

Syllabus

Emergence of two power blocs after the Second World War, Arenas of the Cold War, challenges to Bipolarity Non Aligned Movement, quest for new International Economic Order, India and the Cold War.

Q1. Define and explain the term Cold War?

Ans. Cold war has been one of the major themes in international relations in the twentieth century. One of the definitions of Cold War as given by Fleming is that “A war that is fought not in the battle field, but in the minds, of men; one tries to control the minds of others”.

Cold war means the existence of strained and tense relations in international relations between two rival blocs one led by USA and other by USSR. It was a war of nerves in which no blood was shed no bullet was fired but tension was kept up and the world was made to live in the brink of war.

The term ‘cold war’ was first coined by Bernard Baruch an American statesman and used first by Walter Lipmann. Cold war was officially declared by British statesman Winston Churchill.

Q2. Discuss the origin of the cold war?

Ans. Regarding the origin of the cold war there are different opinions. First, the seeds of the cold war were sown with the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 in the Soviet Union. US were against this communist Revolution. Second the cold war had shown its earlier signs a, little before the end of World War II, when USA dropped nuclear Bomb on Japan without consulting USSR. The

third view is that it started soon after the end of Second World War through secret cables of George Kennan a US diplomat in USSR.

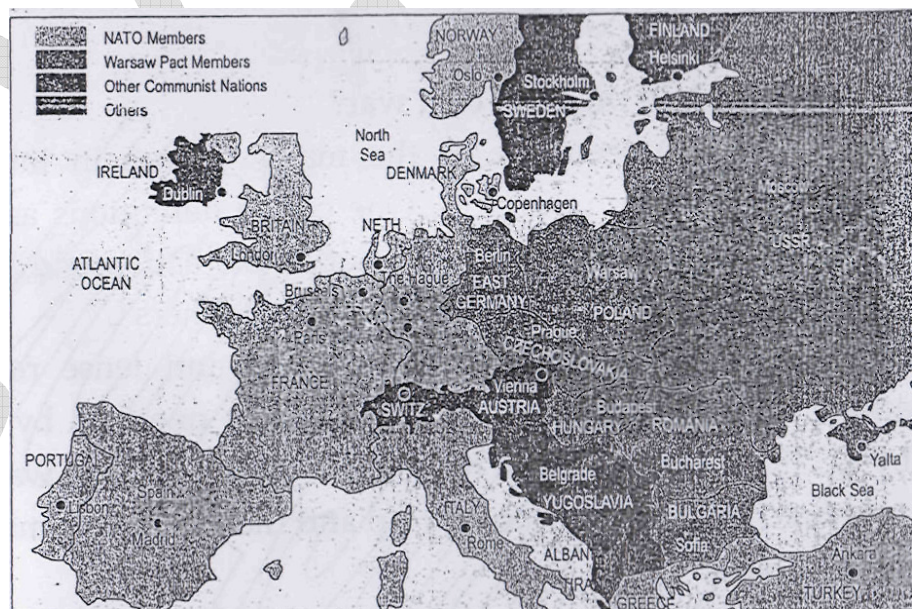
Q3. Briefly discuss the nature of Cold War?

Ans. The nature of Cold War underwent constant changes during four decades of its duration. However three primary characteristics include.

- a. There were both periods of conflict and cooperation between the two blocks.
- b. Both actors (US and USSR) were willing to forget their ideologies whenever their national interests demanded so.
- c. Both rivals constantly tried to avoid an all out war.

Q4. Explain the emergence of two power blocs after the Second World War?

Ans. The emergence of two power blocs after the Second World War can be traced to the expansionist policies of super powers. The two super powers were keen on



expanding their spheres of influence in different parts of the world. Thus in a world sharply divided between the two opposite alliance systems, a state was supposed to remain tied to its protective superpowers to limit the influence of the other superpowers and its allies.

The smaller states in the alliance used the link to the superpowers for their own purposes. They got the promise of protection, weapons and economic aid against their local rivals.

The alliance system led by the two superpowers, therefore threatened to divide the entire world into two camps. In this regard most countries of Western Europe sided with the US and those of the Eastern Europe, joined soviet camp. The two were also called as Eastern and Western alliances. NATO of western alliance and Warsaw pact of eastern Alliance are the two most important organizations in this regard.

Q5. Briefly discuss the Arenas of Cold War?

Ans. Arenas of the cold war refers to the areas where crisis and war occurred or threatened to occur between the alliances systems but did not cross certain limits.

The two super-powers were poised for direct confrontation in Korea (1950-53), Berlin (1958-62) the Congo (early 1960's), Afghanistan (1979), and Vietnam (1965-75).

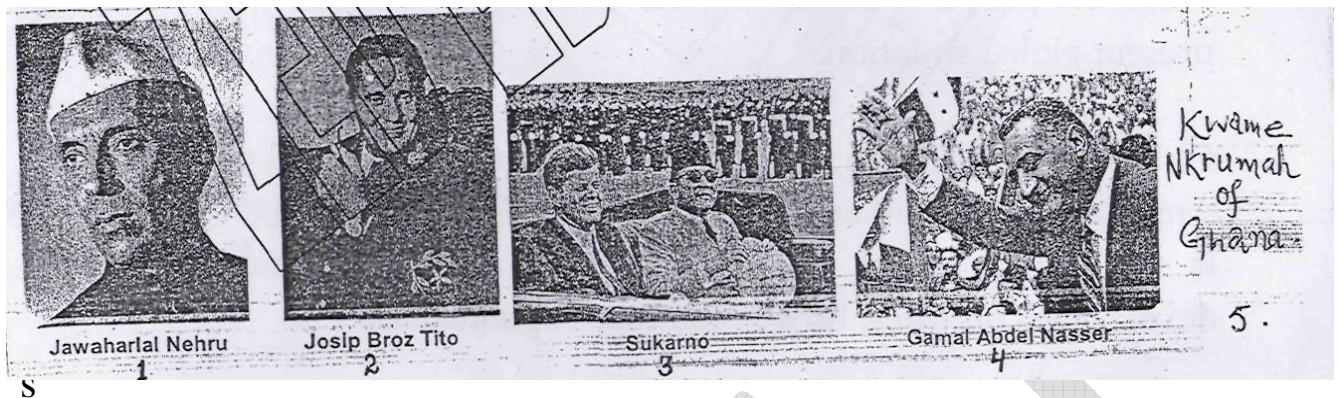
Many lives were lost in some areas like Afghanistan and Vietnam, but actual war was avoided. In some cases diplomatic communications between the superpowers could not be sustained and contributed to the misunderstandings.

During these arenas sometimes countries outside the two blocs e.g., NAM countries played a role in reducing cold war conflicts.

In this was cold war ruled form one arena to another and the logic of restrain was increasingly evident.

Q6. Explain the meaning of NAM, Discuss its relevance?

Ans. NAM has both broad as well as narrow meaning. In narrow sense, it



to neutrality or neutralism only. In broader sense, it refers to a foreign policy perspective that advocated freedom from commitment to any power bloc and stress on the independence of choice and action in external affairs.

The concept of NAM gained currency in 1955 Bandung conference. As a movement it was formally established in 1961 at Belgrade conference. The pioneers of the NAM were Nehru of India, Tito of Yugoslavia, Nasser of the Egypt, Sukarno of Indonesia and Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana.

Q7. Discuss the relevance of NAM.

Ans. Relevance of NAM: Broadly speaking there are two schools of thought related to its relevance. Some called it relevant where as other called it irrelevant in present global situations.

Its critics say that cold war has ended, most nations have become independent and also bipolarity exists no more. Therefore NAM has no relevance in present times.

But its supporters say that NAM is still relevant because the world today faces new issues and problems which NAM can help to solve. These include:

- a. Setting up of NIEO
- b. Restructuring and Democratization of UN.
- c. Working for Disarmament Non-proliferation
- d. Combating terrorism, extremism and racism.
- e. Fighting poverty, drug trafficking etc.
- f. Controlling global warming
- g. Solution of international disputes.

From the above it becomes quite clear the NAM is still relevant, in present global situation.

Q8. Discuss briefly the role played NAM in international politics?

Ans. NAM has been one of the recognized forces in International Politics. It has been one of the major foreign policy programmes of many developing countries. Its role could be explained as:

- a. Role in the 50's and the 60's: In the fifties and the sixties of NAM countries strived for early end of the colonialism and racialism.
- b. Role in 70's: During 70's Non-aligned countries boldly gave a call for NIEO.
- c. Role in 80's: During this period NAM asked for regional settlement of disputes like Iran – Iraq War, Afghanistan crises etc.
- d. Role since 1990's: During 1990's and present times NAM has been focusing on NIEO.
 - i. Restructuring and democratization of UN
 - ii. Elimination of weapons of mass destruction
 - iii. Integration of the world economy
 - iv. Controlling global warming.
 - v. Curbing terrorism etc.

Q9. What is NIEO? Briefly describe the major themes involved in achieving NIEO.

Ans. NIEO stands for 'new international economic order'. It constitutes a framework for eliminating the existing era of international economic system which is mostly favoring developed countries. NIEO is based on the assumption that the present international order increases inequalities and should be replaced by system of independence and equal exchange. The call for NIEO was made in the 70's by least developed countries in many global forums, and they continue to struggle for it even today. The UN general assembly at its sixth special session in 1974, declared its determination to establish NIEO. The major themes involved in NIEO include.

- a. Restructuring of world economic relations on more efficient and equitable principals.
- b. Institutional changes in IMF, WTO and creation of new institutions.
- c. End of protectionism in international economy and trade.
- d. Transfer of capital resources to developing countries.
- e. Transfer to technology to the developing countries for their use.
- f. Control over MNC's (Multinational Companies) by forming a code of conduct for their activities.
- g. Recognition and protection of the interests of the commodity procedures.
- h. A greater and fixed share of developing countries in international exports.

Q10. Briefly discuss India's posturing during the cold war?

Ans. As a leader of NAM, India's response to the ongoing cold war was twofold. At one level, it took particular care in staying away from the two alliances. Second, it raised its voice against the newly decolonized countries becoming part of these alliances.

India's policy was neither negative nor passive. As Nehru reminded the world, NAM was not a policy of 'fleeing away'. On the contrary, India was in favor actively intervening in world affairs to soften cold war rivalries.

India chooses to involve other members of the Non-aligned group in this mission. During the cold war, India repeatedly tried to activate those regional and international organizations, which were not part of the alliances led by the US and USSR.

Q11. What were the main causes responsible for cold war?

Ans. The main causes of cold war are as given below:

- a. The basic opposition of capitalistic ideology by communists.
- b. Soviet refusal of withdrawing her forces from north Iran and forcing Iran to sign a treaty with Soviet Union recognizing Soviet interests over oil resources of northern Iran.
- c. The establishment of pro-communist and communist governments in Greece and Turkey were also strongly opposed by the western powers.
- d. The Soviet interferences in Poland and arrest of Polish leaders were also opposed by western powers.
- e. The soviet reluctance to join war against Japan and Soviet help to Chinese communists was also seriously taken by western powers.
- f. The Soviet Union was of the view that Italy was backed by the capitalists as they considered it an effective constraint against communism.

- g.** The US decision to maintain secrecy over her atomic capability and in respect of the decision to drop atom over Japan without taking the soviets into confidence greatly irked Soviet Union.
- h.** Another important cause of cold war was the anti Soviet propaganda by western press and leadership.
- i.** The increased anti Soviet propaganda fueled by Churchill's Fulton speech, Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan etc. was greatly disliked by communists.