

CBSE Test Paper 03
Class 12 - Political Science (B-1 Ch-2 The End of Bipolarity)

1. When did the president of Soviet Mikhail Gorbachev give resignation?
 1. 11 December 1990
 2. 25 December 1991
 3. 11 December 1991
 4. 25 December 1990
2. On which ideology was the Soviet political system based?
3. After the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991, Which two ways have India benefitted by continuing a net friendship with Russia?
4. How was the US benefitted by the Soviet disintegration?
5. For how many years did the Civil War continue in Tajikistan? When did it come to an end?
6. Write the advantages of the communist rule in the USSR.
7. Describe the administrative and political failure of the Soviet Union.
8. Why is it said that the collapse of Berlin Wall signified the collapse of the bipolar world?
9. Why did the Soviet Union collapse in spite of Gorbachev's accurate diagnosis of the problem and his attempt to implement reforms?
10. Study the map and answer the questions given below:
Political Map of the Commonwealth of Independent States 1947.



- i. Name the three Baltic republic that became UN Members in September, 1991 and locate them by Marking 1, 2, 3.
 - ii. Which republics are oil and gas producer?
11. Study the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:
- The collapse of communism was followed in most of these countries by a painful process of transition from an authoritarian socialist system to a democratic capitalist system. The privatization of state assets and corporate ownership patterns were to be immediately brought in.
- i. Why has the process of transition been described as painful?
 - ii. Which political system existed before the transition and which system replaced it, if any?
 - iii. What does privatization imply?
12. If the Soviet Union had not disintegrated and the world had remained bipolar, how

would that situation have affected the world politics?

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Answer

1. b. 25 December 1991

Explanation: The leaders of 11 Republics signed the historical agreement on 21 December 1991 and declared the establishment of the commonwealth of Independent states.

2. The Soviet political system was based on the ideology of socialism and communism. It was also affected by the ideology of Marxism and Leninism.
3. After the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991, India benefitted by continuing a net friendship with Russia as:
- i. Propagation of Indian films.
 - ii. Supplies of warfare and oil.
4. The US benefitted by the Soviet disintegration due to the economic crisis of the USSR. The Soviet Union used much of its resources in maintaining a nuclear and military arsenal and the development of its satellite states in Eastern Europe and within the Soviet system. The disintegration of USSR led the way for a unipolar world in which all countries wanted to have a good relationship with USA.
5. **Civil War in Tajikistan:** The Civil War in Tajikistan continued for about 10 years. It came to an end in 2001.
6. The advantages of the communist rule in the USSR were:
- i. It designed an egalitarian society.
 - ii. It ensured the minimum standard of living for people.
 - iii. Communication and transportation system convicted all the nooks and comers of the USSR.
 - iv. All things of necessity from a pin to cars manufactured within USSR.

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7. The administrative and political failure of the Soviet Union were as:
- i. The Communist Party was not accountable to the people.
 - ii. Ordinary people were exploited by rampant corruption.
 - iii. They were given no representation in the state machinery.
 - iv. The party bureaucrats gained more privileges than ordinary citizens.
8. The Berlin Wall was the hallmark of the Cold War. It symbolized the division between the capitalist and the communist world; a bipolar world. But, after the disintegration of the Soviet Union, people on 9th November 1989 broke the wall marking it as a symbol of the unification of the East and West Germany into a single country with Berlin as its capital. It does not only integrated Germany but also reduced the gap between east and west. It became proof of the end of the rivalry between USSR and USA. The fall of the Berlin Wall was then followed by a line of events which marked the end of Cold War and more importantly collapse of the bipolar world.
9. The reasons are as given below:
- i. When Gorbachev carried out his reforms and loosened the system, he set in motion forces and expectations that few could have predicted and become virtually impossible to control. Some sections of Soviet society felt that Gorbachev should have moved much faster. They were disappointed and impatient with his methods. They benefited very slowly.
 - ii. The members of the Communist Party, on the other hand, felt that their power and privileges were being decreased and Gorbachev was moving very quickly.

Thus, there were two different reactions to Gorbachev's policy. Under 'tug of war', he lost support on all sides and divided public opinion. Even those who were with him became disillusioned. In the meantime, the rise of nationalism and the desire for sovereignty within various republics including Russia, and the Baltic republics, Ukraine, Georgia, and others led to a disintegration of the USSR.

10.
 - i. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
 - ii. Azerbaijan, Kazakstan, Russia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
11.
 - i. The transition has been described as painful because it underlined the collapse of communism which was followed by a shift from an authoritarian socialist system

to a democratic system. It also witnessed a heavy loss of life and resources.

- ii. An authoritarian political system crystallized by the socialist model of development had existed before the transition. It was replaced by a democratic capitalist system in which privatization of government entities was done.
- iii. Privatization means a reduction in state planning whereby state resorts to disinvestment and encourages private ownership of property and means of production. This process limits the government's interference in the production units.

12. If the Soviet Union had not disintegrated, it would have affected the world politics in the following manner:

- i. **Impact of USA:** The USA would not have become so powerful and its hegemony would not have been established. It would not be interfering in the world affairs more unilaterally.
- ii. **The Way towards the Third World War:** The world would have headed towards a Third World War if there was no disintegration of USSR. The war would have been more devastating and destructive.
- iii. **Formation of new Countries:** The disintegration of USSR led to the independence of many countries which were part of erstwhile USSR. This would have not been possible without the disintegration.
- iv. **USA's position in the United Nation Organisation:** After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, USA's position in the UNO also became very strong. Almost all the decisions in UNO were taken under the influence of USA. This situation could have been different if there was no collapse of USSR.
- v. **The Rise of secessionist Movement:** Most of the former Soviet Republics which are passing through conflicts and Civil Wars, would not have gone through this agony.
- vi. **The Accumulation of Nuclear Weapons:** Accumulation of nuclear weapons would have continued endlessly.
- vii. **The relevance of the Non-Alignment Movement:** The Non-Alignment movement would have been more relevant if there would have not been the disintegration of USSR.