

## Italian Unification

Il Risorgimento: The Resurgence.

### Background

• Napoleon united Italy during French revolutionary wars and Napoleonic wars. He crowned himself as king of Italy in 1805 and before that he was president of the Italian Republic.

• When Napoleon's reign began to fail, the kings he installed tried to keep their thrones by appealing to nationalists for unification under them. Eugene de Beauharnais tried to get Austrian approval for his succession to kingdom of Italy. Joachim Murat called for Italian patriots' help for unification under his rule.

• 1815 - Vienna congress - Pre-Napoleon status for Italy. Small states ruled by pope, Habsburgs, Bourbons, etc. Sardinia-Piedmont. Whole of Italy - under Habsburg influence.

Metternich - "Italy is nothing more than a geographic-expression".

• At the time, struggle for unification was perceived to be waged primarily against the Austrians, since they directly controlled the predominantly Italian speaking north-eastern part. Austria vigorously repressed nationalist sentiment.

• Napoleonism promoted through arts & literature. Thinly veiled critique of Austrian rule in novel 'Promessi sposi' (The Betrothed).

• Even pope ~~to~~ Pius IX was against unification as he had to give up some of his powers. Didn't even agree for a confederation. <sup>1827</sup>

• No agreement among those in favour of unification over what form a unified state should take. Some wanted a republic. Some wanted Pope's rule. Some - monarchy.

• Carbonari - <sup>members from</sup> mainly middle class, intellectuals. Secret society like Freemasons.  
Papal states, Sardinia, Tuscany, Modena, Lombardy-Venetia.

• Carbonari were so feared that authorities passed ordinances condemning to death anyone who attended a Carbonari meeting.

It continued to exist even after 1832. In 1858, a carbonari "Orsini" tried to assassinate Napoleon III who himself was a carbonari in his youth, (he was condemned to death by Carbonari).

• Carour suggested the king to continue war but fearing repercussions, King stopped the war. Carour resigned as PM in protest.

• But Villafrauca agreement <sup>proved to be</sup> ~~was~~ unimplementable as forces which occupied the Italian states after expelling the rulers were unwilling to restore them with earlier rulers. France was unwilling to pressure them and Austria was not in a position to enforce it.

- they were willing to be merged into Piedmont.

• After 6 months Carour returned as PM. in Jan 1960

~~In Dec~~ Carour negotiated with Napoleon on the issue of annexation. Napoleon agreed for Piedmont to annex in exchange for Savoy & Nice. 1860 - March - annexed - Tuscany, Parma, Modena, papal legations. Kingdom of Sardinia encompassed most of Northern and Central Italy. (plebiscites were conducted in Tuscany, Emilia)

• Garibaldi: The Mille expedition

By mid 1860, only 4 states remained in Italy - Austrians in Venetia, papal states (without legations), Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia, Kingdom of Two Sicilies.

• There is no reason to think that Carour envisaged the unification of <sup>rest of</sup> Italy under Piedmontese rule since these areas were of little interest and would be financial burden.

• Francis II of "Two Sicilies", his army became weak becoz of the recall of Swiss mercenaries by Switzerland. Unreliable native troops. (Nationalistic spirit among them). <sup>1815? Vienna Congress</sup>

• 1860 - April - insurrections began in Palermo, Messina in Sicily. Easily suppressed.

• Garibaldi hoped to use his supporters to regain Nice & Savoy. But Carour persuaded him to concentrate on Sicily insurrections instead of provoking French.

• May 1860 - Garibaldi & his 1000 volunteers landed on the west coast of Sicily. Defeated a numerically superior army at Calatafimi. His fame rose. His army swelled to 4000 troops. Garibaldi proclaimed himself <sup>as</sup> dictator of Sicily in King Victor Emmanuel's name.

• After waging various successful battles, Garibaldi advanced upon Sicilian capital of Palermo. Laid siege of Palermo. A mass uprising broke inside. British brokered armistice, by which royal troops and warships surrendered the city and departed.

• Having conquered Sicily, he crossed straits of Messina and marched north. He was considered as hero by many. ~~His~~ <sup>Along his</sup> march, he faced little military resistance. Many areas along the path voluntarily offered their annexation to Kingdom of Italy.

In Sept, Bourbon king of two Sicilies (Naples & Sicily) left the city of Naples, Garibaldi entered Naples.

### Defeat of the Kingdom of Naples

Garibaldi's 25K volunteers couldn't decisively defeat the king and drive them away from Volturno river. Without the help of Sardinian army could only arrive by traversing the Papal states.

• Garibaldi announced that Rome would be capital of Italy. Pope threatened excommunication for those who would invade Rome. Afraid of that Garibaldi would enter Rome, Catholics worldwide sent money and volunteers for the Papal army.

Napoleon III Piedmont free to conquer Naples & Umbria in exchange for leaving Rome under Pope.

• Sardinian army defeated papal army easily and marched in Kingdom of Naples. under Victor Emmanuel himself.

Garibaldi distrusted Carour but he accepted <sup>his</sup> command of the army. He ~~left~~ retired to his agricultural estate. leaving the remaining work of unifying Italy to  $\leftarrow$ .

• Sardinian army decisively defeated king of two Sicilies.

Now only Venetia & Rome remained out of Italy.

1861 - Feb - Victor Emmanuel assembled the deputies of the 1st

Italian parliament in Turin. Parliament proclaimed Victor Emmanuel as king of Italy. Rome was declared as capital of

Italy but it remained <sup>in</sup> outside Italy.

Carour became 1st PM. Died with in 3 months.

## Roman question

Mazzini - wanted a republic.

- Challenge against pope's temporal domain was viewed with great distrust by Catholics around the world. French troops were stationed in Rome. Victor Emmanuel was wary of the international repercussions of attacking papal states, and discouraged his subjects from
- Garibaldi believed that govt would support him if he attacked Rome. June 1862 - He sailed to Palermo (Sicily), gathered volunteers for the campaign. Slogan "Home or Death". They landed on the mainland and marched towards mainland.
- Italian govt disapproved the attack. It sent army to stop Garibaldi's march. Army and volunteers met in August. Volunteers didn't fire on their fellow countrymen. Army fired some shots. Garibaldi was wounded. were arrested.
- Victor Emmanuel negotiated the removal of French troops from Rome through a treaty with Napoleon III in 1864. withdrawal in 2 years. Pope was to expand his army during that time.
- 1866 - Dec - All French troops were withdrawn.

## 3rd war of independence

Austro-Prussian war - 1866. before that Italy aligned with Prussia.

- Austria tried to persuade the <sup>Kingdom of</sup> Italy to accept Venetia in exchange for non-intervention. However Italy and Prussia signed an agreement that supported Italy's acquisition of Venetia. Italy declared war on Austria.
- Garibaldi invaded Tyrol, Victor invaded Venetia. Garibaldi defeated Austrians in a battle and moved towards Trento. But Italians were defeated by Austrians in many other battles.
- In August, an armistice was signed. Garibaldi was recalled from Tyrol. In spite of Italy's losses in battles, Austria ceded Venetia because of its loss to Prussia. (1st ceded to France and then France ceded to Italy). A referendum was conducted before annexation of Venetia by Italy.

groups of states consolidated resources and promoted regional and organizational interests, including economic cooperation & military protection.

• War of 2nd coalition (1799-1802) - Napoleon w.m. Treaties of Lunéville (1801) and Amiens (1802) and the Mediatization of 1803 transferred large portions of HR empire to the dynastic states; secularized ecclesiastical territories and most of the imperial cities disappeared.

Territories of Württemberg and Baden were greatly enhanced.

All these territories <sup>came under</sup> ~~became~~ French sphere of influence.

• War of 3rd coalition (1805) - Napoleon defeated Austria in the battle of Austerlitz. occupied Vienna.

• War of 4th coalition (1806-07) - Prussia, Russia, Saxony, Sweden, UK.

• Napoleon formed "Confederation of Rhine" out of many tiny German states which constituted Rhineland and western Germany. He merged many smaller states into larger electorates, duchies, kingdoms to make the governance smooth. He elevated Saxony and Bavaria to the status of kings.

Napoleon defeated Prussia at Jena in 1806. <sup>seized</sup> Berlin.

• Napoleon forced the Holy Roman Emperor to give up the title of HR emperor in 1806.

Rise of German nationalism under Napoleon

Hegemony of French. Surge in German nationalism. (Romantic nationalism)

German philosopher - Johann Gottlieb Fichte. - "Those who speak the same language are joined to each other by a multitude of invisible bonds by nature herself, long before any human art begins."

• A common cause among German states to remove French Protector and their hegemony. Napoleon campaigns - many Germans were killed.

Many Germans were recruited to fight his campaigns.

Napoleon's continental system nearly ruined German economy.

• Russian Campaign's debacle, loosened Napoleon's grip over German princes. In <sup>Oct</sup> 1813, Napoleon invaded German states to bring them back into French orbit. → was defeated by the coalition of Austria, Russia, Prussia, Saxony, Sweden. It ended French power east of Rhine. Coalition pursued Napoleon to Paris, he ~~was~~

Avoiding war: He desired peace. He dismissed Balkans as unimportant <sup>for Germany</sup> to interfere. He always wanted to prevent an European war as he felt that Germany would be at loss as it would have to fight on 2 fronts.

Last years: 1888 - Wilhelm I died. <sup>son</sup> Wilhelm II. <sup>grandson</sup> 31 years old. New King. Wilhelm II opposed Bismarck's carefully crafted foreign policy. He favoured vigorous and rapid expansion to protect Germany's "place on the sun".

### Last warning and prediction of WWI

1898 - ~~18~~ "Jena came 20 years after the death of Frederick the Great; the crash will come 20 years after my departure if things go on like this" - a prophecy fulfilled almost to the month.

"one day the great European war will come out of some damned foolish thing in the Balkans."

1888 - He warned of a Balkan crisis turning into European wide war.

### Bismarck's social legislation. (Practical Germany)

Germany - world's 1st welfare state.

He was doubtful about laws protecting workers at the workplace, such as safe working conditions, limitation of work hours, and the regulation of women's and child labour, because he believed that such regulation would force workers and employers to reduce work and production, and thus harm economy.

• Insurance programs designed to increase productivity, and to gain worker support to conservative Junker govt.

### Legacy

↳ Unification of Germany & Italy.

Astute, cautious, pragmatic foreign policy.

France became bitter enemy of Germany.

Austria was weakened.

He believed that as long as UK, Russia, Italy were assured of peaceful nature of German empire, French belligerency could be contained.

• But his work was undone by Wilhelm II. → "welt politik". to secure Reich's future through expansion.

Bismarck - denied military a dominant role in foreign policy.