

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS (1920-1946)

Establishment:

- Founded after World War I (1914-1918)
- Established by the Treaty of Versailles (1919)
- First international organization for global governance
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Objectives:

1. Prevent war and promote collective security
2. Resolve international disputes peacefully
3. Promote disarmament and arms control
4. Protect minority groups and national sovereignty
5. Foster international cooperation and diplomacy

Key Features:

1. Assembly: Representative body of member states
2. Council: Executive body with permanent members (UK, France, Italy, Japan)
3. Secretariat: Administrative organ
4. Mandate system: Temporary administration of territories

Achievements:

1. Settled border disputes (e.g., Albania-Yugoslavia)
2. Resolved conflicts (e.g., Greco-Bulgarian dispute)
3. Established international labor standards
4. Promoted refugee protection and humanitarian aid
5. Fostered international cooperation in health, transportation, and communications

Failures:

1. Ineffective in preventing Japanese invasion of Manchuria (1931)
2. Failed to stop Italian invasion of Ethiopia (1935)
3. Unable to prevent German remilitarization of Rhineland (1936)

4. Ineffective in addressing Spanish Civil War (1936-1939)
5. Dissolved due to inability to prevent World War II (1939-1945)

Legacy:

1. Paved the way for the United Nations (1945)
2. Established principles of collective security and international cooperation
3. Influenced development of international law and organizations
4. Demonstrated need for more effective global governance

Notable Figures:

1. Woodrow Wilson (US President, founder)
2. Georges Clemenceau (French Prime Minister)
3. David Lloyd George (UK Prime Minister)
4. Lord Robert Cecil (UK diplomat, Nobel laureate)

Key Documents:

1. Treaty of Versailles (1919)
2. Covenant of the League of Nations (1919)
3. League of Nations Charter (1920)

Important Dates:

1. January 10, 1920: League of Nations established
2. 1921: First Assembly meeting
3. 1931: Japanese invasion of Manchuria
4. 1939: World War II begins
5. April 20, 1946: League of Nations dissolved