

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session : 2022-2023

Class: :X

Subject: Social Science

History: The Making of a Global World

Chapter No: 3

NCERT questions:

Q.1. Give two examples of different types of global exchanges which took place before the seventeenth century, choosing one example from Asia and one from the Americas.

A.1.

1. Asia: The Silk Route are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade before the 17th century. The historians have identified several silk routes, overland and by sea, linking Asia with Europe and Northern Africa. These routes were used for trades in Chinese pottery, textiles and spices from India and South-East Asia. In return, precious metals - gold and silver – came from Europe to Asia. Secondly, Christian missionaries and later Muslim preachers travelled through these routes. It may be mentioned here that in ancient times, Buddhism too spread in several directions through intersecting points on the Silk Routes.
2. America: After the discovery of the America by Christopher Columbus, many of our common foods such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chilies came from America's original inhabitants, i.e., the America Indians. From the 16th century, America's vast lands, abundant crops and minerals transformed trade and lives everywhere. Precious metals like silver from mines in Peru and Mexico enhanced Europe's wealth and financed its trade with Asia. Legends spread in 17th century Europe about South America's fabled wealth. Many expeditions set off in search of El Dorado, the fabled city of gold. Thus, there were global exchange before the 17th century.

Q.2. Explain how the global transfer of disease in the pre-modern world helped in the colonisation of the Americas.

A.2.

- i. The Portuguese and Spanish conquest and colonization. America was decisively under way by the mid-16th century.
- ii. European conquest was not just a result of superior firepower. The most powerful weapon of the Spanish conquerors was the germ such as those of smallpox that they on their people.
- iii. Because of their long isolation, America's original inhabitants had no immunity against those that came from Europe.
- iv. Smallpox proved a deadly killer, it killed and decimated whole communities, paving the way for conquest of European.

Guns could be bought or snatched and turned against the invaders but this cannot be done in case of diseases like smallpox which conquerors were mostly immune.

Q.3. Write a short note on :

1) The British government's decision to abolish the Corn Laws.

A.

- i. The scrapping of corn laws led to free trade of food grains.
- ii. After the abolition of corn laws, food could be imported into Britain more cheaply than it could be produced in the country.
- iii. Britain farmers were unable to compete with imports. Vast areas of land were now left uncultivated, and thousands of men and women were thrown out of work. They flocked to the cities or migrated overseas.

Increase in demand due to fall in prices and increase in income leads to mismatch between demand and supply of food grains.

2) The coming of Rinderpest.

A.

- 1) 'Rinderpest' is a cattle plague that affected the cattle of Africa. Rinderpest was carried by infected cattle imported from British Asia to feed the Italian soldiers including Eritrea in East Africa in the 1880s. It reached the Cape Town five years later and killed 90% of the cattle.
- 2) Impact: Rinderpest had a terrifying impact on people's livelihood and local economy.
 - a. Historically, Africa had abundant land and relatively small population. For centuries, land and livestock sustained African livelihoods and people rarely worked for a wage.
After this devastation, European planters, mine owners and Colonial Government monopolized the scarce cattle resource.
- 3) African lost their livelihood, planters and mine owners forced them to work for wage and enable Europeans to conquer and become master of Africa.

3) The death of men of working-age in Europe because of the World War.

A. The death of men of working-age in Europe because of the World-War reduced the able-bodies workforce in Europe, leading to a steady decline in household incomes and a consequent struggle to meet the living expenditure by families whose men were handicapped or killed.

4) The Great Depression in the Indian economy.

A.

- I. Impact on trade : The depression immediately affected Indian trade. India's exports and imports nearly halved between 1928 and 1934. As international prices crashed, prices in India plunged. Between 1928 and 1934 wheat prices in India fell by about 50 per cent.
- II. Impact on farmers : The fall in prices had a deep impact on the poor farmers. Though agricultural prices fell sharply, but the colonial

government refused to give any relief to the farmers in taxes. Peasants producing for the world market were the worst hit.

- III. Impact on Urban India : The depression proved less grim for urban India. Because of falling prices those with fixed income- say town-dwelling landowners, who received rents and middle-class salaried employees now found themselves better off. Every thing low cost.
- IV. High Industrial investment : Industrial investment also grew as the government extended tariff protection to industries, under the pressure of nationalist opinion.
- V. Political Impact : The Great Depression paved way for Gandhi ji to launch the Civil Disobedience movement.

5) The decision of MNCs to relocate production to Asian countries

A.

- i. Wages are relatively low in Asian countries due to excess supply of workers.
- ii. Most of these economies have low cost structure.
- iii. Most of these countries have a huge market.

Q.4. Give two examples from history to show the impact of technology on food availability.

A.4.

- i. Technology is the form of improvement in transport, faster railways, lighter wagons and larger ships helped to move food more cheaply and quickly from far away farms to final markets.
- ii. The railways, steamships, the telegraphs were important inventions without which we cannot imagine the transformed 19th century.
- iii. The trade in meat can be cited as a good example of this connected process.
- iv. Till the 1870s, animals were shipped live from America to Europe. They were slaughtered when they arrived there. The process had numerous problems. Live animals took up a lot of ship space. Many of them either

died or fall ill and become unfit to eat. As a result, meat had become an expensive luxury and the European poor never afforded to buy it.

- v. With the development of a new technology, namely refrigerated ships, it became possible to transport the perishable foods over long distances.
- vi. Now animals were slaughtered for food at the starting point - in America, Australia or New Zealand – and then transported to Europe as frozen meat.

This reduced shipping costs and lowered meat prices in Europe. Now poor in Europe could consume a more varied diet. Better living conditions promoted social peace within the country and support for imperialism abroad.

Q.5. What is meant by the Bretton Woods Agreement?

A.5. The Bretton Woods system was based on fixed exchange rates. In this system, national currencies, example- the Indian Rupees, were to be exchanged to the Dollar at a fixed exchange rate. The Dollar itself was placed in relation to gold at a fixed price of \$85 per ounce of gold.

Q.6. Imagine that you are an indentured Indian labourer in the Caribbean. Drawing from the details in this chapter, write a letter to your family describing your life and feelings.

A.6. They provide them false information about final destination, means of travel, the nature of work and living and working conditions sometimes agents even forcibly abducted less willing migrants.

Q.7. Explain the three types of movement or flows within International economic exchange. Find one example of each type of flow which involved India and Indians, and write a short account of it.

A.7.

- i. The World changed a lot in the 19th century. Many political, economic, social, cultural and technological factors inter related in complex ways to transform societies and reshaped relations between countries.

- ii. Economists have identified three types of movement on flows within international exchanges.
 - a. The first is the flows of trade in goods like cotton wheat.
 - b. The second is the flow of labor- the migration of people in search of employment.
 - c. The third is the movement of capital for short-term or long-term investments over long distances.

As three flows were closely interwoven and affected people's lives more deeply now than ever before.

Q.8. Explain the causes of the Great Depression.

A.8. This was a period during which most parts of the world experienced catastrophic decline in production, employment, income and trade. The state of Economic Depression set in the United States of America in 1929 and engulfed the entire world. This state of Economic Depression set in the United States of America (USA) in 1929, and engulfed the entire world. Hence, it is known as the Great Depression.

Causes of Economic Depression:

- I. Conditions created by the War: There was an immense industrial expansion in view of the increased demands of goods related to the army during the period of the First World War. After the war, the industries went through the same proliferation. However, the sharp decrease in demands for military and war products gave birth to the economic depression.
- II. Overproduction in agriculture: Agricultural overproduction was one another major factor responsible for the depression. This was made worse by falling agricultural prices. As prices slumped, and agricultural income declined, farmers tried to expand production, and bring a larger volume of produce to the market to maintain their overall income. This worsened the glut in the market, pushing down prices even further. The farm produce rotted for lack of buyers.

- III. Shortage of loans: In the mid 1920s, many countries financed their investments through loans from the US. While it was often very easy to raise loans in the US during the boom period, but the US overseas lenders panicked at the first sign of trouble.
- IV. Multiple effect : The withdrawal of lenders from the market had a multiple effect. In Europe, it led to the failure of some major banks, and the collapse of currencies such as the British pound and the sterling.

In Latin America and elsewhere, it intensified the slump in agricultural and raw material prices. The US attempt to protect its economy in the depression by doubling import duties also dealt another severe blow to the world trade.

Q.9. Explain what is referred to as the G-77 countries. In what ways can G-77 be seen as a reaction to the activities of the Bretton Woods twins?

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