



Filiere: English Studies
Semester 3
Module: 19
British Culture/ US Culture
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Lecture *01*

The Founding of Britain

-The main objective of this module is to introduce students to a background of Britain's development throughout history from the dark ages until recent times and also to give them a deep insight into the political system in Britain as well as other important aspects of the British culture mainly the system of education, the common traditions and customs and the characteristics of the British economy. The other main objective of the course is to provide students with an extensive background of the situation of religion in Britain in the past and nowadays. So much focus will be on the confrontation between the different religious groups in Britain and more particularly the protestants and the catholics. Apart from this, the students are also required to familiarize themselves with the American history. Obviously, each nation has its proper historical features and characteristics. America or what is called the new world was the target of different colonial powers. The students will gradually be introduced to the coming of the Europeans and their different settlements and by the same token are invited to consider the hostile confrontations between the Europeans over power in the new world. The last lecture in this module will be mainly concerned with the rise of big business from 1860 to 1929. The students are supposed to be quite familiar with the main features and reasons of the American industrial revolution.

-It is interesting to point out that Britain around 4000 before the birth of christ witnessed the movement of the Neolithic people who settled in the country and who left some amazing monumental architecture. The spectacular achievement of the neolithic people was undeniable. They have, in fact, left behind remains of their causewayed camp , burial grounds known as barrows , chambered tombs and amazing ritual centers called henges . Many of the first neolithic monuments are found in wiltshire, in the south west of Britain. At Silbury Hill, there is the largest man made mound in Europe. Stonehenge dates from before 2000 before the birth of christ and is one of the most mysterious and complex archaeological sites in the world.

-The end of the second century saw the invasion of the celts coming from north western Germany , Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. This group settled in Southern England and gradually spread North Scotland and Ireland. They were tall, fair skinned and blue eyed. They were good warriors and remained tribesmen. They believed in hidden practices and worshipped magical and supernatural powers. The celts had an organised cast of priests called The Druids who actually presided over religion and education.

-The Romans organised their invasion into stages and actually conquered and occupied most of the country in 43 A.D. Immediately after this event ; the country entered a process of romanization. But north of Scotland and Ireland could not be invaded. The contributions of Romans were so numerous but were limited to towns. They founded cities like London ; built the Thames bridge allowing a commercial exchange with Europe. For example, Britain was the first exporter of corn. They also developed the network of roads, built villas in the Italian style and were experts in building baths fed by underground springs. The romans converted the celts to christianity ; though some of the British kept or retained their language and culture which survived in North Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

-The aim of the Romans when they first set their foot in England in 55 before the birth of christ was both to control and to assess the wealth of the country with the intention to absorb it later into the empire. The Roman commander Julius Caesar had an easy victory over the britons ; but he was compelled to retire or to withdraw his military forces as storms in the channel hindered his cavalry from arriving from Gaul. In 54 before the birth of christ Caesar returned and marched through southern Britain. The Britons were divided; but Cassivellaunus, king of the Catuvellauni ; mounted stiff resistance and opposition. In the end ; Cassivellaunus stronghold was taken and the king himself captured .The romans took hostages and also arranged for the britons to pay an annual tribute to Rome.

-The Romans managed to gain first-hand knowledge of Britain and noted its agricultural and mineral wealth. After they departed and left ; trade between Britain and the empire increased and the schemes to link or to annex such a potentially rich country to the rest of the roman empire were achieved and forwarded by the roman planners.

-The invasion of most Britain came in AD 43 when Aulus Plautius; following the instructions of the emperor ; Claudius invaded Britain with an army of some 40000 men. After the army

had established control of the south east ; claudius himself arrived with an impressive retinue ; including elephants. The emperor received the submission of a number of the British kings and then left. The annexation was celebrated in Rome. But of course a lot of hard fighting was in the process before the downfall and conquest of Britain.

-Still ; it is important to stress that the Romans managed to spread their power and empire in different parts of Britain. But; there were some places which were hard to conquer as the people there mounted stiff opposition. The north of Scotland peopled by the fierce celtic people known as the picts was not occupied by the Romans. Rome exercised sovereignty over the lowlands of Scotland except the northern part which actually was controlled by the picts who prevented the romans from spreading their ideologies and civilisation. Between AD 122 and 127 the Romans built a wall called the Hadrian. This wall was mainly intended to divide two tribes, the Brigantes and the Selgovae and to hinder them from forming an alliance against Rome. The wall was also meant to protect the population to the south from the picts and their allies.

-The Anglo Saxons originate from Denmark; North West Germany and Netherlands. The Saxons first attack was in 367 A.D when they invaded the east and south east of Britain. The rest of England and lowlands fell under the control of the Angles. There was a sharing of power and England was divided to small kingdoms. The most powerful ones were: Northumbria in the North; Mercia in Midlands and Wessex in the south. The lack of central government; an efficient army and lack of unity paved the way for the Vikings to conquer England.

-In the fourth century; the Roman Empire was threatened not only by the Scots and the Picts from the North but also by the Saxons; a loose term used to describe a number of peoples living in present day Denmark; North West Germany and the Netherlands. The Roman military forces were unable to hinder or to stop Saxon attacks and piracy. This led to the building of defences along the east and south coasts. In 367; there was a combined attack on Britain by the picts; scots and Saxons. Due to the fierce raids of the picts; scots and Saxons; the Roman military forces withdrew. It was now important and very urgent for the Romano British population to look for better military means to stop the combined attacks of the picts; scots and Saxons. In such a situation, the Roman Empire as well as its ideologies and civilization could not be spread in the whole country.

- The picts and the scots did not benefit from the Roman army withdrawal and decided instead to fight each other until the ninth century. It was difficult at the time to hold back the Saxons and to prevent them from reaching the British land. They came across the North sea and attacked the east and south east coasts of Britain. Vortigern, a British leader in the south east employed two saxon warriors, Hengist and Horsa to defend the country but in vain and with little success. Instead, they got hold of parts of the south east for themselves and the invasions continued. By 450 Essex, kent and Sussex were held by the Saxons.

-The Vikings originate from Scandinavia basically Denmark; Sweden and Norway. They were very good fighters and attacked and robbed people. In 865, they invaded Northumbria and called it Danlaw. Also Scotland, Shetland...even Ireland which escaped the invasions of the Romans. Soon England was divided between Anglo-Saxons Vikings but soon the former collapsed and Canute the king of Vikings became the only ruler in England (some of the Vikings fled to France in order to establish a colony called Normandy). After his death, his two sons Harold and Hardicanute took over the throne in succession.

-The Normans were the last people who invaded Britain and it was in 1066 (two centuries after the first invasion of the Vikings). They were descendants of the Vikings settlers in Northern France. Duke William came with his nobles, in the battle of Hastings on the 14th of October, 1066 and the Anglo Saxons were defeated. The Duke invaded London and was then crowned a king of England on Christmas day. The victory of the Normans meant the supremacy of the French aristocracy. The French language was, then, used by the elite of the society. The Normans brought with them the feudal system. The king used to control lands in both France and England which, then, led to conflicts between the two countries. William died in Rouen in Normandy in 1087.

-Historically speaking, king Harold faced two threats in 1066. Not only was Duke William of Normandy intent on taking the throne which he believed was his, but Harold's half brother, Earl Tostig, whom Harold himself had previously overthrown; dispossessed and driven out of the country, was planning a military invasion and revenge. Tostig's threat was serious as he was allied to the powerful Norwegian king, Harold 'Hardrada' (the severe) who commanded a huge Viking fleet and army. Tostig and Harold Hadrada enjoyed the friendship of the king of the scots; and the English could accordingly expect a fearsome attack from the north.

-It is important to note that in September 1066, Tostig and the Norwegian king landed in the north of England. King Harold was in the south, awaiting Duke William's invasion. He had to march rapidly north to meet the Scandinavian invaders. At a great battle at Stamford Bridge in Yorkshire on the 25 of September, Harold defeated and Killed Tostig and Harold Hadrada.

-The Vikings and the Normans armies met at Hastings on the 14 of October, 1066. After a long and hard battle William and the Normans won. Harold died on the battlefield after an arrow hit him in the eye. Duke William of Normandy marched north and took London. He was, then, crowned king of England at Westminster Abbey by the Archibishop of York on a Christmas day in 1066. William known as the Conqueror managed to get hold of the country. At that historical period, the English had no natural leader to succeed Harold and they were disunited. William ruthlessly suppressed all the kinds of opposition to Norman supremacy and ruled in England.

-The battle of Hastings is actually considered as a turning point in English history. The native English aristocracy was then replaced by the French one. Language, then, separated the new rulers of the country from their subjects. Clearly defined classes appeared in English society. At the top of society was the king, who was surrendered by great nobles or barons. These

looked upon the king as a near equal. After the great barons came lesser lords, who lived in manors or castles in villages and to whom the ordinary people or peasants owed their services. The peasantry was Saxon that is English. The people could not move from their land or village without seeking the permission of their lord. This system of dependence and hierarchy is known as the feudal system. Though it would be wrong to say that feudalism was unknown in Saxon England, the rigid system imposed by the Normans was an innovation which of course brought England into line with the rest of Western Europe.

Lecture *02*

Medieval England

--William the conqueror had three sons. The eldest, Robert, became duke of Normandy. William, the second son, became king of England. Relations between the two brothers were not good at all. From 1089 to 1096, there was war in Normandy between Duke Robert and William the second. The latter strongly believed that he should control and get hold of all his father's possessions. William the conqueror's strict and rigid policies of centralization and subjugation were implemented and pursued in England by William the second. Later on, when king William the second was killed by a stray arrow in a hunting accident in the year 1100, Henry the first succeeded his brother as king of England.

-From the outset, Henry the first had trouble with his brother, Duke Robert of Normandy. The two brothers met in a battle at Tinchebrai in 1106. Robert was put in jail in England until his death in 1134. At Tinchebrai, the Englishmen fought for Henry the first. This, of course, is the first sign of identification and sharing of interests between the English people and the Norman kings. Henry; the first was then the ruler of both England and Normandy as a result of his victory at Tinchebrai. Henry the first was a powerful ruler as he both implemented policies and enforced the law with the help of a team of judges and set up the Exchequer to supervise monetary and fiscal matters.

-Henry the first had one son, William who passed away in 1120. This tragedy automatically meant that the succession to the crown was in dispute. Henry the first had a daughter called Matilda, who married Geoffrey, count of Anjou. She was an outstanding and powerful ruler but as a woman, she was not accepted by the barons who did not want her to rule or to govern the country. Consequently, in 1135 when Henry the first passed away, Matilda was rejected and pushed aside by Stephen. Matilda was out of the country when Henry the first passed away. Stephen's brother, Henry, Bishop of Winchester sought the support of the church to give some high credit to Stephen cause. As a result, Stephen was appointed as a king from 1135 to 1154. Throughout this period of time, there was no political stability in England and a civil war was launched between the two until 1153. Then, by the Treaty of Winchester, it was finally agreed that Stephen ought to rule the country until his death following Prince Henry's counsel and advice. On the death of Stephen, it was agreed then that Henry the second should become the king.

-Henry the second got hold of the country when he came to the throne in 1154. He became the master of a great empire. In 1150, he had become duke of Normandy and a year later he became count of Anjou, Touraine and Maine. Still, in 1152, Eleanor of Aquitaine, queen of Louis the seventh of France, married Henry the second. Consequently, large parts of southern France were brought to him and became under supervision and control. In 1154, on Stephen's death, Henry the second became officially the ruler and the master of England.

-Henry the second was a powerful ruler and got hold of the entire British land. In England, he re-established the authority of the center after the weak government of Stephen's rule or reign. One of his achievements was the creation of the common law system, according to which every freeman had the right to plead in the royal courts even against his feudal lord.

-Henry the second also renewed or remodeled the Exchequer; which was actually at the center of the royal family, and which was responsible for the collection of taxes.

-Henry the second power was challenged by the kings of France, who were alarmed and disappointed to see the major part of France under English control. In addition to this, the royal authority was also challenged by the church. In the Middle Ages, there was continuous conflict between the rulers and the church. The church was at the center of the British life, so much so that it claimed that the appointment of the bishops was actually its own job and its own exclusive right. Kings; however, thought that they ought to appoint church leaders as they enjoyed a great deal of authority in the state.

-In the year 1162, Henry the second decided to appoint his friend, the chancellor Thomas Becket, to the vacant archbishopric of Canterbury. Henry the second thought that in this way he would have a peaceful relationship with the church. Becket immediately showed his loyalty to the church before his loyalty to Henry the second. Becket condemned Henry the second for his action against the church. As a result, in 1164, Henry the second exiled Becket. When the latter returned to Britain in 1170, he condemned the archbishop of York and six other bishops, who seized his absence and appointed Prince Henry, the heir, at Henry the second's request. The archbishop of York and the six bishops escaped to Henry in Normandy and told him of Becket's actions. This latter was killed in the Canterbury cathedral.

-Henry the second was also exposed to threats from his four sons, Henry, Richard, Geoffrey and John. After the death of Henry the second in 1189, his second son Richard became king of England. Richard the first was a great soldier. He set off for the holy land in order to join the third Crusade against the Moslems. Richard the first decided to entrust the British government to William Longchamp. Prince John, Richard's brother was very jealous of the power of Longchamp as well as of his brother's authority in England. Later on John gained the friendship of the French king Philip Augustus. Both decided, then, to work together against Richard the first. The latter spent the remaining years of his rule abroad defending his own interests and possessions and finally perished in this struggle in 1199.

-Richard the first was, then, succeeded by his brother John. The latter was exposed to three main problems which were: the power of the English nobility which was increasing, the difficulty of defending the English kings interests and possessions in France and the authority of the church, which in fact, was eager to gather into its hands as much power as possible.

-The English nobility had actually become tired of the ruler's policies. The war with the papacy and the French war meant that John had imposed very high taxes on people and that his main concerns were to collect the money by any means. In such a situation, John's opponents obliged him to agree to the terms of Magna Carta, or the Great charter. The year 1215 was an important date in English history as it marked the barons struggle to limit the king's powers and to share it with him.

-Magna carta was a document which clearly stated the rules that a feudal king had to follow. It stated the abuses the king had committed and the remedies to correct or to rectify the ills. The significance of Magna Carta resides in the fact that it has increased the importance of the barons (the feudal aristocracy) and the need for the king to work with them if his government were to succeed.

-During the medieval era, parliaments had been established as a regular form of government by the provisions of oxford in 1258. Parliaments were basically meetings of the most important men in the country in order to exchange views and give or offer advice.

-The thirteenth century was an interesting and exciting era of change as no dramatic events took place. England acquired great institutions: courts and universities. The parliament started with an important charter of rights written by the nobles in order to share the power with the king. This was called Magna Carta. The century also witnessed the birth of nationalism under Edward I, one of the best kings in England who actually believed in nationalism and respected the lower social classes. He allowed the peasants to take part in the great council and especially the sons of peasants who attended Cambridge and Oxford universities.

-The fourteenth century also witnessed a number of changes which affected society. Two main events took place: The Black Death and the Farmers' Revolt. The Black Death (1348-1349) and (1356-1361) refers to the plagues that broke out in England and which could not be cured. It killed an important number of the British population. Still, this had some bad consequences on the feudal system in general as the land was available while the people were not. So the farmers started asking for more rights as they were badly affected by the taxes

imposed on them by the government to pay for the costs of the war. Still; the fourteenth century was marked by the farmer's revolt in 1381 which was a failure but at the same time a challenge to the ruling power. In this century, people started criticizing or attacking the church. One of the main figures who did that in his writings was Chaucer.

Lecture *03*

The Tudors

-Henry the seventh came to the throne in 1485 after a period of political instability, weak government, monarchy and civil war. Yet, his achievements were noticeable at the political and at the historical levels: He brought political stability to Britain; he made the monarchy strong and gained the respect of the British people.

-Henry the seventh managed to get into power easily after his marriage to the yorkist heiress, Elizabeth, in 1486. During his reign, he was exposed to many challenges to his place on the throne, the most notable being from Lambert Simnel and Perkin warbeck.

-Henry the seventh brought political stability to England after putting an end to the war of the roses which took place in 1455 to 1485 between the house of Lancaster and the house of York. It was called so because each house had a rose as its emblem. The Yorkists had white and the Lancastrian had a red. The wars were fought over the throne and ended by the victory of Lancastrians.

-Henry the seventh came to the throne after defeating Richard the third at the battle of Bosworth Field in 1485. He was a serious man and faced many challenges to his place on the throne, the most notable being from Lambert Simnel and Perkin Warbeck. He married Elizabeth of York, daughter of Edward IV uniting the houses of Lancaster and York ending the wars of the roses. Henry the seventh successfully established the Tudors dynasty and when he died in 1509, his son's succession was not challenged and England was a rich and prosperous country.

-Henry the seventh dynasty was respected in Europe so much so that his eldest son, Arthur married the Spanish princess, Katharine of Aragon. When Arthur passed away in 1502 the Spanish royal family decided to remarry Katharine to the younger son of Henry the seventh, or Henry the eighth, the future British king. Henry the seventh's daughter married king James IV of Scotland. This, of course, was a traditional means of keeping and securing good relations between England and Scotland. Despite Henry the seventh's desire for wealth, especially in the last years of his reign, he strongly maintained a very splendid court to demonstrate and show the nobility at home and rulers abroad that the Tudor dynasty was actually the established royal house of England. Above all, Henry Tudor's peaceful government earned his family the general approval and loyalty of the English people.

-Henry the eighth was eighteen years old when he succeeded his father in 1509. He was a handsome ruler and was different from his father. He straightaway moved from his father's cautious policies and decided to get involved in wars with France. Henry the eighth, then, invaded France and won the battle of the Spurs. His commander also managed to defeat the Scots, the allies of France, James IV, king of Scotland. Henry's brother in law, was killed in the battle of Flodden.

-Henry the eighth was bored with the routine of government and was actually willing to entrust the affairs of state to his chancellor, Cardinal Wolsey, who was a remarkable man. He quickly rose through the hierarchy of the church to become archbishop of York, cardinal, and ultimately legate. That is to say, the permanent representative of the pope in England. A position which gave him complete control of the English church.

-Wolsey's position in the church was unquestionable and unchallengeable. His supremacy over the English church left it weaker and less able to face the several attacks which would soon be mounted against it. Wolsey did not actually give the church either reform or uniformity; and his personal extravagance and worldliness were a vivid example of the corruption inherent in the church. Wolsey's immense energies as well as talents were mainly consumed by foreign affairs. He basically cherished the ambition of becoming pope and did all what he could to bend the English foreign policy to this unrealistic end.

-Wolsey failed to grant Henry the eighth the divorce he wanted. Henry the eighth's wife, Katharine of Aragon was forty, five years older than Henry and she had only one child, the princess Mary. Henry the eighth wanted to have a son to succeed him. After all, he feared that a female succession would bring the return of civil war.

-Henry the eight did not really think that the divorce would present serious problems, as the church had consented to the separation of royal couples in the past and his own relations with the church were good. But problems and difficulties soon arose. Katharine of Aragon was opposed to any suggestion of divorce, and in this she was supported by her family, the Habsburgs, who were the most powerful royal house in Europe, controlling both the empire and Spain.

-Henry the eight's hopes that the pope would grant him a divorce were dashed in 1527, when Rome was captured by the armies of the Habsburg emperor, Charles V. The pope became a virtual prisoner of Charles. Cardinal Wolsey had failed to obtain the divorce that the king wanted. As a result, the king turned against him. Wolsey was, then, stripped of all his offices of state and was allowed to keep only one of his many former ecclesiastical offices. In 1529, Henry the eight had Wolsey charged with treason, and of course if he had not died on his way to London, he would almost certainly have been executed. The easiness with which Henry the eight removed the church's leading servant in England showed and clearly illustrated the immensity of the royal power.

-Henry the eight's diplomatic efforts to secure a divorce failed and automatically he turned to policy of force against the church, which ended in a complete break with Rome.

-The enormous task of carrying out the reformation in England was accomplished by Thomas Cromwell who, from 1531 until his disgrace and execution in 1540, was the most powerful of the king's ministers. Cromwell arranged for parliament (which sat from 1529 until 1536 and is called the "Reformation Parliament" to pass statutes which swept away the power of the papacy in England and vested it in the crown instead. In addition to this, he nationalized the monastic lands and established the bureaucracy which was needed to control and to manage the revenues that ought to be at the monarchy's disposal.

-In 1532, the archbishop of Canterbury died and was replaced by Thomas Cranmer, who was a man of great learning and who showed his willingness to bring some reformation within the scared institution in England. He showed complete devotion to the king. In January 1533, he married Henry and Ann Boleyn. The outcome of the marriage was the birth of the princess Elizabeth, which was a disappointing event for the king.

-Henry the eight broke away from the Roman's pope and in 1534 the act of supremacy declared Henry the eight to be the supreme head of the church in England.

-The reformation of the church was mainly intended to be political and not religious. Henry the eight was catholic. In 1521, he gained and earned the title of the defender of the faith from the pope for writing a denunciation of the German Protestant reformer, Martin Luther. In 1539, Henry the eight had the six acts passed, which demanded complete conformity to catholic doctrine and practice. Those who refused to obey were to be punished savagely.

-The publication of the Bible in English, which was followed in 1538 by its placing in every church in England, could only serve to encourage Protestantism, for the Protestant faith was based on the authority of the scriptures and on the belief that the truth about the Christian

religion was to be found in the Bible, particularly in the New Testament, and that any man could discover the truths of religion for himself. Hence, according to Protestant doctrine, salvation was personal and could not be attained through the sacraments, as the Roman Catholic Church taught.

-Henry the eight, king of England, was famously married six times and played a critical role in the English reformation, turning his country into a protestant nation.

-In 1534, Henry the eight declared himself as the supreme head of the church of England. He broke away from the roman church and from the roman pope and established the church of England. Fully separated now from the pope, the church of England was under England's rule, not Rome's. From 1536 to 1537, a great northern rebellion or uprising known as the pilgrimage Grace took place, during which 30000 people rebelled against the king's changes. It was the only major threat to Henry's security as monarch. The leader, Robert Aske and 200 others were executed. When John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester and Sir Thomas More, Henry's former lord chancellor, refused to take the oath to the king, they were executed or beheaded at Tower Hill.

-Henry the eight is the best known of the Tudor Monarchs. He was the second son of Henry the seventh and became king because his brother, Arthur had died. He married his brother's widow, Catherine of Aragon when he became king, but divorced her when she did not produce a male heir to the throne. In order to gain his divorce, Henry had to establish the church of England and end Catholicism. Henry went on to marry another five wives, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Katherine Howard and Katherine Parr. Anne Boleyn and Katherine Howard were executed for treason. Henry the eight passed away in 1547.

-The wars of the roses were a series of dynastic wars for the throne of England. They were actually fought between the supporters of the two rival branches of the royal house of Plantagenet, the houses of Lancaster and York. They were fought in several periods and episodes between 1455 and 1487. The conflict resulted from the social and financial troubles that followed the hundred years war, combined with the mental infirmity and weak rule of Henry the sixth which revived interest in the alternative claim to the throne of Richard, Duke of York. The final victory went to a Lancastrian claimant, Henry Tudor, who defeated the last yorkist king, Richard III, at the battle of Bosworth Field. After assuming the throne as Henry the seventh, Henry Tudor married Elizabeth of York, the daughter of Edward IV, thereby uniting the two houses. This era in British history was referred to as the "Golden Age" of Elizabeth. The house of Tudor ruled England and wales until 1603.

-Edward the sixth came to the throne at the age of 9 years. He was a sickly child and the country was run by his protectors: firstly, the duke of Somerset and then by the duke of Northumberland. Edward died at the age of 15.

-Later on, Lady Jane Grey was chosen to be queen by the duke of Northumberland in an attempt to keep England a protestant country. Next in the line of succession was Henry the eight's eldest daughter, Mary. Mary was a catholic and had sworn to return England to Catholicism. The public did not approve of Jane's succession and supported Mary's claim to

the throne. Queen Jane reigned or ruled for just 9 days before Mary successfully took the throne. Jane and Her husband, Guildford Dudley, son of the duke of Northumberland, were executed or beheaded.

-Mary the first was the daughter of Henry the eight and Catherine of Aragon and was a committed catholic. When she came to the throne, she vowed to return England to Rome and Catholicism. She is known in British history as bloody Mary because of the numbers of people who were executed simply because they were Protestants. She made herself even more unpopular by marrying Philip of Spain and losing Calais, England's last possession in France.

-Elizabeth the first became queen after her sister Mary the first died without an heir. She was the daughter of Henry the eight and Anne Boleyn. She upheld Protestantism in England and her will was the law. She did not marry and was known as the virgin queen. During Elizabeth's reign, the age of exploration began with explorers such as Francis Drake claiming new lands for England and introducing new materials and foods. The American state, Virginia, is named after her. When Elizabeth the first died in 1603 the Tudor line ended.

-Elizabeth's reign was a glorious one as it witnessed the establishment as well as the founding of local funds, many grammar schools, hospitals and alms houses to look after the aged. The Christian doctrines and conscience demanded that the rich should help the poor. The need was even sharper after the dissolution of the monasteries, which had for centuries helped both the local community and travelers. Hence, some of the money available as a consequence of the confiscation of church property was used to found professorships at the universities of oxford and Cambridge and for other educational purposes.

-Elizabeth the first reign saw many brave voyages of discovery, including those of Francis Drake, Walter Raleigh and Humphrey Gilbert, particularly to the Americas. These expeditions prepared England for an age of colonization and trade expansion, which Elizabeth herself recognized by establishing the East India company.

Lecture 04

Scotland in the sixteenth century

--The battle of Flodden on September, the ninth, 1513 was often considered as a simple defeat of the Scottish army by an English one. That was exactly what happened. But still, the implications of the battle went much deeper. In the late fifteenth century, the economics and politics of the western edge of Europe were dominated by France, England and Scotland. They were powerful and strong nations and tended to have a pattern of shifting alliances.

-The defeat at Flodden removed both James IV and the military forces he had so carefully developed. It also ended Scotland's role as a major nation in medieval Europe and ever since Scotland struggled to avoid being dominated by England.

-In 1503, James IV married Margaret Tudor, the eldest daughter of Henry VII. The marriage was intended to stabilize relations between the two countries. But James the fourth and Henry the eighth, who had succeeded his father to the English throne in 1509 were in different alliances. James the fourth backed up Scotland's old ally, France, and England supported the Holy Roman Empire. Later on, after the death of James the fourth, his son James the fifth

foolishly got involved in a war with Henry the eight, just as his father had done. The outcome of this war was the scots defeat at Solway Moss in 1542 and James the fifth passed away.

-Scotland remained within the Roman Catholic Church while Henry the eight broke ties with Rome. But at that time in history, it was impossible for the Scottish church to stop or to prevent protestant literature and ideas from crossing the border, especially and particularly when, after Henry the eight's death in 1547, England became a fully Protestant country.

Lecture 05

The Stuarts Dynasty

-James, Elizabeth's successor in 1603, was king of both England and Scotland. At that time in history, the union of the two crowns did not actually go as far as James wanted. In fact, the courts, the parliaments and administrations of the two countries continued to operate or to function separately. There were also many differences in culture and religion between England and Scotland.

-King James was a sincere and learned ruler but he was not able to control both Scotland and England well. He was rather entranced by the attractions of England and underestimated the problems of ruling England. The difficulties and the challenges were great and beyond the solution of any ruler at that time. The Tudors had actually created an autocracy in both the church and the state but without the necessary financial means to sustain or to back it up. In order to have a strong monarchy and in order to be financially independent, it was deemed necessary to impose greater taxes on the ruling classes both in town and country. The representatives of the church and the state in the house of commons would not agree or consent to this, particularly when they started to have serious doubts about the policies and methods of the Stuart government and were very suspicious of the advisors who surrounded the king. In 1640, the ruling classes revolted against the king. A new legislative law was passed in 1641 by the parliament. This new law was mainly intended to make it impossible

for the king to rule without parliament. This institution clearly stated that sovereignty should reside not in the king alone but in the king in parliament.

-King James was exposed to many problems during his rule. Most of these problems were religious ones. The king adopted the Anglicanism of Elizabeth's church and in a conference held at Hampton court in 1604 James made it clear that he would make no changes in religion. He condemned the Puritans. They could conform to James's wishes, protest or leave England. Many puritans obeyed the laws as they were but others mounted criticism against the royal policies in the House of Commons and outside. A small number of puritans left England to establish colonies in North America.

-During James's rule, a group of catholic extremists decided to blow up the king and parliament when he opened the new session of parliament in November 1605. One conspirator, Guy Fawkes, placed gunpowder in the cellars beneath the houses of parliament and luckily the plot was found out and Fawkes and the other plotters were arrested and later executed.

-In 1625, Charles the first succeeded his father to the English throne. From 1629 to 1640, Charles the first ruled without a parliament. This period was called "the personal rule" and the "eleven years tyranny". Opposition to the king continued. In 1637, John Hampden forced the king to go to the courts and to challenge his position. Hampden refused to pay a tax called "Ship money".

-King Charles the first was exposed to many problems during his reign. When the parliament accused the monarchy and advanced proposals for reforms within the church, just some members of parliament backed up Charles the first. The political situation in Britain deteriorated and as a result the parliament took custody of the royal family. Charles the first then arrested the leaders of the commons. Throughout the country, there was a taking of sides and in August 1642 the civil war began. The country was divided into two. The economically advanced south and east and the other major commercial and manufacturing cities including London supported the parliament. Apart from this, the poorer north, the west and Wales fought for the king. It was a war which divided the traditional ruling classes of the country. Most of the aristocracy fought for the king, but some supported the parliament.

-Oliver Cromwell was the leader of the army and of the resistance launched against the king Charles the first. He earned the title "lord protector" and became the leader of the only republic in British history. He was a brilliant soldier who quickly responded to different historical events with speed and determination. Cromwell was fully committed to secure the parliamentary victory in Ireland and Scotland. He quickly subdued Ireland with such an immense brutality in 1649 so much so that his name was associated there with curses to the present day.

-The Scottish army was beaten severely by Cromwell and the captured king was brought to trial. Cromwell was now determined than ever that Charles the first should die as he was convinced that if the king's life was spared, plots and war would continue. In January, 1649 Charles the first was executed. It was an important historical moment and event in British

history as the monarch was executed after a formal trial and after being found guilty of crimes against his people.

Restoration in England during the Stuarts Dynasty

-The restoration era lasted from 1660 to 1685. The old order was restored in 1660 but significantly by parliament. It was clear now that the future government would be conducted by a partnership of king and parliament, whether the king liked it or not. The house of lords and bishoprics which had been abolished by the republic were restored. Many puritans were driven out of public life by a series of laws passed between 1661 and 1665. Central and local government was put firmly in the hands of royalists' landowners and merchants. Puritans who would not agree to the Anglican order of the church were called non-conformists and most of them went to Prison.

-Charles the second's main objective was to remain king and in this he succeeded. In fact, he wanted much more than that and he managed to get some of what he wanted. He was a catholic and wisely kept this as a secret until his death. He admired the absolutist monarchy of Louis xiv of France and disliked dependence on parliament. In 1670, he started negotiations with Louis, which culminated in the secret Treaty of Dover. By the terms of this treaty, Charles the second publically declared his adherence to Catholicism, whilst Louis promised to help Charles the second financially and militarily. The two kings also agreed to attack Holland and war was declared on the Dutch in March 1673.

-The Dutch war was brought to an end in 1674, but Charles the second continued to receive large and enormous financial subsidies from King Louis of France. This allowed Charles the second the independence necessary to defeat those who would like to prevent his catholic brother James from being the new British monarch.

-From 1660 until 1700 England witnessed a commercial revolution. The Navigation Act of 1660 had the effect of putting nearly all England's trade as well as that of her colonies into the grasp or hands of English merchants. At that time in history, trade increased dramatically and shipbuilding was in turn stimulated. As more English goods travelled to Europe in English ships, England took control of her own trade within the Baltic. Yet, the most important developments were in colonial trade. England had growing possessions in North America. She had managed to get Jamaica in 1655. Apart from this, there were a whole range of extensive English trading activities and acquisitions in India as well. For example, Catherine of Braganza, brought Bombay as part of her dowry. In addition to this, by the year 1660, the English had established stations on the west African coast and thereby gained access to the profitable or lucrative slave trade. Goods flooded into England from the colonies and were either consumed at home or exported to Europe. Later on, the new colonies gave English industries an exclusive market and this encouraged their development. Colonial trade was, thus, the stimulus for English industry, which paved the way for the industrial revolution of the eighteenth century.

Settlement and Union 1685-1714

The main events that took place in this period were as follows:

- The glorious revolution took place between 1688 and 1689. It witnessed the removal of James the second, a monarch who had completely ignored the sentiments of the ruling class and the people at large.
- Britain and Scotland were formally united in 1707 during the Queen Anne's reign by the terms of the treaty of union which encompassed two main ideas: The Hanoverian succession and the joining of the two parliaments.
- The seventeenth century saw the transformation of English society. James the first wrote a book for his son asserting that monarchs were ordained by God to rule and Charles believed this. By William of Orange and Mary's reign, it was clear that sovereigns ruled by the consent of parliament. The philosopher John Locke could now speak at the end of the seventeenth century about government deriving from, and being responsible to the people. He further outlined a political system in which legislature and executive were separate and a judiciary balanced the two.

Lecture *06*

Britain in the Eighteenth Century

-In the middle of the eighteenth century, the British economy became predominantly industrial. As a matter of fact, most people lived and worked in the towns. Britain's industrialization was known worldwide and brought her power and wealth. England in the eighteenth century was a great empire and such a factor sustained its growth at the economic level. At the political level, the changes taking place within urban areas paved the way for the appearance of a large middle class and even larger working classes. Britain's industrial supremacy lasted for a long time until other countries with immense resources and larger populations became themselves industrialized.

-Britain had a good base for industry. She had natural resources: wool, water, coal and some iron ore. Wool was used to make cloth. In addition to this, water was a source of power in the first phase of the industrial revolution and was always necessary to industry for cleaning, cooling and so forth. Apart from this, coal was a rapidly increasing source of energy in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries respectively. Apart from this, iron was vital to iron and steel production.

-The growth of commerce in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries respectively gave Britain larger markets for her goods as well as some raw materials. In addition to this, imperial possessions and acquisitions in the eighteenth century reinforced this position and America continued to trade with Britain after independence. The wealth from trade increased investment and power in Britain. London was at that time in history, the greatest business and banking center in the world. People who had a lot of money in London in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries respectively were in fact willing to spend or to invest it in improving land, sinking mines and building factories because the profits accumulated from business transactions were very high.

-Industrialization in Britain would not have occurred without technical innovation. New ideas borrowed from other European countries were implemented in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries respectively. The trend of innovation and invention intensified in the eighteenth century. The universities and learned societies did not actually contribute greatly. Rather, it was practical men, often owners of industries themselves who came up with the new ideas.

-Industry in the eighteenth century used water power to drive the machinery that was improved by the great inventors. With the application of steam to industry, the industrialization of the north, the midlands, the lowlands of Scotland and south Wales accelerated. In addition to this, the writings of the major economist of the eighteenth century, a Scottish academic, Adam Smith, extensively talked about the industrial change that was taking place in Britain. He strongly argued that the division of labour ought to be taken into account and that each worker ought to do a single job and should not see a task from the beginning till the end.

Lecture *07*

Religion in Britain

-It is important to point out that in the sixteenth century, there was a big change in the way some Christians worshipped God. At that time in history, most people were Roman Catholic and the Pope in Rome was in charge of all the Christian church. In other words, he was qualified as the head of all the Christian church.

-In 1517, some drastic changes took place in the English church. A German monk called Martin Luther decided to lead a breakaway from the Roman Catholic Church. He protested against the institution's values and teachings. The new Christians called themselves 'Protestants' because they were, in fact, protesting against the Roman Catholic Church's teachings and customs. The word Protestant is made from two latin words: Pro and Testari. Pro means publicly and testari means to bear witness or to protest. The Protestants demand for reform led to this crucial period of history called the reformation.

-People in Tudor times were very religious and were in fact ready to die for their beliefs. It was very difficult for them during the 118 years the Tudor kings and queens ruled to cling or to stick to one specific religion. They were most likely forced or compelled to change their religion depending on the religion of the reigning monarch.

-There were major changes in the church during the reign of the Tudor kings and queens. England started as a catholic country and ended up being a protestant one under the rule of the Tudors.

-One may wonder why religion has undergone so many changes during the Tudor times. In fact, religion in England changed depending on the views of the monarch. As a matter of fact, people most often felt confused. They were told to change what they believed and they were even ordered to change the way they worshipped God and ultimately were compelled to change the way they decorated churches. Many laws were passed about religion. Most of these laws were passed by the kings and queens who wanted to make people follow the same religion that they did. Consequently, when the first Tudor kings came to the throne, England was a Roman Catholic Country and the head of the church was the Pope in Rome, Clement VII.

- England was a catholic nation under the rule of Henry vii (1485-1509) and during much of Henry viii's rule or reign (1509-1547). During this period, church services were held in latin.

-When Henry VIII came to the throne, he was a devout catholic and defended the church against Protestants. Henry VIII did not in fact agree with their views.

-In 1521, Pope Leo x honored Henry VIII with the title "Defender of Faith", because of his support for the Roman Church.

-The English church will later on be split from Rome. Hence, when the pope refused to grant Henry VIII a divorce from Catherine of Aragon, Henry split off the English church from the Roman church. Rather than the pope, the king would be the spiritual head of the English church. (This period is referred to as Reformation). The Roman Catholic faith believed in marriage for life. It did not recognize, let alone support, divorce.

-King Henry VIII declared himself as the supreme head of a new church of England. This is referred to as the act of supremacy and reformation. This change within this sacred institution marked the start of centuries of religious conflict in Britain.

-Despite being cut off from Rome, England, retained much of the doctrine and the practices of Catholicism.

-Henry viii broke with Rome because the pope in Rome would not grant him a divorce with his wife, Catherine of Aragon, because divorce was against church policy.

-The year 1535 saw Henry viii order the closing down of Roman Catholic Abbeys, monasteries and convents across England, Wales and Ireland. This act was known as the 'Dissolution of the Monasteries'.

-Until Henry's death in 1547, although split off from Rome, the English church remained catholic country. It was not until Henry's son, Edward VI and his advisors, that England became a Protestant country.

-England as a Protestant Country

-Henry's son Edward was given protestant teachers and was brought up as a strict protestant.

-Under King Edward VI (1547-1553), England became a protestant nation. King Edward VI was a devout protestant and introduced a new prayer book. During his reign, all the church services were held in English. Catholics were treated very badly and catholic bishops were persecuted and locked up.

-England as a Catholic country

-Under Queen Mary I (1553-1558), England was again a Catholic nation. Mary was a devout catholic. The pope became the head of the church again. All church services changed back to Latin.

-During the last three years of her rule, 300 leading protestants who would not accept catholic beliefs were burned to death at the stake. This earned her the nickname of "bloody Mary".

England as a Protestant country

-Elizabeth was actually raised as a Protestant. Under queen Elizabeth the first (1558-1603), England was again a protestant nation. It was under her reign that the Anglican church (church of England) became firmly established and dominant. Elizabeth did her best to sort out the problem of religion in Great Britain. At that time in history, Elizabeth wanted England to have peace and not to be divided over religion. She tried to find ways which both the catholic and protestant sides would accept and be happy. She did not call herself the head of the Church of England, instead she was known as the supreme governor of the English church.

-Although Elizabeth insisted on protestant beliefs, she still permitted many things from the catholic religion such as bishops, ordained priests, church decorations and priests' vestments. She also produced a prayer book in English and even allowed a Latin edition to be printed.

-It is interesting to note that Elizabeth the first disliked and even punished extreme Protestants and extreme Catholics who tried to convert people to their faiths.

-Apart from this, church services were also changed back to English.

History of Religion in England

-Britain used to be a Roman Catholic Country. In 1533, during the reign of Henry VIII, England broke from the Roman Catholic Church to form or to establish the Anglican Church.

-Why did England become a Protestant country?

-Henry VIII, the king, wanted a divorce. He wanted a son and his wife only gave birth to daughters. He asked the Pope for permission to divorce, but was refused. Henry VIII became very angry and decided to make his own church. Henry VIII became the leader of the church of England. He had the Bible translated to English and the people who believed in this new religion were called Protestants.

-In 1553, Mary became queen. She changed the country back to Catholicism and burned Protestants who would not change at the stake.

-In 1558, Elizabeth the first became queen. She changed the church back to Anglican and it has been the official religion of England since.

Reformation and Restoration

-According to those who believe in reformation, it is a return to pure Christianity cleaning the church from all corruption. But the non-reformists consider it as an act of heresy against the church.

-In England, the reformation actually started differently from other European countries like Germany and Switzerland. In 1527, Henry VIII was 36 years old and his wife Catherine of Aragon was 42. They had only one daughter, Mary. Henry decided to divorce because he wanted a male heir. But at that time in history, following the Roman Catholic Church norms, divorce was out of question.

-Thus, the first stage of reformation started by the pope's refusal to grant a divorce to Henry, who decided to separate from the Roman church and establish an Anglican Church and consequently declaring himself as the supreme governor of the church. His second wife Anne Bolyne gave him a daughter called Elizabeth. Then, Henry married Jane Seymour who died after giving birth to Edward.

-The second stage of reformation has begun with the succession of Edward VI who carried out religious reforms. He basically refused pictures of saints in the church except the picture of Jesus. He has the bible translated so that the English could make use of the prayer book. In addition to this, he abolished the act of confession. But he died at the age of 16 (1553) without having finished the reformation.

-After this event, Mary took over, she was catholic. She was the first queen in England. She never forgave her father for divorcing her mother so she started persecuting those who defied her. So, Catholicism became hated in England. Luckily and fortunately, she only ruled for five years. (1553-1558).

-Last but not least, the third stage of reformation starts with the succession of Elizabeth the first to the throne. She was a protestant and strongly believed in the new church. She aimed at a sort of compromise which could make as many of her people satisfied. She, first of all, restored the Church of England and gradually introduced the English prayer book and declared herself as the supreme governor of the church. She did not execute those who were against her but instead they were doomed or obliged to pay a fine. Still, the puritans were not

really happy and satisfied with the reformation. According to them, members of the church should be elected and there should be no hierarchy within the church. They were antimonarchist and for the republic. As they started to be dangerous for the queen, she started persecuting them but some of them fled to the new world. (America).

Lecture *08*

Monarchy in Britain

-It is important to point out that the British constitution is different from other constitutions. Unlike most countries, the British constitution is not contained within any simple document. Rather, it is formed by a statute as well as a law passed by parliament which can be mended at any time. The British constitution is partly formed by a common law based on customs. In addition to this, it is formed by a convention, a formal agreement.

-The British constitution can be easily changed by an act of parliament whenever it is convenient to create new customs, to vary or to abolish some. One of the weaknesses of this constitution resides in the fact that there is no evidence that the king or the queen cannot interfere in politics.

-Monarchy is deeply rooted in British culture. It is Britain's oldest institution created by man. Historically speaking, it existed since 1660 under William the first and has been broken once during the Cromwellian period. Over a thousand years ago, the king's right to rule was absolute. He dominated all the functions of government. But, now he is compelled to act upon advice of ministers commanding a majority in parliament.

-The queen of England is Elizabeth the second. She was born in April 1926. On the 20th November 1947, she married Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh. On June 2nd 1953, she was crowned queen of England. In 1977, she celebrated her silver Jubilee.

-The queen's titles are as follows:

She is the head of the common wealth, defender of faith, supreme governor of the church.

-The royal family is as follows: Charles, Prince of Wales. Princess Anne. Prince Andrew, Duke of York and Prince Edward.

-The functions of the queen are as follows:

1- She is a permanent symbol of national identity who personifies the state. She has passive roles.

2-She is the head of the executive body of people that put laws into practice.

3-She is the head of the judiciary system.

4-She is the commander in chief of the armed forces.

5-She is the supreme governor of the Church of England.

6-She appoints the prime minister and other ministers on the advice of the parliament members.

7-She gives the royal assent to bills passed by parliament and has the right to veto a bill.

8-She opens and closes parliament.

9- She delivers the speech written by the parliament members.

10-The queen cannot actually declare a war, conclude a treaty nor grant pardons without consulting parliament.

-The British parliament consists of the queen, the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

-The main functions of the parliament are: to pass laws, to provide the means of carrying on the work of government in terms of money by taxation, to scrutinize government policy and administration particularly proposals for expenditure, to debate the great political issues of the day.

The meeting parliament

It has a maximum duration of five years. The life of parliament is divided into two main sessions, each session usually lasts for 1 year beginning and ending most often in October and November. At the start of each parliamentary session, the queen's speech outlines the parliament's proposed legislative program. Each parliamentary session must be terminated by a prorogation (discontinue without dissolving). For example, all business which was not completed within that session is abandoned and the parliament cannot meet again until it is formally opened by the queen.

The House of Lords

It lost the right of veto in 1980. It consists of Lord Spiritual who is mainly concerned with religious matters and Lord Temporal who is concerned with worldly matters. The former is made of the Archbishop of Canterbury and York, 3 bishops of London, Durham and Manchester, 21 senior bishops of the Church of England. The lord temporal consists of hereditary peers and peeresses. Besides, it consists of lord of appeal, lords of law as judges... The House of Lords is presided by the Lord Chancellor.

The House of Commons

It is elected by an adult suffrage. All the seats are divided likewise: 523 for England, 38 for Wales, 72 for Scotland and 17 for northern Ireland. It is mainly concerned with administrative matters, high policy and matters that arouse public interest. There are many opportunities for interrogating, criticizing or attacking ministers. Whenever a member of parliament dies or resigns, a by election takes place. The one who presides is the chief officer (the speaker). He is elected by members of parliament.

The parliamentary electoral system

The residents of a district elect a member to parliament. Elections are held by a secret ballot. British citizens may vote provided that they are 18 years old. Patients who are retained under mental health legislation do not vote. Those sentenced prisoners who were convicted within the previous 5 years for illegal practices were not allowed to vote. Still, members of House of Lords do not vote. Whoever wants to be a member of parliament must be 21 years old.

The Political Party System

The main function of a political party is to sustain the government if it is the government party. If it is the opposition party, it has to provide coherent alternatives to government. Above all, in Britain, the function of the leading political party resides in the fact that it organizes support in the constituencies and the nation as a whole. Furthermore, the function of the leading political part lies again in the fact that it acts as a channel of communication between party members and the leader of the party.

There are three major political parties in Britain:

The conservative party: It is qualified as an autocratic party, that is to say, a union of constituency associations and bodies such as associations of conservative trade unions.

The labour party: it is considered as a democratic party in the sense that it is an alliance of constituency parties: trade unions and socialist societies.

The liberal party: It is different from the conservative and the labour parties respectively. This political party stands between the conservative and the labour parties in matters of organization. Its constitution is considerably more democratic than of the conservative but not as democratic as labour.

The Prime Minister's functions

- The British prime minister is the leader of his party in the House of Commons.
- He is the head of the government.
- He has the right to select his cabinet. He also can hand out the departmental positions.
- He furthermore decides the agenda for cabinet meetings which he also chairs.
- The prime minister can dismiss ministers if this is required.
- He directs and controls policy for the government.
- He is the chief spokesman for the government.
- One of the most important functions of the British prime minister is that he keeps the queen informed of government decisions.
- He further exercises wide powers of patronage and appointments in the civil service, church and judiciary.
- The prime minister further amalgamates or splits government departments.
- He represents the country abroad and he is therefore considered as Britain's de facto representative abroad.
- He decides the date for a general election within the five year term.

-The British prime minister further decides the timetable of government legislation in the House of Commons.

The Political Parties ideologies

- The liberal party ideologies can be summarized as follows:

1-This political party favors social reform and personal liberty.

2-It also aims to reduce the powers of the crown and the church of England.

Sir William Harcourt, a prominent liberal politician in the Victorian era said this about liberalism in 1872:

If there be any party which is more pledged than another to resist a policy of restrictive legislation, having for its object social coercion, that party is the liberal party. But liberty does not consist in making others do what you think right. The difference between a free government and a government which is not free is principally this-that a government which is not free interferes with everything it can, and a free government interferes with nothing except what it must. A despotic government tries to make everybody do what it wishes, a liberal government tries, as far as the safety of society will permit, to allow everybody to do as he wishes. It has been the tradition of the liberal party consistently to maintain the doctrine of individual liberty. It is because they have done so that England is the place where people can do more what they please than in any other country in the world.

-It is important to stress that by the early twentieth century; the liberals stance started to shift towards new liberalism or what would today be called social liberalism. This means that the liberal party strongly believes in personal liberty with a support for government intervention to provide minimum levels of welfare.

The Conservative party ideologies

-This political party strongly favors smaller government and tries all the time to give more power to the people. It further insists that communities should have the opportunity to run failing schools.

-This political party is for family values as well as tax breaks for married couples.

-The conservative party is mainly concerned with taxes and with the fact that British citizens should not pay high taxes and at the same time that the government should not spend a lot of money.

-In addition to the above, the conservative party maintains that private businesses should put more money into the community than the government does. (For instance, more toll roads, less road taxes).

-The conservative party is for privatization. For instance, it is for the breaking down of the national health system and is consequently for the selling of the contracts to private companies.

-The conservative party main belief is that people will help themselves-rather than have the government help them. So the more money you have, the better health care or education you will receive.

Lecture *09*

The Founding of America

1-The Coming of the Europeans

-It is important to note that the year 1492 is a turning point in American history. In fact, in that year Christopher Columbus landed at San Salvador near the Florida coast. At that time in history, he thought that he had actually reached Asia by a westward sea passage from Europe. But, in fact, he had discovered the new world, a very vast wilderness, and a land of opportunities for western European nations. Columbus's voyage paved the way for the invasion of America by Europeans which would continue for over four hundred years. The Europeans conquered the Indians and transformed the vast wilderness into the richest and most powerful nation in the whole world. The early geographical discoveries, explorations, settlements and development of America were done mainly by the Spanish, French and English colonial powers.

-Columbus made several voyages to the West Indies after 1492. His different stories about gold and pearls attracted the Spanish to this area. Those who went there called themselves the conquistadors, or the conquerors of the new lands who were looking for gold, jewels and slaves. At the same time, the Spanish conquerors managed to impose their supremacy on the local civilizations in the new world. In the West Indies, the rich Indian civilizations of the Aztecs, Mayas and Incas became under the control of the Spanish. The new lands in Mexico and Peru stimulated much the Spaniards interest. The Spanish totally forgot about Asia and turned to North America because it hosted fabulous treasures like gold, silver and turquoise.

-After 1600, other European nations started exploring and colonizing the American wilderness. This paved the way for rivalry for colonies. Spain seized this opportunity to extend her claims and supremacy over the continent. The growth of English settlements along the Atlantic coast prompted her to get hold of Georgia. Spain further built forts in Texas in order to get immense financial profits from the French Louisiana's colony. Apart from this, there was another colonial rivalry and competition between Russia and England on the Pacific coast and which resulted in the conquest of California.

-The French were also interested in the new world's resources. The greatest French explorer of the sixteenth century was Jacques Cartier. In 1534 and 1543, he discovered and explored the waters and lands of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. Like Christopher Columbus, he was basically interested in finding a sea passage to Asia and was pretty much concerned with the discovery of the Indian treasures, mainly gold and silver. At that time in history, he found neither but he reported that the region was full of fur animals and fish. Not many French people took notice of the importance of these natural resources. Yet, only a few French fishermen started to fish there and trade furs with the Indians. The fur trade, the exploration of the wilderness and the expansion of French territory in America were intermingled. The French played an important role in the exploration of North America. La Salle, for instance, was a great explorer and fur trader. At that time in history, he qualified the Mississippi valley as a wealthy colony and even as a new trading area for France from which furs as well as other goods could be marketed to the French home economy.

-Columbus's geographical discoveries also stimulated and prompted England to send explorers to North America. John and Sebastian Cabot, Martin Frobisher and Henry Hudson played a significant role and part in searching for a northwest passage to Asia and, therefore, mapping the shores of Canada. Like the French, they found no passage, but the Hudson's bay company was established to trade in furs. The English had their own reasons for embracing the new world and for colonization. In the sixteenth century, a colony would supply naval stores and at the same time absorb some of the unemployed from England and ultimately provide a growing market for English products.

-There were other English settlements in the new world. Not all the English colonies started with a search for gold. The Pilgrim Fathers had their religious reasons and motives for emigrating. They essentially lived quietly and strongly adhered to their religious values. However, the commercially minded puritans settled in Boston and built up the colony of Massachusetts. Although they had strong religious motives, they were pretty much concerned

with the companies' financial profits. Apart from this, the colonists hired by Lord Baltimore or the Carolina syndicate had various motives for embracing the new world. Some were, in fact, escaping religious persecutors, many were poor and many just wanted opportunities to prosper economically speaking especially in a new country where land was cheap.

-From the year 1750, people in the thirteen colonies moved west into the wilderness. There were two main reasons for this. As in New France, the fur trade in the English colonies lured traders and trappers ever deeper into the forests. The second reason was the existence of good and cheap farm land.

2-Wars and Revolution

-The entry of the Europeans into the wilderness and their contact with each other and the Indians created problems which were solved or settled ultimately by force. Indians fought Indians, red men clashed with white, colonist rivaled colonist and the English colonies rebelled against their mother country.

-There was a conflict between the English settlers and the Indians in the new world. The English at that time in history wanted more lands and as their numbers increased they moved westwards. They completely destroyed and chopped forests and killed wild animals and birds. In their attempt to preserve and protect their hunting grounds, they formed strong alliances to chase the whites from their lands. Unfortunately, some Indian tribes were quickly crushed. For instance, in 1637, pioneers pushing west in Massachusetts and Connecticut almost wiped out the Pequot Indians. Still, in 1675, one of the Indian chiefs called King Philip led several tribes against the New England settlements and started a two year war. Such a long war had terrible consequences for the whites as many towns were completely destroyed and almost one sixteenth of the adult male population of New England was killed

-There were peaceful relations between the English and the Iroquois in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries respectively. These Indian tribes were powerful and very strong for the settlers to defeat and so they avoided their hunting grounds. At that time in history, the English fur traders in New York colony encouraged the Iroquois to bring furs to them from the North and thereby injure the French fur trade.

-The French and the Iroquois were enemies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries respectively. The stimulus or motto for such rivalry was essentially the fur trade. Eager to get a share in the fur trade, the Dutch and the English merchants encouraged the Iroquois to bring furs to them instead of to the French. As the demand for furs grew and increased the Iroquois started depleting their own forests of beaver and interfered with the trade of the Hurons and other northern tribes. This interference had serious consequences for the French and their Indian allies. The amount or flow of furs to Montreal and Quebec was reduced because many were taken by the Iroquois to Albany or New Amsterdam which were basically the Dutch and the English fur posts. Historically speaking, much bloodshed arose from the Indian tribes' competition for furs. In the 1630's and 1640's, thousands of warriors passed away in battles between the Hurons and Iroquois.

-There were different reasons for the growing hostility between the French and the English in the new world. In fact, in the eighteenth century, the English and the French were the main and chief rivals for colonies throughout the world and for the fur trade in North America. The rivalry reached its highest peaks with the French and the Indian war, 1754-1763, which was part and parcel of the seven years war in Europe. The main cause of the conflict between the French and the English in the new world was the fur trade. The French disapproval and resentment of the trade between the Iroquois and the English in New York and Albany paved the way for the crushing of the Iroquois and the seizing of the Hudson-Mohawk region for New France. Such a factor emphasized the importance of the fur trade and between 1715 and 1750 traders from New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Carolina and Georgia began their journeys west across the mountains to trade with the Indians.

-In addition to this, by 1750 there was another reason for the growing tension and hostility between the French and the English. Several English colonies claimed lands in the Ohio valley. These claims were essentially based on the seventeenth century charters given to them by the English crown. By the year 1750, the line of English settlement reached the Appalachians. It was obvious that further settlements could be established and made on the other side. Rich people in England and the colonies realized that large profits could be gained by accessing the virgin lands of the Ohio and then selling them later on to the new settlers. Virginia, at that time in history, was qualified as the most important colony which turned out to be the source of a staunch conflict between the French and the English. In 1748, the Ohio land company was formed and immediately claimed 200000 acres of land south of the forks of the Ohio. The English occupation of the Ohio valley meant that the French colonial presence in America was in jeopardy. At that time in history, the French considered the Ohio valley their proper territory and, hence, decided to drive out the English. The Indians too were fearful of the English settlement in the forest of the Ohio. It was, in fact, a threat to their own way of life. In the ensuing war most tribes fought on the French side. Yet, Virginia tried to take some positive action against the French. In 1753, the Governor sent George Washington with a small escort of Indians and frontiersmen in order to convince the French to leave the western lands of the colony of Virginia.

-The year 1763 was an important date in the history of America as it witnessed the signing of the treaty of Paris, which marked the end of the Anglo-French struggle for supremacy in North America. Canada was officially handed over to England by France and Spain surrendered Florida. To compensate Spain, France sold her Louisiana. France, as a colonial power, was then knocked out or eliminated from North America. The English, then, developed the continent.

-For most Englishmen, the colonies were essentially acquired with no other view than to be a convenience to them. It means that there was absolutely no intention that they would grow up and become independent. Since they belonged to England, the British government had the right to give them laws, impose taxes on them. As the colonies became richer, they should expect to pay heavier taxes. The colonies were important for Britain at that time in history because they were a source of raw materials and food and a market for English goods.

Lecture 10

The American industrial revolution

-The Rise of Big Business, 1860-1920

-The great westward movement coincided with a tremendous industrial revolution in the northeastern and mid-western states of America. The new world was transformed in a few decades from a rural land of small farmers and tradesmen to a modern industrial state dominated by vast sprawling cities, big companies and multimillionaire businessmen. By the year 1913, America produced 36 percent of the world's total industrial out-put.

I-The main features of the industrial revolution in America between the years 1860 and 1920 were as follows:

1-The center of the American industrial revolution resided in the dirty coal mines, the smoking chimneys, the glowing furnaces and forges and the smelly coking plants in and

around the cities of Pittsburg, Chicago, Cleveland and Toledo. Before 1860, the main forms of power for industry and transport were water, wind and muscle. By 1900, coal in the form of steam or electricity supplied 90 percent of all the power used in America. In addition to this, petroleum, natural gas and hydroelectric power grew significantly. In the year 1920, coal gave 80 percent of the country's power needs. It basically powered the great American industrial revolution. It further fed America's greatest single industry, mainly iron and steel. In addition to this, iron and steel rails linked the various parts of the country even more tightly together.

2-Another important feature of the industrial revolution was the rise of the oil industry which was actually one of the American's main source of domestic heating and lighting. Later on, the introduction of the motor vehicle after the year 1900 provided another fast growing market for the oil industry.

3-By the year 1920, America became the most mechanized country in the world. Locomotives, blast furnaces, windmills, typewriters and motor cars are all obvious examples of machines. At that time in history, machines were everywhere and were used to saw timber and cut coal. At the same time, these machines processed food and tinned it.

4- The other two striking and important features of the industrial revolution were the rise of trusts and the growing power and control of very rich businessmen. The trusts were big and giant firms or groups of firms working and cooperating with each other in order to fix prices and outputs and, hence, to control a particular industry. These trusts were very strong. The standard oil company controlled 90 percent of the total output of the American petroleum industry in 1879.

5-Big fortunes were made from trusts. Individuals each made millions of dollars out of timber, milling, meat- packing, mining, railways, steel, copper and oil. Before the year 1860, America's biggest fortune was that of John Jacob Astor who gathered about twenty million dollars from the fur trade and the sale of property on Manhattan Island. Only about one hundred men had become millionaires. By the year 1900, there were over 4000 millionaires, mostly merchants, railway operators, manufacturers and mine owners.

6-Another important feature of the American industrial revolution was the growth of towns and cities. Between 1860 and 1890, for example, Philadelphia and Baltimore doubled their populations. This was essentially due to the growing number of factories, mills, banks and railway stations which were in urban centers and which were crammed and crowded with skilled workers from the entire European continent.

II- The Reasons for the Industrial Revolution in America:

-There were different reasons for the industrial revolution in America:

1-One of the obvious and fundamental reasons for the American industrial revolution was the country's fabulous wealth as well as the diversity of its natural resources. The Americans managed to conquer a huge land mass with vast lowland areas enjoying a diversity of soils and climates. These features gave them many farms as well as extensive forests which not

only provided them directly with many foods but helped industries with an expanding flow of raw materials for processing-wheat, maize, fruit, cotton, timber, furs and skins.

2-The other reason for the industrial revolution in America was the expansion of the American market together with a growing number of skilled immigrants who settled in America and who worked in different companies and factories.

3-The other important reason for the industrial revolution in America was the increasing of individual enterprise. In fact, businessmen took it upon themselves to encourage inventions and discoveries, to raise capital, to introduce machinery, to recruit labor, to find and to develop raw materials as well as markets to meet the competition of rivals.