

# Chapter 01

\*Principal actors ~~that~~ hostilities b/w whom brought about the world war:

- Germany v/s Britain, France, Russia
  - ↳ Britain was a great naval power, checking German imperial ambitions in Africa & the far-east.
  - ↳ France had thwarted Germany's ambitions in Morocco in 1905; also, diplomatic negotiations b/w (France + Britain) and Germany showed the strength of the recent 'Entente Cordiale' b/w France & Britain (Morocco was important to the British for naval trade routes).
  - ↳ Russia had suffered a humiliating defeat by Japan in 1904-05 war over Manchuria & Korea. While this assuaged British apprehensions about Russian might for the time being and they brought in Russia into the 'entente cordiale', subsequent military expansion of Russia threatened Germany. The Russians distrusted Germany: Turkey & Bulgaria were under German influence, & could affect Russian trade routes via the Black sea.
- Austria-Hungary (Habsburg empire) v/s Serbia, ~~Russia~~ etc.
  - ↳ The Austro-Hungarian empire was a loose geographic assimilation of various ethnic groups such as Germans, Croats, Serbians, Bosnians etc.
  - ↳ Serbia, ethnically Slavic, wanted Bosnia to be a part of Serbia, & also claimed Albania (which would give them access to a sea route). However, after the 2 Balkan wars, Serbia hadn't gained either. They saw German support of



Austria-Hungary as a leading cause of this.

- ↳ After the 2 Balkan wars, Bulgaria and Turkey were under Austro-German influence, and could affect Russia's naval access routes. Also, Russia saw itself as the protector of slavs everywhere + supported ~~Austria~~ Serbia.

\* Sequence of events:

- ↳ Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria by a Serbian terrorist in July 1914 → Austria declares war against Serbia.
- ↳ Russia orders full mobilisation in support of Serbia.
- ↳ Germany orders full mobilisation in support of Austria; pre-emptively attacks France via Belgium.
- ↳ To respect Belgian neutrality & 'Entente Cordiale', Britain declares war on Germany.

\* Major causes:

- ↳ Colonial rivalry between the European powers.
- ↳ Economic rivalry and race for naval supremacy.
- ↳ European territorial ambitions (tensions in the Balkans, decline of Ottoman empire).

To begin with:

Germany		Serbia
Austria-Hungary	v/s	Russia
Italy		Britain
		France

## \* BALKAN WARS (1913 / 1914)

- ↳ Ottoman empire at this time was weak, but still extended to considerable parts of the Balkans.
- ↳ To fulfill their ethnic-integration and national expansion agendas, Serbia, Greece & Bulgaria declared war on Turkey in 1913 & claimed most of its European territory.
- ↳ Habsburgs didn't like this, ∴ they were also a loose-knit assimilation of ethnicities like Ottoman empire.
  - ↳ Germans didn't like this ∴ " " was their de-facto colony.
- ↳ II war happened ∴ Bulgaria wasn't happy w/ its gains in I war; attacked erstwhile partner Serbia - but Greece, Romania, & Turkey supported Serbia & quickly won
  - ↳ led to strengthening of the Serbs, & eventually the world war.

# Chapter 02

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# Timeline of the war:

• 1914:

↳ **West**: Germany had counted heavily on the 'Schlieffen Plan' - quick, decisive offensive in the west; this didn't happen as France defended better than expected. Start of trench warfare.

↳ Germany now had to fight on both fronts, west & east.

↳ Gave time for Brits to mobilise properly.

↳ **East**: Russians mobilized quickly, but made the mistake of attacking both Austria & Germany → heavy losses

↳ Turkey joined Central Powers → threat to Russia's trade routes.

• 1915:

↳ **West**: Stalemate due to trench warfare. (complete failure of Schlieffen Plan)

↳ **East**: Turkey were blockading supplies to Russia.

↳ Russia lost Poland to Germany. (Cause of human fear, loss of resources)

↳ Brits thought Turkey was weak → should be defeated to help Russians, and also to attack Austria from south (Gallipoli campaign).

This was a failure.

↳ Serbia overrun by Bulgaria & Germany.

• 1916:

↳ **West**: Heavy losses on both sides, but stalemate continues.

↳ **East**: Germany occupied Romania; Russia gains in parts of Austria, but beginning to get exhausted.

- 1917: To counter British naval blockades, that caused severe food shortages in Germany, Germans declare 'unrestricted' submarine warfare, attempting to sink all enemy & neutral ships in the Atlantic. Germans knew this would bring USA into the war, but hoped that they might defeat the Allies (via food shortages) before this happened.
  - ↳ Germany was blockading US merchant ships, and also urging Mexico to declare war on the USA. → US enters war in 1917.

↳ RUSA: Russia withdraws from the war, as defeats by Germans and internal problems led to 2 revolutions, the second one bringing the Bolsheviks to power.

→ Central powers now wholly focused on western front, which might've fallen, but for US help.

- 1918: Germans launch a last-ditch effort, but are unsuccessful. Revolution in Germany leads to overthrow of Kaiser, and establishment of 'Weimar Republic'. Armistice signed in November.

# Why did the war last so long?

- ↳ Main countries had competing war aims → no acceptable negotiated solution
- ↳ Trench warfare
- ↳ Public & military spirits kept high by constant propaganda.

→ Failure of Schlieffen Plan.

- # Why did allies win?
- Stronger naval power
    - ↳ USA entry = New troops; not true for Germany
    - ↳ Better leadership (Lloyd George, Clemenceau)

## \* Effects of the war:

- ↳ Appalling death toll
- ✓✓↳ Revolutions in Germany & Russia
- ✓✓↳ Complete collapse of Habsburg empire; sep. of Austria & Hungary.
- ↳ Italy, although one of the allies, heavily in debt & falls under fascist leadership of Mussolini.
- ✓✓↳ Japan, China, & USA expand trade at Europe's expense.
- ↳ Partition of Africa
- ✓✓↳ Setting up of 'League of Nations'
- ↳ Irreparable damage to Europe's worldwide reputation.

\* Treaty of Versailles, 1919: Criticized even in the Allied countries as being too hard on the Germans, and might make another war inevitable.

- ↳ Germany lost territory, both in Europe & Africa (territories to be 'looked after' by League nations).
- ↳ German armaments strictly limited
- ↳ The 'War Guilt' clause - Germany to take sole blame for war.
- ↳ Huge reparations (£ 6,600 million).
  - ↳ German's weren't consulted; Hitler later called this a 'Diktat'!
  - ↳ Although the allies bandied the cause of self-determination, they gave German-speaking parts to Poland & Czechoslovakia (was to be a major cause of next WW), & forbade Austria's union w/ Germany.

- Treaties w/ Austria & Hungary left them w/ serious economic problems.

- Treaty of Sèvres (1920) w/ Turkey: Parts given to Greece, Italy, & Straits made permanently open. Later, Turkey challenged this & gained back Constantinople & E. Thrace.
- Syria became French 'mandate'; Palestine, Iraq, Transjordan: British mandates.

#### \* Verdict on the peace settlement:

- ↳ Not a conspicuous success.
- ↳ Germany was only temporarily weakened, soon emerged strong to challenge the terms. (left Germans with a sense of resentment, but not too weak to seek revenge).
- ↳ USA failed to ratify the settlement, didn't join League of Nations.

The League of Nations was established in 1920, with 2 primary aims:

- ↳ Maintain peace through collective security
- ↳ Encourage international cooperation to solve economic & social problems.

- Successes: → Establishment of the ILO.
- Resolution of several (minor) political disputes.

#### • Why did it fail?

- ↳ Perceived to be created for the benefit of victors of WWI.
- ↳ Rejected by USA; didn't include Germany & Russia till v. late.
- ↳ Didn't have any military force of its own → allowed to join in 1926 under 'LOCARNO TREATIES'



- ↳ Couldn't do anything about Japanese invasion of Manchuria (1931) and Italian invasion of Ethiopia (1935), since both Britain & France were militarily weak & not inclined to fight.
- ↳ World economic crisis (1929) brought to power extreme right-wing governments in Germany, Italy, and Japan.
- Despite all this, the league cannot be termed a complete failure, as it laid the groundwork for modern-day UN.

## Chapter 04

As seen, after WWI, the Treaty of Versailles had been seen by many as unduly favouring the victors, and making harsh demands on Germany. This setting, combined with <sup>+</sup> multinational <sup>+</sup> Balkan countries, and the Great Depression in 1929, brought extreme right-wing governments to power in Germany, Russia, and Japan. Also, the democratic experiment in the Balkans seemed ripe to fail, as multi-ethnic nations such as Yugoslavia, [~~Czechoslovakia~~], and Poland failed to vote unanimously to bring single-party, stable governments to power, and paved the way for autocratic governance.

### \* FRANCE V/S GERMANY (1919-33):

French wanted a weak Germany, ∴ asked for high reparations, loans on armaments. The British wanted an economically strong Germany so it could buy British exports → This led to tensions between the French and the British.

↳ The issue of German non-payment led to French occupation of the Ruhr in 1923 → French stole goods worth £40 million; but this led to collapse of the German mark shortly after.

↳ After this, the French backed off, and till 1929 mood on both sides was that of conciliation - most of the debt was cancelled, & Germany was allowed to join the League under the 'Locarno Treaties' in 1926, and reparations were ↓ to £2000 mn by the 'Young Plan' (1929).

↳ After rise of Hitler <sup>from</sup> since 1929, hardened French attitude.

### \* USSR:

Bolsheviks came to power in 1917, & tensions rose b/w USSR & the west,

esp. because the Bolsheviks tried to raise revolution in Germany & Hungary. Other countries intervened in USSR militarily - this, combined w/ revolutions (induced) failing, led Lenin to back off & seek friendly trade ties.

w/ Germany: Initially, ties were good, as seen by the 'Treaty of Rapallo (1922)' where both Germany & USSR walked out of Geneva conference & signed a mutual trade deal. However, relationship deteriorated after 1930, as the anti-communist Nazi party grew in influence in Germany.

#### ✦ THE 'SUCCESSOR' STATES:

The war led to the break-up of the Austro-Habsburg empire, and also considerable loss of territory by Germany & Russia.

↳ most of the successor states were multi-ethnic → problem.

↳ All suffered economic difficulties after 1929

↳ All but Czechoslovakia descended into autocratic rule.

- Yugoslavia: (Serbia + Croatia + Slovenia + Dalmatia + Montenegro)

↳ Talk of Croat secession in 1928; hit by depression soon after.

- Czechoslovakia: (Czechs + Slovaks + Germans + Hungarians + Poles)

↳ Only east-European example of a proper democracy.

↳ Contained many industries of the old Habsburg empire.

- Poland: (Poles + Ukrainians + Russians + Jews)

↳ No stable democratic government after a few attempts & became a dictatorship in 1926.

↳ Frontier disputes w/ Germany, Russia, & Lithuania.

• Austria: Vast majority was German, but:

↳ Union not allowed; allies (esp. France) wanted a weak Germany.

↳ Most industries went to other territories & economically weak; led to rise of Nazis.

• Hungary:

↳ Failure of democracy; soon became autocratic & right-wing.

↳ 'Well & Truly' tied up w/ Germany & Italy.

#### \* UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY, 1919-33:

Although Woodrow Wilson was the brain behind the LON, the Republican govt. that came to power in 1921 decided to follow a policy of isolation, & wanted to not be involved in European affairs & didn't join LON.

↳ However, ↑ trade & offshore investments.

↳ Issue of war-debts led to further suspicion of Europe; however, after the German financial crisis of 1923, enacted the Dawes Plan (1924) & Young Plan (1929) (why almost, think?) → led to depression.

↳ Didn't act in any way against Japanese invasion of Manchuria (1931)

(Before)  
↳ Japan was told to make sure that its navies weren't bigger than 60% of US & Britain's, & in return was allowed to keep the former German Pacific islands as mandates.

↳ Japan was left supreme in the Far East, w/ the world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest navy.

## Chapter 05

Early in the 1930s, riding on the back of the 1929 depression, ~~and~~ the British pacifism (both Britain & France wanted to avoid war, as they were militarily & economically weak), combined with US isolationism (under the Republican governments), resulted in a series of events that led to the strengthening of right-wing forces in Japan, Germany (& Hitler), & Italy (Mussolini). All 3 of these powers took aggressive stands and waged expansionist wars, while the rest of the powers tried to rely on pacifism & avoidance of war; consequently, these powers felt strengthened, and ultimately resulted in the second WW.

• 1894: After the Sino-Japanese war, Japan acquired parts of Manchuria.

\* Japan and China: <sup>been involved in</sup>

The Japanese had <sup>acquired</sup> ~~acquired~~ Manchuria in 1890, & made substantial investments to develop port facilities. With growing economic difficulties after 1929, and a strengthening China, they declared open annexation of Manchuria in 1931, to protect their economic interests.

When the other powers turned a blind eye, the Japanese ventured further into rest of N-E China; by 1935, acquired Beijing, & later (by 1938), Shanghai as well. China was faced w/ a 3-way internal war (Communists, emperor, & the government), so couldn't offer resistance.

Meanwhile, the other powers (USA - isolationism, Britain & France - Hitler's threat, Russia - avoiding war) didn't act → strengthening of Japanese hold.

## \* Mussolini:

Initially, when he came to power in 1922, he tried to keep Hitler in check because of German designs on Austria (which threatened Italian borders), but later came to be his ally. Because of this, Britain & France saw him as an ally, & didn't act strongly (apart from minor economic sanctions) when Italy invaded Abyssinia in 1935 (to divert attention from internal economic troubles, and also to capture new markets).

- ↳ This invasion demonstrated the hollowness of the League.
- ↳ Sanctions brought Mussolini closer to Hitler - announced the 'Rome-Berlin Axis' in 1937, and also the 'Anti-Comintern Pact' (1937, w/ Germany & Japan)
- ↳ Supported right-wing France in Spanish civil war (1936)
- ↳ Captured Albania in 1938
- ↳ Full military alliance w/ Germany in 1939: 'Pact of steel'.

## \* Hitler:

Aimed to build up German army, recover lost territory, & demolish Versailles treaty (expansionism, to provide Germans 'Lebensraum' (living space)). Initially, he started out cautiously to not antagonize the British & the French, but when he saw their policy of pacifism & their avoidance of war talk, he felt stronger soon, he started flouting Treaty of Versailles:

- ↳ Re-introduced conscription in 1935, & expanded army.
- ↳ Promised Britain that it'll limit naval fleet to 35% of British - Brits thought Germany was flouting Versailles anyway, & wanted

to avoid conflict,  $\therefore$  thought they should limit German navy,  $\therefore$  accepted - Anglo-German Naval Agreement (1935).

↳ Encouraged by this, Hitler sent troops to the demilitarized zone of Rhineland, breaching both Versailles & Locarno. Allies still didn't object (1936)

↳ Signed Rome-Berlin axis & anti-comintern pact (1936)

↳ Occupied Austria in 1938 (had been trying since 1934), via the Austrian Nazi party.   
 ↳ Remember, union wasn't allowed under Versailles treaty.

↳ When allies failed to act even after this, Hitler went no-holds barred, & moved into Czechoslovakia and Poland, which ultimately led to war.

#### • Czechoslovakia:

Hitler hated Czechoslovakia's democracy, its setting up  $\therefore$  of Versailles, & thought its location was strategically important. The 'Sudetenland' part of Ct. was German, so Hitler waged extensive propaganda to gain for Sudetenland.

↳ 1938, Munich conference: Britain (Chamberlain) wanted to play pacifist; along w/ France & Italy, Sudetenland was transferred to Germany, & some parts to Poland, some to Hungary (conference didn't invite Czechs or USSR).

↳ Czechoslovakia lost a third of its territory, & 70% industries.

↳ Hitler-backed secessionist movement in Slovakia.

↳ While it was decided at Munich that Germany would renounce warlike intentions against Britain, Hitler moved in & captured the rest of Czechoslovakia in March 1939.

• Poland: Buoyed by their Czech escapade, Hitler signed a secret non-aggression pact w/ USSR, & decided to divide Poland b/w Germany & USSR. Invaded Poland in September 1939.

- ↳ This bonhomie b/w USSR & Germany is seen by some as
- ⊛ USSR trying to buy time to prepare for the impending war;
- Germany's one main motive was expansionism into USSR, & also racial hatred towards Jews both in USSR & Germany.

#### ⊛ REASONS FOR THE WAR:

- ↳ Policy of appeasement (due to war fatigue, economic depression, fear of communist USSR > of right-wing Hitler, + buy time for building up military strength)
  - ↳ No action taken to check German re-armament, or military action in Rhineland
  - ↳ Non-interference in Spanish ~~for~~ Civil war, Japanese Manchurian invasion, Abyssinian invasion etc.
  - ↳ Lack of action during 'Anschluss' (German-Austrian union) further encouraged Hitler to capture Ct. & Poland.
- ↳ Hitler wanted to restore German strength after the humiliations at Versailles, & wanted to eliminate the Jews.



## Chapter 06

### • 1939-1940:

Germany was able to quickly overrun Poland ('Blitzkrieg' - lightning war), and USSR also attacked Poland from the east - both ended up dividing it. After this, very little happened for the next 5 months ('phony war'). However, then Germany captured ~~Sweden~~ Norway & Denmark for access to raw materials; and swiftly launched blitzkrieg on Holland, Belgium, & France, who quickly surrendered.

A couple of months later, Germany launched airstrikes on Britain, but Britain held out well (this was to be a key turning point, as Hitler had hoped to quickly wrap up the war in the west, so he could attack USSR. Now, he'd have to fight on both fronts).

Italy attacked Egypt, but was quickly routed back by Brits into Libya (an Italian colony).

### • 1941 - mid. 1942:

Given that Italy was suffering losses in Egypt & Greece, Germany sent help. German troops did well, but this delayed the attack on USSR (which dragged into the Russian winter, & led to routing of the Germans).

Operation Barbarossa: Although USSR & Germany had signed a non-aggression pact in 1939, Hitler's 'lebensraum' and hatred of communism, and his suspicion of Russian intentions, led him to invade USSR in 1941. While Germans made quick gains, they couldn't capture Moscow & Leningrad, ∴ by then frost had set in.

Up until 1941, the US had maintained a steady policy of isolationism. However, Japan had economic problems, & wanted Indochina. USA wanted them out of China & Indochina, & imposed oil embargoes; in retaliation, the Japanese launched an attack on Pearl Harbour. This gave the Japs control of the Pacific, Indochina, Burma, Philippines, Indonesia, Guam, & Wake Island.

↳ Hitler also declared war on the US

↳ Serious mistake; if he hadn't, US might have just concentrated on the Pacific.

#### • Mid-1942 to mid-1943:

In 3 battles, the Allies began to gain ground:

↳ Midway island: Japs seriously weakened by US.

↳ El Alamein: Brits beat Italy & Germany in Egypt; led to complete expulsion of axis forces from North Africa → Allies well-placed to invade Italy.

↳ Stalingrad: Germans reached Stalingrad in August, but Russians held out till November, when in winter they forced Germany to retreat. This greatly boosted Russian morale.

#### • Mid-1943 to August 1945:

Allies captured Sicily in July 1943; led to dismissal of Mussolini by the King. Most of Italy was captured gradually. Next, by September 1944, France, Belgium were liberated in 'operation overlord'

Meanwhile, by early 1945, Germany was being attacked by Britain and

USA in the west, and by Russia in the East. Due to US insistence on proceeding slowly & cautiously, Russia captured Berlin in April 1945; Hitler committed suicide, & Germany surrendered.

In August 1945, Americans dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima & Nagasaki, & Japan surrendered.

One of the main reasons for the loss of the axis powers was that they took on too much (USSR, western Europe, both sides of the mediterranean), & spread their troops too thin. Also, tactical errors:

- ↳ Hitler:
  - ↳ waging war on USSR before defeating Britain
  - ↳ Not providing for a winter campaign in USSR.
  - ↳ fatal mistake by declaring war against the US after Pearl Harbor.
- ↳ Japanese: underestimated development of airforce and relied ~~on~~ too much on naval warfare.

# Read up about the Holocaust

# Chapter 07

(1945-1963)

USSR & other western powers fought on the same side during the war, but this was only due to circumstances. The basic bone of contention was the non-compatible systems of communism & capitalism as modes of economic organisation in the 2 blocks.

When it was apparent that the Allies will win the war, both sides started jostling to assert their supremacy. A couple of months before the war ended, the Yalta conference <sup>(Feb. 1945)</sup> led to the creation of the UN, & the decision to divide Germany into 4 zones (British, American, French, & Russian) was taken. By the time of the next conference in Potsdam (July 1945), Russians had occupied East Germany, had installed a pro-communist government in Poland, which expelled Germans, & was also controlling East Germany. This led to more suspicion of Stalin. Some say that bombing of Japan by USA was also motivated ~~about~~ by them wanting to give a show of strength to the USSR.

- The Iron curtain: Russia systematically interfered in Eastern Europe after Potsdam, & ensured that by 1947, all e.c. states (but Czechoslovakia) had communist governments. Also, Stalin ran East Germany as if it were Russian territory, allowing only the communist party & draining its resources. This annoyed the western powers. (Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania)
- Truman doctrine / Marshall Plan: In response to Stalin's tactics, to ↑ USA's influence, Truman in 1947 declared that the USA 'would support free peoples everywhere who are resisting subjugation by armed ~~forces~~ minorities or by outside forces'. (→ NO MORE ISOLATIONISM)

Now, the US policy was to focus on containing communism.

- ↳ The economic extension of the Truman Doctrine was the 1947 Marshall Plan ('European Recovery Programme') under which financial help was offered to European countries to promote recovery.
  - ↳ Declared aim was economic recovery, as a flourishing Europe would be good for American exports
  - ↳ However, main aim was political: economically stable countries were less likely to fall to communists.
  - ↳ In theory, aid was available for E.E. countries too, but the Russian finance minister dismissed it as 'doctrinal imperialism', & a device for blatant American control.
- COMINFORM / Molotov Plan / COMECON: Russian response was to set up the 'Communist Information Bureau' in 1947 to bring together e.e. communist parties. Aim was to industrialise, collectivise, & centralise Eastern Europe.
  - ↳ 'Molotov Plan' offered economic aid to the satellites.
  - ↳ 'Council of Mutual Economic Assistance' (COMECON) set up to coordinate economic policies.

In 1948, Russians invaded Czechoslovakia the communists organised a coup in Czechoslovakia, & threw off the democratic government (allegedly w/ Russian support).

- Berlin blockade & Airlift (1948-49): In early 1948, the western powers merged their 3 German zones into a single unit; due to

Marshall plan, this area prospered in stark contrast with the eastern zone. Russian response was to impose a blockade, trying to strangle out the western zone. The western powers flew supplies in, accompanied by bombers; Russians backed down, and lifted the blockade in 1949.

↳ Given that military aggression was now seen as a real threat, western powers formed NATO, to treat an attack on any one of them as an attack on all of them.

↳ Following the aggression in Germany & the unlikelihood of unification, western powers set up the 'GFR' (West Germany) in 1949; Russia set up the 'GDR'

(in 1949)  
Meanwhile, communists took power in China, & allied with Russia -

#### \* Thaw post 1953:

Stalin died in 1953; next lead, KHRUSHCHEV, started the policy of 'peaceful coexistence' w/ the west. He hoped to win neutral states over to communism by so lavish aid. Soon after, EISENHOWER made friendly overtures too. However Khrushchev also continued being aggressive:

↳ WARSAW PACT (1955) signed w/ satellites in response to NATO, after W-Germany admitted to NATO.

↳ ~~East Berlin crisis (1961)~~ Meanwhile, embarrassingly, refugees from East Berlin kept pouring into West Berlin, so Khrushchev built the Berlin wall in 1961.

↳ Both sides continued the arms race.

- ↳ In 1959, US deployed missiles in Turkey; in response, USSR began setting up missiles in Cuba (their new ally after Castro came to power in a coup in 1961, & USA broke off all diplomatic ties) in 1962, leading to the Cuban Missile Crisis.
- ↳ Given that the CMC brought the world to the brink of total annihilation, the 2 sides developed a telephone 'hotline', & signed the NTBT in 1963.
- ↳ However, the arms race still continued.

# Chapter 08

## \* KOREA:

was occupied by Japan since 1910 when Japan lost in 1945, Russia occupied North & USA, South, with boundary at 38<sup>th</sup> parallel (latitude). Idea was to hold elections soon, but this became ground for cold war rivalry to play out.

- § 1948: Election held in the north & in north, Russians installed a communist regime led under Kim Il Sung.
- § 1949: Russian & American troops withdrawn.
- § 1950: Northern troops invaded South, US persuaded them to be Russian backed & sent UN (mostly American) troops; swift collapse of Northern forces. US now invaded NK, but the Chinese never help, again occupied Seoul. US forces back.
- § 1953: Agreement reached to re-introduce fire was conducted at 38<sup>th</sup> parallel.
- § China emerged as a major world power.
- § US formed 'SEATO', but response was lukewarm.

\* CHINA: In 1949, communists won against ~~left~~ <sup>right</sup>, & they ~~had~~ <sup>led</sup> to China. China became second major communist country after USSR.

## \* CUBA:

- § Pre 1959: Great American influence, economy heavily reliant on sugar & controlled by Americans. Wide social disparities under US-supported Batista.
- § 1959: Castro took power, initially, he was liberal but not communist. However, under sustained US embargoes & threat of US not buying Cuban sugar, turned to USSR.
- § By 1970, Castro had major successes in social reform (education,



health, sanitation), but economy still weak.

- ↳ Castro & Che Guevara tried to spread 'revolution' to Latin America & Africa: Castro was seen as a hero by many 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries until he supported Russian invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

### \* VIETNAM:

was part of French empire. Post war, independence struggle (after they'd been occupied by Japs in the war, didn't want to go back to colonial rule). Armed struggle, finalized in 1945-50.

- ↳ Soviet sent help in 1950
- ↳ USA saw this as communist spread; became involved.
- ↳ 1954: Agreement reached to divide Vietnam into 2's along 17<sup>th</sup> parallel. Idea again was to hold elections soon, but this never happened.
- ↳ US installed 'Ngô Đình Diệm' as ruler in the South to check communist advance; he didn't allow political freedom & was brutal but US turned blind eye in fear of communists → led to civil war in the South, led by 'Vietcong' (guerrillas).
- ↳ In the North, Ho Chi Minh took power.
- ↳ The war continued more or less till 1972.
  - ↳ Kennedy (1961-63): limit to anti-guerrilla campaign
  - ↳ Lyndon Johnson (1963-69): Heavy bombing of the North (suspected guerrilla funding), but suffered heavy losses & eventually peace
  - ↳ Nixon (1969-74): Heavy bombing of North + retraining South Vietnam Army. To no avail, Vietcong still in control. Nixon backed down against pressure from home

## \* DÉTENTE: IR From 1970s to 1990s →

- Relaxation of tensions b/w East & the West; reasons
  - ↳ Cutting cost of arms race, esp. to USSR.
  - ↳ US tried to find a better way to cope w/ communism after humiliation in Vietnam.
  - ↳ China not happy w/ world isolation.
  - ↳ Danger of nuclear war.

• USSR & USA: Main credit goes to USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachev (1985-91) & to Eisenhower for ~~not~~ negotiating well w/ him & showing good intent. Both reduced some arms, signed treaties to avoid nuclear war. (esp. after Chernobyl disaster in 1986 in Ukraine).

• China & USA: China got a seat at UNSC in 1971, & in 1979 Carter formally recognized PRC (against previous policy of recognizing Taiwan as legit Chinese government). Chinese wanted to be on the right side of US of their troubles w/ USSR & Vietnam.

• USSR & China: PRC & after 1956, China didn't like Khrushchev's policy of 'peaceful coexistence' w/ the west. Thought it a betrayal of Marxism-Leninism. Also, major frontier disputes around Vladivostok (major cause). Again, Gorbachev took lead in trying to normalize relations.

## Chapter 11

The middle east is comprised by the Arab States (Syria, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Kuwait, Yemen) and Turkey, Iran, and Israel. Before the second world war, and for a couple of decades after western powers have constantly meddled in middle-eastern affairs because of its strategic location:

- ↳ Act as a buffer zone b/w the Third world and the west.
- ↳ previously, was also a buffer b/w the communist block and them.
- ↳ Has vast amounts of oil resources.
- ↳ The Suez Canal is an important trading route.

Because of all these factors, ~~the~~ and because of middle-eastern internal affairs, the region has been a theatre of conflicts since the second world war:

- ↳ The Suez crisis of 1956
  - ↳ The Arab-Israeli wars of 1948, 1956, 1967, and 1973
  - ↳ Iran-Iraq wars: 1980-88, 1990-91
  - ↳ Lebanese civil war of 1975
- + Camp David Settlement, Oslo Accords

### • Western interference in the middle-east:

Britain had occupied ~~the~~ Egypt & Iraq in its imperialist drive, but subsequently allowed a pro-British dictators to rule as puppets (Egypt in 1922, Iraq in 1932). In other m.e. countries too, they followed the same policy (some of having puppet rulers) - French played similar tactics in Syria & Lebanon. After Versailles, the 2 super powers (UK) divided large parts of m.e. to indirectly rule as 'mandates'.

### • The Suez war of 1956:

After the war (WW2), pro-western governments were looked at suspiciously by many of the same countries. In 1954, Gamal Nasser became president of Egypt, led by a similar antipathy to pro-western forces.

↳ The strategically important Suez Canal was built by British & French shareholders, who were allowed to keep troops there till 1956.

↳ In 1956, Nasser announced nationalization of the canal, along w/ promise of compensation to the old shareholders, and wife prices of all but Israeli ships.

↳ He also signed arms treaties w/ Russia.

These actions angered the Brits, French, & Americans. Brits, French, & Israeli decided that Israel would attack Egypt, & Brits & French would deploy troops on Suez for alleged safety.

↳ Israel invaded in 1956, but there was huge entry from many countries, and UN pressure forced the Brits, F, & Israelis to retreat.

↳ Complete humiliation for the aggressors.

### • The creation of Israel and Arab-Israeli wars:

In AD 70, the Jews were driven out of Palestine by the Romans. Over a millennia, Palestine was populated by the Arabs. In colonial times Britain controlled Palestine while Jews were being systematically discriminated against in Europe in the 1800s, a small but steady migration streamed into Palestine, and demands arose for a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

British vacillated, sometimes officially supporting the idea & at other times rejecting it (to not antagonize the Arabs).

However, under Hitler, the persecution got really bad, & immigration ↑ such that by 1940 half the Palestinian population <sup>was</sup> Jewish. The second world war was over & toward this situation - in 1945, USA pressed Britain to allow 100,000 Jews into Palestine, & the Brits, weakened by war, felt unable to cope & referred this to the UN. In 1947, UN voted to divide Palestine, & in 1948 David Ben Gurion declared the independence of the new state of Israel.

- 1948 Arab- Israeli war: Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq & Lebanon attacked Israel upon Gurion's declaration. In a few days, Israeli defeated them & captured more Palestinian lands; Jordan occupied West Bank & Jerusalem was divided between the two.



- The 'Six-Day War' of 1967: <sup>started to make part to</sup> Now, Egypt, Syria, & Iraq ~~attacked~~ <sup>attacked</sup> Israel (popularity of Nasser, rise of far left party in Iraq, Syrian support of 'Fatah' party); Russians encouraged them as US supported Israel (but Russians backtracked & refused to help during the actual war). Arab armies started to mobilize, but were slow; & Israel launched a pre-emptive attack, & captured Gaza strip, Sinai (from Egypt), ~~the~~ West Bank (from Jordan), & Golan Heights (from Syria).

↳ Israel won, but found themselves w/ ~~the~~ 2 million extra Arabs under their rule.



↳ The ICJ has declared the West Bank wall illegal, but to no avail.

↳ In 2006, Hamas won a majority in elections, Israel said they're terrorists, & imposed blockade → continuing humanitarian crisis, & hostilities on both sides.

(Fatah rules in West Bank, Hamas in Gaza).

#### • IRAN-IRAQ WAR (1980-88):

Iran is primarily Shiite, & Iraq, mostly Sunni. In the 1980s, the non-Islamic govt. of Saddam was worried about militant Islam spreading from Iran to Iraq. This, combined w/ border disputes led Saddam to launch an attack on Iran. However, driven by religious zeal Iran defended well even in face of inferior weaponry (helped by China & North Korea). Once again, western oil supplies were in potential danger; after long, tough and war, UN arranged a ceasefire in 1988.

#### • Gulf War (1990-91):

(Iraq Kuwait)  
(Iraq Kuwait)  
Sitting border claims Saddam invaded Kuwait in 1990. Oil placed sanctions, cutting off Iraqi oil exports. UN also organized 'Operation Desert Storm', w/ troops from 30+ countries, & quickly ousted Iraq out.

↳ There were uprisings against Saddam in Iraq - northern Kurds wanted independence, Southern Shias also did.

↳ but Kuwait, Turkey, Syria also had Kurds, didn't want to encourage them.

↳ US didn't want China power to ↑ (could keep Iran)

Thus, Saddam was retained to suppress Kurds & Shiites, & ensure <sup>stabil</sup> <sub>oil</sub>.

↳ Shows that the motives of the West & other great powers are driven primarily by self-interest, rather than by morality.



# Chapter 16

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## \* 1905-1917:

In 1905, Russia lost the war against Japan, & due to general excesses, there were demands for curbing the powers of the Tsar (Nicholas). As a result, some concessions were made, & an elected parliament (Duma) was introduced, but turned out to be ineffective, ('OCTOBER MANIFESTO') & discriminated against participation from the peasantry.

Around 1912, various revolutionary parties saw a resurgence. Major among these were the Bolsheviks and the Mensheviks

• 'Majority' ←

- ∴ industrial workers were a minority in Russia, believed rousing the peasants as well.

• 'Minority' →

- strict marxists → believed Russia needed to industrialize more before revolution.

The Tsar made the fatal mistake of involving Russia in WWI → failures made revolution certain; the aristocracy, army, police, industrialists etc. started turning against the Tsar for his handling of the war, & thought his sacrifice was needed to prevent a full-scale revolution that would challenge the entire social structure.

## \* 1917: 2 Revolutions →

- February: After spontaneous 'bread riots' in Petrograd, the troops turned, & Tsar was forced to abdicate (end of monarchy in Russia). The Duma set up a provisional govt., but was weak, & fell in October.

The provisional govt. failed as it continued to stay in WWI, delayed elections, economic chaos, & because the Germans smuggled Lenin back into Russia (in hope that he'd stir up trouble).

- October: Lenin attempted to seize power → Bolsheviks replace provisional government. Evidence shows that masses were broadly in their favour. The Bolsheviks knew the right time to strike - ~~the~~ faced very little resistance.
  - ↳ After coming to power, the Bolsheviks allowed elections, but declared them null after they lost.
  - ↳ Called for an armistice with Germany - lost large amounts of territory, population, & heavy industry in return for peace.
  - ↳ The Bolsheviks came to power in a difficult time - there were many political opponents, there were food shortages, & war-time problems.
    - ↳ Bolsheviks, to consolidate power, resorted to violence & terror
- 'Red Terror.'
  - ↳ <sup>forced</sup> Procurement of grains from peasants using force & murder
  - ↳ killing political opponents, landowners, priests, businessmen etc. via the secret police force, 'cheka'.
  - ↳ Nationalised all land w/o compensation, banks, large factories & mines, cancelled all govt. debts so far, closed down hostile newspapers

#### \* Civil War in 1918:

This high-handed attitude led to armed opposition to the Bolsheviks, leading to civil war. People had overthrown the monarchy expecting

democracy, & had got Bolsheviks instead. Also, international opinion was adverse; even the erstwhile allies were suspicious of Bolsheviks. But the Bolsheviks were better organised, had more troops than the opposition, & won; by 1919, were unchallenged.

- ECONOMY: 'War Communism' (nationalizing everything, procuring grain for free to feed troops) caused severe food shortages & destroyed industry. By 1921, Lenin knew something else was needed desperately; instituted 'New Economic Policy' (NEP):

- ↳ Peasants allowed to keep surplus grain, post tax.

- ↳ Private SMEs allowed (not heavy industry)

- ↳ Sought foreign investment.

This invited criticism from other communist leaders, but Lenin persisted, & the NEP was moderately successful.

- POLITY: Russia became world's first communist state (USSR)

- ↳ No other parties were allowed.

- ↳ Dissension w/in communist party wasn't encouraged.

- Lenin died in 1924, and the NEP was abolished in 1928 (by Stalin).

# Chapter 17

Lenin's death in 1924 led to a power struggle between w/in the communist party; Stalin emerged strong, ruled from 1929 to his death in 1953. When he came to the helm, &

↳ Russian industry was still recovering from the devastation of WWI. Stalin wanted to emphasize heavy industry to create a militarily strong USSR, as he saw the west was hostile (esp. Germany), & war would come sooner or later.

↳ Food was in short supply, & Stalin also wanted to export food to earn forex to finance industrial expansion.

## • 5-YEAR PLANS FOR INDUSTRY:

Main focus for the first 3 plans was mostly on heavy industries, at the expense of consumer goods. Financing was purely domestic, by heavy taxation of peasantry, grain exports, & re-investment of nearly all industrial profits/surpluses.

↳ While the plans were a remarkable success in helping Russia industrialize, drawbacks:

↳ Ruthless worker exploitation, & spells in forced labour camps

↳ Primitive housing conditions

↳ Severe shortages of consumer goods, & poor quality products

## • COLLECTIVIZATION OF AGRICULTURE:

Carried out by sheer force - small farms merged into collectives, aim was to eliminate the class of prosperous, landed peasants ('kulaks'). Determined resistance in the countryside, but by 1937, ~90% of all land was collectivized.

↳ Peasants got demotivated & led to famines (but grain exports continued!)

### • POLITICS:

Stalin's economic policies made him unpopular, & there was opposition from w/in the party. Initially, ~~Stalin~~ Stalin stuck to expelling the opponents, <sup>or</sup> sending them to prison/labour camps ('gulags'). Beginning in 1934, he started executions & killings as well ('The Purges & the Great Terror, 1934-38').

↳ Successfully eliminated possible alternative leaders, terrorized masses into obedience. Ruled unchallenged.

(The Stalinist system was over-centralized, disorganized, corrupt, inefficient, sluggish, & unresponsive, but extremely efficient at terror & purges. 'Listening state').

• Stalin saw the victory in WWII as the ultimate vindication of his system of government, but victory had come after enormous human sacrifice.

↳ He died in 1953 due to brain haemorrhage.

• "Instead of a free, equal, & classless society, ordinary workers & peasants were just as exploited as under the Tsar. The capitalists had been replaced by the party members, & enjoyed all the best privileges & amenities."

# Chapter 18

## \* NIKITA KHRUSCHEV ERA: 1953-1964 →

With the death of Stalin, the central committee of the party gained some collective control. Khrushchev rose to prominence, primarily on an anti-Stalin plank; controlled affairs 1956-1964.

↳ Problems: low standard of life, industry, & agriculture.

↳ Industry: Continued FPIs, but focus on light industries & profit making → ↑ in living standards

↳ Agriculture worsened, & USSR had to rely on grain imports.

↳ 'The Thaw': Khrushchev allowed more freedom for ordinary people, & drew away from 'personality cult'.

↳ Foreign Policy: Aimed for 'peaceful coexistence' w/ the west,  
• Chinese accused him of 'revisionism'.

↳ When Khrushchev saw that these policies were making him unpopular w/ sections of the party, he backtracked → eventually led to 'Cuban Missile Crisis' of 1962.

↳ Chinese rift + CMC + Agri fail = Khrushchev dismissed, 1964

## \* 1964-1985: STAGNATION (Morty Brezhnev).

↳ Economy remained over-centralized, both industry & agriculture suffered.

↳ Maintained stronghold in satellites, by force if needed (invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968).

↳ Personal freedoms declined.

↳ 'Peaceful coexistence' continued w/ the west, until USSR invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

# MIKHAIL GORBACHEV : 1984-1991 (End of Communist Rule) →

'Most gifted & dynamic Russian leader for many years'

↳ Wanted to transform Russia by 'glasnost' (openness) & 'perestroika' (restructuring - of party, economy, & government).

↳ Thought system was too centralized; wanted to relax the 'command economy' & promote individual initiative.

↳ Glasnost: Release of several political prisoners, freedom of media, but criticism of party not allowed.

↳ Economy: Started relaxing, allowed SMEs like restaurants, handicrafts.

↳ Politics: Move towards democracy within the party; in 1989, reserved seats for communist party abolished.

↳ Foreign P.: <sup>GREAT</sup> Détente, end of cold war, evacuation from Afghanistan, better w/China.

However, Gorbachev faced strong opposition from conservatives, his economic reforms did not produce quick results, and the atmosphere of openness led to ↑ demands from satellites for independence. By 1990, some states declared independence (not recognized by Moscow).

↳ looked like Gorbachev had lost control; USSR was falling apart.

↳ Military coup in 1991, but Yeltsin saved the day.

↳ However, USSR was finished; Gorbachev resigned, Yeltsin came to power.

↳ This was the end of communist Russia.

↳ <sup>Yeltsin's</sup> ~~Gorbachev's~~ mistake was to introduce both political as well as economic reforms together - (contrast w/ Communist China's economic reforms w/o political reform).

\* YELTSIN: 1991-1999 →

→ High Failure

- 'SHOCK THERAPY': Yeltsin's main problem was → how to dismantle command economy, & transform Russia into a market economy by privatising state industries & agriculture.
  - ↳ In 1992, price controls abolished for 90% of the goods, & govt. subsidy to industries ended
    - ↳ High inflation, sticky wages, falling sales, retrenchment
    - ↳ bad for common people.
  - ↳ former state industry was cornered by a small group of financiers ('oligarchs'); didn't reinvest profits (swiss banks).
  - ↳ Corruption & fraud became part of everyday Russian life.
  - ↳ Yeltsin became unpopular; people's first taste of democracy wasn't sweet.
- Russia continued to suffer for much of the 1990s, w/ war w/ Chechnya in 1996, Asian financial crisis in 1997, & internal troubles.
  - ↳ Putin ~~succeeded~~ succeeded Yeltsin in 2000.



# Chapters 19 and 20

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## • Revolution of 1911:

Since millennia, the Chinese had enjoyed stable monarchies, w/ relative peace. Due to Confucian outlook, they preferred remaining isolated. However, this began to change around the 1840s - population had ↑ manifold, & food was scarce. This led to internal troubles, & the foreigners exploited this:

↳ Opium wars (1839-42)

↳ Japan attacked in 1894, & occupied Formosa, & parts of Manchuria. Britain, France, Germany, Russia etc. used force to lease large parts of land, treating these as no longer Chinese territory.

↳ More territory lost to Japan after 1904 Russo-Japanese war.

In early 20<sup>th</sup> century, w/ ↑ international exposure, new, radical ideas arose, opposed to dynastic rule of the Manchus. Soldiers in Wuhan revolted in 1911; led to end of Manchus. (Yuan in power)

↳ Seeing internal trouble, & w/ WW1, Japanese interference  
↑ a wave of anti-Japanese feelings, boycott of Japanese goods.

↳ Japan promised to reinstate monarchy under Yuan to gain his support → protests → army turned, forced Yuan to abdicate in 1916.

• Warlord era (1916-1928): After Yuan, China disintegrated into many warring states under warlords w/o any unity.

↳ The Nationalist Party, 'Kuomintang' grew stronger, & brought warlords under control by 1928.

↳ Kuomintang was led by Dr. Sun Yat sen; he wanted nationalism, democracy, & land reform. Didn't achieve much, died in 1925.

↳ After Sun Yat sen, Chiang Kai-shek became leader. He was more right-wing → although he succeeded in unifying China by suppressing warlords, he started suppressing Communists from 1927. No progress towards democracy/land reform.

#### \* Mao Zedong and the CCP:

CCP was born in 1921, & initially, Chiang Kai-shek worked w/ them. However, when Chiang launched 'extermination campaigns' from 1930-34, Mao focused on building up the Red Army. When Chiang attacks became more vigorous, Mao decided he needed to get away and set up a power base elsewhere - 'Long March' of 1934 (6000 mile <sup>Communist</sup> journey). In the following decade, Mao consolidated the ~~Chinese~~ <sup>Communist</sup> position & power, while Chiang & KMT became more & more unpopular, because

↳ KMT govt. was corrupt and inefficient, and was pro big-business and landlords.

↳ No improvement in peasant poverty, bad factory worker conditions.

↳ KMT put up no effective resistance to the Japanese, instead focused on fighting the CCP. Japanese routed KMT forces & occupied large parts of eastern China in 1937 → gave Communists a chance to portray themselves as patriotic nationalists.

(fought good guerrilla wars against Japs in the north).

After the Japanese lost WW2, in 1945, KMT & CCP fought for control.  
 By now, CCP had consolidated military power, & were more disciplined  
 → beat KMT, came to power in 1949.

↳ KMT was inefficient, corrupt, didn't pay troops well.

\* Mao's China: 1949-1976

• INITIAL PROBLEMS:

↳ Country devastated by war (civil, Japan); bad infrastructure, food shortages; backward industry & agriculture.

• Agriculture: land taken from large landowners, collectivization of farms (95% by 1956).

• Industry: Nationalisation, focus on heavy industry.

• 'let a hundred flowers bloom' (1957): Mao invited criticism, got more than he'd anticipated, hurriedly called it off.

↳ (1958)

• 'GREAT LEAP FORWARD': Move away from Russian experience →

↳ Introduction of communes (largely self-sufficient communities based on farms; much > than cooperatives).

↳ Complete change of emphasis in industry - small factories set up in countryside to provide machinery for agriculture → labour intensive, promoted employment.

Initially, this looked like a failure, but by 1970s, both agri. & industrial production had ↑ substantially, & China was managing to feed its entire population w/o any famines (never happened under KMT).

↳ Education spread, infant mortality ↓, ↑ in women's position.

• 'THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION' (1966-1969):

In early years of Great Leap, when success wasn't clear, there was right-wing opposition from w/in the CCP to Mao. Mao launched a desperate campaign to 'save the revolution', & keep it along strict Marxist-Leninist lines. Mao 'appealed to the masses', & spread propaganda via the 'Red Guard' (mostly students) and his Little Red Books.

↳ Urged young people to move to the countryside & work on farms.

↳ But Red Guard students got out of hand, & started clipping all authority. By 1967, Mao had to use the army to restrain them.

↳ Cultural Revolution ruined millions of lives, & held up China's economic development by at least a decade.

- The Cultural Revolution was partly also a response for Russia's policies under Khrushchev, which Mao described as 'down the capitalist road', & accused Russia of being 'revisionist'. (Serious rift in world communism). However, during his last years in power, Mao himself turned to the USA.

- Mao died in 1976.

\* DENG XIAOPING (1978-1997):

Introduced reforms after gaining ascendancy in 1978:

- ↳ Confiscated property was returned to survivors, more religious freedom, & of expression.
- ↳ Sought tech. help from the west to modernize industry & agriculture. In 1980, China joined IMF & WB.
- ↳ Permission given for private firms to set up.

However, this led to demands for more radical reform, & soon Deng got worried & slowed down reform, after people started demanding more political reform.

- ↳ Modernisation led to ill effects: exports ↑, but imports ↑ much more → fall in forex reserves, & inflation ↑ to 22% in 1986!

- Due to his perceived tilt to market economies, Deng faced opposition from w/in the party. Also, he had to be watchful of general population, as he was giving them ↑ economic freedom, which was bound to lead to demands for ↑ political freedom. (contrast w/ Yelstin → both reforms together → chaos).

- TIANANMEN SQUARE, 1989: Inflation rose to 30% in 1989; Encouraged by Russia's politics, demonstrations started asking for ever greater political reform, democracy, & against CCP corruption. Troops brought in, ~ 3000 died.

- ↳ As a result, CCP hardliners got bolstered, and Deng Xiaoping stepped down in 1989.
- ↳ CCP still felt one-party rule was a must for China's stability.

- POST DENG (1989 - Now):

Government's focus was to continue economic reform, so people could become prosperous & forget about democracy. They were scared  
∴ of internal protests, as also ∴ of the fall of communism in USSR and eastern Europe.

↳ To show that CCP genuinely represented everyone, it allowed membership of capitalists in 2001.

- Since 1990s, due to these market reforms, Chinese economy has been growing steadily (at a high rate). By 2010, China was the world's largest manufacturer and exporter (cheap labour, cheap capital, productivity, & sheer competitiveness).

↳ Now, danger of moving into excess capacity & overproduction, might lead to slump.

↳ Chinese banks suffer from over-lending & bad debts.

↳ Still no political freedom.