

Lesson 25

COLD WAR AND IT'S POLITICS

Summary

The First World War did not end the rivalries among various European powers. Some peace treaties and the creation of the league of nation also did not solve the problems. There was economic hardship during post war period. The countries which were defeated in the First World War were not treated well by the victorious countries. There was rise of totalitarian regime in several Countries-Fascism in Italy, Nazism in Germany and Military Fascism in Japan etc. Initially the western powers adopted the policy of appeasement towards the fascist aggression in the hope of containing the growth of socialism. But soon it engulfed the entire world.

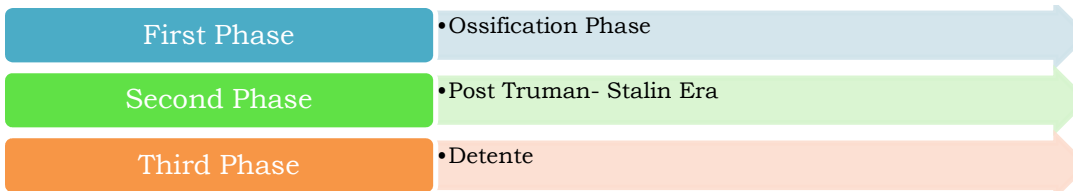
MEANING OF THE COLD WAR



FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COLD WAR

- After World War II, the USA and the USSR, wanted to establish the supremacy of their position and ideology, and this conflict became the focal point of international relations.
- The basic cause of conflict lay in the differences of principle between the communist states and the capitalist or liberal-democratic states.
- Formation of opposing blocs, intensifying the rivalry of these two powers.
- The Race of Armament between the two super powers served another cause for the Cold War.

DIFFERENT PHASES OF THE COLD WAR



NEW COLD WAR

- After the Helsinki Conference the process of detente lost its momentum.
- Relations between the USA and the Soviet Union became so sore that by 1980 it appeared that Cold War had come back.
- The new tensions came to be described as the New Cold War.
- The New Cold War was different from the Cold War in the sense that it was not based on ideological conflict but on balance of power.

THE END OF THE COLD WAR

- The New Cold War came to an end with the collapse of communism in various East European countries.
- The process began in Poland in 1988
- The fall of the Berlin wall was taken to be the end of the Cold War as its erection had been taken as the start of the Cold War.

Evaluate yourself

Q. Mention the major events of Cold war.

Q. Differentiate between Cold War and New Cold War.

Q. Describe the different phases of Cold war.