**Unification of Germany**

1. The middle-class Germans had tried to fight for a united nation governed by an elected parliament in 1848 but were repressed by the monarchy and military.
2. They united in 1848 to create a nation-state out of the numerous German states.
3. Prussia soon became the leader of German unification movement.
4. Chief Minister Otto von Bismarck was the architect of the process with support from Prussian army and Prussian bureaucracy.
5. The unification process was completed after Prussia won wars with Austria, Denmark and France over seven years’ time.
6. In January 1871, the Prussian king, William I, was proclaimed the German Emperor in a ceremony held at Versailles.

**The process of German Unification: -**

**Frankfurt Parliament 1848:**

The Frankfurt Parliament tried it's best for the unification of Germany under the leadership of king Wilhelm 4 of Prussia but it failed.

**Unification under the leadership of Prussia**

This liberal initiative to nation building read however repressed by the combined forces of the monarchy and the military supported by the large landowners (called Junkers) in Prussia .From then on Prussia took on the leadership of the movement for national unification . it's chief minister Otto von Bismarck was the architect of the process and carried out national unification with the help of Prussian army and bureaucracy

**Role of Bismarak :**

Bismarck was one of the greatest sons of Prussia who accomplished the supreme task of unification of Germany with the help of the army bureaucracy. He was convinced that the unification of Germany could be achieved only by the Princes and not by the people. he wanted to achieve his aim by not merging Prussia into Germany but rather by expanding Prussia into Germany

**Three Wars:**

Bismarck's object of unifying Germany was accomplished by the three Wars which were fought during a brief period of seven years. War with Denmark (1865), Austro-Prussian War (1866), Franco-Prussian War (1870) .

**Final Unification of Germany:**

The above wars ended in Prussia victory and helped in completing the process of unification. On January 18,1871 in the Royal Palace of Versailles, the king of Prussia was crowned as the German emperor and the ceremony symbolized in the eyes of the world, the newly born unity of German people.