

## Development of the Modern Nation-State – Background

- Traditional Societies
  - Hunter gatherer
  - Agrarian cultures
  - Nomadic peoples
- Civil Society –
  - Those areas of social life – the domestic world, the economic sphere, cultural activities, and political interaction – which are organized by private or voluntary arrangements between individuals and groups outside the direct control of the state.

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## State Systems Preceding the Nation-State

- Tribute-taking Empires
  - Dominated history
    - Chinese, Roman
  - Characteristics
    - War making
    - Economics – trade & tribute
    - Power – very centralized
    - Decline
      - Over extended militarily
      - Over consumption

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## State Systems Preceding the Nation-State, continued

- Feudalism/Divided Authority
  - 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries
  - Characteristics
    - Personalized power – Warlords
    - Structure – loyalty and taxes
    - Economics – Agricultural economy
    - Catholic Church

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## State Systems Preceding the Nation-State, continued

- Polity of Estates
  - Feudalism declined in the 1300s
  - Characteristics
    - Less feudal and more aristocratic
      - Kings, Queens, Lords, etc.
    - Development of local groups
      - Local assemblies
      - Cities
    - Leaders influenced by the people

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## State Systems Preceding the Nation-State, continued

- Absolutist State
  - Characteristics
    - Larger political units
    - Stronger legal system
    - Centralized authority
    - Divine Right – authority to rule received from God
    - Bureaucracy

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## Modern Nation-State

- Characteristics
  - Fixed borders
  - Monopolize the use of force
  - Impersonal power structure
  - Legitimacy drawn from the people

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## Types of Nation-States

- Constitutional State
  - Set of laws guiding the actions of the State.
- Liberal State
  - State is removed from the private sphere.
- Representative Democracy
  - Individuals represent the interests of the people.
    - United States

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## Types of Nation-States, continued

- Single Party-Polity
  - Single party rule
    - Cuba, former Soviet Union

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## Why the Nation-State Won

- War and Militarism
  - Large armies unified territory
  - War helped create democracy
- Capitalism
  - Money to fund the military

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## Things to Remember

- Nation-States developed out of war
- Nation-States are sovereign
- Nation-States hold the legitimate use of violence
- Government is based on the idea of legitimacy from the people

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