



ST. LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL

A JESUIT CHRISTIAN MINORITY INSTITUTION

CLASS - XII

STUDY MATERIAL



TOPIC: International Relations Post II World War

DATE: 11-06-2020

Meaning of Cold War:-

The Cold War was a period of geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States and their respective allies, the Eastern Bloc and the Western Bloc, after World War II. The period is generally considered to span the 1947 Truman Doctrine to the 1991 dissolution of the Soviet Union. The term "cold" is used because there was no large-scale fighting directly between the two superpowers, but they each supported major regional conflicts known as proxy wars. The conflict was based around the ideological and geopolitical struggle for global influence by the two powers, following their temporary alliance and victory against Nazi Germany in 1945. The doctrine of mutually assured destruction (MAD) discouraged a pre-emptive attack by either side. Aside from the nuclear arsenal development and conventional military deployment, the struggle for dominance was expressed via indirect means such as psychological warfare, propaganda campaigns, espionage, far-reaching embargoes, rivalry at sports events and technological competitions such as the Space Race.

The West was led by the United States as well as the other First World nations of the Western Bloc that were generally liberal democratic but tied to a network of authoritarian states, most of which were their former colonies. The East was led by the Soviet Union and its Communist Party, which had influence across the Second World. The US government supported right-wing governments and uprisings across the world, while the Soviet government funded communist parties and revolutions around the world. As nearly all the colonial states achieved independence in the period 1945–1960, they became Third World battlefields in the Cold War.

Causes of the Cold War in 1945 :-

- * American fear of communist attack
- * Truman's dislike of Stalin
- * USSR's fear of the American's atomic bomb
- * USSR's dislike of capitalism
- * USSR's actions in the Soviet zone of Germany
- * America's refusal to share nuclear secrets
- * USSR's expansion west into Eastern Europe + broken election promise

Definition of Bipolarity and its effect :-

Bipolarity" in international politics describes distribution of power between two states which exercise majority of economic, military and cultural influence internationally. There was bipolarity during the Cold War as the world had only two big super powers- former Russia and the USA.

During the Cold War, the effects of bipolarity were:

During the Cold War, the world was divided into two military camps- one led by USA and the other was led by USSR. This created tension and disharmony in the world.

Both, the USA and USSR created an alliance which had many countries as its members.

It resulted in arms race and increased insecurity among the nations

Non Alignment Movement :-

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is an international organization (group of countries) who do not want to be officially aligned with or against any major power bloc (group of countries). In 2018, the movement had 125 members and 25 observer countries. The group was started in Belgrade in 1961. It was created by Yugoslavia's President, Josip Broz Tito, India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, Egypt's second President, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Ghana's first president Kwame Nkrumah, and Indonesia's first President, Sukarno. All five leaders believed that developing countries should not help either the Western or Eastern blocs in the Cold War. They also believed that developing countries should not be capitalist or communist, but should try to find a different way to help their people. The Havana Declaration of 1979 said that the purpose of the organization is to help countries keep their "the national independence, sovereignty, territorial

integrity and security of non-aligned countries" in their "struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, and all forms of foreign aggression, occupation, domination, interference or hegemony as well as against great power and bloc politics." This means that they wanted to govern their countries without the main capitalist powers nor the major socialist states telling them how. Between summits, the Non-Aligned Movement is run by the secretary-general elected at last summit meeting. As a considerable part of the movement's work is undertaken at the United Nations in New York, the chair country's ambassador to the UN is expected to devote time and effort to matters concerning the Non-Aligned Movement. The Coordinating Bureau, also based at the UN, is the main instrument for directing the work of the movement's task forces, committees and working groups

Observers :-

The following countries and organizations have observer status:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, El Salvador, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia, Montenegro, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, Serbia, South Korea, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Ukraine, Vatican City

A. Important questions :-

- 1.Name the total wars.
2. Define Cold war.
3. List the causes of the origin of the Cold War.
4. What are the methods of adopted for Cold War?
- 5.What is Bipolarity?
6. Analyse the challenges of bipolarity.
7. Define Non Alignment. What are the principles on which non alignment was based on?
8. Discuss the arguments for the relevance of non alignment.
9. Discuss transformation from Bipolarity to Multipolarity.

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