

Causes of Civil war and its effects on American Society

Introduction

Civil war is one of the deadliest event happened in the history of USA. It was a war between southern and northern states. Many historians have explained the causes of civil war. Some explained that civil war occurred due to difference of constitutional and economic differences, while other contended that it was due to difference in spirit of nationalism.

1) The constitutional theory

This theory stresses on the difference in the interpretation of constitution by South and north resulted

Civil war

i) Southern state about constitution

Southern states wanted state sovereignty. They stressed on the fact that Union is the federation of loosely bound sovereign states. These states have the right to decide about the constitution of state.

ii) Northern states about constitution

Northern states wanted a strong central government. Because northern states consist of big industries and manufacturing sectors. So they wanted a strong central of central government on states for the smooth trade.

So differences in interpretation of constitution produced sectional divide between South and North which resulted in Civil war.

2 The Economic theory

Some historians argue that differences in economic systems of South and North resulted in civil war.

South Vs North Economic systems.

Prevalent occupation in South was agriculture. Most people depended on agriculture and therefore required slaves for growth of crops and farming.

While in North economy was based on industries. Therefore northern states stressed on the free labor and human rights.

So when an effort on part of Northern state to abolish slavery was done, it resulted in increasing differences between the two and became cause of civil war.

3 Difference in the level of nationalism

Due to industrial development, the infrastructure in the northern states was developed. Also, the education quality was high. The universities were ~~also~~ like Harvard and Yale were also located in North. In contrast, infrastructure and education system in South was not developed much. As a result, northern states enjoy a sort of nationalism while southern counterparts lack. Due to this lack of nationalism, southern states seceded from the union. As a result, civil war occurred.

4. Aristocracy Vs Democracy.

In southern states, it was believed that happiness of both working class and upper class depends on slavery. So it

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should be allowed. Moreover, agriculture in the south was controlled by big plants which was like practicing aristocracy. On the other, Northern States stressed on the democratic principles, and wanted all citizens to be free. So differences between south and north resulted in civil war.

Effects of Civil war on American society in terms of slavery, Reconstruction and national unity.

Civil war had many long term effects on American society. It abolished the institution of slavery and resulted in the passage of many Amendments.

i) Passage of 13th amendment

Civil war resulted in passage of 13th amendment. After

The defeat of southern states, United States passed 13th amendment. Thirteen amendment abolished slavery in the United States.

ii) Passage of 14th amendment

This amendment provided citizenship rights to every one born in United States.

iii) Passage of 15th amendment

This amendment denied the state right to prohibit anyone from voting on the basis of color race or any other difference.

iv) More United States

Before Civil War, United States consists of loosely bound states. Even the name of the before Civil War was "These United States", but after the Civil War the country name

Change to "United states of America"

v) Effect on reconstruction of south

After the civil war, congress was again divided between moderate and Radical reconstruction. Moderate reconstructionists wanted to reintegrate south through a lenient process while Radicals had strict view.

At start, due to lenient reconstruction policies of Lincoln and John, South began to practice slavery practices. As a result more strict reconstruction started.

Southern states were divided into five military districts under a brigadeier General.

Similarly, reintegration of these states into union was conditioned with ratifying the fourteen amendment and abolishing slavery.

Significance of Monroe doctrine in shaping in Shaping US foreign policy

1. Introduction:

Monroe doctrine is very significant in shaping the foreign policy of US during the 19th century and quarter of 20th century. This doctrine established the principle of neutrality, anti-colonization and non-intervention. As a result of this doctrine, US became independent in expanding towards West. Similarly, this doctrine helped US to hold principle of neutrality ~~and~~ in affairs of Europe and interfere in the affairs of Latin America.

2. Monroe doctrine

- i) It established the principle of anti-colonization. It prohibited

the European powers from colonization of American continent.

ii) US and Europe have different political system. Therefore, they should intervene in affairs of US

iii) European powers should respect the neutrality principle of US.

Significance of Monroe doctrine in US relations with European powers and interventions in Latin America.

i) Objection of US on British alliance
On the basis of this doctrine, US objected the British alliance with Texas.

ii) Objection of US on Quadruple Alliance
After war of 1812, France, Prussia, Spain and Russia entered into alliance called

Quadruple alliance to restore the pre-war border status. But US objected this alliance.

iii) Westward expansion

Due to principle of anti-colonization, Now the US was free to expand to the west and in parts of North-West territory.

As a result of this doctrine, US was able to get control over Indian territories in North-West.

iv) American-Mexican war 1848

It was first American fight on a foreign soil, i.e. Mexico.

As a result of principle of anti-colonization of Monroe doctrine, USA was able to Texas, new Mexico and territory in south-west which is part of USA now.

v) Non-intervention of European powers in American civil-war
During the civil war in 1860s, President Abraham Lincoln was able to hold European power away from conflict on the basis of Monroe doctrine. If any European power had entered on the side of southern colonies states, the result would have been changed in favor of south.

vii) US intervention in Latin Affair
President Theodore added a colory to Monroe doctrine and intervened in the affairs of Latin America. On the basis of this doctrine, US had this right.

a) Panama Crises

Panama was part of ~~the~~ Columbia. US wanted to construct a canal which would had connected Atlantic and Pacific

Ocean. But Colombian administration was against it. So US supported a uprising in Panama which resulted in separation of Panama from Columbia.

b) US intervention in Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic and Haiti.

Similarly, US intervened in the affairs of Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic and Haiti. In these countries of Latin America, US supported those groups which were pro-US. As a result, of US support, anti-US governments in these countries were toppled and pro-US regimes were installed in those countries.

vii) American Neutrality in World war 1 and world war 2 in early stages.

America established the principle at earlier during

WWI and WWII, because of its neutrality principle.

USA was a major supplier of Arms to European powers in World War I. If its allies got defeated, it would result in the economic collapse of country. So in order to protect its interest, it entered into war and not as an aggressor state.

Economic, Social and Political consequences of US expansion

Introduction:

At start, US was confined to eastern coast of Atlantic ocean. However after treaty of Paris, US was expanded beyond Appalachian mountain. The purchase of Louisiana territory in 1803 doubled the size of US and added 15 states. The American Mexican America resulted in the expansion of USA in the southwest. As a result of expansion, USA experienced many social, economic political consequences. The expansion in the west resulted in increasing slavery, the increased North-south divide, passage of many acts and changed the fate of many people.

Economic consequences of US expansion as a result of Louisiana purchase and Mexican-American war.

i) Economic Opportunities in the west

Many people distressed in financial constraints saw economic opportunities in the west.

The federal government passed land act to transfer cheap land to people. As a result, a large number of people in the original 13 colonies relocated in the west.

ii) Gold Rush in California

After the discovery of Gold in California, many people tested their fortune to explore gold in California. As a result of discovery, the population of California increased 6 times.

Political Consequences of US expansion

- (i) Increased the divide b/w Southern and Northern states of America

As a result of Louisiana purchase, US size got doubled in 1803. About 15 or part of 15 states were formed. Due to this, many slave and free states were formed from the territory. Since Northern states were anti-slavery and southern states were pro-slavery. As a result divide between the South and north increased.

- (ii) Missouri Compromise 1820

Missouri compromise in 1820 resolved the earlier issues of slavery. According to this compromise, Missouri would be admitted as a slave state and Maine would be admitted as free state to union.

This compromise prohibited the slavery in north of $36^{\circ}30'$ line (parallel) in Louisiana.

(iii) Compromise of 1850:

After the American-Mexican war, US expanded to Texas, new Mexico and territory in current day north-western USA.

As a result, California, Texas, new-Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Colorado and Wyoming became part of USA. The question of slavery was again in the air.

~~The~~ To solve this problem, compromise of 1850 was presented. It added California as a free state and established principle of sovereignty in other acquired states.

Social Consequences of American expansion

i) Manifest destiny

John O' Sullivan used the term Manifest destiny. It argued that Americans are ordained by the God to educate the uncivilized people across the American continent. They are superior to other non-white races in US.

ii) It resulted in slavery issues and Civil war

Southern states were in favor of slavery while northerners were in favor of abolishing it. So when expansion of US occurred, it increased slavery issue and became one of the major reason of civil war.