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Que. French revolution introduced various measures and practices that could create a sense of collective identity amongst the French people. Explain.

Sol: The first clear expression of nationalism came with the French Revolution in 1789.

- The political and constitutional changes that came in the wake of the French Revolution led to the transfer of sovereignty from the monarchy to a body of French citizens.
- The ideas of la patrie (the fatherland) and le citoyen (the citizen) emphasized the notion of a united community enjoying equal rights under a constitution.



- The Estates General was elected by the body of the active citizens and renamed the National Assembly.
- Internal customs duties and dues were abolished and a uniform system of weights and measures was adopted.
- The revolutionaries further declared that it was the mission and the destiny of the French nation to liberate the peoples of Europe from despotism.
- Students and other members of educated middle classes began setting up Jacobin club.
- Their activities and campaigns prepared the way for the French armies which moved into Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and much of Italy in the 1790's.

Que. What were the features of the Napoleonic code or civil code of 1804?

Sol: The French armies began to carry the idea of nationalism abroad. Through a return to monarchy Napoleon had, no doubt, destroyed democracy in France, but in the administrative field he had incorporated revolutionary principles in order to make the whole system more rational and efficient.

- The Civil Code of 1804 – usually known as the Napoleonic Code - did away with all privileges based on birth, established equality before the Law and secured the right to property.
- Napoleon simplified administrative divisions, abolished the feudal system and freed peasants from serfdom and manorial dues.
- Transport and communication systems were improved.
- Businessmen and small-scale producers of goods, in particular, began to realize that uniform laws, standardized weights and measures, and a common national currency would facilitate the movement and exchange of goods and capital from one region to another.

Que. Why was the reaction to the napoleon code hostile?

Sol: In many places such as Holland and Switzerland, Brussels, Mainz, Milan, Warsaw, the French armies were welcomed as harbingers of Liberty.

- It became clear that the new administrative arrangements did not go hand in hand with political freedom.
- Increased taxation, censorship, forced conscription into the French armies required to conquer the rest of the Europe, all seemed to outweigh the advantages of the administrative changes.

❖ **The Making of Nationalism in Europe.**

- Germany, Italy and Switzerland were divided into kingdoms, duchies and cantons whose rulers had their autonomous territories.
- They did not see themselves as sharing a collective identity or a common culture.
- **The Habsburg Empire ruled over Austria Hungary.**
- In Hungary, half of the population spoke Magyar while the other half spoke a variety of dialects.



- Besides these three dominant groups, there also lived within the boundaries of the empire.
- The only tie binding these diverse groups together was a common allegiance to the emperor.

❖ **The Aristocracy and the new middle class.**

- Socially and politically, a landed aristocracy was the dominant class on the continent.
- The members of this class were by a common way of life that cut across regional divisions.
- Their families were often connected by ties of marriages.
- This powerful aristocracy was, however, numerically a small group. The growth of towns and the emergence of commercial classes whose existence was based on production for the market.
- Industrialization began in England in the second half of the eighteenth century, but in France and parts of the German states it occurred only during the nineteenth century.
- In its wake, new social groups came into being: a working-class population, and middle classes made up of industrialists, businessmen, professional.
- It was among the educated, liberal middle classes that ideas of national unity following the abolition of aristocratic privileges gained popularity.

❖ **What did Liberal Nationalism Stand for?**

- In early-nineteenth-century Europe were closely allied to the ideology of liberalism.
- **The term 'liberalism' derives from the Latin root liber, meaning free.**
- Liberalism stood for freedom for the individual and equality of all before the law.
- It emphasized the concept of government by consent.
- Since the French Revolution, liberalism had stood for the end of autocracy and clerical privileges, a constitution and representative government through parliament.
- The right to vote and to get elected was generated exclusively to property-owning men.
- Men without property and all women were excluded from political rights.
- Only for a brief period under the Jacobins did all adult males enjoy suffrage.
- However, the Napoleonic Code went back to limited suffrage and reduced women to the status of a minor, subject to the authority of fathers and husbands.
- **Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries women and non-propertied men organised opposition movements demanding equal political rights.**
- The abolition of state-imposed restrictions on the movement of goods and capital.
- During the nineteenth century this was a strong demand of the emerging middle classes.
- **A merchant travelling in 1833 from Hamburg to Nuremberg to sell his goods would have to pass through 11 customs barriers and pay customs duty of about 5% at each one of them.**
- Duties were often levied according to the weight or measurement of the goods.
- Such conditions were viewed as obstacles to economic exchanges and growth by the new commercial classes, who argued for the creation of a unified economic territory allowing the unhindered movement of goods, people and capital.
- **In 1834, a customs union or zollverein was formed at the initiative of Prussia and joined by most of the German states.**



- The union abolished tariff barriers and reduced the number of currencies from over thirty to two.
- Economists began to think in terms of the national economy. They talked of how the nation could develop and what economic measures could help forge this nation together.
- Friedrich List, Professor of Economics at the University of Tübingen in Germany, wrote in 1834: 'The aim of the Zollverein is to bind the Germans economically into a nation. It will strengthen the nation materially as much by protecting its interests externally as by stimulating its internal productivity. It ought to awaken and raise national sentiment through a fusion of individual and provincial interests. The German people have realised that a free economic system is the only means to engender national feeling.'

❖ A New Conservatism after 1815

- Following the defeat of Napoleon in 1815, European governments were driven by a spirit of **conservatism**.
- Most conservatives, however, did not propose a return to the society of pre-revolutionary days.
- That modernization could in fact strengthen traditional institutions like the monarchy.
- A modern army, an efficient bureaucracy, a dynamic economy, the abolition of feudalism and serfdom could strengthen the autocratic monarchies of Europe.
- **In 1815, representatives of the European powers – Britain, Russia, Prussia and Austria – who had collectively defeated Napoleon, met at Vienna to draw up a settlement for Europe.**
- The Congress was hosted by the Austrian Chancellor Duke Metternich.
- The delegates drew up the Treaty of Vienna of 1815 with the object of undoing most of the changes that had come about in Europe during the Napoleonic wars.
- **The Bourbon dynasty**, which had been deposed during the French Revolution, was restored to power, and France lost the territories it had annexed under Napoleon.
- A series of states were set up on the boundaries of France to prevent French expansion in future.
- Thus, the kingdom of the Netherlands, which included Belgium, was set up in the north and Genoa was added to Piedmont in the south.
- Prussia was given important new territories on its western frontiers, while Austria was given control of northern Italy.
- But the German confederation of 39 states that had been set up by Napoleon was left untouched. In the east, Russia was given part of Poland while Prussia was given a portion of Saxony.
- Most of them imposed censorship laws to control what was said in newspapers, books, plays and songs and reflected the ideas of liberty and freedom associated with the French Revolution.
- One of the major issues taken up by the liberal-nationalists, who criticised the new conservative order, was freedom of the press.

Que. Explain treaty of Vienna.

Sol: In 1815, representatives of the European powers – Britain, Russia, Prussia and Austria – who had collectively defeated Napoleon, met at Vienna to draw up a settlement for Europe. The Bourbon dynasty, which had been deposed during the French Revolution, was restored to power, and France lost the territories it had annexed under Napoleon. German confederation of 39 states



that has been set up by Napoleon was left untouched. Autocratic did not tolerate criticism and dissent, and sought to curb activities that questioned the legitimacy of autocratic government.

Que. What are the problems faced by conservatives?

Sol: They did not tolerate criticism and dissent, and sought to curb activities that questioned the legitimacy of autocratic governments. Most of them imposed censorship laws to control what was said in newspapers, books, plays and songs and reflected the ideas of liberty and freedom associated with the French Revolution.

❖ The Revolutionaries

- During the years following 1815, the fear of repression drove many liberal-nationalists underground.
- Revolutionary at this time meant a commitment to oppose monarchical forms and to fight for liberty and freedom.
- **One such individual was the Italian revolutionary Giuseppe Mazzini, born in Genoa in 1807**, he became a member of the secret society of the Carbonari. He was sent into exile in 1831 for attempting a revolution in Liguria.
- He subsequently **founded two more underground societies, first, Young Italy in Marseilles, and then, Young Europe in Berne**, whose members were like-minded young men from Poland, France, Italy and the German states.
- Mazzini believed that God had intended nations to be the natural units of mankind. So, Italy could not continue to be a patchwork of small states and kingdoms.
- Following his model, secret societies were set up in Germany, France, Switzerland and Poland.
- **Metternich described him as ‘The most dangerous enemy of our social order’.**

❖ The Age of Revolution: 1830 - 1848

- As conservative regimes tried to consolidate their power, liberalism and nationalism came to be increasingly associated with revolution in many regions of Europe such as the Italian and German states, the provinces of the Ottoman Empire, Ireland and Poland.
- **The first upheaval took place in France in July 1830.**
- The Bourbon kings who had been restored to power during the conservative reaction after 1815, were now overthrown by liberal revolutionaries who installed a constitutional monarchy with Louis Philippe at its head.
- ‘When the France sneezes’, Metternich once remarked, ‘the rest of the Europe catches cold’.
- The July Revolution sparked an uprising in Brussels which led to Belgium breaking away from the United Kingdom of the Netherlands.
- An event that mobilized nationalist feelings among the educated elite across Europe was **the Greek war of independence.**
- Greece had been the part of the Ottoman Empire since the fifteenth century.



- Greeks living in exile and also from many west Europeans who had sympathies for ancient Greek culture.
- Poets and artists lauded Greece as the cradle of European civilisation and mobilised public opinion to support its struggle against a Muslim empire.
- **The English poet Lord Byron organised funds and later went to fight in the war, where he died of fever in 1824.**
- Finally, **the Treaty of Constantinople of 1832 recognised Greece as an independent nation.**

❖ **The Romantic Imagination and national Feeling.**



Fig. 8 The Massacre at Chios, Eugene Delacroix, 1824.
The French painter Delacroix was one of the most important French Romantic painters. This huge painting (4.19m x 3.54m) depicts an incident in which 20,000 Greeks were said to have been killed by Turks on the island of Chios. By dramatising the incident, focusing on the suffering of women and children, and using vivid colours, Delacroix sought to appeal to the emotions of the spectators, and create sympathy for the Greeks.

- Culture played an important role in creating the idea of the nation: art and poetry, stories and music helped express and shape nationalist feelings.
- Romanticism, a cultural movement which sought to develop a particular form of nationalist sentiment.
- Romantic artists and poets generally criticised the glorification of reason and science and focused instead on emotions, intuition and mystical feelings.
- **Other Romantics such as the German philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder (1744-1803)** claimed that true German culture was to be discovered among the common people – das volk.
- It was through folk songs, folk poetry and folk dances that the true spirit of the nation (volksgeist) was popularised.
- The emphasis on vernacular language and the collection of local folklore was not just to recover an ancient national spirit, but also to carry the modern nationalist message to large audiences who were mostly illiterate.
- **Karol Kurpinski, for example, celebrated the national struggle through his operas and music, turning folk dances like the polonaise and mazurka into nationalist symbols.**
- Language too played an important role in developing nationalist sentiments.
- After Russian occupation, the Polish language was forced out of schools and the Russian language was imposed everywhere.
- In 1831, an armed rebellion against Russian rule took place which was ultimately crushed.



- Following this, many members of the clergy in Poland began to use language as a weapon of national resistance.

Que. The development of nationalism did not come about only through wars and territorial expansion. Justify

OR

Culture played an important role in creating the idea of the nation. Explain.

Sol: The development of nationalism did not come about only through wars and territorial expansions. Culture played an important role in creating the idea of the nation: art and poetry, stories and music helped express and shape nationalist feeling.

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- National feelings were kept alive through music and languages.
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- Language too played an important role in developing nationalist sentiments.
- Russian language was imposed everywhere.
- Many members of the clergy in Poland began to use language as a weapon of national resistance.
- As a result, a large number of priests and bishops were put in jail or sent to Siberia by the Russian authorities as punishment for their refusal to preach in Russians.

❖ **The Grimm Brothers: Folktales and Nation-building**

- Grimms' Fairy Tales is a familiar name.
- **The brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm were born in the German city of Hanau in 1785 and 1786 respectively.**
- While both of them studied law, they soon developed an interest in collecting old folktales. T
- They spent six years travelling from village to village, talking to people and writing down fairy tales, which were handed down through the generations.
- **In 1812, they published their first collection of tales.**
- The Grimm brothers also saw French domination as a threat to German culture, and believed that the folktales they had collected were expressions of a pure and authentic German spirit.
- They considered their projects of collecting folktales and developing the German language as part of the wider effort to oppose French domination and create a German national identity.



❖ **Hunger, Hardship and Popular Revolt**

- The 1830s were years of great economic hardship in Europe. The first half of the nineteenth century saw an enormous increase in population all over Europe.
- Population from rural areas migrated to the cities to live in overcrowded slums.
- Small producers in towns were often faced with stiff competition from imports of cheap machine-made goods from England, where industrialisation was more advanced than on the continent.
- In those regions of Europe where the aristocracy still enjoyed power, peasants struggled under the burden of feudal dues and obligations.
- The year 1848 was one such year.
- Food shortages and widespread unemployment brought the population of Paris out on the roads. **Barricades were erected and Louis Philippe was forced to flee.**
- A National Assembly proclaimed a Republic, granted suffrage to all adult males above 21, and guaranteed the right to work.
- **Earlier, in 1845, weavers in Silesia had led a revolt against contractors who supplied them raw material and gave them orders for finished textiles but drastically reduced their payments.**
- The journalist Wilhelm Wolff described the events in a Silesian village as follows:
 - (i) In these villages (with 18,000 inhabitants) cotton weaving is the most widespread occupation.
 - (ii) The misery of the workers is extreme. The desperate need for jobs has been taken advantage of by the contractors to reduce the prices of the goods they order.
- **On 4 June at 2 p.m. a large crowd of weavers emerged from their homes and marched in pairs up to the mansion of their contractor demanding higher wages.**

Que. The 1830s were years of great economic hardship in Europe. Explain.

- Sol:** The 1830s were years of great economic hardship in Europe. The first half of the nineteenth century saw an enormous increase in population. In most countries there were more seekers of jobs than employment. Population from rural areas migrated to the cities to live in overcrowded slum. Food shortage and widespread unemployment brought the population of Paris out on the roads.
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 - On 4 June at 2 p.m. a large crowd of weavers emerged from their homes and marched in pairs up to the mansion of their contractors demanding higher wages.
 - The contractors fled with his family to a neighboring village which, however, refused to shelter such a person.
 - He returned 24 hours later having requisitioned the army. In the exchange that followed, eleven weavers were shot.



❖ 1848: The Revolution of the Liberals

- The poor, unemployment and starving peasants and workers in many European countries in the years 1848, a revolution led by the educated middle classes was under way.
- **Events of February 1848 in France** had brought about the abdication of the monarch and a republic based on universal male suffrage had been proclaimed.
- In other parts of Europe where independent nation-states did not yet exist – such as Germany, Italy, Poland, the Austro-Hungarian Empire – men and women of the liberal middle classes combined their demands for constitutionalism with national unification.
- In the German regions a large number of political associations whose members were middle-class professionals, businessmen and prosperous artisans came together in the city of Frankfurt and decided to vote for an all-German National Assembly.
- **On 18 May 1848, 831 elected representatives marched in a festive procession** to take their places in the Frankfurt parliament convened in the Church of **St Paul**.
- They drafted a constitution for a German nation to be headed by a monarchy subject to a parliament.
- **Wilhelm IV, King of Prussia**, rejected it and joined other monarchs to oppose the elected assembly.
- While the opposition of the aristocracy and military became stronger, the social basis of parliament eroded.
- The issue of extending political rights to women was a controversial one within the liberal movement.
- Women had formed their own political associations, founded newspaper and taken part in political meeting and demonstrations.
- Despite this they were denied suffrage rights during the election of the Assembly.
- When the Frankfurt parliament convened in the Church of **St Paul**, women were admitted only as observers to stand in the visitors' gallery.
- Though conservative forces were able to suppress liberal movements in 1848, they could not restore the old order.
- **Monarchs were beginning to realize that the cycles** of revolution and repression could only be ended by granting concessions to the liberal-nationalist revolutionaries.
- Hence, in the years after 1848, the autocratic monarchies of Central and Eastern Europe began to introduce the changes that had already taken place in Western Europe before 1815.

❖ The Making of German and Italy

Germany – Can the Army be the Architect of a Nation?



- After 1848, nationalism in Europe moved away from its association with democracy and revolution.
- **Nationalist feelings were widespread among middle-class Germans, who in 1848 tried to unite the different regions of the German confederation into a nation-state governed by an elected parliament.**
- This liberal initiative to nation-building was, however, repressed by the combined forces of the monarchy and the military, supported by the large landowners (**called Junkers**) of Prussia.
- From then on, Prussia took on the leadership of the movement for national unification.
- **Its chief minister, Otto von Bismarck,** was the architect of this process carried out with the help of the Prussian army and bureaucracy.
- **Three wars over seven years – with Austria, Denmark and France – ended in Prussian victory and completed the process of unification.**
- **In January 1871, the Prussian king, William I,** was proclaimed German Emperor in a ceremony held at Versailles.
- **On the bitterly cold morning of 18 January 1871,** an assembly comprising the princes of the German states, representatives of the army, important Prussian ministers including the chief



minister Otto von Bismarck gathered in the unheated Hall of Mirrors in the Palace of Versailles to proclaim the new German Empire headed by Kaiser William I of Prussia.

- The new state placed a strong emphasis on modernizing the currency, banking, legal and judicial systems in Germany.

❖ Italy Unified.



Fig. 14(a) Italian states before unification, 1858.



Fig. 14(b) Italy after unification. The map shows the year in which different regions (seen in Fig 14(a)) become part of a unified Italy.

- Like Germany, Italy too had a long history of political fragmentation. Italians were scattered over several dynastic states as well as the multi-national Habsburg Empire.
- **Italy was divided into seven states of which only one, Sardinia-Piedmont, was ruled by an Italian princely house.**
- The north was under Austrian Habsburgs, the centre was ruled by the Pope and the southern regions were under the domination of the Bourbon kings of Spain.
- Italian language had not acquired one common form and still had many regional and local variations.
- During the 1830s, Giuseppe Mazzini had sought to put together a coherent program for a unitary Italian Republic. He had also formed a secret society called Young Italy for the dissemination of his goals.
- **The failure of revolutionary uprising both in 1831 and 1848 meant that the mantle now fell on Sardinia-Piedmont under its ruler King Victor Emmanuel II to unify the Italian states through war.**
- Chief Minister Cavour who led the movement to unify the regions of Italy was neither a revolutionary nor a democrat.
- Through a tactful diplomatic alliance with France engineered by Cavour, Sardinia-Piedmont succeeded in defeating the Austrian forces in 1859.



- **In 1860, they marched into South Italy and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies** and succeeded in winning the support of the local peasants in order to drive out the Spanish rulers.
- In 1861 Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed king of united Italy.
- In the eyes of the ruling elites of this region, a unified Italy offered them the possibility of economic development and political dominance.
- **The peasant masses who had supported Garibaldi in southern Italy had never heard of Italia, and believed that ‘La Talia’ was Victor Emmanuel’s wife!**

❖ **The Strange Case of Britain**

- In Britain the formation of the nation-state was not the result of a sudden upheaval or revolution.
- There was no British nation prior to the eighteenth century. The primary identities of the people who **inhabited the British Isles were ethnic ones – such as English, Welsh, Scot or Irish.**
- The English parliament, which had seized power from the monarchy in 1688 at the end of a protracted conflict, was the instrument through which a nation-state, with England at its centre.
- **The Act of Union (1707) between England and Scotland that resulted in the formation of the ‘United Kingdom of Great Britain’** meant, in effect, that England was able to impose its influence on Scotland.
- The growth of a British identity meant that Scotland’s distinctive culture and political institutions were systematically suppressed.
- The Catholic clans that inhabited the Scottish Highlands suffered terrible repression whenever they attempted to assert their independence.
- The Scottish Highlanders were forbidden to speak their Gaelic language or wear their national dress, and large numbers were forcibly driven out of their homeland.
- Catholic revolts against British dominance were suppressed.
- After a failed revolt led by **Wolfe Tone and his United Irishmen (1798), Ireland was forcibly incorporated into the United Kingdom in 1801.**
- A new ‘British nation’ was forged through the propagation of a dominant English culture. The symbols of the new Britain – **the British flag (Union Jack), the national anthem (God Save Our Noble King), the English language – were actively promoted.**

Que. What is the strange case of Britain?

OR

Unification of Britain was an ethnic problem not a political problem. Explain.

Sol: The model of the nation or the nation-state, some scholars have argued, is Great Britain. It was the result of a long-drawn-out process. There was no British nation prior to the eighteenth century. The primary identities of the people who inhabited the British Isles were ethnic ones – such as English, Welsh, Scot or Irish. But as the English nation steadily grew in wealth, importance and power, it was able to extend its influence over the other nations of the islands. ‘United Kingdom of Great Britain’ meant, in effect, that England was able to impose its influence



on Scotland. The British parliament was henceforth dominated by its English members. Ireland suffered a similar fate. It was a country deeply divided between Catholics and Protestants. The English helped the Protestants of Ireland to establish their dominance over a largely Catholic country. Ireland was forcibly incorporated into the United Kingdom in 1801. British flag (Union Jack), the national anthem (God Save Our Noble King), the English language – were actively promoted and the older nations survived only as subordinate partners on this union.

❖ **Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807-82)**

- He was perhaps the most celebrated of Italian freedom fighters.
- **In 1833 he met Mazzini, joined the Young Italy movement and participated in a republican uprising in Piedmont in 1834.**
- The uprising was suppressed and Garibaldi had to flee to South America, where he lived in exile till 1848.
- **In 1854, he supported Victor Emmanuel II** in his efforts to unify the Italian states. **In 1860, Garibaldi led the famous Expedition of the Thousand to South Italy.**
- Fresh volunteers kept joining through the course of the campaign, till their numbers grew to about 30,000. They were popularly known as Red Shirts.
- **In 1867, Garibaldi led an army of volunteers to Rome to fight the last obstacle to the unification of Italy, the Papal States where a French garrison was stationed.**
- It was only in 1870 when, during the war with Prussia, France withdrew its troops from Rome that the Papal States were finally joined to Italy.

❖ **Visualising the Nation**

- **Nations were then portrayed as female figures.**
- The female form that was chosen to personify the nation did not stand for any particular woman in real life; rather it sought to give the abstract idea of the nation a concrete form. That is, the female figure became an **allegory** of the nation.
- **During the French Revolution artists used the female allegory to portray ideas** such as Liberty, Justice and the Republic.
- Similar female allegories were invented by artists in the nineteenth century to represent the nation.
- **In France she was christened Marianne, a popular Christian name,** which underlined the idea of a people's nation. Her characteristics were drawn from those of Liberty and the Republic—the red cap, the tricolor, the cockade.
- Statues of Marianne were erected in public squares to remind the public of the national symbol of unity and to persuade them to identify with it.
- Germania became the allegory of the German nation. In visual representations, Germania wears a crown of oak leaves, as the German oak stands for heroism.

Attributes	Significance
Broken chains	Being freed



breastplate with eagle	Symbol of the German empire-strength
crown of oak leaves	Heroism
Sword	Readiness of fight
Olive branch around the sword	Willingness to make peace
Black, red and gold Tricolour	Flag of the liberal-nationalist in 1848, fanned by the dukes of the German states.
Rays of the rising sun	Beginning of a new era

❖ Nationalism and Imperialism

- By the last quarter of the nineteenth century nationalism no longer retained its idealistic liberal-democratic sentiment of all first half of the century, but become a narrow creed with limited ends.
- The most serious source of nationalist tension in every in Europe in 1871 was the area called the Balkans.
- **The Balkans was a region of geographical and ethnic variation comprising modern-day Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro whose inhabitants were broadly known as the Slavs.**
- A large part of the Balkans was under the control of the Ottoman Empire.
- The spread of the ideas of romantic nationalism in the Balkans together with the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire made this region very explosive.
- **The Balkan peoples based their claims for independence or political rights on nationality** and used history to prove that they had once been independent but had subsequently been subjugated by foreign powers.
- As the different Slavic nationalities struggled to define their identity and independence, the Balkan area became an area of intense conflict.
- The Balkan states were fiercely jealous of each other and each hoped to gain more territory at the expense of the others.
- **Each power – Russia, Germany, England, Austro-Hungary – was keen on countering the hold of other powers over the Balkans, and extending its own control over the area.**
- **This led to a series of wars in the region and finally the First World War.**
- Nationalism, aligned with imperialism, led Europe to disaster in 1914.
- The anti-imperial movements that developed everywhere were nationalist, in the sense that they all struggled to form independent nation-states, and were inspired by a sense of collective national unity, forged in confrontation with imperialism.
- European ideas of nationalism were nowhere replicated, for people everywhere developed their own specific variety of nationalism.
- But the idea that societies should be organised into ‘nation-states’ came to be accepted as natural and universal.



❖ Glossary

- Absolutist → Literally, a government or system of rule that has no restraints on the power exercised. In history, the term refers to a form of monarchical government that was centralised, militarised and repressive.
- Utopian → A vision of a society that is so ideal that it is unlikely to actually exist.
- Plebiscite → A direct vote by which all the people of a region are asked to accept or reject a proposal.
- Suffrage → The right to vote.
- Conservatism → A political philosophy that stressed the importance of tradition, established institutions and customs, and preferred gradual development to quick change.
- Ideology → System of ideas reflecting a particular social and political vision.
- Ethnic → Relates to a common racial, tribal, or cultural origin or background that a community identifies with or claims.

★ Some important dates:

- 1797 Napoleon invades Italy; Napoleonic wars begin.
- 1814-1815 Fall of Napoleon; the Vienna Peace Settlement.
- 1821 Greek struggle for independence begins.
- 1848 Revolutions in Europe; artisans, industrial workers and peasants revolt against economic hardships; middle classes demand constitutions and representative governments; Italians, Germans, Magyars, Poles, Czechs, etc. demand nation-states.
- 1859-1870 Unification of Italy.
- 1866-1871 Unification of Germany.
- 1905 Slav nationalism gathers force in the Habsburg and Ottoman Empire.
