

STUDY MATERIAL

CLASS XII

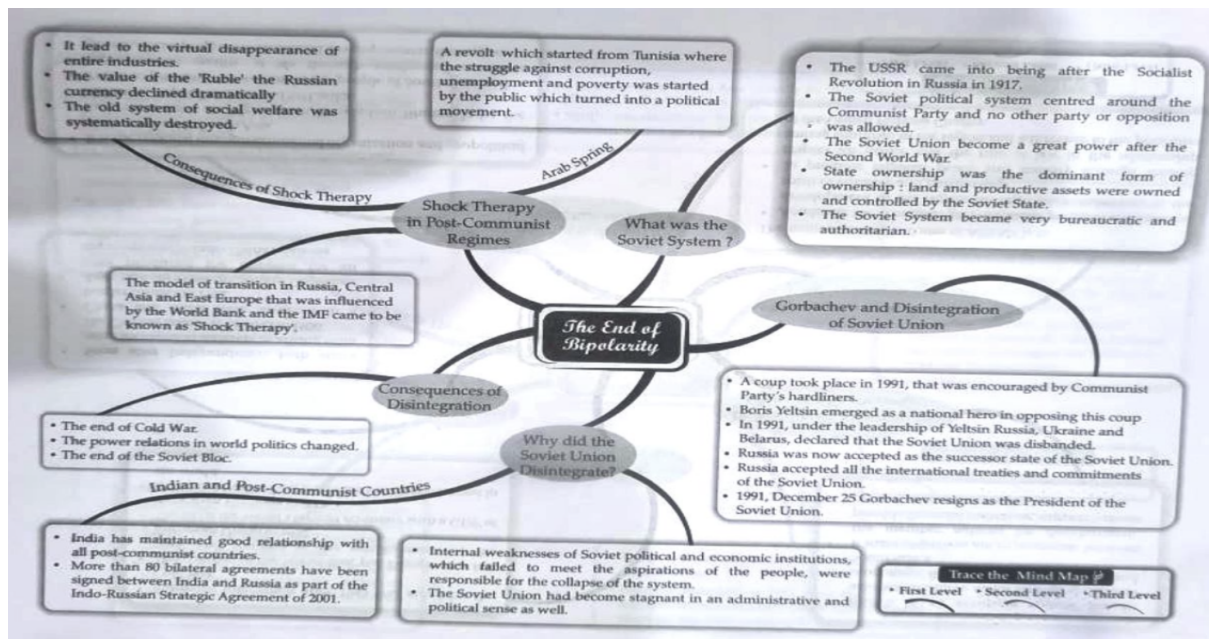
POLITICAL SCIENCE

Chapter 02: End of Bipolarity

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Students will be able to analyze the Soviet System
2. Students will be able to value India's relations with Russia as important aspects of India's foreign policy.
3. Students will estimate the major consequences of the disintegration of USSR
4. Students will describe the result of shock therapy to which economic system was gradually to be absorbed
5. Critically analyze and evaluate the difference between the ideology of the two superpowers

MINDMAP



THE SOVIET SYSTEM

- The Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR) came into being after the Socialist Revolution In Russia in 1917 .
- The revolution was inspired by the idea of socialism as opposed to capitalism.
- The Soviet political system centered around the Communist party and no other party was allowed.
- After the second world war, the East European Countries that got liberated from the fascist forces came under the control of the USSR.
- There was a change in the economic and political system of the USSR. The USSR became more developed than the rest except the US.
- The Soviet Union had a complex **communication network**. It had vast energy resources including iron, oil and steel.
- It had a machinery production system and **transport sector that connected its remote areas with efficiency**.
- It had a **domestic consumer industry** that produced everything from pins to cars.
- The Soviet State ensured a **minimum standard of living** for all citizens. ● Soviet **government subsidized basic necessities** including health, education, childcare and welfare schemes



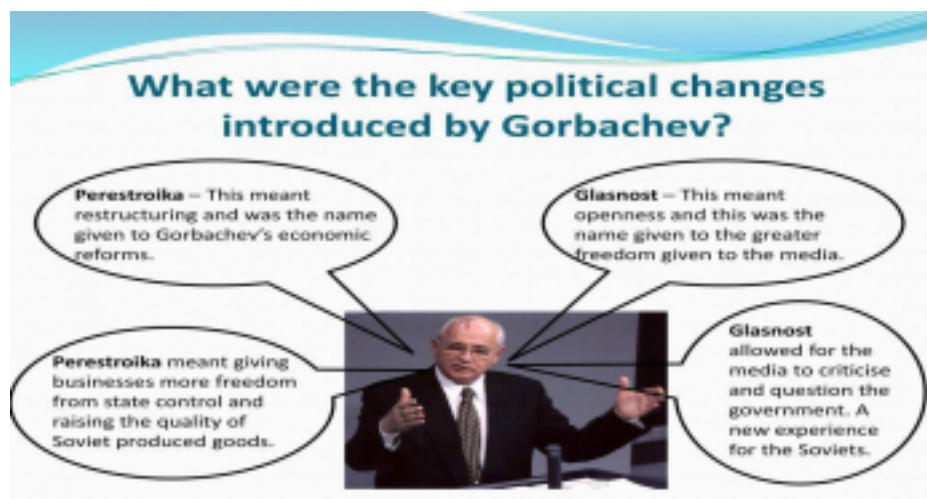
DISINTEGRATION OF SOVIET UNION

Soviet Economic System

- The Soviet Union **lagged behind in Technology and Infrastructure** as compared to the West.
- Political and Economic **aspirations were not fulfilled.**
- The Soviet **invasion in Afghanistan in 1979** weakened the economic conditions.
- **Shortage of all Consumer Goods.**
- **Food was imported.**
- The Soviet Economy was **Faltering and Stagnant.**

Political and Administrative System

- The political setup was more **bureaucratic and authoritarian** making life very difficult for citizens.
- **Lack of Democracy** and **absence of Freedom of Speech** for citizens. ● The one party system represented by **Communist party of the Soviet Union** had tight control over all institutions.
- Although Russia was only one of the republics that together constituted the USSR, in reality **Russia dominated everything.** People from other regions felt **neglected and often suppressed.**



Gorbachev's Reforms

- In 1985 Mikhail Gorbachev became **General Secretary of Communist party of the Soviet Union**. He wanted to bring about some reforms in order to improve the economic conditions of the Soviet economy therefore he tried to normalise relations with the west. The Eastern European countries started to protest against their own government This led to disturbances in the Republic.
- Gorbachev did not give any attention to these disturbances as a result of which most of the republic became independent, this in turn led to disintegration of the Soviet Union.
- Gorbachev's **political and economic reforms and democratization** within the country was opposed by leaders of the Communist party, the members of Communist Party encouraged coop protested against him.
- There were sections of Soviet society which felt that Gorbachev should have **moved much faster**. They did not benefit in the way they had hoped, or they benefited too slowly. In this **'tug of war'**, Gorbachev **lost support** on all sides and divided public opinion. People felt that he did not adequately defend his own policies.
- In 1991 Boris Yeltsin used the head of the Communist party to propose the coup. He won the elections and became the President of the Russian Republic.
- **Boris Yeltsin emerged as a national hero** in opposing the crop in 1991. Yeltsin won a popular election that began to shift from the Soviet center to the republic's. The central Asian Republic did not ask for independence and wanted to remain with the Soviet federation.
- Under the leadership of Yeltsin, **Russia, Ukraine and Belarus declared that the Soviet Union was disbanded.**
- **Communist Party was banned.**

Rise of Nationalism

- The **rise of nationalism** and the **desire for sovereignty** within various republics including Russia.
- **Baltic Republics (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania)**, Ukraine, Georgia, and others proved to be the final and most immediate cause for the disintegration of the USSR.

- During the Cold War many thought that nationalist unrest would be strongest in the Central Asian republics.
- **Ethnic and religious differences** with the rest of the Soviet Union.
- The collapse of the second world of the Soviet Union and the socialist systems in Eastern Europe had profound consequences for world politics.

Role of Russia after disintegration of Soviet Union:

- After the Soviet Union disintegration commonwealth independent states were formed.
- The central Asian republics were made founding members of CIS. Russia was accepted as the successor state of the Soviet Union.
- Russia got the Soviet seat in the UN security council Russia accepted all the international treaties and commitments of the Soviet Union.
- It took over as the only nuclear state of the post communist Soviet space and carried out some nuclear disarmament measures with the US.

CONSEQUENCES OF DISINTEGRATION

1. The End of Cold War

- The disintegration of the Soviet Union meant the end of cold war confrontations.
- The ideological disputes whether the socialist system would beat the capitalist system was not an issue any more. The end of confrontation demands an end to this arm race and a possible new peace.

2. The power relations in world Politics changed.

- The end of the Cold War left open only two possibilities: either the **remaining superpower would dominate and create a unipolar system, or different countries or groups of countries could become important players** in the international system, thereby bringing in a multipolar

system where no one power could dominate.

- As it turned out, the **US became the sole superpower**. Backed by the power and prestige of the US, the capitalist economy was now the dominant economic system internationally.

3. Emergence of new countries

- **WARSAW** countries had their own independent aspirations.
- The Baltic and East European States wanted to join the **European Union** and become part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (**NATO**).
- The Central Asian countries wanted to take **advantage of their geographical location** and continue their close ties with Russia.
- The international system saw many **new countries emerge**, each with its **own identity**, interests, and economic and **political difficulties**.

COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES



SHOCK THERAPY IN POST-COMMUNIST REGIMES

- After the collapse of communism there was a **transition from authoritarian socialist system to democratic capitalist system**. The model of transition in Russia and Central Asia and East Europe that was influenced by the World Bank and IMF came to be known as **Shock Therapy**.
- It is a total shift to the capital economy.
- **Private ownership** would replace the state ownership of property. ●

Privatisation of state assets and **cooperative ownership** was started.

- **Collective farms** are to be replaced by private farms and capitalism in agriculture.
- The **free trade regime** and foreign direct investment (**FDI**) were to be the main engines of change.
- This involved openness to **foreign investment, financial opening up** or deregulation and currency convertibility.

CONSEQUENCES OF SHOCK THERAPY

Consequences on industries:

- In Russia the last state controlled industrial complex almost collapsed as about 90% of its industries were put up for sale. Since the restructuring was carried out through market forces and not by government direct industrial policies that led to the virtual disappearance of the entire industries.

Consequences on finance:

- The value of the Ruble, the Russian currency declined dramatically, the rate of inflation was so high that people lost all their savings, the collective farm system disintegrated living people without food security and Russia started to import food.

Consequences on society or youth:

- The old system of social welfare was systematically destroyed. The withdrawal of government subsidies pushed a large section of the people into poverty; the middle classes were pushed to the peripheries of the society. A Mafia emerged in most of these countries and started controlling many economic activities.

Consequences on democratic institutions:

- The construction of democratic institutions was not given the same attention and priority as the demands of the economic transformation . Constitutions of All these countries were drafted in a hurry and most including Russia had a strong executive president with the widest possible power that rendered the elected parliament relatively weak.

TENSIONS AND CONFLICTS

- In Russia, two republics, **Chechnya and Dagestan**, have had violent secessionist movements.
- **Tajikistan** witnessed a **civil war** that went on for ten years till 2001. ● In **Azerbaijan's province of Nagorno-Karabakh**, some local **Armenians** want to secede and join Armenia.
- In **Georgia**, the demand for independence has come from two provinces, resulting in a **civil war**.
- There are movements against the existing regimes in **Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan and Georgia**. Countries and provinces are fighting over **river waters**.
- The Central Asian Republics are areas with **vast Hydrocarbon Resources**, which have brought them economic benefit.
- Central Asia has also become a **zone of competition** between outside powers and oil companies.
- After 11 September 2001, the US wanted military bases in the region. ● Russia perceives these states as its '**Near Abroad**' and believes that they should be under Russian influence.
- China has interests here because of the **oil resources**.
- **Czechoslovakia** split peacefully into two, with the **Czechs** and the **Slovaks** forming independent countries.
- After 1991, it broke apart with several provinces like **Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina** declaring independence.

BEGINNING OF THE 'NEW WORLD ORDER' BY THE US.

- In 1991, the US hegemony emerged as a result of the collapse of the USSR. It survived, all of its powers strengthened and unaltered.
- After the disintegration of USSR in 1991, the first instance of US hegemony came into observation through **Operation Desert Storm** by the UN during the

first Gulf War to retreat Iraqi forces from Kuwait. This operation was dominated and won by the US due to the **vast technological gap** between the US military capability and other states.

THE CLINTON YEARS

- **William Jefferson (Bill) Clinton**, the newly elected President of the US in 1992 and again in 1996, focused on **soft issues like democracy promotions, climate change and world trade** rather than military power and security.
- The above mentioned policies of the US were contradicted in response to Yugoslavian action against predominant Albanian population in Kosovo by targeting bombards through **Operation Infinite Reach** against Al-Qaeda in response to the bombings of US embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, Dar-es-Salaam and Tanzania in 1998.

9/11 AND THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

- On **11 September 2001**, nineteen hijackers hailing from a number of Arab countries took control of four commercial aircrafts shortly after take off and crashed into the **World Trade Centre in New York, Pentagon building in Arlington, Virginia (US Defence Department) and the capital building of the US Congress in Pennsylvania**, came to be known as the event of 9/11 in the US.
- In response to 9/11, George W. Bush won the elections in the US succeeding Bill Clinton. The US launched **Operation Enduring Freedom** as part of its '**Global War on Terror**' against all those suspected behind the attack in 9/11, mainly the Al-Qaeda and Taliban regime.
- The US forces made arrests all over the world, transported and detained the persons in secret prisons like **Guantanamo Bay**, a US navy base in Cuba where the prisoners did not enjoy the protection of international law or the law of their own country or that of the US. Even the UN representatives were not allowed to meet these persons.

THE IRAQ INVASION

- On 19 March 2003, the US launched **Operation Iraqi Freedom** to **prevent Iraq from developing Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)** for the

ostensible purpose to control oil fields and installing a regime in Iraq friendly to the US.

INDIA-RUSSIA RELATIONSHIP

- Russia and India share a vision of multipolar world order, collective security, greater regionalism, negotiated settlements of international conflicts, independent foreign policy and decision making through the UN.
- India has benefited from Russia on issues of Kashmir, energy supplies, sharing information on international terrorism, access to Central Asia and balancing its relations with China. In return, Russia has also benefited from India on the ground of the second largest arms market for Russia.

INDIA-US RELATIONSHIP

- During the Cold War, India's closest relationship was with the USSR.
- After the collapse of the Soviet Union, India decided to liberalise its economy and integrate it with the global economy. Hence the US also found India an attractive economic partner due to technological dimension and the role of Indian-American diaspora.
- There are three different strategies to decide what kind of relationship India should have with the USA. They are as follows:
 1. Those Indian analysts who see international politics in terms of military power, prefer that India should maintain its distance from US and should focus upon increasing its own national power
 2. Other analysts see the growing convergence of interests between US and India as a historic opportunity for India.
 3. A third group of analysts advocate that India should take the lead in establishing a coalition of countries from the developing world.

IMPORTANT TERMS

1. **Soviet System:** Soviet system was introduced after the Russian Revolution in 1917

based on the principles of egalitarian society and planned economy controlled by the state.

2. Socialist Bloc: The east European countries were known as Socialist Bloc because these countries were liberated from the fascist forces and their political and economic systems were based on this bloc only.

3. Capitalist Economy: In this economy, land and productive assets are owned and controlled by the Capitalists.

4. Unipolar System: Affairs at international level are dominated by only one superpower.

5. Multipolar System: Affairs at international level can not be dominated by one superpower only, instead a group of countries play an important role. **6. Egalitarian Society:** It believes that all people are equally important and should have the same rights and opportunities in life.

7. Largest Garage Sale: It was caused due to Shock Therapy to undervalue the valuable industries of the USSR to sell them at throwaway prices. **8. Shock Therapy:** The model of transition from authoritarian socialist system to a democratic capitalist system in Russia, Central Asia and East Europe under the influence of the World Bank and IMF.

IMPORTANT LEADERS AND THEIR ROLE

President John F Kennedy:

- President of USA during Cuban Missile Crisis
- Ordered US warships to intercept Soviet ships going towards Cuba
- Signed the Limited Test Ban Treaty with Soviet Union

Premier Nikita Khrushchev

- Leader of Soviet Union during Cuban Missile Crisis
- Wanted to convert Cuba into a Russian Base
- Planted Missiles in the Cuba in 1962
- Signed LTBT with USA

Fidel Castro

- Leader of Cuba during the Cuban missile crisis
- US wanted to overthrow him

Mikhail Gorbachev-

- Last leader of soviet union
- Introduced political and economic reforms
- Blamed for disintegration of the soviet union

Boris Yeltsin -

- First elected president of Russia
- Under his leadership Ukraine, Russia and Belarus declared that the soviet union was disbanded.
- Blamed for hardships suffered by Russians during shock therapy

George H.W Bush-

- President of US during the first gulf war (Operation desert storm)
- Deployed US forces in Saudi Arabia

Bill Clinton-

- US President during 1992 and 1996
- Focused on soft issues like democracy, climate change rather than hard politics
- Use of military power
 - 1.US led NATO Bombarded targets around Yugoslavia
 2. Operation infinite reach against Al-Qaeda

George W. Bush

- US president after Bill Clinton
- Global war on terror
 1. US Launched operation enduring freedom against all those suspected behind the 9/11 attack.
 2. Operation Iraqi freedom

Hosni Mubarak:

- Leader of Egypt
- His govt collapsed due to Arab Spring in 1979

TIMELINE

1917-Socialist revolution

1978- Coup in Afghanistan by People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan
24th December 1979- Invasion of Afghanistan by Soviet Union **1980s -**
Coming up of Taliban and Al Qaeda
1985- Mikhail Gorbachev became General secretary of the Communist party
1986- Soviet backed up Govt came to power
1988- Independence movement begins in Lithuania
1989- Removal of all Soviet troops from Afghanistan
November 9 ,1989- Fall of Berlin wall
1990- Lithuania declares independence
June 1990- Russian parliament declares independence from the soviet union
August 1990- Iraq invaded Kuwait
June 1991 - Boris Yeltsin becomes president of Russia
December 1991- Disintegration of the soviet union
8 December 1991- Formation of CIS
21 December 1991- Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan joins CIS
1992- Bill Clinton won the election
1990s- Shock therapy
1998 - Bombing of US embassies in Kenya, Nairobi, Dar es Salaam and Tanzania by Taliban
11 September 2001- 9/11 attack
2001- Operation Enduring Freedom
19 March 2003- Operation Iraqi Freedoms

QUESTION BANK

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ)

1. 'Socialist Bloc' Countries were called?
(A) Second World
(B) First World
(C) Third World

(D) Fourth World

2. Who gave the Model of Shock Therapy?

(A) World Bank and Asian Development Bank

(B) IMF and ADB

(C) World Bank and IMF

(D) World Bank and IAEA

3. Give the name of the first Soviet Republic among those who declared its independence?

(A) Chechnya

(B) Dagestan

(C) Lithuania

(D) Latvia

4. Arrange the following in chronological order?

(i) Unification of Germany.

(ii) Disintegration of the Soviet Union.

(iii) Berlin Wall Built.

(iv) Marshall Plan.

(A) (iii) (ii) (iv) (i)

(B) (ii) (iii) (iv) (i)

(C) (iv) (iii) (i) (ii)

(D) (ii) (i) (iv) (iii)

5. The question below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and

Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.

Assertion: - Russia got the seat of the Soviet Union in the Security Council.

Reason: - Russia was accepted as the successor state of the Soviet Union. (A)

If both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A). (B) If

both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A). (C) If

(A) is true but (R) is false.

(D) If (A) is false but (R) is true.

2 markers

1. What was the Soviet system?
2. As a result of shock therapy to which economic system, each state of the Soviet bloc was gradually to be absorbed?
3. Mention any two features that distinguish the Soviet economy from that of a capitalist country like the US.

4 markers

1. India's relation with Russia are important aspects of India's foreign policy. How was it of great benefit to India?
2. Explain the four consequences of Shock Therapy?
3. Mention the year and the relevance of the fall of the Berlin wall? What role did the World Bank play in the integration of the Soviet states?

6 markers

1. Describe the role of Gorbachev to reform the Soviet System and the effects of these reforms on the USSR?
2. Explain any six consequences of the disintegration of the Soviet Union?
3. Mention some tensions that were seen in the post soviet states?
4. In what three ways did the collapse of the Soviet Union affect world politics?

Explain.

5. Highlight any three positive and three negative features of the Soviet system in the Soviet Union.

MAP BASED QUESTION

In the given map of the world, identify the places marked as (A), (B), (C) and (D) write their correct names, their serial number and related alphabet?

In the given outline political map of India, four states have been marked as (A) (B) (C) and (D). Identify these states on the basis of the information given below and write their correct names in your answer book along with the respective serial numbers of the information used and the concerned alphabets as per the format that follows:

Sr. Number for the information used	Alphabet Concerned	Name of the States
(I)		
(II)		
(III)		
(IV)		

WORLD POLITICAL



- (A) Nation that came into existence after the socialist revolution of 1917. **Russia**
(B) A nation that was interfered with by Soviet Union in 1979. **Afghanistan** (C)
Countries that came into existence after 1991. **Slovenia**
(D) Nation that suffered due to Civil War for 10 Years up to 2001. **Tajikistan**