

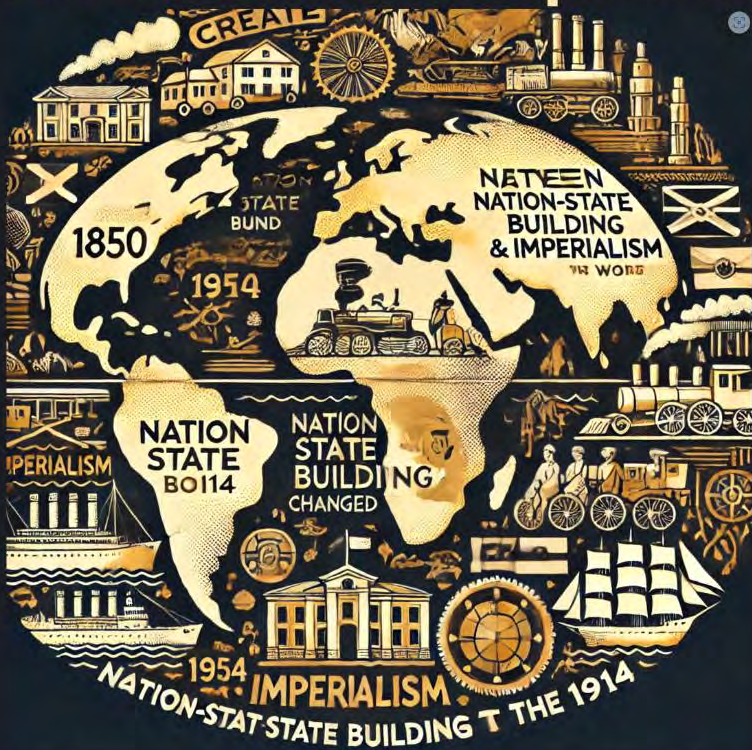
Science, Philosophy & Spirituality

1850 to the Great War

19th March 2025

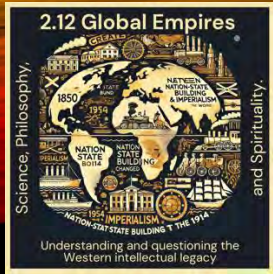
2.12 Global Empires

Science, Philosophy,



and Spirituality.

Understanding and questioning the
Western intellectual legacy



AGENDA

1850 to the Great War

- Revolutions and the Challenge to Old Orders
- Empires, Industry, and Global Competition
- The Crisis of Modernity
- The Great War and the Collapse of Old Orders

After Break: Discuss

1. The Future of World order and Trump's Attempt to End the War in Ukraine.
2. Historical Foundations of Political Systems and Their Global Impact
3. The Evolving Balance Between State Power and Individual Freedom



REVOLUTIONS OF 1848

- The spark: France leads the way
- The Fire spreads across Europe
 - Germany & Austria
 - Hungary & Italy
 - Prussia
- Revolutionary Ideas
 - Liberalism
 - Nationalism
 - Socialism (e.g. Marx & Engels)
- The Counter-Revolution





THE CRIMEAN WAR (1853-1856)

- The “Eastern Question” (Christians in Holy Land)
 - Russia demanded protection for Orthodox Christians
 - France for Catholics
 - Ottomans refused Russian demands, so Russia invaded Moldavia and Wallachia – Ottoman territories
 - Britain and France declared war on Russia in 1854
- Harbinger of future wars
 - Charge of the Light Brigade
 - Siege of Sevastopol
 - Railways and Telegraphs
- Mary Seacole & Florence Nightingale modernize nursing.
- Treaty of Paris (1856)
 - Russia withdraws from Crimea & demilitarizes Black Sea



UNIFICATION OF ITALY AND GERMANY

- The Age of Nationalism
- Unification of Italy (1859 – 1870)
 - Cavour and politics of unification
 - Garibaldi and the sword of Italy
 - Rome and final unification
- Unification of Germany (1864 – 1871)
 - Bismark and Realpolitik
 - War against Denmark (1864)
 - Austro-Prussian War (1866)
 - Franco-Prussian War (1870 -1871)
- Nationalism & Militarised Nation-States



THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR (1861–1865)

- A Battle over Slavery and State Power
- Key Figures
 - Abraham Lincoln
 - Frederick Douglas
- Democracy under Stress
 - Lincoln positioned war as fight for democracy
- Industrialisation of War
 - Railroads and Telegraphs
 - Rifles and Ironclads
 - Total War Strategy



THE SEPOY MUTINY (1857)



- Caused by:
 - Military Grievances
 - Economic exploitation
 - Political discontent
 - Cultural & Religious Insensitivity
- British Retaliation
 - Brutal suppression
 - East India Company dissolved
 - Queen Victoria declared Empress of India
- Dispersed illusion of 'Benevolent Imperialism'
 - Set the stage for future anti-colonialist activities.



JAPAN'S MEIJI RESTORATION (1868)

- Emperor Meiji Restored to power
 - Ends 200 years of feudal shogunate
- Key reforms:
 - Abolish samurai class & create conscripted military
 - Introduce constitutional government
 - Rapid industrialization
 - Education reformed along Western lines.
- Key ideas
 - Can non-Western nations succeed without colonization?
 - The emergence of Asian power





QUESTIONS AND BUZZ GROUPS

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR (1894)

- Captain Alfred Dreyfus falsely accused of spying.
 - Found guilty of treason
 - Publicly shamed
 - Life Imprisonment on Devil's Island
- New evidence pointed to Major Ferdinand Esterhazy
- Authorities tried to hush it up
 - Georges Picquart dug up evidence
 - Emile Zola published *J'Accuse*
- Nationalism vs Individual Rights
 - Institutional anti-semitism
- Case re-opened in 1899,
 - Dreyfus pardoned in 1906





THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION OF 1905

- Protests and strikes against Tsar Nicolas II
 - Economic hardship
 - Political grievances
 - Defeat in Russo-Japanese War
- January 22, 1905: “Bloody Sunday”
 - Government forces shot on large crowd in St Petersburg, killing hundreds
 - October Manifesto introduced the Duma – first Russian parliament
- Gave impetus to Communist ideas





THE BOER WAR (1899–1902)

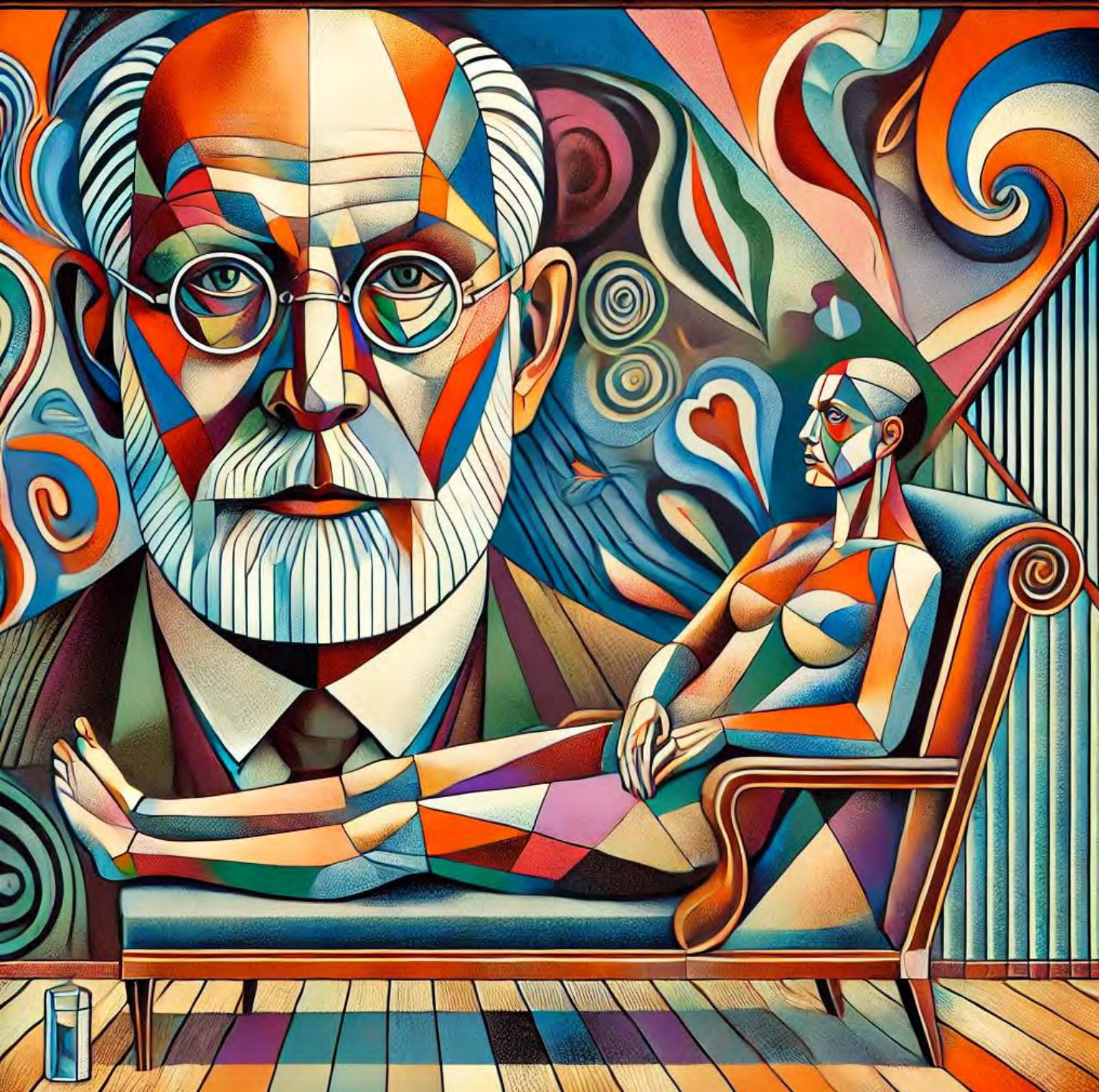
- Boer offensives against British advances (1899-1900)
 - British counter-offensive Feb. to Sept 1900
 - Guerrilla warfare to May 1902
- People
 - Winston Churchill – War Correspondent
 - Paul Kruger – Resistance Leader
- Empire, Resistance, and Atrocity
 - ‘The West’ as both conqueror and victim
 - Concentration camps used by British.



WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE (1890S—1910S)

- Britain: The Pankhurst Legacy
 - Emeline & her daughters, Christabel & Sylvia
 - Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) – founded 1903
 - Success in 1918 (Women > 30)
 - Full voting rights 1928
- USA: The Leadership of Susan B Anthony
 - National Women Suffrage Association (NWSA) – founded in 1869
 - Anthony arrested in 1872 for voting illegally (pictured right)
 - 19th Amendment ratified in 1920





CULTURAL MODERNISM

- Radical Shifts
 - Art: abstraction & experimentation
 - Music: Stravinsky, Schoenberg etc.
 - Science: Clockwork → Relativity
 - Psychology: Subconscious forces
- Intellectual Pioneers
 - Albert Einstein (1879 – 1955)
 - Sigmund Freud (1856 – 1939)
 - Pablo Picasso (1881 – 1973)
- Ideas
 - Question everything
 - Time, Space, & Identity not fixed
 - Reality is Shifting.



ASSASSINATION OF ARCHDUKE FERDINAND

- June 28th, 1914
 - Gavrilo Princip assassinated Archduke Ferdinand
- Key Ideas
 - Nationalism
 - Alliances
 - Fragility of Peace
- Small spark, global conflagration





INDUSTRIAL WARFARE

- The First Industrial War
 - Mass Mobilization
 - Trench Warfare
 - Chemical Weapons
 - Tanks & Armoured Warfare
 - Air Warfare & Zeppelin Raids
- People
 - Field Marshall Douglas Haig (1861-1928)
 - Victory at Any Cost
 - Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924)
 - Make the world safe for democracy
- War as Mass Destruction



THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION: 1917

- February 1917
 - Mass protests in Petrograd force Tsar Nicolas II to abdicate
- By October 1917
 - Bolsheviks led by Lenin take power
- The Revolution's Leaders
 - Vladimir Lenin: Charismatic leader.
 - Consolidated control
 - Withdrew Russia from WW1
 - Leon Trotsky: Strategist & Orator
 - Planned Bolshevik coup
 - Founded & led the Red Army to Victory vs White Russians





COLLAPSE OF EMPIRES

- WW1 saw the end of 4 Empires
 - German
 - Austro-Hungarian
 - Ottoman
 - Russian
- Picking up the pieces
 - Woodrow Wilson
 - His 1918 Fourteen Points underpinned new world order
 - Influenced League of Nations
 - Mustafa Kemal Atatürk
 - Led Turkish War of Independence
 - Established secular republic of Turkey



THE MIDDLE EAST: FROM GALLIPOLI (1916) TO GAZA (2025)

- WW1 Events
 - Gallipoli Campaign (1915-1916)
 - The Arab Revolt (1916-1918)
 - The Sinai & Palestine Campaign (1916-1918)
 - The Mesopotamian Campaign (1914 – 1918)
 - The Armistice of Mudros (October 1918)
- The Post-War Carve-Up
 - Sykes-Picot Agreement (1916)
 - Divided Ottoman Empire between British & French 'spheres of influence'
 - Balfour Declaration
 - Committed Britain to a Jewish homeland in Palestine
 - Direct contradiction of promises made to Arab leaders.



TREATY OF VERSAILLES (1919)

- Harsh Penalties on Germany
 - Territorial losses
 - Military Restrictions
 - Reparations
 - War Guilt Clause
- Key Architects
 - David Lloyd-George
 - Georges Clemenceau
 - Woodrow Wilson
- Consequences
 - Seeds of Future Conflict



CHINA'S "CENTURY OF HUMILIATION" (1839—1949)



- The opium wars and unequal treaties (1839 – 1860)
- Internal struggles and weakening of Qing Dynasty
- Boxer Rebellion & Foreign Occupation (1899-1901)
- Fall of Qing & Birth of Republic (1911-1912)
- WW1 and the Fourth May Movement (1914-1919)
- Japanese Invasion & Civil War (1931-1949)





QUESTIONS AND BUZZ GROUPS

REFRESHMENT BREAK





DISCUSSION

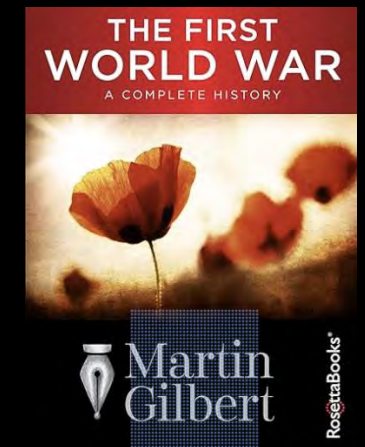
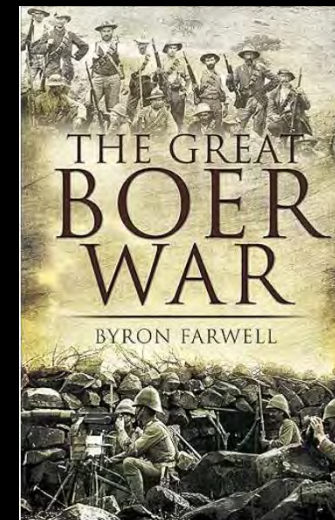
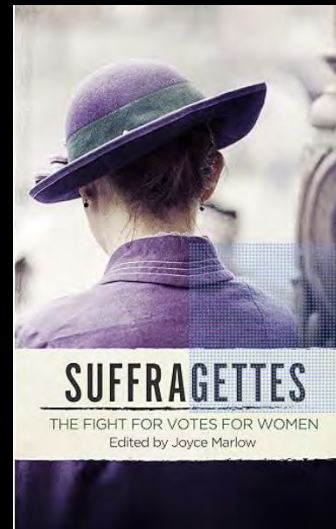
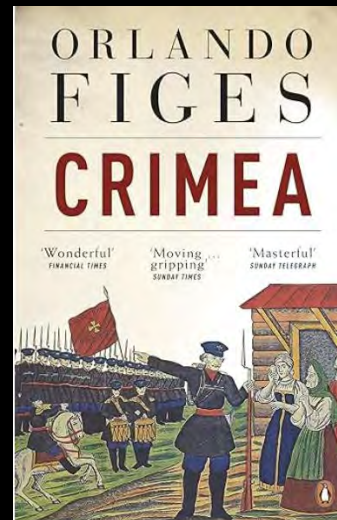
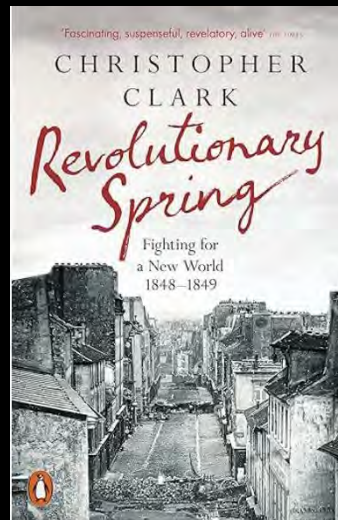
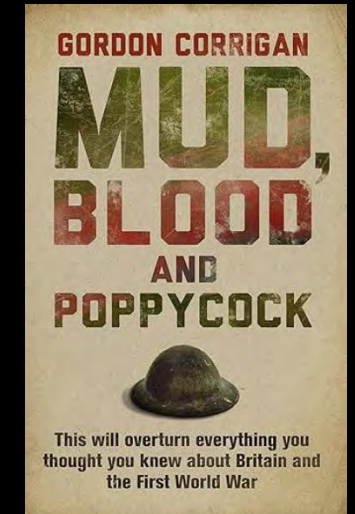
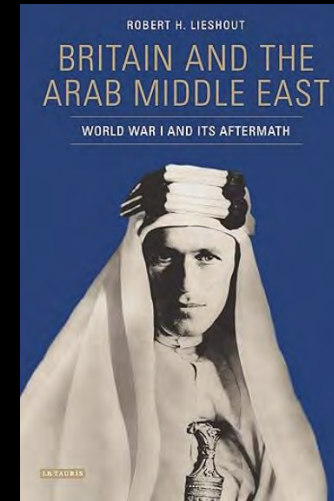
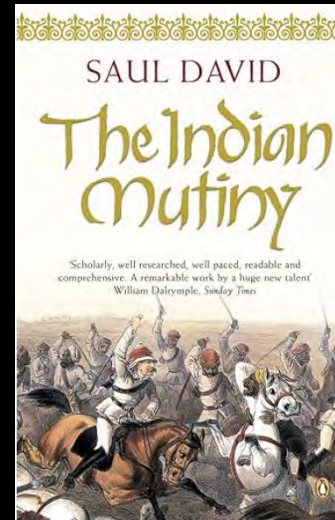
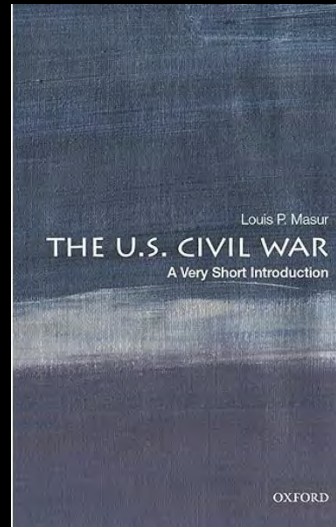
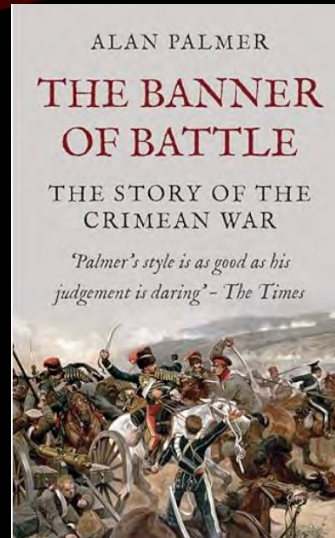
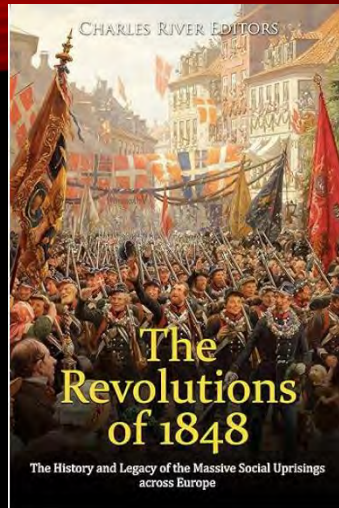
Three questions raised by today's discussions:

1. The Future of World order and Trump's Attempt to End the War in Ukraine.
2. Historical Foundations of Political Systems and Their Global Impact
3. The Evolving Balance Between State Power and Individual Freedom

Please appoint a spokesperson. The last 15 minutes of the session will be dedicated to hearing from groups.



USEFUL SOURCES



2.13 Science & Classical Mechanics

Science, Philosophy,



and Spirituality.

Understanding and questioning the Western intellectual legacy

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

Thank you for your attendance.

Please note there will be no group meeting in April. Next meeting will be on

**Wednesday
21st May 2025**