



Nationalism

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Global History

What is Nationalism?

- ⦿ Nationalism is a people's sense of belonging together as a nation
- ⦿ It also includes such feelings:
 - ⦿ loyalty to the nation
 - ⦿ pride in its culture and history
 - ⦿ a desire for national independence

What is Nationalism?

- Nationalism develops as people join together to form a unified government
- Sometimes begins as people:
 - fight to establish a unique ethnic or religious identity
 - struggle to prevent their identity from being changed or erased by a more powerful group

Rise of Nationalism

- Nationalism increased after the Middle Ages
 - People began to look beyond their local communities and became loyal to monarchs

Rise of Nationalism

- Nationalism also increased as nation-states formed
 - A nation-state has three characteristics:
 - 1. Its people share some or all of common traits such as culture, history, language, and religion
 - 2. Its people experience a feeling of unity
 - 3. Its people inhabit a specific area of land with its own independent government

Rise of Nationalism

- By the 1700s, these factors led to England, France, and Spain to become nation-states
- In the 1800s, the nation-states of Germany and Italy formed due to unification movements
 - In both places several provinces or states combined into a single political unit

Rise of Nationalism

- In the 1800s and 1900s, many nation-states also formed as a result of independence movements
- Nationalist groups sought to break away from large empires and create smaller states

Examples of Nationalism

- The Greeks broke away from the Ottoman Empire (1829)
- India broke away from Britain in 1947

Examples of Nationalism

- In the 1990s, we saw the breakup of several Eastern European countries including Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia
- Today, the Palestinians are seeking an independent state based on nationalism

Positive Effects of Nationalism

- Nationalism gives people a sense of belonging and pride
- People are willing to make sacrifices for their country
- Nationalism leads to a common culture/cultural heritage
- People take greater interest in their country's achievements such as literature, music, and sports

Negative Effects of Nationalism

- Nationalism creates tension between nations
- Can lead to war as countries seek to expand their territory in the name of nationalism
- Extreme nationalism can lead to racial hatred and persecution of minority groups

- Cerulo, Karen A. "Nationalism." *World Book Student*. World Book, 2010. Web. 7 Jan. 2010.