

HIS 111 Contemporary World History

We are looking at world event that can change the world
COURSE OUTLINE

Concept World Contemporary History

- Europe as Salt in the world 1500 and beyond.
- Technological Change in Europe and its impact.
- System of alliances (International Relations 1871-1914)
- The first World War (Causes and Consequences of the War)
- The post World War Order / Aftermath of the War
- The Coming of the great depression from 1929 to 1933
- The Second World War (1939-1945)
- The United Nations organization.
- Cold War (Super Power Rivalry)
- The Decolonization (The Collapse of the European overseas Empire)
- Organs of United Nation
- The independence States of the new World order.

INTRODUCTION

Contemporary World History are events that lead the world together and has been ~~of~~ shaping the world or history of the recent past and time.

DEVELOPMENT IN TRADE AND COMMERCE

The linkage were in Europe like in Berlin, ~~and other~~ ~~and others~~ etc. The civilization were base on knowledge ~~base~~ independent from each other it succeeded base on experience than its technology that is, technology.

The concept problem with Contemporary ^{World history} is called Periodicalization. It started during Slave trade that is the 1500 AD which is the 16th Century AD while some believe it started during the Industrial Revolution in 1700 AD.

It is the change from Manual to the discovery of Machines.

In the 15th Europe Assaut on the world in the period that period there was a world spread of European Culture in different part of the world including Russia, European Nation laid claim to more than half of the world, in the Western Hemisphere there have transplanted population large enough to constitute North America the British have establish their Colony ^{which were} called the New England to the South, the Spaniards had taken over two Matured Civilization i.e. the Incas, Mayans, Aztecs to the East by 1800 there were about 2,000 Dutch sailing around the Cape of good Hope ⁱⁿ South Africa. By that period the European where ^{beginning} to settle ⁱⁿ Australia but the East Africa, Persian (present day Iran), India and Indonesia including East Africa, poor Europeans found doing business after which they returned home to enjoy the profits.

The could also be found in small numbers in the close Island kingdom of Japan only the interior of Africa ^{second} protected by disease and climate seem impermeable. The Arabs and Chinese had made a

Voyages and new about her. Compare while many island people live their in the specific ocean had their ships which they use. ~~But why~~

Why was Europe able to over power other parts of the world? Before 1800 Europe has started layer and layer exploration using technical assistance and governments. Secondly there was European Reconnaissance. This was the attempt by Europe to go to the far East and sort for items that were badly needed in Europe. By this time Asia had the more superior civilization than Europe. In fact China, India, and Japan were at the cultural peak in the 16th century. By 1500 however European Exploration had been made and Europe had discovered large quantities of resources to be exploited. Large voyages were used for future expansion.

* There was psychological assets of Christianity. As soon as the settlement were established, missionary enterprises followed closely, always presented as a cultural facts. Christianity also assured Europeans of the superiority to the people whom these came in contact with. Thirdly, Technological change in Europe

TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE IN EUROPE

Technological change is a major cause in promoting economic growth and development in the 19th and 20th century. It was responsible for the changes that occurred in Europe. Society, having gone out to and made contact with different parts of the world, Europe used her technological advancement to explore the people whom came in contact with. Technology played a great role in many aspects of the world for example raising income, changing the location and size of industries, carrying altering the ^{role} ~~geography~~ of different raw materials, changing social pattern of the inland

Offering the good and bad quality of life.

Technology May Mean a new process of Manufacturing a product it is described as a "know how" i.e. the ability to organise and operate Machine. It also includes the benefit of that we gain in the process of learning the job by doing it again and again. While some technologies are discovered by ~~as~~ accident. Most technology are derived by Scientific ideas, developed over the years. Technologies enabled Europe to transform their Societies which were based on agriculture, to one base on Industry and Commerce. In the process, Societies became wealthy and acquired ~~the~~ a complete new set of institutions and ideas and Capital ~~other~~ Equipment. Secondly level of both product and consumption rose due to new techniques of producing goods and Societies in the end the Industrial revolution began first in Britain then the rest of the world. Enlarging the scope of production, the industrial revolution increased the speed of Social Change.

In order to understand technology there is need to understand a number of things.

1. The way in which economic development took place.
2. The forces that contributed to the change.
3. The obstacles that impeded it.
4. The reasons why economic development occurred faster in Europe than the other parts of the world.

INTERNATIONAL RELATION (1871-1914)

THE SYSTEM OF ALLIANCE

The European alliance system was in place prior to the first world war. It is often seen as one of the long time causes of the outbreak of war in 1914. On the eve of the war, Europe was divided into two opposing camps with Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy on one side and France, Russia and Britain on the other side. The roots of division reach back over 30 years and its origin can be traced to Bismarck's foreign policy from 1870s-1890s and can only be explained with reference to Bismarck's complicated system of alliances.

Bismarck's alliance system laid the foundations for the alliance of 1914 and had its origins in the so-called German wars of unification (1864 against Denmark, 1866 against Austria, and 1870-1871 against France). Following the German defeat of France in 1871 and the annexation of French provinces of Alsace-Lorraine, the German Empire was founded with a Kaiser-Wilhelm at its helm. Germany was one of the strongest military powers in Europe and was fast becoming the leading industrial power on the continent. And this newly powerful country at the heart of Europe, having emerged from a decade of success in wars seemed a tangible threat to other European powers. Whatever its policy of imperialism, Germany's first Chancellor, Otto von Bismarck was concerned to avoid further conflict and to consolidate the gains the country had made in his three successful wars and his subsequent unification. His foreign policy effectively resulted in a complicated alliance system designed to ensure that what he considered "Nightmare of Coalitions" against Germany would not threaten his new status quo. This man declared that Germany was "Satiated" following her recent unification and that it sort no further conflict with its neighbors. Historians are

one of the beliefs that his foreign policy was not always driven by the desire to establish a system of alliance, but that it amounted initially to a "system of stop gaps" underling this policy, however was Bismarck's desire to keep Germany allied to at least two other major powers and to prevent alliance from being forged against Germany, this particular was to keep France isolated and to prevent it from forming closer ties with any of the great powers. During Bismarck's time in office, the alliance system that resulted from his policy successfully preserve the peace between the major European powers and prevent Germany's neighbours from going drawing up alliances against it. Germany was alien to Austria-Hungary in a dual alliance of 1799 (which had Bismarck forced the ageing Kaiser William I the first to agree to the alliance despite the later opposition to Germany's war with France). which became in practice the triple alliance when Italy joined in 1882. In 1883 Serbia, Serbia and Romania established separately ^{and} with the triple alliance. In 1879, Germany had effectively abandoned its previous close ties with Russia in favour of Austria-Hungary. However, Bismarck had been able to balance his alliance with Austria-Hungary with friendly relations with Russia, primarily through the three Emperors' League between Germany (Emperor William), Prussia (~~Emperor~~ King), Austria-Hungary (Emperor), which Williams the first signed in October in 1873 and which was renewed twice in 1881 and 1884, a few years later in 1887 Bismarck encourage the formation of the Mediterranean Entente among Britain, Austria-Hungary and Italy and in the same year Germany concluded its secret defensive treaty with Russia, in which Germany promised to support Russia's Balkan interests.

(Contracting its dual alliance with Austria-Hungary.)
Britain and France remained, for the most part, diplomatically isolated during this time. Both ~~DEAN~~ the former by choice pursuing its policy of "splendid isolation" and reaping the benefit of (and largest ~~big~~ imperial powers). Britain had turned down Bismarck's offer ~~for~~ of a defensive alliance in 1889 and there seemed to be a little change of either of them. World Series their Colonial differences with Kaiser William II's ascension to the throne in Germany, however (and particularly following Bismarck's dismissal in 1890). This carefully constructed system of alliance began to dismantle. Bismarck's successors were less concerned to preserve the ~~status quo~~ status quo in Europe and envisaged ^{a more} powerful role for the new German Empire both on the continent and world wide. As a result German foreign policy under William the Second began to become more erratic and began to threaten the balance of power that had kept Europe relatively peaceful since 1871. Even without this radical policy change, however, it is unlikely that Bismarck's system of "stop gaps" would have lasted indefinitely. He believed that alliance could be reneged on as easily as they had been concluded, and he did not feel bound by the agreement that Germany had signed. ~~He~~ It ^{would} ~~had~~ probably have been only a matter of time before other great powers united against Germany. However, Berlin's policy change certainly speeded up this process.

PRIVY'S ALLIANCE SYSTEMS

Under William II's leadership and in pursuit of the goal of becoming a "Weltmacht" (world power), the powerful new Germany soon began to challenge its neighbours who were quick to challenge or to react by forming defensive alliances. When Germany

placed reinsurance treaty with Russia to collapse. In 1890, the Franco-British were especially grave. Somewhat unexpectedly, Republican France (which still bore grudge Germany annexation of Alsace-Lorraine) and autocratic Russia overcame their substantial differences and united in a defensive alliance against Germany and Austria-Hungary. Their initial vague agreement of 1891 was expanded by a military convention in 1892 and culminated in a military alliance that was ratified in 1894. The conclusion of this military alliance gave rise to the feeling of encirclement in Germany given its geographic position. Germany although allied officially to Austria-Hungary and Italy, one faced a potential enemy on the west and east and felt encircled by envious and potentially dangerous neighbors who were forming alliances against her.

Britain only joined the alliance game late when it gave up at splendid isolation and allied itself to Japan in 1902. Main rivals at that time were France and Russia, rather than Germany. Between 1893 and 1901, further half-hearted attempts had been made to conclude an Anglo-German alliance, but the two countries' interests were too divergent to make this a viable proposition. Threatened by France in Africa and Russia in the far east, Britain met its need for diplomatic support in Asia by concluding an alliance with Japan in January 1902.

Working still for Germany, Bismarck continued to fear diplomatic isolation. France and Britain overcame their substantial differences concerning the territories of Morocco and Egypt, and France (which Bismarck had tried so hard to keep isolated) secured an Entente Cordiale with Britain in 1904. Although the Entente was not a formal alliance, it was a potentially threatening development for Germany, whose political leaders tried to

aim to break up the new Entente during the first Moroccan Crisis (1901–1905). Their actions only served to strengthen the emerging Anglo-French accord. However, the Entente Cordiale remained in existence until the outbreak of war and one of the leaders Britain joined France in his fight against Germany.

Germany's Kaiser William II also attempted to extend existing Russo-German trade agreements into an alliance, but the defensive treaties he negotiated personally with the Russian Tsar Nicholas II was vetoed by the Russian Foreign Minister and as a result the Treaty of Berlin of July 1905 never came into effect and Germany was unable to forge closer links to Russia at this crucial time.

Instead, Britain further abandoned its isolation when it entered into negotiation with Russia in 1906. Such an accord had been considered by some British Ministers since the late 1890s but only followed its defeat in the Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905) was Russia willing to negotiate the areas of mutual interests and potential conflict: Persia, Tibet and Afghanistan. Agreement was reached in August 1907 with a conclusion of the Anglo-Russian Convention. This led, in effect, to a triple Entente among France, Russia, and Great Britain. Competing with the Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy. However Britain was not formally allied with either France or Russia and its commitment to the other powers was limited. This gave Germany's decision makers hope until the last days of July 1914, that Britain might decide to stay neutral in the coming war. However,

Germany's political leadership feared the effects of political isolation once its primary potential enemies France, Russia, and Britain had joined forces. The origins of German fears were

Enactment can be traced to this time with only one reliable ally (Austria-Hungary) Germany's policies were even forced to turn their previously defensive agreement into an offensive one during the Bosnian annexation Crisis when Germany pledged unconditional support to Austria-Hungary. In the following year Germany tried to escape its diplomatic isolation not only by attempting to reach agreement with Britain as part Chancellor Theobald von Bethmann Hollwegs foreign policy, but also by testing, once again, the Entente's stability, this time during the second "Moroccan Crisis" known as the "Agadir Crisis" in 1911. As a result of its posturing, Germany only forced Britain firmly onto the side of its Entente partner, France, thus demonstrating the strength of the France-British Agreement. Further Germany attempted reaching a Detente with Britain failed (for example in February 1912 during the Haldane Mission) although almost when the two great powers came to amicable agreement over the futures of Portuguese colony in August 1913 and the future of the Baghdad Railway in June 1914, some hope for a friendlier relation remained. Ironically on the eve of World War One Anglo-German relations were better than they have been for years.

CAUSES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR. 1914-1918
The immediate killing of Andrew Ferdinand in Bosnia by a Serbian terrorist.

There are so many factors but few will be mentioned.

① Nationalism — This is the struggle for self-emancipation or it is when people of certain areas think of being of one Country. A good example is the French revolution when Napoleon Bonaparte attempted to conquer Europe and bring it under France, when Nationalism unite peoples ^{through} strong National feeling it also lead to hate and suspicion between different peoples and Nation example France and Germany, Germany went to war 1870 because both felt Alsace-Lorraine from then on Franco-German Relation became Hostile and it became the reason of the first World War. Another example is Austria-Hungary and Russia both wanted to control the Balkans as its an area very rich in minerals and Balkans calculate their freedom because of this Russians regarded themselves with suspicion.

② Militarism: in the 19th century the Industrial Revolution burst out it brought with it new weapons of war. It did not take long when Europe made steel weapons because of growth in weapons many European nations feared each other, Napoleon introduced the Revised system of Conscription men were 18 years old joined the army and this was because Napoleon wanted to conquer Europe. The growing size of this military became so strong that government could not control them.

③ Imperialism: Its a stronger country taking over a weaker country thereby taking her economy and power. By ¹⁸⁸⁴⁻¹⁸⁹⁵ ~~1884~~ or the 19th century

European Countries went to Berlin to partition Africa. (Berlin Conference 1884 - 1885) Because Europe were in need of new materials to feed their growing flood industry. There Quarrel among themselves. Some Countries began to feel there were better than other Countries (Racism). Germany did not partition England and France were involved in many Quarrels over China, India, and Asia also England and Germany Quarrel over Africa. This Quarrel lead to a very Hostile situation.

A. Absent of an International Organization: There was no international organization like the UN (United Nations) to control dispute to control dispute between two powers. What was in existence was the system of alliance between few countries which could be attributed as the cause of the first world war.

Assignment

To what extent Did the Treaty of Versailles cause the Second World War. (2nd March Submission)

World War II (1939-1945)

The Second World War or the Conflict was between Sept 3rd 1939 and Sept 2nd 1945. The war involve practically every part of the world. During the year the principle belligerents were the Axis Power Germany, Italy and Japan and the allied Comprise of France, Great Britain, United States, Soviet Union and China. The war was in many respects a continuation after and uneasy First World War, the death incurred in World War Two make it the Bloodiest Conflict as well the largest war in history. By the early part of 1939 the German Dictator Adolf Hitler became more determined to invade and occupy Poland, for its part had guarantee of France and Britain Military should it be attacked by Germany. Hitler intended to invade Poland anyway but he had to neutralize the possibility that the Soviet Union would resist the invasion. Hitler entered into a secret negotiations to the signing of German-Soviet pact, in the secret protocol of the pact the German and Soviet Union agreed that Poland should be divided by them. Hitler taught German will attack Poland without any danger from the Soviet Union or the British. He gave order for the invasion in August 25 in response Britain and France declared war on Germany.

② Another causes of the Second World War was the Treaty of Versailles and the German desire for revenge. Germany came out of the first World War like a pale person, economically crippled position disengaged, Military humbled and potential resources exhausted. She feel her self like an outcast, moral ~~lapsed~~ liper among the nation of the world. The ~~extortionate~~ regret to their external regret and national humiliation they were brought to the Conference room like criminals, the treaty were punitive and left German dispirited and its people were feeling victimized. Nationalistic

German were ready for open ideas by any who offered the chance of ratifying the Versailles treaties.

⑤. Review of Economic: A great Economic Crisis which put Germany in a state of hyper inflation. It was an immediate result of the budget deficit caused by the payment of first instalment of reparation. The situation got to a point of crisis when the first instalment of reparation France and Belgium believed that it was deliberate. The reparation Commission held Germany guilty which gave France and Belgium to advance into the City of Ruhr. The coal rich area in Germany is created depression and unemployment.

⑥. Nazi political Ideology: The growth of National Socialist party. Adolf Hitler exploited the treaty. Adolf Hitler came up with some important programme of the party:

- 1) Demand Equality of right for the German people in their dealing with other nation and the abolition of a peace treaty.
- 2) Lands and territory should be acquired for our people because of our excess population. We demand the union of all Germans to form the great Germany.

⑦. No Jew must be a member of the German Nation.

⑧. Foreign Nationals must be excluded from the City of Reich.

⑨. Alliance with other political groups being taken up by the player. On the other hand Hitler was identified as the key adviser and he was warned about Germany. This split between Soviet Union and Bolshevik Spain together with a left France. Hitler joined hand with Mussolini of Italy, Japan. All this paved way for the German invasion of Russia.

The German action of Sept 1939 signified the start of the major conflict in Europe.

THE UNITED NATION ORGANIZATION.

The United Nation is an inter-governmental organization that aim to maintain international peace. It was established at the end of War II with the aim of preventing another war. It has 51 member and later increased to 193 independent states. Succeeding the ineffective of the League of Nation on 28th April 1945, 50 government met San Francisco and started drafting the United Nations Charter which was adopted in 1945. Part of the Chapter of UN include protecting Human rights, humanitarian and upholding, promoting sustainable development and upholding international law. The UN has six principle organs.

The UN has 6 principle organs.

- ① General Assembly: is the main deliberative assembly of the UN. Comprises of all UN Member States that meet in regular yearly sessions but emergency sessions can also be called. The assembly is led by president elected by Member states, the General assembly decide on important question such as peace and security.
- ② The Security Council is in charge of maintaining peace and security among countries while the other members of the Union can only make recommendation to the member states. The Council of this Security are 5 permanent members, China, France, United States, Russia and United Kingdom.
- ③ The UN Secretariate: This organ is headed by Secretary General assisted by a Deputy Secretary General it provided information needed by the UN body for their meeting and also as spoke person for the UN.

- ④ International Court of Justice: located in Hague in the Netherlands state. International Court of Justice.

is a judicial organ, it consists of 15 judges who serve for 9 years term, the judges must be from different nations. ICI help cases related to War Crime, legal state interference.

⑤. Economic and Social Council: It helps in promoting international Economy and Society Cooperation and development. The members of this Economy Council are elected by the general assembly for 1 year among the smaller or Middle power representatives.

⑥. Specialized Agencies: The UN chapter stipulated that each primary organs that was established has its own duties to fulfil. There are 15 Special Agencies, World Bank, International Board of Reconstruction, UNESCO, UNRWA, UNICEF, IMF, FAO etc.

(OLD) WAR (Super Power Rivalry)

It's another rivalry that developed after the Second World War between the United States, Soviet Union and their respective allies. The Eastern Bloc and the Western Bloc from 1947 - 1991. The word Cold was used because there was no large scale of fighting between the two Super Powers known as proxy war. The war was waged on political, economic propaganda with the use of limited weapon. The West led by United States with the support of other world nation of the Western Bloc there were liberal democrats. The East led by Soviet Union and its Communists party which had influence across the Second World. The Soviet Union were determined to maintain control of Eastern Europe in order to safeguard against any possible threat from Germany and to spread Communists

World wide, the US supported right wing government and uprising across the world, while the Soviet government founded Communism parties and revolution around the world. At this period almost all the Colonial States has achieved independence and were became the battle field for the Cold War. The Cold War reaches its peak in 1948 the United States and its European allies formed the North Atlantic Treaty (NATO) against the Soviet influence in Europe. The Soviet Union also came up with its own Military organization among its Soviet bloc called the Warsaw in 1955 in response to the ~~not~~ NATO. The major crises of the Cold War was the Chinese Civil War, Korea war 1950-1953, The Greek Crisis of 1956 and the ~~post~~ Cuban Missile Crisis. The United States and Soviet Union avoided direct military confrontation in Europe and ~~not~~ engaged in actual combat operation only to keep their allies from defecting to the other side or to overthrow them, the Soviet Union send troops to preserve Communists rule in East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Afghanistan. The United States help in overthrowing a left wing government in Guatemala it also supported unsuccessful invasion Cuba by the Party 1980 United State increased its diplomatic, military and economic pressure on the Soviet Union because the Communist Country is suffering from Economic stagnation. The United States peacefully overthrew all the Communist government of Central and Eastern Europe which led to the decline of USSR. The Cold War had left a significant legacy.