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HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE-I (C.1780-1939)

B.H.I.C.-111

B.A. History (Hons.) - 5th Semester

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QUESTION PAPER

June – 2023

(Solved)

HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE-I (C. 1780-1939)

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Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

Note: Answer any five questions. Attempt at least two questions from each Section. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION-I

Q. 1. Analyse the factors leading to the French Revolution in 1789.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 10, 'Revolutionary Overthrow of the Ancient Regime and Democratic Action'.

Q. 2. Explain the meaning and ideas associated with the Enlightenment.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-4, Page No. 30, 'Enlightenment', Page No. 32, Q. No. 2.

Q. 3. Discuss the role of Bismarck in consolidating political legitimacy in Germany.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 59, 'Bismarckism'.

Q. 4. Write short notes on any two of the following:

(a) Bureaucracy.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 23, 'New Bureaucracy and Educational Institutions'.

(b) Reforms Act of 1832.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-5, Page No. 40, 'Reforms Act of 1832'.

(c) The Secret Society Movement.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-6, Page No. 52, Q. No. 3.

(d) Industrial Capitalism.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-8, Page No. 66, Q. No. 1.

SECTION-II

Q. 5. Give a brief account of origin and development of industrial capitalism in Germany.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 88, Q. No. 3.

Q. 6. Write a note on the urban population and living conditions in Europe.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 97, 'Composition of Urban Population', Page No. 103, Q. No. 5.

Q. 7. How did national identities develop in some East European countries?

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-14, Page No. 126, Q. No. 6.

Q. 8. Write short notes on any two of the following:

(a) The Gerschenkron model.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 85, 'The Gerschenkron Model'.

(b) Class division and political consciousness.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-12, Page No. 106, 'Class Society Defined', Page No. 108, 'Political Consciousness'.

(c) Unifications of Italy.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-16, Page No. 144, 'Process of Unification'.

(d) Habsburg Monarchy.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-17, Page No. 154, 'Habsburg Monarchy'.



Sample

QUESTION PAPER - 1

(Solved)

HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE-I (C. 1780-1939)

B.H.I.C.-111

Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

Note: Answer any **five** questions. Attempt at least two questions from each Section. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION-I

Q. 1. Discuss the importance of judiciary.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 5, Q. No. 5.

Q. 2. What do you understand by 'proto-industrialization'?

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-8, Page No. 67, Q. No. 4.

Q. 3. Why did the economic reform proposals fail?

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 13, Q. No. 2.

Q. 4. Write short notes on any two of the following:

(a) Religious Divide and Concordat.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 22, 'Religious Divide and Concordat'.

(b) Liberalism.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-4, Page No. 30, 'Liberalism'.

(c) How would you explain the rise of Napoleon III?

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 61, Q. No. 3.

(d) Factory System.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-9, Page No. 76, Q. No. 3.

SECTION-II

Q. 5. Write in brief about the progress in industrialization in France between 1848-1870.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 87,

Q. No. 1.

Q. 6. Write a note on women movements to establish their rights.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-13, Page No. 116, Q. No. 4.

Q. 7. How the independence achieved by Greece and Bulgaria was different from each other?

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-17, Page No. 157, Q. No. 3.

Q. 8. Write short notes on any two of the following:

(a) Different Types of Towns.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 101, Q. No. 3.

(b) Absolutism and Modern State.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-14, Page No. 120, 'Absolutism and Modern State'.

(c) Italian Language.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-16, Page No. 142, 'Italian Language'.

(d) Russification in Finland.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-18, Page No. 163, 'Russification in Finland'.

■ ■

Sample Preview of The Chapter

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HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE-I (C. 1780-1939)

The Modern State and Political Culture

1

INTRODUCTION

Absolute power and significant population mobilisation characterise the exercise of power in contemporary European governments. The modern European state has nearly unrestricted authority, and it is not prohibited from entering any territory. This contrasts with pre-modern nations, whose ability to act was constrained and their range of influence was small. Due to nationalism's imposition of cultural uniformity on the populace it governs, direct rule's exclusive right to use legal coercion, and the state's democratic legitimacy, which is based on its assertion that it represents the will of the people, the modern European state is able to exercise absolute power.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

DIRECT RULE AND BUREAUCRACY

The foundation of the modern European state was laid by the direct control exercised by European monarchs over their subjects from the fifteenth to eighteenth centuries. This concentration of power allowed monarchs to appoint officials answerable solely to them, weakening feudal lords and fostering the emergence of a modern bureaucracy. The clashes between the state and local lords during this period led to various forms of royal absolutism, with notable state-builders like Ivan IV, Peter I, Frederick William, Frederick II, Cardinal Richelieu, Louis XIV, Henry VIII, and Thomas Cromwell playing key roles. These monarchs wielded authority over armies, taxation, disputes, justice, and even the lives of their subjects.

A central aspect of the modern state is the bureaucracy, an administrative hierarchy of professionals following legal requirements. Unlike older systems, this bureaucracy relies on expertise rather than personal connections, ensuring a smooth replacement of personnel. Max Weber's rational-legal bureaucracy model, prevalent in contemporary administrative institutions, enhances efficiency.

The "rational-legal" approach of the modern state proves highly effective. Unlike pre-modern displays of opulence and spectacles, modern states are more successful in governance, foreseeing and addressing issues, targeting threats precisely, and ensuring compliance. They extend their influence into numerous spheres, predict problems, gauge public opinion, and mediate conflicts. The state takes responsibility for various groups, employing surveillance and intelligence-gathering systems to regulate people's lives.

Moreover, modern states possess more potent military capabilities than historical tyrants, thanks to technological advancements and standing armies. The French Revolution showcased the power of modern armies through extensive national recruitment. Advanced weaponry like artillery, pistols, tanks, and aerial control tipped the scales in favour of the state, making direct civilian rebellion nearly impossible. Opposition now takes the form of political and social mobilizations, guerrilla warfare, or insurgency. The modern state's capacity for control and violence has surpassed historical precedents.

NATIONALISM AND NATION-STATE

The contemporary European state emerged as a powerful entity, amassing resources and imposing uniformity on its population, leading to the birth of the nation-state and the concept of nationalism. By homogenizing its citizens and unifying their culture, the state gained greater control, predictability, and the ability to cater to shared preferences. This contrasted with the feudal era, characterized by a fragmented populace and multiple centers of power. The transition from feudalism to royal absolutism marked the imposition of a single center's will, resulting in the idea that a single state implied a single people. Consequently, modernizing states actively worked to forge a united population, now referred to as citizens, by enforcing a common set of rules governing society.

One of the most prominent principles shaping the modern state was the notion of equality before the law. This idea extended to other aspects of life, including equal access to knowledge, equal value of labor, universal suffrage, and equal opportunity for education and career pursuits. Education played a pivotal role in achieving this uniformity. The modern European state focused its efforts on creating a standardized educational system, making primary education universal and later mandating secondary education. Through schools, the state instilled shared values and a common language, contributing to the creation of a single people with a singular culture, akin to products from the same cultural factory. This blending of a single culture within a region governed by a central authority gave rise to the nation-state, where individuals identified with a shared culture in a particular place, forming the basis of nationalism.

Nationalism, as a concept, was developed by the states that sought to create these nations. Prominent examples of nation-states in Europe include the United Kingdom, France, and Italy. However, the formation of these nations was a gradual process, with regions like Cornwall in England, Gascony in France, and various distinct languages and cultures requiring integration. Consequently, the imposition of a unified language and culture became vital to the nation-building process. Other multi-national empires like the Russian and Austro-Hungarian faced challenges in nurturing their nationalism, which contributed to their eventual downfall as competing nationalisms within their territories emerged.

The consequences of this nation-building process shaped the landscape of Europe, leading to the emergence of sovereign nation-states interconnected through international relations. Each nation-state was theoretically equal to the others, yet differences in material resources created a hierarchy of strength and influence. This new system of states engaged in diplomatic exchanges and created intricate structures of diplomacy. International relations became an integral part of modern politics, as states defended and advanced their national interests on the global stage.

The Peace of Westphalia in 1648 marked the beginning of the system of relations between sovereign and equal states, but it wasn't until the nineteenth century that this concept of international relations became fully integrated into modern politics. As a result, Europe evolved into a continent composed of a collection of nation-states, each autonomous within its borders but interconnected through diplomatic

channels. Politics expanded beyond domestic affairs to encompass participation in international relations and the safeguarding of national interests. Political philosophies and parties alike were now expected to protect the nation's interest, and those failing to do so faced significant challenges in the pursuit of power and influence. The framework of international relations established during this era became the standard in modern politics.

DEMOCRATIC POLITY

The modern state's origin can be traced back to revolutionary movements in the late eighteenth century, which paved the way for the concept of "democracy". The state claimed to represent the will of the people and uphold their sovereignty, leading to the establishment of electoral systems for selecting representatives who would make decisions based on their own judgment. This liberal democratic model emphasized the significance of elections, universal suffrage, the secret ballot, and fair procedures to ensure democratic politics, receiving support from socialists and conservatives, but facing opposition from revolutionaries and counter-revolutionaries.

However, the process of holding elections could be manipulated, and even dictatorships have emerged through democratic means. True democracy extends beyond merely placing people in power, especially given the large populations of modern nations, making direct rule impractical. Instead, the people elect representatives who then become the decision-makers, creating a separation between representation and ruling outside of election periods. Democratic rulers frequently seek to gauge public opinion and claim to act in accordance with the wishes of the populace to maintain popularity and legitimacy. This reliance on public support necessitates pluralism, where diverse ideologies and political parties play crucial roles in ensuring frequent changes in leadership.

Throughout history, demonstrating popular support through democratic rituals like elections has been exploited by tyrants to consolidate their power. Gradually, governments have replaced hereditary monarchs as centers of power, and despite increasing bureaucratization, the fundamental principles of the state have become more democratic. Ultimately, the support of the people has always granted rulers more authority than any other source.

An independent judiciary serves as a vital tool in modern democratic states. Appointed and accountable to the people, the judiciary performs two critical functions: applying the law to decide cases and

THE MODERN STATE AND POLITICAL CULTURE / 3

providing legal interpretation to state the true intent of the law. This interpretation not only resolves conflicts but also effectively shapes the law. Furthermore, the judiciary possesses the crucial capability of judicial review, enabling the highest court to examine legislation for constitutionality and reject laws if found to violate constitutional principles.

Pluralist liberal democracies utilize independent judiciaries to limit the concentration of power within the democratic system. The doctrine of the separation of powers calls for the division of the legislature, executive, and judiciary to prevent unchecked authority.

The evolution of modern politics can be attributed to the mobilization of the populace and their ongoing political engagement. Citizens are now actively encouraged to voice their opinions, make political choices, and participate in various activities, ranging from voting and signing petitions to joining unions and attending demonstrations. These developments have fundamentally transformed the relationship between politics and the general population and have their roots in the eighteenth century.

Interest groups play a significant role in mobilizing support and establishing political parties that reflect distinct ideological stances. This diversification has been instrumental in shaping modern democratic systems, ensuring that various viewpoints are represented in the political landscape.

In this context, citizens play an active role in political activity, exercising their rights that are inherent and not granted by rulers. These rights serve as the foundation for the legitimacy of state rule and the mobilization of popular support by political parties. Modern politics encompass a diverse array of parties, including those seeking state power, as well as citizens' action groups working towards specific causes or interests, such as social justice, environmental preservation, and consumer rights.

The ideological spectrum from left to right is a defining aspect of modern politics, with parties adopting varying viewpoints. Leftist ideologies advocate for radical change and revolution, while the center accepts change but aims to limit its pace. The right, represented by conservatism, seeks to maintain and refine tradition while resisting further revolutions.

Throughout history, the clash between left, center, and right has played a pivotal role in shaping modern politics, leading to significant periods of ideological conflict, such as the Cold War after 1945. The complex interplay of ideology, citizen engagement,

and the quest for power has defined modern politics and given rise to diverse political systems across the world. The ongoing conflict between bureaucracy and mobilization, coupled with ideological divisions within society, continues to shape contemporary political landscapes.

CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q. 1. Explain the important features of bureaucracy.

Ans. Bureaucracy is an administrative hierarchy of officials with the following characteristics: they are salaried professionals with no personal interest in the decisions they make or enforce; they carry out the orders of their superiors and issue orders to their inferiors who implement such orders in the same manner; they act according to legal rules, not personal whim or preference; they are selected for their expertise in the area concerned, not for their personal whim or preference; they are selected for their expertise in the area concerned, not for personal whim or preference. This is the bureaucratic model, and this particular way of acting has been described authoritatively by Max Weber as rational-legal. However, practise deviates significantly from the model, as it inevitably does; however, it provides us with the most important insights into the functioning of modern administrative structures, whether of the state, a political party, a business corporation, a religious hierarchy such as a Church, or even simple associations such as clubs.

Bureaucracy in such "rational-legal" form is what makes the modern state so enormously powerful in terms of effectiveness. Bureaucracy is a more dependable and responsive instrument that can penetrate any field. Because of impersonality, expertise, rule-following, strict hierarchy, and easy replaceability, decisions can be carried out with precision and predictability.

Q. 2. Do you think that education was used by the modern state to promote nationalism?

Ans. With this incredible wealth, the modern European state imposed uniformity on its citizens, giving rise to the nation and nationalism. If all citizens came from the same culture, the ability to act on them, predict responses, satisfy preferences, and even create a set of common choices would be greatly enhanced. A divided people, on the other hand, suggested a fragmented state or a number of different power centres. This was the case during feudalism, which was defeated by royal absolutism, which imposed the will of a single centre.

A single state implied a single people, and the modernising state set about consciously creating such a single people. This was accomplished by requiring people, now known as citizens, to submit to the same set of principles that governed their society. The most famous and typical of these doctrines is that of equality of all before the law; corresponding principles in other spheres of life include, for example, that knowledge be equally available to all, that one person's labour is equal in value to another's, that one person's vote be equal to another's, that every adult should have the right to vote (universal suffrage), or that everyone should have equal access to education and career opportunities.

Education was perhaps the most powerful tool for homogenising, or creating such uniformities. Unlike its predecessors, the modern European state was extraordinarily active in the field of education. It gradually made primary and then secondary education universal and compulsory; through such an educational system, it ensured a shared set of values and a single language taught in schools, which could differ from what was available at home or in the region. As a result, it produced a single people with a single culture and even a single language, so that each citizen was a carbon copy of the others, all common products of the same cultural factory, as it were. The nation-state is defined as a single culture spread across a territory ruled by a single centre of power. This sense of belonging to a shared culture in a specific territory is referred to as nationalism. Nationalism is a modern invention created by the states that established such nations.

Q. 3. Define international relations?

Ans. International relations are the interactions and perceptions of two or more nations, particularly in the context of political, economic, or cultural relationships.

Europe came to be composed of a series of nation-states, each sovereign within its own territory, theoretically equal to the others, and linked to each other in a system that became an independent specialisation known as international relations. As a result, modern European politics implied a unique structure of international relations, which has since been accepted as a universal model. It was logically consistent with the state's claim to a monopoly on legitimate coercion: just as it refused to accept any other source of power within its territory, it could not accept any external source of power within that same territory. As a result, it resulted in a system of states that were sovereign and independent of one another

in theory and law, despite having unequal material resources. These states formed a hierarchy in terms of real power and resources, but in theory they were equal in status. This resulted in the exchange of permanent ambassadors between states, as well as the elaborate edifice known as diplomacy. Through such diplomacy, each state became an actor on the international stage, defending and promoting what it called its "national interest", because it now spoke in the name of the nation.

As a result, politics came to include involvement in international relations as well as the defence of "national interests". Every political party and ideology was required to protect the "national interest", and those who did not appear to do so adequately were severely weakened in the power struggle. Such an international relations system has existed since the sixteenth century; it was defined as a system of relations between sovereign and equal states with the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648; however, it was not incorporated into modern politics until the nineteenth century.

Q. 4. What do you understand by democratic polity?

Ans. Other than the people being the rulers, democratic politics meant something else. People could never be true rulers. They could have ruled directly only if the population was so small, a few hundred at most, that the people could meet on a regular basis, make decisions, and hold public office. However, modern nations are made up of many millions of people, so such notions of democracy are fanciful. Since the eighteenth century in Europe and America, the solution of the people electing their representatives, who then choose their rulers, has been found. This is the most common type of modern democratic constitution.

As a result, the people gave up their powers to representatives who made their own decisions, and the representatives gave up their powers to a government that also made its own decisions. The only effective control in the hands of the people was that both the government and the representatives had to submit to elections where they could be replaced by others on a regular basis. These others would be associated with different political parties and ideologies. As a result, multiple ideologies and parties were an important part of the democratic politics of changing rulers on a regular basis. Pluralism refers to this multiplicity.

However, both the act of representation and the act of governing were independent of the people between elections. However, because everyone knew