unemployment. Population from rural areas migrated to the cities to live in overcrowded slums.
- The rise of food prices or a year of bad harvest led to widespread pauperism in town and country. Food shortages and widespread unemployment brought the population of Paris out on the roads. As a result of all these developments, barricades were erected and Louis Philippe was forced to flee. A National Assembly proclaimed a republic, granted suffrage to all adult males above 21, and guaranteed the right to work.
- In the year 1848, a revolution led by the liberals (educated middle classes) also took place. They made demands for constitutionalism with national unification. In the German regions a large number of political associations came together in the city of Frankfurt and decided to vote for an all-German National Assembly. A Constitution for a German nation was drafted which was to be headed by monarchy subject to a Parliament. Parliament met at Church of St Paul and women were observer in this parliament.
- Though Friedrich Wilhelm IV, king of Prussia suppressed the revolt with land landowners of Prussia called junkers, but after 1848 gradual changes were made and liberal and nationalists were granted more powers.

### **Making of Germany**

- Beginning in 1815, 39 German states formed a loose grouping called the German confederation. This confederation was dominated by Austrian empire.
- After 1848 nationalist sentiments were used by conservatives for achieving political powers. Prussia had mainly German population and the best army in central Europe, hence the task was taken by Prussian chief minister to unite the Germany using army.
- Three wars—Danish War, Austro-Prussian War and Franco-Prussian War—were fought which ended in Prussian victory and completed the process of unification of Germany in 1871. The Prussian King Kaiser William I was proclaimed German Emperor.



- After 1871 Germany emerged as the most powerful nation in the entire Europe. Germany now had modernizing currency, banking, legal system dominated by Prussian practices.

### **Making of Italy**

- Like Germany, Italy, too had a long history of political fragmentation. Italians were scattered over several dynastic states as well as the multi-national Habsburg Empire. During the middle of the nineteenth century, Italy was divided into seven states, of which only one, Sardinia-Piedmont, was ruled by an Italian princely house. The unification process was led by three revolutionaries—**Giuseppe Mazzini**, **Count Camillo de Cavour** and **Giuseppe Garibaldi**.
- **Giuseppe Mazzini** during the 1830s sought to put together a coherent programme for a unitary Italian Republic. He organised a new political society called *Young Italy*. The failure of revolutionary uprisings both in 1831 and 1848 meant that the responsibility now fell on Sardinia-Piedmont under its ruler King Victor Emmanuel II to unify the Italian states through war.
- King Victor's prime minister Count Camillo de Cavour took the task of annexing north Italy with the help of French king Napoleon III. In 1859 Austrian Armies were defeated in the north Italy and it was made part of united Italy.
- In 1860 Garibaldi marched into south Italy and the kingdom of two sicilies and succeeded in the getting the support of peasants and defeated Spanish rulers.
- In 1961 king Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed king of united Italy.

### **Case of Britain**

- The history of nationalism in Britain was different from the rest of Europe. Before the eighteenth century there was no British nation. The people of different identities comprised of English, Welsh, Scot or Irish lived in the British Isles.
- The Act of Union of 1707 between England and Scotland resulted in the formation of the 'United Kingdom of Great Britain'. This led to the demolition of Scotland's distinctive culture and political institutions. Ireland was forcibly included into the United Kingdom in 1801.
- This amalgamation led to the growth of a new, powerful nation—'**British nation**'. The symbols of the new Britain—the British Flag (Union Jack), the national anthem (*God Save Our Noble King*), the English language—were actively promoted and the older nations survived only as subordinate partners in this union.
- ❖ In olden times the best way to present an idea was through symbolic personifications. This was the most common and appealing way to invite people's attention. From 1789 females appeared in paintings as symbol of liberty and revolution. During the French Revolution, many symbolic personifications of 'Liberty' and 'Reason' appeared. Marianne was the female figure invented by artists in the nineteenth century to represent the French nation. Her characteristics were drawn from those of Liberty and the Republic—the red cap, the tricolour, the cockade. Statues of Marianne were erected in

public places to remind the public of the national symbol of unity and to persuade them to identify with it. Marianne images were marked on coins and stamps.

- ❖ Similarly, Germania became the symbol of the German nation. This work was done by the artist Philip Veit. He depicted Germania as a female figure standing against a background where beams of sunlight shine through the tricolour fabric of the national flag. Germania was wearing a crown of oak leaves, as the German oak stands for heroism.

**Imperialism-** Imperialism is the expansion of nation's authority over other nations through the acquisition and imposition of economic and political domination.

- During the last quarter of 19<sup>th</sup> century, nationalism lost its real objective, instead it was used as a tool to acquire new land areas through imperialism.
- Nationalist tensions emerged in the Balkans states. The Balkans consisted of regions of modern day Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro and their inhabitants were broadly known as *Slavs*. A large part of the Balkans was under the control of the Ottoman Empire.
- When the Ottoman Empire collapsed, it initiated nationalism in the Balkans states. Gradually, its European subject-nationalities broke away from its control and declared independence. In the race of expanding their territories and imposing their supremacy on each other, Slavic nationalities quickly got into severe clashes and the Balkan area became an area of intense conflict.
- It also became the scene of big power rivalry. This finally led to a series of wars in the region which culminated into the first world war that took place in 1914.

### Important definitions-

- 1. Nation-state:** The region in which the majority of its citizens, and not only its rulers, came to develop a sense of common identity and shared history or descent.
- 2. Plebiscite:** A direct vote which gave power to the people of a region to accept or reject a proposal.
- 3. Absolutist:** A government or system of rule without restraints on the power exercised.
- 4. Utopian:** An imaginary ideal society which principally doesn't exist.
- 5. Suffrage:** The right to vote.
- 6. Conservatism:** A political philosophy that stressed the importance of tradition, established institutions and customs, and preferred gradual development to quick change.
- 7. Feminist:** Awareness of women's rights and interests based on the belief of the social, political and economic equality of genders.
- 8. Ethnic:** The people of different identities living together sharing common racial, tribal, or cultural origin or background.
- 9. Allegory:** Expression of idea or thought through a person or a thing.
- 10. British nation:** This amalgamation of different identities comprised of English, Welsh, Scot or Irish lived in the British Isles.

**Important dates-**

1. **1714:** George-I became the king of Great Britain.
2. **1715:** Louis XV became the king of France.
3. **1740-1748:** The War of the Austrian Succession.
4. **1756-1763:** The Seven Years War.
5. **1776:** The American Declaration of Independence.
6. **1789:** The French Revolution occurred.
7. **1797:** Napoleon invaded Italy; Napoleonic wars began.
8. **1814-1815:** Fall of Napoleon; the Vienna Peace Settlement.
9. **1821:** Greek struggle for independence began.
10. **1832:** Greece gained independence from the Ottoman Empire.
11. **1831:** Giuseppe Mazzini established Young Italy.
12. **1859-1861:** The unification of Italy.
13. **1849-1878:** The reign of Victor Emmanuel-II of Piedmont-Sardinia.
14. **1861:** The Kingdom of Italy was announced; Victor Emmanuel-II of Piedmont-Sardinia became king of Italy.
15. **1866-1871:** The unification of Germany.
16. **1861-1888:** Reign of King William-I of Prussia.
17. **1871:** The German Empire was formed; Germany annexed Alsace and Lorraine.
18. **1848:** The Revolutions of 1848.
19. **1905:** Slav nationalism gathered force in the Habsburg and Ottoman Empires.