

れきし そうごう 歴史総合 1. 産業革命 テキスト

Indesutorial Revolution

()月()日()年()組 名前()

1. 産業革命のきっかけ

16世紀にヨーロッパからアジアへ船で行ったり来たりするようになりました。ヨーロッパの国々は、アジアのものをたくさん輸入するようになりました。特に、インドで作られていた綿織物は、軽くて美しいものだったので人気商品でした。

そこで、ヨーロッパ各国は、自分の国でもインドと同じような綿織物を作るために、技術を改良しました。例えば、イギリスでは、蒸気機関で動く機械を作ったので、工場で大量に綿織物が作れるようになって、価格も安くなりました。それで、イギリスの工場で作った安い綿織物は、アメリカやアジアに輸出されるようになりました。

2. 産業革命とは

機械を使って工場で大量に安くものを作るという技術の向上は、経済のしくみを変化させました。これを産業革命といいます。

例えば、イギリスは、蒸気機関が、綿織物だけでなく、鉄道、造船、などの産業にも使われるようになりました。それで、19世紀半ばには、「イギリスは世界の工場」と呼ばれるようになりました。

3. 経済のしくみの変化—資本主義の発展

工場を建てたり、機械を買ったりするにはたくさんのお金が必要です。また、工場で働く人を雇うためにもたくさんのお金が必要です。そのために必要なお金のことを「資本」といいます。「資本」を持っていて、工場の経営者となる人を「資本家」といいます。工場で働く人を「労働者」といいます。

資本家は、労働者を雇って、利益が増えるように、ほかの資本家と競争しながら、自由に生産や販売をします。この仕組みを「資本主義」といいます。資本主義が広がると、安い物が大量に作られるので、物が豊かになりました。

4. 資本主義の問題

しかし、資本主義には問題もありました。例えば、資本家は労働者に払う賃金をできるだけ低くしたり、人がいらないうちはやめさせたりしました。一方、労働者は労働組合を作って、団結して生活を守りました。このように、資本家と労働者の間のちがいが大きな問題となりました。

このほかにも問題がありました。例えば、工業が盛んな都市では、労働者が多くなって、住宅が不足したり、上下水道が不十分なため、不衛生になったりする問題もありました。

5. 社会主義の広がり

このような問題を解決したい人々は、「社会主義」を考えました。

しゃかいしゅぎしや つぎ かんが
社会主義者は、次のように考えました。

ろうどうしや ろうどう み あ ちんぎん
・労働者は、労働に見合った賃金をもらわなければならない

こうじょう とち たてもん しほん か しゃかいぜんたい ひょうどう しゃかい
・工場の土地や建物を資本家のものではなく、社会全体のものにすれば、平等な社会ができる

かんが かつこく ろうどうしや ひろ
この考えは、各国の労働者に広がりました。

The English version begins on the next page.

I. The Industrial Revolution

1. Trigger for the Industrial Revolution

In the 16th century, people began to travel back and forth from Europe to Asia by ship. European countries began to import many Asian goods. In particular, cotton fabrics made in India were popular products because they were light and beautiful.

Therefore, European countries improved their technology to produce cotton fabrics similar to those of India in their own countries. For example, in England, machines powered by steam engines were built so that cotton fabrics could be made in large quantities in factories, and the price became cheaper. So, cheap cotton fabrics made in British factories were exported to the U.S. and Asia.

2. What is the Industrial Revolution?

The improvement of technology that enabled factories to produce large quantities of goods cheaply using machines changed the way the economy worked. This is called the Industrial Revolution.

For example, in England, steam engines came to be used not only for cotton textiles but also for railroads, shipbuilding, and other industries. Thus, by the mid-19th century, England came to be known as the "factory of the world".

3. Change in Economic Structure - Development of Capitalism

A lot of money is needed to build factories and buy machines. Also, a lot of money is needed to hire people to work in the factory. The money needed for these purposes is called "capital". A person who has "capital" and becomes the manager of a factory is called a "capitalist". The people who work in the factory are called "workers".

The capitalist hires the workers and freely produces and sells the products while competing with other capitalists to increase profits. This system is called "capitalism". As capitalism spreads, cheap goods are produced in large quantities, making things richer.

4. Problems with Capitalism

However, capitalism also had its problems. For example, capitalists tried to keep the wages paid to workers as low as possible, or forced them to quit when they did not need the workers. On the other hand, workers formed labor unions and united to protect their livelihood. Thus, the difference between capitalists and workers became a major problem.

There were other problems as well. For example, in cities where industry flourished, there was a shortage of housing due to the large number of workers, as well as unsanitary conditions due to inadequate water and sewerage systems.

5. Spread of Socialism

People who wanted to solve these problems came up with the idea of "socialism". Socialists thought that

- ・workers must be paid for their labor.
- ・If the land and buildings of factories belonged to the whole society, and not to the capitalists, an equal society would be created.

This idea spread to workers in many countries.

The capitalist hires the workers and freely produces and sells the products while competing with other capitalists to increase profits. This system is called "capitalism". As it spreads, cheap goods are produced in large quantities, making things richer.

6. Problems with Capitalism

However, capitalism also had its problems. For example, capitalists tried to keep the wages paid to workers as low as possible, or forced them to quit when they did not need the workers. On the other hand, workers formed labor unions and united to protect their livelihood. Thus, the difference between capitalists and workers became a major problem.

There were other problems as well. For example, in cities where industry flourished, there was a shortage of housing due to the large number of workers, as well as unsanitary conditions due to inadequate water and sewerage systems.

7. Spread of Socialism

People who wanted to solve these problems came up with the idea of "socialism". Socialists thought that workers must be paid for their labor.

If the land and buildings of factories belonged to the whole society, and not to the capitalists, an equal society would be created.

This idea spread to workers in many countries.