

## CLASS:--12<sup>TH</sup>, POLITICAL SCIENCE, CHAPTER:-1

### Cold War

- The Cold War was the war of ideologies. The US followed the ideology of liberal democracy and capitalism while the USSR backed the ideology of socialism and communism.
- The Second World War (1939-1945) came to an end with the defeat of the Axis powers led by Germany, Italy and Japan by the Allied forces led by the US, Soviet Union, Britain and France.
- It marked the beginning of the Cold War. The Second World War ended when the United States dropped two atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, causing Japan to surrender.
- This decision of the US was both criticised and supported. But the consequence of the end of the Second World War was the rise of two new powers on the global stage.
- The United States and the Soviet Union became the greatest powers in the world with the ability to influence events anywhere on Earth.
- But the Cold War inspite of being an intense form of rivalry between great powers, remained a 'cold' and not hot or shooting war. It was due to the 'logic of deterrence'.
- The 'logic of deterrence' means when both sides have the capacity to respond against an attack and to cause so much destruction that neither can afford to initiate war.
- The two superpowers and their allies were expected to behave as rational and responsible actors.