ENCLOSURE ACTS AND FACTORY WORKERS



INTRODUCTION:

A long time ago, most people in Britain were farmers. They worked on common land, which they shared with others. But then the government changed the laws and rules.

At that time The Enclosure Acts was new laws. These laws took common land away and gave it to rich landowners. Poor farmers lost their farms and had to find new jobs.

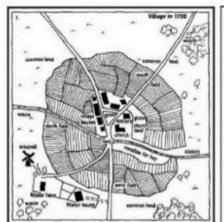
At the same time factories were opening in big cities. The farmers moved to cities to work in these factories. This helped the Industrial revolution grow.

purpose: These laws allowed landowners to merge and privatize common lands previously used collectively by local communities for farming, grazing, and other communal type activities.

Consequence: The common land was Walled and converted into private property by large estates, which was used for more profitable commercial agriculture.

Enclosure Movement of the 1700s

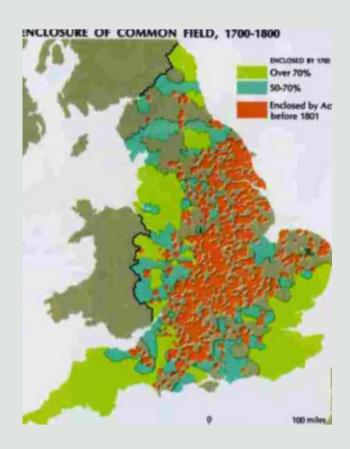
inclosure laws allowed landowners to fence off land formerly used as ommon pasture. The map on the left shows a British farming area in 1 he shaded areas are common pastures. The map on the right shows the ame area in 1800, with the common pastures eliminated by fences.





The Displacement of Rural Workers:

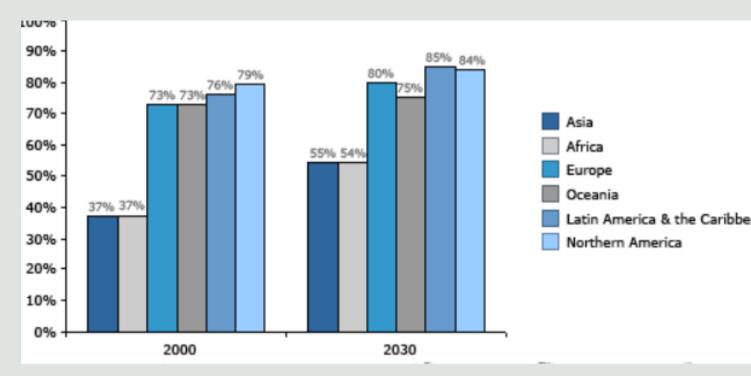
- 1)Shared common lands among peasants and small farmers for cropping and grazing their animals were Bordered and made private.
- 2)The Enclosures turned the common land into private agricultural land which gets eliminated shared properties and also Forced Displacement.
- 3)Common land supported rural families whose like one source of living was wiped out by dislocating them with no options.
- 4)These families which was dislocated ended up with nothing neither resource nor land.
- 5)Small farmers and laborers could no longer sustain themselves through traditional farming methods.
- Having no access to land they were facing poverty, hunger, and loss of livelihood.
- 6)Unemployed workers particularly farm workers found very little work in rural areas.
- 7)Most of them were forced to shift to urban areas seeking factory employment that was often giving low salary and poor working conditions.

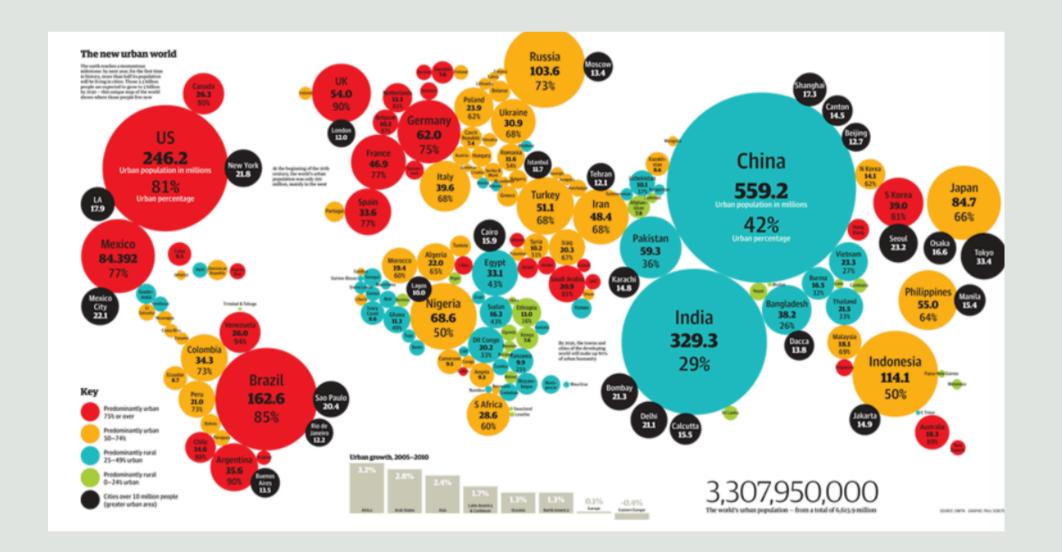


How the Enclosure Acts Led to Urbanization?

- 1.)Loss of Jobs: The majority of the farmers lost their work and properties because of the Enclosure Acts.

 Migration to Cities they moved to cities for employment in factories.
- 2.)Growing Cities: Manchester, Birmingham, and Liverpool the main cities in UK that expanded rapidly as people moved from the countryside.
- 3.) Push Factors: The Enclosure Acts pushed people from their land and out of rural areas.
- 4.)Pull Factors: Individuals migrated to urban areas for higher wages and lifestyles even their conditions were very hard.
- 5.)Too much overcrowded: The cities grew overcrowded with poor living conditions, bad hygiene, and poverty.





The Rise of Factory Work:

Early Labor Movement: In the 1800s, a fairly modest percentage of U.S. workers worked in factories. By 1859, 32% were factory workers.

Not skilled workers: Most unskilled workers such as seamstresses and laborers were paid low wages and endured poor working conditions.

Skilled Workers: Skilled workers like carpenters were paid more owned houses and give more respect.

Child & Immigrant Labor: Mills employed children women and poor immigrants especially in textile factories.

Trade union: The Knights of Labor union organized workers for better conditions in 1869. It was most powerful with 700,000 members.

Challenges: The organization was having internal conflicts or split and after a failed strike in 1886 membership dropped.



The Rise of the Working Class:

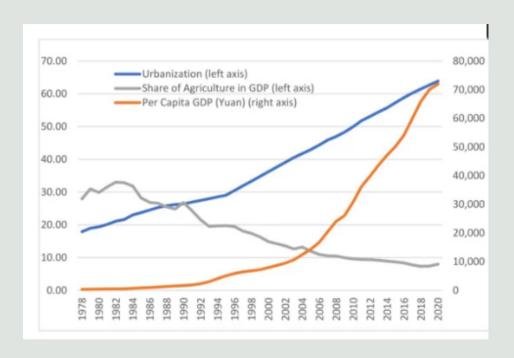
- 1)Rise of the Working Class: Rural workers going into factories made a particular working class in cities emerge.
- 2)Long Hours and Low Wages: Factory workers typically worked long hours (12-16 hours a day) for less wage primarily in difficult and dangerous conditions.
- 3)Household labor: Whole families were hired for work in factories in most cases include women and children who earned less than men. This created a total trouble working class.
- 4)Status change: While some workers were started to gain higher wages or become managers many were trapped in low wage factory labor for their whole lives.



Economic Changes and Social Impact:

1)Wealth Gap: The farmers grew wealthier that increase the gap between rich and poor.

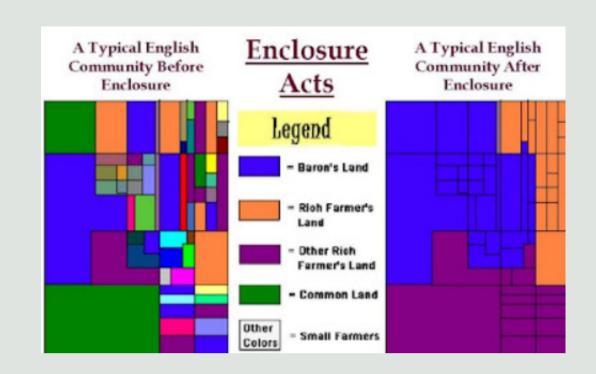
- 2)Industrial Development: Factory workers increased but agricultural communities suffered.
- 3) Division of class: The wealthy people remained richer and the poor poorer.
- 4)Urban Poverty: Cities grew but poor living and poverty start to rise.



Legacy of the Enclosure Acts:

1)compulsory migration: Enclosure Acts pushed rural laborers into towns.

- 2)Steady Labor Supply: removed workers filled the factory jobs.
- 3)Shift to Factories: Low paid factory work employed displaced farmers.
- 4) Expanding capitalism: Industrialist's wealth grew with cheap labor accelerating the class division.



THANKYOU!