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SHAPING THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD

FIND OUT

- What changes contributed to the growing power of Europe?
- How did the Industrial Revolution affect Europe?
- What were the causes and effects of imperialism?
- How did the Cold War shape the world after World War II?

Vocabulary capital, entrepreneur, urbanization, imperialism, westernization, nationalism

Vasco da Gama was enjoying his welcome home. Portugal's King Manuel I congratulated the bold sea captain on his successful voyage. Da Gama had made the king's dream come true. He had discovered a sea route around Africa to India. Portugal stood ready to grow rich from the spice trade.

During the celebrations, a Portuguese noble demanded to know what goods da Gama had brought from India and what the Indians wanted in exchange. The Indians traded pepper, cinnamon, and ginger, replied da Gama. In return, they wanted gold and silver from the Portuguese.

"In that case," replied the noble in disgust, "it seems to me that it is *they* who have discovered *us*!"

In 1499, when Europeans began to trade directly with Asia, they had few goods to interest the people of India or China. At first, Asian rulers dictated the terms of trade. In time, however, European nations grew stronger, and they seized control of many parts of the world.

Emergence of Europe

For 1,000 years before da Gama's voyage, Europe had been divided into many small kingdoms. By the late 1400s, ambitious rulers were building strong nation-states. In Portugal, Spain, England, and France, strong monarchs ruled over centralized governments. Over the next 300 years, these nations competed to expand their power both in Europe and overseas.

Advances in technology. New technologies helped European nations expand. During the Renaissance, from about 1350 to 1600, Europeans rediscovered the learning of ancient civilizations. Much of this knowledge had been preserved by Muslim scholars in Spain and the Middle East. Building on this ancient learning, European thinkers made important new scientific discoveries and developed practical inventions.

Europeans also adapted technologies from other lands. The magnetic compass, which was invented in China, reached Europe by way of the Middle East. Europeans improved the compass, allowing sailors to find their location at sea. Along with new kinds of ships and instruments, the compass helped Europeans to take long sea voyages.

Gunpowder also reached Europe from China by way of the Middle East. Europeans then invented new weapons such as muskets and cannons. With these weapons, some Europeans were able to conquer other lands.

A money economy. By the 1300s, Europe was moving away from a barter economy, in which people exchanged one set of goods for another. Instead, they used money. The new money economy allowed some people to store up capital, or money that can be invested in business ventures for the purpose of making a profit. Investors risked their capital on overseas trading voyages. They expected to make large profits by selling silks and spices from Asia.

Overseas expansion. Some rulers also invested capital in trading activities in the hope of getting richer. Manuel I of Portugal paid for Vasco da Gama's voyage to India. Similarly, Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain paid for the

voyage of Christopher Columbus. Columbus was looking for a sea route across the Atlantic Ocean to what Europeans called "the Spice Islands" of Southeast Asia. Instead, in 1492 he reached the West Indies in the Caribbean. His voyage opened up what was a "new world" to Europeans.

The voyages of Columbus and da Gama spurred Europeans to explore regions unknown to them in the past. Soldiers and settlers soon followed, claiming lands in the Americas and setting up trading outposts in Africa and elsewhere. Over the next 300 years, Spain, Portugal, England, and France built huge colonial empires.

The Industrial Revolution

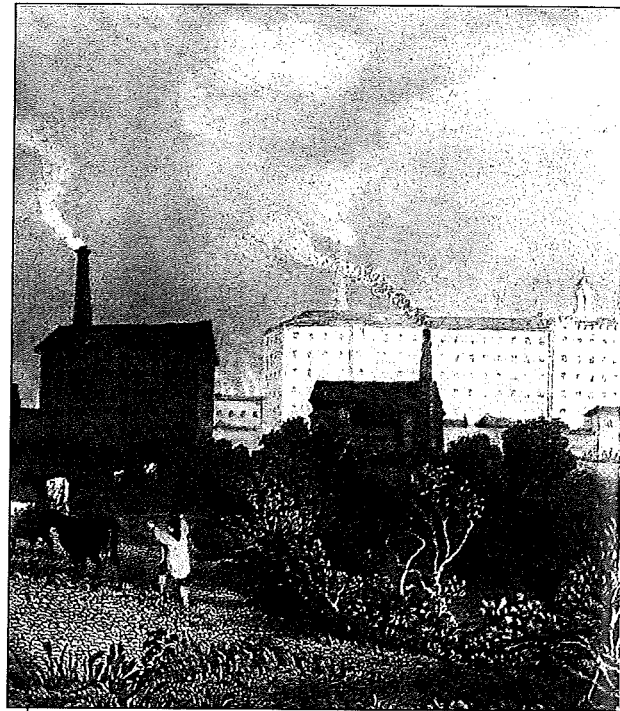
By the mid-1700s, two changes had ushered in a new age in Europe. They included a revolution both in agriculture and in industry. Each was as important for the modern world as the ancient agricultural revolution had been 10,000 years earlier.

A second agricultural revolution. The new agricultural revolution had three main causes. New plants from the Americas, such as potatoes, corn, and squash, helped European farmers to produce a wider variety of crops. In addition, improved farming methods and new farm machines such as the seed drill allowed farmers to grow more food.

Increased food production led to rapid population growth. However, the new farming methods also meant that fewer people were needed to work the fields. Forced off the land, thousands of farmers moved into towns, where the need for workers was growing.

New systems of production. Between 1750 and 1914, an industrial revolution transformed Europe and the United States. The Industrial Revolution had two key features. Machines replaced hand tools. Steam and electricity took the place of human and animal power.

The Industrial Revolution began in Britain's cloth-making industry. Inventors developed new machines to speed up the process of making thread and weaving cloth.



The Industrial Revolution in Britain The Industrial Revolution had its first impact on the textile industry in Britain. Women and children operated the machinery in the new cloth-making mills that sprang up. Low wages and long hours marked their lives.

Technology How did the Industrial Revolution change the way people lived and worked?

Entrepreneurs, people who risked their money to set up businesses in order to make a profit, financed these inventions. They built factories that brought machines and workers together under one roof. The factory system quickly spread to other industries.

Effects of industrialization. The Industrial Revolution led to urbanization, or the growth of cities. Millions of people crowded into cities to work in factories. The new industrial workers suffered hardship and poverty. They worked long hours in dangerous conditions for low wages. Reformers protested the terrible conditions. Slowly, workers won better wages and safer working conditions.

During the Industrial Revolution, reformers also urged their governments to become more democratic. Many European govern-

ments slowly extended the right to vote to all male citizens. Women fought an uphill battle for the same right.

In Europe and the United States, inventors developed better means of transportation, such as railroads and steamships, and devised new methods of mining. The development of the telegraph and the telephone improved communication. Many inventions made life easier and helped improve the standard of living. New medical discoveries led to better health care.

STOP Imperialism

Industrialization helped set off a new wave of European expansion overseas. European factories needed raw materials from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. In the late 1800s, European nations competed to control the sources of raw materials. They also looked to lands overseas as markets where they could sell their manufactured products.

The period from 1870 to 1914 has been called the Age of Imperialism. Imperialism is

MAP STUDY

By 1914, European nations had gained large overseas empires and ruled peoples in many regions of the world.

- 1. Movement** (a) Which European colonial empire was the largest? (b) On which continents did it control colonies?
- 2. Location** Name the two non-European nations that controlled other lands in 1914.
- 3. Comparing** (a) How did the location of United States territories differ from the location of European colonies? (b) How would you account for this difference?

Imperialism, 1914

