

✓ His Presidency

(George Washington's first term in office was mainly characterised by shaping the 'role of the President'. During this term (1789–1793), he organised the executive branch of the new government and established administrative procedures. ✓ He appointed the First Presidential cabinet and designated a site for the nation's new capital.)



The Conference at Philadelphia

✓ Important members advising the President

- ✓ ^{CS} Alexander Hamilton – Secretary of Treasury
- ✓ Thomas Jefferson – Secretary of State
- ✓ Henry Knox – Secretary of War
- ✓ Edmund Jennings Randolph – Attorney General

^{CS} During his first term, Washington toured the northern and southern states and found that the new government enjoyed the general support of the American people. Convinced that the government could get along without him, he planned to step down at the end of his first term. However, his cabinet members convinced him and he was urged to accept *second term* as President.

✓ Washington's second term (1793–1797) was dominated by foreign affairs and the divisions within his own administration. (Washington assumed the Presidency on the eve of the **French Revolution**, a time of great international crisis.) The outbreak of the European War in 1793 forced the crisis to the centre of American politics. ✓ Washington wisely took a *neutral stand* in this crisis. This policy was one of his greatest achievements.

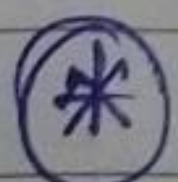
However, disagreements increased and the ^{two} parties **Federalists and the Republicans** widened their differences. However, Washington was not in favour of the different political parties, which were now going to dominate the American system of government. By 1796, Washington returned to Mount Vernon. He refused the Third Term of office and resigned in 1797. (In 1799, he was caught in a snow storm that resulted in his death in December 1799.)

✓ George Washington has been acclaimed for 200 years as the indispensable man of the American Revolution. He asserted that the cause of *liberty* was larger than any individual. The nation mourned the loss of their leader, but his service and words would live in the hearts of his countrymen.

CHAPTER - George Washington: The First President of the USA



1. How did George Washington characterise his first term in office as a President?
2. What steps did Washington take during the first term of his office?
3. Mention the names of the important members advising the President.
4. What did Washington find after touring the Northern and Southern States during his first term as a President?
5. Why did Washington step down at the end of his first term?
6. What dominated Washington's second term as a President? What was the great International Crisis that took place during the second term of Washington's presidency?
7. In which year did Washington return to Mount Vernon? In which year did Washington resign from his office?
8. How did Washington's eventful life come to an end?



IN THE NEXT FEW CLASSES YOU WILL BE PROVIDED WITH THE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS GIVEN IN THE PREVIOUS CLASSES