

09/01/2026

Day: Friday

PART-II
SECTION-A
ANSWER-1

INTRODUCTION:

The French Revolution was ideally based on ending absolute monarchy in France and separating Church from control of state affairs. It propagated right of self-determination for people (specially the commoners or bourgeoisie). What followed right after was Napoleon Bonaparte's revival of Deistic monarchy, returning powers to Church via Concordat Agreement 1801 and the practical death of democracies when Directory is thrown over and fellow directors are abused.

"Peaceful Change is
the central dilemma
of IR."

- E.H Carr

(1) Republic French was taken over by Napoleon - a war monarch:

In a series of events between 1789-1792, French population saw a series of political changes.

Absolute Monarchy → Democratic Monarchy → Republic

National/Legislative ^{Assembly} → National Convention
NLA → NAF → NC

→ The Directory (1795-1799)

Napoleon Bonaparte took over the Directory by conducting a coup within a coup. He was not chosen by the "General will" of people as per Rousseau's Republic nor was democratically elected as John Locke would conquest. He took over a leader / a military commander

unjustly took powers designated for some other director that too in a process that kills essence of democracy.

It did not align with Revolution's key tenet of ending monarchies.

(2) Napoleonic Battles - A Tyrannic Feudal Prospect:

What followed Napoleon's takeover in a violent manner was nobably covered in these words:

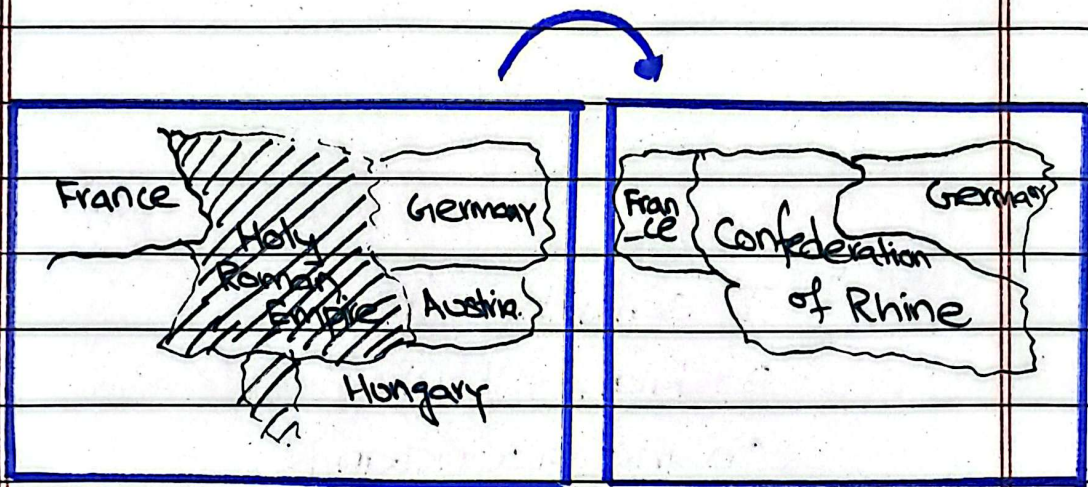
"I saw the crown
of France laying
on the ground and
I picked it up
with my sword."

-Napoleon Bonaparte

This is Napoleon's indigenous way of protecting himself against claim of takeover.

What followed was Napoleonic battles: Austerlitz, Nile, Borodino and many others. These battles ended in signing of treaties all of which were revival of feudal take over of land.

Be it Campo Formio or Luneville Peace: they were non-democratic and involved unjust capture of native lands.



Pre-Napoleonic
Battles



Post-Napoleonic
Battles

The Revolution's spirit of Nationalism was deeply harmed.

(3) Revival of Religious Powers of Church - Dent to Revolutionary Cause:

Before French Revolution, clergy was imposing taxes on Peasants

- 10% Tax → Tithe
- 1% people owned 10% of the lands
- Authority in public/political matters.

The revolutionaries gained freedom from the authority of church. Philosophers like Hume played a part too.

"You Believe in Miracles.

It is a greater miracle that you believe in miracles."

-David Hume
(French Philosopher)

Napoleon's coming to power

benefitted the church.

... Concordat Agreement (1801)
provided the church with
revived powers. The lands that
had been previously confiscated
were not returned but power
and authority was revived:

The revolutionaries struggle
and demands lost its purpose.

CONCLUSION:

The Napoleonic Era, followed
just after the French revolution
exemplified the given statement.

" Liberty, What Crimes
are carried out in
Thy Names. "

- Shakespeare

Indeed, Shakespeare was right.