

## Chapter 1 - French Revolution

### 1. Describe the circumstances leading to the outbreak of revolutionary protest in France.

**Answer:**

When King Louis XVI was anointed as the new king, he found an empty treasury. Long years of war had drained the financial resources of France. On top of this, there was the cost of maintaining an extravagant court at the immense palace of Versailles. France had helped the thirteen American colonies gain their independence from the common enemy, Britain. The war added more than a Billion livres to a debt that had already risen to more than 2 billion livres. Lenders who gave credit now began to charge 10 per cent interest on loans. So the French Government had to spend an increasing percentage of its budget on interest payments alone. To meet its regular expenses, such as cost of maintaining an army, the court, running government offices or Universities. Even this measure did not suffice because the French society was divided into 3 estates and only the 3rd estate had to pay taxes. 1st and 2nd estate did not pay any taxes. The population of France grew massively. This led to a rapid increase in demand for food grains. Production of grains could not keep pace with demand. So the price of bread which was the staple diet of the majority rose rapidly. Most workers were employed as labourers in workshops whose owner fixed their wages. But the wages did not keep pace with the rise in prices. So the gap between the rich and the poor widened. All these factors led to the outbreak of the French Revolution.

### 2. Which groups of French society benefited from the revolution? Which groups were forced to relinquish power? Which sections of society would have been disappointed with the outcome of the revolution?

**Answer:**

French society was divided into 3 estates. The third estate benefitted the most. The third estate consisted of Peasants, artisans, Small peasants, landless labour, servants, big businessmen, merchants, court officials, lawyers etc. The groups that were forced to relinquish power came under 1st and 2nd estate. These people had enjoyed certain privileges by birth. With the revolution, these people in 1st and 2nd estate lost their privileges, because inequality was one of the root causes of revolution and the revolution tried to bring equality to society.

### 3. Describe the legacy of the French Revolution for the peoples of the world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

**Answer:**

The ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French revolution. These spread from France to the rest of Europe during the nineteenth century, where feudal systems were abolished. Colonised people reworked the idea of freedom from bondage into their movements to create a sovereign nation-state. Tipu Sultan and Rammohan Roy are two examples of individuals who responded to the ideas coming from Revolutionary France.

**4. Draw up a list of democratic rights we enjoy today whose origins could be traced to the French Revolution.**

**Answer:**

The list of democratic rights are

1. Freedom of speech
2. Freedom of expression
3. Freedom of press
4. Abolition of censorship
5. Right to vote
6. Abolition of slavery
7. Right to liberty
8. Right to property
9. Right to security
10. Right to education
11. Divorce laws

**5. Would you agree with the view that the message of universal rights was beset with contradictions? Explain.**

**Answer:**

Though it says Universal Rights, unfortunately, they left out women from basic rights. They did not have equal rights to men. They did not have the same rights as right to liberty, property, security, and above all resistance to oppression. In the formulation of laws, women did not have any representation. Women were not entitled to all honours and public employment according to their abilities.

**6. How would you explain the rise of Napoleon?**

**Answer:**

Napoleon Bonaparte crowned himself Emperor of France. He started conquering neighbouring countries by waging wars against them. He saw himself in the role of a moderniser of Europe. He introduced many laws such as the protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system. Many of his measures carried the revolutionary ideas of liberty and modern laws to the other parts of Europe, this had a positive impact on people long after he was dethroned as an emperor when he was finally defeated in the Battle of Waterloo.

## EXERCISE

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### 1. What were the social, economic and political conditions in Russia before 1905?

**Answer:**

#### **Social Condition:**

Workers were a divided group. Some had strong links with the villages; others had settled permanently in cities. Workers were divided based on their skills. The division among workers reflected in their dress and manners too.

#### **Economic Condition:**

Most industries were the private property of industrialists. The government supervised large factories. The industry was found in pockets. Many factories were set up in the 1890s when Russia's railway network was extended, foreign investment in industry increased, coal production doubled, and iron and steel output quadrupled. Most industries were the private property of industrialists.

#### **Political Condition:**

Russia was an autocracy. Unlike other European countries, The Tsar was not subject to a Parliament. Liberals in Russia campaigned to end this state of affairs.

#### **Socialist Revolutionary Party Struggled for Peasants' Rights**

1905 was the year when the incident of 'Bloody Sunday' took place. 100 workers were killed, and about 300 were wounded. Bloody Sunday started a series of events that became known as the 1905 revolution.

### 2. In what ways was the working population in Russia different from other countries in Europe, before 1917?

**Answer:**

The vast majority of Russia's population were agriculturists. About 85 per cent of the Russian Empire's population earned their living from Agriculture. This proportion was higher than in most European countries. In France and Germany, the proportion was between 40 per cent and 50 per cent. Cultivators produced for the market as well as for their own needs, and Russia was a major exporter of grain.

### 3. Why did the Tsarist autocracy collapse in 1917?

**Answer:**

After 1905, most trade unions and factory committees were declared illegal. There were restrictions on political activity. The Tsar dismissed the first 2 Dumas very quickly because he did not want his authority and powers to be questioned. The third Duma was filled with Conservative politicians. During the 1st world war, the Tsar started taking unilateral decisions without consulting the Duma. While Russian soldiers were retreating from the war, large swathes of agricultural lands were burnt and buildings destroyed by them on the orders of the Tsar. Millions of soldiers also died in the battle. The large majority of the population were peasants, and the land was under the control of a few private people. All these factors led to the rise of revolution and the collapse of Tsar autocracy.

**4. Make two lists: one with the main events and the effects of the February Revolution and the other with the main events and effects of the October Revolution. Write a paragraph on who was involved in each, who were the leaders and what was the impact of each on Soviet history.**

**Answer:**

Main events of February Revolution:

1. In February 1917, there was a shortage of food items in workers quarters.
2. On February 23, a lockout took place at a factory on the right bank. The workers in fifty factories called a strike and women played a very critical role in these strikes.
3. On February 25, the government suspended the Duma.
4. On February 27, Police headquarters were ransacked, people were demonstrating and raising slogans about bread, wages, better hours and democracy.
5. Petrograd Soviet was formed.
6. The Tsar abdicated in March 1917, bringing an end to the Monarchy.
7. Soviet leaders and Duma leaders formed a Provisional Government to run the country.

Effects of the February Revolution:

1. Restrictions on public meetings and associations were removed.
2. 'Soviets' like the Petrograd Soviet, were set up everywhere, though no common system of election was followed.
3. The number of trade unions increased.
4. In Industrial areas, factory committees were formed to question the way industrialists ran their factories.
5. Soldiers' committees were formed in the Army.
6. The Bolsheviks' influence kept growing, and the provisional government saw its power reducing.
7. Land committees were formed to handle redistribution of land, which was a popular demand for peasants and their socialist revolutionary leaders in the countryside.

Main events of the October Revolution:

As the conflict between the provisional government and the Bolsheviks grew, Lenin feared the Provisional Government would set up a dictatorship. Lenin began discussions for an uprising against the government. Bolshevik supporters in the Army, Soviets and factories were brought together. On 16th October 1917, Lenin persuaded the Petrograd Soviet and the Bolshevik Party to agree to a socialist seizure of power. A military revolutionary committee was appointed by the Soviet under Leon Trotsky to organize the seizure. The uprising began on 24th October 1917. Military men who were loyal to the government seized the buildings of two Bolshevik newspapers. Pro-Government troops were sent to take over telephone and telegraph offices and protect the Winter Palace. In retaliation, the Military Revolutionary Committee ordered its supporters to seize government offices and arrest ministers. A ship named Aurora bombed the Winter Palace, other ships sailed down the Neva and took over various military positions. By the end of the month, the city was under the control of committee and ministers had resigned. By December, Bolsheviks controlled the Moscow-Petrograd area.

Effects of the October Revolution.

1. Industries and banks were nationalised by November 1917; Government took over ownership and management.
2. The land was declared social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility.
3. In the cities, the Bolsheviks enforced the partition of large houses according to family requirements.
4. Old titles of the aristocracy were banned.
5. New uniforms were designed for the army and officials.

6. Bolshevik Party was renamed as the Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik)
7. Bolsheviks conducted elections to the constituent assembly; however, they failed to attain the majority. The assembly rejected the Bolshevik measures, and Lenin dismissed the assembly.
8. All Russian Congress of Soviets became the Parliament of the country. Russia became a one-party state.
9. Trade unions were kept under party control. The Secret Police punished anyone who criticised the Bolsheviks. Many young artists and writers continued to support the Party, as it stood for Socialism.
10. Many experiments were done in Arts and Architecture. But many were unhappy because of the censorship.

**5. What were the main changes brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution?**

**Answer:**

1. Industries and banks were nationalised by November 1917; Government took over ownership and management.
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**6. Write a few lines to show what you know about:**

**Kulaks**

**Answer:**

1. Wealthy peasants who Stalin believed were hoarding the grains to gain more profit.
2. When the towns faced acute shortage of grains, Kulaks were thought to be responsible for it.
3. Stalin thought it was necessary to eliminate them so that farms could be modernised.

**The Duma**

**Answer:**

In 1905, Tsar allowed the creation of an elected consultative Parliament or Duma. The Tsar dismissed the first Duma within 75 days and re-elected the second Duma within three months. The Tsar did not want anyone to question his authority or undermine and reduce his powers. The Tsar changed the voting laws and packed the Third Duma with conservative politicians. Liberals and revolutionaries were kept out.

**Women workers between 1900 and 1930**

**Answer:**

1. Their wages were less than the wages of men.
2. They formed 31% of the factory workforce.

**The Liberals**

**Answer:**

1. They considered all religions as equal.
2. They believed only men who have property had the right to vote
3. They wanted an elected form of Parliamentary governance.

**Stalin's collectivisation programme.**

**Answer:**

1. He began this programme in 1929.
2. He believed this programme would help in improving grain supplies.
3. All peasants were forced to cultivate in collective farms called 'Kolkhoz'.
4. On the contrary, this worsened the food supply situation.

**1. Describe the problems faced by the Weimar Republic.**

**Solution:**

The defeat of Imperial Germany at the hands of the Allied powers in World War I led to the abdication of the emperor Wilhelm II. This gave an opportunity to parliamentary parties to recast the German polity.

Thus, a National Assembly met at the town of Weimar to form a republic with a democratic constitution and a federal structure. But this newborn republic was not well received by its own people for the following reasons:

(I) The Allied powers imposed a harsh and humiliating treaty at Versailles, which squarely placed the blame of starting World War I on Germany's soldiers. It was the Weimar Republic that signed the treaty much to the displeasure of the German populace.

(II) Germany lost all of its overseas colonies and a tenth of its population, along with 75% of its iron and 26% of its coal to France, Poland, Denmark and Lithuania.

(III) The War Guilt Clause held Germany responsible for the war and the subsequent damage it caused in the Allied nations. They were forced to pay compensation of £6 billion in total. Due to the loss of most of its revenue-generating colonies, Germany was unable to repay the amount.

(IV) Due to the failure to pay compensation, the Allied Armies occupied the resource-rich Rhineland for a time. The Weimar Republic reacted to this by printing paper currency in large numbers to pay off the huge debt. This led to hyperinflation and the eventual collapse of the economy.

(V) Coupled with the humiliation of a foreign power occupying German territory and economic collapse, the German public held the new Weimar Republic responsible for the defeat in World War I and accepting the disgrace at Versailles.

**2. Discuss why Nazism became popular in Germany by 1930.**

**Solution:**

The end of World War I had changed the political landscape of Germany. Right from the beginning, the infant Weimar Republic was beset by problems.

(I) The harsh Versailles Treaty was a serious blow to the national prestige of the Germans and to the economy.

(II) The economic situation was worsened by the Great Depression of 1929, which had severely affected the already fragile German economy. The inability of the Weimar Republic to remedy the situation only further inflamed public sentiments.

(III) The political scenario was not any better as the various political factions, such as the communists and socialists fought with each other that stalled any policy that would uplift the plight of the German people.

(IV) It was in this background that Hitler would organise the fledgling National Socialist German Worker's party, otherwise known as the Nazi party into a mass movement.

(V) By implementing Nazi ideals, Hitler promised to undo the injustice of the Versailles treaty and restore the dignity of the German people, promising economic security and to build a strong German nation free from all foreign influences and 'conspiracies'.



(VI) He found strong support among the German middle class, who were threatened with destitution due to economic collapse that had shut down banks, businesses and factories.

(VII) Nazi propaganda, along with Hitler's powerful oratory skills, successfully portrayed Hitler as a saviour and Nazism as the means to deliver the German people from the distress of living in a time of acute economic and political crisis.

### 3. What are the peculiar features of Nazi thinking?

#### Solution:

The Nazi thinking was synonymous with Hitler's world view. The features of such thinking are as follows:

(I) There was no equality among the human race, only a racial hierarchy – with the blonde, blue-eyed, Nordic German Aryans being at the top and the Jews being placed at the bottom level. All the other coloured people were placed somewhere in between, depending on their external features.

(II) The other aspect of Nazi ideology was the concept of *Lebensraum* or living space. It was believed that new territories had to be acquired at the expense of the local population in order to enhance material resources and the power of the German nation.

(III) They believed in the survival of the fittest, which was a twisted version of Charles Darwin theory about natural selection. In their version, they believed that the strongest race would survive, while the weak would perish.

(IV) Nazi thinking put much emphasis on 'racial purity'. This meant that anyone born with physical and mental disabilities was considered 'undesirable' and impure. Allowing their existence would only pollute the German race and hence they had no right to exist. Along with Jews, Gypsies, Slavic and blacks were all considered subhuman and executed in large numbers under the shadow of World War II.

(V) Nazis believed in war and aggression. Any notion of peace or related ideologies were considered weak by their standards. They believed that world domination through war justified in proving the superiority of the German race.

### 4. Explain why Nazi propaganda was effective in creating a hatred for Jews.

#### Solution:

The Nazis were quite effective in using propaganda to great effect. They made propaganda films to fan hatred for Jews with the most infamous being *The Eternal Jew*. Orthodox Jews were stereotyped and marked. They were shown with flowing beards, wearing kaftans and were referred to as rats and vermin who fed off good Germans.

Jews were also blamed for Germany's defeat in World War I, despite the fact that a large number of them served with distinction in the conflict. The propaganda by the Nazis effectively worked on the minds of the people, making use of the centuries of anti-Semitic feelings and tapping their emotions. This turned their hatred and anger at those who were blamed for all of Germany's past and present ills. And the Nazis would be the remedy for these 'ills'

### 5. Explain the role of women in Nazi society. Return to Chapter 1 on the French Revolution. Write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the role of women in the two periods.

#### Solution:

Women in Nazi society were relegated to housewives who were charged with upholding the honour of the German race by limiting contacts with 'undesirables' and raising as many pure-blooded children as possible. Those who conformed to this role were given favoured treatment in hospitals, concessions in shops, theatre tickets and railway fares. Despite



Hitler's statement on 'women being the most important citizen', it did not apply to every woman. Especially those who deviated from Nazi ideology. Those that did, risked public humiliation, loss of civic honour, loss of family, jail sentence and even death.

This was in total contrast to the role of women in the French Revolution, where women led movements and fought for the right to education and the right to equal wages as men. They could not be forced to marry against their will. They could also train for jobs, become artists or run small businesses. Schooling was made compulsory for them, and they could even hold property.

#### **6. In what ways did the Nazi state seek to establish total control over its people?**

##### **Solution:**

President of the Weimar Republic Paul Von Hindenburg made Hitler the chancellor of Germany. Shortly after, a mysterious fire broke out in the Reichstag, the parliament building of Germany. Blaming the act of arson on communists and other 'enemy of the state', Hitler passed the First Fire decree in 1933 which suspended the civic rights like freedom of speech, press and freedom of assembly. Thus, Hitler effectively started controlling the German population. Other measures he undertook to systematically dismantle democracy in Germany were the following:

(I) 'The Enabling Act' was passed, which gave all powers to Hitler to sideline the parliament and rule by decree.

(II) All political parties, with the exception of the Nazi Party, were banned. The members of these banned parties were either imprisoned, exiled or assassinated.

(III) The communists were eradicated, with the remaining members being sent to concentration camps.

(IV) Special security forces such as the SA, SS, SD and Gestapo were created to control and order society in ways that the Nazis wanted. These organisations were given extra-judicial powers.

(V) In schools, children were taught to be loyal and submissive. They were also taught to hate Jews and worship Hitler, thus cultivating a personality cult in the process.

(VI) Nazi youth organizations, the like 'Jungvolk' and 'Hitler Youth' were created, where the youth were taught to hate democracy, communism, Jews and other 'undesirables'.

**Q.1 Discuss how the changes in forest management in the colonial period affected the following groups of people:**

1. **Shifting cultivators**
2. **Nomadic and pastoralist communities**
3. **Firms trading in timber/forest produce**
4. **Plantation owners**
5. **Kings/British officials engaged in shikar (hunting)**

**Solution:**

(I) **Shifting cultivators:** European colonists regarded shifting cultivation as harmful to the existence of forests. Also, it stood in the way of commercial timber forestry. There was always the chance of fires spreading out of control and burning down all the precious timber. Thus, keeping these factors in mind, the colonial government banned shifting cultivation. Many of these cultivators lost their livelihood in the process, and most were also displaced from their homes in the forest.

(II) **Nomadic and pastoralist communities:** Nomadic and pastoralist communities like the Korava, Karacha and Yerukula from the Madras Presidency lost their livelihoods. They were designated as ‘criminal tribes’ by the British authorities and were forced to work in factories, mines and plantations under government supervision.

(III) **Firms trading in timber/forest products:** The British gave European timber trading firms the sole right to trade in forest products in particular areas. Grazing and hunting by the local population were restricted by law.

(IV) **Plantation owners:** Vast tracts of natural forests were cleared to make way for tea, coffee and rubber plantations in order to fulfil the demand for these commodities in Europe. Plantation owners, who were overwhelmingly European, were given land at a cheap rate. They were enclosed and cleared of forests and planted with tea or coffee.

(V) **Kings/ British officials engaged in hunting:** The forest laws deprived forest dwellers of their means of livelihood. Before the enactment of these laws, the forest dwellers practised hunting as a means to sustain themselves. After their enactment, they were forbidden from hunting. Hunting instead became a sport where kings and British officials equally hunted big game in huge numbers, bringing some of them to the very brink of extinction.

**Q.2 What are the similarities between colonial management of the forests in Bastar and in Java?**

**Solution:** The forest management of Bastar in India was under the control of the British, while in Java, it was under Dutch management

(I) Just like the British, the Dutch required timber to make sleepers for railway tracks.

(II) The British and Dutch colonial authorities enacted their own version of the forest laws that gave them total control over the forests and deprived the customary rights of the forest dwellers.

(III) Both the Dutch and the British put a ban on shifting cultivation on the grounds that they were dangerous to the existence of forests.

(IV) The villagers of Bastar were allowed to stay in the forests on the condition that they provide free labour to the forest department. While in Java, the Dutch exempted those villages from paying taxes when they provided free labour to the forest department.

**Q.3 Between 1880 and 1920 forests cover in the Indian subcontinent declined by 9.7 million hectares, from 108.6 million hectares to 98.9 million hectares. Discuss the role of the following factors in this decline:**

1. **Railways**
2. **Shipbuilding**
3. **Agricultural expansion**
4. **Commercial farming**
5. **Tea/Coffee plantations**
6. **Adivasis and other peasants users**

**Solution:**

**a) Railways:**

Railways were an important asset that was essential in maintaining trade through the transport of goods and the domination of the colonies through the transport of troops. Wood was needed to lay the sleepers for railway tracks. The sleepers are what held the tracks from breaking apart. For one kilometre of railway track, anywhere between 1760 and 2000 sleepers were required. Thus, vast tracts of forest were cut down to provide the materials for the railways.

**(b) Ship Building**

Before the coming of the industrial revolution, the ships of the early 19th century were made of wood. Britain maintained its colonial possessions through the Royal Navy with its huge number of naval fleets. But in order to maintain them, vast tracts of oak forests in England were cut down.

This caused a logistical problem for the Royal Navy as a regular supply of timber was required to build new ships and maintain the old ones. It was easily remedied by cutting down forests of its colonies. Huge acres of forests disappeared as a result, with some areas seeing almost complete deforestation.

**(c) Agricultural Expansion**

As the population rose, so did the demand for food. Forestlands were cleared in order to make way for new agricultural tracts. The colonial authorities believed that they could produce more food if they cleared the forests. In addition, forests were considered unproductive, to begin with, so they had little qualms about cutting them down in huge numbers. Agricultural land rose by 6.7 million hectares between 1880 and 1920. It can be safely said that agricultural expansions contributed the most towards deforestation.

**(d) Commercial Farming of Trees**

Forests are diverse not just in fauna but also flora. So when they were cleared to make way for commercial farming, many species of trees were lost in the process, as commercial farming only uses one specific type of tree in commercial farming, depending on the type of plantation.

**(e) Tea/Coffee Plantation**

In order to meet the growing demand for tea and coffee, colonial authorities sold huge hectares of forest land to mostly European plantation firms. These firms then cut down the forests to make way for tea and coffee plantations. As a result, many acres of forest were lost.

**(f) Adivasis and Other Peasant Users:** Adivasis and other peasant communities practised shifting cultivation. It involved cutting down parts of forest area and burning the tree roots. Seeds were then sown into the burnt patch, and come the monsoon season, they were harvested. When fertility declined in that particular area, the same practice was repeated in a different location. So, along with losing some of the forest tracts, there were fewer chances of the trees growing back due to loss in soil fertility

**Q.4 Why are forests affected by wars?**

**Solution:** Forests are affected by wars as they are valuable strategic resources. Battlefield assets like towers, guard posts, and army camps are made of wood as they can be easily maintained and can be easily pulled down should the need to shift these assets arise. More so, the scorched earth policy is enacted should it become apparent that forests will fall under enemy hands.

This is done with regard to area and resource denial. Such was the case with the Dutch when the Japanese invaded their colony in Indonesia during World War II. The Dutch burned huge acres of forests in order to prevent them from falling into Japanese hands.

When they did, however, the Japanese set about recklessly exploiting the timber forests to fulfil their own war demands. This practice would severely impact the local ecology in a negative way for decades to come.



**Q.1 Explain why nomadic tribes need to move from one place to another. What are the advantages to the environment of this continuous movement?**

**Solution:** Nomadic tribes move from one location in order to maintain their sustenance and way of life. As they are involved in animal husbandry, the availability of water is paramount to their existence, along with fresh pastures for their animals. When the pasture is depleted, they move to the next area, looking for new grazing grounds.

The advantages to the environment are as follows:

- (I) The environment gets a chance to regrow and recover, thus maintaining the ecological balance of the area.
- (II) It prevents overgrazing, as it will lead to the depletion of future grazing grounds.
- (III) The manure of the animals helps in fertilising the soil, which will be instrumental in repeating the nomadic process of moving from one location to another a possibility.

**Q.2 Discuss why the colonial Government in India brought in the following laws. In each case, explain how the law changed the lives of the pastoralists.**

- a. **Wasteland Rules**
- b. **Forest Acts**
- c. **Criminal Tribes Act**
- d. **Grazing Tax**

**Solution: a. Wasteland rules:** The colonial government considered all uncultivated lands or wastelands as unproductive as they neither generated revenue nor agricultural produce. In order to bring these 'wasteland' under cultivation, the Waste Land Rules were enacted throughout India from the mid-nineteenth century. These lands were given to select individuals with various concessions and encouraged to settle them. Most of these lands were earlier used by pastoralists for grazing. So the expansion of cultivation meant that there was a decline in the number of pastures, which was a problem for pastoralists.

**b. Forest Acts:** Various forest acts were enacted in order to produce commercially viable timber like deodar or sal. Some tracts of forests were declared 'Reserved', which meant pastoralists were denied access to these forests. In those areas classified as 'Protected', pastoralists had some customary grazing rights, but their movements were restricted severely.

These laws were enacted as the colonial authorities believed that grazing destroyed roots and depleted the fertility of the forests. It affected the pastoralists in the sense that their movements were restricted with specific timings to control how much time they spent in the forests. One can safely say their lives were ruled by the permits of the forest departments.

**C. Criminal Tribes Act:** The British authorities regarded nomadic people with suspicion and contempt. Nomadic tribes were moved from one place to another in search of grazing grounds. This made it difficult for them to control and identify such people. While on the other hand, they saw the settled people as peaceful and law-abiding.

Thus, in order to bring nomadic and pastoralist people under their control, the British passed the Criminal Tribes Act in 1871. Through this act, communities of craftsmen, traders and pastoralists were classified as criminals by birth and nature.

They were forced to settle in one location and could not move without a permit. The village police kept a close watch on them as a result.

**d. Grazing Tax:** In order to increase its revenue, the colonial government imposed a tax on land, salt, canal water, and also animals. Pastoralists had to pay a tax on every animal they took to graze in the pastures.

The Grazing Tax was introduced in India by the mid-nineteenth century. In the 1850s, the right to collect these taxes was auctioned off to contractors. The contractors, on their part, tried to extract as much tax as possible in order to recover the money they paid to the government. In order to pay less, the pastoralists had to decrease the number of animals they took for grazing.

**Q.3 Give reasons to explain why the Maasai community lost their grazing lands.**

**Solution:** In the late nineteenth century, in what would be known as the ‘scramble for Africa’, European imperial powers sliced up the region into different colonies with little to no regard for the local sentiments. In 1885, the land of the Maasai, Maasailand, was cut into half with an international boundary between British Kenya and German Tanzania. As a result, the best grazing lands were reserved for white settlers, with Maasai being pushed into a small area in southern Kenya and northern Tanzania.

Large areas of grazing land were also turned into game reserves, like the Maasai Mara and Samburu National Park in Kenya and Serengeti Park in Tanzania. Pastoralists were not allowed to enter these reserves; they could neither hunt animals nor graze their herds in these areas.

**Q.4 There are many similarities in the way in which the modern world forced changes in the lives of pastoral communities in India and East Africa. Write about any two examples of changes which were similar for Indian pastoralists and the Maasai herders.**

**Solution:** India and East Africa were under occupation by European colonial powers. There were many similarities in which both regions were exploited by these powers.

**(I) Forest laws**

Various forest laws were also responsible for changing the lives of pastoralists both in India and Africa.

In India, the forest was classed as reserved and protected. No pastoralist was allowed access to the reserved forest.

One of the problems the Maasai people have faced is the continuous loss of their grazing lands. The colonial government increased the number of local peasants to expand cultivation.

**b) Closing of borders**

In Africa, Maasailand was cut in half with the International boundary between British Kenya and German Tanganyika. The best land was taken over by the White settlers, and the locals were pushed into a small area with restricted pastures.

In India, the division of the country forced the Raikas to find out new pastures in Haryana as, due to political division, they were no longer allowed to go to Sindh, which later became a province of Pakistan. After the Sindh province became a part of Pakistan, the herders could not go there.



## Chapter 1 - French Revolution

### 1. Describe the circumstances leading to the outbreak of revolutionary protest in France.

**Answer:**

When King Louis XVI was anointed as the new king, he found an empty treasury. Long years of war had drained the financial resources of France. On top of this, there was the cost of maintaining an extravagant court at the immense palace of Versailles. France had helped the thirteen American colonies gain their independence from the common enemy, Britain. The war added more than a Billion livres to a debt that had already risen to more than 2 billion livres. Lenders who gave credit now began to charge 10 per cent interest on loans. So the French Government had to spend an increasing percentage of its budget on interest payments alone. To meet its regular expenses, such as cost of maintaining an army, the court, running government offices or Universities. Even this measure did not suffice because the French society was divided into 3 estates and only the 3rd estate had to pay taxes. 1st and 2nd estate did not pay any taxes. The population of France grew massively. This led to a rapid increase in demand for food grains. Production of grains could not keep pace with demand. So the price of bread which was the staple diet of the majority rose rapidly. Most workers were employed as labourers in workshops whose owner fixed their wages. But the wages did not keep pace with the rise in prices. So the gap between the rich and the poor widened. All these factors led to the outbreak of the French Revolution.

### 2. Which groups of French society benefited from the revolution? Which groups were forced to relinquish power? Which sections of society would have been disappointed with the outcome of the revolution?

**Answer:**

French society was divided into 3 estates. The third estate benefitted the most. The third estate consisted of Peasants, artisans, Small peasants, landless labour, servants, big businessmen, merchants, court officials, lawyers etc. The groups that were forced to relinquish power came under 1st and 2nd estate. These people had enjoyed certain privileges by birth. With the revolution, these people in 1st and 2nd estate lost their privileges, because inequality was one of the root causes of revolution and the revolution tried to bring equality to society.

### 3. Describe the legacy of the French Revolution for the peoples of the world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

**Answer:**

The ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French revolution. These spread from France to the rest of Europe during the nineteenth century, where feudal systems were abolished. Colonised people reworked the idea of freedom from bondage into their movements to create a sovereign nation-state. Tipu Sultan and Rammohan Roy are two examples of individuals who responded to the ideas coming from Revolutionary France.

**4. Draw up a list of democratic rights we enjoy today whose origins could be traced to the French Revolution.**

**Answer:**

The list of democratic rights are

1. Freedom of speech
2. Freedom of expression
3. Freedom of press
4. Abolition of censorship
5. Right to vote
6. Abolition of slavery
7. Right to liberty
8. Right to property
9. Right to security
10. Right to education
11. Divorce laws

**5. Would you agree with the view that the message of universal rights was beset with contradictions? Explain.**

**Answer:**

Though it says Universal Rights, unfortunately, they left out women from basic rights. They did not have equal rights to men. They did not have the same rights as right to liberty, property, security, and above all resistance to oppression. In the formulation of laws, women did not have any representation. Women were not entitled to all honours and public employment according to their abilities.

**6. How would you explain the rise of Napoleon?**

**Answer:**

Napoleon Bonaparte crowned himself Emperor of France. He started conquering neighbouring countries by waging wars against them. He saw himself in the role of a moderniser of Europe. He introduced many laws such as the protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system. Many of his measures carried the revolutionary ideas of liberty and modern laws to the other parts of Europe, this had a positive impact on people long after he was dethroned as an emperor when he was finally defeated in the Battle of Waterloo.

## EXERCISE

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### 1. What were the social, economic and political conditions in Russia before 1905?

**Answer:**

#### **Social Condition:**

Workers were a divided group. Some had strong links with the villages; others had settled permanently in cities. Workers were divided based on their skills. The division among workers reflected in their dress and manners too.

#### **Economic Condition:**

Most industries were the private property of industrialists. The government supervised large factories. The industry was found in pockets. Many factories were set up in the 1890s when Russia's railway network was extended, foreign investment in industry increased, coal production doubled, and iron and steel output quadrupled. Most industries were the private property of industrialists.

#### **Political Condition:**

Russia was an autocracy. Unlike other European countries, The Tsar was not subject to a Parliament. Liberals in Russia campaigned to end this state of affairs.

#### **Socialist Revolutionary Party Struggled for Peasants' Rights**

1905 was the year when the incident of 'Bloody Sunday' took place. 100 workers were killed, and about 300 were wounded. Bloody Sunday started a series of events that became known as the 1905 revolution.

### 2. In what ways was the working population in Russia different from other countries in Europe, before 1917?

**Answer:**

The vast majority of Russia's population were agriculturists. About 85 per cent of the Russian Empire's population earned their living from Agriculture. This proportion was higher than in most European countries. In France and Germany, the proportion was between 40 per cent and 50 per cent. Cultivators produced for the market as well as for their own needs, and Russia was a major exporter of grain.

### 3. Why did the Tsarist autocracy collapse in 1917?

**Answer:**

After 1905, most trade unions and factory committees were declared illegal. There were restrictions on political activity. The Tsar dismissed the first 2 Dumas very quickly because he did not want his authority and powers to be questioned. The third Duma was filled with Conservative politicians. During the 1st world war, the Tsar started taking unilateral decisions without consulting the Duma. While Russian soldiers were retreating from the war, large swathes of agricultural lands were burnt and buildings destroyed by them on the orders of the Tsar. Millions of soldiers also died in the battle. The large majority of the population were peasants, and the land was under the control of a few private people. All these factors led to the rise of revolution and the collapse of Tsar autocracy.

**4. Make two lists: one with the main events and the effects of the February Revolution and the other with the main events and effects of the October Revolution. Write a paragraph on who was involved in each, who were the leaders and what was the impact of each on Soviet history.**

**Answer:**

**Main events of February Revolution:**

1. In February 1917, there was a shortage of food items in workers quarters.
2. On February 23, a lockout took place at a factory on the right bank. The workers in fifty factories called a strike and women played a very critical role in these strikes.
3. On February 25, the government suspended the Duma.
4. On February 27, Police headquarters were ransacked, people were demonstrating and raising slogans about bread, wages, better hours and democracy.
5. Petrograd Soviet was formed.
6. The Tsar abdicated in March 1917, bringing an end to the Monarchy.
7. Soviet leaders and Duma leaders formed a Provisional Government to run the country.

**Effects of the February Revolution:**

1. Restrictions on public meetings and associations were removed.
2. 'Soviets' like the Petrograd Soviet, were set up everywhere, though no common system of election was followed.
3. The number of trade unions increased.
4. In Industrial areas, factory committees were formed to question the way industrialists ran their factories.
5. Soldiers' committees were formed in the Army.
6. The Bolsheviks' influence kept growing, and the provisional government saw its power reducing.
7. Land committees were formed to handle redistribution of land, which was a popular demand for peasants and their socialist revolutionary leaders in the countryside.

**Main events of the October Revolution:**

As the conflict between the provisional government and the Bolsheviks grew, Lenin feared the Provisional Government would set up a dictatorship. Lenin began discussions for an uprising against the government. Bolshevik supporters in the Army, Soviets and factories were brought together. On 16th October 1917, Lenin persuaded the Petrograd Soviet and the Bolshevik Party to agree to a socialist seizure of power. A military revolutionary committee was appointed by the Soviet under Leon Trotsky to organize the seizure. The uprising began on 24th October 1917. Military men who were loyal to the government seized the buildings of two Bolshevik newspapers. Pro-Government troops were sent to take over telephone and telegraph offices and protect the Winter Palace. In retaliation, the Military Revolutionary Committee ordered its supporters to seize government offices and arrest ministers. A ship named Aurora bombed the Winter Palace, other ships sailed down the Neva and took over various military positions. By the end of the month, the city was under the control of committee and ministers had resigned. By December, Bolsheviks controlled the Moscow-Petrograd area.

**Effects of the October Revolution.**

1. Industries and banks were nationalised by November 1917; Government took over ownership and management.
2. The land was declared social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility.
3. In the cities, the Bolsheviks enforced the partition of large houses according to family requirements.
4. Old titles of the aristocracy were banned.
5. New uniforms were designed for the army and officials.

6. Bolshevik Party was renamed as the Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik)
7. Bolsheviks conducted elections to the constituent assembly; however, they failed to attain the majority. The assembly rejected the Bolshevik measures, and Lenin dismissed the assembly.
8. All Russian Congress of Soviets became the Parliament of the country. Russia became a one-party state.
9. Trade unions were kept under party control. The Secret Police punished anyone who criticised the Bolsheviks. Many young artists and writers continued to support the Party, as it stood for Socialism.
10. Many experiments were done in Arts and Architecture. But many were unhappy because of the censorship.

**5. What were the main changes brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution?**

**Answer:**

1. Industries and banks were nationalised by November 1917; Government took over ownership and management.
2. The land was declared as a social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility.
3. In the cities, Bolsheviks enforced the partition of large houses according to family requirements.
4. Old titles of the aristocracy were banned.
5. New uniforms were designed for the army and officials.
6. Bolshevik Party was renamed as the Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik)
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10. Many experiments were done in Arts and Architecture. But many artists were unhappy because of the censorship.

**6. Write a few lines to show what you know about:**

**Kulaks**

**Answer:**

1. Wealthy peasants who Stalin believed were hoarding the grains to gain more profit.
2. When the towns faced acute shortage of grains, Kulaks were thought to be responsible for it.
3. Stalin thought it was necessary to eliminate them so that farms could be modernised.

**The Duma**

**Answer:**

In 1905, Tsar allowed the creation of an elected consultative Parliament or Duma. The Tsar dismissed the first Duma within 75 days and re-elected the second Duma within three months. The Tsar did not want anyone to question his authority or undermine and reduce his powers. The Tsar changed the voting laws and packed the Third Duma with conservative politicians. Liberals and revolutionaries were kept out.

**Women workers between 1900 and 1930**

**Answer:**

1. Their wages were less than the wages of men.
2. They formed 31% of the factory workforce.

**The Liberals**

**Answer:**

1. They considered all religions as equal.
2. They believed only men who have property had the right to vote
3. They wanted an elected form of Parliamentary governance.

**Stalin's collectivisation programme.**

**Answer:**

1. He began this programme in 1929.
2. He believed this programme would help in improving grain supplies.
3. All peasants were forced to cultivate in collective farms called 'Kolkhoz'.
4. On the contrary, this worsened the food supply situation.



**1. Describe the problems faced by the Weimar Republic.**

**Solution:**

The defeat of Imperial Germany at the hands of the Allied powers in World War I led to the abdication of the emperor Wilhelm II. This gave an opportunity to parliamentary parties to recast the German polity.

Thus, a National Assembly met at the town of Weimar to form a republic with a democratic constitution and a federal structure. But this newborn republic was not well received by its own people for the following reasons:

(I) The Allied powers imposed a harsh and humiliating treaty at Versailles, which squarely placed the blame of starting World War I on Germany's soldiers. It was the Weimar Republic that signed the treaty much to the displeasure of the German populace.

(II) Germany lost all of its overseas colonies and a tenth of its population, along with 75% of its iron and 26% of its coal to France, Poland, Denmark and Lithuania.

(III) The War Guilt Clause held Germany responsible for the war and the subsequent damage it caused in the Allied nations. They were forced to pay compensation of £6 billion in total. Due to the loss of most of its revenue-generating colonies, Germany was unable to repay the amount.

(IV) Due to the failure to pay compensation, the Allied Armies occupied the resource-rich Rhineland for a time. The Weimar Republic reacted to this by printing paper currency in large numbers to pay off the huge debt. This led to hyperinflation and the eventual collapse of the economy.

(V) Coupled with the humiliation of a foreign power occupying German territory and economic collapse, the German public held the new Weimar Republic responsible for the defeat in World War I and accepting the disgrace at Versailles.

**2. Discuss why Nazism became popular in Germany by 1930.**

**Solution:**

The end of World War I had changed the political landscape of Germany. Right from the beginning, the infant Weimar Republic was beset by problems.

(I) The harsh Versailles Treaty was a serious blow to the national prestige of the Germans and to the economy.

(II) The economic situation was worsened by the Great Depression of 1929, which had severely affected the already fragile German economy. The inability of the Weimar Republic to remedy the situation only further inflamed public sentiments.

(III) The political scenario was not any better as the various political factions, such as the communists and socialists fought with each other that stalled any policy that would uplift the plight of the German people.

(IV) It was in this background that Hitler would organise the fledgling National Socialist German Worker's party, otherwise known as the Nazi party into a mass movement.

(V) By implementing Nazi ideals, Hitler promised to undo the injustice of the Versailles treaty and restore the dignity of the German people, promising economic security and to build a strong German nation free from all foreign influences and 'conspiracies'.

(VI) He found strong support among the German middle class, who were threatened with destitution due to economic collapse that had shut down banks, businesses and factories.

(VII) Nazi propaganda, along with Hitler's powerful oratory skills, successfully portrayed Hitler as a saviour and Nazism as the means to deliver the German people from the distress of living in a time of acute economic and political crisis.

### 3. What are the peculiar features of Nazi thinking?

#### Solution:

The Nazi thinking was synonymous with Hitler's world view. The features of such thinking are as follows:

(I) There was no equality among the human race, only a racial hierarchy – with the blonde, blue-eyed, Nordic German Aryans being at the top and the Jews being placed at the bottom level. All the other coloured people were placed somewhere in between, depending on their external features.

(II) The other aspect of Nazi ideology was the concept of *Lebensraum* or living space. It was believed that new territories had to be acquired at the expense of the local population in order to enhance material resources and the power of the German nation.

(III) They believed in the survival of the fittest, which was a twisted version of Charles Darwin theory about natural selection. In their version, they believed that the strongest race would survive, while the weak would perish.

(IV) Nazi thinking put much emphasis on 'racial purity'. This meant that anyone born with physical and mental disabilities was considered 'undesirable' and impure. Allowing their existence would only pollute the German race and hence they had no right to exist. Along with Jews, Gypsies, Slavic and blacks were all considered subhuman and executed in large numbers under the shadow of World War II.

(V) Nazis believed in war and aggression. Any notion of peace or related ideologies were considered weak by their standards. They believed that world domination through war justified in proving the superiority of the German race.

### 4. Explain why Nazi propaganda was effective in creating a hatred for Jews.

#### Solution:

The Nazis were quite effective in using propaganda to great effect. They made propaganda films to fan hatred for Jews with the most infamous being *The Eternal Jew*. Orthodox Jews were stereotyped and marked. They were shown with flowing beards, wearing kaftans and were referred to as rats and vermin who fed off good Germans.

Jews were also blamed for Germany's defeat in World War I, despite the fact that a large number of them served with distinction in the conflict. The propaganda by the Nazis effectively worked on the minds of the people, making use of the centuries of anti-Semitic feelings and tapping their emotions. This turned their hatred and anger at those who were blamed for all of Germany's past and present ills. And the Nazis would be the remedy for these 'ills'

### 5. Explain the role of women in Nazi society. Return to Chapter 1 on the French Revolution. Write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the role of women in the two periods.

#### Solution:

Women in Nazi society were relegated to housewives who were charged with upholding the honour of the German race by limiting contacts with 'undesirables' and raising as many pure-blooded children as possible. Those who conformed to this role were given favoured treatment in hospitals, concessions in shops, theatre tickets and railway fares. Despite

Hitler's statement on 'women being the most important citizen', it did not apply to every woman. Especially those who deviated from Nazi ideology. Those that did, risked public humiliation, loss of civic honour, loss of family, jail sentence and even death.

This was in total contrast to the role of women in the French Revolution, where women led movements and fought for the right to education and the right to equal wages as men. They could not be forced to marry against their will. They could also train for jobs, become artists or run small businesses. Schooling was made compulsory for them, and they could even hold property.

#### **6. In what ways did the Nazi state seek to establish total control over its people?**

##### **Solution:**

President of the Weimar Republic Paul Von Hindenburg made Hitler the chancellor of Germany. Shortly after, a mysterious fire broke out in the Reichstag, the parliament building of Germany. Blaming the act of arson on communists and other 'enemy of the state, Hitler passed the First Fire decree in 1933 which suspended the civic rights like freedom of speech, press and freedom of assembly. Thus, Hitler effectively started controlling the German population. Other measures he undertook to systematically dismantle democracy in Germany were the following:

(I) 'The Enabling Act' was passed, which gave all powers to Hitler to sideline the parliament and rule by decree.

(II) All political parties, with the exception of the Nazi Party, were banned. The members of these banned parties were either imprisoned, exiled or assassinated.

(III) The communists were eradicated, with the remaining members being sent to concentration camps.

(IV) Special security forces such as the SA, SS, SD and Gestapo were created to control and order society in ways that the Nazis wanted. These organisations were given extra-judicial powers.

(V) In schools, children were taught to be loyal and submissive. They were also taught to hate Jews and worship Hitler, thus cultivating a personality cult in the process.

(VI) Nazi youth organizations, the like 'Jungvolk' and 'Hitler Youth' were created, where the youth were taught to hate democracy, communism, Jews and other 'undesirables'.

**Q.1 Discuss how the changes in forest management in the colonial period affected the following groups of people:**

1. **Shifting cultivators**
2. **Nomadic and pastoralist communities**
3. **Firms trading in timber/forest produce**
4. **Plantation owners**
5. **Kings/British officials engaged in shikar (hunting)**

**Solution:**

(I) **Shifting cultivators:** European colonists regarded shifting cultivation as harmful to the existence of forests. Also, it stood in the way of commercial timber forestry. There was always the chance of fires spreading out of control and burning down all the precious timber. Thus, keeping these factors in mind, the colonial government banned shifting cultivation. Many of these cultivators lost their livelihood in the process, and most were also displaced from their homes in the forest.

(II) **Nomadic and pastoralist communities:** Nomadic and pastoralist communities like the Korava, Karacha and Yerukula from the Madras Presidency lost their livelihoods. They were designated as ‘criminal tribes’ by the British authorities and were forced to work in factories, mines and plantations under government supervision.

(III) **Firms trading in timber/forest products:** The British gave European timber trading firms the sole right to trade in forest products in particular areas. Grazing and hunting by the local population were restricted by law.

(IV) **Plantation owners:** Vast tracts of natural forests were cleared to make way for tea, coffee and rubber plantations in order to fulfil the demand for these commodities in Europe. Plantation owners, who were overwhelmingly European, were given land at a cheap rate. They were enclosed and cleared of forests and planted with tea or coffee.

(V) **Kings/ British officials engaged in hunting:** The forest laws deprived forest dwellers of their means of livelihood. Before the enactment of these laws, the forest dwellers practised hunting as a means to sustain themselves. After their enactment, they were forbidden from hunting. Hunting instead became a sport where kings and British officials equally hunted big game in huge numbers, bringing some of them to the very brink of extinction.

**Q.2 What are the similarities between colonial management of the forests in Bastar and in Java?**

**Solution:** The forest management of Bastar in India was under the control of the British, while in Java, it was under Dutch management

(I) Just like the British, the Dutch required timber to make sleepers for railway tracks.

(II) The British and Dutch colonial authorities enacted their own version of the forest laws that gave them total control over the forests and deprived the customary rights of the forest dwellers.

(III) Both the Dutch and the British put a ban on shifting cultivation on the grounds that they were dangerous to the existence of forests.

(IV) The villagers of Bastar were allowed to stay in the forests on the condition that they provide free labour to the forest department. While in Java, the Dutch exempted those villages from paying taxes when they provided free labour to the forest department.

**Q.3 Between 1880 and 1920 forests cover in the Indian subcontinent declined by 9.7 million hectares, from 108.6 million hectares to 98.9 million hectares. Discuss the role of the following factors in this decline:**

1. Railways
2. Shipbuilding
3. Agricultural expansion
4. Commercial farming
5. Tea/Coffee plantations
6. Adivasis and other peasants users

**Solution:**

**a) Railways:**

Railways were an important asset that was essential in maintaining trade through the transport of goods and the domination of the colonies through the transport of troops. Wood was needed to lay the sleepers for railway tracks. The sleepers are what held the tracks from breaking apart. For one kilometre of railway track, anywhere between 1760 and 2000 sleepers were required. Thus, vast tracts of forest were cut down to provide the materials for the railways.

**(b) Ship Building**

Before the coming of the industrial revolution, the ships of the early 19th century were made of wood. Britain maintained its colonial possessions through the Royal Navy with its huge number of naval fleets. But in order to maintain them, vast tracts of oak forests in England were cut down.

This caused a logistical problem for the Royal Navy as a regular supply of timber was required to build new ships and maintain the old ones. It was easily remedied by cutting down forests of its colonies. Huge acres of forests disappeared as a result, with some areas seeing almost complete deforestation.

**(c) Agricultural Expansion**

As the population rose, so did the demand for food. Forestlands were cleared in order to make way for new agricultural tracts. The colonial authorities believed that they could produce more food if they cleared the forests. In addition, forests were considered unproductive, to begin with, so they had little qualms about cutting them down in huge numbers. Agricultural land rose by 6.7 million hectares between 1880 and 1920. It can be safely said that agricultural expansions contributed the most towards deforestation.

**(d) Commercial Farming of Trees**

Forests are diverse not just in fauna but also flora. So when they were cleared to make way for commercial farming, many species of trees were lost in the process, as commercial farming only uses one specific type of tree in commercial farming, depending on the type of plantation.

**(e) Tea/Coffee Plantation**

In order to meet the growing demand for tea and coffee, colonial authorities sold huge hectares of forest land to mostly European plantation firms. These firms then cut down the forests to make way for tea and coffee plantations. As a result, many acres of forest were lost.

**(f) Adivasis and Other Peasant Users:** Adivasis and other peasant communities practised shifting cultivation. It involved cutting down parts of forest area and burning the tree roots. Seeds were then sown into the burnt patch, and come the monsoon season, they were harvested. When fertility declined in that particular area, the same practice was repeated in a different location. So, along with losing some of the forest tracts, there were fewer chances of the trees growing back due to loss in soil fertility

**Q.4 Why are forests affected by wars?**

**Solution:** Forests are affected by wars as they are valuable strategic resources. Battlefield assets like towers, guard posts, and army camps are made of wood as they can be easily maintained and can be easily pulled down should the need to shift these assets arise. More so, the scorched earth policy is enacted should it become apparent that forests will fall under enemy hands.

This is done with regard to area and resource denial. Such was the case with the Dutch when the Japanese invaded their colony in Indonesia during World War II. The Dutch burned huge acres of forests in order to prevent them from falling into Japanese hands.

When they did, however, the Japanese set about recklessly exploiting the timber forests to fulfil their own war demands. This practice would severely impact the local ecology in a negative way for decades to come.





**Q.1 Explain why nomadic tribes need to move from one place to another. What are the advantages to the environment of this continuous movement?**

**Solution:** Nomadic tribes move from one location in order to maintain their sustenance and way of life. As they are involved in animal husbandry, the availability of water is paramount to their existence, along with fresh pastures for their animals. When the pasture is depleted, they move to the next area, looking for new grazing grounds.

The advantages to the environment are as follows:

- (I) The environment gets a chance to regrow and recover, thus maintaining the ecological balance of the area.
- (II) It prevents overgrazing, as it will lead to the depletion of future grazing grounds.
- (III) The manure of the animals helps in fertilising the soil, which will be instrumental in repeating the nomadic process of moving from one location to another a possibility.

**Q.2 Discuss why the colonial Government in India brought in the following laws. In each case, explain how the law changed the lives of the pastoralists.**

- a. **Wasteland Rules**
- b. **Forest Acts**
- c. **Criminal Tribes Act**
- d. **Grazing Tax**

**Solution: a. Wasteland rules:** The colonial government considered all uncultivated lands or wastelands as unproductive as they neither generated revenue nor agricultural produce. In order to bring these 'wasteland' under cultivation, the Waste Land Rules were enacted throughout India from the mid-nineteenth century. These lands were given to select individuals with various concessions and encouraged to settle them. Most of these lands were earlier used by pastoralists for grazing. So the expansion of cultivation meant that there was a decline in the number of pastures, which was a problem for pastoralists.

**b. Forest Acts:** Various forest acts were enacted in order to produce commercially viable timber like deodar or sal. Some tracts of forests were declared 'Reserved', which meant pastoralists were denied access to these forests. In those areas classified as 'Protected', pastoralists had some customary grazing rights, but their movements were restricted severely.

These laws were enacted as the colonial authorities believed that grazing destroyed roots and depleted the fertility of the forests. It affected the pastoralists in the sense that their movements were restricted with specific timings to control how much time they spent in the forests. One can safely say their lives were ruled by the permits of the forest departments.

**C. Criminal Tribes Act:** The British authorities regarded nomadic people with suspicion and contempt. Nomadic tribes were moved from one place to another in search of grazing grounds. This made it difficult for them to control and identify such people. While on the other hand, they saw the settled people as peaceful and law-abiding.

Thus, in order to bring nomadic and pastoralist people under their control, the British passed the Criminal Tribes Act in 1871. Through this act, communities of craftsmen, traders and pastoralists were classified as criminals by birth and nature.

They were forced to settle in one location and could not move without a permit. The village police kept a close watch on them as a result.

**d. Grazing Tax:** In order to increase its revenue, the colonial government imposed a tax on land, salt, canal water, and also animals. Pastoralists had to pay a tax on every animal they took to graze in the pastures.

The Grazing Tax was introduced in India by the mid-nineteenth century. In the 1850s, the right to collect these taxes was auctioned off to contractors. The contractors, on their part, tried to extract as much tax as possible in order to recover the money they paid to the government. In order to pay less, the pastoralists had to decrease the number of animals they took for grazing.

**Q.3 Give reasons to explain why the Maasai community lost their grazing lands.**

**Solution:** In the late nineteenth century, in what would be known as the ‘scramble for Africa’, European imperial powers sliced up the region into different colonies with little to no regard for the local sentiments. In 1885, the land of the Maasai, Maasailand, was cut into half with an international boundary between British Kenya and German Tanzania. As a result, the best grazing lands were reserved for white settlers, with Maasai being pushed into a small area in southern Kenya and northern Tanzania.

Large areas of grazing land were also turned into game reserves, like the Maasai Mara and Samburu National Park in Kenya and Serengeti Park in Tanzania. Pastoralists were not allowed to enter these reserves; they could neither hunt animals nor graze their herds in these areas.

**Q.4 There are many similarities in the way in which the modern world forced changes in the lives of pastoral communities in India and East Africa. Write about any two examples of changes which were similar for Indian pastoralists and the Maasai herders.**

**Solution:** India and East Africa were under occupation by European colonial powers. There were many similarities in which both regions were exploited by these powers.

**(I) Forest laws**

Various forest laws were also responsible for changing the lives of pastoralists both in India and Africa.

In India, the forest was classed as reserved and protected. No pastoralist was allowed access to the reserved forest.

One of the problems the Maasai people have faced is the continuous loss of their grazing lands. The colonial government increased the number of local peasants to expand cultivation.

**b) Closing of borders**

In Africa, Maasailand was cut in half with the International boundary between British Kenya and German Tanganyika. The best land was taken over by the White settlers, and the locals were pushed into a small area with restricted pastures.

In India, the division of the country forced the Raikas to find out new pastures in Haryana as, due to political division, they were no longer allowed to go to Sindh, which later became a province of Pakistan. After the Sindh province became a part of Pakistan, the herders could not go there.