

PRÉCIS – 2013

Culture, in human societies, has two main aspects; an external, formal aspect and an inner, ideological aspect. The external forms of culture, social or artistic, are merely an organized expression of its inner ideological aspect, and both are an inherent component of a given social structure. The cultural problems of the underdeveloped countries, therefore, have to be understood and solved in the light of larger perspective, in the context of underlying social problems. Very broadly speaking, these problems are primarily the problems of arrested growth; they originate primarily from long years of imperialist-Colonialist domination and the remnants of a backward outmoded social structure. This should not require much elaboration European Imperialism caught up with the countries of Asia, Africa or Latin America between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries. Some of them were fairly developed feudal societies with ancient traditions of advanced feudal culture. Others had yet to progress beyond primitive pastoral tribalism. Social and cultural development of them all was frozen at the point of their political subjugation and remained frozen until the coming of political independence. The culture of these ancient feudal societies, in spite of much technical and intellectual excellence, was restricted to a small privileged class and rarely intermingled with the parallel unsophisticated folk culture of the general masses. Primitive tribal culture, in spite of its child like beauty, had little intellectual content. Both feudal and tribal societies living contagiously in the same homelands were constantly engaged in tribal, racial and religious or other feuds with their tribal and feudal rivals. Colonialist – imperialist domination accentuated this dual fragmentation, the vertical division among different tribal and national groups, the horizontal division among different classes within the same tribal or national groups. This is the basic ground structure, social and cultural, bequeathed to the newly liberated countries by their former over lords.

Precise - 2023 .

Evolution of Societies: From conservative to liberal

There are two aspects of human culture; formal and ideological, former is orchestrated expression of later and also ^{both are} innate segments of human society. Any sort of development of society led to their evolution. Similarly the solution of societal issues is linked with society. However, these aspects originated from society. Historically, these aspects were observed in ~~countries~~ regions which were not politically aware. This unawareness caused the society divided into tribal and feudal communities. Moreover, the access of this culture was only restricted to limited mainstream people leaving others in lurch. Despite sharing same territorial background, both groups were engaged in conflicts. This was

the western liberal domination, which
propelled people to be divided
in national groups by getting
rid of their lords.

In the height of Enlightenment, men influenced by the new political theories of the era launched two of the largest revolutions in history. These two conflicts, on two separate continents, were both initially successful in forming new forms of government. And yet, the two conflicts, though merely a decade apart, had radically different conclusions. How do two wars inspired by more or less the same ideals end up so completely different? Why was the American Revolution largely a success and the French Revolution largely a failure?

Historians have pointed to myriad reasons – for too various to be listed here. However, the most frequently cited are worth mentioning. For one, the American Revolution was far removed from the Old world; that is, since it was on different continent, other European nations did not attempt to interfere with it. However, in the French Revolution, there were immediate cries for war from neighboring nations. Early on, for instance, the ousted king attempted to flee to neighboring Austria and the army waiting there. The newly formed French Republic also warred with Belgium, and a conflict with Britain loomed. Thus, the French had the burden not only of winning a revolution but also defending it from outside. The Americans simply had to win a revolution.

Secondly, the American Revolution seemed to have a better chance for success from the get-go, due to the fact that Americans already saw themselves as something other than British subjects. Thus, there was already a uniquely American character, so, there was not as loud a cry to preserve the British way of life. In France, several thousands of people still supported the king, largely because the king was seen as an essential part of French life. And when the king was first ousted and then killed, some believed that character itself was corrupted. Remember, the Americans did not oust a king or kill him – they merely separated from him.

Finally, there is a general agreement that the French were not as unified as the Americans, who, for the most part, put aside their political differences until after they had already formed a new nation. The French, despite their Tennis Court Oath, could not do so. Infighting led to inner turmoil, civil war, and eventually the Reign of Terror, in which political dissidents were executed in large numbers. Additionally, the French people themselves were not unified. The nation had so much stratification that it was impossible to unite all of them – the workers, the peasants, the middle class, the nobles, the clergy – into one cause. And the attempts to do so under a new religion, the Divine Cult of Reason, certainly did not help. The Americans, remember, never attempted to change the society at large; rather, they merely attempted to change the government.

Questions:

1. Why and how did the Reign of Terror happen?
2. In what ways does the author suggest that the American Revolution was easier to

4

NAFEES AHMAD,

*NOA English School (CSS/PMS), a project of National Officers Academy,
Islamabad.*

complete than the French Revolution?

3. Of the challenges mentioned facing the French revolutionaries, which do you think had the greatest impact on their inability to complete a successful revolution? Why?
4. Of the strengths mentioned aiding the American revolutionaries, which do you think had the greatest impact on their ability to complete a successful revolution? Why?

Comprehension - 2012

Q.1 Why and how did the reign of terror happen?

Ans.: The reign of terror happened because people due to multiple reasons. Firstly, it was the time when renaissance reached at its zenith. Secondly, people started to be politically aware knowing the importance of their basic rights. Lastly, American revolution encouraged French people to get a new form of inclusive government as was in United States.

Q.2 In what ways does the author suggest that American revolution was easier to complete than French revolution?

Ans.: According to author ^{American} French revolution was easier to be completed in following ways; Firstly, ^{American} French fought against revolution in a territory where no other countries could interfere; However French were ^{trapped in} external aggressions.

Secondly, Americans were united against a single ^{entity} ~~enemy~~ and ousted them, but French were divided in this journey against the king. Lastly, Americans kept the political views separate and fought for the single agenda, on the other hand French were politically divided some were supporting the king and others were supporting their ideals.

Q.3 OF the challenges mentioned facing french people, which do you think had the greatest impact on ---?

Ans: As the author mentioned the challenges to revolutionaries were all of a serious concern, but lack of unity in which french were divided with either king's community or with revolutionaries.

it ~~is~~ had impacted their capability to complete revolution timely. It is because, in my view, when people from grass root level are united against a ruler and have a single mission of ousting him, it ~~poses~~ ^{poses} several challenges to the ruler, resulting in the downfall of a Government within a short interval of time.

Q.4 OF the strengths mentioned aiding the American ?

Ans.: Of the all strengths, their unity against a single entity was a unique strength which compelled Britains ^{to get} out of America. Because, it is the nature of humans when they unite against an entity, they make multiple tactics to get him out. That was what Americans did to complete timely.