

## **SECOND WORLD WAR: CAUSES, COURSE, AND RESULTS-(1939-1945 A.D)**

### **Causes:**

1. Rise of totalitarian regimes: Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, Imperial Japan.
2. Treaty of Versailles: Imposed harsh penalties on Germany.
3. Economic instability: Global Depression (1929-1939).
4. Appeasement policy: Britain and France's failure to confront aggression.
5. Nationalism and militarism: Aggressive expansion by Axis powers.
6. Anti-communism: Fear of Soviet Union's spread.

### **Immediate Causes:**

1. German invasion of Poland (1939).
2. Italy's invasion of Ethiopia (1935).
3. Japan's invasion of China (1937).
4. Anschluss (1938): Germany annexes Austria.
5. Munich Agreement (1938): Britain and France's appeasement.

### **Course:**

#### **Major Events:**

1. German invasion of Poland (September 1939).
2. Battle of Britain (July-October 1940).
3. Invasion of Soviet Union (June 1941).
4. Pearl Harbor attack (December 1941).
5. D-Day invasion (June 1944).
6. Atomic bombings (August 1945).

### **Theaters:**

1. European Theater (Germany, Italy, France).
2. Pacific Theater (Japan, China, Southeast Asia).
3. African Theater (North Africa, Ethiopia).

4. Eastern Front (Soviet Union).

**Results:**

**Human Costs:**

1. 50-80 million fatalities.
2. 20-25 million military deaths.
3. 19-25 million civilian deaths.

**Territorial Changes:**

1. Redrawing of European borders.
2. Creation of Israel (1948).
3. Division of Germany and Berlin.
4. Soviet Union's expansion.

**Treaties and Agreements:**

1. Yalta Conference (1945).
2. Potsdam Conference (1945).
3. United Nations Charter (1945).
4. Nuremberg Trials (1945-1946).

**Consequences:**

1. Emergence of United States and Soviet Union as superpowers.
2. Cold War (1945-1991).
3. Formation of United Nations.
4. European integration.
5. Decolonization.

**Key Players:**

1. Adolf Hitler (Germany).
2. Benito Mussolini (Italy).
3. Hirohito (Japan).

4. Winston Churchill (UK).
5. Franklin D. Roosevelt (USA).
6. Joseph Stalin (Soviet Union).

**Legacy:**

1. Shaped modern international relations.
2. Led to European integration.
3. Inspired decolonization.
4. Formed United Nations.
5. Continues to influence global politics.