



Class 10th

HISTORY

AGE OF INDUSTRIALISATION

1. BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

- **Proto-industrialisation** → A phase when there was large-scale industrial production for an international market which was not based on factories.
- Proto-industrial system was part of a network of commercial exchanges.
- In 17th & 18th centuries → merchants from the towns in Europe began moving to the countryside → supplying money to peasants and artisans → persuading them to produce for an international market
- With the expansion of world trade and the acquisition of colonies in different parts of the world → the demand for goods increased → but merchants could not expand production within towns → because urban crafts and trade guilds were powerful.
- The relationship developed between the town and the countryside → Merchants were based in towns but the work was done mostly in the countryside.
- A merchant clothier in England purchased wool from a wool stapler → and carried it to the spinners the yarn (thread) that was spun was taken in subsequent stages of production to weavers, fullers, and then to dyers.
- The finishing was done in London before the export merchant sold the cloth in the international market.
London in fact came to be known as a finishing centre.

The Coming Up of the Factory

- By the 1730s → the earliest factories in England came up.
- The first symbol of the new era was cotton → Its production boomed in the late 19th century.
- In 1760 Britain was importing 2.5 million pounds of raw cotton to feed its cotton industry. By 1787 this import soared to 22 million pounds.
- A series of inventions in the 18th century increased the efficacy of each step of the production process.
- **Richard Arkwright** created the cotton mill

The Pace of Industrial Change

How rapid was the process of industrialisation?

1. The most dynamic industries in Britain were clearly cotton and metals.
 - ♦ Cotton was the leading sectors up to the 1840s → after that the iron and steel industry led the way.
 - ♦ With the expansion of railways → the demand for iron and steel increased rapidly
 - ♦ By 1873 Britain was exporting iron and steel worth about £ 77 million, double the value of its cotton export



2. The new industries could not easily displace traditional industries.
 - ◆ At the end of 19th century, less than 20 % of the total workforce was employed in technologically advanced industrial sector.
 - ◆ Textiles was a dynamic sector, but a large portion of the output was produced not within factories, but outside, within domestic units.
3. The pace of change in the 'traditional' industries was not set by steam-powered cotton or metal industries, but they did not remain entirely stagnant either.
4. Technological changes occurred slowly because:
 - ◆ The New technology was expensive.
 - ◆ The machines often broke down and repair was costly.
 - ◆ They were not as effective as their inventors and manufacturers claimed.

2. **HAND LABOUR AND STEAM POWER**

- In Victorian Britain → there was no shortage of human labour → Hence Industrialists did not want to introduce machines which required large capital investment.
- In many industries the demand for labour was seasonal.
- In Victorian Britain, the upper classes – the aristocrats and the bourgeoisie – preferred things produced by hand → handmade goods came to symbolize refinement and class
- In countries with labour shortage → industrialists were keen on using mechanical power so that the need for human labour can be minimised. In 19th -century America. Britain, however, had no problem hiring human hands.

Life of the Workers

- Labours were available in abundance in the market which affected the lives of workers.
- The actual possibility of getting a job depended on existing networks of friendship and kin relations.
- Seasonality of work in many industries meant prolonged periods without work. After the busy season was over, workers became jobless.
- In the early 19th century → wages increased but the prices rose sharply.
- In periods of economic slump → like the 1830s, the proportion of unemployed went up to anything between 35 % and 75 % in different regions.
- Spinning Jenny – Devised by James Hargreaves in 1764, this machine speeded up the spinning process and reduced labour demand.
- After the 1840s → building activity intensified in the cities, opening up greater opportunities of employment. Roads were widened, new railway stations came up, railway lines were extended, tunnels dug, drainage and sewers laid, rivers embanked.
- The number of workers employed in the transport industry doubled in the 1840s, and doubled again in the subsequent 30 years



3. INDUSTRIALISATION IN THE COLONIES

The Age of Indian Textiles

- Before the age of machine industries, silk and cotton goods from India dominated the international market in textiles.
- A vibrant sea trade operated through the main pre-colonial ports.
- Surat on the Gujarat coast connected India to the Gulf and Red Sea Ports.
- Masulipatam on the Coromandel Coast and Hooghly in Bengal had trade links with Southeast Asian ports.
- The European companies gradually gained power – first securing a variety of concessions from local courts, then the monopoly rights to trade.
- This resulted in a decline of the old ports of Surat and Hooghly through which local merchants had operated.
- Exports from these ports fell dramatically, the credit that had financed the earlier trade began drying up, and the local bankers slowly went bankrupt.
- In the last years of the 17th century, the gross value of trade that passed through Surat had been Rs 16 million. By the 1740s it had slumped to Rs 3 million

What Happened to Weavers?

- After the East India Company established political power, they tried to eliminate the existing traders and brokers and establish a more direct control over the weaver.
- It appointed a paid servant called the gomastha to supervise weavers, collect supplies, and examine the quality of cloth.
- Loans were provided for purchasing raw material for production.
- The produced cloth was to be handed over to the gomastha.
- In many weaving villages there were reports of clashes between weavers and gomasthas because:
 - ◆ The new gomasthas were outsiders, with no long-term social link with the village.
 - ◆ The price weavers received from the Company was miserably low.

Manchester Comes to India

- As cotton industries developed in England, industrial groups pressurised the government to impose import duties on cotton textiles so that Manchester goods could sell in Britain without competition.
- Also, they persuaded the East India Company to sell British manufactures in Indian markets as well.
- Thus, cotton weavers in India faced two problems at the same time → Their export market collapsed as market overloaded with Manchester imports → Availability of lower cost cotton goods produced by machines.
- By the end of the nineteenth century, factories in India began production, flooding the market with machine-made goods which created a problem of weavers.



4. FACTORIES COME UP

YEAR	FACTORIES
1854	first cotton mill in Bombay
1855	first jute mill in Bengal
By 1862	four cotton mills
1862	another jute mill came up
1860s	the Elgin mill was started in Kanpur
1861	the first cotton mill of Ahmadabad was set up
1874	the first spinning and weaving mill of Madras began production

The Early Entrepreneurs

- In Bengal, Dwarkanath Tagore made his fortune in the China trade.
- In Bombay, Parsis like Dinshaw Petit and Jamsetjee Nusserwanjee Tata who built huge industrial empires in India.
- After colonial power came in power, Indian businessmen were barred from trading with Europe in manufactured goods.

Where Did the Workers Come From?

- In 1901, there were 584,000 workers in Indian factories. By 1946 the number was over 2,436, 000.
- In most industrial regions workers came from the districts around.
- Peasants and artisans who found no work in the village went to the industrial centres in search of work.
- Over 50 per cent workers in the Bombay cotton industries in 1911 came from the neighbouring district of Ratnagiri, while the mills of Kanpur got most of their textile hands from the villages within the district of Kanpur.
- Most often millworkers moved between the village and the city, returning to their village homes during harvests and festivals.
- Industrialists usually employed a jobber to get new recruits.

5. THE PECULIARITIES OF INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

- European Managing Agencies established tea and coffee plantations, acquiring land at cheap rates from the colonial government.
- By the first decade of the twentieth century, the swadeshi movement promoted Indian industries.
- From 1906, moreover, the export of Indian yarn to China declined since produce from Chinese and Japanese mills flooded the Chinese market.
- During the First World War, British mills busy with war production to meet the needs of the army, Manchester imports into India declined.
- After the war, Manchester could never recapture its old position in the Indian market.

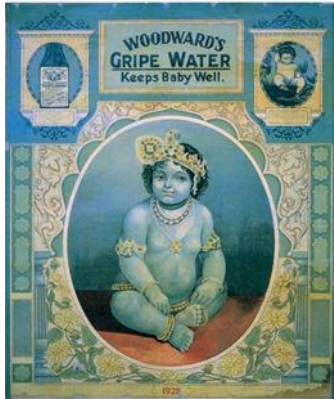
Small-scale Industries Predominate

- Large industries formed only a small segment of the economy and most of them were located in Bengal and Bombay.
- In the twentieth century, handicrafts production and handloom actually expanded.
- By the second decade of the 20th century, weavers used looms with a fly shuttle.



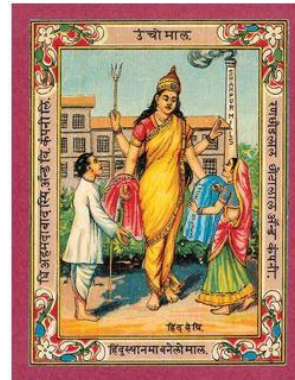
6. Market for Goods

- New consumers are created is through advertisements.
- Advertisements appear in newspapers, magazines, hoardings, street walls, television screens.
- Advertisements → became a vehicle of the nationalist message of Swadeshi.
- Example: Manchester industrialists put labels on the cloth bundles → as a mark of quality. When buyers saw 'MADE IN MANCHESTER' written in bold on the label → they were expected to feel confident about buying the cloth.



Gripe Water calendar of 1928 by M.V. Dhurandhar

The image of baby Krishna was most commonly used to popularise baby products



An Indian mill cloth label

The goddess is shown offering cloth produced in an Ahmedabad mill, and asking people to use things made in India.



Fig (a)

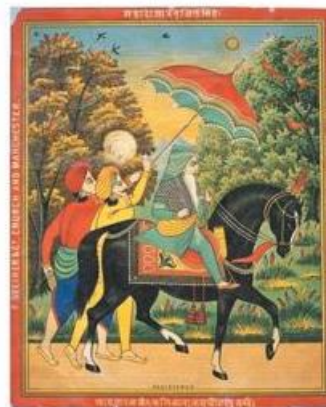


Fig (b)

Fig (a) – Manchester labels, early twentieth century. Images of numerous Indian gods and goddesses – Kartika, Lakshmi, Saraswati – are shown in imported cloth labels approving the quality of the product being marketed.

Fig (b)– Maharaja Ranjit Singh on a Manchester label. Historic figures are used to create respect for the product.