

# The Making of a Global World

## The Pre-modern World

- The pre-modern world refers to the period before industrialization when different regions of the world were already connected through trade, migration, and exchange of ideas.

### **Explanation:**

- Long before modern transport systems like railways and airplanes, people travelled across continents for trade, pilgrimage, and exploration. These interactions created early forms of globalization.

### **Example:**

- Traders from Asia, Africa, and Europe exchanged goods like spices, silk, and gold.
- Religions such as Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam spread through travel and trade.
- Knowledge in science, mathematics, and astronomy moved between civilizations.

## Silk Routes Link the World

- The Silk Routes were a network of ancient trade routes that connected Asia with Europe and North Africa.

### **Explanation:**

- These routes were used from ancient times and were important not only for trade but also for cultural exchange. Goods, ideas, religions, and technologies travelled along these routes.

### **Example:**

- Chinese silk was exported to Europe.
- Indian spices and textiles were traded widely.
- Buddhism spread from India to China and beyond.

## Food Travels: Spaghetti and Potato

- The movement of food crops and food habits across continents through traders and travellers.

### **Explanation:**

- Food items that are common today were not originally found everywhere. They were introduced to new regions through global trade and migration.

### **Example:**

- Spaghetti is believed to have travelled from China to Europe.
- Potatoes and tomatoes came from America to Europe.
- These crops later became staple foods in many countries.

### **Conquest, Disease and Trade**

- The expansion of European powers through conquest and colonization, along with the spread of diseases and global trade.

Explanation:

- When Europeans reached new lands, they brought diseases like smallpox, which killed many indigenous people. This made it easier for them to conquer these regions.

Example:

- Spanish and Portuguese colonized America in the 16th century.
- Smallpox wiped out large populations of native Americans.
- Europe became the centre of world trade after these conquests.

### **Flow of International Economic Exchanges**

- Global economic exchanges take place through three main flows:

1. Trade (movement of goods)
2. Labour (movement of people)
3. Capital (movement of money and investment)

Explanation:

- These flows connect countries and create economic interdependence.

Example:

- **Trade:** Export of raw cotton from India to Britain
- **Labour:** Migration of Indian workers to plantations
- **Capital:** British investment in railways in India

### **Rise of a World Economy**

- The development of a global economic system where countries are interconnected through trade, migration, and investment.

Explanation:

- With industrialization, countries needed more raw materials and food. This increased global connections between nations.

Example:

- Britain imported wheat and meat from other countries.
- Around 50 million Europeans migrated to America and Australia in the 19th century.

### **Global Agricultural Economy**

- A worldwide system in which agricultural production and consumption became interconnected across countries.

**Explanation:**

- Farming was no longer just for local use. Crops were grown for international markets, and agriculture depended on global demand.

Example:

- Wheat from America and Russia was exported to Europe.
- Farmers grew crops for export instead of local consumption.

### **Late Nineteenth Century Colonialism**

- The expansion of European control over Asia and Africa during the late 19th century.

Explanation:

- Colonialism integrated colonized regions into the global economy but caused exploitation and suffering.

Example:

- Colonies supplied raw materials like cotton, rubber, and minerals.
- Local industries declined due to foreign competition.
- People faced economic hardship and loss of resources.

### **Indentured Labour Migration from India**

- A system in which Indian labourers were sent to work abroad under contracts for a fixed period.

**Explanation:**

- These labourers worked in plantations, mines, and construction projects under harsh conditions, often with low wages and poor living conditions.

Example:

- Indians migrated to Mauritius, Fiji, Trinidad, Guyana, and Surinam.
- Most workers came from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Tamil Nadu.

- The system was officially abolished in 1921.

### **Indian Entrepreneurs Abroad**

- Indian traders, bankers, and businessmen who established businesses in other countries.

#### **Explanation:**

- They followed colonial routes and created trade networks, especially in Africa and Southeast Asia.

#### **Example:**

- Indian traders financed local trade in Africa.
- Moneylenders provided loans to farmers and traders.

### **Indian Trade, Colonialism and the Global System**

- The transformation of Indian trade under British colonial rule and its integration into the global economy.

#### **Explanation:**

- British policies discouraged Indian industries and promoted British goods, making India dependent on exports of raw materials.

#### **Example:**

- Indian textile exports declined sharply.
- British manufactured goods flooded Indian markets.
- India exported raw cotton, indigo, and other materials.

### **Home Charges**

- Payments made by India to Britain for administrative and financial purposes.

#### **Explanation:**

- These payments drained India's wealth and benefited Britain.

#### **Example:**

- Salaries and pensions of British officials
- Interest on loans taken by India
- Profits sent back to Britain

### **The Inter-war Economy**

- The economic condition of the world between **World War I** and **World War II**.

### **Explanation:**

- This period was marked by instability, unemployment, and economic problems due to the effects of war.

### **Example:**

- Around 9 million people died in World War I.
- Industries focused on war production.
- The USA became a major global creditor.

### **Post-war Recovery**

- The process of rebuilding economies after World War I.

### **Explanation:**

- Countries tried to recover industrial production and regain economic stability.

### **Example:**

- The USA experienced rapid growth.
- **Henry Ford** introduced mass production using assembly lines.
- Cars and consumer goods became cheaper and widely available.

### **The Great Depression**

- A severe worldwide economic crisis that began in 1929 and lasted until the mid-1930s.

### **Explanation:**

- It caused a major decline in production, employment, income, and trade.

### **Example:**

- Thousands of banks closed in the USA.
- People lost jobs and became poor.
- Global trade collapsed.

### **India and the Great Depression**

- The impact of the Great Depression on India's economy.

### **Explanation:**

- India's agricultural and trade sectors were badly affected.

### **Example:**

- Exports and imports reduced by nearly half.

- Farmers faced falling prices and increasing debts.

### **Post-war Era**

- The period after World War II focused on rebuilding economies and ensuring stability.

#### **Explanation:**

- Countries aimed to prevent future economic crises by controlling economic systems.

#### **Example:**

- Governments promoted employment and stable growth.

### **Bretton Woods Conference**

- An international conference held in 1944 to create a stable global financial system.

#### **Explanation:**

- It established institutions to regulate international finance and trade.

#### **Example:**

- Creation of the **International Monetary Fund**
- Creation of the **World Bank**

### **Early Post-war Years**

- The period from 1950 to 1970 when global trade and economic growth increased rapidly.

#### **Explanation:**

- This period saw stability and prosperity in many parts of the world.

#### **Example:**

- World trade grew by more than 8% annually.

### **Decolonisation and Independence**

- The process by which colonies gained independence after World War II.

#### **Explanation:**

- Newly independent nations faced economic challenges like poverty and lack of development.

#### **Example:**

- Countries in Asia and Africa became independent.

- Many struggled to develop their economies.

### **New International Economic Order (NIEO)**

- A demand by developing countries for fair economic policies and equal opportunities in global trade.

#### **Explanation:**

- Developing nations wanted better control over their resources and fair treatment in international markets.

#### **Example:**

- Formation of the **Group of 77**
- Demand for fair prices and improved trade conditions

### **End of Bretton Woods and Globalisation**

- The shift towards a globalized world economy after the breakdown of the Bretton Woods system.

#### **Explanation:**

- Countries became more interconnected through trade, technology, and investment.

#### **Example:**

- Rapid economic growth in countries like India, China, and Brazil
- Increase in multinational companies and global markets

### **Conclusion**

The making of the global world is a long and continuous process that began with early trade routes and expanded through colonization, industrialization, and modern globalization. It connected different parts of the world economically and culturally, but also created inequalities, exploitation, and conflicts.