

Question #02

1- Introduction

In the name of the divine cause, greatest tyrannies were carried. This thought and idea by Thomas Paine is aligned with the most causes of the French Revolution. The French rose against the injustice of their monarch, the divine right to rule, and the authority of clergy and the noble over the poorest section of the French society. The uprising resulted in National Legislative Assembly which then became Republican and rejected monarchy altogether.

2- Thomas Paine and His Ideas Impacting French Revolution

Thomas Paine was an English - American Political thinker and writer. He played crucial role in French Revolution through his ideas of democracy, equality

and human rights. He was against monarchy and favoured representative democracy in his work 'The Right of Man'. He was granted honorary French Citizenship in 1792. He was staunch supporter of revolution in France, yet he was against the execution of the King XVI as it killed the moral soul of revolution.

3- Oppressive Regime of France Disguised as Just

a) The Three Estate General: Oppressive Method of Representation

The Three Estate general was the system of so-called assembly of France in 1789. The first estate was the nobles who'd tax both the second and third estates. The second estate was clergy and the third estate was bourgeoisie and farmers and other commoners. The third estate made up of 95% of ^{the} population.

b) Clergy's Right of 'Tithe' Privileged the Poor Economically

Just as first estate taxed the two others, Clergy taxed ^{collected} 10% (called tithe) from the third estate. The poor and bourgeoisie were taxed more, they made up majority in the society and in the assembly, yet their voting rights was one. The money, in the France in 1700s, travelled in single direction, from poor to rich.

c) Problem of Affluence and Administrative Malaise

Although the taxes were regularly collected, the economic problems of France didn't get mitigated due to the problem of affluence. Every penny collected never made its way to the government treasury. It remained with the people. On the other hand, there was a system of internal tariffs in France and the weighing and measurements were different throughout France.

4- French Revolution's Rejection of Monarchical, Feudalistic and Religious Authorities

a) Rejection of Religious Authorities

People of France rose
against the notion Church's
authority over the government and
people.

i) Civil Constitution of Clergy 1790

Under the National
Assembly, during French Revolution,
Civil constitution of Clergy was
enforced in 1790. According to
which;

- Church and Clergy renounced
'Tithe'
- Church's property was
confiscated
- Bishops and Clergy were
elected
- Number of Bishops were reduced

b) Rejection of Feudalistic Authorities

i) Declaration of Rights of Men and Citizen

- Right to liberty, prosperity and fraternity
- Right to high offices
- Right to the property
- Right to defence and rejection of imprisonment without legal process
- Right to vote
- People of France are sovereign and government draws its power from the people so people have the right to resist

ii) Constitution of 1790 led to the formation of National Legislative Assembly

- Constitutional Monarchy
- The subjects of army and security lies with legislatures

- Internal tariffs were abolished
- France was divided into 83 equal divisions
- Each division has its own elected body
- Decentralization of France
- Each division to handle its own economic matters.

c) Rejection of Monarchical Authorities

i) Rejection of Divine Right Theory

Monarchies in Europe were ruling under the pretext of 'divine right' to rule. The Catholic church allowed certain family to rule which was believed to be designated or chosen by God. Through the process, Churches drew their absolute power over people. French revolutionaries

rejected this absolute power and reinstated 'constitutional monarchy'. When French Revolution was radicalized, under the rule of Robespierre, the constitutional monarchy was completely abolished and replaced by republic in 1792.

5- Critical Analysis on Thomas Paine's Statement

The statement of Thomas Paine is aligned with French Revolution's courses. The absolute power in France was justified under the cloak of 'Divine Right Theory' — a noble as a noble cause. Under the theory all oppressive tools were used against the 95% of the French population which eventually rose up for their right in the society.

Question #04

1- Introduction

The alliances in the Europe were the reason of the total war. These great alliances were formed either to create minimal peace, to counter an enemy or to avange an enemy. German Unification in 1876 led to consolidate central Europe. To secure its Kingdom, Germany started to form alliance against France. Later Anglo-France & Anglo-Britain alliance divide Europe.

2- Backdrop of the Formation of Alliances: German Unification

German Confederation was created in 1815 in Congress of Vienna. These were the 39 German states by Napoleon. On the matter of two duchies in the north of Germany, Austria and Prussia fought a war called "Battle of Sadowa". Austria was defeated

by Prussia. Just when the King of Prussia was anxious to enter Vienna, Bismarck halted him. This created soft-corner for Prussia. As a result of the win, Prussia created North German Confederation.

3- The Prussian Alliances by Otto von Bismarck

a) The Three Emperors' League (1871)

After German Unification, Kingdom of Prussia was created. The central Europe was consolidated and strong. Yet it feared revenge from France from its south-western borders.

To isolate France alliance with Russia against Germany. Whereas, on the southern borders it feared Austrians revenge. The Three Emperors' League was created.

Bismarck sought that the alliance would keep stability on its

Eastern borders by keeping Russia and Austria ally over the Balkan region.

Germany + Russia + Austria

The Three Emperors' League

(For cooperation, conservation of peace and consult in case war)

(b) The Austro-German (Dual Alliance) 1879

Russia's influence in the Balkans increased as a result of Russo-Turkish War of 1877. Austria sided Britain against Russia against the formation of Big Bulgaria. The conflict was resolved under the Treaty of Berlin 1878. In the process, Germany sided with Austria and Russia felt betrayed because of the Three Emperors' League.

Against Russian hostility, Germany and Austria's Dual Alliance maintained for three years

Austria + Germany

The Dual Alliance 1879
(Formed against Russia's hostility)

c) Second Three Emperors' League 1881

Germany could not afford longer hostility with Russia out of the fear of Franco-Russian alliance against itself.

Bismarck managed to maintain the Three Emperors' League once again.

Austria + Germany + Russia
Second Three Emperors' League

(Each promised neutrality in case any other went on war with joint partner)

d) The Triple Alliance 1882

When France occupied Tunis, Italy got upset. Germany and France were already enemies. So Italy joined the Dual Alliance — which became Triple Alliance after her — to oppose France with the partner of Central Europe on her side. However, later on Bismarck successfully got Turkey on her side too. So the Triple Alliance was as following

Germany + Italy + Turkey

(The Triple Alliance)

4- Process to the Formation of Triple Entente 1907

a) Franco-Russian Alliance 1893

The new Kaiser of Germany, William II, dismissed Bismarck for William II was anti-Russian. He chose alliance with Austria. His actions pushed Russia towards France. In the 1880s, Russia had moved to industrialization and France had huge investment opportunities.

France + Russia
(To limit Germany's rise in the Central Europe, both formed economic and military alliance)

b) Anglo-Japanese Alliance 1902

With alliances in formation in the Europe, Britain felt diplomatically

isolated. It ended its isolationism and formed alliance with Japan. In case of war on any, the other would help against the enemy.

Britain + Japan
(The alliance brought Asia into the alliance system)

c) Entente Cordiale 1904

Britain search for an ally in Europe and its hatred towards William II, brought France and Britain closer.

Britain + France

* Moroccan Crisis 1905

Both Germany and France were interested in colonizing the mineral-rich country. When France attacked, Germany demanded International Conference in order to isolate France.

The Algerians Act passed in favour of France and Spain. Both were to 'police' the country while the Sultan of the state remained in power. The Act strengthened Entente Cordial

d) Anglo-Russian Alliance 1907

After Russia's defeat in Russo-Japanese war, it turned to the Europe to revive herself economically. For that matter, she sought an ally. While France was an ally with both, Russia and Britain, it made way for an alliance between Russia and Britain too.

Russia + France + Britain

Triple ~~Entente~~ Entente

5- Critical Analysis on the Formation of Alliances

These great alliances, started since 1871 till 1907 involved every country of Europe in ~~only~~ single conflict. The statement by PM Disraeli rightfully explained the cause of war being these alliances. A central Europe, once powerful, was never in the foreign policy of Britain and France. When central Europe became strong and became hostile, entire Europe involved, and due to the alliances, East (Japan) involved too. Leading to a global war.