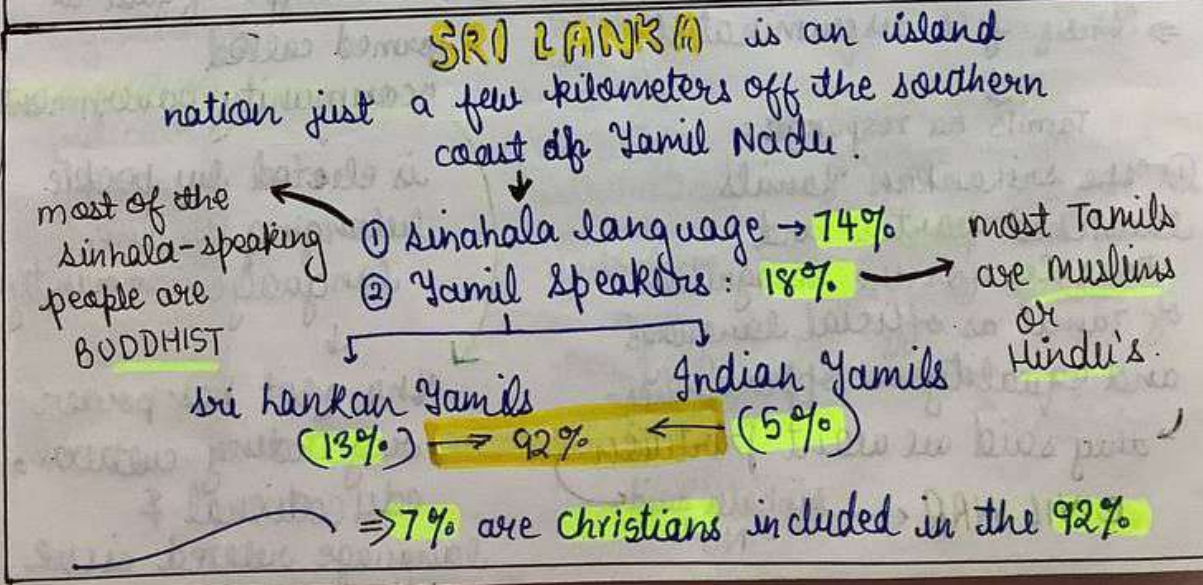
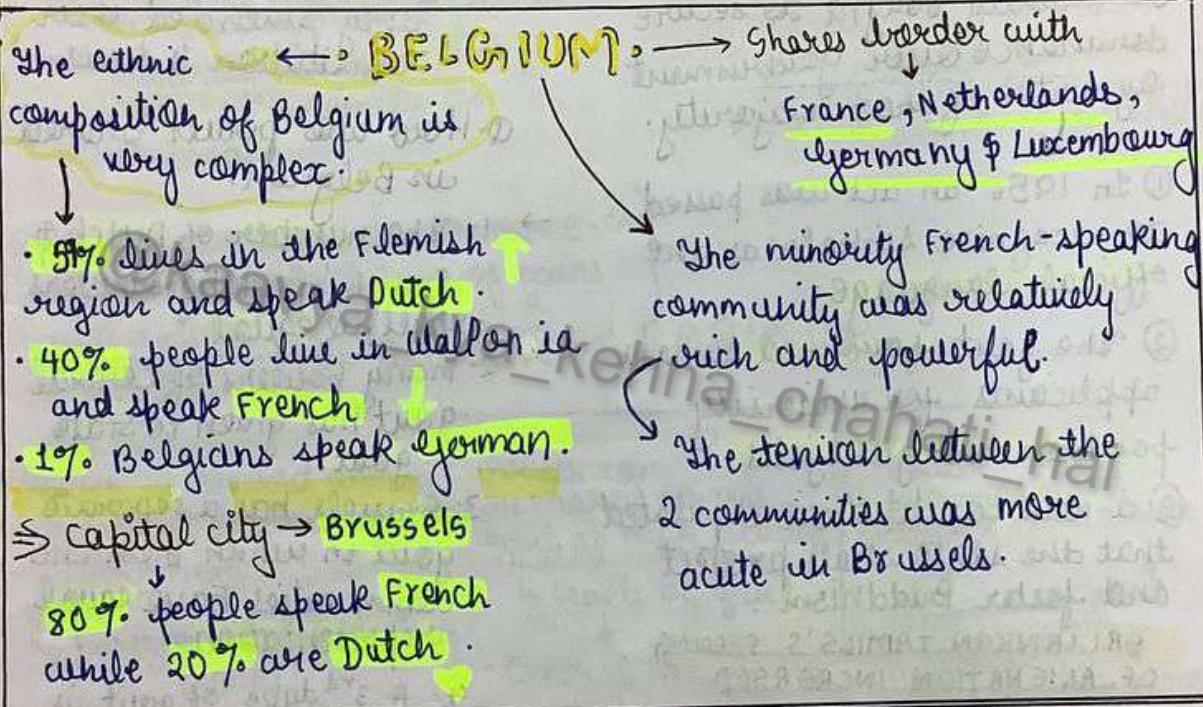


POWER SHARING

* Ethnic: a social division based on shared culture. People belonging to the same ethnic group believe in their common descent because of similarities of physical type or of culture or both.



MAJORITY IN SRI LANKA

majoritarianism: a belief that the majority community should be able to rule a country in whichever way it wants, by disregarding the wishes and needs of the minority.

⇒ The leaders of Sinhala community sought to secure dominance over government by virtue of their majority.

① In 1956 an act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the official language.

② The govt favoured Sinhala applicants for university position and govt jobs.

③ a new constitution stipulated that the state shall protect and foster Buddhism.

SRI LANKAN TAMILS' FEELING OF ALIENATION INCREASED

⇒ They felt discriminated

Tamil's response:

① The Sri Lankan Tamils launched parties and struggles for the recognition of Tamil as official language and equality in opportunities.

↳ they said we want partition

CIVIL WAR ← Sinhala said "NO"

ACCOMMODATION IN BELGIUM

• The Belgian leader took a different path. They recognised the existence of regional difference and diversity.

they tried to share power.

⇒ Between 1970's & 1993

they amended their constitution 4 times.

Q. How was power shared in Belgium?

→ 1. The number of Dutch & French speaking ministers shall be equal

2. many powers of central govt has given to state govt.

3. Brussels has a separate govt in which both the communities have equal representation.

4. A 3rd type of govt is formed called "community government"

is elected by people belonging to one language community.

↳ this govt has power regarding cultural, educational & language related issue.

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WHY POWER SHARING IS DESIRABLE?

Prudential reason

- reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.
- the stability of political order.

→ Tyranny of the majority is not just oppressive for the minority; it often brings ruin to majority as well.

Moral reason

Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy.

- democratic rules involve sharing of power with those affected by its exercise.
- all citizens are heard and consulted.

* Prudential: based on prudence, or on careful calculation of gains and losses.

FORMS OF POWER SHARING: imp

Power is shared among different organs of government.

→ horizontal distribution [equal]

- Legislature
- executive
- judiciary



Power can be shared among govt at diff levels

→ levels of govt

- Central / union govt
- state govt
- Local govt

⇒ vertical distribution
⇒ ensures federalism

HOW
• Political parties?
→ coalition govt

Power may also be shared among different social groups.

Eg:

- community govt
- Women
- reservation in India

Power sharing arrangements can also be seen in the way political parties, pressure groups

→ Pressure grps.