

# **A-LEV EUROPEAN HISTORY**

## **STUDY GUIDE**

### **EXAM FOCUSED NOTES**

## **WHAT'S A REVOLUTION?**

- It is a complete change in the system of a government.**
- The French revolution was a dramatic extract even in modern history for it had a greater impact not only in France but throughout Europe & the world.**
- This is acknowledged by several historians who accept that it marked a great turning point not only in the history of France but the entire world e.g. P.G Wright observed that ; the revolution launched an assault on the aristocratic privileges, feudal dues & dercalism.He maintained that it also brought fundamental changes in the nature of warfare & was a challenge to the whole system of the Ancient Regime.**
- Also the revolution marked an end of the middle ages & saw the beginning of the modern ages i.e. an end to tyranny & dictatorship by the King & the Church.**
- It also resulted in considerable change of political ,economic & social conditions throughout Europe.**
- Moreso the period witnessed the introduction of a population of ideas such as democracy & equality.**
- It must also not be forgotten that, the revolution was the most complex phenomenon which no one single fact can explain i.e. it began as an effort to solve the administration & financial crisis, but during the course it revealed deep seated discontent running through the people of France.**

## **CAUSES OF THE REVOLUTION:**

**THE ADMINISTRATION CRISIS:-**The system of government in France was very corrupt ,oppressive & inefficient. France was ruled by an absolute monarchy who stood at the centre of the administration machinery & had all the powers centred in his hands.

-His position has been referred by D .Thompson as “the hinchpin of the established political & social order.”

-France had 12 provincial courts & these were controlled by officer handpicked & appointed by the King.They had strict instructions to pass judgements in the interest of the king.

-The king ruled with divine rights & had unquestionable authority.He is regarded to have been quoted saying; “the state is myself” & “the thing is legal because I wish it.” All this goes to show how through the arrogance & corruption of the King this system of government displayed the seeds of the revolution. These were decisive factors that contributed largely to the 1789 revolution.

**THE SYSTEM OF PRIVILEGES:-**it is displayed in the division of the French society into 3 Estates i.e.

**(a)THE FIRST ESTATE(THE CLERGY): -**

-out of a total population of 23 million ,this class had 13 000 Priests & monks only yet they enjoyed plenty of privileges & had great influence on society. Their church the Catholic was the state religion.

-It was responsible for the registration of marriages, births & deaths. It also controlled education. It had it's own administration apparatus & operated like a state within a state.

**-therefore it is clear that the church exerted greater influence in determining the attitudes & actions of the king. The king had the right to appoint Bishops & Archbishops & all these offices were filled only with members of the Nobility**

#### **(b)SECOND ESTATE(NOILITY):**

**-most people joined the nobility through marriages or bought administration posts by corruption.**

**-The greatest privilege of this class was that it was exempted from paying tax.**

**-they were also tried in special courts & not in ordinary courts. They also monopolized certain administration posts e.g. in the military, government, church & diplomatic service.**

#### **(c)THIRD ESTATE(Bourgeoise, peasants & urbanites)**

**-They were the most exploited class & each group within this class had it's own grievances.They were highly underprivileged.They paid direct tax to the government(Taille),property tax & the notorious gabelle tax.The unfairness of it was that they were forced to collect the tax themselves & if they failed they had to topup the difference or to be imprisoned.Above all these taxes took most of the peasants's income.Yet the Nobility especially greater nobility owned large pieces of land but were exempted from paying tax & were few in number. The major problem of the system of privileges was that it manifested itself in the unequal distribution of wealth.They wanted equality with the other 2 classes especially political,legal &social privileges.**

**-This treatment beyond humanity provoked a crisis which manifested as an explosive revolution in 1789.**

### **THE SEVEN WEEKS WAR(1775-1783):**

**-It is also known as America's war of independence. Louis XVI participated in this costly foreign adventure which he funded using borrowed money.**

**-the war plus other aggressive foreign policies adopted by the king emptied France's coffers & set the government on the road to bankruptcy.**

### **THE INFLUENCE OF PHILOSOPHERS:**

**-these were great writers & thinkers whose ideas influenced parts of the French society especially the middle class.**

**-they criticized many of the established systems of Louis XVI's government & the church. Examples of these philosophers are:**

#### **(i)VOLTAIRE(1694-1778)**

**-he wrote satirical novels & poems. In these writings he exposed the unjust treatment of the peasants. He also denounced the despotism of the government.**

**As a result he became a great enemy of the church & it never forgave him.**

#### **(ii)MONTESQUIE(1689-1755)**

**-he criticized the principle of divine rights of the king & the despotism of the government. He advocated that government departments should work as checks on the other to end corruption & enhance efficiency.**

**(iii)JEAN JACQUES ROSSEAU(1712-78)**

**-he condemned the oppression of the peasants & sought for the justification of the fact that people were born free & equal in rights yet they were bound in chains everywhere.**

**(iv)THE ENCYCLOPEDIASTS(1751-72)**

**-they were led by Dennis Diderot. They compiled an Encyclopedia which contained all existing knowledge including the evils committed by Louis XVI's government.**

**-as their work went on it became offensive on the government especially the economists who advocated for the abolition of taxation.**

**-the words of the philosophers were meant to advise the King on the ills of the Ancient regime.**

**-eventhough the majority of the French people were illiterate, the contribution of the philosophers in precipitating the revolution should not be underestimated-The works of the philosophers sowed the seeds of the revolution especially in the oppressed third estate. It was because of the philosophers that the bourgeoisies ended demanding a fair share of the political cake e.g. positions in the navy & diplomatic service.**

**-they also ended up demanding political & economic reforms & the abolition of privileges. It was in turn the middle class that relayed the messages of the philosophers to the underprivileged & illiterate peasants.**

### **THE DISMISSAL OF CAPABLE FINANCE MINISTERS:**

**-This was another factor that prepared a fertile ground for the revolution as it exposed the inefficiency & corruption of Louis' government. Louis XVI with the pressure of his arrogant wife Marie Antoinette & the royal class dismissed & booted out of office capable finance ministers like Turgot & Necker. This was after they had advocated for an end to the exemption of taxation on the Nobles & other radical reforms that were intended to revive France's struggling economy.**

**-Given such a situation the French people were furious & a revolution was to occur in the near future as this dismissal dismissed an hopes of economic improvement government but led to mounting discontent & agitation among the people.**

### **REVOLT OF THE NOBLES:**

**-The revolts were a response to effort to the introduction of a fair taxation system. This resistance set in motion a series of events that gave an added impetus to the spirit of the revolution.**

### **POOR HARVESTS:**

-these were engineered by a series of droughts & they precipitated a crisis in 1789. The catastrophe led to serious shortages of bread & other basic commodities, inflation rose to unrealistic levels while rural-urban migration intensified. All this provoked the Paris Mob which marched to Versailles to demand food.

-worse still the rivers froze making the movement of food & basic commodities by the king impossible.

-Infact the misery caused by the drought created an explosive situation that resulted in the Paris Mob becoming restless & ready to move into action.

#### **THE CALLING OF THE ESTATES GENERAL MEETING:**

-the calling of the meeting exposed the king's incompetence. Louis XVI called each Estate to come up with a list of grievances (cahiers). The problem occurred when the estates set down to discuss & solve the grievances. The estates argued on the procedure of voting.

-the king hoped that the old system of voting by estate would carry on but when the third estate demanded voting by head, the king became reactionary. The 3<sup>rd</sup> estate broke the deadlock by converting itself into a National Assembly, with full powers.

-the king's effort to disband the Assembly provoked the Paris Mob which stormed into the Bastille Prison freeing prisoners & looting guns.

-the storming of the Bastille was symbolic to the fall of the Old Regime as the prison stood as a sign of oppression.

#### **THE SAN-CULLOTES**



**Were patriotic citizens of the lower & middle classes who**

**-Were part of the paris mob involved in...**

**-storming of the bastille.**

**-formation of the National Asembly.**

**-drafting of the 1791 constituiton.**

**-reign of terror.**

## **THE COURSE OF THE REVOLUTION**

**-The revolution took 10 years 1789-1799. Throughout this revolutionary period there were 4 successive governments:**

## **THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY(1789-91):**

## **EVENTS THAT LED TO THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**(i)The May 1789 Riots:-these were generated by the economic crisis caused by the poor harvests of 1788-89 & they spread throughout the provinces of France.**

**-public opinion during the period demanded an end to priviledges & the calling of the Estates General meeting to solve the crisis.**

**(ii)The Calling of the Estates General/State General Meeting**

-the cahiers submitted indicated that all the estates needed a monarchy. They condemned despotism & absolutism. They also desired a constitution. Other grievances expressed the need for equality, legal reforms, simple court procedures, abolition of life appointment of judges, decrease in tithes & religious freedom.

(iii)The issue of voting procedure:

-the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Estates refused to accept the new system of voting demanded by the 3<sup>rd</sup> estate.

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

-it came up with the *Declaration of the Rights of Man.*

-it laid the foundation for a new government. It laid down the basic principles such as equality, sovereignty, freedom & equality in taxation.

-the position of the church was transformed.

-they introduced a new law called *The Civil Constitution of the Clergy(CCC)*.

- under this law,

-Church property was seized , nationalized & it issued paper money(assignats) as security.

-the number of Bishops was slashed from 135 down to 83 which

**fitted the number of departments.**

**-Every Priest & Bishop had to take Oath before the CCC.**

**-every member of the clergy was to become a civil servant & had to be**

**elected into office by people.**

**-the CCC abolished tithes & renounced feudal rights.**

**-religious orders were also banned.**

**-it abolished the tax privileges of the clergy & nobility.**

**-the local government was also revolutionalised – it divided the government into 83 departments. Each department had 6-7 districts. Cantons were subdivided into municipalities.**

**-the powers of the executive were reduced.**

**=These changes by the Assembly had far reaching impact on the Clergy & the Nobility. Many feared for their lives & ran into exile & became known as *Emigres*.**

**-The King having signed the CCC unwillingly tried to flee from the country but failed.**

## **THE 1791 CONSTITUTION**

**-By September 1791 a new Constitution was drafted.**

**-it was a set of laws that were to give France a new look.**

### **Contents of the Constitution:**

**-the king's powers were revised.**

**-France was to be ruled by a Constitutional Monarchy(powers limited by the Constitution).**

**-he was to rule by the grace of God & by the will of the people i.e. powers were delegated to him by the people.**

**-he was given powers to appoint Ministers,Ambassadors,members of the diplomatic service & to control finances.**

**-he was put in charge of foreign policy.**

**-he was to be assisted by an executive of 145 MPs who paid tax & were voted into office by people.**

**-the Legislature made laws,controlled government expenses & fixed taxes.**

**-the judiciary was made democratic.**

**-a new system was established from district up to department level.**

**-judges & magistrates were to be elected by people.**

**-the jury system was introduced.**

**-torture, lettres de cachet & exposure of offenders to public humiliation were all abolished.**

**-offenders were given the right to seek lawyers.**

**-all aristocratic privileges were banned.**

**-4 000 cantons/communities were established & these were self-governed by Mayors & Councillors.**

**#The National Assembly dissolved after completing the task of drafting the new Constitution.**

## **THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**-it began work from end of 1791 to September 1792.**

**It was also met with several challenges from neighbouring countries which were waging a war against France to reinstate Louis XVI back to his position.**

**-historic events that occurred during the period include; the abolition of the monarchy, the execution of Louis XVI, intensification of the war with the 1<sup>st</sup> coalition & the drafting of the Constitution of 1793.**

**-it was dominated by club politics of the middle class & therefore the L.A did not introduce significant domestic reforms.**

**-the clubs that dominated the Assembly were:**

**(i)JACOBINS:**

**-they were leftists from the National Assembly.They put a lot of pressure to the L.A from outside.**

**-Well known members include people like Maximillan Robspierre & Marat.**

**-The Jacobins had branches countrywide & very strong support in Paris.It consisted mainly of the middle class.**

**-They wanted to dispose the monarchy & therefore carried out violent activities.**

#### **(ii)CORDLIERS:**

**-it was a small group based in Paris.It was made up of the working class.They wanted a Republic led by the middle class.**

**-Well known members include Danton.**

#### **(iii)FEUILLANTS:**

**-They were rightists & were more in number than the Jacobins in the L.A.They were conservative & wanted to maintain the monarchy.**

**-Lamentably they were very disorganized & confused as compared to the Jacobins.**

**#The L.A passed a law which condemned to death all Emigres if they did not return by January 1792.**

**#It also passed a law which severely punished all Priests who refused to take oath to the Civil Constitution of the Clergy.**

**#The first ministries appointed by the King were dominated by Feuillants but these were dismissed after violent public demonstrations when the king refused to accept the law concerning Priests & nobles. These actions were interpreted as a sign of sympathizing with enemies of the people.**

**-A new ministry dominated led by Girondins was appointed -these wanted a new constitution & to depose the monarchy.**

**-More so pressure for war with Austria & Prussia intensified.**

**-The L.A also fought the 1792 war.**

## **THE 1792 WAR**

### **Causes of the War**

**(i)-The growing ideological differences between the Revolutionaries & the monarchs in Europe. The monarchs feared that if the revolution was not crushed in France it would spread across Europe.**

**(ii)-the different clubs also hoped to use war for different advantages e.g the Jacobins wanted it to export the Revolution outside France & overthrow all monarchs.**

**(iii)-the revolutionaries hoped it would divert attention from home & face foreign enemies & Emigres.**

**(iv)The *Declaration of Pillnitz*:-it was passed by the Prussia & Austria after being requested by Louis XVI & Emigres.**

**-The Declaration gave Austria & Prussia the powers to control events inside France from August 1791.**

**The declaration was received differently in all the countries:**

**-In France the new Girondins ministry wanted war & used the Declaration as an excuse to declare war.This strengthened patriotism & a move towards republicanism.**

**-In Austria the new Emperor wanted war.**

**(v)The *Brunswick Manifesto* of July 1792-it was written by the Duke of Brunswick with the support of Austria & Prussia.**

**The manifesto stated that any further action against it's demands would be taken as a revolution & this would lead to a drastic punishment of Paris.**

**-the manifesto resulted in violent demonstration by the Paris Mob & it went ahead to demand the removal of Louis XVI from power.**

**-France declared war against Prussia & war began.**

**-Louis removed the Girondins accusing them of starting a war.The Cordeliers led by Danton accused the king of stabbing France in the back.**

**-In August Danton staged a coup & took over power.The king was suspended.**



## **The September Massacres:**

**-In September 1792 Danton & the Cordeliers in 5 days brutally killed all Priests & Royalists imprisoned in various prisons in Paris & they demanded all Communes to do the same.**

**-Louis was disposed as the king of France & was found guilty of treason.**

**-On the battle front the French Army was crushing Prussia & this revived the spirit of the revolutionaries.**

**-On the other hand the Jacobins led by Robespierre worked hard to dissolve the L.A so as to establish a new convention to draft a new Constitution.**

**-They went ahead & declared that France would help any country in Europe to overthrow tyranny.**

## **THE NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**-It was the 3<sup>rd</sup> revolutionary government in France. It was dominated by the Jacobins. As soon as they got into office they abolished the system of the monarchy & declared that France was now a republic i.e from Sept 1792.**

**-They went on to draft a new Constitution for that Republic.**

**-Under this Constitution all male adults were given the right to vote (although in reality this never happened).**

**-The N.A was very aggressive,brutal & used force & dictatorship.It also used it's several Jacobin Clubs countrywide to implement it's policies.**

**-The government was put under a special committee known as The Committee of Public Safety (C.P.S)set up in 1792.The C.P.S was led by Danton.**

**-It controlled the police & the National Guard(army).**

**-In 1793 Danton was accused of not being brutal enough & was replaced by Robespierre ,an extremist who was prepared to use any force necessary to achieve the aims of the C.P.S.This resulted in what has been referred in history as the reign of terror.**

## **THE REIGN OF TERROR**

**-it was a period under which the Jacobin led Convention used brutal methods to get rid of all people against the Revolution in France.**

**-The policy of terror was designed to instill fear on traitors,royalists & anyone who did not support the cause of the revolution.**

**-During the period of the terror normal function of the government was suspended.**

## **CAUSES OF THE TERROR**

**(i)-Internal revolts aimed at overthrowing the Jacobin government that broke out in about 60 departments around France, made the Jacobins to use force to suppress them & establish order.**

**(ii)-In Paris & elsewhere the price of bread,having stabilized for a year rose sharply.Other basic commodities became scarce.Food shortages hit the nation & the assignats dropped in value while inflation multiplied.Instability increased as people resisted conscription & there was unemployment**

**(iii)-The external threat as France suffered defeats in it's foreign adventures.**

**-In the face of these threats the government resorted to drastic measures, repression & the guillotine to safeguard the interest of the revolution.**

## **THE INSTRUMENTS OF TERROR**

**-The terror was systematically implemented using several methods:**

**(i)The Committee of Public Safety:**

**-It controlled the course of the revolution from September 1792.It was a forceful instrument that sent many people to the guillotine.**

**-It controlled the police & national guard.It also appointed ministers , sentenced suspects who were finally sent to the guillotine.**

**-It also sent many intelligence agents(spies) on special missions.**

**(ii)The Revolutionary Tribunal:**

**-it was set up to try suspects or those who were accused of betraying the revolution.The Tribunal in the end fed up many people to the guillotine.**

**(iii)The Law of Suspects:**

**-It allowed the C.P.S to put suspects in prison without trial.In the end it caused many to be imprisoned & executed because they were suspected of not supporting the revolution e.g. revolts in the department of La Vendee were ruthlessly crushed by the army which fired live bullets directly into people.**

**(iv)The Law of Maximum:**

**-it reduced the price of wheat & bread.It was beneficial to the mass as the people were able to buy bread & flour.However it was a loss to the farmers who got little from the sales.**

**(v)The Law of 22 Prairial**

**-the law punished to death all people who were accused to be of bad moral character.It made many people to loose their lives.In the end it increased opposition against Robespierre.**

**RESULTS OF THE TERROR**

**-Many historian have summarized the terror as a necessary evil which was designed to overcome a national state of emergency.**

**-It's instruments were extremely brutal & the impact far reaching.**

**-The main results were;**

**(i)-it resulted in the death of many innocent lives which were brought to Tribunal & passed on to the guillotine.**

(ii)-the spirit of opposing the revolution began to die e.g. after the ruthless crushing of internal revolts in the department of La Vendee.

(iii)-the external enemy was contained & pushed far away from France's borders.

(iv)-the destruction of Christianity by the Herbertists created disunity in the country.

(v)-it resulted in the Thermodorian Convention- it agreed that the terror had reached a climax & had to be stopped.This resulted the arrest of Robespierre & his supporters in July 1794.They were also guillotined.

### IMPACT OF THE DEATH OF ROBESPIERRE

-the terror stopped

-The C.P.S lost power & the Tribunal was abolished.

-All Jacobin clubs were ordered to close.

-Religious freedom was reintroduced.

-the drafting of a new Constitution began-*The Directory*

### THE DIRECTORY(1795-99)

-It was the last revolutionary government in France.It was to be under a Directory of 5 men & the Assembly was to have 2 houses .i.e. a Council of 500 plus a Council of 250 Elders.The 250 chose the Directory from the names submitted to it by the Council of 500.

**-Directory was faced with several challenges .e.g. it continued to fight foreign armies & the internal revolts that continued.**

**-Therefore from 1795 the army became an important organ in the politics of France. .e.g. -A royalist revolt was crushed by Napoleon Bonaparte.**

**-1797 revolts were also crushed by Napoleon.**

**-historians are agreed to the fact that the Directory did not bring anything significant in France.It was corrupt & full of scandals as the leaders were self-seeking politicians who did not have the wishes of people at heart.**

**-The people continued to hate the war with foreign armies & wanted it to end so that the domestic problems could be solved.**

**-In 1799 Napoleon who had gained popularity from the Italian campaign (1797)staged a coup & took over power.**

**QUN.THE WEAKNESSES OF THE DIRECTORY FAR OUTWEIGHED ITS SUCCESSES,DO YOU AGREE/DISCUSS?**

**WEEKNESSES OF THE DIRECTORY**

**-They failed to solve the financial crisis in France.**

**-continuos political instability.(wars)**

**-failed to get rid of the ghost of corruption.(corruption resurfaced).**

- was weak militarily therefore faced many coups.
- failed to put down social disorder.
- economic crisis resurfaced (limited/low investment)
- failed to stamp out inflation
- slow and ineffective decision making

### **SUCSESSES OF THE DIRECTORY**

- was the longest serving government of the four in France during the revolution.
- succeeded to overthrow dictatorship (SELFISH RULE).
- Improved on food crisis to some extent
- partially reduced corruption and inflation even though these resurfaced rampantly at a later stage.
- leaders were dertermined as they initially tried to please the masses in the early days but later became self centered as they tried to safe guard a longer stay in positions of leadership.
- France developed some relatively uniform administration during the time of the directory.

### **BENEFITS OF THE FR. REVOLUTION**

**-The Revolution brought equality before the law, administration reforms ,fair taxation, liberated industry & commerce, abolished feudalism, land redistribution, transference of power from the Nobles & Clergy to the bourgeoisies, expansion of schools, colleges, museums & libraries.**

## **IMPACT OF THE FR. REVOLUTION**

**-It wiped out the old orders in politics, economics & social life.**

**-many people began to demand Constitutional reforms & an end to monarchical governments in their countries**

## **THE RISE OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE**

**-He was born in Prussia. Attended a military school in France in 1784.**

**-1785 he was appointed a Lieutenant & commanded an artillery brigade 1793.**

**-In 1795 he crushed internal revolts in Paris & was promoted to command the army.**

## **FACTORS THAT LED TO THE RISE OF NAPOLEON**

**-Napoleon was a military genius as displayed by successes in his military genius & this won him support from people.**

**-the people of France were tired of the war & wanted peace. Therefore they were prepared to support anyone who promised this peace. This is supported by historians who argue that “the time was ripe for a soldier with genius for organization to take over authority.”**



**-The Directory had proved to be a total failure for it failed to bring significant solution to France's problems.**

**-The people wanted a new government led by a strong leader which would rescue them from the problems & guarantee the gains of the revolution. Napoleon by that time had proved to be the right candidate with such qualities.**

**-Napoleon's extra-ordinary character showed that he had the brains to handle all kinds of situations .e.g. with very limited resources, small army & poor equipment he fought successful battles.**

## **DOMESTIC POLICIES/MEASURES**

### **(i)LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

**-He organised the local government along revolutionary lines although he included his own ideas.**

**-He placed himself at the top of the state administration machinery**

**-As 1<sup>st</sup> Consulate he had all powers centred in his hands.The final decision laid in his hands.He made laws,appointed & dismissed officials & could declare war or peace.**

**-He maintained the system of departments & these were led by Prefects-who were personally handpicked & appointed by him.**

**-Districts were changed to become arondishments & these were led by sub-prefects who were also appointed by him.**

**-Communes/Municipalities were led by Mayors but these were chosen by Prefects.**

**#It is therefore evident from his reorganization of the local government that Napoleon centralized all power of the structures of the local government & controlled French life from his base in Paris.**

## **(ii)EDUCATION:**

**-He revised the education system of France.He left primary education in the hands of the church but the government controlled secondary,tertiary & university education.**

**-The government designed syllabi,appointed teachers & enforced regulations through education inspectors.**

**-History & Philosophy were banned.These subject were accused as dangerous subjects as they encouraged critical & independent thinking.**

**-He introduced 6 400 education rewards(bursaries) for best students.However 2 400 of the bursaries were reserved for sons of his government friends.This sidelined the majority if ordinary citizens .**

**-He went on to establish semi-military schools(lyceers).These schools trained students to be royal citizens & helped to spread Napoleonic propaganda.**

**-The University of France was established & it had 16 branches throughout the country.It was controlled by a Grandmaster chosen by Napoleon & was answerable to him.**

## **(iii)THE CONCORDAT:**

**It was a treaty between the state & the church. It was after Napoleon realized that religion was very important in improving relations which had been destroyed by the Civil Constitution of the Clergy in the country.**

**-The Concordat allowed Catholicism to be the state religion & since the majority of the people in France were Catholics they were needed for support.**

**-However other religions were also allowed to continue to function thereby promoting freedom of religion.**

**-Church land which had been sold or distributed to peasants was not returned.**

**-Bishops were to be chosen by Napoleon even though they were to be blessed by the Pope.**

#### **(iv) THE NAPOLEONIC CODE:**

**This was the Codification of the Law. It was the interpretation of the law as it affected every citizen.**

**-This was because since 1789 people were so much confused & not aware of the Law that governed France.**

**-Everyone was to be equal before the Law.**

**-It produced a Civic Code which looked at marriage, divorce & inheritance. This Code was meant to improve family life which Napoleon believed was the foundation of constructing national unity.**

**-Sons were not allowed to marry under the age of 25 & girls under the age of 21 without their father's approval.**

**-After the death of a father inheritance went to the first born son.**

**-Other Codes looked at aspects of French life as they were applied in other European countries.**

**-However a close analysis of the new law indicated that it gave too much authority on men & sidelined women thereby ignoring the principle of equality.**

**-But despite this it preserved a lot of changes brought about by the revolution .e.g. equality of people before the law as well as freedom of religion.**

#### **(v)LEGION OF HONOUR(1802):**

**-It was a recognition of people's talents.The L.H gave people from all parts of the society the opportunity to display their talents & make them useful to society. This went along way in promoting equality before the law & created a privileged group loyal to Napoleon.**

**-Moreso through the L.H he created a well of friends around such that if disaster struck he would have support.**

#### **(vi)PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMMES:**

**-several projects were established to solve unemployment .i.e the construction of bridges, railway lines, roads e.t.c**

**-this resulted in Paris becoming the most beautiful city in France.**

**-The works boosted the people's support for Napoleon as he was seen as having the people's wishes at heart.**

### **(vii)INDUSTRY & COMMERCE:**

**-to please the business sector Napoleon established a stable economic environment. He stabilized currency, imposed high tariffs to encourage the growth of the local manufacturing industry.**

**-The currency was stabilized on a gold basis.**

**-The bank of France was established to give aid for development.**

**-the result was industrial expansion & an economic boom.**

## **FOREIGN POLICIES**

### **1.THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN**

#### **The importance of the Italian Campaign**

**-In 1796-7 he led the French army on the *Italian Campaign* during which he brutally defeated the Austria & made them to sign a peace treaty, the Treaty of Campo-Folmos in 1797.**

**-It gave Napoleon the opportunity to display his military genius. With a small , ill-equipped army he brutally defeated the Austrians.**

**-France gained a lot of territory-.i.e .the land between Belgium & the Rhineland.**

**-He acquired a lot of treasure & artefacts which he used in the restoration of France.**

**-The defeat of Austria during the campaign resulted in the creation of the Republic of Northern Italy.**

**-it made him to be sent on the Egyptian Campaign in which he displayed his military genius by defeating the British at the Battle of Pyramids.**

## **2.EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN**

**-Between 1789-90 led the army on the *Egyptian Campaign*. The aim of the campaign was to destroy Britain economically before attempting to destroy it on land.**

**-It was during these campaigns that he earned popularity among the people of France & in 1799 he abandoned the Egyptian campaign & returned home where he successfully staged a coup & got into power.**

**-He went on to establish a Consulate of 3 & he became the 1<sup>st</sup> Consul. According to the Constitution the Consuls were appointed for 10 years.**

**-The first Consul had the absolute power, make laws, appoint & dismiss & could make peace or war.**

**-He further took a giant step to consolidate his position by creating an imperial dictatorship as Napoleon 1.**

### **3.THE PEACE TREATY OF AMIENS(1802):**

- In 1802,Napoleon reached a peace agreement with Britain as they couldn't effectively attack each other during the war.**
- Under the agreement Britain was to return all the colonies she had conquered to their original countries except Celon & Trinidad.**
- France was to restore Egypt & evacuate Rome & Southern Italy.**
- However, it was a good agreement but it failed to realise that France & British imperialism can not co-exist together & in1803 war broke out again.**

### **4.THE WAR WITH BRITAIN(1803)**

- The war broke out again because the 2 failed to keep the terms of the Peace of Amiens.**
- Napoleon violated the terms of the agreement by refusing to accept British colonial & economic supremacy.This was because Britain was too powerful such that France could'nt exercise economic control of Europe.**
- Britain who had hopes for free trade with France was angered by France's high tariffs.France also continued to sent spies to Egypt & Britain got suspicious.War broke out in May 1803.**

### **5.THE TREATY OF TILSIT(1807)**

- It was signed secretly between France & Russia.**

**-According to the treaty Russia was forced to recognize Napoleon's territory in Italy & Germany.**

**-Napoleon's brother Joseph was recognized as the King of the new Kingdom of Westphalia.**

**-Louis Bonaparte was recognised as the King of Holland & Prussia.**

## **6. THE PENINSULAR WAR(1808)**

**-It was fought with Spain & Portugal. The spirit of nationalism in these countries united the people who resisted Napoleon's Continental system.**

**-these 2 countries had hoped to establish very profitable trade with Britain.**

**-France attacked the 2 countries at the same time. Fierce resistance by the Spanish guerrillas made France to surrender. This encouraged other countries to abandon the Continental System.**

## **7. THE MOSCOW CAMPAIGN(1811)**

**-The campaign was motivated by Napoleon's desire to enforce the Continental System in Russia after Russia had dropped the system because it was not profitable.**

**-Napoleon mobilized an army of more than 600 000 soldiers & invaded Russia. France suffered severe defeats & in the end a remnant of 20 000 survived & returned home to tell the sad tale of the bloody conflict of Borodino, the Flames of Moscow, the ravaging diseases & the chilling cold as well as the harassment of the Russian forces.**



**-Napoleon deserted his troops & fled back home as he knew that Europe would be encouraged by his defeat & rise against him.**

## **NAPOLEON'S DOWNFALL**

### **THE CONTINENTAL SYSTEM:**

**-It was France's strategy of trying to isolate Britain after military methods had failed.**

**-Through the system Napoleon hoped to suffocate Britain's export markets by discouraging other European countries from trading with Britain. This would then deal an economic death blow to Britain.**

**-He issued the Berlin & Milan Decrees in certain European countries to achieve his system.**

**-However the system failed to affect Britain significantly because;**

**(i) Britain had vast financial resources & naval power which she used to develop**

**a system of smuggling & underground trade & her economy continued to**

**survive.**

**(ii) many European countries remained committed not to implement the system**

**as this would have destroyed their economies which also heavily depended**

**on Britain.**

**-As a result Napoleon's efforts to enforce the system dragged him into 2 disastrous campaigns .i.e. the Peninsular war & Moscow Campaign.**

### **THE EXHAUSTION OF FRANCE:**

**-The above campaigns made France very tired & she became unable to supply enough troops to replace those he lost in the wars. As a result he lost support at home.**

### **THE RISE OF NATIONALISM:**

**-Napoleon's attempts to enforce the system in Spain & Portugal as well as to force the 2 to supply him with troops & resources backfired & fuelled nationalism in these two countries. It was this force of nationalism that united the people to fight & defeat him.**

### **THE LARGE FRENCH EMPIRE**

**-the French empire by 1814 had become too large for one man to effectively handle. He ended up depending too much on foreign armies for his war adventures.**

### **THE FORMATION OF THE FOURTH COALITION:**

**-It was made up of Russia, Britain, Austria & Prussia. It was the first time France faced 4 European political giants.**

**-The coalition successfully divided Napoleon's forces & brutally harassed them.**

**-He was defeated in several battles in 1813 & was captured in 1814 & was sent to the island of Elba.**

## **THE VIENNA PEACE SETTLEMENT**

### **BACKGROUND:**

**-The dormination of Europe by Napoleon forced the major European powers i.e the 4<sup>th</sup> coalition(Britain,Russia,Austria & Prussia),to unite to defeat him.**

**-This alliance was carried into the peace time period with the aim of**

**(i) preserving the dynastic states in Europe.**

**(ii) settling any disputes peacefully.**

**-Because of this, the 4<sup>th</sup> coalition later agreed on the idea of the "Concert of Europe" through which they were to act as a Congress.**

**-The settlement was based on different but interlocked agreements.**

**-The agreement signed were;**

**(i)THE TREATY OF CHAMOUNT(March 1815)**

**-It was signed by the members of the 4<sup>th</sup> coalition.**

**-They agreed to overthrow Napoleon.**

**-They also agreed to maintain the alliance for 20 years so as to guard the territorial arrangements made after the overthrowing of Napoleon.**

**-Moreover they agreed to restore the Bourbons in France i.e Louis XVIII who had fled upon the arrival of Napoleon.**

### **(ii)THE FIRST TREATY OF PARIS(May 1815)**

**-It was a lenient agreement signed by the coalition with France so that she would not keep a grudge & that the new King Louis XVIII would not lose popularity.**

**-According to the agreement France's borders were reduced to those of 1792. She lost Belgium & the left bank of the river Rhine.**

**-She was to keep her colonies.**

**-No army of occupation was stationed inside France.**

**-She was not to pay reparations.**

**-She was allowed to attend discussions at the settlement but not as a member of the settlement.**

### **(iii)THE HOLY ALLIANCE(Sept 1815)**

**-The leaders agreed to rule on christian principles i.e acting as brothers to each other & as fathers to their people.**

**-This was proposed by Tsar Alexander I of Russia who was inspired by strong religious emotions.**

**-As quoted by D. Richards Castlereigh disapproved the alliance & called it “a piece of sublime mysticism & nonsense” while Metternich called it “a loud sounding nothing”.**

#### **(iv)THE SECOND TREATY OF PARIS(Nov 1815)**

**-Whilst the powers were busy preparing a settlement Napoleon escaped from Elba but was later defeated by the 4<sup>th</sup> coalition at Waterloo.**

**-The coalition was angered & therefore they signed a harsh second treaty with France.**

**-According to the term of this treaty,**

**-France’s borders were reduced to those of 1790.**

**-She was to pay reparations & a joint allied army was stationed inside France until the reparations were paid.**

**-Napoleon was sent to the isolated island of St Helena where he later died at the age of 56years.**

#### **(v)THE QUADRUPLE ALLIANCE(Nov 1815)**

**-The powers agreed to work together as a Congress in order to suppress France.**

**-They also agreed to promote common interests & to discuss any important matters affecting Europe.**

### **THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA(Nov 1814- June 1815)**

**-The Big 4 that met at Vienna to discuss the future of Europe were:**

**(i) Austria was represented by Prince Clemens von Metternich.**

**(ii) England --- Lord Castlereigh.**

**(iii) Russia --- Prime Minister Handernburg.**

**(iv) Prussia --- Tsar Alexander I .**

**(v) France was represented by Talleyrand while other smaller nations were represented by their Kings , Ministers & Princes but these were not allowed to attend on the most important issues.**

**-Almost all European nations were represented.**

### **AIMS OF THE CONGRESS:**

**(i)- to redraw the map of Europe while sharing the spoils as rewards to the allies without causing conflict.**

**-While they attempted to share the spoils, the powers disagreed on the sharing of Poland & Saxony & this Poland – Saxony question almost divided them into 2 camps.This was because Prussia & Russia demanded the 2 states while Britain & Austria on the other side opposed the move.France supported Britain & Austria.**

**-However to avoid an explosive confrontation a peaceful arrangement was agreed.**

**-Prussia had territorial gains in the North i.e ½ of Saxony , Sweden, Pomerania & the Rhineland.**

**-Austria gained in the South & West i.e Holland ,Lombardy ,Venetia , Parma , Tuscany , Modena & Venice.**

**-Russia gained in the North & the Balkans.**

**-Britain gained Islands in the West Indies, Ceylon , the Cape of Malta & Heligoland.**

**(ii)- creating a stable Europe in which there would be a balance of power. This was meant to avoid future trouble because through the balance of power there would be no power , powerful than the others. This was to be achieved through creating a ring of powerful nations around France which would act as barriers against future France aggression e.g the formation of the confederation of Germany states on the eastern side of France.**

**(iii)- to maintain an effective alliance of the big four so that they would keep acting together as a Congress in matters affecting Europe.**

**(iv)- to discuss the principle of legitimacy i.e the restoration of true regimes. This was meant to guard against the spread of ideas of the French Revolution & the effects of Napoleon's rule. This was spearheaded by Metternich & Talleyrand who hated nationalism & liberalism.**

**-the principle led to the restoration of some of the rulers in western Europe e.g. the rulers of Spain & Naples as well as those of Parma , Tuscany & Modena.**

## **CRITICISM OF THE VIENNA CONGRESS**

**-With regard to it's intended aims the Vienna settlement has been regarded to a larger extent as successful. This was because;**

**(i)- The Congress was justified in it's search for stability & indeed that stability prevailed for the 40years that followed. This is supported by A.H Herder who observed that ,the diplomatic skills laid in 1815 were like a small path cut through a jungle of international relations that proved useful throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century.However It's failures were not in terms of the settlement but the type of leaders who for the decades that followed were entrusted with the application of the terms.**

**(ii)-The concept of the balance of power which was the principal aim of the settlement became the most successful achievement of the settlement. This is evidenced by the fact that this B.O.P became a prominent feature of the period as no one power achieved any kind of domination that France had achieved before 1814.**

**(iii)-The Holy Alliance coined by Tsar Alexander I of Russia despite it being regarded as a cheap document in European diplomacy, was regarded & used by Metternich as a weapon of direct intervention in the affairs of smaller states & in support of the idea of the monarchy. Therefore the Holy Alliance & it's interventionist policy preserved the ideological & territorial arrangements at the settlement in the period after 1815.**



(iv)-According to the Congress , repression both in ideology & force had to be used first to maintain stability. This principal was later adopted at the Congress of Troppau(1820) & was applied successfully against liberal risings in Naples & Piedmont in 1821 & Spain in 1822.

(v)-The cornerstone of the settlement was the future of France herself. The allies were concerned about the Bornapartist resurgence & the containment of France. Thus to attain this they were successful in forcing the French to accept the restoration of the Bourbons.

(vi)-The establishment of the Quadruple Alliance also sowed seeds of international co-operation as it saw France being admitted in 1818.

(vii)-It's idea of the Concert of Europe was perhaps the most lasting achievement of the settlement & according to commentators it earns comparison to the League of Nations(1919) & the United Nations(1945).

-However Napoleon's wars of liberation had been a crusade of the people , but the people & their desires were kept out of the discussions. Because of this the Congress therefore stored up future trouble.

-Moreso eventhough the arrangements made were mearnt to guard Europe against future France aggression it ignored one of the most important factors that had helped to defeat Napoleon i.e. *NATIONALISM*.

-This was because the Big 4 shared smaller nations at the expense of human rights & these nations ended being placed under foreign governments which they disliked. This growth of nationalism later proved to be a force behind wars in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

-This is supported by Peacock who observed that the settlement was more concerned with defensive arrangements than with nationality.

**-A . Ramm in agreement says the peacemakers restored the old order because they were untouched by the new ideas & did not understand their effects.**

**-Finally the Congressmen agreed to meet in future Congresses.**

## **THE CONGRESS SYSTEM**

**-According to the Quadruple Alliance the powers were to work together so as to suppress France.**

**-They also agreed to hold periodic meetings to discuss.**

## **THE CONGRESS AIX-LA-CHAPELLE (1818)**

**-The Congress renewed France's position by restoring her as a great power leading to the reformation of the Quadruple Alliance to become the Quintuple Alliance.**

**-The powers also agreed to withdraw the army of occupation that was stationed in France.**

**-Also France's co-operation was accepted in Congress.**

**-They also agreed to protect the Jews in Europe.**

**-However the congress also witnessed a lot of disagreements that threatened the smooth operation of the alliance. This is supported by D. Richards who commented that "there were genuine efforts to produce a unified policy among the powers but their interests were too diverse for this effort to have much success."**

**e.g. (i) the powers could not agree on a joint operation to punish the Barbary Pirates operating in the Mediterranean because of the fear of Russian ships in the same area.**

**(ii) Prussia & Russia wanted the alliance to guarantee the territorial arrangements made at Vienna as well as to intervene wherever there was a revolution in Europe. This was not supported by Britain who was against the policy of intervention in other countries' affairs.**

**(iii)-Other powers opposed Britain's proposal to send a naval force to search ships for slaves.**

### **THE CONGRESS OF TROPPAU(1820)**

**-Britain & France were not present at the Congress. It was attended by Austria , Prussia & Russia.**

**-It was a reaction to the revolts that broke out in Naples & Piedmont. They wanted to discuss whether it was necessary to send an allied army to suppress the revolts as well as the way forward in suppressing liberal revolutions throughout Europe.**

**-The absence of France & Britain was a reflection of the increasing differences among the allies.**

**-As observed by A. Ramm, Castlereigh of Britain even declared the Congress a "destitute of common sense."**

**-The result of the Congress was the signing of the Troppau Protocol which reinforced unity among the powers.**

**-The Protocol stated that “...the powers bind themselves by peaceful means to bring back the quity states into the Great alliance...”**

### **THE CONGRESS OF LIABACH (1821)**

**-The Congress gave Metternich authority to send an army to suppress revolutions in Naples & Piedmont.**

**-The army managed to restore the overthrown Kings back to their positions.**

**-Also revolts broke out in Greece against their Turkish rulers & they hoped to get help from Russia.**

**-Towards the end of 1821 Britain & Austria met & agreed to call for a meeting to stop Russia’s intervention in Turkey.**

**-However before this Congress there were political disturbances in Spain. France began to talk of interference.**

**-Castlereigh committed suicide & was replaced by Canning who had the determination to break up the alliance.**

### **THE CONGRESS OF VERONA(1822)**

**-Discussions were centered on Spain. France wanted support to intervene but Britain refused.**

**-A. Ramm noted that “this was a bombshell that prevented the alliance from acting by armed force in Spain.”**

**-However France got promising support from the 3 other members.**

**-As noted by Peacock from thereon Canning's policy was "Every nation for itself & God for us all". This was a blow to the solidarity of the Congress System**

**-In 1823 France restored the old government in Spain but Spain was facing rebellions in her Latin American colonies.**

**-In December 1823 the USA passed the Morae Doctrine which warned Europe that America was no longer open to European colonization.**

**-The same month a Congress was called to discuss Spanish America.**

**-Britain did not send a representative.**

**-Austria , Prussia ,France & Russia abandoned the idea after USA & Britain had shown each other support to fight the alliance if it interfered in the revolutions in America.**

**-As observed by D. Richards "the alliance was at it's last legs"**

## **THE FAILURE OF THE CONGRESS SYSTEM**

### **REASONS FOR THE FAILURE OF THE SYSTEM**

**(i)-vital issues arose on which Britain could not agree with her partners e.g revolutions in Spain , Italy & Greece**

**(ii) small powers were not present & therefore they did not feel like giving the territorial arrangement much support. The Congress violated their rights & this shows it was never universal.**

**-Infact as observed by Peacock the system after 1820 became a trade union of Kings to suppress the liberty of the people.**

**(iii) According to D. Richards Britain destroyed the alliance because she thought it threatened her interests & pocket-touching matters such as trade with the Spanish Congress.**

**(iv) Other historians such as LCB Seaman argue that there was no such a thing as the Congress but rather it was a creation of historians. He however notes that if they were there , there was little systematic about them.**

**(v)-according to Seaman the alliance had no tangible principle on co-operation. The self interests on the powers destroyed the Congress.**

## **THE METTERNICH SYSTEM**

**-Prince Metternich had been a great advocate of the Congress System as he felt it provided a good platform for political negotiations.**

**-he wanted members of the Quadruple Alliance to use the necessary force to suppress the emergency of revolutions in any other European country as had happened in France.**

**-however by 1825 the system had collapsed & future peace in Europe depended on individual leaders.**

**-the centre stage of such a situation in Europe was dominated by Metternich.**

## **WHO WAS METTERNICH**

**-An Austrian born from one of the popular upper class families. By tradition he had come to hate everything in the words liberalism (e.g. equality of class & all freedoms) & nationalism.**

**-He called these national poisons & democratic rubbish & this increased his hatred for the French Revolution.**

**-From the Congress of Vienna to the death of Francis 1 he directed the policies of the Habsburg (Austrian) empire & his influence affected the government policies of other European countries**

## **PRINCIPLES OF THE SYSTEM**

*A principle is the basic truth used as a measurement for common thinking.*

**(i)-he believed that the only true type of government was that led by a Monarchy. He hated governments elected by people. To him this was a sign of democracy. To him democracy was an element of violence & a poison to the security & political stability of the empire.**

**(ii)-he believed in a highly centralized government in which every citizen should be answerable to the king.**

**(iii)-he believed the chief duty of the government was to preserve the social order. This government was ruled by divine authority.**

**(iv)-such a social order was to be protected by the unity of all monarchies in Europe against political & social revolutions .**

**(v)-to achieve this monarchs should support the idea of the Concert of Europe, balance of power & employ a police force & army to crush any revolution by irresponsible citizens.**

**(vi)-he also believed revolutions were created by power hungry citizens for personal benefits & power which they did not have.**

## **HOW DID THE SYSTEM OPERATED**

**-It used 2 methods;**

**(i) Direct Control**

**(ii) Indirect Control**

## **WHERE DID THE SYSTEM OPERATED**

**(a)THE AUSTRIAN EMPIRE:**

**-In the Austria empire Metternich used direct control.**

**-With support of Emperor Francis I ,Metternich introduced reforms to achieve his aims.**



**-The system maintained the autocratic type of government so that there was no possibility for the eruption of any revolution in the empire.**

**-He introduced extensive censorship in his efforts to suppress the spread of the national poison. Through censorship he hoped to arrest the spread of liberalism & nationalism in the empire.**

**-All books , newspapers , pamphlets & University education material were censored to silence propaganda which spread the revolutionary ideas of equality , freedom & nationalism.**

**-In addition Austria was declared a Catholic State thereby erasing any hopes for freedom of religion. All other religion were not tolerated.**

**-Only Catholics were allowed to hold positions in public offices. This became a source of irritation for many especially the Slav people who belonged to the Greek Orthodox Church as well as the Protestants in Bohemia & Moravia.**

**-However it is sad that, despite all these efforts,the system did not bring any significant results in the empire.**

**-His ideas were never accepted to a greater extent & Austria moved on bankrupt with limited economic achievement & therefore remained a laughing stock of Europe throughout the period 1815-48 according to Peacock.**

**-Economic conditions became worse, the grievances of the bourgeoisie increased & this kept industry & trade in a poor state as compared to European nations like Britain , France & Prussia. This is evidenced by the discontent of the Germany capitalists in the empire who agitated for economic reforms.**

-Moreso the middle class began to prove their hatred for the privileges of the Austrian Nobility which they accused of monopolizing the control of economic resources, government positions & exemption from the military.

-Furthermore in Hungary social & economic conditions worsened as the Magyars who dominated the Hungarian Diet clashed with the Emperor as they resisted elements of the system.

-Other Hungarian nationalities such as the Croats began to clamour for political independence.

-In a nutshell the failure of the system in the empire can largely be attributed to the inability of the empire to hold the empire together & effectively manage its affairs.

-Infact as observed by Peacock, he was too active a mentally defective man to manage the affairs the empire given that it consisted of a *hotchpotch* of nationalities.

-The result of the failure of the system was the socio-economic & political discontent which led to the 1848 revolutions.

#### **(b) ITALY:**

-In Italy he used both direct & indirect rule in an attempt to dominate the Italian Confederation.

-In an effort to maintain Austria's domination in Italy & keep Italy divided, he kept his grip on the Lombardy & Venetia which belonged to Italy (these 2 were important because they provided Italy with  $\frac{1}{4}$  of her revenue).

**-In this region Austrian rule was ruthless. Criticism to the system was punishable with torture, imprisonment & even death.**

**-Political meetings were banned & Italy stayed with no standing parliament.**

**-Street names were Germanised , German was declared the official language, there was extensive censorship & most industries were operated to the benefit of Austria.**

**-In Italy the system was met with some degree of success as evidenced by the above developments & Metternich's success in stationing Austrian troops in Lombardy & Venetia.**

**-the success has also been attributed to the fact that ,the rulers of the Italian provinces of Parma , Tuscany & Modena were connected with the Austrian Hapsburgs.**

**-Even the Pope himself according to Peacock looked for support from Austria which he believed was the most important of Catholic states in Europe.**

**-Lastly the system also proved to block the Unification of Italy for sometime.**

### **(c)THE GERMANY CONFEDERATION:**

**-Between 1815 & 1850 Germany was made up of 39 states restored by the Congress of Vienna.**

**-These were disunited & this pleased Metternich who hoped take this as an advantage to implement the system.**

**-it should also be remembered that he was the President of the German Confederation (a parliament of all German states).In this parliament he had a decisive voice.**

**-Also the period saw many people beginning to clamour for liberalism & a move towards nationalism.**

**-It was this desire for equality , freedom & national unity that unsettled Metternich. He therefore hoped for a chance to move in & implement his system.**

**-In 1817 events occurred inside German & he moved in:**

#### **(i) The Wartburg Festivals**

**-It was the celebration for the Germany reformation & the 1813 Battle of Leipzig that saw the defeat of Napoleon.**

**-during the celebrations, university students burnt remains of France's domination & anti- liberalism material. Metternich was angered & treated these actions as treason & conspiracy.**

#### **(ii)The Carlsbad Decrees**

**-These were passed after the assassination of Kotzebu a secret agent of Russia & an anti-liberalism journalist.**

**-Metternich seized the opportunities & convinced the Germany Diet to take action.**

**-The Decrees introduced resulted in;**

**(a) extensive censorship throughout the German Confederation & by 1820 censorship was in full force that political progress ceased.**

**-All political meetings were declared illegal & the Germany colour code of red ,black & gold was banned.**

**(b) government education inspectors were placed at every university .**

**(c) informers were also placed at all universities.**

**(d) all student unions were banned.**

**-In 1820 more measures were introduced & these allowed the Germany Diet to use force to suppress any revolts in the Confederation.**

**#The system in the German Confederation was fairly successful for it managed to check the development of both liberalism & nationalism for 30 years.**

**-However underground political discontent survived & fuelled further growth of nationalism & liberalism.**

## **REASONS FOR THE FAILURE OF THE SYSTEM**

**(a) The existence of several nationalities within the Austria empire fuelled political divisions among the different nationalities & this accelerated nationalism & liberalism.**

**(b) Metternich's intolerance of religious freedom created hatred of the system by Protestants & the Greek Orthodox Church.**

**(c) The government system of the Empire was too complex such that even internally many government officials detested the system.**

**(d) above all even though he prevented reforms in Prussia for sometime , Prussia later turned out to be Austria's worst rival.**

**#In the end the system defeated itself as evidenced by revolutions that exploded & finally led to the unification of Germany & Italy.**

## **THE UNIFICATION OF ITALY**

**-The movement towards the unification of Italy can be divided into 2 phases;**

**(a) The Initial phase-(1815-1848)**

**(b) The Final phase- (1848-1870)**

### **THE INITIAL PHASE:1815-1848:**

**-During this period Italy was not united. In this divided Italy, Austria had remarkable influence in the affairs of the Confederation.**

**-The period saw the first steps towards unification by the Italians. Throughout this phase the Italians were guided by the slogan "*Italia fara da se*" which meant Italy was to free herself from foreign domination without foreign aid.**

**-This was because the French revolution had had a negative impact in Italy.**

**-After Napoleon III's Italian Campaign the Italians had welcomed Napoleon III as their saviour from Austrian domination but his policies soon led to French domination that erased any hopes of liberty & unity.**

**-More so the Metternich system had made them to also lose all hopes on liberal reforms. The system exercised direct control in Lombardy & Venetia as well as indirect control throughout the Confederation especially in Parma , Modena & Tuscany.**

**-Above all at the Congress of Vienna(1815) ,the statesmen were very reactionary & divided Italy into 9 states which were ruled by despotic governments implementing Austrian interests.**

### **ITALIAN RESISTANCE 1815-1830**

**-The Metternich system in Italy made the possibilities of opposition obvious.**

**-Without freedom of publication & speech the idea of unity & freedom in Italy lost its platform.**

**-This suppression of individual freedom created intense discontent which resulted in the formation of secret organizations determined to oppose Austria influence in Italy.**

**-A good example was the Carbonari/Charcoal Burners. With their slogan "freedom & Independence" they became very influential in inciting opposition & revolution against Austria especially in Piedmont & Naples.**

**-However it is sad that by 1832 the heroism of the Carbonari had failed. It led to a lot of bloodshed as their rebellions were ruthlessly crushed by Austria, each in isolation.**

**-The failure of the 1820 revolutions have largely been attributed to a lack of sound leadership , committment & experience in organization by the societies. Moreso Austria was too powerful a force to deal with the rebellions.**

**-Nevertheless despite the failures, important lessons & conclusions had been learnt by many of these secret societies.**

### **GUISEPPE MAZZINI & THE YOUNG ITALY MOVEMENT**

**-He was an important figure & activist of nationalism & liberalism. He inspired many people to work for the unification of Italy between 1830 & 48.**

**-Because of his hatred of the way the 1820 revolts had been suppressed ,he formed The Young Italy Movement in 1831. He felt the young generation had to be well prepared if unification was to be achieved.**

**-By 1833 his membership rose to above 60 000.**

**-The movement did a lot of work spreading the need to undertake a revolution & the idea that Italy had enough resources to achieve national unity.**

### **VINCENZO GIOBERT**

**-He was a writer & a Priest who advocated for liberal Constitutions in every Italian state. He hoped that if that was achieved Italy would be united as a federation under the Pope.**

**-He also hoped to revive Catholicism throughout Europe**



## **CAMILLO DI CAVOUR**

**-He was a Piedmontese & had powerful liberal ideas. He preached in his newspaper *IL Risorgimento*. He hoped to see the independence of Italy under the leadership of Sardinia.**

**-Because Piedmont-Sardinia was the only state free from Austrian domination, the people of this region felt they were the true Italians. Therefore after 1848 the state lead the movement towards unification.**

## **THE RISOGIMENTO**

**-This was the revival of nationalism by the 3 men above.**

## **THE 1848 REVOLTS/UPRISINGS**

**-The revolts were motivated by the news of the fall of Metternich in Austria & forceful activities in German & France.**

**-As a result a new wave of nationalism swept through Italy. Revolts erupted & swept through Sicily ,Naples ,Piedmont & the Papal states with all these states gaining liberal Constitutions .In Sicily the King Ferdinand II granted a Constitution which meant automatic independence.**

**-The King of Piedmont Charles Albert ,who was a leading opponent of Austria finally resorted to war with Austria. It is unfortunate that he was defeated & he abdicated & his son King Victor Emmanuel II took over power.**

**-In all other states the revolutions were finally crashed ruthlessly.**

**-This failure of the 1848 revolutions has been largely attributed to;**

**(i) The supremacy of Austria which proved to be a decisive factor over the Italians.**

**(ii) there was divided opinion in Italy between the republicans & monarchists who supported king Albert. This led to a lack of a proper strategy to defeat the Austrians.**

**(iii) The Pope also defected & this discouraged the Italians who had pinned their faith on him.**

**(iv) In addition, Napoleon III intervened against Italy & this affected Mazzini & Garibaldi the mercenary negatively.**

**-However the failure of the 1848 revolutions had its own advantages;**

**-important lessons had been learnt especially that Mazzini & the Pope had shortfalls.**

**-most Italians learnt that the slogan “Italia fara da se” had failed.**

**-Above the real enemy Austria had been identified.**

**#It was Cavour who by this time introduced the idea that the Austrians could only be driven out with foreign help & between 1848 &1871 this new approach dominated all efforts towards unification.**

**THE FINAL PHASE(1848-1871)**

**-the 1848 lessons made the Italians to identify that Piedmont-Sardinia must take the leading role towards the unification of Italy with foreign help.**

### **PIEDMONT'S ADVANTAGES OVER OTHER STATES;**

**She was the only state free from Austrian influence.**

**She was the centre of all liberation movements & this made her a liberation machine.**

**It had powerful people to lead the Italian cause e.g. Cavour , Charles Albert & King Victor Emmanuel II.**

**She was economically powerful to finance the process.**

**She had a standing army which was prepared for future wars especially against Austria.**

**-Prior to this a fertile ground had been created especially maintaining the liberal constitution & building a very strong economy.**

**-This is supported by Peacock who observed that political liberalism & economic success were to give a driving force needed for the unification of Italy.**

**-the man to lead the way was Cavour.**

**Cavour's aims**

**-He wanted to unite Italy under Piedmont i.e it was to be the centre & engineer of the unification.**

### **CAVOUR'S DOMESTIC REFORMS:**

**TRADE:** -He expanded Piedmont's trade through the introduction of several company reforms. Co-operatives were established as well as state banks through which money could be invested in railway , shipping & agriculture.

**-To support this he signed several trade agreements with foreign governments(Britain , France & Austria).It was through these treaties that in future Piedmont acquired essential industrial goods.**

**TRANSPORT:-**several transport systems were established & these allowed Piedmont to be connected to France & Germany. All these allowed the flow of essential goods & services.

**RELIGION & EDUCATION:-**Changes were introduced in religion. He introduced the Siccadi Laws(1850) which prevented the Clergy from acquiring too much land. Also church land was taxed & the number of Holy days were reduced to allow activity. Infact he hoped to reduce the political power of the church so as to make sure that government policy would not be influenced by the political influence of the Pope who was the Governor of Rome , Romagna , Umbria & Marche.

**AGRICULTURE:-**New scientific methods were introduced & irrigation shemes were expanded for he hoped in future Piedmont was to be the breadbasket of the country.

**ARMY:-**Transformations were brought also in the army. He created a large & powerful standing army of 90 000 soldiers. This was revolutionalised ,strengthened & made professional. It was to play a significant role in the unification process.

## **FOREIGN POLICIES:**

**(i)THE CRIMEAN WAR(1854-56):** It was his first effort at getting foreign assistance. When the war broke out he supported Britain & France against Russia. -The war was short & the allies (Br & Fr) won. At the peace agreement Cavour elaborated his grievances. Eventhough he did not get immediate help ,an effort had made.

**(ii) In 1858 during the attempted assassination of Napoleon III -The Orsini Incident (Orsini was an Italian). Orsini & his party suspects were arrested.He signed the Plombieres Agreement with France ,through which Napoleon III allied with Piedmont against Austria. In return Italy offered Savoy & Nice. Piedmont was also to provoke Austria into a war.**

**(iii)THE PIEDMONT -AUSTRIA WAR(1859):-**The war was caused by Austria who demanded Piedmont to disarm. Piedmont refused & war broke out. France joined the war & defeated Austria at the Battles of Solferino & Magenta. Austrian troops were driven out of Lombardy. France made a quick withdrawal & signed a peace treaty with Austria. Eventhough Cavour was disappointed the first step towards unification had been achieved.

## **THE INCORPORATION OF CENTRAL ITALY (THE DUCHIES)**

**-The successes above created a national spirit in the people of central Italy. Revolts broke out in Parma , Modena , Tuscany & Romagna & these led to freedom from Austria & the Pope. They declared their own independence.**

**-Northern Italy was created & it was made up of the 4 above.**

### **THE INCORPORATION OF NAPLES & SICILY**

**-By 1860 conditions in the 2 were miserable. The population remained illiterate & living standards were poor. In 1859 Mazzini encouraged the people to revolt & with the assistance of Garibaldi- a hired mercenary, they overthrew the government in Naples.**

**-the people in these areas voted to be incorporated with Piedmont.**

**-In 1866 the Italians contributed towards the Seven Weeks War.(Prussia vs Austria).Austria was defeated & in the treaty of Prague ,Austria surrendered Venetia.**

**-At this point the whole of Italy had been incorporated except Rome.**

### **THE INCORPORATION OF ROME**

**-before Rome could be incorporated two problems had to be solved.**

**(a) the French army protecting the Pope had to be defeated.**

**(b) the Pope was not willing to surrender power.**

**-In 1870 the Franco- Prussian war broke out. Napoleon withdrew his forces to face Prussia. This left a power vacuum in Rome.**

**-Italian forces took advantage & invaded Rome defeated the Pope & declared Rome the capital city of Italy.**

**-The Pope finally surrendered & that led to the final unification of Italy.**

**-At last a united Italy was created.**

## **THE UNIFICATION OF GERMANY**

**-The unification of Germany like that of Italy can best be studied by breaking it down into 2 phases;**

**(a) The Revolutionary Period.**

**(b) The Bismarckian Period.**

## **BACKGROUND:**

**-The idea of a united Germany was first raised at Vienna Congress in 1815. The reduction of the 200 Germany states to 39 was a theoretical move towards that unity. However in practice this failed to satisfy the hopes of those who expected constitutional reforms in the individual states.**

**-Moreover the states created later proved to be an unsatisfactory & unworkable compromise.**

**-It should be remembered that the Congress besides reducing the states to 39 , it had also magnified the influence of Austria & Prussia in the Confederation & throughout the unification period the 2 proved to be rivals.**

**-However comparatively Austria was less influential than Prussia, who consolidated her power after acquiring the Rhineland in 1815.**

### **(a) THE REVOLUTIONARY/LIBERAL PERIOD (1815-48)**

**-The creation of the German Confederation angered nationalists who had looked forward to real unity as well as liberals who had hoped for the election of Parliaments & responsible governments in every state.**

**-An atmosphere of frustration enveloped these 2 groups. Despite the government's use of force from time to time to suppress their activities, they managed to keep the liberal spirit alive.**

### **THE 1830 REVOLTS**

**-The 1830 revolutions against Charles X in France revived the spirit of nationalism & liberalism in Germany.**

**-Violent revolts erupted in Brunswick & Poland & the Diet's reply to this was very serious.**

**-Political meetings & the student colour code of red, black & gold were banned.**

**-More so repression became stronger than ever before in Germany political progress ended.**



## **THE ZOLLVEREIGN**

**-It was a customs union created between Prussia & the 28 states that she traded with. The union simplified their tariff system.**

**-Infact it was introduced in 1818 but revised in 1834 to include South German states.**

**-By 1845 all German states except Austria had joined the Zollverein. In 1852 when she tried to join she was denied membership.**

**-The Zollverein was politically significant in that;**

**(i) It prepared Prussia for the future leadership of Germany.**

**(ii) It led to the expansion of the Germany industry & modernized its transport system. This led to economic co-operation which later turned into greater political co-operation in which Prussia was to act as a guide to which many Germany patriots turned to for greater political unity.**

## **THE 1848 REVOLUTIONS:ATTEMPTS AT UNIFICATION**

**-The 1848 revolts in France against Louis Phillipe revived the spirit of nationalism in Germany.**

**-Revolts erupted in many states & this resulted in the granting of liberal Constitutions. Many people thus began to demand the creation of a single Germany with one parliament.**

## **THE FORMATION OF THE FRANKFURT PARLIAMENT(MARCH-1848)**

**-It was a provisional parliament formed by representatives of all Germany states to discuss possible political union.**

**-Even though nothing significant was achieved it was the 1<sup>st</sup> victory for the liberals.**

**-Sadly by 1849 it had become clear that the 1848 revolts had not achieved their main aim of changing the political systems in the Confederation.**

**-The Frankfurt parliament collapsed & the King of Prussia gave up support for the creation of a united Germany under Prussia, when he signed the Treaty of Olmutz with Austria that made him give up his support to The Prussian League that demanded for the creation of a united Germany state. As a result, the old Germany Confederation was revived.**

**-However important lessons had been learnt;**

**(i) It became clear that Austria was the greatest threat towards unification. She therefore had to be eliminated.**

**(ii) Unity was not to be achieved through peaceful means ,but violent actions would bring co-operation.**

**(iii) Problems have to be solved practically. The Frankfurt parliament had been too theoretical in approaching the Germany cause for unity. A forceful leader was therefore needed to map the way forward.**

**(iv)The humiliation at Omultz was a result of a weak & ill-organised army.A formidable & organised army was therefore needed.**

## **THE RISE OF OTTO VON BISMARCK & THE FINAL UNIFICATION OF GERMANY(1862-71)**

### **THE RISE OF WILLIAM I TO POWER**

- He succeeded his brother Fredrick William IV who died in 1861.**
- He was a military genius who wanted to see a united Germany under Prussia.**
- When he came into power he made significant reforms in the army.**
  - (i) von Roon was made Minister of War.**
  - (ii) von Moltke was made the Chief of staff.**
- The 2 immediately expanded the army to 700 000 & to support this they demanded an increase in taxation.**
- The parliament refused & William I resigned.**
- The resignation gave Bismarck the opportunity to be recalled to replace William & he was appointed Prime Minister.**

### **OTTO VON BISMARCK'S ADVANTAGES AS PRIME MINISTER**

- (i)The Zollverein had laid a perfect foundation for future political unity & co-operation.**
- (ii)A good transport network had been established & this was to be an essential tool for future wars.**

**(iii)Rapid industrialization due to plenty of natural resources especially coal & iron ore created economic stability.**

**(iv)An efficient & professional army had been created. It was this army which was to be responsible for foreign adventures.**

**(v)He enjoyed the support of King William I.**

### **BISMARCK'S POLITICAL AIMS**

**-He wanted to create a united Germany with Prussia as the head.**

**-To use force i.e. a policy of blood & steel in achieving this unification since he expected a lot of internal & external opposition. Diplomacy had failed & war was inevitable.**

**-To eliminate Austria from the affairs of Germany.**

**-To make Germany the most powerful country in Europe.**

### **BISMARCK'S FOREIGN POLICY**

**-Bismarck's foreign policy was guided by the above aims.**

### **THE POLISH REVOLT(1863)**

**-The revolts provided Bismarck with the first opportunity to take action abroad. In 1863 the Poles revolted against Russian domination.**

**-Many countries sympathized with them but Bismarck moved in to help the Tsar to crush the revolts.**

**-Despite the ability of the Tsar to have crushed the revolts himself, his help went a long way in establishing a long lasting relationship between Prussia & Russia.**

### **WAR WITH DENMARK-Schleiswig-Holstein Question:**

**-The question had been a long standing problem which was revived when Bismarck came to power.**

**-Schleswig & Holstein were ruled by Denmark eventhough they had their own Constitutions. Historically they could not be ruled separately.**

**-The problem in this region was centred around land disputes & mixed nationalities. Schleswig was dominated by Danish people while Holstein by Germans.**

**-In 1848 Denmark attempted to incorporate the 2 but the German nationalities in the region rebelled violently.**

**-A peace conference was held & Denmark was given the right to rule the 2 but never to incorporate them.**

**-The SHQ gave Bismarck the opportunity to extent Prussian territory.**

**-He agreed with Austria to settle the dispute.**

**-They called for a European Conference to solve the dispute & when the Danish people refused to attend , a joint Austria-Prussian army marched into these areas & defeated Danish.**

**-A peace treaty the Treaty of Vienna was signed & Denmark handed over the 2 to Prussia & Austria.**

**-However the joint administration later proved to be an unworkable for it led to threats of war.**

**-In 1865 The Convention of Gastein was held & it resolved that Prussia was to administer Schleswig & Austria , Holstein.**

**NB: Holstein was surrounded by German territory & therefore this made it difficult if not impossible for Austria to administer.**

## **SEVEN WEEKS WAR**

**-The war was caused by administration problems of Holstein & Schleswig.**

**-Prussia accused Austria of stirring trouble for Prussia in Schleswig by protecting refugees from harsh Prussian rule as well as violating neutrality agreements.**

**-In June 1866 Prussia invaded Holstein & took over control.**

**-Austria declared war on Prussia. After only 7 weeks Bismarck won his first victory by defeating the Austrians at the Battle of Sadowa.**

**-The victory marked a turning point in the movement for the unification of Germany. At the Treaty of Prague Austria agreed to dissolve the Germany Bund & a Confederation in which Austria was not to be a member was established.**

**-At last Bismarck had managed to exclude Austria from German affairs.**

**-Prussia annexed the 2 regions.**

**Effects of the war;**

**-The elimination of Austria had been a long cherished ideal & practically the whole Europe was affected;**

**(i)Prussia emerged from the war as a great power which more territorial gains.**

**(ii)The 22 states in the North united to form the North Germany Confederation even though each was to retain it's own government. Bismarck was to be President.**

**(iii)Bismarck consolidated his position as Chancellor & was answerable to the King only.**

**-The established North Confederation took the unification process to a new height & only South Germany states had to be included for the unification to be complete.**

**-However eventhough Bismarck's policy went a long way in eliminating Austria , strong separatist forces remained especially in the South.**

**-Historically ,the only major connection between the North & the South had been a few military treaties & these positioned Prussia as a protector of the South.**

**THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR(1870-1)**

## **Causes of the War;**

**(i) In 1866 Napoleon demanded compensation from Prussia for being neutral during the Seven Weeks War. Bismarck published the demands to expose Napoleon's aggression to the South where Napoleon had interests.**

**-As a result the Southern states signed an agreement with Bismarck & agreed to have their armies put under Prussian control if any war broke out.**

## **(ii) The Spanish Succession Question;**

**-In 1869 a revolution broke out in Spain & the Queen fled leaving a power vacuum. The throne was offered to Prince Leopold a relative of the King of Prussia.**

**-Bismarck encouraged the Prince to accept the position but against the King who argued that acceptance would threaten France who feared Germany encirclement.**

**-The King sent an EMS Telegram to Bismarck stating France's demands to stop the succession.**

**-Bismarck changed the words of the telegram to make it appear as if the King of Prussia had refused to negotiate with the French ambassador.**

**-The 'new' telegram was published in France & Prussia.**

**-The publications led to protests & a war hysteria broke out in France & she declared war in 1870.**



**-Bismarck formed an alliance with the South & won decisively over France.**

**-A treaty was signed & France surrendered Alsace & Lorraine & a Germany army was stationed in France so she can pay war damages .**

**-In Germany the North & South finalized the terms of unification & a new Imperial Germany was created with Bismarck as the Chancellor.**

## **THE SECOND REPUBLIC OF FRANCE 1848-1870**

### **THE RISE OF NAPOLEON III**

**-Napoleon III was a nephew of Napoleon I, the Great Emperor of the 1<sup>st</sup> Republic of France.**

**-Thus in France he enjoyed a lot of support from different social classes for a variety of reasons.**

**-He wrote several political works .e.g. The Extinction of Pauperism in which he emphasised the need to eradicate unemployment , establish planned development & the reorganization of the French army so as to win the lost prestige.**

**-Therefore in the light of this vision it is clear that he wanted to seek the Napoleonic Legend of order , progress & national dignity.**

## **NAPOLEON'S DOMESTIC POLICIES/MEASURES**

### **(i)LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

**-In his reorganization of the local government he borrowed a lot from his uncle though he blended this with his own ideas.**

**-As Emperor he fixed himself at the top of the state administration. He alone could control the army , initiated foreign policies & appointed or dismissed public officials.**

**-All Ministers were answerable directly to him & not to the Assembly. Prefects became the most important officials in his government. They were controlled by the Interior Minister & could exercise great powers. As observed by Peacock , they became little Emperors with powers to appoint teachers in state schools or dissolve local councils which opposed the Emperor's wishes.**

**-All candidates for election were personally handpicked by Napoleon.**

#### **(ii)CENSORSHIP:**

**-He made great efforts to control the press. He established an extensive censorship system throughout France.**

**-All newspapers were forced to practice good behaviour. The Interior Minister was given the powers to close any newspaper which misbehaved after giving it 3 warnings & all cases involving newspapers were tried without the jury system.**

**-activities at the University of Paris were strictly monitored.**

**-Censorship was enforced using a wide network of spies who moved around hunting for people opposing the government.**

#### **(iii)EDUCATION:**

**-The government controlled the education system. Secondary , Tertiary & university education was put in the hands of the government.**

**-More secondary schools were built & by 1866 there were 60 000 secondary schools throughout France.**

**-The curriculum was widened but History & Philosophy were banned as they were regarded as dangerous subjects.**

**-Elementary education was made free & compulsory by 1863.**

**-All teachers in state schools were by appointed or dismissed by Prefects of Departments.**

**-The University of Paris was strictly monitored & controlled by the Grandmaster who was chosen by Napoleon III.**

#### **(iv)REBUILDING OF PARIS:**

**-Slums were destroyed in Paris & all other big cities. The central part of Paris was rebuilt with sets of boulevards it has to this day. The streets were widened. Paris became the city of entertainment , imperial hunting ,operas &military parades all which gave Paris a new look , new significance ,a taste of culture & glory. As a result Paris became more than a political & economic centre.**

**-Old towns were also restored to give them a new look & fresh taste. This resulted in increased rural-urban migration especially among peasants who sought employment.**

#### **(v)INDUSTRY & COMMERCE:**

**-he created several investment opportunities in industry & communications.**

**-There was rapid development in transport & communication networks as well as trade throughout France.**

**-Special banks were established to give loans to manufacturers & farmers.**

**-Loans were given for canal development & to improve navigation of the Rhine & Siene Rivers.**

**-As a result of these economic policies France experienced a period of outstanding economic progress among European countries. Productivity rose, national wealth increased & the cost of living decreased significantly.**

#### **(vi)THE GREAT EXHIBITION:**

**-In 1855 France undertook a great exhibition in Paris to advertise her industrial products & arts. It was a great event that put France on the world map thereby restoring her long lost glory & prestige.**

**#To a greater extent many historians have embraced Napoleon III's domestic measures as a success as they brought about valuable benefits to the people of France. Added to this was a wide range of foreign policies which however because of differing opinions with his advisors ended up being half accomplishments & downright failures.**

#### **NAPOLEON'S FOREIGN POLICIES:**

**Aims of the foreign policies:**

**-carry out a series of revolutions that would civilize & liberate oppressed classes of Europe.**

**-restore France's prestige & glory abroad while consolidating his position at home.**

**-expand France's territory by acquiring more strategic territories for France.**

**(i)THE CRIMEAN WAR(1854-6):**

**-The war was caused by France's demands to control the Holy places in Jerusalem which she had abandoned during the French Revolution.**

**-Russia had taken over the control of the Holy places on behalf of the Greek Orthodox Church.**

**-Desperate to win the support of the French Catholics Napoleon allied with Britain & declared war against Russia in 1854.**

**-According to historians the effects of the war were greater than the causes.**

**-France won the war ,signed the treaty of Paris &**

**(a)Napoleon III gained prestige & became the hinchpin of international diplomacy.**

**(b) it divided Russia & Austria who had had a longstanding partnership since 1815. To Napoleon this was a long cherished achievement.**

## **(ii)THE ITALIAN ADVENTURE(1858-59):**

**-In 1858 Napoleon promised to help Italy in her struggle for Unification. This was to be achieved by liberating her from bondage by the Austrians i.e by driving the Austrians out of Lombardy & Venetia.**

**-Napoleon offered his support to the Italians & defeated the Austrians at the Battles of Solferino & Magenta.**

**-The Treaty of Villafranca was signed & it gave much favour to France.**

**-However despite the victory the people of France were not happy about it .Napoleon had offered held to the Italians without the approval of the people of France. The war had drained France's financial resources & many people had died fighting the war.**

**-This earned him a lot of opposition at home & mistrust abroad as he had not completed the adventure but went on to demand & annex Savoy & Nice which belonged to Italy. The Catholics were humiliated & labeled him a betrayer.**

## **(iii)THE MEXICAN ADVENTURE(1861):**

**-In 1861 Napoleon accompanied by the Britain & Spain invaded Mexico with the aim of forcing Mexico to pay debts.**

**-After negotiations Britain & Spain returned home but Napoleon unsatisfied & determined to achieve greatness & win the support of Catholics remained in Mexico.**

**-However it is regrettable that the Mexican adventure ended up an expensive fiasco as the French army suffered defeats from the Mexican guerrillas.**

**-In the end the adventure damaged the Emperor's reputation his selfishness & half hearted engagement in foreign affairs.**

## **SECTION D**

### **THE VERSAILLES SETTLEMENT**

**The Treaty of Versailles was signed on 28 June. The German delegates had not been allowed to attend any of the meetings at Versailles.**

**When they saw the terms, they were horrified. The Treaty was heavily influenced by Clemenceau's desire to 'make Germany pay'. The German delegates considered restarting the war, but this was impossible.**

### **THE VERSAILLES TREATY**

**The main terms of the Treaty were as follows**

**Land - Germany lost about 10 percent of her land. Alsace-Lorraine was given back to France. The Polish Corridor was created.**

**Colonies - all German colonies were taken away and were handed to Britain and France.**

**Armed forces - the German army was reduced to 100,000 men and conscription was banned, the navy was reduced to six ships and submarines were banned, the airforce was to be completely destroyed.**

**The Rhineland - this was to be demilitarised.**

**The Saar - this was to be occupied for fifteen years and France would be able to mine coal in it for those years.**

**Reparations - Germany was to pay £6,600,000,000 for the damage caused by the war.**

**The War Guilt Clause - Germany was to accept the blame for causing the war alone.**

**The Treaty was the result of bargaining between the allies.**

**-Italy was not given the Adriatic coast that had been promised by Britain and France at the Secret -Treaty of London in 1915.**

**-France was not allowed to occupy the Rhineland**

**-Woodrow Wilson was not able to achieve freedom of the seas**

**-Lloyd George was unable to achieve a moderate settlement.**

**Gross error over the Treaty of Versailles**



The Germans were not consulted about the terms of the peace treaty but just called to sign the final document. It was called by them a 'Diktat' - a dictated peace. The reaction of Germany was a cry for vengeance. Field Marshall Hindenburg of Germany said the following:

*"In the event of a resumption of hostilities we can . . . defend our frontiers in the east. In the west, however, we can scarcely count on being able to withstand a serious offensive . . . The success of the operation as a whole is very doubtful, but as a soldier I cannot help feeling that it is better to die honourably than accept a disgraceful peace."*

### Territorial terms of the Treaty of Versailles

Alsace-Lorraine was returned to France. (It had been taken from France in the Franco-Prussian Wars)

The Saar (part of Germany, with an important coalfield) was taken from Germany and given to France for 15 years. After 15 years a referendum would be held to decide which country the Saar would join.

The left bank of the Rhine was to be occupied by the Allies.

The right bank of the Rhine (50 km wide) was to be demilitarized. No forts, army bases, weapons or soldiers were to be allowed into the region.

Poland was made independent and given a corridor to the Baltic Sea. This Polish Corridor cut off East Prussia from the rest of Germany.

Danzig, a city with both Polish and German citizens was placed under international rule as a 'free city.'

**Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia formerly part of Russia, were made independent countries.**

**Czechoslovakia, formerly part of Austria-Hungary was made an independent country.**

**Austria and Hungary were made into two separate countries.**

**Yugoslavia was created as an independent country out of a much enlarged Serbia.**

**South Tyrol and Istria were given to Italy, but not Dalmatia as she had been promised in the secret Treaty of London.**

**Romania, Greece, Belgium and Denmark all received small pieces of land from the defeated countries.**

**The German Empire was divided among the victors. Tanganyika was given to Britain, the Cameroon to France, and South-West Africa to South Africa and the Pacific Islands to Japan.**

**The German army was to be a maximum of 100,000 men.**

**All wartime guns and weapons were to be melted down to scrap metal.**

**The German Navy (once second only to Britain) was to be reduced to 36 ships.**

**Germany was banned from having any submarines and an air force.**

**Germany was forbidden to have an alliance with Austria ever again.**

**Germany had to accept full and total blame for the war.**

**Reparations were set at 6,600 million pounds sterling.**

### **THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS:**

**The League of Nations formally came into existence on January 10, 1920.  
It had its headquarters in Geneva.**

#### **Aims of the League of Nations**

**The League was the brainchild of Woodrow Wilson of the United States.  
Its ideas were optimistic and noble.**

**Its aims were;**

**to deal with disputes among nations.**

**to prevent war.**

**to protect the independence of countries and safeguard their borders.**

**to encourage each country to reduce its armaments**

#### **Membership of the Great Powers**

**Britain                      1920 -**

**France                      1920 -**

**Italy            1920- 1935**

**Japan            1920 - 1933**

**Germany        1926 - 1933**

**USSR           1934 -**

**USA            never joined**

**The founding of the League of Nations in 1919 marked the beginning of a new method of diplomacy. Before that, governments relied exclusively on ambassadors or ministers as representatives positioned in different countries worldwide.**

**The new system, promoted arbitration and collective security as the surest way of avoiding future armed conflict. It emphasized on open cooperation between nations to resolve international political, economic, social, humanitarian, and technical problems. This led to creation of the League of Nations.**

**However the concept of the League of Nations was not new. The idea of collective security, for example, can be seen in the Quadruple Alliance, or "Concert of Europe," formed by Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, and Russia after the final defeat of Napoleon (France) in 1815. Although it later collapsed, the Alliance was intended to preserve the peace and status quo in Europe through the collective action of its members, and did initiate the use of conferences (Congress System) convened to deal with important international political issues. These conferences met periodically throughout the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth.**

**Although the League finally collapsed, its early years did witness some successes.**

## **SUCSESSES OF THE LEAGUE**

**Political Disputes;**

## **COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

### ***International Labour Organization***

**- was developed and worked to improve working conditions all over the world. They persuaded governments to set maximum working day and week, specify adequate minimum wages and introduce old age pensions, unemployment and sickness benefits.**

### ***Refugee Organization***

**- solved the problem of the thousands of prisoners of war marooned in Russia at the end of the war; about half a million were returned home. After 1933 valuable help was given to thousands fleeing from Nazi persecution in Germany.**

### ***Health Organization***

**- did good work in investigating the causes of epidemics and was particularly successful in combating typhus in Russia which endangered the rest of Europe.**

### ***Mandates Commission***

- supervised the government of the territories taken from Germany and Turkey according to the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. (Another committee was responsible for the Saar, which worked very efficiently. The 1935 plebiscite had a large majority vote to return to Germany.

## FAILURES OF THE LEAGUE

- Although the idea of the League was an excellent and noble idea, it was fatally flawed from the onset by the non participation by the United States. Other failures are outlined below.

*1923 France & Belgium marched into the Ruhr by force to force Germany to pay reparations.*

*1923 Italy invaded Corfu & league failed to solve the case.*

*Britain continued to allow Italian ships to move arms through the Suez Canal.*

*It failed to punish Japan for the invasion of the Chinese province of Manchuria.*

*1935 Italy invaded Abyssinia & the league put poor & ineffective sanctions.*

*1935 Germany continued to rearm.*

*1935 Hitler marched his troops into the demilitarised zone of the Rhineland which was a violation of the terms of the treaty of Versailles. France protested but took no action. Britain remained silent.*

***1938 Germany invaded Austria.***

***1938 Germany invaded Czechoslovakia.***

***1939 Germany invaded Poland & this brought the Great powers to World War 2.***

## **Political Disputes**

### ***Poland and Lithuania***

- The two countries had rival claims to Vilna. The League of Nations was over ruled by the Conference of Ambassadors in Paris. The Conference of Ambassadors was formed to deal with problems arising out of the Versailles Treaty.

### ***Corfu Incident***

- A group of ambassadors was working on a boundary dispute between Greece and Albania. An Italian General was sent to investigate and he was shot in Greece. The reasons for the shooting were never clear, but Mussolini immediately ordered the invasion of Corfu, a Greek island and demanded heavy compensation. The League offered a solution, but the Conference of Ambassadors rejected it and rewrote one in favour of Italy upon heavy pressure from Italy and Mussolini.

### ***Japanese Invasion of Manchuria 1931***

-In 1931 Japan controlled most of the economy of Manchuria. It owned the important mines, railroads, factories and ports. It kept a large army in the port city of Kwantung to protect these assets. The world wide depression had hit Japan hard and many people within Japan saw conquering new territory as a way out of the depression. During the night of September 18, Japanese soldiers blew up a section of the Japanese railroad and blamed the explosion on the Chinese and so had an excuse to occupy the city of Shenyang. China asked for the League's help. The League ordered the troops to withdraw. Japan agreed to order the withdrawal of the troops, but the Japanese government did not have control over their troops. The Japanese army continued to advance into Manchuria. By the end of 1931 the Japanese troops had control of the entire province of Manchuria which they renamed Manchukuo.

The League of Nations was meant to keep the peace through 'collective security'. If persuasion did not work, the League could use economic sanctions (a ban on trade with the attacker) or military sanctions (a League army) against the attacker. Although these were options, none of the members of the League of Nations wanted to use sanctions against Japan. First, because the Depression had damaged the world's economy no nation wanted to worsen the damage. Second, the powerful members of the League, Britain and France, did not think that they could enforce the sanctions. They believed that if they tried to enforce them that Japan would seize Hong Kong and Singapore.

The solution that was reached was to set up a commission. In October of 1932 the Lytton Commission recommended that the Japanese should leave Manchuria and it should continue as a semi-independent country instead of returning to China. The League approved the Commission's recommendation, but by 1933 Japan left the League and went on to occupy the Chinese province of Jehol. The Japanese justified the invasion of this mountainous province because it was vital to the defence of Manchuria.



The Manchuria affair damaged the reputation of the League. One of its leading members had gone to war with another member and the League had failed to stop it. By the end of the affair in 1933, even the League's strongest supporters had doubts about its ability to maintain world peace.

### *Italian Invasion of Abyssinia 1935*

-- The most serious failure of the League of Nations was the Italian invasion of Abyssinia. Italy wanted to expand its overseas colonies and in October 1935 invaded Abyssinia. The League condemned Italy and introduced economic sanctions which however did not include a ban on exports of coal, oil and steel to Italy. (These are vital to modern warfare.) So half-hearted were the sanctions that Italy was able to complete the conquest of Abyssinia by May 1936. A few weeks later sanctions were abandoned and Mussolini had flouted the League. Britain and France had not wanted to antagonise Mussolini and had even tried to form a secret deal with him during the invasion to give him two thirds of Abyssinia. They did not want to push him into an alliance with Hitler. Mussolini was annoyed by the sanctions anyway and began to draw closer to Hitler; small states lost faith in the League; and Hitler himself was encouraged to break the Versailles Treaty. After 1935, the League was not taken seriously again.

### **Commissions and Committees**

#### *Disarmament Commission*

- this committee made no progress in persuading the member states to reduce armaments, though all had agreed to do so when they agreed to the covenant of the League of Nations.

## **WHY DID THE LEAGUE FAILED:**

### **Strengths and Weaknesses of the League of Nations**

**All of the leaders who signed the Covenant in 1919 had experienced the war and wanted to avoid any repetition.**

**At the beginning there was a great deal of good will to make the League work. The idea of 'Collective Security' was also very sound.**

**From the very beginning of the League, however, an insidious pattern emerged with regard to Council intervention in international disputes. Dominated as it was by the great powers, the Council seemed more willing to settle disputes involving small powers than those which involved one or more great powers, or which involved the interests of any great power. This double-standard ultimately proved disastrous for the long-term success of the League and helped undermine confidence in the organization.**

**Extra-League security arrangements, like the "Little Entente" (1920) and the Locarno Pacts (1925), emerged not only as manifestations of eroding confidence in the League's ability to maintain peace and security, but also had the effect of further sabotaging the League by indicating a regression into the Old Diplomacy**

**Russia was not allowed to join after the Bolshevik seizure of power in 1917.**

**The USA did not join, even though the League was Woodrow Wilson's idea. Congress voted against membership.**

Americans believed that the United States would be drawn into internal conflicts in other countries. Most people in the United States wanted to concentrate on domestic issues.

Even before its first meeting, the League of Nations suffered what some historians have characterized as a death blow: the U.S. rejection of the Treaty of Versailles and with it, the League of Nations. The United States never became a member of the League of Nations.

Without the United States as a member, the chief powers in the League before 1926 were Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan. The way in which each of them viewed the new international organization is of paramount importance in understanding the future demise of the League.

The majority of the British public supported the ideals of the League, but the British government viewed the League differently. After 1922, successive British governments saw the League as a useful tool for pursuing some foreign policy objectives, but failed to embrace the "League ideas" in its totality. They were staunch advocates of the Old Diplomacy.

The French shared the attitude of the British towards the League of Nations, but for different reasons. French representatives at Paris had had very little to do with the framing of the Covenant, and they did not share much of the document's ideals. The French therefore saw the League primarily as a tool which could help protect France from any future German attack—*une agression de l'Allemagne*—and not as an instrument of international goodwill.

Before the fascist takeover in 1922, Italy's attitude toward the League was one of skepticism. At the Paris Peace Conference, the Italian government had sought territorial gains, but due to Woodrow Wilson's opposition, was unable to obtain them. Facing increasing problems at home, and the frustration of their ambitions abroad, many Italians turned to fascism and Benito Mussolini disliked the League because it represented the winners & as a result remained sour towards the organization until the mid-1930s.

Like the Italians, the Japanese were somewhat disappointed by the Covenant. Japan's delegates to the Paris Peace Conference, proposed that the members of the League accept the principles of the equality of nations and races, and the just and equal treatment for nationals of all countries. While most of the members supported the principle, Woodrow Wilson (U.S.A), Australia, and New Zealand, all opposed its idea. Each of their countries had imposed restrictions on Japanese immigration and wanted to avoid including anything in the Covenant that might affect those restrictions. Despite this initial setback, the Japanese fully supported the League of Nations. However when the militarists took over power in Japan in 1930, the attitude of the Japanese toward the League quickly became hostile until the advent of the Manchurian Crisis.

Germany was not allowed to join, but did become a member in 1926.

Italy broke the Covenant in 1923 when Mussolini occupied Corfu, which was owned by Greece. He was forced to back down but no sanctions were applied. A Permanent Council Member had been allowed to escape when it had broken the Covenant.

The League soon came to be seen as a club for the victors of the First World War and was mostly European.

**Sir Eric Drummond, the Secretary-General, was a representative of one of the Permanent Members of the Council and this made countries outside Europe believe that the League was pro-European.**

**The League had no army; it had to rely on member countries declaring war on countries that broke the Covenant.**

**STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES OF THE LEAGUE(Summary):**

<p><b><i>STRENGTHS OF THE LEAGUE</i></b></p> <p><i>It worked using a Constitution (the League Covenant).</i></p> <p><i>It was prepared to defend the interests of all members.</i></p> <p><i>It was supported worldwide.</i></p> <p><i>Most countries were willing to co-operate.</i></p> <p><i>It had the potential to punish aggressors.</i></p> <p><i>It was united as compared to the system of alliances.</i></p> <p><i>It carried out a lot of activities.</i></p>	<p><b><i>WEAKNESSES OF THE LEAGUE</i></b></p> <p><i>The USA which helped to form it didn't join from the beginning.</i></p> <p><i>Britain &amp; France were no longer powerful.</i></p> <p><i>It paid too much attention to European problems &amp; forgot other parts of the world.</i></p> <p><i>Many members were the smaller powers which made it difficult to guarantee peace.</i></p> <p><i>It was used like a burglar bar against German &amp; others countries which disliked the peace settlement.</i></p>
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## **WHAT WERE THE SUCCESSES AND FAILURES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS IN THE 1920S?**

### **Summary**

**However, there were also failures. The League sometimes failed to enforce the Treaty of Versailles (e.g., the Poles captured Vilna in 1920, and Lithuania seized Memel in 1923). The League could not stop powerful nations (e.g., in 1923, when France invaded the Ruhr, and Italy occupied Corfu). Also, the ILO failed to bring in a 48-hour week and both disarmament conferences failed – in 1923 (because Britain objected) and in 1931 (because Germany walked out).**

**The League of Nations aimed to stop wars, improve people's lives and jobs, encourage disarmament and enforce the Treaty of Versailles.**

**Judged against these aims, the League was quite successful in the 1920s.**

**It stopped border disputes turning into wars. In Silesia in 1921 it held a plebiscite and suggested a partition, which stopped a war between Germany and Poland. It arbitrated between Sweden and Finland over the Aaland Islands in 1921 – its investigation showed that the islands belonged to Finland. When the League rejected Turkey's claim to Mosul, a part of Iraq (a British mandate), Turkey agreed. Finally, when Greece invaded Bulgaria in 1925, the League ordered Greece to withdraw, which it did. The highest point of the League's work was the Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928, an Act of the League's Assembly, supported by 65 nations, which outlawed war.**

**The League also improved people's lives. It took 400,000 Prisoners of War home. It set up refugee camps after the 1922 war between Turkey and Greece. The Health Committee worked against leprosy and malaria. The League closed down four Swiss companies which were selling drugs, and attacked slave owners in Burma and Sierra Leone, setting free 200,000 slaves. Finally, its economics experts helped Austria (1922) and Hungary (1923)**

**These successes, however, are balanced by some failures.**

**The League sometimes failed to enforce the Treaty of Versailles. In 1920, the Poles captured Vilna (the capital of Lithuania) and refused to withdraw when the League ordered it to; the League could do nothing. And when, in 1923, Lithuania seized Memel, a German port under League control, the League told Lithuania to leave, but the Conference of Ambassadors gave Memel to Lithuania.**

**The League could not stop wars when powerful nations were involved. Turkey drove the Greeks out of Smyrna in 1922 – all the League could do was agree.**

## **EUROPE UNDER DICTATORS**

### **MUSSOLINI & HITLER**

**-a dictator is a ruler who has unlimited power. He is ruthless & his authority is unquestionable & undisputed.**

**-this rule is characterised by violation of human rights.**



## **FACTORS THAT LED TO DICTATORSHIP IN EUROPE;**

**-payment of reparations caused bitterness among the defeated nations e.g the payment of reparations by Germany to France .France also debts to Britain while Britain paid the U.S.A.**

**-EVERYWHERE THERE this resulted in losses.**

**-Also most post war countries were led by very young & inexperienced very old leaders who resorted to extreme measures to bring order i their countries such that by 1930 most countries were under dictators.**

## **FACISM IN ITALY:**

**-fascism was a form of dictatorship that emerged in Italy after World War One. It was developed to counter communism. It was characterised by violence & intimidation against opposition supporters, control of all aspects of Italian life ,work,religion,politics,culture & even social aspects such as birth rates.**

**-from 1919 Mussolini joined the fascists & was supported by various discontented groups such as ex-combatants, disgruntled youths, industrialists & landowners.**

**-these fascists believed it was their right & duty to rescue Italy from post war problems.**

## **FEATURES OF FACISM**

**-Mussolini's domestic reforms just like in his foreign policies were guided by very clear principles that is;**

**Totalitarianism – a system whereby a government has a high level of control over almost all aspects of a citizen’s life. . This was necessary to promote the greatness of the state, which was more important than the interests of the individual.**

**Militarism, Violence & Imperialism-which were aimed at achieving national pride. These guided mainly his foreign policies.**

**Economic Self-sufficiency - (autarchy) was vitally important in developing the greatness of the state; the government therefore directed the economic life of the country.**

**One-Party State - there was no place for democracy. Fascism was particularly hostile to communism, which accounts for much of its popularity. The fascist party members were the elite of the nation and great emphasis was placed on the hero who would win the support of the people.**

**Extreme Nationalism – this was aimed at building up the greatness and prestige of the state, with the implication that Italy was superior to others.**

## **THE RISE OF BENITO MUSSOLINI;**

**-the rise of Benito can be attributed to a mixed bag of political, economic & social problems that bedevilled Italy after the First World War.**

## **ITALY’S PROBLEMS**

### **(a)POLITICAL PROBLEMS:**

**-an unpopular government because it had failed to obtain the promised territories after the war.**

**-too many political parties e.g-liberals (greyshirts),fascists (black shirts),nationalists (blue shirts),communists (red guards),catholic party,socialists**

**-a weak government & parliament which was confused, failed to solve unrest & had no clear political direction.**

**-too many successive governments between 1919 & 1921 because of unstable coalitions**

**-attempted coup de tats**

**-Bandits- thousands of Italian unemployed war veterans terrorized rural & urban**

**areas.**

**-political violence, demonstrations & strikes organized by communists.**

**-the fear of communism.**

**-tension between the state & the church.**

**-political disunity which made other political parties to unite against fascism.**

**(B)ECONOMIC PROBLEMS:**

- a huge war debt.**
- bankruptcy.**
- companies & people paid high taxes to the government.**
- Inflation which caused a high cost of living.**
- low production in industries.**
- low production in agriculture.**
- low trade.**
- closure of banks.**
- closure of factories.**
- outdated machines used in industries.**
- unemployment.**
- poor wages.**
- demonstrations & strikes by workers.**

#### **(C)SOCIAL PROBLEMS:**

- poverty, hunger & starvation.**

**-lack of basic social services e.g hospitals, clinics & schools.**

**-poor sanitation.**

**-disease outbreaks.**

**-prostitution, drug trafficking & abuse.**

**-many people died.**

**-many people took violence as a normal way of life.**

**-homelessness i.e shortage of shelter.**

**-orphans & widows.**

### **STEPS TAKEN BY MUSSOLINI TO RISE TO POWER.**

**-Mussolini took advantage of the problems at home to campaign & win the support of people e.g- the government was weak & failed to solve political problems.**

**-the people feared communism & the government ended up using the fascists to crush the communists e.g they controlled the 1922 strikes.**

**-In 1919 he formed the Fascist Party which was made up of the unemployed & organized along military lines.**

**-1921 he participated in elections standing for the Fascist Party. The Party won 35 out of 535 seats.**

**-he formed a private army which wore attractive uniforms, symbols & used propaganda.**

**-he attacked opposition supporters using violence & force.**

**-he used propaganda on discontented groups & as a result he won the support of liberals, socialists etc. The war-veterans saw him as a saviour.**

**-1922 during the March to Rome, he took over the police job to bring order during the strikes organised by communists. He crushed the communists & won support of the military.**

**-the fear of a civil war made King Victor Emmanuel to invite Mussolini to form a government of national unity.**

**-In this new government Mussolini was given the position of Prime Minister, Home Affairs Minister & Foreign Affairs Minister.**

## **DOMESTIC REFORMS:**

### **Overview**

**Mussolini's domestic policies focused mainly on national interests and production, with the aim of creating a self-sufficient and modernized Italy. Although private property was maintained and some degree of free market continued, the economy was primarily controlled by the government through both direct and indirect means.**

**Just like many governments of the time, opposition was crushed without hesitation by a broad-reaching and powerful secret police. The Lateran Treaty, between the Vatican and Italy as a whole, finally settled land issues and political disputes between the Church and Italy as a whole. Mussolini also established himself as a public figure—'Il Duce'—and utilized a combination of terror tactics, indoctrination and propaganda to ensure his continued command. Ultimately, Mussolini desired a more ordered and efficient Italian lifestyle.**

**Question; "Fascism had no clear principles." Is this borne out by the history of Mussolini's regime in Italy?**

**-Mussolini's domestic reforms just like in his foreign policies were guided by very clear principles that is;**

**Totalitarianism – a system whereby a government has a high level of control over almost all aspects of a citizen's life.**

**Militarism & Imperialism which were aimed at achieving national pride. These guided mainly his foreign policies.**

**Self sufficiency – this was known as AUTARKY in Italy.**

### **POLITICAL POLICIES;**

**In 1923 Mussolini passed this law which allowed any party that won more votes in elections to occupy 2/3 of seats in Parliament. This was followed by the 1924 elections that he organised & the fascists won the elections.**

**-the fascists victory was a giant step politically towards totalitarianism as it gave them political freedom to created more laws in their interest.**

**The assassination of Matteoti – this was the murder of a popular & leading opposition supporter after he revealed that the fascist victory in the 1924 election was through rigging. The assassination was followed by countrywide victimisation of opposition member including M.Ps.**

**Opposition clubs & offices were closed & became useless.**

**Mussolini used the fascists as a private army (militia) & used force & violence to intimidate opponents such that force & violence became important tools to bring order as defined by fascist principles. They carried door to door searches & newspapers taken over. Opponents were bitten & marched in public & at times were forced to eat live frogs. Others were given fascist baptism by being dipped in paint or forced to drink castor oil to cleanse them from the sins of opposition.**

**In 1925 an elaborate system of censorship was introduced to reinforce his control by using the media as a weapon to demonize his enemies and promote his own interests. He also made use of propaganda promote him as the great 'Il Duce' ('The Leader'). He appointed a Minister of Propaganda since he believed everyone had to think like him.**

**He also introduced national youth service programs (just like the Hitler Youth) to indoctrinate the youth into his military and political beliefs. Through these methods the fascist government controlled the radio, newspapers, and T.Vs, cinema & textbooks books.**

**In 1926 the opposition was outlawed as he began to make Italy a one party state & by 1928 opposition parties & Trade Unions had disappeared.**



**In 1927 a secret police called O.V.R.A. Its job was to hunt, intimidate & even kill opposition supporters. Those who were lucky were exiled to the Mediterranean Islands under his control.**

**Lastly fascists were given all positions of decision making in all government departments & they supervised life in Italy.**

**To reinforce his control, Mussolini used the media as a weapon, demonizing his enemies and promoting his own interests. He also made use of propaganda as an effective tool, framing himself as the great 'Il Duce' ('The Leader') and attempting to indoctrinate the youth into his military and political forces. This was done through introducing national youth service programs (just like the Hitler Youth) and a complete reorganisation of the educational system throughout Italy.**

#### **ECONOMIC POLICIES:**

**-economically he established a good foundation for a strong economy.**

#### **Land distribution**

#### **Battle for Lira;**

**Another 'domestic war,' the Battle for the Lira was essentially aimed at both increasing morale and heightening Italy's prestige both nationally and internationally. Mussolini declared that Italy's currency, the Lira, was worth substantially more than its actual market value. At first, this was viewed very positively by the Italian people, as it represented an aggressive example of their nation's power.**

**However, it quickly began to create major problems. Foreign trade, already reduced by high protective tariffs and a reduced export rate, took a sharp decline as other nations realized their buying price on Italian goods was too high. Within Italy, the few remaining smaller companies and independent businesses closed or were rapidly overtaken by larger ones, thereby creating massive unemployment. Broadly speaking, the Battle for the Lira was a complete failure, although it did slightly increase morale throughout Italy during the first few months of its implementation.**

### **The 'Corporate State'**

**Mussolini's efforts to increase the productivity and self-sufficiency of Italy began in 1921, when he imposed protective tariffs on all foreign imports to reduce competition and help Italian industry to grow. In 1927, the Labour Charter was passed, promising to bring 'government, employers, and workers together into one group.' In effect, this Charter reorganized all of Italy's industry into 22 massive corporations; each specialising in one 'field' of industrial production e.g so all metal-works became a single corporation, etc. The workers and individual employers within each corporation were given representation in the government, and all workers were automatically provided with health and accident insurance by whichever corporation they were serving.**

**However, the workers could not go on strike, relying instead on an elaborate appeals process to make any changes to working hours, wages, or conditions. These changes were rarely, if ever, implemented due to the system of representation in the government - workers would often be discriminated against by employers and government officials, both of whom could stop any proposed alterations to existing conditions. Ultimately, the Labour Charter met with very little success, although it was maintained throughout Mussolini's reign.**

### **Battle for Wheat;**

**It was the first of several great 'domestic wars' Mussolini declared. It was designed to increase the production of wheat within Italy, thereby creating a truly self-sufficient state. Essentially, the Battle of Wheat forced farmers to prefer wheat production over all other crops. The Battle led to a vastly reduced yield of vegetables and other products throughout the nation. Further, agricultural lands were expanded broadly, often into areas better suited to other crops. Although grain production nearly doubled and imports decreased by almost 75%, the production of all other food products decreased drastically. Foreign imports of meats, vegetables and other foodstuffs increased dramatically, causing an increase in price and general damage to Italy's economy rendering the War on Wheat a massive waste of effort.**

### **Public Works Programmes;**

**-Mussolini established extensive public works programmes aimed at creating employment & boosting trade & commerce.**

**-through the public works programmes roads, railwaylines & communication lines were all built. These were among his main achieve as they permitted trade & accessibility of most areas in Italy.**

**-moreso schools ,clinics,hospitals,stadiums & hydro-electric power stations were also built.**

**-all these were giant steps in consolidating economic development aimed at achieving self sufficiency.**

**Lateran Treaty;**

**Summary**

**Mussolini's attempts to enhance the Italian economy and place in world politics all failed significantly, often placing Italy in a worse position than before their implementation. However, his social policies, particularly his educational 'reforms,' achieved relative success. The Lateran Treaty, his one real success, finally ended the issue of Church/State relations in Italy and recognized the Vatican as a sovereign state.**

**SOCIAL POLICIES:**

**Mussolini also established several social 'reforms' in his attempt to create a more powerful Italian state.**

**He declared the Battle of Births through which families were incentivised for having more children. Divorces & abortion were also banned.**

**-he also introduced a Bachelor's tax with the aim of forcing single people into marriages.**

**-in 1933 he celebrated the birth of 1 350 children by 93 mothers to mark the achievement of the policy.**

**Another giant step socially was the signing of the Lateran Treaty with the Pope. It was one of the most successful policies of Mussolini's domestic policy. The Lateran Treaty finally ended major disputes and rivalries between the Vatican and Italy. For a long time, the 'Roman Question,' as it was known, had divided Italians.**

**-through the treaty Mussolini united the Italians. It gave him more support from the people. Through the treaty the Vatican was given its independence & received compensation. Catholicism was recognised as the state religion.**

**-in return the Vatican recognised the rule of Mussolini as the Ill Duce of Italy while Rome became the capital city. It also gave the new nation full political recognition and clearly specified the extent to which the Church was allowed to influence Italy. Although somewhat undermined once Mussolini lost power, the Lateran Treaty and its principles have been upheld since it was first established.**

### **CRITIQUE:**

**-historians argue that there was a wide gap between what was planned & what was achieved.**

**-while achievement can be noted here & there to a greater extent the policies have been regarded as a failure.**

**-economically most of his policies were not successful as they were disorganised & inconsistent.**

**-The Battle of Wheat despite doubling cereal production by 1939 resulted in Italy surviving on expensive imports.**

**-fruits & wine exports which traditionally brought foreign currency dropped while cattle & sheep also lowered production because of the focus on wheat production.**

**-moreover land distribution led to extreme poverty as it lacked the necessary support from the government.**

**-the Battle of Lira led to the price of Italian goods to become too expensive & scarce while exports went down & unemployment increased. The Battle also undermined free trade through price controls.**

**-in general most of the government's policies were affected by the Great Depression.**

## **THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC IN GERMANY (1919-1933)**

**-The republic ruled Germany between 1919 & 1933.**

**-the phases of the republic's history are 3;**

**The years of turmoil 1919-23.**

**The Stresemann Period 1924 -29.**

**The collapse of the Republic.**

### **YEARS OF TURMOIL;**

**-soon after the war the Kaiser William II had given off power & went into exile.**

**-a new government known as the Weimar Republic & led by Fredrick Ebert came into power.**

**-it was this government that signed the Treaty of Versailles with the Allied powers.**

**Therefore from the beginning its members were nicknamed the November Criminals hence it was doomed from the onset as it was faced with many challenges.**

### **GERMANY'S PROBLEMS AFTER THE FIRST WORLD WAR;**

**(a)Political problems:**

**-an unpopular government because it had failed to obtain the promised territories after the war.**

**-too many political parties e.g-liberals (greyshirts)**

**-fascists (black shirts)**

**-nationalists (blue shirts)**

**-communists (red guards)**

**-catholic party**

**-socialists**

**-a weak government & parliament which was confused, failed to solve unrest & had no clear political direction (weak constitution).**

**-too many successive governments between 1919 & 1921 because of unstable coalitions**

**-attempted coup de tats (Kapp Putsch-1920, Red Rising in the Ruhr-1920, Munich Putsch-1923) & political assassinations.**

**-Bandits- thousands of Italian unemployed war veterans terrorized rural & urban**

**areas.**

**-political violence, demonstrations & strikes organized by communists.**

**-external enemies e.g the fear of communism.**

**-tension between the state & the church.**



**-political disunity which made other political parties to unite against fascism.**

**-the Treaty of Versailles.**

**(b)Economic problems:**

**-land shortages.**

**-a huge war debt.**

**-bankruptcy.**

**-companies & people paid high taxes to the government.**

**-Inflation which caused a high cost of living.**

**-low production in industries.**

**-low production in agriculture.**

**-low trade.**

**-closure of banks.**

**-closure of factories.**

**-outdated machines used in industries.**

**-unemployment.**

**-poor wages.**

**-demonstrations & strikes by workers.**

**(c)Social problems:**

**-poverty, hunger & starvation.**

**-lack of basic social services e.g hospitals, clinics & schools.**

**-poor sanitation.**

**-disease outbreaks.**

**-prostitution, drug trafficking & abuse.**

**-many people died.**

**-many people took violence as a normal way of life.**

**-homelessness i.e shortage of shelter.**

**-orphans & widows.**

**THE STRESSAMANN PERIOD;**

**-1924 Stressamann formed a new government & this brought a new period of economic prosperity & stability for Germany as she began to recover.**

## **HIS ACHIEVEMENTS;**

**-he successfully negotiated the Dawes Plan of 1924 & the Young Plan(1929).Through the Dawes Plan Stressamann introduced the new currency the Retenmark after the hyper-inflation of 1922 and 1924. The United States agreed to lend money to Germany so that reparations could be paid. The Young Plan aimed to settle the remaining problems of reparations - the Dawes Plan had not changed the total amount payable .A decision was made to reduce the reparations to reduce the amount payable from £6,6million to £2,2million.Germany was also given 59 years in which to complete the payments.**

**These measures financial stability to Germany.**

**-the second achievement was that financial stability led to political stability & Hindenburg replaced Ebert who died in 1925.**

**-unemployment was reduced to very low levels.**

**He introduced successful foreign policies that were key to preserve stability. He signed the Locarno Treaties which revised Germany's borders.**

**-Germany joined the League of Nations in 1926.**

**-France left the Rhineland.**

**-in 1929 Stressamann died.**

## **COLLAPSE OF THE REPUBLIC**

**-in 1929 Germany plunged back into problems because of 2 events,**

**The death of Stresemann.**

**The Wall Street Crash & the Depression.**

**Effects of the Depression;**

**-the U.S.A which was also affected by the depression stopped giving Germany loans.**

**-industries & banks closed therefore there was no more economic activities.**

**-low production & exports.**

**-unemployment rose drastically.**

**Bruning who replaced Stresemann reduced government expenditure to control inflation. He stopped paying reparations, social services, salaries & wages to civil servants.**

**REASONS WHY THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC SURVIVED THE PROBLEMS IT FACED IN THE 1920s.**

**-the Germans were much focused on external enemies (France & her allies) than the Weimar Republic.**

**-though there was hyperinflation, the workers didn't suffer to the same extent as they did during the 1929 & 1932.**

**-employers didn't show much hostility in the early years than they did in the 1930s at the start of the great Depression.**

**-some business people did quite well out of the inflation & they began to support the Weimar Republic.**

**-the Nazis were not yet strong enough & lacked a clear political plan.**

**-the failure of the Kapp Putsch was a warning of the dangers of attempting to take over power by force & this fear led to the failure of the Munich Beer hall Putsch..**

**-the Communists & the Socialists had not recovered from their suppression in 1918-21 & therefore they lacked the power to overthrow the government.**

**NAZISM IN GERMANY;**

**THE RISE OF ADOLF HITLER;**

**FEATURES OF NAZISM**

**-Mussolini's domestic reforms just like in his foreign policies were guided by very clear principles that is;**

**Totalitarianism – a system whereby a government has a high level of control over almost all aspects of a citizen's life. . This was necessary to promote the greatness of the state, which was more important than the interests of the individual.**

**Militarism, Violence & Imperialism-** they believed violence was an important tool to bring order. Therefore they took military action & this guided mainly Hitler's foreign policies which were aimed at achieving national pride.

**Economic Self-sufficiency - (autarchy)** was vitally important in developing the greatness of the state; the government therefore directed the economic life of the country.

**One-Party State** - there was no place for democracy. Fascism was particularly hostile to communism, which accounts for much of its popularity. The fascist party members were the elite of the nation and great emphasis was placed on the hero who would win the support of the people.

**Extreme Nationalism** – they believed in national unity & this was aimed at building up the greatness and prestige of the state, with the implication that Germany was superior to others. Therefore they were anti-communist as they blamed the communists for causing Germany's problems.

**They were racist-** they believed every German person had blonde hair, blue eyes & white skin.

## **FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE RISE OF HITLER:**

**-The political problems of the Weimar Republic made Hitler to promise people a strong government to solve the problems.**

**-The Weimar Republic was very democratic & gave people freedom. This was used as an advantage by Hitler to campaign against the government.**

**-the unpopular Treaty of Versailles. Hitler promised to reverse the treaty & to rebuild Germany into a great power.**

**-The people hated the new system of government & wanted the old system of government led by a monarchy.**

**-fear of the spread of communism.**

**-political disunity & violence because of the presence of too many political parties.**

**-Reparations- these were blamed for causing Germany's economic problems.**

**-economic instability & the Great Depression.**

**-strikes & general unrest.**

**-unemployment multiplied especially among the ex-combatants who had fought the war.**

**-Hitler used forceful methods e.g. attacking opposition supporters using violence & force.**

**-Hitler used propaganda on discontented groups & as a result he won the support from people.**

**-Hitler's ability to speak to convince people.**

## **DOMESTIC REFORMS;**

**-when the Nazis came to power they had no detailed economic plans but were determined to reduce unemployment & make Germany self sufficient.**

## **#ECONOMIC POLICIES**

**-he introduced a planned economy in the first 4 year plan (1933-36) with the aim of reducing unemployment. He declared war on low production & built more industries in which he controlled what was produced & the prices were controlled. Factories were closed down if their products were no longer required hence his rule was totalitarian as there was no liberty in business.**

**-he also introduced the Germany Labour Service to do public works programmes. The programmes consisted of slum clearance, land drainage, construction of roads & motorways all which had been begun by the Chancellor before him. All these massive programmes were aimed at creating employment for the Germans. By 1934 unemployment ---**

**However just before the outbreak of World War II a shortage of skilled labour occurred as most industries shifted to producing weapons for the war.**

**-in his second four year plan economic self sufficiency (Autarchy) began the main goal. Efforts were made to expand petrol & oil production as well as hydro-electricity power generation. despite the costs. As a result Autarchy was successful as dependence on imports was greatly reduced.**

**-in addition he distributed land, encouraged farmers to produce more food & banned trade unions & strikes.**



## **#POLITICAL POLICIES**

**-Politically he introduced the Enabling Act- a law which gave the power to introduce new laws without permission of the Parliament.**

**-he created a secret police known as the Gestapo & the Storm Troopers & the Hitler Youth to control people. These were political spies who had the power to arrest & punish people without going to court.**

**-in 1934 the position of President & Chancellor were combined to become one & was called Fuhrer.Hitler became the Fuhrer & he made all laws while the Nazi made all important decisions & controlled all activities inside Germany.**

**- in addition he introduced censorship by appointing a Minister of Propaganda who controlled the T.V ,radio & newspapers.**

**-moreso he banned opposition parties.**

**-furthermore he created a big army, rearmed Germany & introduced forced conscription.**

**The result of these totalitarian political policies was that his support increased dramatically & the Nazi became very popular.**

**-many intellectuals wrote books that supported him not because of their choice but because of fear.**

**-the industrial owners liked him because he had banned trade unions which encouraged strikes & as a result the coal & steel industries expanded.**

**-for the farmers price controls assured them reasonable profits.**

**-over & above the Nazi won the support of the army.**

**-he persecuted the Jews.**

## **SOCIAL POLICIES;**

**-Socially he concentrated on education & anti-semitism.**

**-Education became state controlled in which he indoctrinated pupils with Nazi views. School books were rewritten to fit Nazi ideas. History was rewritten to glorify Hitler's tactics while Biology advertised the Germans as the superior race.**

**-teachers & lecturers were closely monitored to make sure that they did not oppose the government.**

**-children were now used as spies & therefore reported those teachers who did not support Nazi views.**

**-the syllabus promoted physical fitness especially for boys therefore preparing them for war.**

**-for girls the syllabus emphasised on domestic science AS it was believed that their place was in the kitchen hence a domestic teacher.**

**--through the Hitler Youth boys & girls were taught that Hitler was always right.**

**-religiously in 1933 Hitler signed the Concordat with the Catholics where he agreed to maintain the old Catholic order.**

**-in anti-Semitism he focused on the elimination of the Jews. The Jews since 1918 were blamed for Germany's problems. Most but not all Jewish government officials were removed from office. Books by Jews were burnt. Persecution began in 1935, their shops were looted, houses & synagogues were burnt while they were brutally killed. Pupils were expelled from schools & universities.**

**-by the outbreak of World War II 6 million Jews had been killed.**

## **CRITIQUE**

**QN: Did the people of Germany benefit from these policies?**

### **#Benefits:**

**-investment increased from the planned economy.**

**-banning of trade unions & strikes solved Germany's industrial problems e.g. conflicts between industry owners & workers.**

**-stable prices made people to have more money to spend.**

**-a large army created employment.**

**-land reclamation & redistribution increased production.**

**-public works programmes created employment & improved movement of people & goods.**

- farming improved food security.**
- foreign currency from exporting wheat.**
- more electricity from power stations improved living standards.**
- reforestation improved the environment.**

#### **#Losses:**

- people lived in fear of the Nazis.**
- many Jews were killed.**
- loss of freedom of speech.**
- corruption increased.**
- the poor became more poorer.**

#### **HITLER'S FOREIGN POLICY : AIMS;**

**When Hitler came to power he was determined to make Germany a great power again and to dominate Europe. This determination was set out in his book called Mein Kampf (My Struggle) that he had written while in prison in 1924. His main aims were**

**To destroy the Treaty of Versailles imposed on Germany after her defeat in World War One. Hitler felt the Treaty was unfair and most Germans supported this view.**

**To unite all German speakers together in one country. After World War One there were many Germans living in different countries in Europe e.g. Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland. Hitler hoped that by uniting them together in one country he would create a powerful Germany or Grossdeutschland.**

**To gain land for Germany (Lebensraum- living space) e.g by expanding eastwards into the East (Poland, Russia).**

**His tactics involved using the threat of violence to achieve his aims. He realised that his enemies, France and Britain, were not ready to go to war but were prepared to compromise to avoid a repeat of World War One.**

**He was also an opportunist who often took advantage of events for his own benefit.**

**The successes of his foreign policy in the 1930s made him a very popular figure in Germany.**

**1933-4 HE PULLED OUT OF THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE & LEAGUE OF NATIONS.**

**Hitler protested at the fact that the Allies had not disarmed after World War and he left the disarmament conference and the League of Nations in 1933. He intensified the programme of secret rearmament of Germany. Germany broke the military terms of the treaty of Versailles.**

**1934 NON-AGGRESSION PACT WITH POLAND.**

**In 1934, Germany and Poland concluded an alliance, the first of his infamous ten year non-aggression pacts. This caused a surprise in Europe at the time. The alliance broke Germany's diplomatic isolation while also weakening France's series of anti-German alliances in Eastern Europe.**

**For the next five years that followed, Poland and Germany enjoyed cordial relations. However like many of his agreements, this was a tactical move as Hitler had no intention of keeping the terms of the agreement in the long term.**

### **1934 THE ANSCHLUSS (INVASION OF AUSTRIA)**

**In July 1934 an attempt by Austrian Nazis with the support of Hitler, to overthrow the government in their country but failed eventhough the Austrian Prime Minister Dollfuss was killed in the attempt.**

**Hitler at first supported the attempted coup but disowned the action when it was clear it would fail. Italy reacted with great hostility to the prospect of Austria falling into Nazi hands and rushed troops to the border with Austria.**

### **1935 INVASION OF THE SAAR BASIN:**

**In January 1935 the Saar voted to return to Germany. This region had been placed under the control of the League of Nations by the Treaty of Versailles. & this had allowed the French to exploit its coalfields for 15 years. The vote to return to Germany was supported by over 90%. It was a major propaganda boost for Hitler who could claim that his policies had the backing of the German people.**

### **1935 REARMAMENT OF GERMANY.**

**In March, using the pretext that the other powers had not disarmed, Hitler announced that Germany was going to reintroduce conscription and create an army of 36 divisions. He also said that Germany was going to build up an air force (the Luftwaffe) and expand her navy. All of these actions were against the terms of the Treaty of Versailles but were very popular in Germany.**

**Britain, Italy and France formed the Stresa front to protest at this action but took no further measures. This united front against Germany was further weakened when Italy invaded Ethiopia(The Abyssinian Crisis).**

**(A factor that helped Hitler was the attitude of the English. They felt that Germany had been very harshly treated at Versailles and there was a lot of sympathy for the German actions. The memory of the horrors of the First World War was also still very strong in Britain. They were also very anti-communist and worried more about Stalin of Russia.)**

**Protecting their own interests, the British concluded a naval agreement with Hitler that limited the German navy to 35% of Britain's. No limit was placed on the number of submarines that Germany could develop.**

### **THE MARCH INTO THE RHINELAND (DEMILITARIZED ZONE) - 1936**

**Under the Treaty of Versailles the Germans were not allowed to station troops in the Rhineland or within 50 kilometres of the right bank of the river. In 1935 when Mussolini attacked Ethiopia, Hitler ignored international protests and supported Mussolini. This ended Germany's international isolation and the Italians signalled their acceptance of German influence in Austria and the eventual remilitarisation of the Rhineland.**

**Most people expected the Germans to send troops into the Rhineland, the question was when? On 7 March 1936, in one of his many Saturday surprises, Hitler announced that his troops had entered the Rhineland.**

**The British were not prepared to take any action. There was a lot of sympathy in Britain for the German action. Without British support the French would not act. The French had built the Maignot line, a series of forts on the German border and felt secure behind it.**

**The force that Hitler had sent into the Rhineland was small but he had gambled and won.**

**He said**

**“The forty-eight hours after the march into the Rhineland were the most nerve-racking in my life....If the French had then marched into the Rhineland, we would have had to withdraw with our tails between our legs, for the military resources at our disposal would have been wholly inadequate for even moderate resistance.”**

**He drew the conclusion that Britain and France were weak and that he could get away with more aggressive actions.**

**1936-9 HE JOINED THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR.**

**In June 1936 the Spanish Civil War broke out. Both Hitler and Mussolini sent aid to General Franco (a guerrilla) who was fighting against the popularly elected government of Spain. This closer co-operation between the two Fascist dictators led to an alliance known as the Rome-Berlin Axis. It was an agreement to pursue a joint foreign policy. Both agreed to stop the spread of communism in Europe. This relationship became closer in 1939 with the signing of “The Pact of Steel”.**

**1936 HE SIGNED THE ROME-BERLIN-AXIS.**



**It was an alliance with Mussolini were they agreed to pursue a joint foreign policy. Both agreed to stop the spread of communism in Europe. This relationship became closer in 1939 with the signing of "The Pact of Steel".**

**1936 HE SIGNED THE ROME-BERLIN-TOKYO AXIS.**

**D.I.Y**

**1938 HE ANNEXED AUSTRIA**

**Hitler had long wished to bring the land of his birth under German control. There was a Nazi party in Austria and many in Austria supported the union of both countries. Although there had been a failed coup attempt in 1934, Germany had extended its influence in Austria by 1938.**

**In February 1938 the Austrian Prime Minister & met Hitler. At the meeting the Austrian chancellor was threatened and was forced to place leading Austrian Nazis in his Government.**

**On his return to Austria, the Prime Minister resigned. Hitler then incorporated Austria into the Reich as the province of Ostmark. This event became known as the Anschluss.**

**Again the British and French did nothing. The new Prime Minister in Britain Chamberlain, He wanted to prevent another European war breaking out. He decided to follow a policy called Appeasement.**

**Appeasement was a policy of giving into Hitler's reasonable demands in order to prevent war. It was a very popular policy in Britain at the time.**

## **1939 HE ANNEXED CZECHOSLOVAKIA.**

**The next target for Hitler was the country of Czechoslovakia. It had been founded after World War One. It was the only democracy in Eastern Europe and possessed a good army. The Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia contained a majority of German people.**

**From 1938, Hitler accused the government of Czechoslovakia of mistreating the Germans within the country & threatened war. Rather than face war a meeting was held in Munich. Appeasement was the word of the day. Hitler was given the German speaking region of Czechoslovakia. The agreements of the Locarno period were ignored.**

**Britain wanted to avoid war and felt that there was some justification in the German demand for the region**

**In March 1939, Hitler took over the rest of the Czech lands after encouraging the Slovaks to declare independence under German protection. The Czech president, was invited to Berlin and was threatened that if he did not agree to German occupation, Prague would be bombed. Significantly this was the first non-Germanic land that Hitler had seized. This occupation outraged public opinion in Britain and marked the end of appeasement. In the same month the German speaking town of Memel was seized from Lithuania.**

## **1939 THE INVASION OF POLAND & THE OUTBREAK OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WORLD WAR.**

**The occupation of the rest of Czechoslovakia had led Britain to guarantee Poland that if she was attacked she would come to her aid. Under the Treaty of Versailles the newly created state of Poland was given the German speaking port of Danzig and land known as the Polish Corridor in order to give it access to the sea.**

**Hitler wanted to destroy Poland in order to gain living space (Lebensraum). Hitler demanded the German speaking town of Danzig from Poland and the building of a motorway to link East Prussia with the rest of the Reich. The only country in place to stop him was the Russia. So Hitler signed a non-aggression pact with Stalin so that when he invaded Poland he would face no opposition. On September 1, 1939 Hitler's troops invaded Poland. World War Two had begun**

**However the demand for Danzig was not the real issue for Hitler. He said**

**Further successes can no longer be attained without the shedding of blood...Danzig is not the subject of the dispute at all. It is a question of expanding our living space in the east...there is no question of sparing Poland.**

**He accused the Poles of mistreating the German minority in other parts of Poland. Nazi propaganda greatly exaggerated stories of attacks on the German minority. The Poles refused to hand over the town of Danzig.**

### **A Very Surprising Alliance!**

**As the summer wore on tension grew. Both Britain and France and Germany were trying to gain the support of the USSR in the event of war. Stalin did not trust Britain and France and felt they were encouraging Hitler to attack Russia. He had been greatly angered by the Munich agreement.**

**Although both Germany and the Soviet Union had been bitter enemies up to 1939, the world was stunned to learn that they had reached an agreement on 23 August 1939. This was a Ten Year Non-Aggression pact. Both countries benefited from this agreement. For the Soviet Union it allowed her more time to prepare for war and she gained a lot of territory in Eastern Europe. Germany was assured that if she attacked Poland she would not have to face a two-front war.**

### **Nazi Soviet Non Aggression Pact**

#### **Secret Additional Protocol.**

**On the occasion of the signature of the Non-Aggression Pact between the German Reich and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics the undersigned plenipotentiaries of each of the two parties discussed in strictly confidential conversations the question of the boundary of their respective spheres of influence in Eastern Europe. These conversations led to the following conclusions:**

**Article I. In the event of a territorial and political rearrangement in the areas belonging to the Baltic States (Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania), the northern boundary of Lithuania shall represent the boundary of the spheres of influence of Germany and U.S.S.R. In this connection the interest of Lithuania in the Vilna area is recognized by each party.**

**Article II.** In the event of a territorial and political rearrangement of the areas belonging to the Polish State, the spheres of influence of Germany and the U.S.S.R. shall be bounded approximately by the line of the rivers Narev, Vistula and San.

The question of whether the interests of both parties make desirable the maintenance of an independent Polish State and how such a state should be bounded can only be definitely determined in the course of further political developments.

In any event both Governments will resolve this question by means of a friendly agreement.

**Article III.** With regard to South eastern Europe attention is called by the Soviet side to its interest in Bessarabia. The German side declares its complete political disinterest in these areas.

**Article IV.** This Protocol shall be treated by both parties as strictly secret.

**Moscow, August 23, 1939.**

## **War**

**Hitler hoped that the news of the Pact with Russia would stop France and Britain from going to war if Germany attacked Poland. He was surprised when Britain and Poland concluded a mutual defence treaty. Mussolini informed him that Italy was unprepared for war and he postponed the invasion of Poland. A flurry of diplomatic activity achieved nothing and on 1 September Germany invaded Poland. On 3 September Britain and France declared war on Germany.**

**World War Two had begun**

**DID THE PEOPLE OF GERMANY BENEFIT FROM THESE FOREIGN POLICIES?**

**BENEFITS:**

**-gained a lot of land & natural resources.**

**-gained respect & was feared.**

**-Gained prestige.**

**LOSSES:**

**-Hitler created opposition & enemies.**