

Homework Questions

GS - World History

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

1). The geography of England helped in bringing Industrial Revolution. Discuss.

Ans. A Transition from an agrarian society to Industrial one in England during the latter half of the 18th century due to various factors, such as availability of wealth innovation of technologies and machineries and presence of iron and coal mines paved the way for the Industrial Revolution.

It was termed as a revolution owing to the fact that it only changed England as a Nation but changed the world as a whole in subsequent centuries.

The Primary or perhaps the most important of those factors which influenced the Industrial Revolution were Geographical.

→ Maritime Activities supported through the Island's coastal area decreased the distance between the England and the world especially the one which became the source of raw material and the market of their finished goods.

→ Iron and coal present abundantly in Western England became the base of Industry set-up. Smelting of Iron ore with coke further cut the cost of production in favour of factories.

→ Improvement in transportation system all over the country made raw materials easily and cheaply accessible through Rail, Road and Water.

> By 1815, more than 2000 miles of canals were developed and used to carry coal & iron.

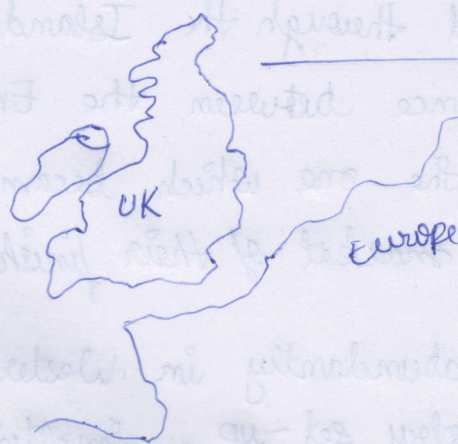
> Macadamised road developed across the country to hold heavy loads made transportation easier.

> Most of all Railway played a major role. Not just England but its colonies also saw development of railway rapidly just to support this industrialisation.

→ Enclosure Movement increased the cultivation area in rural England during 17th and 18th century which in turn became a great source of raw material.

Smaller farmers turned towards city in search of jobs providing workforce to the factories.

→ Being an island nation, England remained protected from all the political struggles and disturbances which ravaged the Europe in 18th and 19th century.



- Island nation
- large coastal area
- protected / Isolated from Europe

Conclusion

Geography could play a major role in the development of a landmass as a nation such as it did in the case of England. Being a country surrounded by water from all sides instead of land was an imperative for Industrial Revolution. It not only began from England but also increased accelerated due to the above factors.