# Chapter 1

# WRITING AND CITY LIFE

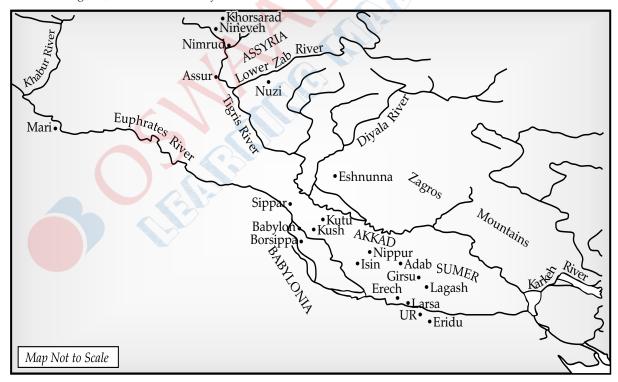


# TOPIC-1

City Life: Mesopotamia

- > Historians suggest that the transition from Neolithic to bronze age civilisation first took place in Mesopotamia which is Iraq of modern times.
- Mesopotamia is a Greek word which means "the land between two rivers". It flourished between the regions of the rivers Tigris and Euphrates.
- The Mesopotamian civilisation is known for its prosperity, city life, voluminous and rich literature, astronomy and mathematics. Historians suggest that the transition to Bronze age civilization first took place here.
- Mesopotamia can be broadly divided into two distinct regions North and South. The Euphrates was the lifeline of the ancient civilisation. During ancient times, Northern part was also referred to as Assyria and the Southern part was sub-divided into two parts *i.e.* Sumer and Akkad.

  Sumerian was the first known language of the land. When Akkadian speakers settled here, Sumerian was re-
- placed by Akkadian, which flourished till the time of Alexander i.e. 336 323 BCE.
- We have a wealth of archaeological evidence of Mesopotamian buildings, statues, ornaments, graves, tools and seals to reconstruct their history. Excavations reveal that there were three types of cites in Mesopotamia. Those were religious, commercial and royal cities.



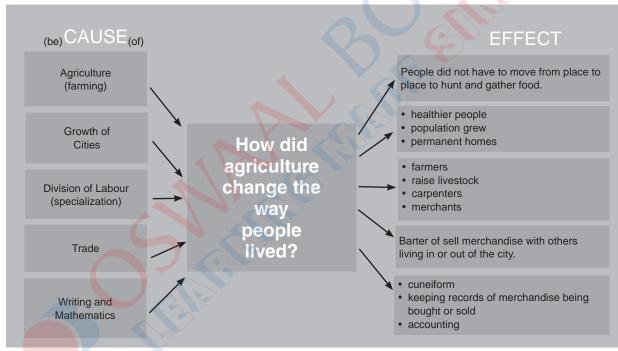
- The southern plains of Mesopotamia were also called 'Sumer'. It was the land of the Sumerians who spoke Sumerian language. They were the first city dwellers of the land. As it was the first developed civilisation, it is also called the Sumerian civilization.
- Mesopotamia witnessed the growth of three civilisations, the Sumerian civilisation, the Babylonian civilisation and the Assyrian civilisation.

7000–6000 BCE	Beginning of agriculture in Mesopotamia.	
5000 BCE	Earliest temple built in Mesopotamia.	
3200 BCE	First time writing was used.	
3000 BCE	Increasing use of bronze tools, Uruk developed into a major city.	
2700–2500 BCE	Early kings, probably Gilgamesh.	
2600 BCE	Development of Cuneiform script.	
2400 BCE	Replacement of Sumerian by Akkadian.	
2000 BCE	Spread of Cuneiform writing to Syria, Turkey and Egypt, Mari emerged as an important urban center.	
1800 BCE	Mathematical texts composed.	
1100 BCE	Establishment of the Assyrian Kingdom.	
1000 BCE	Use of iron.	
720–610 BCE	Assyrian empire.	
331 BCE	Babylon conquered by Alexander.	



- > Iraq is a land of diverse environments. In the north-east, there are green plains that gradually rise to mountain ranges with clear streams and wild flowers. There was enough rainfall to grow crops and agriculture began here between 7000-6000 BCE in the north, animal herding was the source of livelihood. The south is a desert where the first cities and writing came up. This was so because the Tigris and the Euphrates carried loads of silt and when flooded or when their water was let out into the fields, fertile silt was deposited.
- > The agriculture of Southern Mesopotamia was the most productive. Even the sheep and goats, in the plains and the mountains, produced milk, meat and wool in abundance. Also, fish was available in rivers and date palms gave good fruit in summer.
- Wheat, barley, peas and lintel were the main crops grown here. Though Mesopotamia was bestowed with natural fertility, still agriculture was threatened several times on account of natural causes. The Euphrates branched out into several branches that acted as irrigation canals. The flow of water was diverted by constructing barrages on them.
- However, rural prosperity was not the only reason for urbanisation. Besides food production, trade, manufactures and services played an important role. City people, thus, ceased to be self-sufficient and depended on the products and services of others. In fact, division of labour is an important feature of urban life.
- Next important thing is a social organization in place. As many different activities need to be coordinated, some people command and others obey and also the urban economies often keep written records.
- Ur, Mari, Kish, Lagash, Uruk were some of the prominent cities.
- > While Mesopotamia was rich in food resources, its mineral resources were few. The south lacked the stone for tools, seals and jewels. The date palm wood was not good for cart or cart wheels or boats. Tools and weapons made of bronze have been found here. Bronze is an alloy of copper and tin which were not available here. They could have traded their abundant textiles and agricultural produce for wood, copper, tin, silver, gold and shell from Turkey and Iran across the Gulf, regions that were rich in mineral resources but had less scope of agriculture.
- The canals and natural channels of ancient Mesopotamia provided the efficient system of transportation. The Euphrates was an important means of transportation. According to some scholars, the Euphrates served as a 'world route' for trade and commerce during those days. Mari is a good example of an urban centre flourishing on trade, it was not militarily strong but exceptionally prosperous.
- As transactions occurred at different times and involved many people and a variety of goods, thus, writing began as a need to keep a record of transactions.

- Mesopotamians wrote on clay tablets and these occur by thousands at their sites. By 2600 BCE, the letters became cuneiform and the language used was Sumerian. It was gradually replaced by Akkadian in 2400 BCE and it continued till the first century CE. Writing is seen as an enormous intellectual achievement that conveyed the system of sounds of a particular language in visual form.
- However, the general public could not read or write. It was a specialised craft, which used to maintain records, give legal validity to land transfers, narrating the deeds of kings boastfully and announcing changes in the customary laws of land.
- This in turn encouraged a social organization that could prepare for foreign expeditions and conduct exchanges. Producers of non-subsistence products were largely dependent on rulers and temples. This division of labour encouraged urbanisation.
- ➤ Temples were the nucleus around which the city developed. In theory, it was the owner of almost all the land and represented the whole community. They also organised irrigation in the region. Significant cities of Eridu, Uqair, Uruk, Ur and Kish developed around temples. In time, victorious chiefs began to offer precious booty to the god's which gave the king high status and the authority to command over the community. War captives and local people were put to work and paid rations.
- The well-organized administration of Mesopotamia also played an important role in the growth of urbanisation. Maintenance of peace and security was a prerequisite for trade and commerce to flourish. The non-labouring ruling elite provided an administrative structure apart from maintaining law and order.





# **TOPIC-3**

# Legacy Of Writing - Historians, Debate

- > The most significant legacy of the 'Mesopotamian' civilisation to the world was the development of writing. Scholars suggest that the art of writing was first developed in Mesopotamia.
- > Small clay tablets were used for writing. By kneading and patting the wet clay, it was given the shape of a tablet. Then, with the sharp end of a reed, words and sound syllables were impressed on the wet surface and the tablets were then dried. This writing was called the 'cuneiform'.
- > Some tablets dated around 1800 BCE contain multiplication and division tables, square root tables and tables of compound interest which suggest that mathematics registered a significant growth.

- Mesopotamians have left behind interesting literature. 'Gilgamesh' was their greatest epic. It was the work of Uruk, who ruled Mesopotamia in 2700 BCE They also took a deep interest in Mathematics. There were 60 important numbers in their numerals. They used counting based on sixties.
- > They also evolved the Pythagoras theorem and established the length of day and night. They divided a year into 12 months based on the revolution of the moon around the earth, the division of a month into four weeks and a day into 24 hours. The same has been adopted by the successors of Alexander and the Roman world, then Islam and then by Medieval Europe.
- Many schools were established and high-quality literature was produced. In schools, students read and copied earlier written tablets. A lot of importance was attached to the work of a scribe. A scribe had to learn hundreds of signs because the sound that a cuneiform sign represented was not a single consonant or vowel. Most of the students, therefore, became record keepers for the general administration while some were trained to be intellectuals.
- ➤ The great Assyrian king, Assurbanipal (668-627 BCE), collected tablets on history, epics, omen literature, astrology, hymns and poems and made a library.
- Even though Sumerian ceased to be spoken after 1800 BCE, it continued to be taught in schools, through vocabulary texts and sign lists. There were bi-lingual tablets too in Sumerian and Akkadian language. Copies were made of important texts such as Epic of Gilgamesh. The library of Assurbanipal had about 1000 texts, amounting to about 30,000 tablets, grouped according to subject.
- More importantly, the development of writing, made communication feasible between people at a geographical distance from each other. According to historians, the Akkadian cuneiform also became the language of diplomatic communication between Egypt and the West Asian countries.
- Thus, it is fair to state that the urban people in Mesopotamia were well acquainted with modern phenomenon. The achievements of the Mesopotamians made it the most advanced civilizations of the time.

#### **Elements of Writing**

- ➤ **Pictographs** used to be the way humans kept "written" records. There were picture symbols.
- In cuneiform, they added representations of syllables, in that way, it enriched writing.
- Scribes, were specialised people that were hired to write
- The first stories were written, they were called **Epics**.
  - Long poems that tell stories of heroes: The Epic of Gilgamesh



# Chapter 2

# AN EMPIRE ACROSS THREE CONTINENTS



## TOPIC-1

# Political Revolution and the Establishment of the Roman Empire

- > The Roman Empire was a large empire that was spread over three continents of Europe, Asia and Africa including a large part of the fertile crescent *i.e.* Western Asia and North Africa.
- > The Roman Republic lasted around 500 years from 500 -27 BCE During this period, the city state grew into a large empire and nourished a great civilisation that embraced a wealth of local cultures and languages. We can broadly divide the establishment of the Roman empire into two phases, 'early' and 'late' divided by the third century BCE.

- > There was great rivalry between the Roman empire and Iranian empire from early seventh century BCE down to 630s. While Mediterranean was the heart of the Roman empire, (it stretched on both sides of the sea), the empire of Iran dominated the area south of the Caspian Sea up to eastern Arabia and, at times, part of Afghanistan. They were separated only by a narrow strip of land running along the river Euphrates.
- > There were major differences between the Roman and the Iranian empires. The Roman empire was culturally more diversified, a mosaic of cultures and territories were bound together by a common system of government and ruled by a single ruler. In contrast, the Iranian empire was ruled by Parthians and then Sasanians ruled over a largely Iranian population.
- There are several sources available for the reconstruction of the Roman history that include texts, documents and material remains. The texts include the history of the period written by contemporary historians and aristocrats, their letters, speeches and ruled by sermons, etc., that provide significant information regarding the political organisation and socio-economic conditions.
- > Stone inscriptions and 'papyri' are also important sources. The 'papyrus' was a reed plant processed to make writing material. Innumerable papyrus documents that included contracts, letters, etc. have been discovered and are now available in published form.
- ➤ The material remains include monuments, pottery, coins, mosaics, etc.
- > The early Romans had a king, an assembly and a senate. Towards the end of 6th century B.C., the king was over-thrown and a republic was established. Under the Republic, the Romans conquered other parts of the peninsula, and by 265 BCE, controlled all of Italy. By the beginning of first century BCE, the Romans had conquered Greece and Asia Minor and established a protectorate over Egypt.
- ➤ The empire was established by Augustus in 27 BCE and was called the 'Principate'. The three pillars of the empire were the Emperor, the aristocracy and the army. The success of the individual emperors depended on their control over the army.
- > External warfare was not common in the first two centuries, also because further expansion was considered unnecessary. 'Augustan Age' is remembered for the peace that it ushered in after decades of internal strife and external military conquest.
- ➤ At its peak during the second century BCE, it was a vast empire with diverse set of territories. This was made possible due to urbanisation of the empire. Urban centres had been established in every nook and corner of the empire and it was through these urban centres that the whole empire was brought under efficient control. Alexandria, Antioch, Carthage and Constantinople, along the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, were the bed-rock of the imperial system.
- > The third century brought forth the first major signs of internal strain, as the empire fought on several fronts. In Iran, a more aggressive dynasty, 'the Sasanians', emerged in 225 CE who enhanced their power significantly through rapid expansion. In the meantime, Germanic tribes such as Alamanni, The Franks and the Goths too started moving against the Rhine and Danube frontiers and there were repeated invasions. The Romans had to surrender much of the territory beyond the Danube.
- ➤ In a short span of 47 years, there were 25 emperors in short succession, a clear sign that the third century was a period of crisis for the empire.

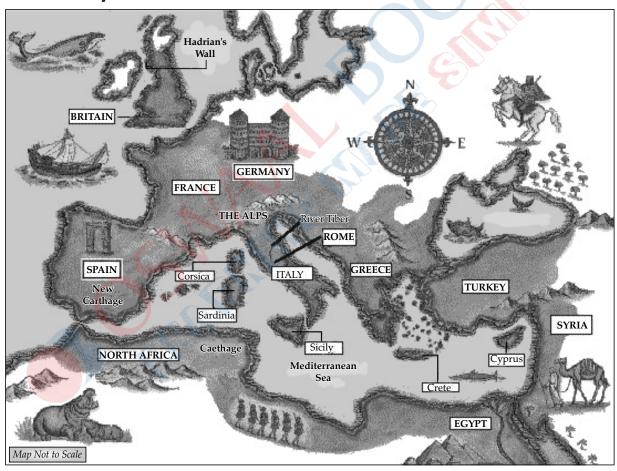
#### **Know the Terms**

- Republic: It was the name given to a regime in which the real power lay with the senate, a body nominated by the wealthy elite.
- Conscription: That is the soldiers are forcibly recruited, military service is compulsory for certain groups or categories of population.
- ➤ **Near East:** It refers to the area of Roman Mediterranean, *i.e.* all territories to the east of the Mediterranean Sea. These included all the subordinate territories that could be relied on to use their forces in support of Rome.

- > Transhumance: It is the herdsman's regular annual movement between the higher mountains and low-lying grounds in search of pasture for their flock.
- **Civil war:** armed struggle for power within the same country.

27 – 14 BCE	'Principate' founded by Octavian, also known as Augustus.	
66-70 CE	The great Jewish revolt and capture of Jerusalem by Roman forces.	
115 CE	Greatest extent of the Roman empire.	
212 CE All inhabitants of the empire transformed into Roman citizens.		
224 CE	Sasanian dynasty established in Iran.	

# **Roman Empire**





#### **Revision Notes**

➤ Roman empire was a prosperous and a strong empire with a strong and stable economic structure. The empire had a substantial economic infrastructure of harbours, mines, quarries, brickyards, olive oil factories, etc.

- Wheat, wine and olive oil were traded and consumed in huge quantities, and they came mainly from Spain, the Gallic provinces, North Africa, Egypt and to some extent Italy.
- Remnants of over 50 million of containers have been found at Monte Testaccio in Rome. Scholars believe that the olive oil enterprise in Spain had reached its climax during 140-160 CE. There was a competition among the traders. The landlords and producers from various regions were always trying to establish their respective control on markets of different commodities.
- > The success of the Spanish olive growers was repeated by the North African producers through most of the third-fourth centuries. Later after 425, this dominance was broken by the East in the fifth-sixth centuries by Turkey, Syria and Palestine became major exporters of wine and olive oil. Thus, prosperity of individual regions rose and fell depending on how effectively they could organise the production and transportation of those goods.
- > Campania in Italy, Sicily, the Fayum in Egypt, Galilee and Byzantium were amongst the most densely settled or wealthiest parts of the empire. On the other hand, large expanses of Roman territory were in much less advanced state. The pastoral and nomadic communities that were often on the move and their movements were tightly regulated. Similarly, southern Spain was also less developed. Thus, there were a number of economic disparities in different regions of the Roman empire.
- However, the Roman economic structure was not a backward one. It had numerous features of modern economic life such as: water-power was used in various ways around the Mediterranean, there were water-power mills, activities of mining in Spanish gold and silver mines was also carried on with the help of water power; the level of output was also suitably high that could not be reached again till the 19th century.
- There was also a well-organised commercial and banking system in those days, the use of money was wide-spread. A number of important towns which were centres of industrial and commercial activities existed in different parts of the empire.
- In the beginning, silver based monetary system was introduced in the Roman empire and remained in circulation for the first three centuries. However, the government ran out of sufficient stocks of the metal to support a stable coinage. Therefore, the government introduced a gold-based monetary system under emperor Constantine and this remained in circulation till late antiquity as gold was available in huge quantity in the empire.

#### **Know the Terms**

- Amphorae: Clay containers in which wine, olive oil and liquids were transported. In Spain, these have been names as Dressel after the archaeologist who first established its form.
- Frankincense: The European name for an aromatic resin used in incense and perfumes.

#### **Economic Transactions Under The Romans**



# TOPIC-3 The Institution of Slavery

#### **Revision Notes**

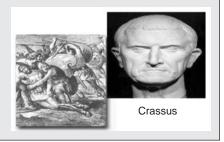
- ➤ The Roman economy was run on slavery. It was so deeply rooted that even Christianity did not challenge this institution as bulk of the labour in the economy, whether in agriculture, mining or handicraft, production was performed by the slaves.
- > Roman law recognised slaves as a form of property. The state exercised strict control over the slaves. The authority of the master over the slave was absolute and they suffered complete legal deprivation. They were bought and sold like commodities in the market and were made to work beyond their capacity.
- > Due to rural indebtedness, a strict control over labour was facilitated. Roman agricultural writers paid much attention to the management of labour. Supervision was paramount both for free workers and slaves. To make supervision, easier workers were sometimes grouped into smaller gangs/teams (a squad of ten), they were usually chained together by their feet.
- Workers in frankincense were branded on their aprons and they had to take off their clothes before leaving the premises. As agricultural labour was fatiguing, it was disliked. An Egyptian inscription of early third century refers to Egyptian peasants deserting their villages to avoid agricultural work.
- A lot of poor families went into debt bondage to survive. Sometimes parents sold their children into servitude for a period of 25 years.
- > There were many hierarchies in the social structures of the Roman empire. Upper class or aristocracy or Senators, Middle class and Lower class were the three major social groups in the Roman society. The middle class included ordinary people connected with the administrative and military services. The bulk of the population known collectively as 'humiliores' came under the lower classes. While the upper and middle class were very prosperous, life of most of the people of the lower class was full of difficulties and miseries. This created a wide disparity in Roman society.
- ➤ However, a strong tradition of Roman law had emerged by the fourth century which acted as a check on most emperors. Emperors were not free to do what they liked, the law was actively used to protect civil rights.

### **Know the Terms**

- > Slave breeding: The practice of slave breeding was used to enhance the number of slaves by encouraging the female slaves and their partners to have more children.
- **Freedmen:** These were such slaves that had been freed by their masters.

# Slaves in the Roman Empire

- Through military conquest, Rome accumulated millions of slaves
- 1st century CE: 1 out of 3 in city of Rome a slave
- Roman proverb: "Every slave we own is an enemy we harbour"





#### **Revision Notes**

> The Roman empire was a large empire that comprised of diverse cultures. This cultural diversity was reflected at many levels.

- > There were various religious cults in different parts of the empire and worship of a large number of local deities also continued. The traditional religious culture of the classical world, both Greek and Roman, had been Polytheist. The other great tradition in the empire was Judaism which too was not monolith.
- Christianisation of the empire during the fourth-fifth century was a gradual and a complex process. The powerful bishops, who now led the church, made repeated efforts to rein in their followers and enforced a more rigid set of beliefs and practices.
- > Different languages were spoken in different parts of the empire. If Aramaic was the dominant language of the Near East, Coptic was the language of the masses in Egypt. Punic and Berber were spoken in North Africa whereas Celtic was dominant in Spain and the north-west. These languages did not have their scripts and were surely over. Latin came into wide circulation in many areas as late as fifth century and displaced the written forms of many languages, notably Celtic, that were otherwise widespread.
- ➤ Different styles of dress and customs were in usage, and the food people ate in one part of the empire was different from the other.
- Similarly, there existed a number of diversities in the forms of social organisation and even in the patterns of settlement.

#### **Know the Terms**

- > Christianisation: The process by which Christianity spread among different groups of population and became the dominant religion.
- Monolith: A large block of stone, referred to a society or culture that lacks variety and is all of the same type.
- **Polytheism:** Belief in many Gods.



- > The period from 4th-7th century CE is known as the Late Ancient Period or the Late Antiquity in the history of the Roman Empire.
- This period witnessed many momentous developments in almost all aspects of life such as political, economic, cultural and religious.
- In the religious field, two momentous developments were: (1) Christianity was declared as the official religion by Emperor Constantine. (2) Rise of Islam in the 7th century.
- Christianisation of the empire was a gradual and complex process. The Christian bishops waged a running battle against the polytheist beliefs and practices prevalent in the western provinces, but it could not be eliminated overnight. The zeal shown by the masses contributed significantly and it was further strengthened by the political and cultural unity of the empire and the various areas being united by a network of roads.
- With the accession of emperor Diocletian (284-305 CE), there were equally momentous changes in the structure of the state. The empire had witnessed substantial expansion till then.
- > The empire was divided into four equal parts, under four rulers. Each ruler was supreme in his own jurisdiction. His forceful personality avoided rivalries. Administrative units were made more compact by carving out smaller provinces due to which the number of provinces doubled.
- > The state activities were expanded, a census was ordered to estimate the quantum of agrarian tax to be collected, taxes were to be paid in kind.
- > Tax collection was made more efficient and the provincial governors were divested of their many duties.
- ➤ The frontiers of the empire were fortified, military and civil services were separated and greater autonomy was granted to the military commanders (Duces) and they emerged as the most powerful group.
- > Military conscription was introduced to meet the increasing demand for soldiers in the frontier contingents.
- The imperial bureaucracy was expanded by opening it to the middle class that included the local gentry, petty traders and urban professionals which had hitherto been excluded.

- ➤ Diocletian also gave up the Theory of Rome being a republican state. He projected himself as the 'divine ruler' and took the title of 'dominus et deus' or the divine lord, this also why the later Roman empire is called the 'dominate' in Roman history.
- Constantine took over in 306 CE and ruled till 337 CE. He abolished the system of four emperors and became the most powerful autocrat. He introduced the gold coins 'solidus' and also established the new capital of Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). He put an effective check on atrocities on the Christians and himself adopted Christianity.
- > Monetary stability and expanding population gave a boost to economic growth which added to the prosperity of the empire. New technologies such as oil presses, glass factories, screw presses and multiple water mills were introduced. Huge amount of money was invested in long distance trade with the East.
- There was considerable growth in urban wealth and prosperity and the ruling elites became wealthier and more powerful. Economic condition of the villages was also very good as the rural products bought in more gold. Prosperity was more marked in the east where the population was still expanding. The reign of Justinian is the high watermark of prosperity and imperial ambition.
- In contrast to this in the west, Germanic tribes (Goths, Vandals and Lombards, etc.) had taken over and established kingdoms that have been described as 'post-Roman'. They foreshadowed the beginnings of 'medieval' world.
- > By the seventh century, the war between Rome and Iran had flared up again and the Sasanians who ruled Iran launched a wholesale invasion of the eastern provinces. Even though they were recovered later, the final blow came from the south-east.
- > By 642 CE 'the greatest political revolution ever to occur in history of the ancient world' took place. Barely ten years after Prophet Mohammad's death, both eastern Roman and the Sassanian empires fell to the Arabs.

297	Diocletian reorganised empire into 100 provinces.
310	Constantine issued new gold coinage.
312	Constantine converted to Christianity.
324	Constantine founded the city of Constantinople.
378	Goths inflicted crushing defeat on Roman armies at Adrianople.
391	Destruction of temple at Alexandria.
410	Sack of Rome by Visigoths.
428	Vandals captured Africa.
493	Ostrogoths established kingdom in Italy.
533–50	Recovery of Africa and Italy by Justinian.
541–70	Outbreak of bubonic plague
570	Birth of Muhammad.
622	Muhammad and companions leave Mecca for Medina.
633–42	First and crucial phase of Arab conquests – take over Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Iraq and Iran.
698	Arabs captured Carthage
711	Arabs captured Spain.

# Chapter 3 NOMADIC EMPIRES



#### **Revision Notes**

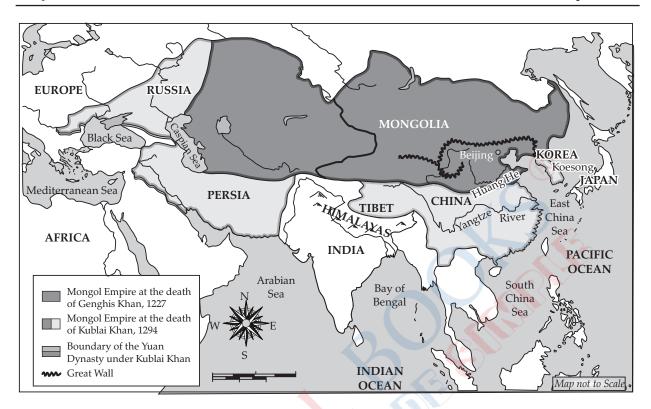
- > The above period occupies a significant place in the history of Central Asia, when the Mongols established a transcontinental empire under the leadership of Genghis Khan, that extended from Europe to Asia.
- The sources for this period are limited as the Mongols had no tradition of producing their own literature. The historians, therefore, depend mainly on chronicles, travelogues and documents of city-based littérateurs though these are not very reliable and often are extremely biased and ignorant.
- Most significant research was by the Russian scholars in the 18th-19th centuries during the period of the Czars. They throw significant light on rise of Mongols under Genghis Khan and his successors. However, the sources are available in many languages like Chinese, Italian, Latin, French and Russian, etc. and all vary in their interpretation of events.
- > The Mongols were a nomadic group from Central Asia and were divided into many tribes. They were linked to Tatars, Khitan and Manchus to the east and Turkic tribes to the west. Ethnic and language ties united the Mongols. Some were pastoralists, some tended horse, sheep, cattle, goats and camels, while some were hunter-gatherers that were constantly at war with each other over limited resources. Loot and plunder was an integral part of their living.
- > Their area was the steppes of Central Asia (modern state of Mongolia), ringed by snow-capped Altai mountains to the west and the arid Gobi Desert in the south. There were number of green pastures and considerable small game was also available in season.
- Dense populations could not be sustained on hunting gathering economies. Therefore, there was no growth of cities in this region. The Mongols lived in tents and didn't settle at one place for long. They kept moving with their herds from winter pasture lands to summer pasture lands and vice-versa.
- > It was, therefore, imperative for them to trade and barter with their neighbours in China. The nomads exchanged agricultural produce and iron utensils from China for horses, furs and game trapped in the steppes.
- > The Barter system often caused tensions in trading activities as both parties tried to enhance their profits and often caused military pressures. The military conflicts were more disastrous for settled societies as their agriculture was dislocated and cities destroyed. It forced the Chinese rulers to build fortifications to defend their subjects. The Great Wall of China was one such measure.
- Mongol society was patriarchal in nature and the birth of a son was given more importance. The richer families were larger as they had more animals and pasture lands, and therefore, they had more followers and more influence on the local politics. Occasionally, confederacies were created for offensive and defensive purposes. Generally, these were small and short lived.

#### **Know the Terms**

- > Barbarians: Derived from the Greek word 'barbaros'. It was meant to describe the non-Greeks whose language sounded like random noise to Greeks. The terms was used to describe the Germanic tribes such as the Gauls and the Huns.
- **Tuman:** The largest unit of soldiers was known as Tuman.

#### **Know the Dates**

1167 CE	Temujin (Genghis Khan) was born.
1160-1170	Period of hardships for Temujin.
1190	Cordial relations between Temujin and Ong Khan.
1206	Temujin proclaimed the title of Great Khan of Mongols by the Mongol chieftain and given a title of 'Universal Ruler'.

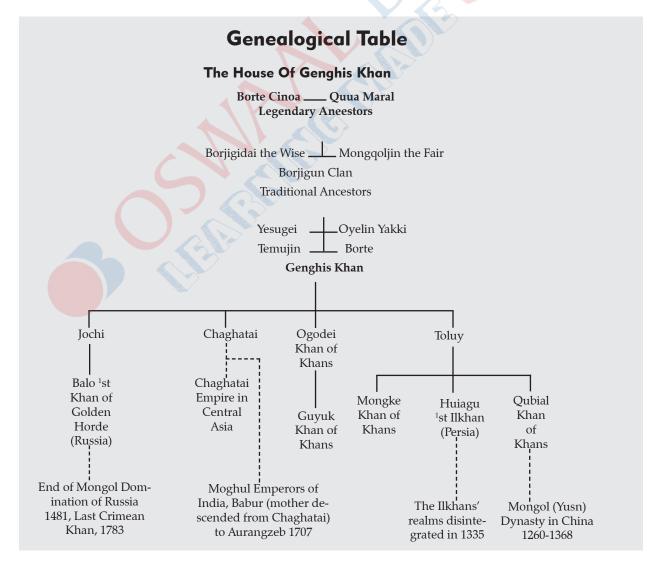




- Genghis Khan was born in 1167 CE. He was the son of Yesugei, the chieftain of Kiyat tribe. As his father was killed by an adversary tribe, he had to face many problems. Valour and bravery were his most striking features. Supported by some able persons like Jamuqa, Boghuruchu, Tughril Khan, etc. he defeated some powerful tribes.
- In 1206, Quriltai (the tribal assembly) bestowed the title of Genghis Khan on him. He ruled upto 1227 CE.
- Genghis Khan wanted to conquer China. He defeated the Hsi Hsia people of the north-west by 1209 CE. In 1213, he breached the "Great Wall of China" and sacked Peking in 1215 CE. He left the military affairs of the regions that he conquered to his subordinates and returned to the Mongolian homeland in 1216 CE.
- The Mongols remained in long drawn out battles with the Chinese until 1234 CE.
- > The Mongols defeated Qara Khita in 1218 and the Mongol dominions reached the Amu Darya and the states of Transoxiana and Khwarazm by 1219 CE. Great cities such as Otrar, Bukhara, Samarqand, Merv, Nishapur and Herat were made to surrender to the Mongol forces. The towns that resisted were devastated.
- > They defeated the Russian forces at Crimea and encircled the Caspian Sea. A Mongol army also reached into Afghanistan and the Sindh province but due to extreme weather conditions, they changed their mind to enter India.
- He died in 1227, having spent most of his life in military combat. His military achievements were astounding, largely a result of his ability to innovate and transform different aspects of steppe combat into extremely effective military strategies.
  - (i) Their horse riding skills provided the army speed and mobility, as they were able to shoot rapidly while riding.

- (ii) The cavalry, too, moved quickly as it travelled like light so he was able to carry out the campaigns in the depth of winters using the frozen rivers as highways.
- (iii) Genghis Khan used the naphtha bombardment and siege engines to his maximum advantage.
- After his death, expansion took place in two phases: (i) 1236-42 in which they conquered Russian steppes, Bulghar, Kiev, Poland and Hungary and (ii) 1255-1300 in which they conquered the whole of China, Iran, Iraq and Syria.
- > The initial impetus of the campaigns could not be sustained for too long. During their greatest successes, internal turbulence between members of the ruling family manifested itself. They had to retreat from the Hungarian steppes and suffered a defeat at the hands of the Egyptian forces.

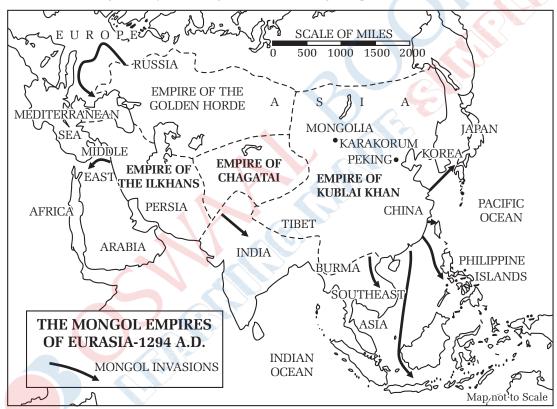
1209	Genghis Khan defeated the Hsi Hasia people.
1213	Genghis Khan breached the Great Wall of China.
1215	Genghis Khan sacked Peking.
1218	The Mongols defeated Qara Khita.
1220	Genghis Khan occupied Nishapur.
1222	Herat was occupied.
1227	Genghis Khan died.





- > The Mongols had been a nomadic society of pastoralists and hunters. All adult males bore arms and formed forces as per requirements. Genghis Khan saw the need to organise the Mongols into a new social and military unit to convert them into successful conquerors.
- Unification was necessary as during his campaigns, many new tribes and diverse members had entered the army. The army was now a heterogeneous mass of people, including the Turks, Uighurs and even Kereyits (his earlier enemies).
- Initially, the army was organised according to the old system of the clan in decimal units where clans and tribes co-existed. The army was divided into divisions of 10s, 100s, 1000s and 10,000s soldiers. Under the new system, old tribal groupings were distributed among new military units. It included 10,000 soldiers from different tribes and clans and was called the 'Tuman'. It helped weaken the rebellious notions as different lineages and clans were integrated and provided a new identity.
- Similarly, new military units called 'noyans' were placed under his four sons, Jochi, Chaghatai. Ogodei and Toluy. All those who had served him loyally for many years were chosen as captains of noyans, some were honoured as blood brothers while some were appointed as bandsmen (naukar). This gave a blow to the privileges of the old clan chieftains and gave rise to a new aristocracy.
- ➤ He also organised the 'Ulus' or states but these did not have fixed territories, their farthest extent was not determined as during his lifetime, it was the still the age of rapid conquests and expanding domains. Jochi received the Russian steppes, Chaghatai the Transoxiana steppes, Toluy received the ancestral lands of Mongolia while Ogodei would succeed him as the Great Khan. He established his capital at Karakorum on his accession.
- ➤ He also organised 'Quriltais' or the assembly of chieftains with an aim to determine the participation of the family members in state affairs. All decisions relating to important issues of family or state such as campaigns, distribution of plunder, pasture lands and succession, etc. were collectively taken in this assembly.
- In order to connect the distant areas of his empire, Genghis Khan introduced a new communication system 'Yam' which was known as the courier system. Fresh mounts and dispatch riders were placed in outposts at regular spaced distances. It was famous for its speed and reliability and was further refined after Genghis Khan. It enabled the Khans to keep a check on the developments even at the farthest end of their regime across the continent.
- A special tax known as 'Qubcur' was levied to maintain this courier system, the Mongol nomads contributed a tenth of their herds (horses or livestock) as provisions.
- Genghis Khan also introduced the system of recruiting civil administrators from the conquered societies in the Mongol administration. They were transferred from one province to another, for instance, Chinese secretaries were deployed in Iran and Persians in China.
- > Europe and China were territorially linked. In times of peace, trade connections matured. Commerce and travel along the Silk Route reached its peak under the Mongols. The trade routes did not terminate in China but continued into Mongolia and to Karakoram, which was the heart of the new empire. Travellers were given a pass for safe conduct. Traders paid a tax 'baj' for the same. All thus acknowledged the authority of the Mongol Khan.
- ➤ However, the constant campaigns had an adverse effect on the conquered people, who did not feel any affinity with their conquerors. During the first half of the 13th century, cities were destroyed, agricultural lands were laid waste, trade and handicrafts production was disrupted. Lakhs of people were killed and many more enslaved. In the resulting instability, the underground canals, called 'qanats' were destroyed or fell into disrepair. Due to this, Iranian plateau did not receive periodic maintenance and desert crept in. This led to an ecological devastation from which, parts of Khurasan could not recover.

- > By the mid-13th century, the pressure to sedantarise was greater in the new Mongol areas. The sense of common patrimony shared by all brothers was replaced by individual dynasties each ruling its 'Ulus' which now carried the sense of territorial dominion. This was in part, also a result of succession struggles where his descendants competed for the office of 'The Great Khan' and prized pastoral lands. For his descendants to appear as convincing heroes to a sedentary audience, they could no longer appear in quite the same way as their ancestor. Thus, there was disengagement with the past underlining the merits of the reigning rulers.
- > Genghis Khan is supposed to have promulgated the 'Yasa' at the Quriltai of 1206, which meant law or decree or order. The Yasa described the administrative regulations such as the organisation of the hunt, the army and the postal system. By the mid-13th century, it came to be honoured as the 'Legal code of Genghis Khan'.
- > Though politically the Mongols were masters of the region, they were numerically a minority. Therefore, in order to protect their identity and distinctiveness, they took the help of Yasa, a compilation of their customary traditions. Also, it is said that people wanted to claim that they too had their own law giver like Moses and Solomon. Yasa contributed significantly in creating a world-wide Mongol empire.



#### **Know the Terms**

- > Tuman: Largest unit of soldiers (appx 10,000)
- > Anda: Blood-brothers.
- Naukar: Bondsmen.
- Ulus: Territorial divisions, though originally it did not imply fixed territory.
- ➤ **Tama:** Military contingent.
- **Quriltais:** Assembly of chieftains.
- ➤ Yam: The courier system established by Genghis Khan.
- ▶ **Qubcur:** Tax paid by the nomads for the maintenance of the courier system.
- Qanats: Canals.
- Baj: Tax paid by traders for safe passage and conduct within the Mongolian territory.

1227-41	Reign of Ogodei, Genghis Khan's son.
1227-60	Reign of three Great Khans, establishment of Mongol unity.
1236-42	Campaigns against Russia, Hungary, Poland, Austria under Batu, son of Jochi.
1253-55	Beginnings of fresh campaigns under Mongke, son of Toluy.
1295-1304	Reign of EI-Khanid ruler under Ghazan Khan in Iran.



# TOPIC-4

# Genghis Khan and the Mongols in World History.

#### **Revision Notes**

- In civil societies, Genghis Khan is remembered as a conqueror, destroyer of cities and someone who was responsible for the death of thousands. Yet, for Mongols, he was their greatest ruler. He united the Mongol people, freeing them from the interminable tribal wars and Chinese exploitation, brought them prosperity, fashioned a great transcontinental empire and restored trade routes and markets that attracted distant travellers like Marco Polo.
- > Although the Mongol rulers belonged to different faiths like Shaman, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam, they never let their personal beliefs influence their public policy. They followed a policy of religious tolerance and recruited people from all ethnic groups and religions in their administrative and military departments.
- > They laid the foundations of a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious regime thus, setting a model for secular regimes like those of Akbar, the Mughal emperor.
- > The Mongols also had cordial relations with other countries. A Franciscan Monk was sent to the Great Khan Mongke's court by the French emperor Louis IX. He vividly describes the secular character of the regime.
- The Mongol rulers lived with great pomp and show. Artisans belonging to various countries lived in their capital. This also reflects the prosperity of the empire.
- > In independent Mongolia of today, Genghis Khan has been accorded the rank of a venerable national hero.

# **Know the Dates**

1260	Accession of Qubilai Khan as the Grand Khan in Peking.
1257-67	Reign of Birke (Batu's son), reorientation of the Golden Horde towards Islam.
1368	End of Yuan dynasty in China.
1370-1405	Reign of Timur, who claimed descent through Genghis Khan through Chaghatai lineage.
1495	Zahiruddin Babur, descendant of Timur and Genghis Khan succeeded to Samarqand and Ferghana. Later formed the Mughal empire in India.
1759	Manchus conquered Mongolia.
1921	Republic of Mongolia.

# Chapter 4 THE THREE ORDERS



#### **Revision Notes**

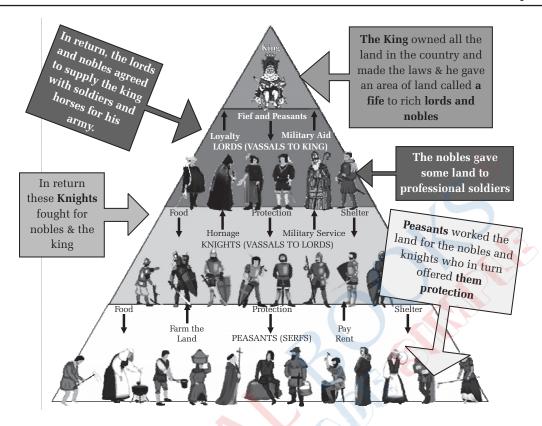
- ➤ The period 1300-1700 witnessed several major developments in Europe, including changes in agriculture, and the lives of the peasants and a range of cultural changes.
- > The growth in trade stimulated contacts between the continents through which ideas, inventions and goods were shared across continents. However, the constant warfare between kingdoms to control land, its resources and access to trade routes displaced. The lives of enslaved men and women were drastically transformed.
- > Christianity survived the collapse of Rome and spread to central and northern Europe. The Church too, became a major landholder and political power in Europe.
- > A lot of material in the form of documents, details of landownership, prices and legal cases are available, which help us to understand the structure of families and population. The inscriptions in the churches give information about the traders' associations, etc. All these have been used by historians to understand economic and social life, and changes over the period.
- Marc Bloch (1886-1944) argued that history was more than just political history. He emphasised the importance of geography in shaping human history. He describes in detail the social relations and hierarchies in the French society, land management and the popular culture of the period.
- > The term 'Feudalism' has been used to describe the economic, political, legal and social relationships that existed in medieval Europe. Derived from the German word 'feud', it means a piece of land. A system that developed in medieval France and later in England and southern Italy.
- The peasants performed labour services for the lords in exchange for military protection. They also had an extensive judicial control over the peasants. Thus, feudalism went beyond the economic control to cover the social and political aspects of life as well.
- The Franks, a Germanic tribe, gave their name to Gaul, making it France. Their strong links with the church were further strengthened, when the Pope gave king Charlemagne, the title of 'the Holy Roman Emperor'.
- The island of England-Scotland across the channel was conquered by a duke from the French province of Normandy in the 11th century.

#### **Know the Terms**

- Medieval: The Medieval era in European history refers to the period between the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, the period between the decline of the Roman Empire (476 CE) and the beginning of Renaissance (1453 CE).
- ➤ Gaul: Earlier France was known as Gaul, a province in the Roman Empire.
- **Feudal levies:** The nobles could raise their troops which were called feudal levies.

## **Know the Dates – Early History of France**

481	Clovis became the King of France.
486	Clovis and the Franks began the conquest of northern Gaul.
496	Clovis and the Franks converted to Christianity.
714	Charles Martel became mayor of the palace.
751	Martel's son Pepin deposed the Frankish ruler and became the king.
768	Pepin succeeded by his son Charlemagne / Charles the Great.
800	Pope Leo crowned Charlemagne as the Holy Roman Emperor.
840 onwards	Raids by Vikings from Norway.





- ➤ The western society during the medieval times (5<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> centuries) was divided into three orders *i.e.* The Clergy, The Nobility and The Peasantry.
- > The Clergy was regarded as the regent of God on earth and given special honour and respect in the medieval society. They enjoyed special privileges and were exempted from paying tax. They were the most powerful institution which did not depend on the king. The Pope was the head of the western church. Each village had its church and priest.
- ➤ Everyone could not become a priest. Serfs, women and physically challenged people were banned. Bishops were the religious nobility. The church was entitled to one-tenth of whatever the peasants produced. Money also came from endowments made by the rich.
- > The religious worlds of feudalism shared many customs and symbols, like the art of kneeling while praying, with hands clasped and bowed head. The Knight conducted himself similarly while taking vow of loyalty to his lord.
- > Apart from the church, there were monasteries. These were for deeply religious people who wished to live in isolation in religious communities called abbeys where they spent time in prayer, study and manual labour like farming.
- > Though Europeans became Christians, some old folk traditions and belief in magic were still a part of lives. Christmas and Easter became important dates. Overworked peasants welcomed these as holidays because they were not expected to work as these days were meant for prayer. But, they usually spent them having fun and feasting. Pilgrimage, too, was considered important and many undertook long journeys to shrines of martyrs or big churches.
- The Nobility in reality had the central role in social processes mainly because they controlled land. This was an outcome of the practice called 'vassalage'.

- > The Kings of France were linked to the people by 'vassalage' the landowners and the nobles were the vassals of the king whereas the peasants were vassals of the landowners. The nobles accepted the king as his senior and they made a mutual promise that the lord would protect the vassal who would be loyal to him.
- > The nobles enjoyed a privileged status and each had absolute control over his property in perpetuity. He could raise troops called feudal levies and held his own court of justice and could even coin his own money.
- ➤ His house was called the 'Manor', his private lands were cultivated by peasants, who were also expected to act as foot soldiers when required.
- > Everything needed for daily life was found on the estate, grain, blacksmiths, carpenters and stonemasons. Women spun and wove and the children worked in the wine presses. There were pastures for animals and even a church on the estate and a castle for defence. The only things that had to be obtained from outside were salt, millstones and metalware and luxury items like rich furnishings, ornaments, etc.
- ➤ The frequent wars during the 9th century required good cavalry as foot soldiers were not enough. This led to a growing importance of a new section of people the Knights, who were linked to the lords just as they were linked to the Kings.
- > The lord gave a piece of land 'fief' to the knight and promised to protect it as in the feudal order. The fief land was cultivated by the peasants, the knight gave lord a regular fee and promised to fight for him during war. He could serve more than one lord.
- > The Peasantry formed the third order. The cultivators were of two kinds: free peasants who held their farms as tenants of the lord and serfs who cultivated the lands of the lords. Much of the produce from this was given to the lord. They received no wages and could not leave the estate without the lord's permission.
- Feudalism developed in England from the 11th century. The lords became the chief tenants of the king and were expected to give him military help by supplying a certain number of knights.
- > Several processes were transforming the system. There were changes in the environment, changes in agricultural technology and land use that had an effect on the social and economic ties between the lords and vassals.
- > During 5th -10th centuries most of the Europe was covered with vast forests so there was limited land available for cultivation. Prolonged winters shortened the cropping season. From the 11th century, Europe entered the warm phase. As average temperatures increased, soil could be easily ploughed and the span of cropping season increased.
- Simultaneously, several technological changes occurred. Cultivators began using heavy iron tipped ploughs and mould-boards, methods of harnessing animals improved and there were also changes in land use. With these improvements, there was an almost immediate increase in food production. Lords too took the initiative to set up water mills and windmills.
- From 11th century, personal bonds of feudalism were weakening as economic transactions became more and more money based. Increasing use of money began to influence prices which increased in times of poor harvests.

#### **Know the Terms**

- Abbey: It is derived from the Syriac word 'abba', meaning father. An abbey was governed by an abbot or an abbess.
- > **Tithe:** It was the tax paid to the church by the peasants. It was one-tenth of whatever they produced.
- > Monastery: It is derived from the Greek word 'monos' which meant someone who lives alone.
- > Friars: These were the Monks who chose to move from place to place preaching people and living on charity.
- > Minstrels: These were travelling bards who were very popular for telling stories as not many could read and write in those times.
- ➤ **Taille:** Direct tax imposed by the kings on the peasants, clergy and nobles were exempted from this.

1066	Normans defeated Anglo-Saxons and conquer England.
1100 onwards	Cathedrals being built in France.
1315-17	Great famine in Europe.
1347-50	Black Death.
1338-1461	Hundred years wars between England and France.
1381	Peasants revolt.



# **TOPIC-3**

# A Fourth Order: New Towns and Townspeople

#### **Revision Notes**

- Expansion in agriculture was accompanied by growth in population, trade and towns. Better food meant longer lifespan. As agriculture increased and sustained a larger population, towns began to grow.
- In towns, instead of services, people paid a tax to the lords who owned the land on which the towns stood. Towns offered the prospect of paid work and freedom from the lord's control. Many peasants and serfs escaped to provide unskilled labour. Later, there was need for individuals with special skills, like bankers and lawyers. They could be said to have formed the Fourth Order.
- ➤ The Guild was the basis of the economic organisation. Each craft or industry was organized into a guild, an association that controlled the quality of the product, its price and sale.
- > By the 11th century, new trade routes with West Asia were developing. In France, by the 12th century, commerce and crafts began to grow, as craftsmen found it easier to settle in one place where goods could be produced and traded for food. As the number of towns grew and trade continued to expand, town merchants became rich and powerful, and rivalled the power of the nobility.
- Rich merchants made donations to the church, large churches called cathedrals were built in France from the 12th century onwards. As they were being built, the area around the cathedral became more populated and as they became centres of pilgrimage. On completion, small towns developed around them.

#### **Know the Terms**

- Cathedral: Large churches
- > Guild: Association of craft or industry



- > The economic expansion began to slow down by the 14th century. This was due to three factors: (i) Change in climate the bitterly cold summers reduced the cropping season and storms and oceanic flooding destroyed many farmsteads. (ii) The large-scale reclamation of lands and forests and their intensive ploughing exhausted the soil. Shortage of pastures reduced the number of cattle. (iii) Population growth outstripped resources and there were famines between 1315-1317 followed by massive cattle deaths in 1320.
- > Trade was hit by a severe shortage of metal money because of shortfall in the output of silver mines in Austria and Serbia. Trade centres and cities were hardest hit.
- The ships arriving from distant countries to Europe brought in rats and the deadly bubonic plague infection. During 1347-1350 almost 20% of the European people died, some places loosing almost 40% of the population.
- > This caused immense social dislocation. Depopulation resulted in an immense shortage of labour, serious im-

balance created between agriculture and manufacture. Prices of agricultural goods dropped while wage rates increased.

- Incomes of lords were badly hit. They tried to give up the money contracts and revive labour services. This was violently opposed by the peasants. Peasants revolts occurred in 1323 in Flanders, 1358 in France and 1381 in England. Though they were ruthlessly crushed, they continued with violent intensity.
- ➤ However, though the lords succeeded in crushing the revolts, the peasants ensured that the feudal privileges could not be reinvented, as the money economy had advanced too far to be reversed.
- ➤ Politically, the European kings strengthened their military and financial power. The new monarchs, Louis XI in France, Maxmilian in Austria, Henry VII in England and Isabelle and Ferdinand in Spain were absolutist rulers who started the process of standing armies, a permanent bureaucracy and national taxation. Spain and Portugal began to expand overseas.
- Important reason for new changes was the dissolution of feudal system and the slow rate of economic growth gave the kings an opportunity to increase their control over the powerful subjects. They did away with the system of feudal levies and introduced a professionally trained infantry with guns and siege artillery directly under their control.
- > The taxes were increased to increase revenues to support larger armies and thus, defence and expansion of frontiers overcame internal resistance from aristocracy. In England, rebellions occurred and were put down in 1497, 1536, 1547, 1549 and 1552. In France, the 'religious wars' in the sixteenth century were, in part, a contest between royal privileges and religious liberties. The nobility managed the shift to ensure their survival and quickly became loyalists. They were given permanent positions in the administration.
- > The King was now at the centre of an elaborate courtier society and a network of patron-client relationships, as patronage became the means of ensuring cooperation obtained by means of money.
- Therefore, money became an important way in which the non-aristocratic families like merchants and bankers could gain access to the court. They lent money to kings who used it to pay wages of soldiers. Thus, rulers made space for non-feudal elements in the system.
- The changes in the power stricture shaped the history of France and England later. Today, France has a republican government and England has a monarchy.

#### **Know the Dates**

1461	New monarchs in France.
1474-1556	New monarchs in Spain.
1485-1547	New monarchs in England.

# Chapter 5

# **CHANGING CULTURAL TRADITIONS**



# TOPIC-1

The Renaissance – Causes and Features.

- From the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, towns were growing in many countries of Europe, there was development of a distinct 'urban culture'.
- ➤ There is a vast amount of material available documents, printed books, paintings, sculptures, buildings and textiles. Much of these are carefully preserved in archives, art galleries and museums.
- Renaissance literally means 'rebirth'. It was a cultural movement that first originated in Italy (1300-1550 CE) and soon spread to France, England and Germany and gradually to the whole of Europe.

➤ It changed the thinking of the common people and gave birth to logic and reasoning among the masses. Consequently, there was a growth of new tendencies in the spheres of literature, religion, philosophy, arts, science and politics.

#### **▶** The Cause of the Renaissance include:

- (i) Decline of Constantinople which had been an important center of learning, arts and philosophy. When it was captured by the Seljuk Turks, the artists fled to Italy and the interest of the Italians in Greek and Roman literature grew as a result of interaction with these artists and scholars.
- (ii) Decline of Feudalism encouraged intellectual growth and artistic as well as philosophical progress.
- (iii) The Crusades also introduced people to new ideas and religious thought and people in Europe got an opportunity to study the philosophy of Aristotle and Plato.
- (iv) Growth of Prosperous Trading Community was encouraged by the growth in trade and commerce. These prosperous traders became patrons of art and literature.
- (v) Royal patronage too, helped significantly in the rise and growth of Renaissance and also encouraged inventions in the field of science.
- (vi) The Italian cities and towns that had been ruined after the decline of the Roman empire got a new lease of life as the Italian ports revived due to trade between the Byzantine Empire and the Islamic countries. Commercial activities got a boost as the Mongols opened up trade with China via the Silk Route. Italian cities like Florence and Venice played an important role as independent 'city states' instead of the clergy and the feudal lords. Rich merchants and bankers played a vital role in governing the city.
- (vii) New routes to India and other countries of the East were searched to procure the luxury items, that added to the prosperity of the cities like Venice, Milan and Florence. They soon became centres of foreign trade.
- (viii) Spread of Humanism, that is, interest was generated in human life, that laid more emphasis on worldly interests as compared to spirituality. They denounced superstitions and believed in ability of mankind to achieve happiness and perfection even without religion. Thus, Humanism proved to be the very soul of Renaissance and greatly contributed to the growth of science, arts and architecture.

# Know the Dates - Periodisation used by the Humanists

8 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> century	The Middle Ages.
5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> century	The Dark Ages.
9 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> century	The Early Middle Ages.
11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> century	The Late Middle Ages.
15 <sup>th</sup> century onwards	The Modern Age.



- > The Humanists made efforts to spread humanist ideas through arts and architecture as well. The works of the past proved to be a source of great inspiration to new artists. Arts came to be regarded as an important tool of expression.
- > The writings of the Greek and the Romans had been familiar to monks and clergymen through the Middle Ages but were not widely known. In the 14th century, many scholars began to read translated works of Greek writers like Plato and Aristotle. This was due to the efforts of Arab translators who had carefully preserved and translated ancient manuscripts (Plato was called Aflatun and Aristotle, Aristu in Arabic). These were works on natural science, mathematics, astronomy, medicine and chemistry.
- Arab writers, who were regarded as men of wisdom in the Italian world, included Ibn Sina (Arab physician and philosopher and author of medical encyclopedia). Ibn Rushed, an Arab philosopher of Spain who tried to resolve the tension between philosophical knowledge and religious beliefs and whose methods were adopted by Christian thinkers.

- ➤ The artists took great inspiration from fragments of art discovered in the ruins of Rome and other deserted cities. The sculpted figures were perfectly proportioned which inspired Italian sculptors to revive that tradition. Similarly, the painters too painted lifelike paintings, using geometry to understand perspective and changing quality of light to give their work a three-dimensional effect. They used oil as a medium that gave it greater richness and colour. Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519) was a great painter of this period. His well-known paintings include the "Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper".
- > The splendour of Rome was revived as the popes were politically stronger from 1417 CE. They actively encouraged the study of Rome's history. The ruins of Rome were carefully excavated and it inspired a new style of architecture which came to be known as 'the classical style'. It actually was a revival of the imperial Roman style.
- > The artists and sculptors decorated the buildings with paintings, sculptures and reliefs. Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564) deserves a special mention. He painted the ceiling for the Pope in the Sistine Chapel in 1512. His sculptor, 'The Pieta', is also very famous. Now, artists were known, not as members of a group or guild, but individually by their name.
- The anatomy, geometry, physics as well as strong sense of what was beautiful, gave a new quality to the Italian art, which was to be called 'realism' and which continued till the 19th century.
- ➤ The invention of printing press by mid-15<sup>th</sup> century encouraged intellectual growth. Historians believe paper reached Europe through the Arabs and paper mills were established in Italy and France and Germany in the 13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Johannes Gutenberg (1400-1468), a German, made the first printing press. It was at his workshop that 150 copies of the Bible were printed for the first time.
- ➤ It soon became an essential medium of commercial, social and religious and scientific communication. By 1500 CE about 40,000 editions of books had been printed. The spread of knowledge through books weakened the superstitions and dogmas and there was an awakening of self-confidence among the masses. Thus, ideas of Humanism, opinions and information began to spread more widely and rapidly across the Alps from the end of the 15th century.
- Renaissance affected the contemporary public life in a number of ways. The attitude of people became more scientific and the Church started losing its power and influence. The monarchs became stronger as Feudalism headed towards its decline.
- There was growth of vernacular languages like English, French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. The Bible was translated into different languages during this period and similarly great literary works were created in vernacular languages.
- > The Renaissance established the dignity of man. Stress was laid on the life of man and his activities instead of religion in literature and art. Francesco Barbaro, a humanist from Venice, defended acquisition of wealth as a virtue in a pamphlet written by him. A person's faith in his capabilities was strengthened.
- Science registered an unparalleled growth. The new inventions, scientific attitude and logical analysis of this period shattered religious faith in principles laid down in the scriptures. Copernicus asserted that the earth revolves around the sun and takes one year to complete one revolution and that the earth rotated on its axis. He suggested that the universe was infinite. The difference between heaven and earth was bridged through the writings of astronomers like Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) and Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) devised a telescope and studied celestial bodies. Similarly, Isaac Newton put forth his theory of gravity.
- These works presented new knowledge about the universe and celestial bodies. Science challenged myths with rationality and logic overtook traditional wisdom.
- William Harvey, a well-known English doctor, made advances in physiology. He stated how the blood circulates through our body by the pumping of the heart. William Gilbert wrote about the nature of magnetism and concluded that the earth itself was a giant magnet.
- > The work of these thinkers showed that knowledge, as distinct from belief, was based on observations and experiments. Historians labelled this new approach to the knowledge of man and nature as the 'Scientific Revolution'. God began to be replaced by nature as the source of creation.
- ➤ The Renaissance led to a remarkable growth in industry, trade and commerce. With the discovery of new routes between the east and the west, the new countries that were discovered provided good sources of raw material that helped to establish new industries and added to the prosperity of the European nations.
- As religion began to lose hold over the masses, they began to take interest in the growth and progress of their countries. The progress of vernacular languages made a significant contribution to the growth of nationalist feelings that encourages the rise of nation-state.

- > The new ideal of individuality and citizenship excluded women. Men from aristocratic families dominated public life and were the decision makers of their families. They educated their sons to take their place in family businesses and public life. Public role of women was limited and they were looked upon as keepers of the households.
- ➤ A few women were intellectually very creative and sensitive about importance of humanist education. Venetian Casandra Fedele (1465-1558) was known for her proficiency in Greek and Latin and was invited to give orations at the university of Padua. Others included Marchesa of Mantua and Isabella d'Este. The court of Mantua, a small state, was famed for its intellectual brilliance.
- > The origin of Renaissance in Italy was due to many factors like:
- (i) Its geographical conditions turned it into a natural entrance between the east and the west. Being closest to Constantinople, scholars and artists sought asylum here.
- (ii) With the decline of feudalism in Italian cities, spread of humanist ideas was given a boost.
- (iii) Italy was a prosperous country of Europe. The rich gentry extended financial help to artists, scholars and writers.
- (iv) The important commercial centres turned into city-states, the wealthy patronized art and culture to secure the status of aristocracy.

1300	Humanism taught at Padua University, Italy
1349	University established in Florence.
1390	Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales published.
1436	Brunelleschi designed the Duomo in Florence.
1453	Ottoman rulers defeated the Byzantine ruler of Constantinople.
1454	Gutenberg printed the Bible.
1484	Portuguese mathematicians calculated the latitude by observing the sun.
1492	Columbus reached America.
1494	Leonardo Da Vinci painted 'The Last Supper'.
1512	Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel ceiling.

#### **Know the Terms**

- ➤ **Humanist:** By the early 15<sup>th</sup> century, the term Humanist was used for masters who taught grammar, rhetoric, poetry, history and moral philosophy, subjects that emphasised skills which were developed by individuals through discussions and debates.
- Renaissance Man: This term is often used to describe a person with many skills and interests. Many of the individuals who came to be well known at that time were scholar-diplomat-theologian-artist combined in one.



- > The Renaissance paved the way for Reformation and delivered a fatal blow to the ideas and traditions of the medieval ages and supremacy of the Church. Trade and travel, military conquests and diplomatic contacts linked Italian towns and courts with the world beyond. The new culture was admired and imitated by the educated and the wealthy.
- ➤ During 15<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> century, many scholars were attracted to humanist ideas and called on Christians to practice religion in the way as laid down in the ancient texts, discarding unnecessary rituals. Theirs was a radically new view of human beings as free and rational agents.
- Christians humanists like Thomas Moore (1478-1535) in England and Erasmus (1466-1536) in Holland felt that the church had become an institution marked by greed, extorting money at will from ordinary people. People realised that such practices such the sale of indulgences, were not permitted by their religion.

- ➤ In almost all parts of Europe, peasants rebelled against the taxes imposed by the church, the princes too found their interference in matters of state irritating.
- ➤ In 1517, Martin Luther (1483-1546), a German monk launched a campaign against the Catholic church and argued that a person did not need priests to establish contact with God. This movement is called the 'Protestant Reformation' led to the churches in Germany and Switzerland breaking their connection with the Pope and the Catholic church. In Switzerland, Luther's ideas were popularised by Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) and later by Jean Calvin (1509-64).
- > The reformers, backed by merchants, had great appeal in towns. Other reformers like Anabaptists were even more radical, they blended idea of salvation with the end of all forms of social oppression which appealed to all peasants oppressed by feudalism. However, Martin Luther did not extend his support to rebellious peasants.
- ➤ The peasant uprising was the outcome of an endemic agrarian unrest. The peasants used religious ideology in order to legitimise their revolt. It delivered a fatal blow to feudalism.
- Eventually, in France, the Catholic Church allowed the Protestants to worship as they chose. In England, the rulers ended their connection with the Pope, and the king/queen became the head of the church.
- > The Catholic church itself began to reform from within. In Spain and Italy, churchmen emphasised the need for a simple life and service to the poor. In Spain, Ignatius Loyola, in an attempt to combat Protestantism, set up the society of Jesus in 1540. His followers were called Jesuits, whose mission was to serve the poor and to widen their knowledge of other cultures.

1516	Thomas More's Utopia pub <mark>lis</mark> hed.	
1517	Martin Luther wrote the Ninety-Five Thesis.	
1522	Luther translated the Bible into German.	
1525	Peasant uprising in Germany.	
1543	Andreas Vesalius wrote On Anatomy.	
1559	Anglican Church established in England with the King/Queen as head.	
1569	Gerardus Mercator prepared cylindrical map of the earth.	
1582	Gregorian calendar introduced by Pope Gregory XIII.	
1628	William Harvey linked the heart and blood circulation.	
1673	Academy of Sciences set up in Pairs.	
1687	Isaac Newton's Principia Mathematica published.	

#### **Know the Terms**

- > The New Testament: It is the section of the Bible dealing with the life and teachings of Christ and his early followers.
- ➤ Celestial: It means divine or heavenly while terrestrial means having a worldly quality.



- ➤ Some scholars have raised questions regarding the concept of Renaissance. Writers, like Peter Burke, have suggested that Burckhardt have exaggerated the sharp difference between this period and the preceding period by using the term 'Renaissance'.
- ➤ To contrast the Renaissance as a period of dynamism and artistic creativity and the middle ages as a period of gloom and lack of development would be an over-simplification. It has been suggested that similar literary and artistic blooming occurred in 9<sup>th</sup> century France too.

- > The cultural changes were not shaped only by 'classical' Greek and Roman civilisation. The technologies and skills in Asia had moved far ahead from what the Greeks and Romans had known. The expansion of Islam and the Mongol conquests had linked Asia and North Africa with Europe not politically but, in terms of trade and learning skills. The Europeans therefore learnt not just from Greek and the Romans but also from India, Arabia, Iran, Central Asia and China.
- An important change was that 'private' (family and personal religion) and 'public' (area of government and formal religion) spheres of life began to become separate. A person was not just a member of the 'Three Orders' but also an individual in his own right. Humanism as a literary movement focused on individualism and secularism. Renaissance undoubtedly glorified the essential worth of an individual.
- Different regions of Europe, started to have their separate sense of identity, based on language. Europe earlier united by the Roman Empire and later by Latin and Christianity, now dissolved into states each united by a language.

# Chapter 6

# DISPLACING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE



### TOPIC-1

## European Colonists and the Displacement and Repression of the Locals – North America and Canada

- ➤ During 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries European nations like England, France and Holland expanded their powers through colonialism in North America and Australia.
- North America extends from Arctic circle to the Tropic of Cancer and from Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. Its inhabitants came from Asia about 30,000 years ago. Once the climate stabilised about 5000 years ago, it resulted in population growth.
- ➤ Historians believe that people from Asia were the earliest inhabitants of North-America. The oldest artifact found is an arrow print which is 11,000 years old.
- > Christopher Columbus discovered the continent of America in 1492. He was followed by the Spanish and the Portuguese, who established their colonies there.
- ➤ In 18<sup>th</sup> century Europe, the main pillars of civilisation were considered to be organised religion, urbanism and literacy. Therefore, the natives of America appeared uncivilised to them. Rousseau admired the natives greatly as he found them untouched by the corruptions of the civilisation.
- > The inhabitants of North America lived in groups in villages, along the river valleys. They used to grow maize and several kinds of vegetables. They also ate meat and fish. It was a subsistence economy i.e. the native produced enough for their basic needs.
- People spoke various languages, but none of them are available to us in writing. They understood the concept of climate and nature. They also knew about weaving.
- > Each tribe maintained the accounts of its historical antecedents. Their historical knowledge was transmitted orally from one generation to the other.
- > The cultural values of the natives of North America and the Europeans were quite different. The natives were friendly to Europeans. For them, the goods exchanged with the Europeans were gifts of friendship. However, the main motive of the Europeans was to earn huge profits.
- The first Europeans who came to America were traders with the main objective of making profits by selling their products. However, soon they were followed by those Europeans who came to settle in America.
- ➤ Britain established 13 colonies on the eastern coast of America. These colonies declared war on England in 1776 to gain independence. This war lasted for almost seven years and continued till 1783. The colonies won and 'United States of America' was born.
- > The American frontiers reached their logical limit in 1892. The news of discovery of gold and silver mines spread like wild fire and led to the 'gold rush' in the 1840s. It led to the building of railways. The coming of the Europeans led to expansion of agriculture.

- ➤ The concept of barbed wire proved an important discovery in the development of agriculture in America as people began fencing off their farms to protect their fields from wild animals.
- Canada and USA, as we know today, came into existence at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The USA followed the policies of both purchase and war in order to expand its territories. It purchased Louisiana from France and Alaska from Russia. In 1865, slavery was abolished.
- Consent of the natives living in these territories was not sought at all while purchasing or selling these areas. It was the reason that the Western frontier of USA was a shifting one. As it moved, the natives were forced to move back further.
- > The US army was asked to evict the Cherokee and indigenous tribe from their land and to drive them to the Great American desert. Of the 15,000 people that were forced to go, at least a quarter died along the 'Trail of Tears'. The officials had no sympathy for the natives and justified their actions by arguing that the natives did not deserve to occupy land because they did not use it to the maximum.
- Many tribes were forced to share land originally occupied by another tribe causing quarrels among them. The activities of the tribes were locked off to small areas known as 'reservations'. Natives too put up a tough resistance. The army crushed a series of revolts by the Metis between 1869-1885 but finally had to give up.
- ➤ The industrialisation in America developed for different reasons to manufacture railway equipment, to link distant places and to produce machinery to make large scale farming easier. Industrial towns multiplied in US and Canada. In 1860, the US had been an underdeveloped economy and by 1890, it had become an industrial power. Within few years, it established its own colonies in Hawaii and the Philippines. It became an imperial power.

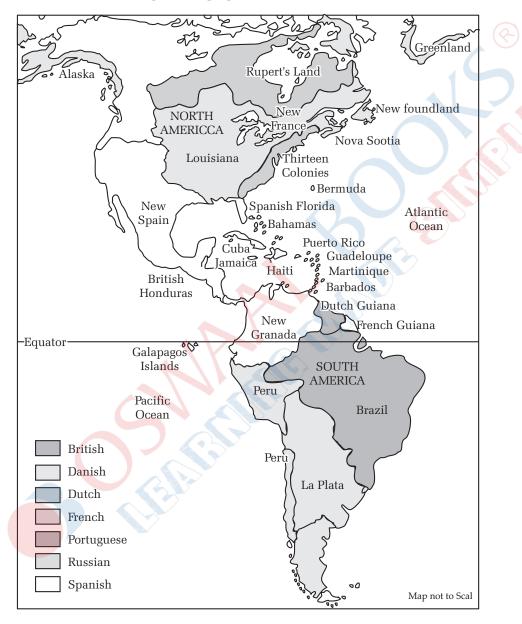
Quebec American Colonies

1497-John Cabot reached Newfoundland.	1507-Amerigo de Vespucci's Travels published.
1534-Jacques Cartier traveled down the St. Lawrence riv-	
er and met natives.	
1608 – French found the colony of Quebec.	1607 – British found the colony of Virginia.
	1620 – British found Plymouth.
Canada	USA
1701- French Treaty with natives of Quebec	
1763 – Quebec conquered	1781 – Britain recognised USA as an independent country.
1774 – Quebec Act	1783 – British gave Mid-West to USA
1791 – Canada Constitutional Act.	
	1803 – Louisiana purchased from France
	1825-58 Natives in USA moved to Reserves.
1837 – French Canadian rebellion	1832 – Justice Marshall's judgement.
1840 - Canadian Union of Upper and Lower Canada.	1849 – American Gold Rush.
1859 – Canada Gold Rush	1861-65 American Civil War.
1867 - Confederation of Canada.	1865-90 American Indian wars.
1869-85 Red River rebellion by the Melts in Canada.	1870 – Transcontinental Railway.
1876 – Canada Indians Act.	1890 – Bison almost exterminated.
1885 – Transcontinental Railways linked east and west coast.	1892 – 'End' of American frontier.

#### **Know the Terms**

- Native: A person born in the place he/she lives in.
- > **Settlers:** People who settle at a place which is not their native land.
- ➤ **Hopis:** Native tribes who live near California.
- Wampum belts: Made from coloured shells sewn together, they were exchanged by the native tribes after a treaty was agreed to.

- **Dreamtime:** Aborigines called the past centuries dream time.
- American Indian/Amerindian: Native peoples of North and South America and the Caribbean.
- ➤ **First Nations peoples:** The organised natives groups recognised by the Canadian government.
- ➤ **Indigenous people:** People belonging naturally to a place.
- Native American: The indigenous people of South and North America.
- > Red Indian: The dark-complexioned people whose land Columbus mistook for India.





# **TOPIC-2**

# Impact on Indigenous People - Historians' Viewpoint

#### **Revision Notes**

The democratic spirit, which had been the rallying cry of the settlers in the 1770s, came to define the identity of the USA against the monarchies and the aristocracies of the world. Their Constitution included the individual's 'right to property' which the state could not override.

- ▶ However, both democratic rights and the right to property were only for the white men.
- Things did not improve for the natives of USA and Canada until the 1920s. The major economic depression of 1929 affected all its people and brought forth a grim picture of the terribly poor health and education facilities for the natives.
- > The Indian Reorganisation Act of 1934 was passed that gave right to buy land to the natives and take loans.
- In the 1950s and 1956s, the US and Canadian governments thought of ending all special provisions for the natives in the hope that they would join the mainstream and adopt European culture. But the natives didn't want this.
- > 'Declaration of Indian Rights' passed by which a number of Native people accepted citizenship on the condition that their reservations would not be taken back.
- In 1969, the Canadian government announced that it would not Recognise the 'aboriginal' rights. This could not be resolved till 1982 when the Constitution accepted the existing aboriginal and treaty right of the natives.
- Human habitation in Australia has a long history. The 'Aboriginal' arrived on the continent approximately 40,000 years ago. They came from New Guines, which is connected to Australia by land bridge.
- > In the late 18th century, there were 350-750 native communities in Australia, each with its own language.
- The natives of Australia initially helped the Europeans whole heartedly, so their mutual relations were quite cordial. The relations between both the parties i.e. the natives and the European settlers became soured as the European settlers tried to push the natives out. However, a sharp reversal took place when Captain Cook was murdered by a native. This single incident was used by the colonisers to justify subsequent acts of violence towards other people.
- > Consequently, the feelings of distrust and contempt arose and the natives were left out of the history books. This was later rectified from 1968 when the natives were granted equal rights and accorded a proper place in history.
- ➤ In the 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> century, nearly 90 percent of the natives died due to exposure to germs, loss of their lands and resources and in battles against the settlers.
- As per the British policy, most of the early settlers were convicts who had been deported from England and as their term ended, they were allowed to live free in Australia, so that they did not return to Britain.
- > The economic development in Australia was not as varied as in America. Vast sheep farms and mining stations were established over a long period followed by vineyards and wheat farming. These became the basis of the country's prosperity.
- Some natives were employed in farms where the conditions were no better than slavery. Chinese immigrants provided cheap labour.
- > By 1970s, there was an eagerness to know the natives as communities and cultures distinct from their own. Since then, university departments have been instituted to study the native cultures and galleries of native art have been added to art galleries.
- From 1974, multiculturism has been an official policy in Australia which gave equal respect to native cultures and to different cultures of the immigrants from Europe and Asia.

1606	Dutch travelers sight Australia.	
1642	Tasman landed on the island later named Tasmania.	
1770	James Cook reached Botany Bay, named New South Wales.	
1788	British penal colony formed, Sydney founded.	
1850	Self-government granted to Australian colonies.	
1851	Chinese coolie immigration, stopped by law in 1885.	
1851 – 1961	Gold Rushes.	
1901	Formation of Australian Federation with six states.	
1911	Canberra established as capital.	
1948-75	Two million Europeans migrated to Australia.	

1974	'White Australia' policy ends. Asian immigrants allowed entry.	
1992	The Australian High Court declared 'terra nullius' legally invalid, recognized native claims to land before 1770.	
1995	The National Enquiry into separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families.	
1999	26 <sup>th</sup> May declared 'A National Sorry Day' as apology for children lost from 1820s to 1970s.	

#### **Know the Terms**

- Multi-culturalism: Official policy of Australia that gave equal respect to native cultures and those of the immigrants.
- ➤ **Anthropology:** The study of human societies, culture and their development is known as Anthropology.
- > Terra nullius: Meant belonging to nobody. The Australian government termed the land of Australia as 'terra nullius' thus undermining the rights of the Aboriginal.
- > Trail of Tears: As the US army evicted the Cherokees and drove them to the Great American Desert, a quarter of them died on the way, this is known "Trail of Tears".
- Reservations: The Westward expansion of Europeans/Americans in North America resulted in 'natives' being given land in perpetuity elsewhere. These small areas were locked off as reservations.
- Impacts of Colonisation for Indigenous Australians: In the beginning, the Europeans and the Aboriginal people interacted in a peaceful way. This changed when the Aboriginal people realised that their way of life was being changed by the colonists. The selfers took away land, natural food resources and this disturbed the nomadic life of the Aborigines.
- > **Dispossession:** One of the major impacts of the British was that they dispossessed (took away) the indigenous Australians of their land. The Aborigines were pushed back from their fertile lands along the costs, in to the deserts. This led to a loss of land for hunting and fewer food sources.
- ➤ **Dislocation:** The dislocation (taking away) of Aboriginal people from the land caused a loss of Aboriginal cultural identity as indigenous culture is strongly connected to the the land.
- Loss of Lives: Between 1788 and 1900, the Aboriginal population was reduced by 90%. Three main reasons for this were the introduction of new diseases, loss of land and people through conflict with the British.
- Disease: Disease was a major problem. Aborigines had no resistance to British Diseases, from measles to the common cold. Thousands of Aborigines died when these diseases swept through their comps.
- Loss of Food Sources & Medicine: European colonisation also meant the introduction of non-native flora and fauna. Introduced species have had a massive effect on Australian native plants and animals, causing extinction of many species.

# Chapter 7 PATHS TO MODERNIZATION



#### **Revision Notes**

➤ Japan is an archipelago that consists of more than 3000 islands. The four main Japanese islands are Honshu, Kyushu, Shikoku and Hokkaido.

- ➤ It is also known as 'the land of the rising sun'.
- ➤ The Japanese emperor was known as Mikado. The Shoguns made Edo, which is the present day Tokyo as their capital. By the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it became the most populous city. It was renamed Tokyo by Mutsuhito, the Japanese emperor in 1868.
- > Apart from the emperor, the Samurai, a warrior class, helped the Shogun and played an important role in the administration. The emperor was the political head in name only.
- However, Commander Perry's arrival in Japan influenced the politics of the country in a number of ways. It helped increase the importance of the emperor greatly. As the rivals of the Shogun increased in strength, Shogun was forcefully removed and emperor Mutsuhito was crowned the king, who assumed the title of 'Meiji' which meant the 'enlightened rule'.
- > Feudalism was abolished in Japan in 1871 under the Meiji rule. They also introduced major military reforms and a new constitution was their major achievement. This was adopted in 1889. As part of the educational reforms, the Tokyo University was set up in 1877 under the Meijis. Japan registered a remarkable progress in all fields during the forty years of Meiji restoration.
- Miyake Satsurei was a well-known Japanese philosopher. He stated that every nation must develop its special talent in the interest of the world civilisation. The government launched its new policy with the slogan, 'Fukoko Kyohei' i.e. rich country, strong army.
- ➤ Japan defeated China in the Sino-Japanese war in 1894-95. This made China vulnerable to the whole world and brought forth the imperialist ambitions of Japan. It gave honour and prestige to Japan. Treaty of Shimonoseki was signed in 1895.
- It shocked the Chinese and the intellectuals argued that like Japan, China too needed reforms to become a modern state.
- The Sino-Japanese war became the basis of Anglo-Japanese alliance in 1902. For the first time, a European country, England signed a treaty with an Asian country on equal footing.
- A direct fall out of this treaty was the Russo-Japanese war in 1904-05 as there was a clash of interest between Russia and Japan over Korea and Manchuria. Japan inflicted a heavy defeat on Russia. The treaty of Portsmouth in 1905 was signed by which Russia recognized the political, economic and military supremacy of Japan in Korea and also withdrew from Manchuria.
- > This was seen as the victory of Nationalism over Imperialism and gave an encouragement to freedom movements of various countries of Asia. As Japan was an ally of England, it entered the First World War on the side of the allied powers. Their victory in 1919, enhanced Japan's power and prestige greatly and it came to be regarded as one of the great powers of the world.
- > Japanese industrial growth and expansion was founded on the exploitation of workers and the environment.

  Demand for timber destroyed the forests and there was industrial pollution which led to cadmium poisoning.
- > The workers were paid very low wages and the peasants too had very small holdings, majority of them had to work as tenants. Japanese agriculture was unable to meet the needs of the growing population. Consequently, there was widespread unrest in the country that is generally referred to as 'rice mutinies'.
- > During the 1920s, the power of the trade unions increased, which led to a series of strikes. The communist and the socialist parties tried to awaken the masses against the policy of imperialism and war but they were ruthlessly suppressed by the government.
- The power of army and navy grew and after 1890 they came to have independent control. Japan got engaged in conflicts and battles in order to expand its colonial empire and thus these merged into the Second World War as Japan attacked the US at Pearl Harbour in 1941.
- ➤ However, Japan received a huge blow to its power and prestige when it was defeated at the hands of the allied powers. Many of its prosperous towns were destroyed.
- In 1945, the US dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki that caused unprecedented destruction and Japan surrendered unconditionally. A peace treaty was concluded in 1951 and Japan was granted full freedom.
- > Liberal Democratic Party came to power and took significant steps for the economic growth of the country. The economy was rapidly rebuilt after its shattering defeat and this came to be known as the post-war 'miracle'. Remarkable achievements were made in the field of technology. The US support and the demand created by the Korean and Vietnamese wars played a vital role in the Japanese growth.
- Now Japan is a developed, prosperous and an important country of the world.

1603	Tokugawa Ieyasu established the Edo Shogunate.	
1630	Japan closed country to Western Powers except for restricted trade with the Dutch.	
1854	Japan and the USA concluded the Treaty of Peace, ending Japan's seclusion.	
1868	Restoration of Meiji	
1872	Compulsory education system, first railway line between Tokyo and Yokohama.	
1889	Meiji Constitution enacted.	
1894-95	War between Japan and China.	
1904-05	War between Japan and Russia.	
1910	Korea annexed, colony till 1945.	
1914-18	First World War.	
1925	Universal male suffrage.	
1931	Japan's invasion of China.	
1941-45	The Pacific War.	
1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.	
1946-52	US-led occupation of Japan, reforms to democratise and demilitarise Japan.	
1956	Japan became a member of the United Nations.	
1964	Olympic Games in Tokyo, for the first time in Asia.	

# **Know the Terms**

- > **Shogun:** These were military lords who ruled in the name of the emperor and enjoyed divine right theory of the kings.
- ➤ Daimyos: They were the powerful feudal landlords who were responsible for rendering their military services for undertaking public welfare works.
- **Zaibatsu:** These were the business organisations controlled by individual families in Japan, they dominated the Japanese economy till World War II.
- Nishijin: Is a quarter in Kyoto, specialised in the most expensive products.



# TOPIC-2

# **China and the Communist Alternative**

- > China is a vast continental country spanning many climatic zones. It is dominated by three river systems Huang Ho (Yellow river), The Yangtse river and the river Pearl. A large part of the country is mountainous.
- ➤ Han are the most prominent ethnic group and their major language is Chinese (Putonghua), apart from which there are also Cantonese (Yue) and Shanghainese (Wu) as well as some minority languages.
- ➤ The regional diversity is also reflected in Chinese food, there are four different cuisines out of which the best known is the southern or the 'Cantonese' cuisine.

- Three diverse groups marked the debates on regaining sovereignty and ending humiliation of foreign occupation to bring about equality and development. These were:
  - Early reformers like Kang Youwei and Lian Qichao who wanted to use traditional ideas in new ways to meet the challenges posed by the west.
  - The republican revolutionaries like Sun Yat-Sen, the first president of the Republic, who were under the influence of ideas from Japan and the west and
  - The Communist Party of China that wanted to put an end to age-old inequalities and drive out the foreigners.
- The beginning of modern China can be traced to their first encounter with the west in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries when Jesuit missionaries introduced western sciences such as astronomy and mathematics.
- ➤ It set in motion events that gathered momentum in the 19<sup>th</sup> century when Britain used force to expand its lucrative trade in opium leading to the first Opium War in 1839-42. It undermined the Qing dynasty and strengthened the demands for reform and change.
- Qing reformers like Kang Youwei and Liang Qichao initiated the policies to build a modern administrative system, a new army and an educational system and set up local assemblies to establish constitutional government. They were influenced by the negative examples of the colonised countries like Poland and India.
- Above all, many felt the need to change the traditional ways of thinking, especially Confucianism, which was now seen as a major barrier to new ideas and institutions. To train people in modern subjects, students were sent to study in Japan, Britain and France and bring back new ideas.
- ➤ The Manchu empire was overthrown and a republic established in 1911 under Sun Yat-Sen who is regarded as the founder of modern China. His programme was called the Three Principles which were Nationalism, Democratic government and Socialism in regulating capital and equalising landholdings.
- By 1919, after the post-war peace conference, it became a movement to modernise China through science, democracy and nationalism. Revolutionaries called for driving out the foreigners. After the Republican Revolution, the country entered a period of turmoil. The Guomindang (National People's Party) and the CCP emerged as the major forces to unite the country and bring stability.
- > Sun Yat-Sen's ideas became the basis of political philosophy of the Guomindang. They identified the 'four great needs' as clothing, food, housing and transportation. After Sun Yat-Sen, Chiang Kai-shek emerged as the leader of the Guomindang and he launched a military campaign to control the warlords and regional leaders who had usurped authority.
- Social and cultural change was helped by the spread of universities, journalism flourished and introduced readers to new ideas and leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Kemal Ataturk.
- > The Guomindang, however failed because of its narrow social base and limited political vision. The party ignored the peasantry and the rising social inequalities. It sought to impose military order rather than address the problems faced by the people.
- > The CCP had been founded in 1921 and was supported by the Comintern and the Soviet Union. Mao Zedong (1893-1976) emerged as its leader and took a different path by basing his revolutionary programme on the peasantry and made CCP a powerful force that ultimately won against the Guomindang.
- ➤ The Peoples Republic of China was established in1949 based on the new principles of 'New Democracy'. Critical areas of the economy were put under government control and private ownership and private enterprise of land were gradually ended.
- > The Great Leap Movement was launched in 1958 to galvanise the country to industrialise rapidly. Mao was able to mobilise the masses to attain the goals of the party. However, many objected to his emphasis on ideology rather than expertise.
- ➤ In 1965, he launched the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution to counter his critics. The Red Guards, mainly students and the army were used to campaign against the old culture, old customs and habits. But this revolution weakened the party and severely disrupted the economy and educational system. In 1975, the party once again laid stress on greater social discipline.
- ➤ In 1978, the party declared its goal as the four modernisations to develop science, industry, agriculture and defence. Some felt that without democracy, the other four modernisations would come to nothing. However, these demands were suppressed. In 1989, student demonstrators at the Tiananmen Square were brutally suppressed.
- > The post-reform period has seen many debates on ways to develop China but the dominant view supported by the Party is based on strong political control, economic liberalisation and integration with the world market.

- There is also a growing revival of so-called traditional ideas, of Confucianism and arguments that China can build a modern society following its own traditions rather than simply copying the west.
- Chiang Kai-shek, defeated the CCP and fled to Taiwan with over USD 300 million in gold reserves and crates of priceless art treasures and established the Republic of China. Taiwan had been a Japanese colony but The Cairo declaration restored sovereignty to China.
- ➤ He established a repressive government forbidding free speech and political opposition and excluding the local population from positions of power. However, land reforms were carried out that increased agricultural productivity and modernised the economy, the gap between the rich and the poor steadily declined.
- Martial law was lifted in 1987 and opposition parties were legally permitted. The first free election brought the local Taiwanese to power and thus began the transformation to democracy.
- > The question of re-unification with the mainland still remains a contentious issue. Diplomatically, most countries only have trade missions in Taiwan.

1644 – 1911	Qing Dynasty
1839 – 60	Two Opium Wars.
1912	Sun Yat-Sen found the Guomindang.
1919	May Fourth Movement.
1921	CCP founded.
1926-49	Civil Wars in China.
1934	Long March.
1949	People's Republic of China, Chiang Kai Shek established the Republic of Taiwan.
1962	China attacked India over border dispute.
1966	Cultural Revolution.
1976	Death of Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai
1997	Hong Kong returned to China by Britain.



- > The ways adopted by Japan and China for their respective modernisation, makes it clear that the industrial societies found their own paths for becoming modern.
- > Japan successfully retained its independence and headed towards modernisation by using traditional skills and practices in a new constructive way. e.g. the Meiji school system in Japan introduced new subjects modelled on European and American practices, but the main objective of the curriculum was to be loyal citizens.
- > Similarly, changes in the family and in daily life also made it clear that the Japanese had succeeded in creating something new by bringing together the foreign and indigenous ideas.
- > The Chinese path to modernisation was somewhat different. China tried to find ways to build national unity and strength by a rejection of traditions. The Communist Party of China and its supporters held traditions responsible

for keeping the masses in poverty, subjugation of women and the underdevelopment of the country. They, therefore, struggled to change the dependence on traditions.

- After the death of Mao Zedong in 1976, China brought about some significant changes in economic sector. There was an attraction towards capitalism in China and the principles of capitalism began to be adopted in Chinese economy. China established relationships with United States of America and several other capitalist countries of Western Europe.
- ➤ It abandoned its closed-door policy and the Chinese youths started coming under the influence of western thought and styles. From 1992, China adopted the modern socialist economy.
- > China today has made big strides in external trade during the last decade. It has established its trade relations with a number of western countries and is also a member of the World Trade organisation.

