

## CLASS – IX

### HISTORY

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#### 1. How did the French Revolution ensure the rise of Napoleon?

**Ans.:** Napoleon was one of the most important children of the French revolution. He was a supporter of the army. He was one of the member of the Jacobin Party. In 1793, when England attacked the port of Toulon, he recaptured it again for which he was promoted to the rank of a Brigadier General. He saved the National Assembly of France from the attack of the royalists. He was again upgraded to the rank of Major General. With the help of a military coup (removal of a government by force), he brought an end to the Directory rule in 1799 and initiated the Consulate System. In this system the most powerful Napoleon became the First Consul in 1804.

Napoleon then assumed the title 'The Emperor'. Then he spread the ideals liberty, equality and Fraternity in France. In different parts of Europe, people greatly respected Napoleon and called him as 'The Liberator'.

So Napoleon could not become the Emperor of France, if there was no revolution. The revolution had prepared the background for the rise of Napoleon.

#### 2. How did the continental blockade cause the downfall of Napoleon?

**Ans.:** Napoleon realised after the Battle of Trafalgar that it was not possible for him to defeat England in the naval war. So he decided to impair the economy of England. So that England would be compelled to surrender. With this objective, he started the continental blockade.

But Napoleon did not have enough resources to execute his plan. On the opposite side, there was a huge demand of British goods in Europe. The goods were then smuggled in different parts of Europe and sold at higher price. The common people became agitated and moved against Napoleon.

Napoleon started to force upon different countries of Europe to follow the continental blockade. As Portugal denied to this Napoleon sent his army to Portugal through Spain. After capturing Portugal he seized the throne of Spain. The spirit of nationalism in Spain emerged and it spread in different parts of the Iberian Peninsula.

As Russia opened up ports for British goods, Napoleon sent his Grand Army for Moscow expedition which had ultimately failed. This failure gave a new impact to the nationalist movement in Germany against France. Thirteen nation states of Europe living in Austria, Prussia, Russia and England formed Fourth coalition that declared war against Napoleon. In this Battle of Leipzig or Battle of Nations, Napoleon was defeated. Thus continental blockade hastened the downfall of Napoleon.