

CLASS NOTES No. 1

Class: **X**

Topic: **THE RISE OF NATIONALISM IN EUROPE**

Subject: **HISTORY** (NCERT)

FRENCH REVOLUTION

DEFINITION-The transfer of sovereignty from the monarchy to a body of French citizens is called as French Revolution. The revolution proclaimed that it was the people who would henceforth constitute the nation and shape its destiny.

MEASURES AND PRACTICES ADOPTED BY FRENCH REVOLUTIONARIES TO DEVELOP COLLECTIVE IDENTITY

1. The ideas of la patrie (the fatherland) and le citoyen (the citizen) emphasised the notion of a united community enjoying equal rights under a constitution.
2. A new French flag, the tricolour, was chosen to replace the former royal standard.
3. The Estates General was elected by the body of active citizens and renamed the National Assembly
4. New hymns were composed, oaths taken and martyrs commemorated, all in the name of the nation
5. A centralised administrative system was put in place and it formulated uniform laws for all citizens within its territory.
6. Internal customs duties and dues were abolished and a uniform system of weights and measures was adopted.
7. Regional dialects were discouraged and French, as it was spoken and written in Paris, became the common language of the nation.

NAPOLEONIC CIVIL CODE 1804 (merits of civil code 1804)

The Napoleonic Code – a. did away with all privileges based on birth,

b. established equality before the law and

c. secured the right to property.

This Code was exported to the regions under French control.

- a. Napoleon simplified administrative divisions, abolished the feudal system and freed peasants from serfdom and manorial dues.
- b. In the towns too, guild restrictions were removed.
- c. Transport and communication systems were improved. Peasants, artisans, workers and new businessmen enjoyed a new-found freedom.

DEMERITS OF NAPOLEONIC CIVIL CODE 1804

1. The new administrative arrangements did not go hand in hand with political freedom.
2. Increased taxation, Censorship laws were imposed and

3. forced conscription into the French armies required to conquer the rest of Europe.

All these seemed to outweigh the advantages of the administrative changes

THE ARISTOCRACY (Write any three features of aristocracy?)

1. Socially and politically, a landed aristocracy was the dominant class on the continent.
2. The members of this class were united by a common way of life that cut across regional divisions.
3. They owned estates in the countryside and also town-houses
4. They spoke French for purposes of diplomacy and in high society.
5. Their families were often connected by ties of marriage.
6. This powerful aristocracy was, however, numerically a small group

THE MIDDLE CLASS (Who are the middleclass?)

1. In Western and parts of Central Europe the growth of industrial production and trade meant the growth of towns and the emergence of commercial classes whose existence was based on production for the market.
2. So, a new social groups came into being: a working-class population, and middle classes made up of industrialists, businessmen, professionals.
3. In Central and Eastern Europe these groups were smaller in number till late nineteenth century
4. 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?

The term 'liberalism' derives from the Latin root liber, meaning free. For the new middle classes-

1. Social liberalism stood for freedom for the individual and equality of all before the law.
2. In the economic sphere, liberalism stood for the freedom of markets and the abolition of state-imposed restrictions on the movement of goods and capital
3. Politically, it emphasised 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. Nineteenth-century liberals also stressed the inviolability of private property.

ZOLLVEREIN (What is zollverein?)

1. In 1834, a customs union or zollverein was formed at the initiative of Prussia and joined by most of the German states.
2. The union abolished tariff barriers and reduced the number of currencies from over thirty to two.
3. The creation of a network of railways further stimulated mobility, harnessing economic interests to national unification.

A wave of economic nationalism strengthened the wider nationalist sentiments growing at the time.

OLD CONSERVATIVES

Definition- Conservatives believed that established, traditional institutions of state and society – like the monarchy, the Church, social hierarchies, property and the family –should be preserved.

NEW CONSERVATIVES

Definition- Conservatives that believed that established, traditional institutions of state and society – like the monarchy, the Church, social hierarchies, property and the family –should be preserved, but however, did not propose a return to the society of pre-revolutionary days.

Rather, they realised, from the changes initiated by Napoleon, that modernisation could in fact strengthen traditional institutions like the monarchy.