



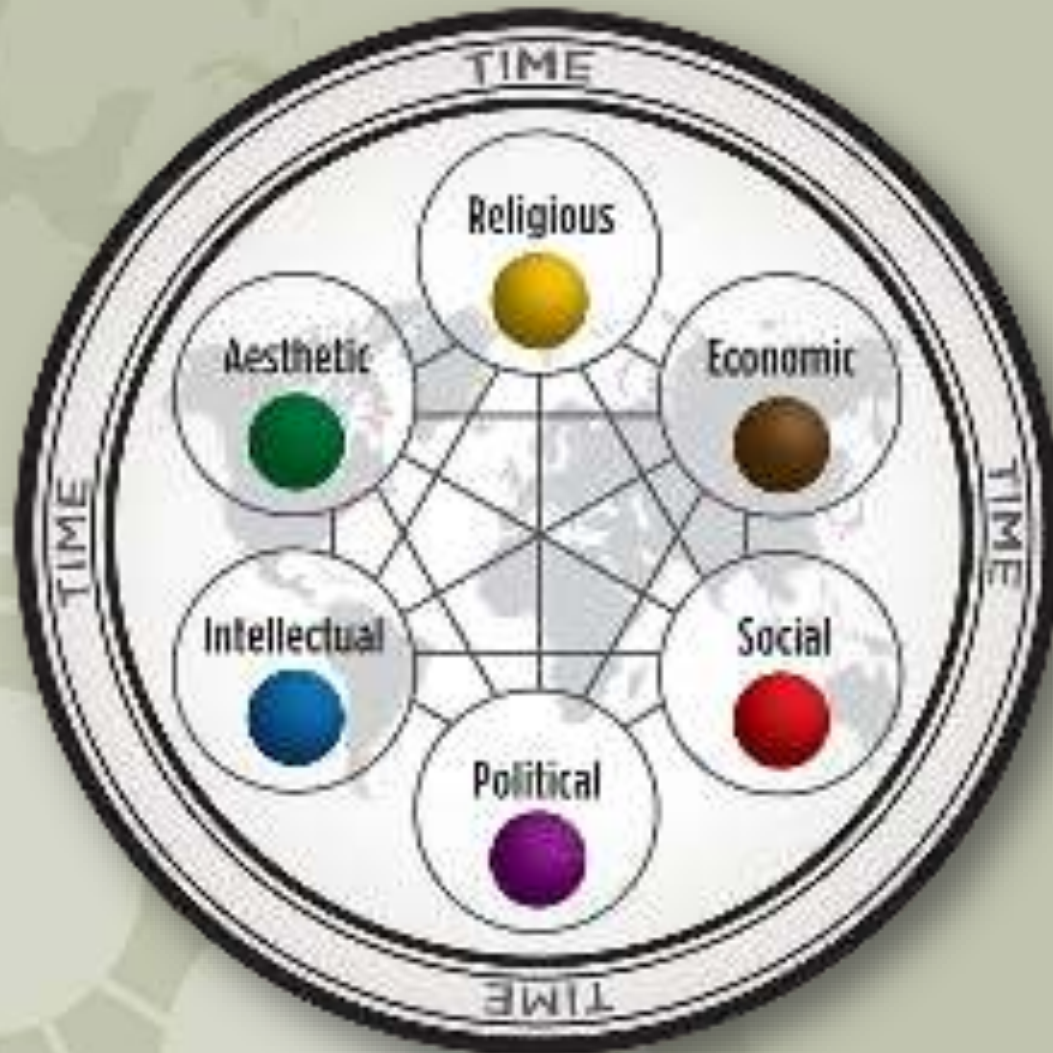
History

a cultural approach

World War I and its Disputed Settlement.

Dr. Prashant Deshmukh.
Head Deptt. History
A.R.B.Garud College
Shendurni

Time and Geography



MAP of South Eastern Europe



MAP, 1914-1915



MAP of German position 1918



MAP of Europe after WWI



POLITICAL



Triple Alliance

- Bismark allied with Austria-Hungary and Russia and kept France and British tensions high to isolate France
- France was too weak to fight alone
- Italy joined Germany and Austria
- William II fired Bismark and alienated Russia who then allied with France



Otto von Bismark

Political

Anglo-French Entente and Anglo-Russian Agreement

- Friendly relations between England and Germany gave way to open hostility for several reasons:
 - Bismark' s calculated role in Scramble for Africa
 - Anti-British feelings over Boer War
 - Germany' s building of world-class navy
 - “sword-rattling” by Germany



Anglo-Russian agreement

Anglo-French Entente and Anglo-Russian Agreement

- Anglo-French Entente promised mutual defense
- Anglo-Russian Agreement linked England, Russia for first time since Napoleon



Political cartoon depicting the Afghan Emir Sher Ali with his "friends" the Russian Bear and British Lion (1878)

Causes of the War

- Immediate cause was assassination of Archduke Ferdinand
- Several underlying causes as well
 - Nationalism
 - International imperialism
 - Weariness of peace
- Austrians presented Serbs with ultimatum
 - Acceptance would mean loss of independence
 - Refusal would mean war; Serbs chose war



Archduke Franz Ferdinand

Military Action, 1914-1918

- Within a week in August, all member nations but Italy were at war
- Italy bargained with both sides for months
- Austria-Hungary, Germany, Turkey, and Bulgaria (in 1915)



Italian World War I soldier

Military Action, 1914-1918

- Serbia, Russia, France, Britain, Italy (in 1915), and Romania (in 1916)
- United States and Greece entered in 1917 on the Entente or Allied side
- Battlefronts:
 - Western Front (France/Belgium)
 - Eastern Front (Russia)
 - Alpine Front (Italy/Austria-Hungary)

Russian front in World War I



Collapse of Central Powers

- Germany forced to surrender after Austria's exit
- Wilson's Fourteen Points:
 - “Peace without victors”
 - Self-determination for all nationalities
 - Disarmament
 - Freedom of the seas
 - International peace-keeping body
- November 1918, Germany surrendered
- Gave impression that they had not been conquered, but sold-out by politicians



Bushnell, E.A. "It's the Only Way Out, Wilhem." October 1918.

What Else Came out of the Negotiations?

- Politically
 - Germany officially “started” the war – Paragraph 231 of the Versailles Treaty
 - Reparations question
 - Germany to pay damages for war, set at \$33 billion
 - Defeated and new nations became republics
- Diplomatically
 - League of Nations: universal membership as permanent board of mediation in international disputes
 - U.S. Senate rejected treaties

League of Nations



Political

Evaluation of the Treaties

- Peace tried to ignore certain political realities
 - Russia kept out of negotiations
 - Losers presented with treaties; did not have input
 - Germany, Russia did not join League of nations for some time
 - League could not enforce decisions to keep peace, had no armed forces
- Treaties lasted less than 20 years

SOCIAL



People on the Home Fronts

- Female labor
 - Filled places left by men going off to war
 - Good pay, patriotism, even coercion used
 - Many new occupations now open to women
 - Generally accepted, if not for equal pay, got new respect



Women munitions workers in
Paris, 1916.
(Photo by Topical Press Agency)

People on the Home Front

- Social behavior
 - Traditional standards relaxed, especially for women
 - Demanded birth control
 - Dress and conduct less restrictive
 - Alcohol consumption went up
 - Profound, permanent effect
 - Scarcity of men changed norm of acceptable sexual conduct
 - Rural youth especially never returned to pre-war lifestyles

What Came out of the Negotiations?

- Territorially
 - Germany lost land to Poland, Czechoslovakia, France
 - Austria broken into components – Successor States
 - Turkish Empire dissolved
- Ethnically
 - Nations had one ethnic majority, many minorities
 - Attempts to draw ethnically correct boundaries not possible
 - Minorities often victims of prejudice



Poland's flag



Czech's flag



France's flag



ECONOMIC



Home Front during the War

- Combatant nations sought public support for war
 - Mobilization of civilian population through propaganda
 - Food, fuel, clothing were rationed
 - All men regarded as “soldiers in the war for production”



Rationing

Economic

Home Front during the War

- Government control of economy
 - Labor was allocated by bureaucracy, not market
 - Raw materials, currency, imports
 - New taxes
 - Control of wages, rents, consumer prices



Clothing factory turned airplane hangar

INTELLECTUAL



Psychic Consequences of War

- Political disillusionment
 - Mood spread despite intensive propaganda
 - Began to doubt their leaders
 - Widespread disillusion with peace arrangement
- Skepticism toward authority
 - Veterans felt betrayed, disappointed
 - All authority now suspect: clergy, diplomats, teachers

Psychic Consequences of War

- End to religion of science and progress
 - Most people had assumed future would be better, progress was inevitable
 - War ended such naïve optimism
 - Real doubt if there had been any victors



Soldiers respecting faith

Peace Treaties 1919-1920

- Permanent peace arrangements worked out in Paris in 1919
- Wilson's popularity considered naïve; blocked by other leaders
- European leaders united against Americans
- Negotiations conducted in secret, only involved victors



Woodrow Wilson



RELIGIOUS



Bertrand Russell

- Bertrand Russell claimed the World War I started because of religion.
- He said, “The first World War was wholly Christian in origin”.
- He also argued those who opposed the war, the socialist, were also “anti-Christian”.



Bertrand Russell

Religious

Destructions of Places of Worship



Apocalypse: This was all that remained of the Belgian town of Ypres in March 1919 after fierce fighting during World War One reduced it to mere rubble

Religious

AESTHETIC



Some Positive Elements

- Fine arts: new ideas, perspectives, theories
- Politics
- Women got vote in most countries
- Socialists, communists hoping for worker revolution



United States propaganda poster

Aesthetic

Creation of Propaganda



U.S.A Poster



- Archives & Special Collections, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, The University of Montana-Missoula.

Aesthetic

Creation of Propaganda



- Kriegsanleihe, hilft den Hütern eures Glückes. LOC Summary: Poster shows a man holding a sword with his other arm around his wife and baby. Text: War loans help the guardians of your happiness.

Aesthetic

INTELLECTUAL/POLITICAL



Two Wars, Two Fronts

- Course of war was unforeseen
 - Experts were mistaken
 - Generals were unprepared
 - Especially on Western Front
 - Experts thought offense would overwhelm defense and war would be over in few weeks
 - Exact opposite happened: defense proved stronger
 - War lasted 4 ½ years, not a few weeks



German soldiers

Political

Intellectual

Military Action

- Bloody stalemate
 - Central powers planned to hold off Russians, smash through into France, and forcing surrender - plan almost worked
 - Permanently stalled in France against French and British forces
 - Battle lines moved very little for whole war



Political

Intellectual

Military Action

- U.S. entry, Russian exit
 - US entry was vitally important
 - Triggered by resumption of unrestricted submarine warfare
 - Had been sympathetic to Allies for some time
 - Excuse for entry was sinking of passenger ships with American civilians aboard
 - Russian effort collapsed after Revolution of 1917
 - U.S. war industry met demands placed on them

Political

Intellectual

Evaluation of the Treaties

- Criticism came from victors and losers
 - Losers got off too easy; Germany would rise again
 - Peace guided by vengeance
 - Peace did not bring about ideals discussed earlier
 - Keynes – most scathing critique
 - described peace as total destruction
- Senate rejection of Versailles Treaty was major turning point – no support

Political

Intellectual

REVIEW



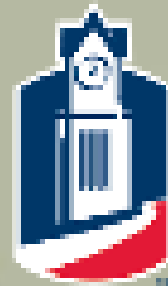
Discussion Questions

1. World War I was the first major war in which the idea of a home front was important. How is this concept used today?
2. World War I dragged on for nearly four years without resolution until two events broke the stalemate: the Russian withdrawal from the war and the entry of the United States. What do you think would have happened if the US had not entered the war? How might the war, and the peace settlement, been different? Why?



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