

Q. Industrial revolution first came in England. How the Industrial revolution changed England in characters and culture?

Ans. Industrial revolution which started in the later half of 18th century first came in England as England had many favourable factors in comparison to other European countries, viz.:

- a stable political system
- spirit of entrepreneurship among the bourgeoisie
- rich mineral resources in the form of coal & iron
- continental location suitable for trade
- large colonial empire as a source of raw material and market

However, the outcome of Industrial revolution was dramatic and it affected all the aspects of life of England i.e. political, economic, social and cultural.

- Politically, the role of bourgeoisie increased in British parliament. Industrial revolution gave rise to new political philosophies such as utilitarianism, laissez-faire liberalism etc.
- Wretched economic condition of workers gave rise to socialist movements in Britain. Robert Owen was the first representative of socialism, later on Chartist movement gave rise to the demands of workers.

- Industrial revolution gave a push for further colonial expansion in areas such as Africa & China.
- In social fields, Industrial revolution gave a great push to urbanisation. Rise of new towns such as Manchester, Lancashire etc. which were connected to each other with rail, road and inland waterways.
- Industrial revolution resulted into the breakdown of joint family structure. The workers had to live in slums and were prone to diseases and epidemics.
- Industrial revolution gave a push to scientific discoveries. Thus, the influence of religion decreased in society in the wake of prosperity offered by sciences.
- In cultural domain, the wretched condition of workers and huge prosperity of capitalist gave rise to a new class of literature where these inequalities were presented eloquently. This shattered the conscience of British people.

Thus, Industrial revolution changed England from an agriculture based country to a modern nation by completely uprooting the previous feudal polity, economy and society.

Q. The Industrial Revolution put mobility in the place of stability. comment.

Ans. The Industrial Revolution is called a "Revolution" because it completely transformed the earlier static society of not only England but the whole of Europe in a tremendous way.

- Before Industrial Revolution the European society was mainly dependent on agriculture and it was village centric. This agrarian village centric life was static as it was a largely self-sufficient economy.
- However, Industrial Revolution brought a dramatic shift in this stagnant society. After the Enclosure movement as many farmers now had no land, they migrated to urban areas to work as daily-wage labourers in the industries.
- As Industrial Revolution required rapid movement of both goods and workers it led to modern means of transport and communications as railways, macadamized roads, telegraph etc.
- Industrial Revolution also gave push to new geographical discoveries and explorations as there was requirement of raw materials and markets for the sale of finished goods.
- As capital got accumulated in the hands of industrialists new financial institutions

got established in urban areas such as banks and managing firms.

- As scientific innovations were key drivers of industrial revolution there occurred flowering of scientific and technological institutions in Europe.
- Last but not the least, industrialization gave a large push to colonial rivalry among nation resulting into catastrophic wars and secret alliances. Thus, the stability of the whole European state system was shattered.

Thus, it can be said that the IR brought mobility across various aspects of life in a previously stable continent.

Q. "France was more fertile than Britain in producing new socialist theories and movements, though they bore less concrete results in France than in Britain." critically examine.

Ans. France had always been ahead of Britain in the realm of ideas since the age of enlightenment. The famous philosopher-thinkers of enlightenment era such as Montesquieu, Rousseau, Voltaire mostly belonged to France.

In the same early socialist ideas also first arrived in France in the form of 'utopian socialism'. Saint Simon, Charles Fourier and Louis Blanc all gave different ways to achieve socialism. It was the result of these ideas that the revolution of 1848 which occurred in France had a huge socialistic flavour along with republicanism, continuing the tradition, the establishment of Paris Commune in 1871 was an important event in the direction of progress of socialistic ideas. The French society reflected a huge class divide between feudal lords, bourgeoisie and workers thus it was expected that socialist ideas will bring concrete results in France.

However, in contrast it was observed that socialist ideas bore more fruit in Britain, because:-

- France was a politically unstable country marked by frequent revolutions thus socialist ideas could not be transformed into any stable political institutions.
- Britain had a long-term democratic tradition so it incorporated the grievances of workers in the democratic tradition. For example, Reform Act of 1832 accepted several demands of workers.
- The condition of British workers was better than workers of France so British workers did not move towards violent revolution. Rather, they accepted the model of Fabien socialism i.e. gradual transformation towards socialism without class-struggle.

Thus, it can be said that the strong democratic tradition of Britain by accepting the demands of workers brought better result in comparison to the violent revolutions of French socialists.