

Q2. Why did the Industrial Revolution first occur in England? Discuss the quality of life of the people there during industrialization. How does it compare with that of India at present time?

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

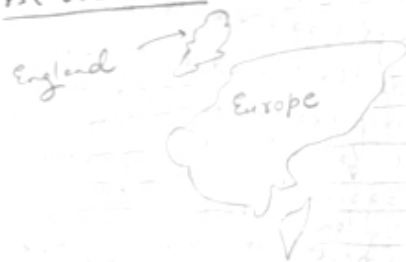
The desire to produce more goods at low cost to make higher profits led to I.R. & further growth of Capitalism. It was then M/C began to take over some of the work of men & animals in the production of goods & commodities. That's why we often say that the I.R. was the beginning of 'Machine Age'.

I.R. in England

The I.R. began in England in about 1750. Thereafter 1750, new inventions came faster, & they were kind that brought most radical changes in people's lives. The I.R. changed men's way of living & thinking all over the world.

The guild system started becoming obsolete, & there was given the way to a new system called the 'Factory System'.

England in the 18th Century was in the most favourable position for I.R. These were Geographical, Economical, Political & Social / Socio-cultural reasons behind the first occurrence of I.R. in England.



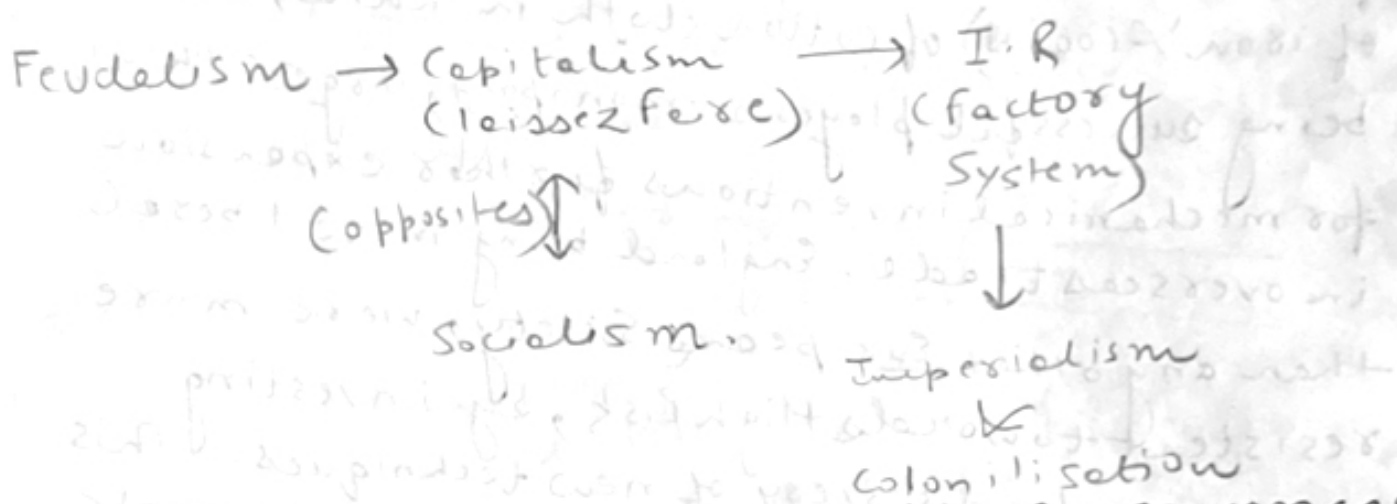
As we all know & depicted in the above map; that England is an island, which has large coast lands helping/helped in 'Maritime Activities'. The location of the coal & iron mines close to each other encouraged the English to evolve new techniques for the manufacture of iron & utilization of the coals. England possessed a far better network of means of transportation than any other country of Europe which greatly helped in I.R., as spent considerable sum on the improvement of roads & construction of canals. There was on going improvement/developments on these & various other infrastructure/transportation such as roads & digging the canals in

England & other countries. Mc Adam devised the method of making pakke or 'macadamized' roads. To expand facilities for transport by water much cheaper than overland England began connecting rivers & lakes with canals, & steam boats followed in after wards. In early 19th century, Railways was also introduced which further accelerated the transportation; In 1830, the first railway train began to carry passengers & freight from Liverpool to Manchester. The development in agriculture due to agricultural revolution as big land lords had an idea for 'Enclosure Movement' which forced peasants to leave the land & with no other means of livelihood they moved in industrial towns & cities to work & earn bread-butter. Thus by the same, industries were benefited, but at a small farmer's expense. There was social & political stability as Britain enjoyed complete freedom of trade, as being cut off from the mainland of Europe lead to strong immune from the war & upheavals of Napoleon. Conflicts enabled England to develop industrial capacity without a fear of battle, damage or loss of life; as also seen in the above map. The capital accumulation by existing feasible 'maritime activities' which motivated the banks & financial institutions set up, made availability of loans to industries & other start ups such as

training institutes; Technical & Non Technical which further enhanced I.R. in England. As discussed, I.R. brought capitalism's growth, where in capitalist / Big land owners controlled Parliament with the government being the pro-capitalist helped in making laws got passed in their own favour such as discussed about agriculture revolution above. There was small population but high demand starting from Textile Industry (with available reservoir of iron & coals) of cotton cloth in India, Britain being successful player as monopoly, urged them for mechanical inventions further expansion in overseas trade. England being more liberal than any other European Society, were more resistant towards high risk, by investing maximum for discovery of new techniques led to Technological revolution by scientists & engineers being practical towards Nature / inventions in Nature. And that's why they were called as 'Protestant Religion', as it enabled to ask questions instead of maintaining blind faith.

All the above factors; Geographical, Economical, Political & Socio-cultural as discussed in detail above led to I.R. first occurs in England. England & I.R. in England played a crucial role on the history of world.

Eventually, 'We the Indians' experienced & experiencing the same by the means of long term effect of I.R. in England. Though, India is still a developing country following/ having democracy same as England coming from the influence of Capitalism & resulting to Imperialism & Colonisation, Socialism opposing Capitalism.



Thus, I.R. having more of positive consequences & significance starting from 18th Century which are still evident such as Creation of Jobs; contributing the wealth to nation; technology progress & invention, standard of living & hopes for further improvements, education etc, but also, even today the economic pressures lead to the overuse of natural resources & the abuse of environment. The profits derived from industrialization, however, permit thoughtful governments to invest in urban improvements.

Abbreviations

I.R. - Industrial Revolution

Amt - Amount

M/C - Machineryes / Machinery.

* in a chronological order.

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details → factors / reasons.