# THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

### What is a Revolution?

- A sudden change
- Violent impact
- Aims at overthrowing a system:
- 1. Political
- 2. Social
- 3. Economical
- Unpredictable consequences

### The Industrial Revolution

- Passage from an agrarian , handycraft economy to manifacture.
- Technical innovations
- Application of science to industry
- Use of new materials (iron , steel)
- New energy sources ( coal, petroleum, electricity)
- Inventions of new machines (steam engine , Spinning Jenny.
- Development in transport and communications
- New organization of work

#### Why did the Industrial Revolution start in England?

- Political stability
- Powerful middle class (religious factor)
- Agricultural revolution
- 1. Surplus of food
- 2. Population growth
- Bank investments in:
- 1. Technology
- 2. Companies
  - Weath of coal, iron ad other raw materials in England
- Colonial empire as market for surplus goods

#### Enclosure Act

- England utilized an Open Field system
- It allowed each village to be self-sufficient
- Necessary because transportation was still very primitive
- Then government took control of the land and farming became more:
- 1. Efficient
- 2. Profitable
  - The fencing of common arable lands
- 1. deprived the poor people of making a good living
- 2. took away the rights the local people had on the land
- They were offered alternative lands but they had
- 1. Poorer quality
- 2. No water or wood supplies
- Now homeless and unemployed people moved Northward.

## The North

- Industrial districts due to the presence of coal mines
- Overpopulated towns
- Growth of slums
- Surplus of labour force
- Factory workers were:
- 1. Easily replaceable
- 2. Underpaid
- 3. To endure long shifts
- 4. Badly fed
- 5. Exploited

Children and women were even paid less.

### Consequences

- Since a machine was faster and made the work of many labourers at the same time, a lot of them became:
- 1. Unemployed
- 2. Deskilled
- Decline of craftsmanship as it could not compete with:
- 1. Cost of production
- 2. Cost of labour
- 3. Time of production