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The development of Romanticism, a movement stressing emotion, spontaneity, and hearth, was often compared to nationalism, which promotes political and individual devotion to one's country. From the early to middle 19th century, an affinity could be seen between the two movements throughout Europe, but particularly in Germany, England, and France.

While Germany was yet a confederation, it experienced an artistic revival, often called the Sturm und Drang movement, glorifying German volksgeist or folk spirit. It was during this time that Germany produced some of its greatest musicians, such as Ludwig van Beethoven, and literary works, such as Grimm's Fairy Tales, Pride in German artistry, and cultural tradition coincided the rise of Otto von Bismarck and the creation of Germany as a single nation, instilling in the German people a dual sense of pride both for their newfound country and for their arts.

19th century England saw one of its greatest artistic periods in an outpouring of art and literature occurred. The "Lake Poets" such as Keats, Shelley, and Byron heightened the intellects of educated England and as Coleridge and Wordsworth...
Published "Lyrical Ballads," the English could feel pride in the fact that their country turned out a new genre of poetry. Painters such as Constable and Turner also reflected English landscape and novelists such as Jane Austen instilled in the English middle class a sense of society. Profound Romanticism in England contributed to nationalism in that it gave the English a sense of intellectual and cultural superiority which may have been responsible for the period of nationalism and imperialism in England during the Victorian Era.

The connection between Romanticism and nationalism is most explicitly evident in France, where art and literature directly promoted political liberty and revolt against the monarchy. In Delacroix's "Liberty Leading the People," for example, liberty is personified by a woman leading Frenchmen of all classes in revolt against the government. This directly reflects the spirit of the French during the period of minor rebellions after the re-instatement of the monarchy. Victor Hugo's novel "Les Misérables" is also a social commentary on the nature of the French government as it describes one man's struggle for justice against the corruption of society.
Of all the parallel movements in history, the French Revolution and the Enlightenment, and Nationalism can be ranked among the most similar in that they both instilled pride in those they affected and political change where they were produced.
During the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Europe was going through an extremely complex and very obvious change. With the end of the Enlightenment and the beginnings of the more emotionally charged Romantic reaction, a new wave of thought and policy emerged onto the scene. Nationalism became a very prevalent feeling in Europe during this time, and was the cause of many new developments in Europe. As Nationalism began to appear, the Romantic Movement took hold and helped skyrocket it to new and more eventual heights. These two developments and trains of thought were closely related during this time period. These very prevalent cases of this inter-related relationship can be described as Mazzini in Italy, years before and during Bismarck's reign in Germany as well as Austrian-Hungarian policies and happenings. These all show inter-related relationships between these two schools of thought.

During this time period in Italy, there were many new nationalistic sparks flying. Giuseppe Mazzini, a very influential nationalistic figurehead during this time, was inflamed with Romantic beliefs and ideas. Thought of as being the soul of the Italian reunification, his ideas and teachings helped inspire Garibaldi and others in this time period. Mazzini helped influence the new Italian Peninsula unification thought and was very influential in its rebirth. He helped spread this thought across the peninsula, and his national democratic beliefs were also spread. He had opposition, mainly from Pope Leo X, but was influential near the less. His Romantic Feeling helped fuel excitement for this new Italian Nationalistic feeling. Romanticism helped take Nationalism,
in this case, ed turn it into a more popular ideology.

Just as this relationship can be seen during Macedian times, it can also be seen during the time before and during Bismarck's reign in Germany. During this time period, Russian nationalism began to grow with Pushkin's polisches den the growing of the German states under Frederick the Great. When Bismarck took over with the unification, nationalism was fueled by German poets and writers, and also by Bismarck. The time period before Bismarck also gives good insight into the relationship between these two new ideologies. German nationalists used art and also literature to fuel fever for a unification of the states, and was a predecessor to Bismarck's "blood and iron" policies with the glorification and emotionally charged ideas of war. This displays the overall development of nationalism into an extremely important aspect of national politics.

The same way the Italy and Germany felt the effects of Pan-Germanism and nationalism, Austria-Hungary began to feel them as well. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries in Austria-Hungary, the Hapsburgs slowly began to weaken and the nationalities of the area began to grow. The Romantic fervor of these scholars and ideas was unmistakable, and the Romanticism was obvious, the major factor in this strengthening nationalism. The decline of the Hapsburg empire in general could be associated with Romantic nationalism, as even before the unifications and the expulsion of German affairs, the Hapsburg's grip was loosening on Austria-Hungary.
Overall, Romantic nationalism had a great role in European politics during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. This was a very descriptive and tumultuous time period in European history and shows a great deal of change over time. Nationalism caught on like on the coat tails of Romanticism, which was what made it so appealing and intriguing to many. Their relationship was complex in nature and was very emotionally based, but it did have very prevalent causes and also consequences. Romanticism changed the face of not only nationalism, but also of Europe.