

Class X - Social Science

The Making of a Global World

CBSE NOTES

The Making of a Global World - Quick Look Revision Guide

*Your 1-page summary of the most exam-relevant takeaways from India and the Contemporary
World - II.*



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Key Points

1. Silk Routes: Ancient trade networks.

The Silk Routes were a network of trade and cultural links connecting Asia with Europe and northern Africa, facilitating the exchange of goods like silk, spices, and ideas.

2. Food travels: Spaghetti and potato.

Food items like spaghetti and potatoes traveled across continents, illustrating long-distance cultural exchange and the globalization of food habits.

3. Conquest, Disease, and Trade.

European conquests in the Americas were aided by diseases like smallpox, to which indigenous populations had no immunity, leading to massive depopulation.

4. The role of technology in globalization.

Technological advancements like railways, steamships, and the telegraph were crucial in transforming the 19th-century world by facilitating faster trade and communication.

5. Indentured labour migration from India.

Indian indentured laborers were sent to work in plantations worldwide under harsh conditions, marking a dark phase of colonial exploitation.

6. The Great Depression: Causes and effects.

The Great Depression was caused by overproduction, falling agricultural prices, and the withdrawal of US loans, leading to global economic collapse.

7. Bretton Woods Agreement.

Established the IMF and World Bank to ensure post-war economic stability, marking the beginning of a new international monetary system.

8. Decolonization and independence.

Post-WWII, many Asian and African countries gained independence, facing challenges of poverty and underdevelopment due to colonial exploitation.

9. The rise of mass production.

Henry Ford's assembly line revolutionized production, leading to mass consumption and the growth of consumer culture in the 1920s.

10. The impact of rinderpest in Africa.

The cattle plague devastated African livelihoods, forcing people into wage labor and facilitating European colonization.

11. Global transfer of disease.

Diseases like smallpox were inadvertently spread by Europeans, decimating indigenous populations and easing colonial conquests.

12. The Corn Laws and their abolition.

The abolition of the Corn Laws in Britain led to cheaper food imports, affecting local agriculture and increasing migration to cities and abroad.

13. The role of Indian entrepreneurs abroad.

Indian bankers and traders played a key role in financing export agriculture in Asia and Africa, showcasing early global economic networks.

14. The impact of the World Wars on the global economy.

The World Wars caused massive destruction, reshaped global power structures, and led to the establishment of new economic systems.

15. The G-77 and demand for a New International Economic Order.

Developing countries formed the G-77 to demand fairer trade terms, control over their resources, and better access to global markets.

16. The collapse of the Bretton Woods system.

The system collapsed in the 1970s due to the US's financial troubles, leading to floating exchange rates and increased economic instability.

17. The spread of MNCs.

Multinational corporations expanded globally, shifting production to low-wage countries and transforming international trade patterns.

18. China's economic transformation.

China's integration into the global economy in the late 20th century attracted MNCs due to its low wages, becoming a manufacturing hub.

19. The Irish Potato Famine.

The famine in the 1840s, caused by potato crop failure, led to mass starvation and emigration, highlighting the dangers of monoculture.

20. The significance of the Indian Ocean trade.

The Indian Ocean was a bustling trade network before European dominance, connecting diverse cultures and economies through maritime routes.

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