

Lesson 26

NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS DECOLONIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Summary

After the Second World War there were strong movements in colonies to get themselves free from the colonial powers. The colonial powers were also under pressure from the new superpowers (USA and USSR) and also from their own countrymen to make the colonies independent. Some countries, however, got their independence after years of armed struggle. The political independence did not bring all the benefits colonial people had dreamt of. Newly independent countries faced many kinds of problems. In order to solve these problems a new process of neocolonialism started.

MODELS OF NATIONAL LIBERATION AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. BEGINNINGS OF DECOLONISATION

America Model

- America has world's largest economy with capitalist agriculture, heavy industry and mass consumer spending.
- They maintained self governance through democracy.

Russian Model

- The Bolsheviks argued that different nationalities have the right to independence and decide their own future.

Impact of World War II on Anti-Colonial Struggles

- World War II radicalized many people in the colonial world.
- There were military struggles against Europeans who tried to reoccupy colonies.
- The colonies were used to fight against Germans, Italians and Japanese army.
- During the 1940s in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, colonial subjects engaged in strikes and mass demonstrations despite attacks by police and soldiers
- By 1945, the colonies demanded full citizenship rights and national liberation.
- Before 1939, intellectuals, professionals and civil servants formed the basis of the national movement.
- After 1945, peasants, women, and laboring classes began to fight for democratic reforms and independence and demanded economic equality in their national liberation campaigns.
- In French Indochina, Ho Chi Minh tried to spread communist ideas.
- Ho formed a 'national people's front' (Viet Minh) and controlled over Indochina by 1954.
- Vietnam was partitioned into two-one controlled by Ho and other by America.
- In India, the Congress-led national movement.
- The British were forced to quit in 1947.

Colonial Nationalism, Freedom Struggles and International Co-Operation

- Leaders in Asia and Africa hoped for honest negotiations from United Nations Organisation
- Organisation for African Unity (O. A. U.), founded in 1963.
- Emergence of the Non-Aligned Movement (N.A.M.), including China, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Iran and Egypt.
- Starting of Israeli- Palestine land conflict.
- Achmed Sukarno founded the Nationalist Party of Indonesia in Indonesia.

Decolonization and Global Politics

- Decolonisation means the process of the reverse of imperialism,
- In India, the Quit India agitation of 1942 witnessed a violent clash between the Indians and British.
- By 1950s, Morocco and Tunisia in North Africa separated peacefully from France.
- Algeria gained independence in 1962.
- Malaysia fought against Japanese force during second World War.
- The 'First World' led by the U. S. A. upholding capitalist democracy, and the 'Second World' system represented by the Soviet Union and emerging socialist states like the People's Republic of China.
- The 'big dragons' were Japan and the People's Republic of China.

Problems of 'Development' in the Post-Colonial World

- Equitable global distribution of wealth for world peace and stability.
- After 1945 new global institutions like the U. N. O., the International Monetary Fund

China: National Liberation, Two States

- In 1911 - 1912, Chinese autocratic system headed by an emperor was abolished and replaced with republic.
- Communists led by Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Deng Xiaoping and others fought against the Chinese Nationalists (Guomindang)
- Mao believed that Chinese nationalists were unwilling to bring about social and economic changes.
- They forced Japanese, French and British powers out of their national territory by 1949.
- The Revolution transformed a peasant dominated society into a socialist state called the People's Republic of China (PRC).
- PRC opposed Western aggression and the development of nuclear weapon.
-

- (I. M. F) and the World Bank were established to manage conflicts over wealth production and access to trade.
- The permanent Security Council of the U. N. O was established after 1945.

- W. W. Rostow, an American economist developed the ‘modernization theory’.
- Loans from private banks and bodies like the I. M. F. did not improve the situation.
- African states like Zaire and Burundi experienced ‘negative growth’ during the 1980s.
- Many Third World countries followed economic development based on state ownership or control of enterprises and resources.

Evaluate yourself

- Q. Explain the models of national liberation and national development.
- Q. Mention the Problems of ‘Development’ in the Post-Colonial World.
- Q. Explain decolonization.