

PROJECT REPORT

ON

FIRST OVERSEAS WAR OF THE U.S.A

SESSION 2020-2021

Department of History

Pattamundai College, Pattamundai

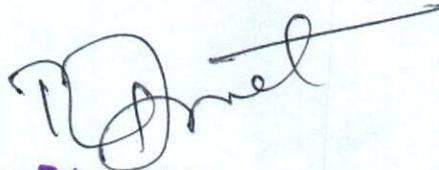
Kendrapara, Odisha

REPORT

Project on "first overseas war of USA" was prepared by the Students of 6th Semester, Department of History during the month of July.2020 under the guidance of Sri Rabindra Kumar Panda, Reader in History. Total 31 numbers of Students submitted the project work report for the session, 2020-21. All the students collected several information on the topic from the college library & other different study materials. The departmental faculties co-operated them in all these works and these projects in original.


H O D HISTORY
PATTAMUNDAI COLLEGE,

20.12.2021


Principal
Pattamundai College

20.12.21

PROJECT ON

FIRST OVERSEAS WAR OF THE USA

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I do hereby acknowledge that this project on **"First Overseas War of the USA"** is prepared by me under the guidance of Prof. Rabindra Kumar Panda, Reader in History, Pattamundai College, Pattamundai, Kendrapara, Odisha, 754215.

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DECLARATION

I do hereby declare that this project on **"First Overseas War of the USA"** is my original writing. It is neither copied from the writings of any writer nor downloaded from the internet or Googly, but it is prepared taking the reference of different text books.

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Signature of the Student

FIRST OVERSEAS WAR OF THE USA

The Spanish-American War of 1898 is treated as the first overseas war of the United States of America as the USA gave a good-bye to her traditional policy of isolationism which she had been following since her independence from the colonial British Rule in 1785. During this period from 1785 to 1898, i.e. for a period of 113 years, the American administration paying every regard to the policy of isolationism as was pronounced by George Washington, the first President of the USA, didn't entangle herself in any international affairs. She was solely concerned for her domestic development. Consequently, she was able to avail all round development of the state and now, if the USA is having the status of a Super Power, this Policy of Isolationism was solely responsible for this. Nothing can be stagnant for ever. Once time came when the USA was compelled to bring about a change in her foreign policy from isolationism to intervention. In its outcome, there was the outbreak of the famous Spanish-American War of the 25th April, 1898, which was the first overseas war of the USA wherein Spain was defeated and after her defeat the famous Treaty of Paris was concluded between the two countries on

the 10th December, 1898. Under the provisions of the treaty, the vanquished country Spain surrendered her four important colonies, such as Cuba, Guama, Puerto Rico and Philippines, to the USA, which greatly enhanced the importance of the USA in international sphere as an imperialist power.

Events Leading to the Outbreak of the War:

It was the Cuban claim for independence to be freed from the Spanish colonial rule which led to the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. Cuba was a country belonging to North American Continent. It was under the colonial rule of Spain which was a European state. In February, 1895, there started the freedom struggle in Cuba which was ruthlessly suppressed by Spain. During this period of suppression of the struggle, the Americans living in Cuba were also grossly affected. It was sharply reacted by the people of the USA and the American newspapers. They raised their voice against such suppression and resorted to the path of movement. They claimed before the American administration to intervene in the matter and safeguard the interest of the Americans living in Cuba. Taking their demands into consideration, the American Congress proposed the Spanish Government to

withdraw her forces from Cuba and grant her independence. But, the Government of Spain did not pay any heed to the proposal. Thereafter, the USA Congress suggested to the USA President, William McKinley, to declare war upon Spain. Immediately after this suggestion was mooted, Spain became aggressive and declared war upon the USA on the 24th April, 1898. The USA President also declared war upon Spain on the next day, which led to the outbreak of the Spanish-American War of the 25th April, 1898.

Course of the War :

After the declaration of the war, Admiral George Dewey, the Chief of the Naval Staff of the USA, proceeded with a battleship and reached at the coast of Manila, the capital of Philippines where he destroyed a battleship of Spain. In this battle, 370 soldiers of Spain and 10 soldiers of the USA were killed. After the end of the war, the USA occupied Manila in August, 1898. After achieving this victory, the USA navy proceeded towards Santiago Port under the command of William Shafter, a General of the USA Army. When the USA army reached there, Admiral Paskual Servera, a General of the Spanish Army, tried to flee away from the port with his battleship, but he was not successful.

His battleship was destroyed by the attack of the USA navy. After destroying the Spanish battleship, General William Shafter occupied Santiago on the 7th July, 1898. Thereafter, another Major General of the USA Navy, Nelson A Miles, occupied Puerto Rico. Being hard-pressed by defeat on all war-fronts, the Spanish Government requested the French President to intervene in the matter and take steps to terminate the hostilities between Spain and the USA. Entertaining the request of the Spanish Government, the President of France placed a proposal before the President of the USA, William McKinley, to bring the war to an end and establish peace. The proposal of the French President was accepted and accordingly the USA President declared the war ended and concluded the Treaty of Paris with Spain. Under the provision of the treaty, Spain handed over her four colonies to the USA, such as Cuba, Guama, Puerto Rico and Philippines, which greatly enhanced the importance of the USA in international field.

Consequence of the War:

The most significant consequence of the war was that although Cuba, Guama and Puerto Rico accepted the sovereignty of the USA, Philippines became

defiant. The people of this country did not like to be administered by the USA and wanted to be independent. They started a historic freedom struggle which took the shape of a war. The war continued from 1899 to 1902 A.D. In the war, the USA came out victorious and the revolt of the people was ruthlessly suppressed. With the suppression of the revolt, there came to an end the historic U.S.A.- Philippines War.

An analysis of the Spanish-American War implies that the war enabled the USA to emerge as a world power. She established her supremacy in the insular possessions in the Caribbean Lake stretching across the Pacific, including Hawaii. Although economic motives had played little discernible part in bringing on the war, they were plainly present in shaping the peace. It stimulated enthusiasm for the U.S. Navy, which soon grew from the fifth or sixth to second place among the world's war fleets. It prompted drastic reform in the U. S. Army, which had been poorly prepared for war and had lost far more men to exposure and disease than to enemy weapons. It also advanced the career of the country's first world-minded President, Theodore Roosevelt. Within a few years of the war's conclusion, the U.S.A. had made the Caribbean a U.S. Lake and had

taken a leading part in the politics of the Far East and Europe. Though the war was a disastrous one for Spain in its immediate results, it was followed by a remarkable renaissance in Spanish life, both intellectual and material. Two decades of significant progress in agriculture, development of mineral resources, industry and transportation ensued. There also arose in Spain a brilliant group of thinkers and writers famous as, "Generation of 1898", who gave Spain an intellectual and literary prominence in the European Continent.

.....THE END.....

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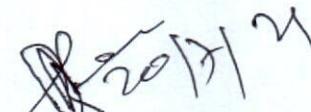
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REFERENCE :

1. History of Europe- Prof. V.D. Mahajan.
2. History of Europe- Prof C.D. Hazen.
3. History of the USA- Prof. Suchitra Das
Prof. Banalata Sahoo.
4. From Slavery to Freedom- John Hope Franklin.
5. The Impending Crisis- David M. Potter.
6. Retracing the Past- Gary Nash.
7. Westward Expansion- Ray A. Billington.
8. The Inner Revolution- Thomas Cochran.
9. The Search for Order- Robert Wiebe.
10. American Black Past- Eric Foner.

.....THE END.....

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PROJECT ON: FIRST OVERSEAS WAR OF THE USA

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14	Swapnamayee Mandal	BA18-198	Swapnamayee Mandal
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