World History Class 01

23rd February 2024 at 9:00 AM

THE CLASS STARTED WITH A DISCUSSION ON THE SYLLABUS AND APPROACH TO WORLD HISTORY: (09:06 AM):

THEMES: (09:15 AM):

- First World Country: Capitalist.
- Second World Country: Communist.
- Mercantile Capitalism: Maximization of profit through trade.
- Capitalism: maximizing the profits through products produced by machines.
- 1) World Power: Era of land power- Voyages of Discoveries in the late 15th and 16th Centuries led to an era of Sea Powers.
- Where, initially Spain and Portuguese were then replaced by Dutch, British, and French.
- 1870 Germany, France and the reason was fight over the colonies which resulted in World War I (1914-1919) and World War II (1939-1945).
- 1945-1991 Cold War between the US and the USSR.
- 2) During World War I main role of seapower and the beginning of airpower was World War II main role of airpower was the birth of nuclear power and in the Cold War main role of Nuclear Power.
- 3) Industrial Revolution IR): First in Britain (1750) then from 1870 in the US and Western Europe and Japan, in the USSR after 1929, and in China after 1976, and in India, Make In India today.
- Initially agrarian economy, the plantation system, mercantile capitalism, and slave trade+3G (God, Glory, and Gold- dominated the early form of colonialism until 1833).
- The post-Industrial Revolution made industrial capitalism important for manufacturers' interests in raw materials and export markets (RM, EM) and therefore desires for colonies for the RM and EM-dominated colonialism from the 1870s.
- Initially, horsepower rather than hydropower than steam-powered machines from the 1870s oil & gas, electricity from 1969 Civil Nuclear Energy and today solar power, etc.

CAPITALISM VERSUS SOCILAISM (10:14 AM):

- The USSR (1920) was the first Communist State but the rise of Fascism from 1922 and then of Nazism (Hitler) in 1933 halted the Capitalist democracies versus Communist party State rivalry and both together defeated Fascism in World War II (1939-1945)
- But then resumed their rivalry via the Cold War.
- Post-1976, Communist China adopted Communism by keeping the One Party System of having a Communist hegemony over the State, therefore today an economic superpower China versus an economic superpower democratic US.

SEVEN-YEAR GLOBAL WAR: (1754-1763) (10:45 AM):

- The actual was fought between 1756 to 1763.
- 1) Reasons:
- Majorly fought between Britain versus France, and Spain over the colonies.
- 2) Where:
- In Europe, Prussia did territorial expansion, therefore other European powers were opposed to Prussia, while the British supported Prussia as a common rival to France.
- In India rivalry was due to the control of international trade of India by different powers.
- In West Africa, France versus Britain over Senegal, rich in gum.
- In America:
- British goals equal to capture whole of the North America by expanding to the West of the Appalachian Mountains.
- The intent of British settlers of 13 colonies in N. America supported the British expansion beyond the Appalachian mountains as they would be able to bring more land under their control that would benefit them economically and personally.
- American Indians supported France as the victory of the British would have meant the loss of their land to settlers of 13 British colonies.
- France and Spain's real interest was not North America but their colonies in Central America or the Sugar Islands.
- From where they earned huge profits by exporting cash crops grown in the Plantation Systems (commercial production of the cash crops at large scale eg sugar, tea, coffee, tobacco, spices, etc.)
- In Cuba, Puerto Rico by Spain, and Haiti by France. They were anxious about the domination of N. America will put their Sugar colonies under threat.

FACTORS BEHIND THE BRITISH VICTORY: (11:17 AM):

- Factors:
- a) Stronger navy and military.
- b) British support to the Prussians weakened France in Europe which helped the British in America.
- c) The British raised an army from among the settlers of 13 colonies, which gave the British an edge as France depended on the European armies only.
- Treaty of Paris (1763):
- a) North America came under British domination.
- b) France lost Canada and Louisiana (West of the Appalachian Mountains)
- c) Spain lost Florida (Spain was given some parts of Louisiana and allowed to retain Cuba and France was allowed to retain Haiti, therefore both core interests in Central America were retained).
- d) In India, after the 3rd Carnatic War, the French were limited to Pondicherry and Chandranagar, therefore British dominated the international trade of India from now on.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION (1766-1783): (11:27 AM):

- From 1765 to 1776 violent protests happened in the USA.
- 1766 to 1783: American War of Independence.

• Reasons Behind the Revolution:

- 1) Proclamation of 1763: This created the Indian reserves to the West of the Appalachian Mountains.
- 2) Banned expansion by the settlers by 13 colonies.
- 2.1) Colonialism via mercantile capitalism.
- 2.2) High import duties on non-British imports in 13 colonies.
- 2.3) No indigenous industry in the iron and steel & textile sector.
- 2.4) Navigation Act of 1561: 13 colonies can use only ships for the exports of goods from the 13 colonies.
- 2.5) Certain raw materials can be exported only to Britain, so British factories have assured supplies of cheap raw materials therefore there was misuse of the sovereign authority by Britain over the 13 colonies to maximize the economic benefits for Britain and it led to the prevention of the IR in the 13 colonies.

- Question: The drain of wealth was a feature of colonialism. Analyse (10 Marks/150 words).
- 3) No Taxation Without Representation: Representation is a pillar of democracy.
- For example, King Charles Bun applied taxes without the consent of the Parliament; in the American Revolution, Stamp Duty by the British Parliament on the 13 colonies.
- In the French Revolution, the King increased the taxes. In the Indian National Movement, taxes were important grievances also.
- Britain issued Debt instruments in the financial markets to fund the Seven-Year War and there were doubts about the defaults by the government.
- Stamp Act, of 1765 was therefore brought by the British Parliament to recover the seven-year war expenditure. 13 colonies were to pay a tax on every purchase of paper i.e. on every legal transaction, newspapers, playing cards, etc.
- This the taxation without representation as the settlers didn't have the right to vote in the British Parliament as they were non-land-owning citizens of Britain/British subjects.
- 4) Now a Non-Tax Campaign and boycott of British goods began in the 13 Colonies:
- Stamp Act Congress, 1765 called by Massachusetts.

• Declaration of Rights for Grievances:

- a) Loyalty to the Crown, but the British Parliament has no right to tax 13 colonies because not represented in the British Parliament.
- b) The aim was not independence but no taxation without representation.
- British Parliament repealed the Stam Duty as boycotts were hurting British imports.
- But the boycott continued as the Settlers wanted the taxation with representation.
- Therefore the British have ended all the import duty except on tea (imported into 13 colonies).
- Reasons: British exports to the 13 colonies remained halved and asserted the right of Britain to tax the 13 colonies tax on tea.
- So the withdrawal of taxes is not seen as a withdrawal of the right to tax.

• 1773 Boston Tea Party:

- Tea cargo on the British ships at the Boston ports was destroyed by the settlers.
- Coercive and intolerable acts by the British Parliament: Which took away the right to self-governance of Massachusetts.
- 1774: First Continental Congress (Philadelphia Congress).
- Again demanded the NTWR and the repeal of the Intolerable Acts.
- This was seen as an Act of Sedition by the British who attacked in 1775.
- In 1776, the Declaration of Independence by the 13 colonies where demanded a Republic and highlighted Enlightenment Principles, that would guide the untied colonies post-independence.
- For example, All Men are Created Equal and inalienable rights to Life and Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

TOPICS OF THE NEXT CLASS: Continuation of American Revolution, etc.