

EUROPE TO THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

The year 1668 mark the beginning of modern times while the year 1400 can be regarded as the end of the middle age.

Two questions arise from the statement:

- 1 When did the change over occur?
- 2 What is it that distinguishes the modern period from the mid-ages?

The first question cannot be answered exactly; dividing lines in history do not occur in any one part year. In this respect they are on like batons and birds and death of famous persons. Rather they are like the divisions in a person's own life. The periods of childhood, boyhood, youth, manhood, middle age and old age which merge in one another, we come with very little

changes that can be seen from one day to another

Still, the changes do occur and we all have some rough idea as to when it takes place. In the same way, the change from medieval or middle ages to modern times is regarded by most people as occurring somewhere about the year 1500.

As for the 2nd question four main changes can be regarded as marking this transition from medieval to modern times

- 1) The decay of feudal power and the growth of the United nations into the rule of strong monarchs.
- 2) The advancement of human learning either by the rediscovery of the species of knowledge

of the ancient by the opening up
all together new fields of know-
ledge.

3 The discovery of land and route
The outstanding events in this
connection was the voyage of
christopher columbus to america
in 1492 and the voyage of vaso
d' gama round a cape of good hope.

4 The decline of the catholic church
this culminated in the movement
known as reformation which
resulted in the establishment of
protestant church in many coun-
tries

1) AFTER DECAY OF FEUDAL POWER

After the fall of the roman
empire in the 5th cent europe ha-
ben thrown into a state of
great confusion. This confusion
had lasted for about five centur-
ies and by the year 1000, the so-

called ages were at an end. Various causes and institutions had by then appeared to give Europe the benefits of law and order. The greatest of this institutions was the Catholic church which had become universal throughout western Europe. As a counterpart to the Catholic church there had been established the Holy Roman Empire, but although the first Holy Roman Emperor, namely Charlemagne, had ruled over wider territories and wielded vast powers, the later emperors had lost much of this power and territory and had become less powerful than the strong Kings of certain other countries. At the other end of the scale of this dreams of the universal rule by people and emperor, there had brought up the feudal system, which although more modern in its arms had been more successful in many ways.

in carrying them out. The feudal Lord soon became extremely powerful.

- 1) They held large estates.
- 2) They regulated the lives of their tenants.
- 3) They held law courts.
- 4) They raised armies and built castles and at times they even wage war against the king.

Kings had existed before the feudal lords appeared but their power had not been great as at first, they were little more than tribal chieftains. None the less as the centuries passed the power of the king gradually grows. For instance in England the house of Wessex became supreme. In France it was the house of the Capetians who laid the foundations of a strong royal house.

In the 14th century they were succeeded by the Valois who were able in the end to unite France against the English invasion of the 150 years war. The feudal barons had strongly resisted the growth of this new monarchies but in some ways

their resistance proved their own undoing. The evils w^t they promoted killed off many of their own number and often gave the king an opportunity of punishing them by fines or execution or by confiscating their estates thus the king became strong and wealthy. As commerce and industry developed townsmen and merchant lent their support to the king in his struggle against the unruly barons. From the 14th century onward gun powder came into use. Kings were then able to batter down the castle of the barons and deal a further blow at the declining power of feudalism. With this growing wealth the king was able to hire professional soldiers and make himself independent of the soldiers supplied by the barons. The growth of strong monarchies was closely connected with the growth of naval power.

In the middle ages men had thought of themselves as peasants, squires, king or priest. Now they began to think of themselves as Englishmen, Frenchmen, or Spaniards. With the growth of nationalism the position of kings increased in importance, as he became the symbol of his nation's desire for fame and prosperity. Nationalism proved beneficial in undermining feudalism but it has brought to the modern world many modern problems. In Germany and Italy strong monarchies and united nations failed to appear and even in those countries where strong monarchies had appeared by 1500 vestiges of the feudal systems still lingered on. In France and most other continental countries, the humble peasants were still no more than a serf tied to the soil and with many duties to perform for his lord. The complete decay of feudalism did not come in many countries till

lapse of another three centuries.

The majority of the population

is Hinduism and the remainder

are Muslim and Christian.

Population wise it is estimated

that the population will exceed 100 million

by the year 2025.

Islam is the largest religious group

at approximately 150 million.

Christianity is the second largest

group at approximately 100 million.

Islam is the largest religious group

in the world.

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THE RENAISSANCE OR THE REVIVAL OF LEARNING with the decline of the ancient world and its final overthrow by the barbarian tribes in the 5th cent AD, much of the civilization and learning of ancient Greece was forgotten. From AD 1000 a gradual reawakening took place and the writings of the Greek Aristotle and the Roman Virgil and Cicero were studied. From about 1400 however, the Renaissance can be said to begin. In earnest men began to study in ancient writers. In their original language for instance Latin, Greek and Hebrew. New literatures began to grow up. For instance in England. (Chaucer has written his book called the Canterbury tales. Secondly in Italy Dante has written his divine comedy). In

time the renaissance came to include every branch of human knowledge and progress has gone on without interruption, ever since. The Italian city States were the pioneers of new learning and, after the fall of Constantinople in 1453, they welcomed many of the Greek scholars who fled with their learning and manuscripts from the barbarous Turks. In Rome the great library was founded by Nicholas V (1447-1455). In Florence, the renaissance was supported by the rich and powerful ruling family of the Medice. The renaissance in Italy was mainly concerned with beauty and art. Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) painted the famous

picture of the last supper among
the portrait of monalisa, this
remarkable painter could also
act as architect, sculptor, engineer
and mathematician. Botticelli
1444 - 1510 painted the pictures of
spring. Raphael 1483 - 1520 proba-
bly the greatest of the Italian
painter produced his world fa-
mous paintings. In Italy II the
new renaissance style of archit-
ecture was involved to take the
place of the medieval gothic in
the realm of science men soon
outstripped the ancient. The pol-
ish astronomers Copernicus (1473
- 1523) thought that the sun was
the center of the universe and
that the earth and planet revolved
round it. Perhaps the greatest
feat of whole renaissance
was the dutch scholar Erasmus
(1466 -

Erasmus was born at Rotterdam and was early sent to the monastery, his mind was too active for the monastic life.

however, he left the monastery and spent much of his life in the universities of Paris, Oxford and Cambridge.

In 1516 he published a new Greek version of the New Testament which corrected many errors in the medieval Vulgate (Latin edition of the Bible). Erasmus was a devout Catholic but he could see that much was wrong with the church of his time. In his book "The Praise of the folly" he attacked the lives of many leaders in the church and the ignorance of many of its leaders. Erasmus was one of the Oxford

reformer and the pioneer of the new learning in England. During this period the invention of printing appeared. In 1440, a German John Gutenberg of Mainz discovered how to print by means of movable types. He was the first European to print by this method though the art of printing had been known for many centuries in the Far East. The news spread rapidly. The printers of Italy invented the italics type of letters to save space. In 1476, William Caxton set up the first printing press in England under the shadow of West Minster Abbey. The product of books was increased and cheapened beyond all imagination. By 1800 there were probably 8 millions or more printed books in existence.

The renaissance would have spread much more slowly if it would have not been for its newborn enemy ally

3. THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERIES

In the middle ages precious metals or stones, silks and spices found their way to Europe from India and Japan. They came either by land or across the Indian ocean and the red sea. All these routes reached Europe via the Mediterranean sea and made the Italian city state of Venice and Genoa very prosperous.

In 1271, A Venetian traveller, Marco Polo had set out for the east, and the account he wrote of the riches of China and Japan stimulated men's imaginations and led them

to try to find new ways to go to
Asia. In the mid of the 15th cen.
Constantinople and Egypt pass
into the hands of Turks. These
made trade in the mediterranean
more dangerous for christians
and the need to finding other
native routes to east became
urgent. It was in an attempt to find
these routes necessary that the
geographical routes in order made
further along; the introduction of
the mariners compass made
long voyage safer. Under the
influence of a Portuguese prince
named Henry the navigator 1394
- 1460, Portuguese mariner sailor push
farther and farther down the west
coast of Africa. The vast expanse of
the sahara desert seemed never
ending until in 1445 on heard land
green meadow with vegetation &

was sighted and named Cape Verde, or the green cape. In 1471, the continent was crossed and in 1488 by Bartholomew Diaz reached the cape of good hope on June 8, 1487. Vasco da Gama left portuguese goa with four ships provisioned for three years. The voyage was round long and dangerous. Vasco da Gama came off Christmas tide to a country which he named Natal in honour of the season (the day of the nativity). Also near Christopher Columbus in 1492-1506 he discovered the islands of America. An Italian named Amerigo Vespucci sailed from America back to Italy a book describing his voyage, the book became popular and so the new continent named after the author was named after him.

The geographical discoveries led to the gradual decay of the Italian city states of the city of Venice and Genoa, and to the increased importance of countries along the Atlantic, for instance Spain and Portugal followed soon by England France and Holland. Soon commercial and colonial rivalries appeared between the chief European nations. Spain built up a large empire in the west and Portugal did likewise in the east. Both east and west were pouring their treasures into Europe.

4 THE DECLINE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Catholic church has done much good in the middle ages but during the latter centuries it had declined, and many of its moral ideals had grown dim. For nearly 70 years (1309-1378), the pope had lived at a place called Avignon under the

influence of the french kings
These had been followed by a still
more distressing spectacle - two
rival lines of popes lasting 50 years
each line claiming to be the only
true lines

During the renaissance some
popes brought more of art and learning
among them of religion and good
life. Among the lower ranks of
the church the monks and friars
in particular had fallen from their
original ideals. The opponents of the
church encouraged this. Short
coming and it will be no mistake
to think that the whole church
looks corrupt but even such clerics
as Erasmus and Sir Thomas More
recognised that all was not well.
Finally, the renaissance led more
especially in northern europe

to question the very authority of the church. They found a wide gulf separating the teaching of Christ and many of the teaching and practices of the catholic church. They even discovered that some of the teachings of the catholic church were based on forgeries whose origin had been completely forgotten in the course of the century.

Lastly the growth of strong nations and monarchies led to the weakening of the church. The catholic church was an international body and the pope had often interfered in the affairs of all nations. The new nations under their strong and ambitious rulers resented these interferences especially that the popes were Italians no successful attack was made on the

PERIODS

Catholic church tell martin luther king protest in 1517. These marks the beginning of reformation that is break up of the catholic church and establishment of protestantism churches.

CHARACTERISTICS OF EUROPEAN SOCIETY

AROUND 1780

In 1780's and towards the end of 1800 European societies are characterised as follows

- 1) Agriculturalism
- 2) Europe was traditional in outlook
- 3) Europe was dynastic
- 4) Europe was characterised by royal Absolutism
- 5) Ethnocentrism
- 6) State churches and Europe was stratified into social groups or divided into privilege classes

8 Merchantilism

Agriculture was the main stay of economic activities of the society. Crude and rudimentary tools were the instruments used for tilling the land. Peasants were usually engaged in farming and the sources of power generation like wind water used for the purpose of agricultural practices were lacking. The aristocrats or the rich nobles engage in long distance of trade, land by this time belonged to well-known and openly distributed it belong strictly to the aristocrats/nobles.

- The privileged estates were divided into 3
- 1) The first estates - church
 - 2) The second estates - Nobles
 - 3) The third estates - Diff categories of peasants; poor, some categories of town dwellers; some categories of traders, bankers, lawyers, civil servants (clerical/professionals)

1) The privilege by virtue of birth and other legislative laws, possessed the land and land was the centre of wealth in Europe and again by this time medical facilities were backward, road network poor and the overwhelming situation at that time was strictly traditional.

2) Europe was traditional in outlook. Europeans at this time had their cultural beliefs and they adopted it to the fullest. Changes in this belief in this way there and they never expected that it could change and take a dimension of the revolution.

At the same time emergence of change began to manifest in emergence of philosopher and scientist and inventors.

3) European society was dynastic in the sense that there

America got her independence in 1776

was change in power

Royal Absolutism.

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION IN EUROPE

The industrial revolution took place in Europe in the 1750's starting with Great Britain. This mark on diff European economic trains in European history. Britain was changed from an agrarian economy to a mechanised economy. Industrialization started in Europe precisely in Britain by the last of 18th century. Britain took the lead of this revolution and it all began with cotton production in Lancashire. The question is why did Britain take the lead in industrialization in Europe?

- 1) It was because Britain was very lucky to have so many cotton manufacturers and iron.
- 2) Britain was a chief supplier of coal

3 Britain witness mass production of textile and the development of steam engines

4) Britain used coke in smelting iron

5) Britain had access to water trains

portable

6) The control of agriculture by rich land owners rather than farm peasants holding small plots

7) Britain broke away from the traditional society

These are the factors that made Britain to revolutionize in Europe.

1) Britain was one of the earliest country to develop imperialism.

2) Their society had a lot of people with bourgeois class (they have fast).

FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR INDUSTRIALIZATION OF EUROPE

1) There are so many factors responsible for the industrialization of Europe but a few will be mentioned.

- 1) Raw materials
- 2) Population growth
- 3) Over-seas market.

FRANCISH SOCIETY BEFORE REVOLUTION/ANCIENT REGIME OR REVOLUTION IN FRANCE

The foundation of province was tradition. In administration there was a complex society why? because new offices were created along older ones which means there was duplication of function citizens towns and villages had different rights and privileges tolls, barrier, diff. taxes, citizen income divided into estates

A. Administratively french society was basically divided into 2

a) North and central

b) South

a) North and central constituted

2/3 land mass and population of the citizens and with the north

study the map of france

and central there were regions and provincial differences. Very important was the fact that land was under the control of landlords known as seigneurs who were equally exempt from taxation.

- b) In the south, the population constituted with land mass of France. There was also difference in how taxes were paid. In the south land was divided into noble and non-noble lands.
- ~~FEUDAL SOCIETY BEFORE 1789~~

Legal administration: France was divided into parlements i.e. law courts, the courts, regulates the grain prices. Sometimes some items in the market and the court judges in the court were hereditary. The parlements were responsible for registering new laws for the kings. The parlement

also could reject any law made by the king. If the law was against tradition, but if the king insisted, the law can be registered by a decree called "let the justice decree". The duplication of office was for money making even the task system was not evenly distributed among the population. The majority that controls 90% of the land (the nobles) don't pay tax while the poor peasants who control only 10% pay taxes of the land pay taxes.

Legal and social inequality: France's population was divided into 3 groups: 1st, 2nd and 3rd estates. These estates existed and was created by the law, and these estates were not homogenous in nature because each of the estates had some form of internal divisions in terms of differences.

for example in wealth; in polygyny and different terms of privileges. In practice these estates can further be divided into 2

- i. Privileged
- ii. Non-privileged

The privileged estates further sub-divided into first and second estates; these 1st and 2nd estates that constitute 5% of France population.

From

1ST EST THE CHURCH It was an institution that symbolises an estate the church in its own right is the clergy which symbolised the church. The clergy were about 125 thousand just 21 by the revolution. It comprises of different priests, abbots, bishops, and canons who were nobles and parish priests who were members of the non-nobles. The church as a group owned 10% land in France and was exempt from taxation but performed

some basic social duties like provision of health services and infrastructures

The church was also the center of village life, people congregated on Sundays in the church. Being in church itself was homogenous. There was division into the major priest and parish priest. The major priest was the canon, the abbots, the bishops and unless you are born noble you cannot be one of these 3 (Abb by implication, & church was

policital and discriminatory

These was strictly preserved for the nobles/nobility the 2nd estate was not open to all individuals. The church were everybody came by a clergy but not a bishop. This estate had a population of abt 300,000 and 20% of lands are controlled and owned by the nobles.

The pop of france then was abt 22 million and some of the priviledges enjoyed by the nobles was

i) They carry sword about with them

ii) Secondly only their own colleagues could sit in judgement involving other nobles

iii) They enjoyed seigniorial land rights and they don't pay tax ie in the north and central france they were population that don't pay tax so many high positions were reserved for the nobles esp in the church, in the army, civil service and in the state.

Finally nobles work not and cannot be conscripted into the army neither can they be engaged in the common labour and because of the dignity that went with their offices, nobles works not engage in menial and manual labo

ur, but they are engaged in gold smelting. It should also be noted that the 2nd estates were not also homogenous groups. Not all of them were rich, some were only noble in names and some nothing noble in their names, their nobility was subject to siezual if caught forming.

Some commoners were economically superior in status than to some nobles who were despoiled poor

3RD ESTATES / The 3rd estates was made up of somany categories of people who were not noble by birth. occasionally they differed, there were accountants, peasants, lawyers, civil servants and military but they occupied of the lower position they are called 3rd estates except in Hindu and law those in the 3rd estates were always at the bottom but majority of 3rd estates were peasants

and the peasants were 95% and other occupations were 15% They cannot aspire higher because of their non-nobility and some are more richer than the nobles in terms of economic status. Outward nobility depended on circumstances of birth, no achievement in French society at that time no matter how rich and influential one may be you only find in the 3rd estates. The peasants suffered additional disadvantages within the 3rd estates as follows.

- a) Obligations to the church
- b) Obligation to nobility
- c) Obligation to the states
- d) Obligation to the village community

To the church, peasants pay $\frac{1}{10}$ of the tithes of the crops and everything and anything you possess within the society.

- i To the nobility peasants pay annual rent for the use of land
- ii Secondly, peasant pay money to the landlords anytime they sell or transfer land to another person
- iii Thirdly peasants were prevented from killing the landlords animals even when the animal trample on the landlords farms

To the states peasants has 2 main obligation

i Taxation

ii Labour

Taxation is divided into two direct and indirect taxation

i Direct taxation on lands

ii Indirect taxation on the items he consumes or consumable items

Labour services animals belonging to peasants were subjected to work of donkeys

Peasants payed village dues

for maintenance of roads.
peasants were squatted in all
colonization. The state regulates
the planting, harvesting and
processing.

FRENCH REVOLUTION (1789 - 1799)

The state of Europe then towards
the development of the French revolution
was characterised by writings
and discoveries of philosophers
and scientists such as philosophers
like Voltaire, Montesquieu, Rousseau
and writings of physiocrats
like Mirabeau, Say, and Quesnay.
Voltaire's writings challenged
the basis of traditional beliefs
which were unscientific, he also
challenged the ideas and practices
of the church; he attacked the acts
of the clergy man and the
religious intolerance of that time
because at that time the protes

tants of france suffered cru
wrongs and sometimes they
were put to death by this volt
aire was the spokesman of th
conscience of mankind his wit
and his satire the clearness of
his language and the humanity
of his appeal resonated the 18th
century and the french revolution
Montesquieu he was a critic of
political and religious system
that were not based on rule of
law or similarities he was a
profound student of constitutional problem
and by temperament he was
conservative Rule of law accord
ing to montesquieu connotes
that people are involved in
making law that equality bly
the law is supreme He adhoc
ated the separation of law
or the separation of power
b/w the state and the church

READ → ECONOMIC REFORM

might have led to success. These condonial advised the royal house to stamp tax on everybody in the society. (both 1st & 2nd / 3rd & states but again 1st & 2nd & state revolted against the advice of the condonial, so therefore the period 1787 - 88 was called 'revolt of the nobles'.

HOW THE 3RD ESTATE LED THE REVOLUTION

3RD ESTATE AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

D. 3rd estate: constitutional

- 1) Peasants with 95% population
- 2) Professionals, bankers, petty traders, junior officers in govt, in army, in church, artists, clerks, doctors, engineer, constituted 5% population therefore, the peasants and these professionals constituted 95%

The 3rd est made demands their 1st demand was there should be a joined session of the 3 estates

(ie 1st & 2nd and 3rd estate must come together) The king refused the idea of the 3rd est. sitting together with the 1st/2nd est. and preferred to address them individually.

Another demand by the 3rd est. is that there must be universal franchise (one man one vote) again the mobility refused) therefore, with the refusal of these basic demands it was obvious that the french society was becoming very changed and more troublesome and dangerous. and within these period some of the nobles joined the 3rd est. one of the most important act in this period was the physical attack of 1789, the physical attack of the bastille, the physical attack on July 14, 1789 these was led

by Camille Desmoulin, a young lawyer, a brilliant writer and despite his stammering, an effectice speaker with the name of the Bastille had been the symbol of old despotism and it has been mainly again as a means of inciting Paris. A successful attack would be a victory, a warning, and a demonstration of its cities power. The Bastille was an old medieval fortress in France and it was a prison where all arms were kept. It was also a military garrison or military headquarters with prisoners. Members of the 3rd estate destroyed the British bastille collected all the arms and freed the prisoners, bastille was a symbol of oppression that was destroyed during the revolution.

At this stage the rev took a
shape of physical violence char-
acterised by riots.

* The next important in french
rev was the constitution of the
constituent assembly.

The constituent assembly controlled
the assembly for 2 years from 1789-91, then the constituent assembly was replaced with National assembly.

3) Rousseau: The social contract published in 1762 summarizes his idea of govt. In opening chapters, he mentioned that man is born free and yet everywhere he is in chains. The state according to him bears its origin from the people; that is and the rights in a state belongs to the people. He believed that the relationship b/w the govt and the people is a contract and also that it must be democratic and that citizens are expected to elect their leaders while the leaders provide infrastructural development to the people.

The impact of these philosophical writers is that people read their works and they find there was element of truth in what the writers were advocating in the

Secondly people began to ask questions like why do we have monarchical system of government and why is the monarch hereditary?

All these question threaten the foundation of french society. They now began to demand for fraternity, equality, liberty, democracy and freedom.

It should be noted that when a great change had come the new was crystallised into 3 watchword of liberty, equality and fraternity.

At first individuals were demanding the security of individual by equality they were demanding the right of individuals and by fraternity nobles and peasants should come together (they demanded that nobles and peasants come together)

The demand for liberty, fraternity, equality, democracy, freedom forced the monarchy to introduce economic reforms.

which attempted to make the privileged estates and the wealthy in the society to pay tax. The attempted economic reforms witnessed the rise and fall of finance ministers in France.

In 1749, income tax was introduced and the church and the nobles opposed this and this was suspended.

In 1774, another min. of finance after abt 3 or 4 (Nectair) was appointed his name was Turgot his reforms again attacked the privileges and the nobles he particularly wanted to control the power of the church, he int

roduced the method of taxation
he also established some metho
of trade within and beyond the
kingdom and because his target
was the church, he was dismissed
after a conspiracy and Nectan
became the finance minister. In
his reform he collected loans
from other institutions giving
the impression that the econo
my was doing well. Problems
arose from the payment of a
loan. He was removed and re
placed by Charles Alexandre de
Colonne. He was the finance min
from 1783 - 1789. He paid the interest
of the loans collected by Nectan
but later on collected another
loan. He also forced the privilege
to pay. He was removed and re
placed by ^{Comptroller} Lamine des Karan.
These cardinal occupied a
policy of which adopted earlier