



Industrial Revolution



Industrial Revolution

The Industrial Revolution, typically spanning from around 1760 to 1840, referred to the transformation from an agrarian & handicraft economy to one that was primarily driven by industry & machine-based manufacturing.

Origin

- Occurred from 1760 to 1840; mainly in Britain

Why in Britain?

- Larger landlords enclosed small farms & production increased (Agricultural Revolution)
- First to modernise with political stability
- Had a strong banking system (Bank of England, 1694)
- Common laws & a single currency facilitated an unfragmented market
- Reduced taxes on goods

Machineries

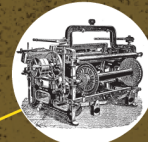
Steam engine



Spinning jenny



Power loom



Main Industries

- Textiles, iron, & coal mining
- Iron was crucial for construction and Cotton for textiles

Labor Supply

- Rural workers migrated to cities, providing a workforce
- The agricultural revolution pushed workers into urban trade hubs

Transportation Innovations

- Lowered transport costs
- Efficient goods movement (through Canals & Railways)

Key Innovators

- James Watt (steam engine)
- Richard Arkwright (spinning machines)

Impact of the Industrial Revolution

Economic Impact:

- Industrial capitalism → Transformed economies & expanded trade
- Mass production → Rise in consumerism
- Automatic factories & mechanisation

Social Impact:

- Rise of the Bourgeoisie and working class → Class struggles & social inequities
- Overcrowded cities & poor working conditions
- Demands for laws on child labour & working hours

Environmental Impact:

- Pollution, resource depletion, & climate change

Impact on India:

- Farmers forced to grow cash crops for British factories
- Factory produced cloth harmed handloom weavers
- Emergence of industries; introduction of railways

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