

# Nationalism



# What is nationalism?

- Loyalty / devotion to a nation
  - **How do you identify yourself?????**
  - Nationalism has not always existed!
    - Instead of a nation, people could be loyal to.....
      - Tribe
      - Ethnic / racial group
      - Religious group

# Why is nationalism important?

- Has divided people because of numerous wars, conflicts, and other forms of tensions as certain groups fight for the right to rule themselves (to be autonomous)
- Has also helped to unify people of a common background and create strong nations

# History of Nationalism

- Feudalism (476 AD - 1300s)
  - Europe is broken up into multiple kingdoms
    - Small areas of land - based on manorial system
    - People are isolated from each other
      - No such thing as “France” or “Germany” or “Italy” or “England”
- Renaissance, Scientific Revolution, Age of Exploration, Enlightenment (1300s - 1600s)
  - Europe begins to form nations with strong leaders (absolute monarchs) to bind people of a common background (ex: language, ethnicity, religion) together
    - Ex: Louis XIV in France; Elizabeth I in England
- So....what binds Americans together? Brits? Germans? Israelis? Iraqis?

# Examples of Nationalism

- American Revolution (1776)
  - People in the 13 colonies began to believe they had a common political identity that differed from the British people
    - Ex: “all men are created equal,” people have a right to choose their govt. rather than live under a King
- Latin American Revolutions (1780s - 1820s)
  - Simon Bolivar, Jose de San Martin, and Toussaint L'Ouverture all led fights for independence in Latin American countries against the Spanish government

# Examples of Nationalism

- French Revolution (1789 - 1815)
  - 99% rose up and overthrew the 1% ruling class and created a new **identity** for the French people (“liberty, equality, fraternity”)
  - Nationalism spread across the European continent as people were inspired by the French Revolution!

# Examples of Nationalism

- Backlash: Congress of Vienna (1815)
  - After Napoleon's defeat: how do we redraw Europe?
    - Prince Metternich (Austro-Hungarian Empire): Nationalism = violent revolution!
    - Tried to restore absolute monarchs and to preserve empires (his own!) in order to prevent nationalist uprisings



# Examples of Nationalism

- Italy (1861)
  - Italy = fragmented group of small kingdoms
    - However, the people of the Italian peninsula, shared language, **culture** and a historical background.
      - **Count Camilo Cavour**
      - **Giuseppe Garibaldi**: the "sword" of Italian nationalism. **Red Shirts** conquered forces opposed to unification
      - **Giuseppe Mazzini**: created **Young Italy** an organization devoted to a united Italy.



# Examples of Nationalism

- Germany (1871)

- Fragmented just like Italy

- Prussia: largest of the German kingdoms

- Prime Minister: Otto von Bismarck

- “Blood and Iron:” Germany must nationalize to compete with the rest of its European rivals

- Blood = militarism and sacrifice of German people

- » German people were united through wars with France and Austria

- Iron = industrialization of Germany

- Successful: Germany would become a European power and begin to imperialize

- Bismarck’s “Blood and Iron” would lead to World War I



# Examples of Nationalism

- Austro-Hungarian Empire (1800s)
  - Nationalism challenged Empires!
    - People that belonged to a particular empire (large political units) wanted their independence!
    - Balkans: incredibly diverse region of Europe (ethnically and religiously)
      - Ethnic cleansing occurs there in the 1990s!!
      - Serbia v. Austro-Hungary
        - » Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand helps to start World War I!



# Examples of Nationalism

- Ottoman Empire (1453 - 1917)
  - “Sick man of Europe”
    - People that belonged to a particular empire (large political units) wanted their independence!
    - Ottoman Empire ruled over a diverse group of people ranging from Turkey to the Middle East

