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Revolutions

Unit 5

c. 1750 C.E. - c. 1900 C.E.



The Enlightenment

- Importance of reason; reduced focus on religion; new political ideas
- Preceded revolutions/rebellions
- Nationalism emerges
- Reform movements (suffrage/abolition)
- Emergent feminism



Nationalism and Revolutions

- New sense of unity/nationalism
- Revolutions lead to new nation states
- Discontent with monarchies
- American Revolution sets the model for others that follow
- Enlightenment ideas impact documents.



Industrial Revolution Begins

- Proximity to waterways
- Access to coal/iron/timber
- Urbanization
- Improved agriculture
- Protected private property
- Access to foreign resources
- Capital
- Increasingly specialized labor



Industrialization Spreads

- Share of global manufacturing increases for U.S. and Europe
- New methods of production start in Europe and move to U.S., Japan, Russia



Technology of the Industrial Age

- Machines, steam engines, fossil fuels increased the amount of available energy
- 2nd Industrial Revolution leads to new methods after 1850
- Railroads, steamships, telegraph aid in exploration, development, communication.
- Increased trade and migration



Industrialization: Government's Role

- Some state-sponsored visions of industrialization (Muhammad Ali in Egypt)
- Meiji Era in Japan leads to growth.



Economic Developments and Innovations

- Adoption of free trade policies and laissez faire capitalism
- Large scale transnational businesses (HSBC; Unilever)
- Increased standard of living for some, with more available and affordable consumer goods.



Reactions to the Industrial Economy

- Promotion of new political, social, urban, and educational reforms
- Labor unions and workers movements begin to form
- Discontent leads to ideas like those of Karl Marx; communism and socialism



Society and the Industrial Age

- New social classes emerge - middle class and working class
- Lower class women worked; middle class women increasingly restricted to the home and children.
- Urbanization leads to pollution, poverty, crime, housing issues, etc.