

Quadrant- II Notes

Programme: Third Year: Arts

Subject: History (DSC)

Course Code: HSC:110

Course Title: HISTORY OF THE MODERN EUROPE (1815-1945)

Unit: I

Module Name: The Revolution of 1848 and its Impact

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Notes:

The Revolution of 1848 and its Impact

Outline

- Background
- Revolution of 1848 in France
- Impact

• Conclusion

LEARNING OUTCOME

- The Revolution of 1848 and its Impact
- A Revolution stands for a change. A change in polity, society, economy
- etc. 18 years after the July Revolution of 1830 in France, France witnessed yet another revolution in February 1848.
- Hence this Revolution is known as the February Revolution of 1848.
- The 1830 Revolution had seen the abdication of the Bourbon monarch King Charles X and installation of King Louis Philippe of the Orleans to the French throne.
- **Causes of the February Revolution of 1848 in France**
- King Louis Phillippe –the July Monarch
- Described variously as the ‘Citizen’s King’, ‘Bourgeoisie King’, King Louis Phillippe proved to be a King of the elite bourgeoisie and not of the masses. He was a King of the Capitalist and the Industrialist and this fact alienated him from the masses.
- He relied on their support and looked after their interest.

- Exploitation of the subaltern.
- The rank and file of the Proletariat Class (Working Class) were leading a life of poverty and misery. Their plight was miserable living in ghettos huddled in City complexes with no proper hygiene and sanitation lost in the middle of the City life starving with no proper means of subsistence.
- It was no surprise that they joined hands with the revolutionaries to throw off the rule of the Capitalist King.
- Social and philosophical thought, socialist ideas and thinkers caused an upheaval in the masses through their speeches. Saint Simon, Buchez, Cabet, Proudhon, Fourier, Louis Blanc, Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, were the Socialist thinkers of the age.
- They advocated State Socialism. Louis Blanc asked for National Workshops controlled by the Workers.
- Reform Banquets- The revolutionaries organized reform banquets in Paris to mobilise and galvanise the people by inviting the press to lend a voice to the revolution.
- Its no exaggeration that through their thought they led this SOCIAL REVOLUTION.
- Ministerial fluidity, corruption and Guizot proved to be fatal to the continuation of the rule of Louis Phillippe.
- **Course of the Revolution**
- On 24th February, 1848, the revolution began with people marching through the streets of Paris, barricading the streets and demonstrating against the King and his ministers.
- The people demanded in one voice the resignation of Louis Phillippe.
- Finally the King was forced to resign and he abdicated the throne.
- The people invited Lamartine to be the President of France.
- The Second Republic was declared and once again France became a Republic.
- **IMPACT OF THE 1848 REVOLUTION ON EUROPE**
- “When France catches cold the whole of Europe sneezes.”
- As per this maxim the whole of Europe was impacted by the revolutionary fever of the February Revolution of 1848 in France.
- The German States, the Italian States, people in Austria, people in England, the Czechs were all caught with the revolutionary spirit and they too demanded revolutionary changes in their polity.
- In Austria, the people marched through the streets against Metternich the Chancellor of Austria.
- Metternich fled to England and the Austrian Monarch had to look at the people’s demands.
- **CONCLUSION**

- In Conclusion we can say that the February Revolution of 1848 in France effected yet another major change through the establishment of the Second Republic in France.

- **REFERENCES**

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- **Online Resources:**

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- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXTaP1BD1YY>
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