

### Chapter-3

## Nationalist Movement in Indo-China

The meaning of Indo-china countries in south-east Asia is related to the peninsular region spread today in around 3 lakh (2.80 lakh) sq. km. covering the areas of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Its northern border touches Myanmar and China and China-sea is in its south and the region of Myanmar is in its west.



**Map of Indo-China**

World of History :: 43

From the very ancient time China had its influence on Annam and Takin of Vietnam and both the states were tributary states of China for centuries. Actually, whenever a powerful ruler ruled over China, he annexed these states into his territory, but whenever the control of Central power loosened, these regions became independent. In spite of Chinese dominance, the people of this region had developed language-script together with their separate cultural identification. The region had impact of the philosophy of Confucius together with the Buddhist religion.

**In third century there was domination of Shih Huang T. After that the emperor of Han dynasty Wuti again captured the region. Then in 15<sup>th</sup> Century the emperor Yongle of Ming dynasty took over the region. In 19<sup>th</sup> Century the region was in the control of Manchu government.**



**Temple of Ankor Vat**

On the other hand Laos-Cambodia had the influence of Indian culture. In fourth century A. D. Kambuj state was formed with its king of the Indian origin. Kambuj became the main centre of Indian culture. In the 12th century

Raj Suryaverma-II built Ankor temple. But in 16<sup>th</sup> century Kambuj had declined and the situation of internal conflict had emerged in the medieval period.

Thus the region was known as Indo-China because of the cultural influences of China and India over its different regions.

### **Advent of mercantile companies and French domination:**

When Vasco de Gamma with the intention of connecting to India discovered sea route to India in 1498, the Portuguese merchants were connected to the countries of South-East Asia together with India. After making Malaka a trading centre in 1510 A. D. trading was started with Indo-Chinese countries. This was followed by the arrival of the companies of Spain, Dutch, England, and France. Among the companies, no

#### **Advent of companies**

- (i) Portugal**
- (ii) Dutch**
- (iii) England**
- (iv) France**

company Barring French, tried to establish its political domination, but French regularly attempted for that. In 17<sup>th</sup> Century many French merchants and priests arrived in the region.

Just after 1747 France had started taking interest in Amman. In 1787 he got an opportunity to make treaty with the ruler of Kochin-China. But till now French had not applied its power to dominance and in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, violent movements were going on against rising activities of French priests in Annam, Kochin-China. Still in 1862 Annam was compelled to make treaty on the basis of military power. Next year Cambodia was taken into control and in 1783 French army entered in Tonkin. And thus by the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century the whole Indo-China came into the control of France.

- 1861- Kochin-China**
- 1863 - Cambodia**
- 1884 - Annam**
- 1904 - Laos**

### **Objective of the establishment of colony by France:**

The basic objective of France making Indo-China its colony was to face the mercantile competition of Dutch and British companies. The French were

proving weak in India. Main mercantile competitor of France in China was England. But from the security point of views, the Indo-China region was suitable place from where they could control the difficult situations of both sides India and China. The second objective was that raw materials for industrialisation were supplied from colonies and market was available for manufactures goods. Third objective was to make the backward societies civilized. To make the backward societies civilized was the third objective and self-declared responsibility of the developed European states.

The French started exploitation for commercial towns and sea-ports. After that they began to exploit the farmers of the interior rural areas. The basis of Tonkin's life was red valley, while Cambodian's plain of Mekong River and for the Kochi-China delta area of Mekong. Mineral resources like coal, tin, zinc, tungsten, chromium were found in the adjacent states to China. Farming of rubber was done in hilly areas. Cultivation of paddy was done in the plain areas.

Together with exploitation to increase productivity in agriculture the French for the first time made full-fledged arrangement of canals and water exit system and this agriculture sector was encouraged in the marshy field and forest. There was only outcome of the endeavour that by 1931 Vietnam became the third largest rice exporter country in the world.

Works were taken on the basis of one-sided context from the labourers in rubber gardens, farms and mines. Zamindari had adopted its most corrupted form. Although the communication system in whole Indo-China from north to south remained on the fast pace and a vast network of railway lines and roads were spread, yet the condition of farmers and labourers had been deteriorating because entire system was indulged in exploitation.

As far as the matter of education was concerned, the persons till now getting education in traditional local language or Chinese language were started imparting education in French language, but the French dwellers of this region had apprehension of the positive impact of education.

**One sided contract system was a type of bounded labour. Labourers had no rights while the master had unbridled power.**

**Residents of Indo-China were called Colon.**

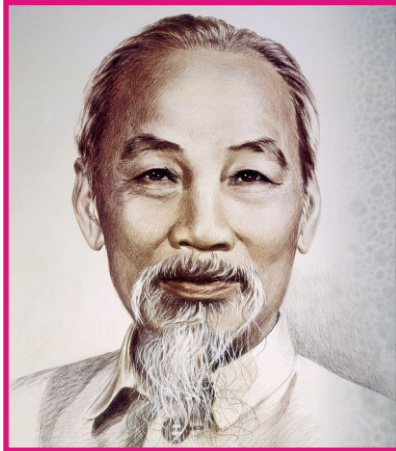
So effort was being made to keep the common people out of reach of education. For this in the final yearly examination, local children were failed. There was a great difference between the life of common people and the French. By 1920s students started forming political parties. Closing of Hanoi University was the height of French exploitation.

### **Development of Nationalism in Indo-China:**

The French colonialism in Indo-China had frequently been facing rebellions from the very early time, but in the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century it began to be more clamorous. Now people had started to express their resentment over petty issues. In that context in 1930 Phan Boi Chan founded a revolutionary organisation named Jan Hoi under the leadership of Duy Tan Hoi. Phan Boi Chan created a turmoil by writing a book “the history of the loss of Vietnam.”

The victory of Japan over Russia in 1905 became a source of inspiration for the Indo-Chinese, simultaneously thoughts of thinkers like Rousseau and Montesquieu were inspiring them. In the meantime there was another nationalist leader Phan Chu Trinh who wanted to make republican the democratic form of nationalist movement. The students who went to China for pursuing education were supporter of this type of thoughts. Change of power in China in the leadership of Sun Yat Sen provided much encouragement to them. These students founded Vietnam Kuan Phue hoi (Vietnam Liberation Association).

Although initially the development of early nationalism in Indo-China was limited to the cities like Kochin-China, Annam and Tonkin, but when the First World War started, thousands of people of these provinces were appointed in military and thousands of labourers were taken away to France as bounded labourers. These armies were deployed on the vanguard so their number was larger among the deceased. The people of Indo-China reacted by these development and the patriots founded an organisation named 'Vietnamese Nationalist Party' in 1914 the first meeting of which was held at Canton. But the suspicious French government suppressed it. On the other hand the condition of the people had been deteriorating continuously. China had control over agriculture production, trade and fish trade of Indo-China



**Ho-Ch-Minh**

**Jungian founded Anime party. It was fully influenced by Moscow's Canton and a party of terrorist thoughts.**

still they remained isolated from main politics. These made the people angry and they launched Chinese boycott movement in 1919.

With the establishment of French domination in Indo-China special attention was paid on administration. Although only Cochin-China was under direct French administration; the other four province Tonkin, Annam, Cambodia and Laos were under the ancient monarchs for which there was provision of appointment of a residents.

After World War-I, some liberal policies were adopted in administration. A house of representatives was constituted in Cochin-China and there was provision of election for its members. Simultaneously the local people were given importance in civil administration. To some extent the

monarch tried to bring reforms in administration but the people could not happy by this nominal reforms. In these circumstances a Vietnam's student Nguyen Ai Quoc (Ho Chi Minh) founded a group of communists in Paris in 1917. Later on Ho Chi Minh went to Moscow for study and being influenced by communism, he founded 'Vietnamese Revolutionary Party' in 1925, together with make arrangement of military training for the workers. Finally, uniting all scattered revolutionary groups of Vietnam 'Vietnam Kang San Deng' (Vietnam Communist Party) was founded in 1930. It was a party following fully the violent thoughts.

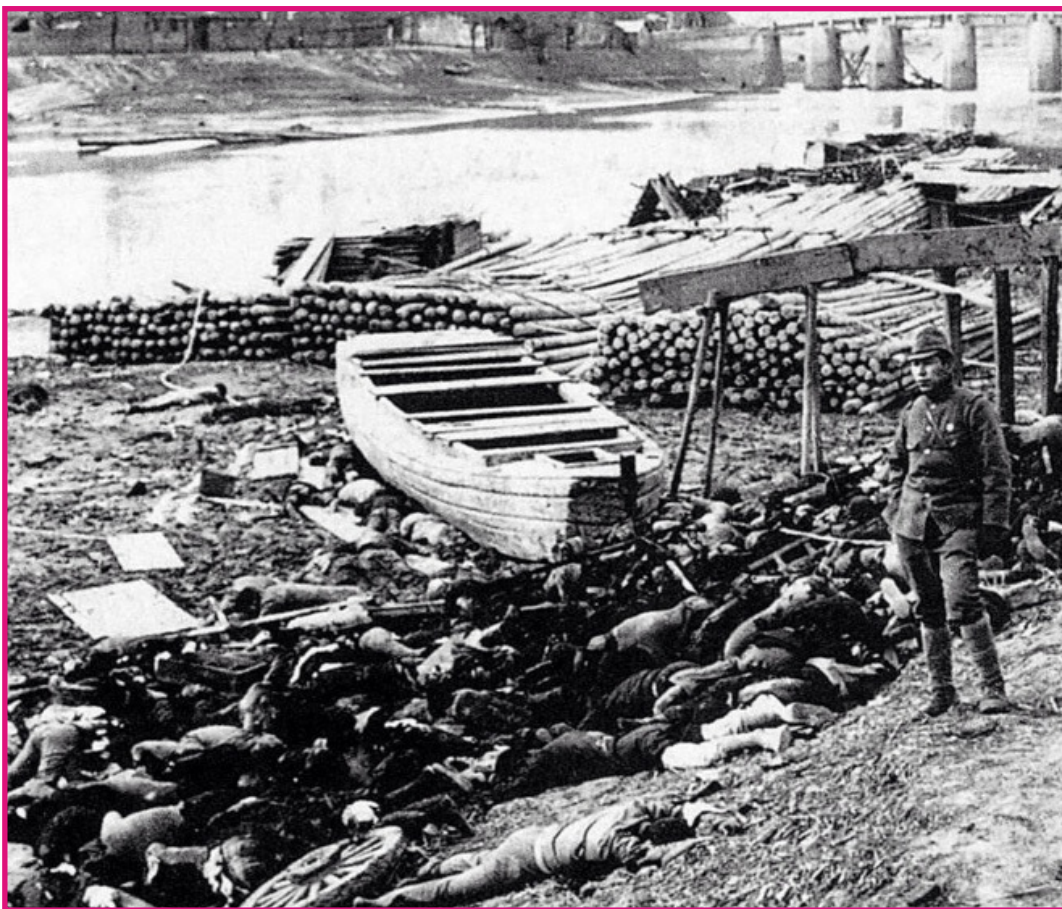
The world-wide recession in the decade of 1930 contributed to the development of nationalism. Rate of rice, rubber etc. had fallen down. Employment in Indo-China was on increase. Being annoyed with this situation the farmers also accepted communism and nationalist movement flared up. On the other hand the repressive activities of the French government became more intense and cruel. Bullets were fired mercilessly over the rebels and bombs were dropped by aeroplanes.



Thousands of people lost their lives in this repressive activities. The revolt subdued but it was like dormant volcano that boiled within and thus underground movement started.

### **The Second World War and Vietnamese independence:**

The circumstances resulting from the Second World War presented crucial way to the Vietnamese. France was defeated by Germany in 1940 and German supported government was established in France. Japan, on the basis of a treaty, got opportunity to send military to Indo-China. Taking advantage of this, Japan established its dominance first in Tonkin, then on Annam and finally in the whole Indo-China.



**Japan's aggression on Indo-China**

It was a kind of double government in Indo-China where the power was in the hand of Japanese under administrative guise of French. As a result of that the Vietnamese secret revolutionaries got chance and they started activities against both the Japanese and the French.

In spite of suppression, the communist group was safe and natural inclination of public was increasing towards it. The workers of whole country founded 'Vietminh' (Vietnamese Independence League) under leadership of Ho Chi Minh and started gorilla war policy by including afflicted farmers, terror-struck-traders and intellectuals.

During the second war America joined the war by its aggression on Pearl Harbour in Japan. In 1944, France came out of the control of Germany and after American's nuclear attack on Japan, under the Potsdam declaration, Japan surrendered. The Japanese army started evacuation from Vietnam and France had no strength to re-establish itself in Indo-China. Taking advantage of this situation the Vietnamese revolutionaries established democratic republic under the leadership of Vietminh, and declared independence of Vietnam on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1945. Ho Chi Minh was made head of the government.

Since Indo-China was divided into many states and Japanese military was evacuating Indo-China, the old monarchs of Cambodia, Laos and Annam got dignity. Bao Dai became the emperor of Annam.

But it was difficult for these emperors to endure the communist nationalists. Therefore, Bao Dai left his post on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 1945 and Vietnam became a republic.



**Bao-Dai**



### French Policy towards Indo-China:

After Second World War, Britain, America and France engaged themselves for reestablishment of their empires in South-East Asia. France too was eager to re-establish its lost empire in Indo-China. Therefore, it made a plan for new colonial system.

**Colonial plan of France:** (i) The vast empire of France will be transformed into a Union comprising all related colonies (ii) Indo-China will be a self-governed part this federation (iii) A Union will be formed by inclusion of the protected states of Indo-China and Cochin-China (iv) Foreign policy and military of Indo-China Union will remain in the control of France.

France declared that 'the vast empire of France will be made a union, comprising all related colonies.' Indo-China will also be a part of this great union. Foreign policy and military of all related colonies will remain in the control of France. It was like an extensive form of commonwealth. But after evacuation of Japanese military, when French army reached Saigon, Vietnamese gorillas waged a fierce war and the French army got trapped in Saigon. Finally, Hanoi Pact was signed between France and Vietnam on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1946.

Under the pact France accepted Vietnam as a republic in the form of independent unit, and agreed that this republic will remain in Indo-China Union and the Indo-China union will remain in French Union. The entry of French army in Tonkin was also accepted.

Due to ambitious policy of Vietnam no agreement could be done with Vietnam over formation of Indo-China Union. France wanted that the president of the former union should be a High Commissioner appointed by her and the demand of the Vietnamese leader was that all states of the union should be independent. France then established a separate government in Cochin-China and thus the Hanoi pact broke. France got support of some Vietnamese reactionists forces and by their help the newly formed government became functional. Till now the power of Ho Chi Minh was to face the French army directly. Therefore, gorilla war started again.

Taking advantage of the gorilla war, France called on Bao Dai from Paris and made him emperor of Vietnam, because France was hopeful of the support of anti-communist Vietnamese. By now the whole world had divided into two blocks, capitalist and communist. France had support of capitalist countries like America and Britain. In this situation Ho Chi Min had to face some difficulties because till now he had not formed full fledged communist government. Some non-communist nationalist forces were also in his joint fronts. But in 1949 Ho Chi Minh openly accepted the People's Republic of China as his ideal, and became a die-heart communist. Russia and China gave their recognition to Vietnam Republic in 1950, and began to provide excessive military and technical support.



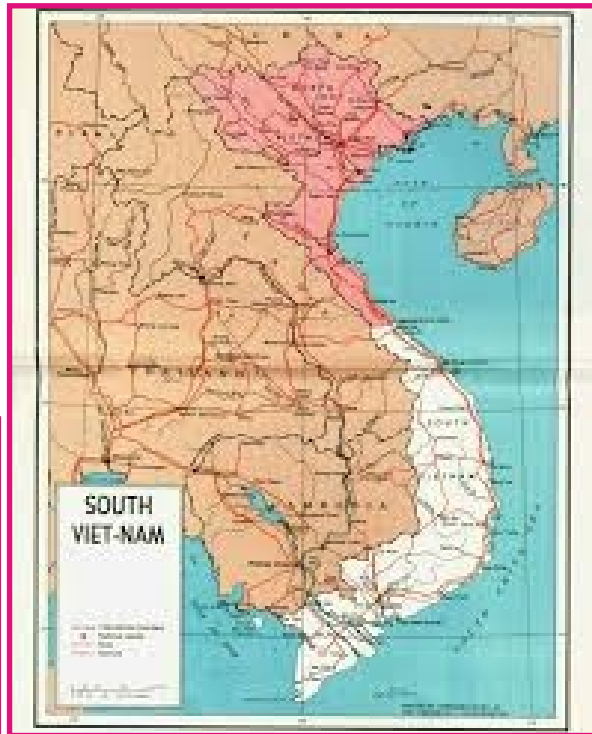
**Vietnamese army firing in the war of Dine-Bien-Fu**

The situation of Indo-China became very complex in 1950, because in the northern Vietnam there was government of Ho Chi Minh and the French supported Bao Dai government was in the southern Vietnam. Old monarchs were in Laos and Cambodia, that was in the French control. The demand of independence in Laos and Cambodia was increasing fast. Gorilla army attacked on southern Vietnam from Laos and Cambodia and then hid themselves in the forests. In this course the Gorilla armies made a terrible attack on Dine-Bien-Fu. France was terribly defeated in the war. Around 16,000 French armies had to surrender and the communists took control of Dine-Bien-Fu.

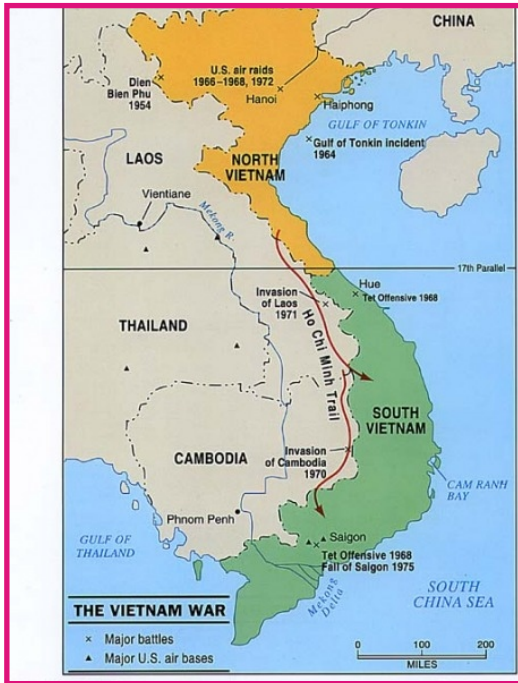
### American Intervention:

America that was supporting France till now, adopted the policy of intervention and declared it against the communists. Since Russia was supporting one faction from the beginning, so it seemed that the third World War would start. In such circumstances, a conference was convened in Geneva in May, 1954, for a discussion over Indo-China problem that is called Geneva Agreement. Geneva Agreement separated Vietnam into two parts.

**Ho Hoa was a Buddhist religious revolutionary movement, started in 1939 in the leadership of Huynh Fu So. The revolutionaries held terrorist incidents including self-immolation.**



South Vietnam



**North Vietnam**

The northern area, of North Vietnam adjacent to Hanoi River was given to the communists and the southern area in the south was handed over to American supported government. Here a religious class was also indulged in the movement. It was Hoa Hoa. Hoa Hoa had become more violent. Nyo Dinh Diem started to subdue the movement very cruelly.

As a result of Geneva Agreement, the system of government changed in Laos and Cambodia. A form of legal monarchy was accepted there and parliamentary system was adopted.

Although these were considered as neutral countries, yet the impact of communism was increasing here. On the other hand America was adamant to stop these regions from going under the communism influence.

### Civil War in Laos:

The political boundary of Laos in the east touched the northern boundary of Vietnam. It had become obvious in 1954 that two provinces of northern Laos — Phongsali and Hona Fan was under domination of communists and they were prepared to escalate communism. Political instability started in Laos when by removing monarchy parliamentary system was adopted there. Both Laos and Cambodia were accepted as a complete independent country. Provision was also made, if the people want to form a government by unifying whole Vietnam through election, before mid of 1956. To look after execution of Geneva Agreement a three member international monitoring commission was constituted with India, Canada and Poland as its members.

The Geneva Agreement definitely provided some peace on immediate effect but soon Indo-China disturbance started because the Ho Chi Minh government in northern Vietnam became strong and started thinking over unification of whole Vietnam, but the condition in the southern Vietnam was contrary to it. The administration of America supported Bao Dai government was in the hands of Ngo Dinh Diem.

To have their political hold over Laos in these days in southern Vietnam three step brothers of deposed royal families together with the communists had adopted their own ways. Among them the first prince Suvann Phuma was neutral, the second prince Suphann Bong famous as Pathet Lao wanted to bring communist system in Laos by forming his own military organisation and the third prince Phoumi Nosavan was a follower of rightist. The conflict for mutual political supremacy of these three brothers caused instability in Laos. In addition to that the support and intervention of two groups — America and Russia — was escalating it more.

After election in Laos, national government was formed on 25<sup>th</sup> December, 1955 under the leadership of Suvann Phuma. Opposing it, Pathet Lao started gorilla war, but in 1957, both reached an agreement and members of the party of Pathetic Lao 'Nao-Leo-Hack-Sat' (N.L.H.S.) also got place in the government. This situation was unbearable for America. Since Pathet Lao was leftist, the agreement between both the brothers were broken due to US conspiracy, and gorilla war restarted. In the meantime the third brother General Phoumi Nosavan got opportunity. He overthrew the elected government in a coup and established a rightist government. There was another coup after three months and a military government was formed with Captain Kangli as its head. But all three brothers with their joint effort drove away Captain Kangli towards north and thus Laos indulged in a horrible civil war.

The US - Russian indirect participation in the Laos Civil War once again put the world peace in jeopardy. India, then, raised the demand to revive International Monitoring Commission according to Geneva agreement. Finally it was decided to convene a conference of 14 nations with the consent



of Russia and America over the participation of three wings of Laos. The conference held in May, 1961 and all princes gave their consent on formation of a joint cabinet, and the cabinet was formed accordingly but the foreign minister of Laos was assassinated due to US conspiracy and the civil war re-started. Since America did not like extension of communism, therefore, through election, Suvann Phuma was made Prime Minister and Suphann Bong Deputy Prime Minister. Being unsatisfied with this, Pathet Lao attacked on Laos in 1970 and captured the plain of Jars. Though America campaigned heavy bombardment in this war but the aggression of Pathet Lao could not be stopped.

Russia made America responsible for attack on Laos and its deteriorating situation. The complex situation arose only due to direct



**Bombarding on Ho-chin-Minh way**

Involvement of America. Thousands of south Vietnamese armies entered Laos with American army, fighter planes and bomber helicopters having objective to capture Ho Chi Minh highway. Pathetic Lao appealed Russia and Britain to put pressure on America and stop her. But China warned U.S. In the beginning, US seemed to win the war but its forces trapped after reaching Ho Chi Minh highway. They had only option, before the strong resistance of Laos, to return. Thus US could not stop escalation of left forces by its attack.

### **Cambodian Crisis:**

After being an independent state constitutional monarchy was accepted and Narottam Sihanouk was accepted as the ruler in Cambodian in 1954. Narottam Sihanouk had been following the policy of non-alignment and neutrality in Cambodia since 1954. So Cambodia did not join South East Asian Military Organisation. America wanted its influence in this region so he was annoyed with Sihanouk and had Cambodia disturbed by instigating Thailand. Due to this diplomatic action of US, Sihanouk in 1963 refused to take any help from America. For the US, it was a matter of humiliation. In 1965, he started aggression on Vietnam including boarder villages of Cambodia. Then Sihanouk broke all diplomatic relations with the US. Later on in 1969, America made a rain of poison through aeroplanes in the boarder regions of Cambodia causing destruction of rubber farmers in around 40 thousand acres. Sihanouk demanded compensation from the US and showing inclination towards Russia began to extend diplomatic relation with Germany.

In the then two block system of the world, capitalist US did not want Cambodia to have sympathy with communist countries. So, believing Cambodia's non-alignment one sided the charged Sihanouk government of having relation with northern Vietnam and Vietcong. So US wanted to overthrow Sihanouk by organizing leftists through CIA.



**Narottam Sihanouk**

Due to the US conspiracy, the leftists in 1970 staged violent demonstration before the Vietnamese embassy. In this context Sihanouk had to take stern action against Vietnam.

The national parliament of Cambodia through a unanimous resolution removed Narottam Sihanouk from power on 18th March, 1970 and a new government was formed headed by General Wan Nol, with the US support.

Narottam Sihanouk by forming a government in exile in pecking, declared General Loan Nol's government illegal, dissolved the national parliament and appealed to the people to depose the present government. Sihanouk started war against new government from April, 1970, for which he got full support of the armies of Vietnam and Vietcong. Receiving the forces of Narottam Sihanouk marched towards capital Phnom Penh. The US immediately intervened in it. The US military entered Cambodia through southern Vietnam and a fierce battle started. It was a very horrible war.

This policy of the American president was being widely opposed even by the Americans. President Nixon had to announce to recall the American forces, but the Southern Vietnam made the situation worse by announcing to stay its forces in Cambodia. Now it was felt that China would intervene in the Cambodian crisis. Thus, once again the security of South East Asia was in danger. Assessing the situation Indonesia proposed to convene a meeting of Asian countries. The meeting was held at Djakarta on 16th May, 1970. Although the meeting was successful yet there was no change in the situation of Cambodia.

In the period of war between Cambodian gorillas and American army, bombardment and brutal killings, Cambodia was declared a republic on 9th October, 1970 but the fighting between the forces of Sihanouk and Loan continued. After five years, Sihanouk announced a decisive war and his red Khuneri army marched ahead winning the areas. Finally Loan had to flee. The Cambodian civil war came to an end in April, 1975. Narottam Sihanouk again became the head of the state but he took retirement from politics in 1978.

Now Cambodia's name was changed to Kampuchea. After Narottam Sihanouk, Khien Samphan and Pol Pot started to rule as per their communist thoughts. It was completely a period of terror but by forming a joint front in 1979.

Heng Samrin defeated Khein Samphan. In this situation Russia and China came on the front and China introduced its power in South East Asia by attacking on Vietnam. Although the American policy in terms of Kampuchia was not successful and could not stop the propagation of communism but her policies was surely successful in bringing two communist countries, Russia and China face to face.

### **Vietnamese Civil War and America:**

So far two Vietnamese states had emerged out of Geneva agreement, but there was no hope for peace whatsoever, because in the northern Vietnam there was communist government and at the same time in the southern Vietnam the government was totally dedicated to capitalism. In the Geneva agreement it was mentioned that if the people wanted, the whole Vietnam would be unified through an election by middle of 1956. From that time the Vietnamese people had been raising voice for unification. It has full support of the northern Vietnam but the people of Southern Vietnam missed the opportunity of peaceful efforts. Then in 1960 'Vietcong' started violent struggle against his government by organising National Liberation Army. By 1961, the situation became so worse that an emergency was declared in Southern Vietnam and civil war started there.

America that wanted to stop the influence of communism in Southern Vietnam, issued a white paper in 1961 under the heading 'Threat to peace' and held Ho Chi Minh government of northern Vietnam responsible for this civil war. In the beginning of 1962 despatched 4000 US armies Sajaon, for the help of Southern Vietnam. The reality was that the public was annoyed with the autocratic oppression and atrocities of Nio-Dinh-Dim. Due to this the army in a coup killed Nio-Dinh-Dim in 1963 and a military government was established but it was also a reactionist. Thus the coming and going of governments continued but there was no change in the policy and the struggle of Vietcong continued.

Attacking on northern Vietnam on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 1964, America destroyed its few military bases. Following it US received warnings from Russia and China but there was no effect. The war started by America was very violent, brutal and tormenting. Hazardous weapon, tanks and bomber planes were widely used and simultaneously, chemical weapons, Napalm, Orange agent and Phosphorous bombs were intensively used.

### **Chemical Weapons**

**Napalm is a kind of organic compound that mixing with gasoline in fire bombs prepared such a mixture that sticks to skin and keeps on burning. It was widely used in Vietnam.**

The war was fought with northern Vietnam, Vietcong and Pro-Vietcong, Southern Vietnamese people. The innocent villagers were killed and finally the village was set to blaze. By 1967 US dropped so many bombs at Vietnam that was not dropped given in the Second World War by Germany against England.

Such type of activities of US was opposed on national and international levels. The celebrated philosopher Russell organised a court and held America guilty for Vietnam war. The effect of the war had started to be visible. There was an increase of 2 to 2.5 billion dollar in US expenditure and so imbalances began in US economy. The value of dollar in international market heavily came down. But US had made Vietnam a matter of its prestige and so continued war rejecting all efforts of agreement.

The Vietnamese, on the other hand, now were not fighting for communism or any other issue, but for their existence. Even the Vietnamese women could be seen dressed in full pants, tying children on their back and patrolling with guns in their hands. They could be seen in waging war directly or making repair works on Ho Chi Minh highway. They were motivated by remembrance of the ancient heroines. In this context, we get the story of Tri-Ayn who was venerated as a goddess that time.



In the beginning of 1968 Vietcong attacked on many American stations

### Agent Orange

It was such a poison that immediately changed the leaves of the trees and caused withering of the tree. It was used for deforestation. It was named Agent Orange due to its storing are in the drums with orange stripes. The US widely used it both in fields and population along with forests. The effect of the bomb can be seen even today in the form of born disability.

including eastern Pentagon, the symbol of US power and caused heavy damage to America. These attacks made it clear that morale of Vietnam was still very high and the Ho Chi minh highway, the way to supply provisions to Vietnamese was still very strong; and it was not destroyed in the bombardment. Virtually the Ho Chi Minh highway, starting from Hanoi went to Southern Vietnam by passing through the border area of Laos and Cambodia, connecting hundreds of Kucchi and metalled road to it.

America had destroyed it more than hundred times but Vietcong and their supporters could repair it immediately. To have control over it, US had on Laos and Cambodia also but it had to return after trapping from three sides.

Now US too wanted peace talk but on their conditions. Many agencies including Commonwealth and the UNO was making efforts to start peace talk. So, peace talk began in Paris in 1968. The talk could not succeed for six months due to US obstinacy.



Ho Chi Minh Labyrinth highway

The Vietnamese were making demand to stop bombardment first and then withdrawal of American troops. In this course the Vietnamese delegation on 7th June, 1969 declared the formation of Vietcong government in the free area of Southern Vietnam. Russia and China immediately gave their recognition. In the meantime, Ho Chi Minh, father of the Vietnamese nationalism, passed away. As in his will, he had invoked in struggle till the liberation of Southern Vietnam. So the struggle continued.



**President Nixon**

#### **American failure the Unification of Vietnam :**

Now, in Hollywood films were made on the US tyranny, the films held American war on Vietnam justified.

On the other hand Nixon won the Presidential election and became the new President of the US. He was given the responsibility of early solution of Vietnam crisis. International pressure was on increase. In that situation the incidence of My Lai village, came into light and criticism of US army began across the world. Then Nixon announced five point programme for peace :

- (i) Declaring a ceasefire — all forces of Indo-China will stay at their place,
- (ii) Supervision of ceasefire will be done by international observers,
- (iii) No country, in this period, will try to improve its power,
- (iv) All types of war will remain suspended during ceasefire,
- (v) The final goal of ceasefire will be the end of struggle in whole Indo-China.

#### **US Conditions:**

- 1. Independence of Southern Vietnam**
- 2. The US army will remain in that areas.**
- 3. How long Vietkang continues struggle and stir terror, bombardment will continue.**

But this peace proposal was rejected and US forces restarted bombardment. However, America has realised that they had to withdraw forces. Nixon then put forward an eight point programme that was turned down by the Vietnamese. Now America began exercises to get China in her favour. An agreement was made on 24th October, 1972 among Vietcong, Northern Vietnam, America and Southern Vietnam, but Southern

Vietnam raised objection and requested for a fresh negotiation which was rejected by Vietcong. This time the bombs were dropped at a large scale, the destroying power of them was estimated to be greater than that of the atom bomb used in Hiroshima. Hanoi was destroyed in this bombardment but the Vietnamese were firm on their stand. Finally, in Paris the agreement on closing the Vietnam War was signed on 27th February, 1973. The main points of the agreement was that the US forces would return within 60 days from the ceasefire, North Vietnam and South Vietnam would find out ways for unification of Vietnam through mutual discussion, America would give limitless economic support to Vietnam.

Thus a protracted war with America came to an end and the unification of northern and southern Vietnam completed in 1975. Thus the war continued to seven decades with America ended. About 9855 crore dollars were spent on this war. The maximum expenditure was of America. More than 56,000 American soldiers were killed and about 3 lakh soldiers were wounded. 18000 soldiers of Southern Vietnam lost their lives. America's 4800 helicopters and 3600 planes and countless tanks were destroyed.

Besides destruction of human being and wealth, American reputation also got a serious blow. The US was utterly unsuccessful in whole Indo-China. Finally it had to withdraw its forces from Indo-China and accept the sovereignty and integrity of all countries.

### **Mai Lai Village**

**A village in the Southern Vietnam. Presuming the people of the village as Vietcong supporter the US army besieged the village and massacred the males, making hostage to women and girls committed gang rape with them for many days, then massacred them also and set the village ablaze. An old person survived in the heap of dead bodies vindicated the incident.**

## EXERCISE

### Objective Question:

**1. Which countries come in Indo-China region?**

- a. China, Vietnam, Laos
- b. India China, Vietnam, Laos
- c. Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos
- d. Cambodia, Vietnam, China, Thailand

**2. Where is the temple of Ankara situated?**

- a. Vietnam
- b. Thailand
- c. Laos
- d. Cambodia

**3. Who were the first merchant reaching Indo-China?**

- a. England
- b. French
- c. Portugal
- d. Dutch

**4. The French inhabiting in Indio-China were called —**

- a. French
- b. Ruler Class
- c. Colon
- d. General

**5. Narottam Sihanouk was a ruler of**

- a. Vietnam
- b. Laos
- c. Thailand
- d. Cambodia

**6. Who wrote “the History of the Loss of Vietnam?”**

- a. Ho Chi Minh
- b. Phon Y Chau
- c. Kuang
- d. Triu

- 7. From which name the agreement between France and Vietnam made in March 1946 is known?**
- a. Geneva Agreement                      b. Hanoi Agreement  
c. Paris Agreement                         d. Non-Aligned Agreement
- 8. Which famous philosopher organising a court held America responsible for Vietnam War?**
- a. Russell                                      b. Ho Chi Minh  
c. Narottam Sihanouk                      d. Rousseau
- 9. Who was the American president at the time of the end of last war in Indo-China region?**
- a. Washington                                b. Nixon  
c. George Bush                                d. Roosevelt
- 10. What was a nature of Hoa-Hoa movement?**
- a. Revolutionary                                b. Religious  
c. Pro-imperialist                              d. Revolutionary religious

**Fill in the blanks :**

- i. In 12<sup>th</sup> Century King Surya Verma had built \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii. \_\_\_\_\_ agreement partitioned whole Vietnam into two parts.
- iii. The other name of Ho Chi Minh was \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv. \_\_\_\_\_ was badly defeated in the war of Dien Vien Phu.
- v. \_\_\_\_\_ was the founder of Anaami party.



### Very short answer question:

- i. What was one sided contract system?
- ii. Who was BaoDai?
- iii. What is the meaning of Indo-China?
- iv. When and between whom was the Geneva Agreement made?
- v. Discuss the Hoo-Ha movement.

### Short answer question:

- i. Explain the escalation of French in Indo-China.
- ii. Explain the chemical weapons and orange agent.
- iii. Write in short note on Ho Chi Minh.
- iv. Mention, what is Ho Chi Minh highway.
- v. How did America enter in Indo-China? Discuss.

### Long answer question:

1. What was the objective of establishing Indo-China colony?
2. What was the incident of Mai Lai village? What was its influence?
3. What was the five point programme of Nixon in connection with peace in Indo-China? What was its impact?
4. Review positive works done by French alongwith its exploitation.
5. Explain the development of nationalism in Indo-China.

### Class Discussion:

1. Discuss in class on nationalism.
2. Discuss, structure construction and importance of Ho Chi Minh highway.

