

# WORLD TIMES INSTITUTE

## War of Independence

### Introduction:

As discussed in class

### 2: American Revolution and war of independence

- 1607 to 1775
- 1775 to 1783
- A continuous struggle starting with boycott of goods and discriminatory orders
- Actual War 1775 to 1783

### 3: Causes of war of independence

#### 3.1 Mercantilism:

Colonies only exist for the benefits of mother country. It justified pillage and plunder of colonies.

#### Legislation advancing Mercantilism

- Navigation Act 1651

All ships carrying goods for England must be owned and manned by Britishers.

- Enumerated ACT 1660:

Sugar, Cotton Tobacco, Dyes, cannot be exported by colonies to any county other than Great Britain.

- Molasses Act 1733
- Sugar Act 1764

#### 3.2 Intolerable Acts:

- Woolen Act 1699
- Hat Act 1732
- Iron Act 1750
- Stamp Act 1765

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### 3.3 The great awakening 1730 to 1750:

First National level movement, created a debate in all American colonies, forged notions of nationhood for the first time, ensured religious freedom in America too.

### 3.4 French Indian war 1754 to 1763:

- Colonies supported Great Britain against France.
- Colonies expected reforms as a result for British support.
- Colonies got military experience in this war.
- Very expensive war, it left England paupers.
- Great Britain imposed strict laws on colonies to make good the expenses of war.
- This created restlessness and agitation started.

### 3.5 Royal Proclamation 1763 to stop Westward expansion

### 3.6 Green Mountain Boys (Rebel Militia)

### 3.7 Sons of liberty (liberty, property, no stamp)

### 3.8 Boston massacre 1770

### 3.9 Boston Tea party 1773

### 3.10 Common sense by Thomas Paine

### 4: Idea of Unity:

- First given by Benjamin Franklin in 1754 Albany conference.

### 5: First Continental Conference:

- Sep 5 to Oct 26 1774 Philadelphia Pennsylvania.
- 12 States except Georgia participated.
- Also called olive branch petition.
- Self Rule, withdrawal of discriminatory laws and policies.

### 6: Second continental conference 1775:

- All colonies participated.
- Decided to put-up struggle for Independence.
- George Washington given responsibility to raise and lead continental Militia.

## WAR OF 1812

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In the War of 1812 (June 18, 1812-February 17, 1815), the United States took on the greatest naval power in the world, Great Britain, in a conflict that would have an immense impact on the young country's future. Causes of the war included British attempts to restrict US trade, the Royal Navy's impressment of American seamen and America's desire to expand its territory. The United States suffered many costly defeats at the hands of British, Canadian and Native American troops over the course of the War of 1812, including the capture and burning of the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., in August 1814. Nonetheless, American troops were able to repulse British invasions in New York, Baltimore and New Orleans, boosting national confidence and fostering a new spirit of patriotism. The ratification of the Treaty of Ghent on February 17, 1815, ended the war but left many of the most contentious questions unresolved. Nonetheless, many in the United States celebrated the War of 1812 as a "second war of independence," beginning an era of partisan agreement and national pride.

#### DO YOU KNOW?

*When the United States declared war on Great Britain, Great Britain was already at war with France.*

### 2. CAUSES OF WAR OF 1812

Various causes of War of 1812 are enumerated below.

- 1. British trade restrictions on USA:** At the outset of the 19th century, Great Britain was locked in a long and bitter conflict with Napoleon Bonaparte's France. In an attempt to cut off supplies from reaching the enemy, both sides attempted to block the United States from trading with the other. In 1807, Britain passed the Orders in Council, which required neutral countries to obtain a license from its authorities before trading with France or French colonies. The Royal Navy also outraged Americans by its practice of impressments, or removing seamen from US merchant vessels and forcing them to serve on behalf of the British.
- 2. The Royal Navy's use of impressments:** The Royal Navy's use of impressments to keep its ships fully crewed also provoked Americans. The British accosted American merchant ships to seize alleged Royal Navy deserters, carrying off thousands of US citizens into the British navy. In 1807, the frigate H. M. S. Leopard fired on the US Navy frigate Chesapeake and seized four sailors, three of them US citizens. London eventually apologized for this incident, but it came close to causing war at the time.
- 3. Embargo Act, 1807:** Jefferson, however, chose to exert economic pressure against Britain and France by pushing Congress in December 1807 to pass the Embargo Act, which forbade all export shipping from US ports and most imports from Britain. The Embargo Act hurt Americans more than the British or French, however, causing many Americans to defy it. Just before Jefferson left office in 1809, Congress replaced the Embargo Act with

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