

### Globalization:

Contemporary form of cultural and economic integration;

The tendency of investment funds and businesses to move beyond domestic and national markets to other markets around the globe, thereby increasing the interconnectedness of different markets. Globalization has had the effect of markedly increasing not only international trade, but also cultural integration.

It is facilitated by:

- Electronic media
- International financial institutions
- Trade agreements
- National immigration policies

Neo-liberalism: Control of economic factors is shifted from the public sector to the private sector. Drawing upon principles of neoclassical economics, neo-liberalism suggests that governments reduce deficit spending, limit subsidies, reform tax law to broaden the tax base, remove fixed exchange rates, open up markets to trade by limiting protectionism, privatize state-run businesses, allow private property and back deregulation.

Major tenets:

-Unregulated flow of capital

-Domination of the market

- Privatization of the government owned industries
- Reduction of social welfare spending
- Importance of individuals over community and public good.

The major international financial institutions formed post WW II as a part of Bretton Woods Agreement:

The World Bank

The International Monetary Fund

The Trade Agreements

World Trade Organization

Major purpose: To rebuild, regulate and restore the international economic system post war.

The IMF and World Bank provide loans to countries (global south) for the restoration of their economies.

- Manufacturing has moved from the global north to the global south (from high wage to low wage countries).
- Most countries in global south have unregulated labor laws which makes it easier to exploit workers.
- Most of the countries have emerged from colonial rule and are recuperating from the damages (both culturally and economically).
- Women comprise a major portion of the labor force. (ILO, 2007).

Export Processing Zones (EPZs) can be defined as an industrial enclave that engages in export manufacturing with the assistance of foreign investment. They are areas where transnational corporations subcontract work to local companies making products for export.

Some features:

- Activities operating within the zone produce mainly or exclusively for foreign markets.
  - A high accessibility location, often close to major terminal facilities such as a port or an airport. Location often different from conventional industry.
  - Built on low cost lands
- Tax or duty exemptions.

Because:

-Docile (mostly to male authority)

- Exploitable
- Low-wage workers
- Escaping the shackles of patriarchal families, employment being one option