



REFORMATION AND COUNTER REFORMATION

Presentation / Lecture from-

Dr. Anjana Singh Gaur
Dept. of Ancient Indian History & Archaeology
Vikram University Ujjain, M.P.

INTRODUCTION

The Protestant Reformation was the 16th-century religious, political, intellectual and cultural upheaval that splintered Catholic Europe, setting in place the structures and beliefs that would define the continent in the modern era.

In northern and central Europe, reformers like Martin Luther, John Calvin and Henry VIII challenged papal authority and questioned the Catholic Church's ability to define Christian practice. They argued for a religious and political redistribution of power into the hands of Bible- and pamphlet-reading pastors and princes.

The disruption triggered wars, persecutions and the so-called Counter-Reformation, the Catholic Church's delayed but forceful response to the Protestants.

IDEA OF REFORMATION

MARTIN LUTHER'S IDEAS of the Reformation :

- Only through personal faith in Jesus Christ could a person be saved
- All Church teachings should be based solely on the Bible; Pope & Church traditions were false authorities
- All people with faith were equal-did not need priests to interpret the Bible for them

In 1916, Lutheran scholar Theodore Engelder published an article titled "The **Three Principles** of the **Reformation**: Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fides" ("only scripture, only grace, only faith")

JOHN CALVIN

- Born in France
- Gave order to the faith Luther had begun
- Published *Institutes of the Christian Religion* expressing his beliefs about God, salvation, & human nature.



CALVINISM SPREADS

- Official religion of Scotland
- Churches governed by a few elders or “presbyters” leading to Presbyterian
- In France, Calvin’s followers were Huguenots

CALVINISM

- Men & women are sinful by nature
- Humans cannot earn salvation
- God has selected those saved already (“elect”)
- Predestination – God has known since the beginning of time who will be saved

PROTESTANT GROUPS

- Protestants believed the Bible was the source of all truth and all people should read it to discover those truths.
- As people interpreted the Bible for themselves, new Protestant groups formed over differences in belief.

DATING THE REFORMATION

Historians usually date the start of the Protestant Reformation to the 1517 publication of Martin Luther's "95 Theses." Its ending can be placed anywhere from the 1555 Peace of Augsburg, which allowed for the coexistence of Catholicism and Lutheranism in Germany, to the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia, which ended the Thirty Years' War.

The key ideas of the Reformation—a call to purify the church and a belief that the Bible, not tradition, should be the sole source of spiritual authority—were not themselves novel. However, Luther and the other reformers became the first to skillfully use the power of the printing press to give their ideas a wide audience.

IMPORTANCE OF REFORMATION

The **Reformation** became the basis for the founding of Protestantism, one of the three major branches of Christianity. The **Reformation** led to the reformulation of certain basic tenets of Christian belief and resulted in the division of Western Christendom between Roman Catholicism and the new Protestant traditions.

OUTCOME OF REFORMATION

- Many people and governments adopted the new Protestant ideas, while others remained faithful to the Catholic Church. This led to a split in the Church.
- The Reformation became the basis for the founding of Protestantism, one of the three major branches of Christianity. The Reformation led to the reformulation of certain basic tenets of Christian belief and resulted in the division of Western Christendom between Roman Catholicism and the new Protestant traditions.
- The Protestant Reformation led to modern democracy, scepticism, capitalism, individualism, civil rights, and many of the modern values we cherish today. The Protestant Reformation impacted nearly every academic discipline, notably the social sciences like economics, philosophy, and history.

CHANGES AFTER THE REFORMATION

Social -

As the Reformation progressed, changes in power occurred. While the clergy began to lose authority, the local rulers and nobles collected it for themselves. Peasants became resentful and revolted, but their actions were condemned by Luther.

Political -

Some important effects of the reformation were the end of the suppression and increase in religious tolerance as a part of everyday life. The growing of the protestant churches and the reformation aided to position the stage for the modern world.

IMPACT ON EDUCATION

- The first principle of Scripture Alone sparked a hunger for knowledge and a **reformation**, not only of the church, but of **education** as well. ... John Calvin was known for reforming higher **education**. The **Reformation** took salvation out of the hands of the clergy and placed it, under God, in the hands of each individual.
- The **Reformation** had a hugely positive **effect** on **literacy**. Protestants promoted **literacy**, and also insisted that the Bible be translated into European languages from Latin, thereby making it more accessible to people

IMPACT ON ECONOMY

While Protestant reformers aimed to elevate the role of religion, we find that the Reformation produced rapid economic secularization. The interaction between religious competition and political economy explains the shift in investments in human and fixed capital away from the religious sector

CONSEQUENCES OF THE REFORMATION

- 1) The protestant reformation relocated spiritual and theological authority to scripture.
- 2) The protestant reformation challenged how persons gained right standing with god.
- 3) The protestant reformation made liturgy and church services accessible to lay people.
- 4) The protestant reformation exposed profound corruption in church leadership.
- 5) The protestant reformation affirmed the immediacy of god's presence through the mediation of christ.
- 6) The protestant reformation afforded women leadership and influence in the church.
- 7) The protestant reformation made the bible accessible to lay people.
- 8) The protestant reformation helped propel the spread of literacy across the continent.
- 9) The protestant reformation reconfigured the church-state relationship away from christendom.
- 10) The protestant reformation caused the roman catholic church to initiate its own reform.

COUNTER REFORMATION

The Catholic Reformation became known as the Counter-Reformation, defined as a reaction to Protestantism rather than as a reform movement. ... The so-called 'counter-reformation' did not begin with the Council of Trent, long after Luther; its origins and initial achievements were much anterior to the fame of Wittenberg.

The Counter-Reformation served to solidify doctrine that many Protestants were opposed to, such as the authority of the pope and the veneration of saints, and eliminated many of the abuses and problems that had initially inspired the Reformation, such as the sale of indulgences for the remission of sin.



THANKS