



HASADVANCED'20

JCC:

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

STUDY GUIDE

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Letter From Secretary General

Honorable participants,

It is a great honor for me, as the Secretary-General of the Kadir Has University Model United Nations Advanced Conference 2020, to introduce the first edition of our advanced conference.

We have decided to create a unique conference with more than 10 conference experience we have held in the past. It is a great pleasure to explain to you the HasAdvanced20, where the experience and the level will be raised to the next level, which will also be independent from the Hasmun and Hastrain conferences.

As for the committees, we have 3 different historical committees that will make you feel the debates at the maximum level. The reason why we chose historical committees is that we are expecting to gain different perspectives on what happened in the past.

Our first committee simulation will be JCC: American Revolution. Both sides, which are Great Britain and Thirteen Colonies, will face difficulties and problems in the committee. I can assure you that the feeling of a revolution will get in to your skin and you will come across more than just a war and piece committee. You will come across a lot more than that.

Our second committee simulation will be Japan Cabinet in 1945. The previous committees which were about the Second World War will seem like a piece of cake because in this committee we aimed to give you an experience about the Second World War but with the minor details about that. Details like all the blood, tears and struggle people of Japan faced. Are you planning to go to war? Think again. Are you planning to ensure peace? Well, good luck! Prepare yourself for the collapse of the Empire of Japan.

And lastly, our final committee will be the African American Movement, which the delegates of the Historical UNHRC committee will evaluate the problems with possible resolutions in the '60s. You will have to make some serious calls with events that will overcome inequality. Everyone wondering what the decisions will be? What is Freedom? Freedom is the state of not being imprisoned or enslaved. But having freedom is not that easy right? Can you ensure freedom to all people or do you think classification is a mandatory thing? Or the actual question what needs to be answered is: freedom or security? We shall see.

With the magnificent HasAdvanced Academy team and Organization team, we look forward to make you experience a high level conference and stick in your minds when you talk about your Model United Nations experiences.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our Director-General Ekin Eryazar and her Deputy-Director-General Lal Kula for their unbelievable effort and hardwork. Also I would like to thank some special colleagues who never left us and stand by with us against every problems we faced during this process, without any interest. Your supports will never be forgotten.

Now we would like to invite you to Kadir Has University, Cibali Campus on between 21st-23rd February to be a part of this unique conference experience.

Kind Regards,

İlyas Evren Kurt.

Secretary-General at Kadir Has University Model United Nations Advanced Conference 2020.

Letter from the Under Secretary General

Esteemed participants of HASADVANCED20,

I am Gökdeniz Yüksel, recently studying at Yıldız Technical University at Industrial Engineering Department. I am thrilled to serve as the Under Secretary General of JCC: American Revolution committee with the assist of my one of a kind academic assistant Aleyna Alçınkaya in HASADVANCED. Being on every field of HASMUN Family was such an experience for me, starting with being a delegate in HASMUN17, an organization team member and now proceeding with Academy... We are waiting for you with an excellent team with our Deputy Director General Ms. Lal Kula, Director General Ms. Ekin Eryazar and our Secretary General Mr. İlyas Evren Kurt and wonderful organization and academic team.

In the American Revolution Committee, you will be shaping the future with our guidance.

We welcome you all to the *Champions League* of the MUN Conferences.

If you have any questions regarding the committee or document, please don't hesitate to ask me via e-mail.

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Best regards,

Gökdeniz Yüksel

Under Secretary General Responsible for JCC:American Revolution

Introduction to the American Revolution

Beginning of the Colonization

The late 16th century marked the beginning of large scale of European colonization. Throughout the New World, most of the European countries were looking forward to establish new settlements in the Western Hemisphere. North America specifically was colonized mainly by the French, English, and Spanish; each nation had their own ambitions, but they all primarily seeking to gain more land for their crown. This caused many disputes between each nation's settlers, and also with the Natives. However, by 1850, the English established a dominant presence along the Atlantic Coast, allowing it to become arguably the most impactful player in the New World.

The Colonization of England

English settlement of North America began with Sir Walter Raleigh and 100 men attempting to settle Roanoke Island in 1585. The harsh winter sent them back to England until 1587, when John White led another voyage to Roanoke. The settlement White set up mysteriously disappeared after he spent three years in England, and this discouraged further settlement in North America until 1606. The first official English colony established following the failures at Roanoke was Jamestown, founded in 1607. It was settled by 105 men of the Virginia 5 Company, who were in search of land, gold, and other natural resources to claim for the British crown. Another early English settlement was the Plymouth Colony, established by Separatists seeking religious freedom. Led by William Bradford, they were en route to the Virginia Colony when a storm blew them off course, forcing them to land in modern day Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The Plymouth settlement was eventually de-established in 1691, but voyages much like the two aforementioned are what led to the establishment of the original Thirteen English Colonies. The map to the above shows all of the Thirteen Colonies, the last of which was Georgia, founded in 1732 by James Oglethorpe.

Events Leading Up to the War

A large part of the conflict between the colonies and Great Britain stems from the French and Indian War (also known as the Seven Years War), which took place from 1754-1763. The war left Britain with a massive debt, and to pay it off Britain began to extensively tax the colonists. This did not sit well with the majority of those living in the colonies, and such feelings of displeasure were only heightened by the Proclamation of 1763. In doing what he thought was beneficial for the colonists, the King closed off the frontier to all expansion west of the Appalachians in an effort to promote colonial security. This caused an increased resentment from the colonists towards the crown. In the years following the Proclamation, the British took advantage of how easily they could regulate the colonies. They increased taxation by passing laws such as the Stamp Act and the Sugar Act, which garnered quick protest from the colonists, and an increase in the popularity of the phrase "No Taxation Without Representation". Also passed shortly after the Proclamation was the Currency Act of 1764, as well as the Quartering Act of 1765.

Such acts only increased the ensuing chaos brewing in the colonies, and they also led to many notable speeches such as Patrick Henry's "If this be Treason, Make the Most of It!" speech in 1765. There were many other conflicts between 1765 and the start of the war.



Events Leading Up to the Declaration

The Battles of Lexington and Concord marked the unofficial beginning of the American Revolutionary War. Shortly thereafter, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, and it was decided that Continental Army would be established with George Washington as the Commander in Chief. The Battle of Bunker Hill occurred just months after the Congress's conjunction, during which the inexperienced American militia displayed its promise. Though defeated, the Americans displayed their willingness to fight, and any previous thoughts that the conflict would be a short and sweet victory for the British were proved inaccurate. The King now had to treat the war as such, not simply as another colonial uprising. 8 With promising exhibits of combat at Lexington and Concord as well as at Bunker Hill, morale among colonists was on the upswing. The colonists now had some hope that they were capable of not only taking on what was at the time the most superior military on Earth, but possibly fighting their way to becoming an independent nation. Increasing morale inspired the patriotism of many, including Thomas Paine, who in 1776 penned one of the most notable works of writing from the revolution in *Common Sense*. Paine's publication proved to be an important voice in the American cause for independence, and possibly the only piece of writing more famous from the era is the Declaration itself. In the following months, many delegates convened for the Continental Congress at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Eventually, Thomas Jefferson authored the final draft of what would become known as the Declaration of Independence. It was signed by all present on July 4, 1776, and with that the United States of America was born.

Background of the Revolution

13 Colonies

In America, there were several British Colonies before the American Revolution. 13 of them -not all of them participated in the revolution- ended up rebelling; Delaware, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, New Hampshire, New York and Rhode Island. In other words, The thirteen colonies that became the USA were originally colonies of Great Britain and The American Revolution was a war in which the 13 American Colonies won their independence from Great Britain.



Colonial Life Before the American Revolution

Compared to their British brethren throughout the pond, American colonists enjoyed relative prosperity and freedom. The vast majority lived in rural farming villages on their own property—less than 10 percent lived in cities. Family farms ruled the north. Large plantations that grew cash crops like tobacco and rice dominated the mid-Atlantic and southern landscape. Thousands of African slaves were imported each 12 months for labor, and by 1750, outnumbered white settlers in some colonies (like South Carolina) by thousands. As the British Empire thrived, taxes and imperial interference in local politics were minimal, permitting provincials the space to create their own unique identity. However, this changed in 1763 when the French and Indian War left the British deeply in debt. Taxes were raised to replenish the royal coffers and colonists were forced to house British soldiers still stationed in the New World, eventually prompting the outbreak of the American Revolution.

Europe quickly became addicted to tobacco. To maintain the booming demand, plantations in the 13 colonies expanded.

The population of the 13 colonies was estimated to be about 2.1 million, before the beginning of the Revolutionary war.

Women in colonies mostly worked inside the home, preparing meals and raising children. During the period, many also participated in cottage industry, spinning yarn that would be woven into textiles.

American colonists used the English system of currency: Pounds, shillings and pence until the Continental Congress made in the new country's official money in 1785.

Political Thoughts in the American Colonies

The beliefs and attitudes that led to the call for independence had long been an important part of colonial life.

John Locke (17th century English philosopher)

John Locke was one of the most influential thinkers with the ideas regarding the relationship between government and natural rights.

The British government had recognized its duty to protect the lives, liberties, and property of English citizens long before the settling of its North American colonies. Magna Carta is a promise from King John that he and future monarchs would refrain from certain actions that harmed, or had the potential to harm, the people of England.

The rights protected by Magna Carta had been granted by the king, and, in theory, a future king or queen could take them away. The natural rights Locke described, however, had been granted by God and could never be abolished by human beings, even royal ones, or by the institutions they created.

John Locke's ideas influenced Parliament to pass the English Bill of Rights in 1689 -a list of the liberties and protections possessed by a nation's citizens- which would profoundly influence the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Anyone who invested labor in the *commons*—the land, forests, water, animals, and other parts of nature that were free for the taking—might take as much of these as needed according to Locke, which again influenced American colonists ideas about the concept of property rights.

7 Years War

After Columbus discovered America, the race was on to explore and conquer the New World (America). After a couple centuries of warring with the natives and each other, the European powers had claimed quite a lot of land.



What Caused 7 Years War

There are two main causes of the Seven Years' War:

The Rivalry between the French and the British. In North America, the conflict between the British and the French escalated when the Ohio Land Company was established in 1747, which encouraged British traders to build trading posts near New France. In response, the French sent troops and built forts along the Mississippi and the Ohio rivers in order to contain the British expansion. The British in turn built forts to protect their trading posts. These incidents led to the back and forth seizure of forts, the first of which is the French seizure of Fort Prince George, which the French renamed as Fort Duquesne.

The result of the War of the Austrian Succession. The Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle at the end of the War of the Austrian Succession in 1748 caused Austria to lose Silesia to the Prussians. The treaty was seen by many as just a temporary truce, and the Austrians, under Queen Maria Theresa, wanted to take revenge for what the Prussians did and destroy them. Austria made an alliance with the Russians, who also wanted to destroy Prussia and conquer Poland and Courland. Through Prince Kaunitz, Austria also made an alliance with the French. Prussia, surrounded by her enemies and sensing another war was imminent, launched a pre-emptive attack against Saxony, a part of the Holy Roman Empire.

How Did the Seven Years War Affect the Colonies

The relationship between Great Britain and the colonies changed significantly. Prior to the war, British authorities practiced a rather hands-off approach to governing their North American colonies. As long as the colonists remained loyal and did not cause too many problems, the King and Parliament were content to let them do pretty much as they pleased. This is often referred to as a policy known as Salutary Neglect.

After the war, Britain took a more controlling approach. The war had a hefty price-tag for Great Britain, and they felt that the Colonies should help pay for it since it was essentially fought for their protection. This led to the levying of new taxes and the enforcement of commercial regulations.

Events That Enraged Colonists and Led to the American Revolution

The Stamp Act (March 1765)

The Townshend Acts (June-July 1767)

The Boston Massacre (March 1770)

The Boston Tea Party (December 1773)

The Coercive Acts (March-June 1774)

Lexington and Concord (April 1775)

British attacks on coastal towns (October 1775-January 1776)

The Stamp Act

Stamp Act is a law passed by the Parliament on the purpose of recouping some of the massive debt left over from the war with France, which for the first time taxed a wide range of transactions in the colonies.

Parliament's Point of View

British spent a lot of blood and treasure to protect the colonists from the Indians, so colonists should pay their share.

Colonists' Point of View

Colonists have to buy products from British and not only having to buy goods from the British but pay tax on them as well but the tax never got collected and according to Randall the reason is 'There were riots all over the place'.

Since British could not collect any taxes Benjamin Franklin convinced the British to rescind it, which made the Americans think they could push back against anything the British wanted.

The Townshend Acts

Parliament was still trying to find a way to assert its authority. They again tried to pass legislation to tax good that the Americans imported from Great Britain which is again resulted by boycotts of the British goods that were subject to taxation, and harassing the British customs commissioners.

British sent troops to occupy Boston, to quell the resistance but it only deepened it.

The Boston Massacre

An apprentice wigmaker and a British soldier had a disagreement which led to a crowd of 200 colonists surrounding seven British troops. Americans began taunting and throwing things at British, which led to British soldiers to lost their cool and began firing into the crowd.

Three men were dead, and two were mortally wounded.

The massacre became a useful propaganda tool for the colonists.



*A print of the Boston Massacre by Paul Revere, 1770.
Barney Burstein/Corbis/VCG/Getty Images*

The Boston Tea Party



*The Boston Tea Party destroying tea in Boston Harbor on December 16, 1773.
Bettmann Archive/Getty Images*

Eventually, The British withdrew their forces from Boston, repealed much of the Townshend legislation.

Although they changed lots of things, they left in place the tax on tea.

To prop up the British East India Company -which is struggling financially- British enacted a new law, the Tea Act, in 1773. To undercut the American merchants

who imported from Dutch traders, the act gave company extended favorable treatment under the tax regulations.

Americans wanted to be able to trade with any country they wanted so, they didn't want the British telling them what to buy and from where to buy.

A radical group named Sons of Liberty decided to confront the British. In Boston harbor, they boarded three ships and destroyed more than 92,000 pounds of British tea by dumping it into the harbor.

Rebels or Vandals?

To make the point that they were rebels rather than vandals, they avoided harming any of the crew or damaging the ships themselves, and the next day even replaced a padlock that had been broken.

Randall states that “Many of the East India Company’s shareholders were members of Parliament. They each had paid 1,000 pounds sterling—that would probably be about a million dollars now—for a share of the company, to get a piece of the action from all this tea that they were going to force down the colonists’ throats, so when these bottom-of-the-rung people in Boston destroyed their tea, that was a serious thing to them.”

The Coercive Acts

British government decided to respond to the Boston Tea Party to tame the rebellious colonists in Massachusetts by passing a law, the Coercive Acts, which closed Boston Harbor until the restitution was paid for the destroyed tea in 1774. It also replaced the colony’s elected council with one appointed by the British, gave extensive powers to the British military governor General Thomas Gage, and also forbade unapproved town meetings.

Although all the provisions were provocative, the most seditious one was the Quartering Act, which allowed British military officials to demand accommodations for their troops in unoccupied houses instead of staying out in the countryside which caused colonists to pay for the expense of housing and feeding the soldiers even though they weren’t forced to board troops in their own homes.

Lexington and Concord

British General Thomas Gage planned to capture colonial radical leaders -Sam Adams and John Hancock- in Boston to Lexington and then head to Concord and seize their gunpowder but American spies learned about the plan with the help of riders such as Paul Revere.

77 American militiamen confronted British force on the Lexington Common. As a result, seven Americans died but other militiamen managed to stop the British at Concord so the British had to go back to Boston.

It was proven that the colonists were fearsome foes who had to be taken seriously and that bloody encounter was the start of America’s war of independence.

British Attacks on Coastal Towns

Before the brutal British naval bombardments and burning of the coastal towns of Falmouth, Massachusetts, southern colonies and the northern colonies wasn't necessarily aligned. Virginia helped to unify the colonies.

As historian Holger Hoock has written, the burning of Falmouth shocked General George Washington, who denounced it as "exceeding in barbarity & cruelty every hostile act practiced among civilized nations."

British also bombarded Norfolk for seven hours which shocked the southerners.

British were offering freedom to African-Americans if they took up arms on the loyalist side.

Realizing the burnings of the two ports, leaders of the rebellion seized the argument that the colonists needed to band together to embrace the need for a spirit that ultimately would lead to their victory against a ruthless enemy.

Timeline of the American Revolution

A timeline of the American Revolution from 1763 – 1787

1756 (The Seven Years War)

The Seven Years War was a global conflict which ran from 1756 until 1763 and pitted a coalition of Great Britain and its allies against a coalition of France and its allies.

The war escalated from a regional conflict between Great Britain and France in North America, known today as the French and Indian War.

France lost to Great Britain most of its North American colonial possessions, known as New France.

Although Britain eventually achieved victory over France and its allies, victory had come at great cost. Great Britain faced a number of serious geopolitical and financial problems. Such as;

Great Britain faced a massive war debt at the end of the Seven Years War. As of January 5, 1763, the national debt stood at over £122,603,336.

Financing the administration of new areas was a critical problem facing the British government at the war's end.

A staggering war debt influenced many British policies over the next decade. Attempts to raise money by reforming colonial administration, enforcing tax laws, and placing troops in America led directly to conflict with colonists. By mid-1770s, relations between American and British administration had become strained and acrimonious.

10 February: Signing of the Treaty of Paris

Ending the Seven Year's War, France ceded all mainland North American territories, except New Orleans, in order to retain her Caribbean sugar islands. Britain gained all territory east of the Mississippi River; Spain kept territory west of the Mississippi, but exchanged East and West Florida for Cuba.

1763-1766

Figuring out how to pay the interest alone absorbed the attention of the king and his ministers.

Maintaining order in America was a significant challenge. As a result, the British decided to keep a standing army in America which would lead to a variety of problems with the colonists.

From the British point of view, it was only right that American colonists should pay their fair share of the costs for their own defense and British began their attempts to reform the imperial system.

1764, Sugar Act: The first attempt to finance the defense of the colonies by the British Government through a tax on molasses.

1765, Stamp Act: Parliament enacted the Stamp Act, which placed taxes on paper, playing cards and every legal document created in the colonies. British taxes domestically produced and consumed goods but the reaction in the colonies was pervasive.

1767-1772

Many colonists objected to the presence of a 'standing army' in the colonies also to being required to provide housing and supplies, which looked like another attempt to tax them without their consent, and refused to vote the mandated supplies.

The British disbanded the New York assembly in 1767.

The Stamp Act had led Americans to ask fundamental questions about the relationship between their local, colonial, legislatures -elected bodies- and British Parliament -in which Americans had no elected representation.-

In 1767, Parliament also enacted the Townshend Duties, taxes on paper, paints, glass, tea, good imported into the colonies from Britain but British thought of them as 'external' taxes rather than internal taxes such as the Stamp tax.-The colonists failed to understand the difference-

The British also established a board of customs commissioners in Boston, whose purpose was to stop colonial smuggling and the rampant corruption of local officials who were often complicit in such illegal trade.

Boston merchants were angry about the new controls and helped organize a boycott of goods subject to the Townshend Duties. And boycott started to spread.

The British posted four regiments of troops in Boston.

Bostonians and the troops clashed in the streets.

In 1770, Parliament decided to repeal the Townshend Duties (on everything except tea)

The troops and the Boston workers clashed again but this time five Bostonians were killed.

Overall, American revolutionaries viewed English actions from 1767-1772 with suspicion

1773-1774

King George III and Parliament still faced money problems and were determined to assert their powers to tax the colonies and regulate trade for the benefit of the entire British empire. On the other hand colonists' ideas about tyranny and corruption in the British government crystalized.

Colonists had local newspapers and committees of correspondence (established in 1772) for airing colonial grievances.

1773, Tea Act: To support the ailing East India Company, Parliament exempted its tea from import duties and allowed the Company to sell its tea directly to the colonies. Americans resented what they saw as an indirect tax subsidizing a British company.

Boston Tea Party: Angered by the Tea Acts, American patriots disguised as Mohawk Indians dump £9,000 of East India Company tea into the Boston harbor.

Parliament soon responded to this outrage with four acts designed to punish Boston and to isolate it from the other colonies. The British called these acts the coercive acts; the colonists called them the Intolerable Acts.

1775, First Shots of War

People in the colonies had been gathering arms and powder and had been training to fight the British

Battles of Lexington and Concord: First engagements of the Revolutionary War between British troops and the Minutemen.

Battle of Bunker Hill

The first major battle of the War of Independence. Sir William Howe dislodged William Prescott's forces overlooking Boston at a cost of 1054 British casualties to the Americans' 367.

1775-1777

Washington had begun to create an army and forced the British army in Boston to evacuate that city in March 1776

Their intention was to attack New York. British forces occupied New York after American defeats. Washington had so many victories and accomplishments. **Battle of Trenton, New Jersey, providing a boost to American morale.**

1777-1778

In 1777, the British were still in excellent position to quell the rebellion.

British decided to campaign through the Hudson River Valley and thereby cut off New England from the rest of the colonies. To the North, Burgoyne and St. Leger suffered significant defeats at Oriskany, New York; Bennington, Vermont; and finally at Saratoga, New York. These American victories were critical for they helped convince France to recognize American independence and brought the French directly into the war as military allies.

1778-1781

The Continental victory at Saratoga in 1777 and the Treaty with the French in 1778 transformed the war.

The British changed their strategy and focused on their efforts on the loyalists – who they still believed were the majority of the American population.

British had some military successes in the South. -they occupied Savannah, Georgia, Charleston, South Carolina-

Although British were successful in most conventional battles, they overestimated loyalist sentiment in the South. Their presence actually forced many to take sides – most in favor of the Patriots.

1781-1783

In Virginia, on the Yorktown peninsula, Cornwallis found himself cornered by the combined forces of Washington's Continental Army and the French army and French fleet. These forces began siege operations against the British troops isolated at Yorktown. On October 17, 1781, Cornwallis sought terms of surrender.

British government authorised peace negotiations.

Treaty of Paris: formally ending the revolutionary war

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