

AP World History Course Key Concepts

Period 5 – Industrialization and Global Integrations, c. 1750 to c. 1900

Key Concept 5.1. Industrialization and Global Capitalism

Industrialization fundamentally altered the production of goods around the world. It not only changed how goods were produced, as well as what was considered a “good,” but it also had far-reaching effects on the global economy, social relations and culture. Although it is common to speak of an “Industrial Revolution,” the process of industrialization was a gradual one that unfolded over the course of the 18th and 19th centuries, eventually becoming global.

I. Industrialization fundamentally changed how goods were produced.

- A variety of factors led to the rise of industrial production: Europe’s location on the Atlantic Ocean; the geographical distribution of coal, iron and timber; European demographic changes; urbanization; improved agricultural productivity; legal protection of private property; an abundance of rivers and canals; access to foreign resources; and the accumulation of capital.
- The development of machines, including steam engines and the internal combustion engine, made it possible to exploit vast new resources of energy stored in fossil fuels, specifically coal and oil. The “fossil fuels” revolution greatly increased the energy available to human societies.
- The development of the factory system concentrated labor in a single location and led to an increasing degree of specialization of labor.
- As the new methods of industrial production became more common in parts of northwestern Europe, they spread to other parts of Europe and the rest of the world (such as the United States, Russia or Japan).
- The “second industrial revolution” led to new methods in the production of steel, chemicals, electricity and precision machinery during the second half of the 19th century.
- The changes in the mode of production also stimulated the professionalization of sciences (such as medicine or engineering) and led to the increasing application of science to new forms of technology.

II. New patterns of global trade and production developed that further integrated the global economy as industrialists sought raw materials and new markets for the increasing amount of goods produced in their factories.

- The need for raw materials for the factories and increased food supplies for the growing population in urban centers led to the growth of export economies around the world that specialized in mass producing single natural resources (such as cotton, rubber, palm oil, sugar, wheat, meat or guano). The profits from these raw materials were used to purchase finished goods.
- The rapid development of industrial production contributed to the decline of economically productive, agriculturally based economies (such as textile production in India).
- The rapid increases in productivity caused by industrial production encouraged industrialized states to seek out new consumer markets for their finished goods (such as British and French attempts to “open up” the Chinese market during the 19th century).
- The need for specialized and limited metals for industrial production, as well as the global demand for gold, silver and diamonds as forms of wealth, led to the development of extensive mining centers (such as copper mines in Mexico or gold and diamond mines in South Africa).

III. To facilitate investments at all levels of industrial production, financiers developed and expanded various financial institutions.

- Financial instruments expanded (such as stock markets, insurance, gold standard or limited liability corporations).
- The global nature of trade and production contributed to the proliferation of large-scale transnational businesses (such as bicycle tires, the United Fruit Company or the HSBC–Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation).
- The ideological inspiration for these financial changes lies in the development of laissez-faire capitalism and economic liberalism associated with Adam Smith and John Stuart Mill.

IV. There were major developments in transportation and communication, including railroads, steamships, telegraphs and canals.

V. The development and spread of global capitalism led to a variety of responses.

- In industrialized states, many workers organized themselves to improve working conditions, limit hours and gain higher wages, while others opposed capitalist exploitation of workers by promoting alternative visions of society (such as Utopian socialism, Marxism or anarchism).
- In Qing China and the Ottoman Empire, some members of the government resisted economic change and attempted to maintain preindustrial forms of economic production.
- In a small number of states, governments promoted their own state-sponsored visions of industrialization (such as the economic reforms of Meiji Japan, the development of factories and railroads in Tsarist Russia, China’s Self-Strengthening Movement or Muhammad Ali’s development of a cotton textile industry in Egypt).
- In response to criticisms of industrial global capitalism, some governments attempted to prevent rebellions by promoting various types of reforms (such as state pensions and public health in Germany, expansion of suffrage in Britain, or public education in many states).

VI. The ways in which people organized themselves into societies also underwent significant transformations in industrialized states due to the fundamental restructuring of the global economy.

- New social classes, including the middle class and the proletariat, developed.
- Family dynamics, gender roles and demographics changed in response to industrialization.
- Rapid urbanization that accompanied global capitalism often led to unsanitary conditions, as well as to new forms of community.

Key Concept 5.2. Imperialism and Nation-State Formation

As states industrialized during this period, they also expanded their existing overseas colonies and established new types of colonies and transoceanic empires. Regional warfare and diplomacy both resulted in and were affected by this process of modern empire building. The process was led mostly by Europe, although not all states were affected equally, which led to an increase of European influence around the world. Other parts of the world, for example the United States and Japan, also participated in this process. The growth of new empires challenged the power of existing land-based empires of Eurasia. New ideas about nationalism, race, gender, class and culture also developed that facilitated the spread of transoceanic empires and new states, as well as justified anti-imperial resistance and the formation of new communal identities.

I. Industrializing powers established transoceanic empires.

- States with existing colonies (such as the British in India or the Dutch in Indonesia) strengthened their control over those colonies.
- European states (such as the British, Dutch, French, German or Russian), as well as the Americans and the Japanese, established empires throughout Asia and the Pacific, while Spanish and Portuguese influence declined.
- Many European states used both warfare and diplomacy to establish empires in Africa (such as Britain in West Africa or Belgium in the Congo).
- In some parts of their empires, Europeans established settler colonies (such as the British in southern Africa, Australia and New Zealand; or the French in Algeria).
- In other parts of the world, industrialized states practiced economic imperialism (such as the British and French expanding their influence in China through the Opium Wars, or the British and the United States investing heavily in Latin America).

II. Imperialism influenced state formation and contraction around the world.

- A. The expansion of U.S. and European influence over Tokugawa Japan led to the emergence of Meiji Japan.
- B. The United States, Russia and Qing China emulated European transoceanic imperialism by expanding their land borders and conquering neighboring territories.
- C. Anti-imperial resistance led to the contraction of the Ottoman Empire (such as the establishment of independent states in the Balkans; semi-independence in Egypt, French and Italian colonies in North Africa; or later British influence in Egypt).
- D. New states (such as the Cherokee Nation, Siam, Hawai'i or the Zulu Kingdom) developed on the edges of an empire.
- E. The development and spread of nationalism as an ideology fostered new communal identities (such as the German nation, Filipino nationalism or Liberian nationalism).

III. New racial ideologies, especially Social Darwinism, facilitated and justified imperialism.

Key Concept 5.3. Nationalism, Revolution and Reform

The 18th century marked the beginning of an intense period of revolution and rebellion against existing governments, and the establishment of new nation-states around the world. Enlightenment thought and the resistance of colonized peoples to imperial centers shaped this revolutionary activity. These rebellions sometimes resulted in the formation of new states and stimulated the development of new ideologies. These new ideas in turn further stimulated the revolutionary and anti-imperial tendencies of this period.

I. The rise and diffusion of Enlightenment thought that questioned established traditions in all areas of life often preceded the revolutions and rebellions against existing governments.

- A. Enlightenment thinkers (such as Voltaire or Rousseau) applied new ways of understanding the natural world to human relationships, encouraging observation and inference in all spheres of life.
- B. Enlightenment thinkers critiqued the role that religion played in public life, insisting on the importance of reason as opposed to revelation.
- C. Enlightenment thinkers (such as Locke or Montesquieu) developed new political ideas about the individual, natural rights and the social contract.
- D. Enlightenment thinkers also challenged existing notions of social relations, which led to the expansion of rights as seen in expanded suffrage, the abolition of slavery and the end of serfdom.

II. Beginning in the 18th century, peoples around the world developed a new sense of commonality based on language, religion, social customs and territory. These newly imagined national communities linked this identity with the borders of the state, while governments used this idea to unite diverse populations.

III. The spread of Enlightenment ideas and increasing discontent with imperial rule propelled reformist and revolutionary movements.

- A. Subjects challenged the centralized imperial governments (such as the Wahhabi rebellion against the Ottomans or the challenge of the Marathas to the Mughal Sultans).
- B. American colonial subjects led a series of rebellions, which facilitated the emergence of independent nation-states in the United States, Haiti and the mainland nations of modern Latin America. French subjects rebelled against their monarchy. These revolutions reflected the ideals of the Enlightenment in writings: the Declaration of Independence, the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, and the Jamaica Letter.
- C. Slave resistance (such as the establishment of Maroon societies) challenged existing authorities in the Americas (such as in Brazil, Cuba or the Guyanas).
- D. Increasing questions about political authority and growing nationalism contributed to anticolonial movements (such as the Indian Revolt of 1857, the Mahdist Revolt or the Boxer Rebellion).
- E. Some of the rebellions were influenced by religious ideas and millenarianism (such as the Taiping Rebellion, the Ghost Dance or the Xhosa Cattle-Killing Movement).
- F. Responses to increasingly frequent rebellions led to reforms in imperial policies (such as the Tanzimat movement, the Self-Strengthening Movement or the Reform of Bismarckian Pension Systems).

IV. The global spread of Enlightenment thought and the increasing number of rebellions stimulated new transnational ideologies and solidarities.

- A. Discontent with monarchist and imperial rule encouraged the development of new political ideologies: liberalism, socialism and communism.
- B. Demands for women's suffrage and an emergent feminism challenged political and gender hierarchies (such as Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Olympe de Gouges's "Declaration of the Rights of Women and the Female Citizen," or the resolutions passed at the Seneca Falls Conference in 1848).

Key Concept 5.4. Global Migration

Migration patterns changed dramatically throughout this period, and the numbers of migrants increased significantly. These changes were closely connected to the development of transoceanic empires and a global capitalist economy. In some cases, people benefited economically from migration, while other people were seen simply as commodities to be transported. In both cases, migration produced dramatically different societies for both sending and receiving societies, and presented challenges to governments in fostering national identities and regulating the flow of people.

I. Migration in many cases was influenced by changes in demography in both industrialized and unindustrialized societies that presented challenges to existing patterns of living.

- A. Changes in food production and improved medical conditions contributed to a significant global rise in population.
- B. Because of the nature of the new modes of transportation, both internal and external migrants increasingly relocated to cities. This pattern contributed to the significant global urbanization of the 19th century.

II. Migrants relocated for a variety of reasons.

- A. Many individuals (such as manual laborers or specialized professionals) chose freely to relocate, often in search of work.
- B. The new global capitalist economy continued to rely on coerced and semicoerced labor migration, including slavery, Chinese and Indian indentured servitude, and convict labor.
- C. While many migrants permanently relocated, a significant number of temporary and seasonal migrants returned to their home societies (such as Japanese agricultural workers in the Pacific, Lebanese merchants in the Americas or Italians in Argentina).

III. The large-scale nature of migration, especially in the 19th century, produced a variety of consequences and reactions to the increasingly diverse societies on the part of migrants and the existing populations.

- A. Due to the physical nature of the labor in demand, migrants tended to be male, leaving women to take on new roles in the home society that had been formerly occupied by men.
- B. Migrants often created ethnic enclaves (such as concentrations of Chinese or Indians in different parts of the world), which helped transplant their culture into new environments and facilitated the development of migrant support networks.
- C. Receiving societies did not always embrace immigrants, as seen in the various degrees of ethnic and racial prejudice and the ways states attempted to regulate the increased flow of people across their borders (such as the Chinese Exclusion Act or the White Australia Policy).