

The Force of Nationalism in the 20th and 21st Centuries

“In 1993, Harvard political scientist Samuel P. Huntington argued that the wars of nation-states and ideologies, the wars of the 20th century, would be replaced by wars of culture. It will be a clash of civilizations. Whether we agree with him or not, some of the events of 2001 and so far in 2002 *might* lend some credibility to his argument. Most of the wars of the past and present, however, have not been fought strictly among opposing civilizations. Within each of the major civilizations there are smaller groups united by a common language, history, religion, culture, value system and perception of self. This defines the ethnic group. We have certainly seen this intra-civilization fighting over the years and today. The 1990s witnessed some of the most violent ethnic conflicts of the century, some of which were residual effects of the colonial and imperial systems of the 19th and early 20th centuries (Israel/Palestinian conflict, East Timor, tribal fighting of Afghan warlords, Zimbabwe). Others were movements of self-determination; secessionist and independence struggles for autonomy and/or statehood (Kosovo, Northern Ireland, Chechnya, Sri Lanka, Basque). These movements often united a people based on ethnic lines. Although there are exceptions (Nepalese Maoist rebels, Korea, Columbia), ideas such as communism or Yugoslavism were no longer what drove people to conflict; ethnicity was now the spark. Has the nature of modern ethnic conflict evolved into the larger clash of civilizations, uniting the intra-civilizational ethnic groups against another united civilization (culture) opposing theirs, as we begin the 21st century? Are Islamic Iran and Iraq ready to put aside the past and unite in the fight against the West or against Orthodoxy? Huntington claims that these great struggles will begin on the fault lines of civilizations”(Denaples).

Assignment: Examine each of the following events, ideologies, concepts, etc. of the 20th and 21st centuries to evaluate the role nationalism played in each of these and whether this force was more unifying or divisive. Use the textbook or online sources (databases, Wikipedia) to locate information to help you address the requirements below. Work in groups of 4-5.

Requirements:

1. Define, describe, explain the concept, event, ideology, etc. in 3-4 sentences. Make sure to include the location(s) and YEARS.
2. Identify and describe major individuals/players involved (2-3 sentences for each individual)
3. Identify and describe the nationalist groups/ideas involved in the causes/effects of this event, concept, ideology including the goals. This may be a Separatist group.
4. Evaluate what role nationalism played in this event, concept, ideology, etc. and justify whether nationalism was more of a unifying or dividing force and WHY. Support with evidence.
5. Identify a QUOTE that exemplifies the atmosphere or essence of this event.
6. CREATE groups and organize your material in an easy-to-understand way by creating categories.

EX: 1. GENOCIDE/ETHNIC CLEANSING

a. Holocaust-

- Explanation...
- Major individuals
- Nationalistic groups and goals
- Role
- Evaluation of nationalism
- Quote

b. Bosnian Genocide-

- Explanation...
- Major individuals
- Nationalistic groups and goals
- Role
- Evaluation of nationalism
- Quote

SPLIT UP THE EVENTS BELOW...

List of events, concepts, ideologies, etc.

1. World Wars (I and II)
2. Break up of Ottoman Empire
3. Armenian Genocide
4. Creation of United Nations
5. Egypt, Nassar, Suez Canal Crisis and pan-Arabism
6. Zionism, Mandate System, Balfour Declaration, 1948 Arab-Israeli War and displacement of Palestinians
7. Holocaust
8. Signing of *Universal Declaration of Rights*
9. Iranian Revolution and Islamic Revivalism
10. Cambodian Genocide
11. First Olympic Games are held
12. Decolonization in sub-Saharan Africa and pan-Africanism
13. South Africa and the end of Apartheid
14. Self-immolation by Thich Quang Duc
15. Communist Revolution in China-Mao Zedong 1911-1949
16. War in Sudan and Darfur
17. Genocide in Rwanda
18. Ethnic Cleansing in Bosnia
19. Rise of Bollywood in India
20. Beginning of Dada Movement
21. Ho Chi Min and independence of Vietnam
22. Al-Qaeda attacks World Trade Centers
23. Arab Spring
24. Tiananmen Square Massacre
25. Cuban Revolution
26. Indian Independence movement
27. Picasso paints *Guernica*
28. Iran-Iraq War
29. Mexican Revolution 1910
30. Conflict of Kashmir (India, Pakistan, China)
31. Indonesian Independence
32. Hungarian Revolution
33. Biafra Movement in Nigeria
34. The Orange Revolution in Ukraine
35. Taliban overthrow in Afghanistan

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