

## PART - II

### Section A

Q.3:

### ANSWER

Unifications of Italy and Germany are both monumental phases in European history. Italy was referred to as "**Geographical Expression**" by Chancellor Von Mettemich.

Meanwhile after disintegration of Holy Roman Empire, Germany was a loose confederation of weakened principalities. Both unifications were result of nationalism. However, Italian unification was characterised by idealism and German unification embodied strategic realpolitik. Germany used to its favour its economic prowess reflected by its **Zollverein** system. Meanwhile, Italian unification was a result of romantic ideals of Mazzini and through popularity and efforts of the **Carbonari**, a pro-unification secretive society. Both Bismarck and Count Cavour were driven by nationalism however they differed in their approach.

## Comparison of Leadership

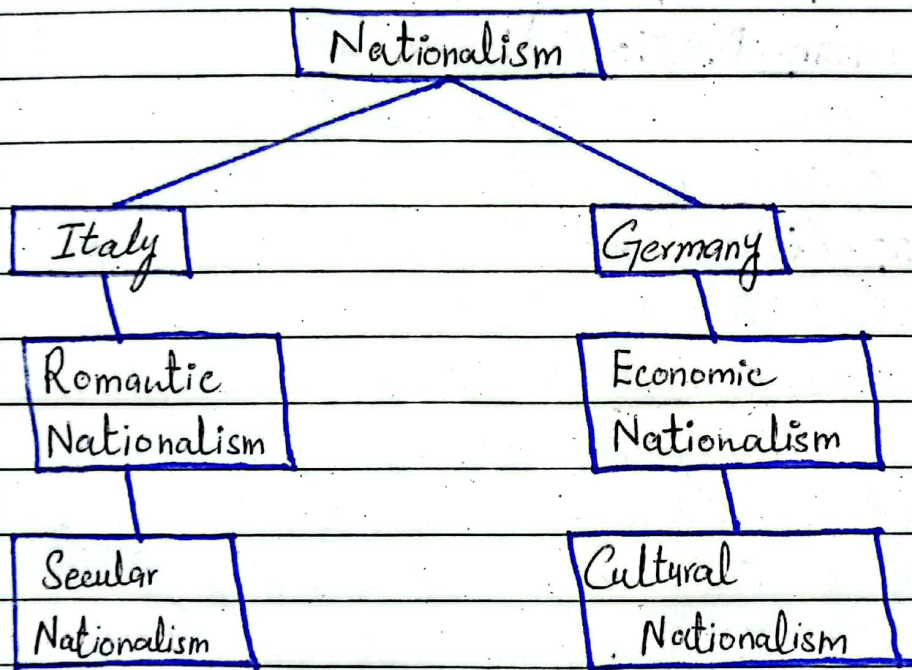
Aspect	Cavour (Italy.)	Bismarck (Germany.)
Philosophy	Pragmatic Diplomacy	Realpolitik
Goal	Unification under Sardinia	Unification under Prussia
Key Strategy	Alliance with France and Britain	Wars to weaken France and Austria
Outcome	Unified Italy (1861-70)	Unified Germany (1871)

i. Cavour's Pragmatism: Cavour was Prime Minister of Piedmont-Sardinia. His forte was diplomacy. His diplomatic strategy to bag support for Italian unification against wishes of Austria was to get support of Britain and France. The drawback of his philosophy was Italy's heavy reliance on external support.

ii. Bismarck's Realpolitik: Otto Von Bismarck was chancellor of Prussia. He sought to first establish Prussia as the base to model the future unified Germany after. Unlike Cavour, Bismarck

pushed for cultural and ethnic nationalism. Thus, his ideals were to establish Germany as a military and economic powerhouse. He rooted his strategy in weakening of Austria and France through military warfare.

## Role of Nationalism



i. Italian Nationalism: Italian nationalism had the following main features:

a. Romanticism: Colour based Italian nationalism on teachings Mazzini and Garibaldi both of whom championed causes such as workers unions, promotion of Italian language, and equality of all Italian men in front of the

law.

b. Secularism: Italian unification was an idea that was opposed by the ~~B~~ Papacy. The reason was that under a unified Italy the Holy See would lose significance and sway in Rome. This led to Italian nationalism becoming more secular.

ii. German Nationalism: German nationalism was principally characterised by the following features:

a. Fiscalism: The Zollverein system initiated in Prussia soon saw more German states gain its membership. This made Prussia quite economically strong. Bismarck envisioned a unified Germany as the central hub of banking, industrial production, and mercantilism in continental Europe.

b. Culturalism: German nationalism was reactionary as it was fuelled by anti-France sentiment. It also valued German language as a ~~sign~~ ~~of~~ ~~significance~~ ~~in~~ of cultural supremacy. Bismarck pushed for cultural nationalism to make German nation-hood distinct and geared toward sentiments of national paternalism.

## Key Military and Diplomatic Events

### → Italian Unification

#### ↳ Diplomatic Events

- 1853-56 Crimean War Participation by Piedmont-Sardinia to gain widespread recognition.
- 1858 Plombieres Agreement Cavour secured support of Napoleon III against Austria.
- 1859 Treaty of Villafranca Sardinia annexed Lombardy.
- 1870 Capture of Rome

#### ↳ Military Events

- 1860 Expedition of Thousand Garibaldi's forces conquer Sicily and Naples
- 1866 Third War of Independence

### → German Unification

#### ↳ Diplomatic Events

- 1866 Treaty of Prague Austria ceases to intervene in internal affairs of Germany.

## ↳ Military Events

- 1870-71 Franco-Prussian War: Proclamation of German Empire

## Outcomes and Differences

i. Italy: Italy unified under Victor Emmanuel II as monarch. However, it remained militarily and economically underdeveloped.

ii. Germany: Germany was unified under an authoritarian monarchy of Kaiser Wilhelm I. Germany industrialised heavily and emerged as the strongest country in Western Europe.

Conclusion: Both Italian and German unifications were transformative periods in European history. However, they contrasted in their approaches and end results.

Italy's Cavour sought external aid in his aims reflecting diplomatic finesse.

Italian nationalism was based on secular and romantic ideals. In comparison, German unification was based on cultural nationalism.

Bismarck orchestrated a plan to not only unify Germany but also make it a powerhouse.

Bismarck did not give much thought to liberal and democratic principles.