

Q write an essay on the development of the modern nation-state?

1) Introduction:

The nation-state system, integral to human history, emerged with the advent of political consciousness. In today's interconnected world, states must forge relationships to meet their needs, interests, and goals.

These ~~treaties~~ entities, known as sovereign states, hold a pivotal role in international politics. People globally align within sovereign nation-states, forming the basis for international relations. Without organized states or nations, such interactions would be implausible.

While some argue for a diminished state role in the nuclear and space age, its significance endures in the modern era.

2) Overview of Terms "State" and "Nation":

"Nations" and "states" are distinct terms, though often used interchangeably.

"A territorial society divided into government and subjects claiming within its allotted physical territory, supremacy over all other institutions." (Laski)

It is accepted that any territory that wants to be

A nation ~~refers~~ refers to a shared ethnic and cultural identity among a people, while a government is the established form of political administration within a state. A nation can exist

Considered a State must meet four criteria: a settled population, a defined territory, government, and the ability to enter into relations with other states.	within a single independent government in a country, but it can also refer to a group of people with similar institutions, customs, and social unity.
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3) Definition of word Nation-state:

"The nation-state system is the pattern of life of life in that the people are separately organized that interact with one another in varying ways and various degrees."

Palmer and Perkins

In international law nation state means "Legitimacy, sovereignty, and duty." The state will have to recognize the legitimacy of other states. The state should be sovereign both externally and internally and its people must observe their duties.

4) Background of the nation-state system:

To understand the origin of the nation state system it is necessary to fall right on past history. Before 17th century, nation states existed but under the control of Roman Catholic Church headed by Pope and the nation state had no sovereignty. Below are events that complement the nation-state rise.

Nation - State

Treaty of Westphalia after 30 years' war	Westphalia to Utrecht (1648-1713)	Utrecht to Vienna (1713-1815)
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Versailles to Present (1815-)	Vienna to Ver- sailles (1815-1914)
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i) Treaty of Westphalia: The Treaty of Westphalia, signed in 1648, marked the pivotal occasion when the modern state system was established, bringing an end to the 30 years' war. The Treaty of Westphalia was concluded on two key principles;

i) The principle of internal sovereignty that is the pre-eminence of the rulers against the claims of other centers of power within the state.

ii) The associated principle of external sovereignty, in other words, independence from power centers outside the states.

So, after the treaty few sovereign states i.e. England, Spain, and France came into being without church control and the church supremacy was abolished.

Machiavelli, Bacon, and Grotius and some other prominent theorists supported independent secular states.

"By the year 164, Treaty of Westphalia, west the state system was fully established in Europe."

William Adult

4.2) Westphalia to Utrecht (1648-1713): The second stage of the development of state-system was between 1648-1713, closing that conflict among UK, France, Holland, and Spain were raised on colonial supremacy. But France had to face heavy loss due to coalition of UK and Austria on the occasion of Spanish Succession. France suffered heavy loss by the treaty of Westphalia.

4.3) Utrecht to Vienna (1713-1815): During this period conflict between Austria and France taken place. Frederick the Great of Prussia enforced France, Austria, and Prussia to form an alliance in order to maintain balance of Power. UK made alliance with Prussia. Due to these alliances and counter alliance Seven Years' war took place from 1756-63. Later on, France under ~~napoleon~~ Napoleon became dominant in European affairs, but soon defeated by the combined effort of UK, Prussia, Austria and Sweden. The result was the Vienna meeting in 1815 in that balance of Power was again restored in Europe with certain check on France.

4.4) Vienna to Versailles (1815-1914): During this period various nation states were emerged on the map of the world. This period in the history is known as Pax-Britannica, because during this period Britain had full autonomy and had maintained balance of power to greater extent in Europe only time her supremacy was threatened. In 1854-56, Russia threatened her supremacy to dominate the region during the Crimean War. Secondly in 1870-71, Germany displaced France and established her own supremacy in the continent during the Franco-Prussian war. During this period, i.e. in 1913 the decline of Turkey (Caliphate) and Spanish war led to the rise of several independent states on the map of the world. And also in this period China emerged as a super power by defeating Japan. This period of world history especially from 1882-1907 was the period of mutual fears and suspicion among states.

4.5) Versailles to the Present: The Treaty of Versailles in 1914 brought great changes in the world and also brought great disturbance because due to the harsh treatment with Germany in treaty caused Nazism in Germany and Fascism in Italy and also emerged Russia emerged as one of the distributing factor in the world due to these factors, the Treaty of Versailles brought a gift

of 2nd world war for the humanity and due to this several UK colonies i.e. Asia and Africa got independence.

5) Modern Nation-State: concept and characteristics

<u>Territory</u>		<u>People</u>
The land that the people of that country occupy.		A nation-state must have people.
: four characteristics that make nation-state		le. to

<u>sovereignty</u>		<u>Government</u>
The principle that the state exercises absolute power over its territory, system of government, & population.		someone has to rule and make decisions on behalf of the nation.

Bonds that create nation-state:

<u>Culture:</u> A shared way of life.	<u>History:</u> a common past and experience	<u>Religion:</u> Share religious beliefs
<u>Nationality:</u> belief in common ethnic ancestry that may or may not be true.	<u>Language:</u> different dialects of one language; one language becomes "national language"	

So above are the characteristics and bonds modern nation-states have. The best example of modern nation-state is U.S.A. because it has four major characteristics of nation-state namely; has a territory comprising fifty states and is constitutionally recognized; has a well organised structure of government; has full sovereignty; and population having common American culture and language.

c) Challenges to nation-state in 21st Century:

Challenges to nation-state	
MNCs (Multinational Corporations)	These powerful global companies can sometimes exert influence and power that rivals or even surpasses that of individual nation-state, especially in economic matters. The Irish government's decision in 2016, was forced to back down on a plan to introduce a "sugar tax" on soft drinks after intense lobbying from Coca-Cola and other MNCs. The government argued that the tax was necessary to reduce obesity level, but MNCs warned that it would lead to job losses and damage the Irish economy.
Nuclear weapons	The development of and proliferation of nation-states nuclear weapons introduced a new level of complexity to international relations, as they could harm the security of nation-states. According to recent report of Federation of American

Scientists (FAS), there are about 13,400 nuclear warheads in the world. Nine countries have them: USA, China, France, India, Pakistan, Russia, Israel, North Korea, and UK. Russia has the most (5,947), followed by the USA (5,550).

International organizations

The rise of international bodies like the UN, WTO, and IMF created forums for nations to collaborate and make decisions collectively, sometimes undermining the absolute sovereignty of individual states. For instance, in 2011, the UN security council authorized the use of force to intervene in Libya to protect civilians from attacks by forces loyal to Gaddafi. This intervention led to the overthrow of Gaddafi, but it also undermined Libya's sovereignty by imposing a foreign military presence in country.

Regional organizations

Regional organizations like the EU and AU represent a pooling of sovereignty by member states, blurring the lines of traditional nation-state boundaries. For instance they establish supranational institutions and decision-making bodies that have authority over certain areas, such as trade, security, and economic policies, leading to permeable boundaries of nation-states.

Terrorist Groups

Non-state actors, like terrorist organizations, can challenge the authority and security of

nation-states. They often operate outside traditional state boundaries, making them difficult to combat. The best example of this is the 9/11 attacks on United States which were carried out by al-Qaeda.

7) Conclusion:

In conclusion, a nation-state is a political entity characterized by a unified cultural, linguistic and historical identity within defined geographical borders. It represents a cohesive community of people with shared values, traditions, and often a common language. This model of governance has been influential in shaping modern geopolitical landscapes, fostering a sense of belonging and identity among citizens. However, challenges such as globalization and geopolitical tension continue to test the stability and effectiveness of nation-states.