

B.A.L.L.B. 6<sup>th</sup> semester  
political science  
UNIT:2nd  
TOPIC:ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL  
POWER

DR.MUKTA JAIN  
INSTITUTE OF LAW  
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## GEOGRAPHY:



- ❖ **Geography Include size, location and topography**  
**Size/Area: Greater area, greater power** Also provides more resources to defend itself Can bear large population and their needs Greater production and export China, USA, Russia are powerful due to large size England, France, Germany, Portugal were powerful when they possessed colonies Large states are difficult to conquer: territory swallows the conqueror
- ❖ **E.g. Napoleon and Hitler failed in Russia and Japan in China in 1937**

## DIPLOMACY:

❖ Diplomacy of high quality can bring the ends and means of foreign policy into harmony with the available resources of national power. It can trap the hidden sources of national strength and transform these fully and squarely into political realities.

❖ British diplomacy has been instrumental in projecting Britain as a major power in world politics, even after the loss of its status as a mighty imperial power. At times, weak diplomacy has acted as a source of weakness for India.



# LEADERSHIP:



- ❖ Leadership of a nation is an important human element of national power. The utilization of man power resources, natural resources, raw materials, technology, industrial capacity, military power and ideology for strengthening the national power of a state is dependent upon the qualities of the leadership that runs the government of the state.
- ❖ The quality of leadership determines the nature and extent of power that a nation can use for securing its national interests. Efficient, devoted and mature leadership can be a source of national power in the sense that a judicious use of power can surely increase the national power and its operational effectiveness.

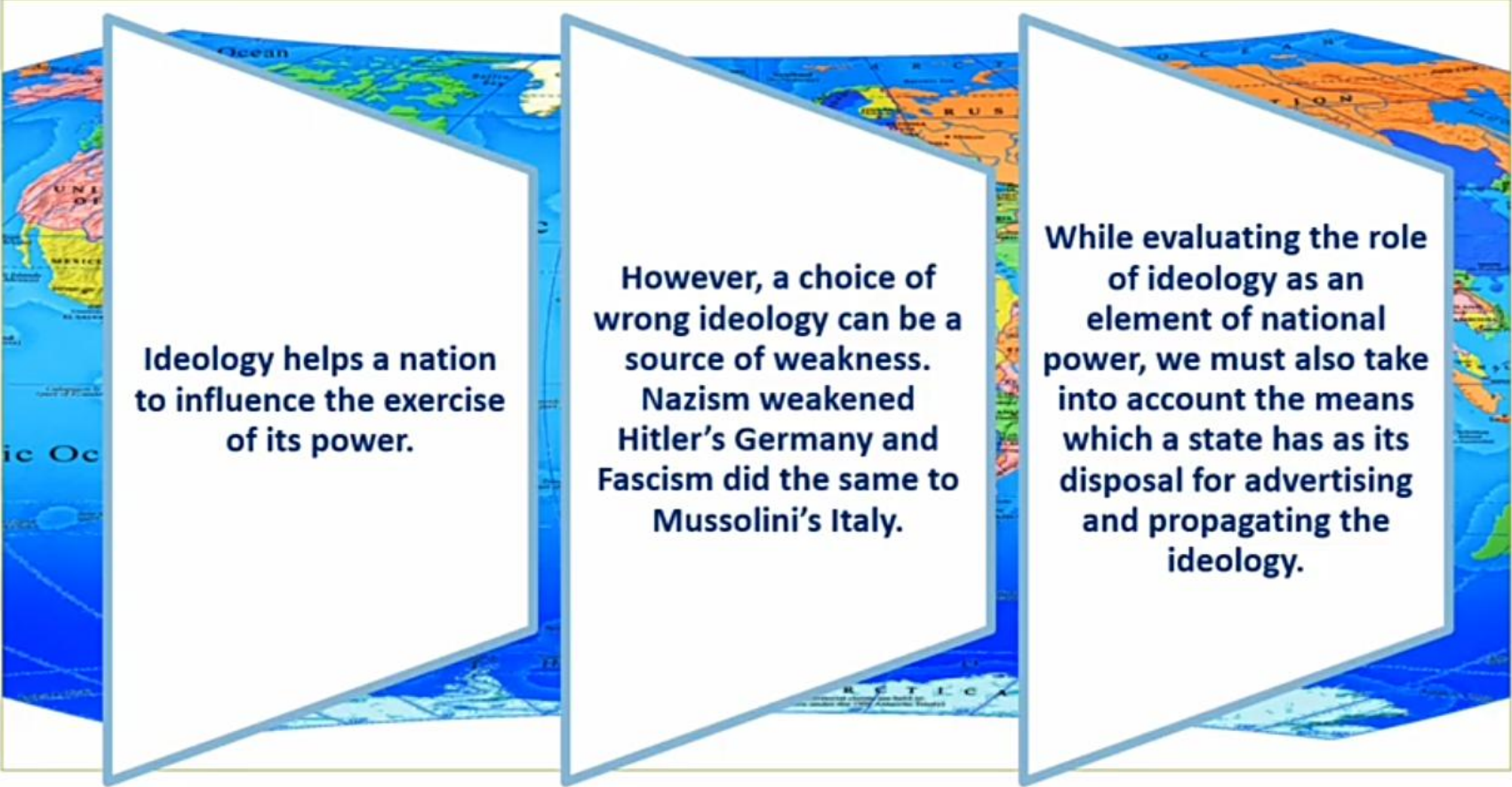


**Civil and Military planning is a function of the political leaders. To make and implement foreign policy is the responsibility of the leadership, the decision-makers of the state, in particular. National Power is basically the power of the leaders, statesmen and diplomats of the nation to act strongly in international relations.**

# IDEOLOGY:



❖ Ideology is an intangible element of national power. It can be a source of both friendship and enmity in international relations. “Ideas and ideologies are elements of the power of a state.” Pen is mightier than sword or at least pen has a might which can be a source of strength for a nation. The ideology that a government upholds can be a source of unity and support of the people at home and abroad. The ideology of communism served as a big source of strength for the communist states between 1917-90 period.



**Ideology helps a nation to influence the exercise of its power.**

**However, a choice of wrong ideology can be a source of weakness. Nazism weakened Hitler's Germany and Fascism did the same to Mussolini's Italy.**

**While evaluating the role of ideology as an element of national power, we must also take into account the means which a state has at its disposal for advertising and propagating the ideology.**

## **MILITARY PREPAREDNESS:**



**The importance of military factor as an element of national power can be judged from the fact that many persons regard these synonymous. Military power is not national power, nevertheless it is an important part of national power which contributes to its strength and effectiveness.**



**Military preparedness is a background factor for the success of a foreign policy and it is a tangible factor capable of supporting the foreign policy and promoting national interest." It influences the level of success of foreign policy. The super powers and other major powers of our times have been big military powers.**





**While evaluating military preparedness as a factor of national power, we have to take into account three factors:**

- (i) War technology or technological innovations,**
- (ii) Military leadership, and**
- (iii) Quantity and Quality of soldiers.**

# TECHNOLOGY:



Technology is the application of knowledge of science for promoting human welfare. Progress in engineering and industrial production is directly related to the nature and level of technology. It has been the advanced technological ability that has largely contributed to the prosperity and power of the developed countries.

In fact the level of technological advancement determines the power-status of a nation. A nation backed by highly developed and advanced technology alone can be recognized as a developed nation. The USA and other developed countries are technologically advanced nations and this fact has been a major source of their power. Now nuclear technology has emerged as an important source of power and influence in international relations.