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UNIFICATION of ITALY



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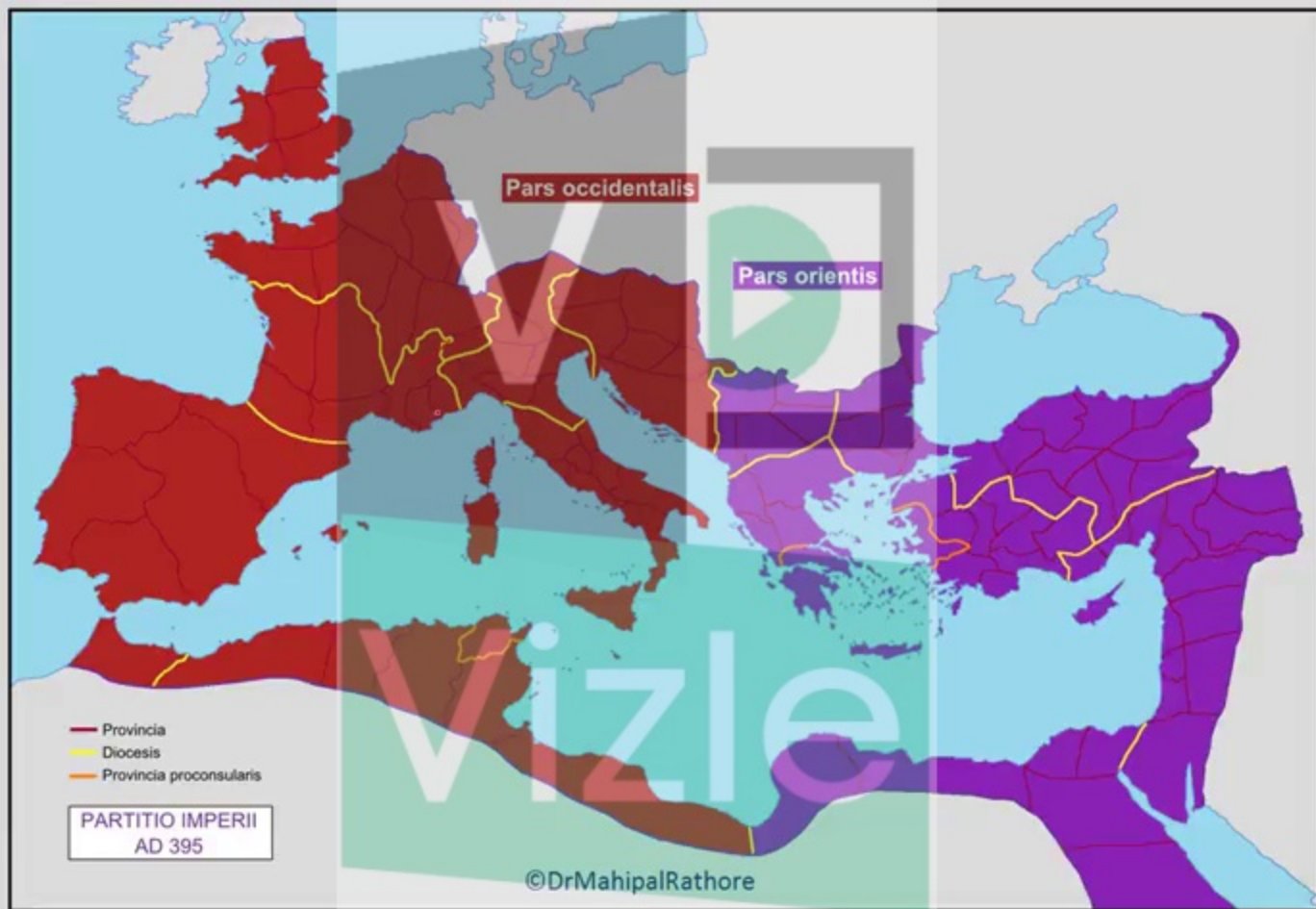
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What is Italian unification ?

- It was the political and social movement that consolidated different states of the Italian peninsula into the single state of the **Kingdom of Italy** in the 19th century.
- The process began in **1815** with the Congress of Vienna and was completed in **1871** when Rome became the capital of the Kingdom of Italy.

'Risorgimento' meaning *resurgence* or *revival*



Causes for Italian Unification

- Italian Peninsula – a cohesive geographic unit
- Most spoke same language, but peninsula divided into competing states, each with own government
- Napoleon's invasion
- Vienna Congress 1815
- Revolutions of 1848
- Spirit of nationalism – Individuals, groups



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- Piedmont-Sardinia
- Lombardy
- Venice
- Parma
- Modena
- Tuscany
- Papal states(Rome)
- Sicily



Role of Napoleon

- The attack and conquest of Napoleon(1796) fostered the feelings of 'oneness' among the people living in multiple small kingdoms
- He consolidated the numerous small Duchies/Kingdoms into few manageable states
- Promoted trade and commerce between them





Congress of Vienna 1815

- After defeat of Napoleon in 1814
- Europe carved up by great powers—Britain, Austria, Prussia and Russia - “Balance of power”
- Congress ignored national groups, placing many of them under control of foreign empires
- Italians were **split into various kingdoms again**. Mainly three groups—much of northern Italy under Austrian rule, other states under Habsburgs, still others under a French dynasty
- Italian nationalism grew in opposition to these conditions

- Newly created or restored states after the Congress of Vienna
- Territorial acquisitions and reassignments in brighter colors
- Boundary of German Confederation
- German small states
- Military frontier against the Ottomans



The 3 Phases of Unification

1. 1858-59: War against Austria + Integration of Lombardy
2. 1860 : Integration of Parma, Modena, Tuscany, Naples and Sicily
3. 1866 : Integration of Venice
1871 - Rome



24 March
1860
Treaty of Turin.
Savoy and Nice
were annexed to
France.



Nationalism

- A wave of nationalism was sweeping Europe in 19th century
- Nationalism = devotion to one's national group based on a common :

- ✓ Culture
- ✓ History
- ✓ Religion
- ✓ Language
- ✓ Territory

Groups/Individuals in Italian Nationalism

- Italian artists, writers, thinkers became interested in celebrating Italy's cultural traditions
- Others formed secret societies to work for political change, plotted to overthrow Austrian government in Italy

Carboneria – “charcoal burners” secret organization 1800-31
Aimed to remove foreign rule and tyranny from Italy

Young Italy

- 1831, the lawyer and popular writer, Giuseppe Mazzini, launched a nationalist group called Young Italy to fight for unification of Italian states
- Mazzini was exiled to France after the failed insurrection of 1831 but he smuggled patriotic pamphlets into Italy
- He tried to start many uprisings (1848) but all failed/were crushed by rulers
- Republican ideology – not in favor of 'Kings' ruling over a unified Italy
- Young Italy attracted ~60,000 members



1848, nationalist-inspired revolutions spread throughout Europe

- In some Italian states, citizens rebelled against Austrian rule
- Piedmont declared war against Austria, fought for year, was defeated
- Others (including **Mazzini**) seized Rome
- In 1849 French troops helped pope regain control over Rome



Revolutions, 1848



Count Cavour

Baron



- Prime minister of Kingdom of P.S - Camillo Benso, under King Victor Emmanuel II
- Founded nationalist newspaper, *Il Risorgimento*—“The resurgence” or “The Rebirth”
- Civil rights, freedom of press , economic development
- **Diplomacy skills** to unite Italy *under the leadership of Piedmont*

Cavour's policies

1852-61

- Believed thriving economy important for Italy to be reborn
- Cavour worked to build Sardinian economy
- Believed a unified Italy should be reborn as **monarchy**
- He tried to spread the feeling of unification to all neighboring states and Kingdoms under different rulers

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