



SRI AKILANDESWARI WOMEN'S COLLEGE, WANDIWASH

SOCIAL HISTORY OF ENGLAND

Class: IUG ENGLISH

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Lecture contents

- Section-1: The Renaissance
- Section-2: Age of Queen Anne
- Section-3: The Methodist Movement
- Section-4: The war of American Independence
- Section-5: The Reform Bills

The Renaissance 1485-1625

- ◆ a flowering of literary, artistic and intellectual development that began in Italy in the 14th century.
- ◆ inspired by arts and scholarship of ancient Greece and Rome, which were rediscovered during the Crusades
- ◆ means “rebirth” – rebirth of civilization

THE RENAISSANCE

During the era known by this name, Europe emerged from the economic stagnation of the Middle Ages and experienced a time of financial growth. Also, and perhaps most importantly, the Renaissance was an age in which artistic, social, scientific, and political thought turned in new directions.



THE ENGLISH RENAISSANCE

KEY FACTORS

- ❖ The adoption of a humanist philosophy,
- ❖ The recovery of Greek and Roman classical literature,
- ❖ The spread of printing in the latter part of the 15th century.



PRINTING PRESS

The creation of the printing press in the 1450s encouraged authors to write in their local vernacular, widening the reading audience and promoting the spread of new ideas.



HUMANISM

The background of the slide is a black and white reproduction of Michelangelo's famous fresco, 'The Creation of Adam'. It depicts the hand of God on the right reaching towards the hand of Adam on the left, with a small gap between their fingers. The entire scene is set against a cracked, aged stone background.

- ❖ Renaissance gave birth to humanism.
- ❖ Humanists sought fulfilment in daily life and believed individuals had dignity and worth.
- ❖ The belief in the ideal person - one who participates in a variety of activities - was renewed.
- ❖ People began to question the power of church leaders and the Pope.
- ❖ People began to focus on life on Earth, not just eternal life.

ENGLISH RENAISSANCE

LITERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

I REFORMS IN THE INSTITUTIONS

In the earlier times, literature was dominated by the spirit of religion and blind faith. However, in the Renaissance Age, institutions were questioned and re-evaluated. Renaissance broadened and took the cognitive level of human mind to new heights.

FAITH

REASON

ENGLISH RENAISSANCE

LITERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

SIR THOMAS MORE'S UTOPIA

Utopia, which translates as "no place" in Greek, was published in 1516. The book played a key role in the humanist awakening of the 16th century. Utopia portrays an ideal society, where people live in peace and harmony.



ENGLISH RENAISSANCE

LITERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

II DOMINANCE OF REASON

In the Renaissance Age, it was reason instead of religion that governed human behaviour. Man was free to make use of his power. Reason dominated all the spheres of life that decreased the influence of religion on people.



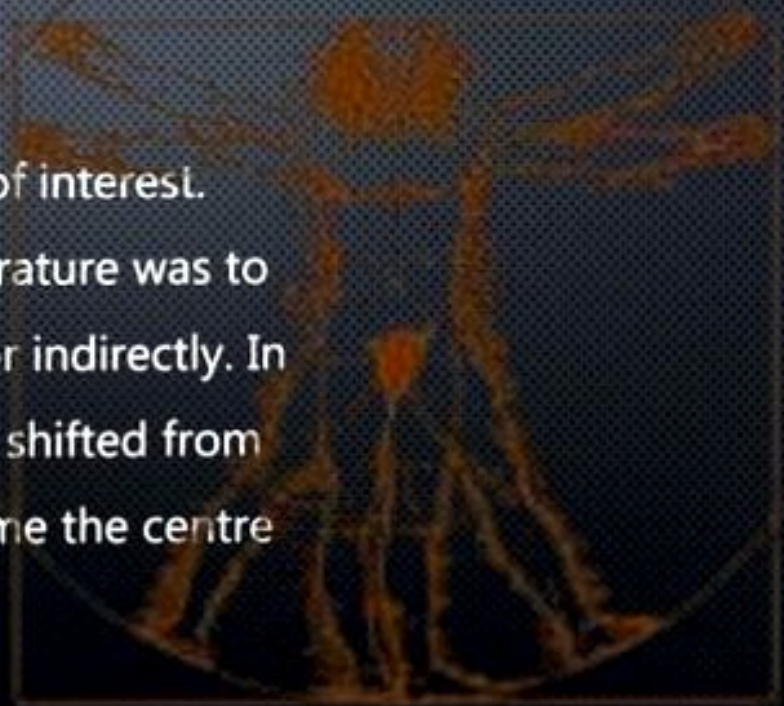
ENGLISH RENAISSANCE

LITERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

III Man-centred Society

Earlier religion was the centre of interest.

Hence the main concern of literature was to deal with the religion directly or indirectly. In the Renaissance age, the focus shifted from religion to man and man became the centre of interest.



ENGLISH RENAISSANCE

LITERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

IV DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE

The age was accompanied by the birth of modern science. It was a time of discoveries, achievements and developments in many fields.



LITERATURE IN RENAISSANCE ENGLAND

The English theatre scene, which performed both for the court and nobility in private performances, and a very wide public in the theatres, was the most crowded in Europe, with a host of other playwrights as well as the giant figures of Christopher Marlowe, Shakespeare and Ben Jonson. Elizabeth herself was a product of Renaissance humanism trained by Roger Ascham, and wrote occasional poems such as *On Monsieur's Departure* at critical moments of her life.

LITERATURE IN RENAISSANCE ENGLAND

Philosophers and intellectuals included Thomas More and Francis Bacon. All the 16th century Tudor monarchs were highly educated, as was much of the nobility, and Italian literature had a considerable following, providing the sources for many Shakespeare's plays. English thought advanced towards modern science with the Baconian Method, a forerunner of the Scientific Method. The language of the Book of Common Prayer, first published in 1549, and at the end of the period the Authorised Version ("King James Version" to Americans) of the Bible (1611) had enduring impacts on the English consciousness.

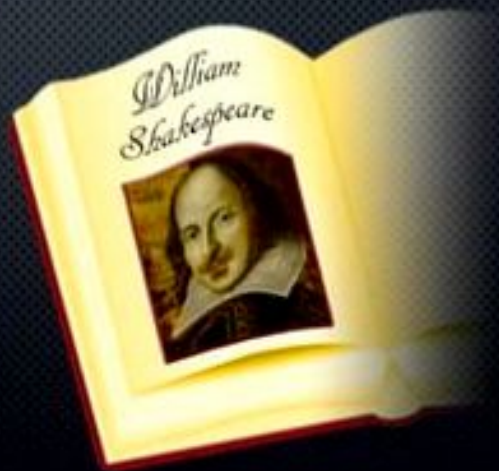
CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE (1564- 1593)

Christopher Marlowe was an English dramatist, poet and translator of the Elizabethan era. He is known for his magnificent blank verse, his overreaching protagonists, and his own mysterious death.



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (1564- 1616)

William Shakespeare was an English poet and playwright, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's preeminent dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon" (or simply "The Bard").



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Historical Plays

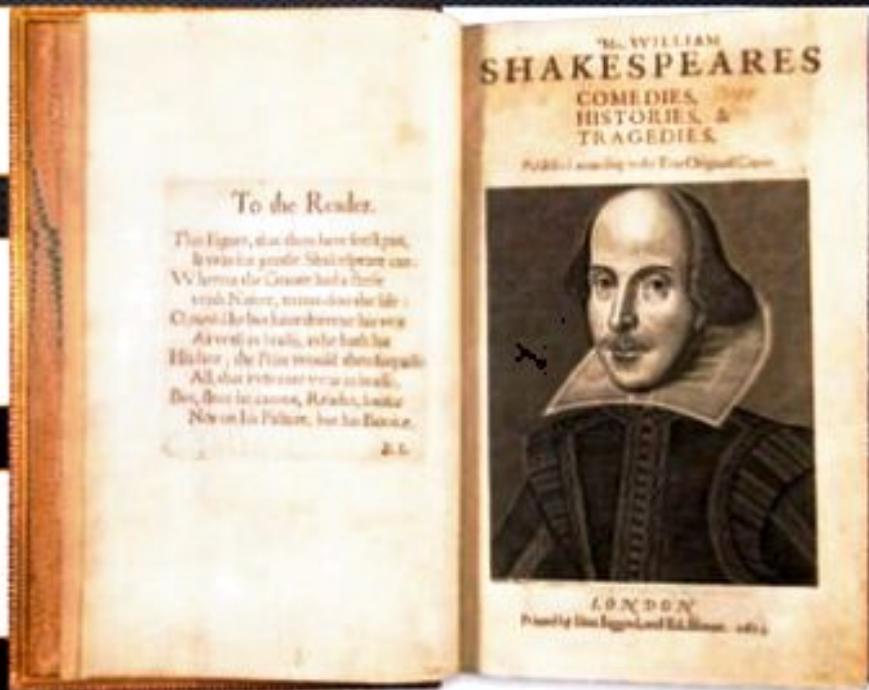
- Henry IV
- Richard III
- Henry V
- Henry VIII

Great Comedies

- The Merchant of Venice
- As You Like It
- Twelfth Night
- A Midsummer Night's Dream

Great Tragedies

- Hamlet
- Othello
- King Lear
- Macbeth



FRANCIS BACON

He is the founder of English ,materialist philosophy, founder of modern science in England and the first English Essayist.

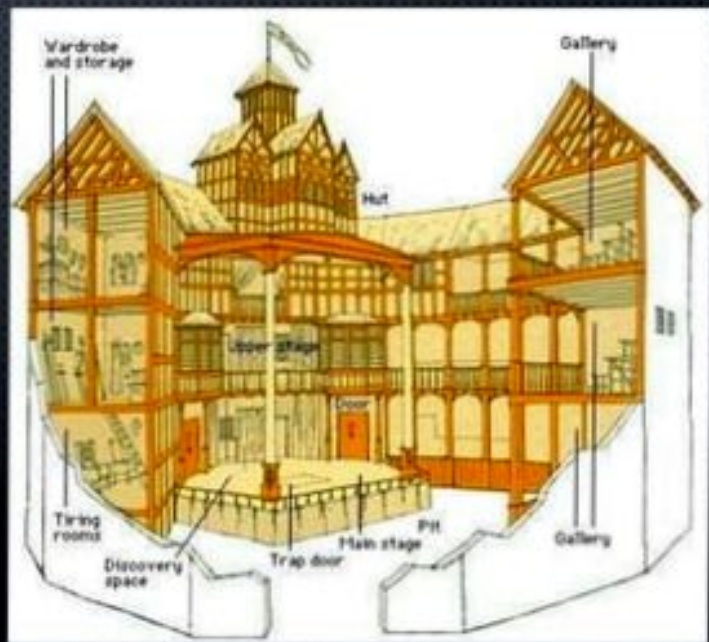
HIS WORKS

- ❖ Essays (Of Study, Of Truth)
- ❖ New Instrument
- ❖ Advancement of Learning



LITERATURE IN RENAISSANCE ENGLAND

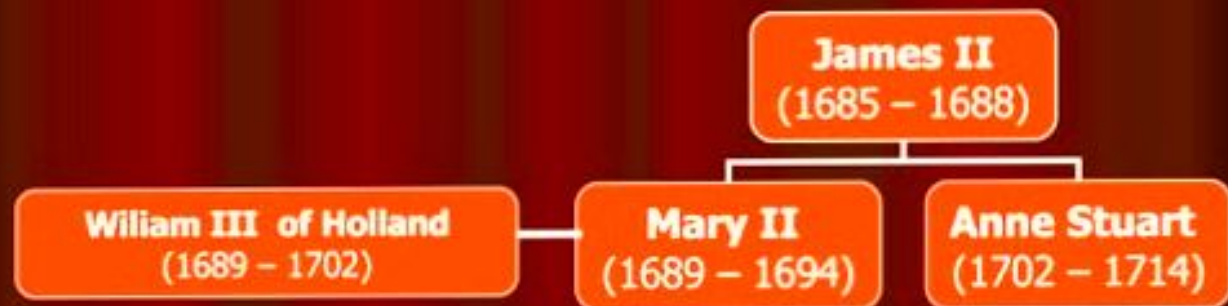
Typically, the works of these playwrights and poets circulated in manuscript form for some time before they were published, and above all the plays of English Renaissance theatre were the outstanding legacy of the period.



Queen Anne Stuart

1702 - 1714

English Kings and Queens at that time



Achievements in Politics :

- The Act of Union - 1707
- The Treaty of Utrecht – 1713

Anne`s Foreign Policy

The War of the Spanish Succession (1703 – 1713)



1713

the Treaty of Utrecht :

- France recognised Anne`s title
- England possessed Gibraltar and Minorca
- England were given privileges in trading with Spanish colonies in Latin America
- England had the right of slave trade in Africa and South America
- England possessed Eastern Canada (Newfoundland)

Anne`s Domestic Policy

The Act of Union – 1707



- one British Parliament
- a common flag
- a common coinage



The Act of Union – 1707



Scotland

retained :

- its own Church
- its legal system
- its educational system

- ❖ Coffee was brought with colonies. The first coffee house was opened in London and followed by many in 18th century.
- ❖ They were favorite meeting places for the middle and upper-classes who exchanged information about politics, literature and business.



The Age of the Coffee House (17th to 18th century)



- Why were they important?
- Within 20 years, coffee-houses had spread all over England.
- London's first coffee house: Pasqua Rosee, 1652
- Men went to coffee houses to read the news and listen to gossip
- Habermas argued that the rise of capitalism in the 16th century created the conditions for the development of the printing press and the emergence of an elite public sphere of debate in the 18th and 19 centuries.
- Between the realm of public authority and the private realm of civil society, a **new public sphere**, which consisted of *private individuals who came together to debate matters of public concern*, emerged.

HISTORY OF METHODISM

- The most famous leader of the Evangelical movement was John Wesley (1703-1791). Prominent with him were his brother Charles (1707-1788) and their friend George Whitfield (1714-1770).
- The Wesley's are the founders of Methodism.



- The Methodist branch of protestant religion traces its roots back to 1739 where it developed in England as a result of the teachings of John Wesley. While studying at Oxford, Wesley, his brother Charles and several other students, formed a group, the Holy Club, devoted to study, prayer and helping the underprivileged. They were labelled "Methodist" by their fellow students because of the way they used "rule" and "method" to go about their religious affairs.

- In 1735 they engaged on a life changing journey to Georgia as missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.
- On the journey to Georgia the Wesleys met Moravians- Pietists from central Europe.



- John was impressed to find in the midst of a storm, and fearing death, they had a quiet fearlessness which his religion had not given him.
- In Georgia the Moravian leader, Spangenberg, asked Wesley: “Do you know Jesus Christ?”
- Wesley responded, “I know that he is the saviour of the world.”



- Spangenberg responded: “True, but do you know that he has saved *you*?”
- After returning to London they sought out the Moravians who impressed them with talk of self-surrender, instantaneous conversion, and the joy in conscious salvation.
- On May 21 1738 quiet confidence and inner peace came to Charles.



- Three days later John experienced the same.
- After attending evening prayer at St Paul's Cathedral John went to a prayer meeting at Aldersgate. While Luther's preface to the 'Commentary on Romans' was being read, there suddenly broke upon him something similar to what that epistle had brought to the tortured soul Luther.



- A well known scene is of coal miner's blacked faces streaked with white lines running from their eyes and down their cheeks.



- Wesley did not set out to create a new church, but instead began several small faith-restoration groups within the Anglican church called the "United Societies." Soon however, Methodism spread and eventually became its own separate religion when the first conference was held in 1744.



- George Whitefield (1714-1770) was a minister in the Church of England and also one of the leaders of the Methodist movement. Some believe that he more than John Wesley is the founder of Methodism. He is famous for his part in the Great Awakening movement in America. As a follower of John Calvin, Whitefield parted ways with Wesley over the doctrine of predestination.

- **Wesley's three basic precepts** that began the Methodist tradition consisted of:
- **Shun evil and avoid partaking in wicked deeds at all costs,**
- **Perform kind acts as much as possible, and**
- **Abide by the edicts of God the Almighty Father.**

- The Methodist Church puts a great emphasis on **missionary work** and other forms of spreading the Word of God and His love to others.



- The Methodist Church is the fourth largest Christian Church in Britain, after the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches and the Church of Scotland. It has more than six thousand churches and a total membership of approximately 330 000 people. There are Methodist Churches in nearly every country in the world and global membership numbers some 70 million people.
- The Methodist Church is traditionally known as non-conformist because it does not conform to the rules and authority of the established Church of England.

- John Wesley had a lot to say about personal morality. In his sermons he encouraged people to work hard and to save for the future, but also to give generously. He also warned against the dangers of gambling and drinking. At one time, ministers had to take a pledge not to drink and encouraged their congregations to do the same. The Methodist Church became involved in the Temperance Movement towards the end of the 19th century.

THE AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



GREAT BRITAIN



- The **American Revolutionary War** (1775–1783), also referred to as the **American War of Independence** and the **Revolutionary War** in the United States, was an armed conflict between Great Britain and thirteen of its North American colonies that after onset of the war declared independence as the United States of America.



Discovery Of New Land

The Continent of America was separated from the world since a number of centuries together due to the Atlantic Ocean at the East and the Pacific Ocean at the West.

Due to the efforts of the European land discoverers- Christopher Columbus, John Cabot and Amerigo Vespucci in the 15th century, the North, East and middle parts of the America continents came into light for the first time.

Colloquially referred to as the New World, this second super continent came to be termed "AMERICA", deriving its name from Americus, the Latin version of Vespucci's first name.



Christopher
Columbus



Amerigo
Vespucci



John Cabot

NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

In 1765 Currency Act , Belating Act etc. such tyrannical act were imposed on the colonies. Passing the Declaratory Act in 1747, England threatened the colonies that the British parliament has rights to form laws and impose unlimited rights over them. On the contrary ,the colonists retorted insisting that imposing tax on them means denying their rights to individual freedom or on their representatives. "Its a great tyranny to impose tax without the consent of their representatives " said by James Otis, the Pleader . Therefore, the colonists slogan was "NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION"



BOSTON TEA PARTY

The colonists were severely discontented due to unjustifiable tax imposing on tea.

Three ships full of tea boxes were due to arrive to the port of Boston. The ship '**Dart Mouth**' was set at the port on 27th November, 1773.

The colonists asked the ship to go back but this demand was rejected.

So 8000 Red Indians embarked the ship in the night.

The same night 342 tea boxes were thrown in the sea water which were worth 18000 pounds.



THOMAS JEFFERSON

- **Thomas Jefferson made draft of American Manifesto. It was as follows:-**

“These truths are self evident all are equal right from birth, life freedom and happiness in life are their own rights given by God and the G Government rule prevails only to protect and prevent all such rights”

- **For that reason, meeting at Paris was held in 1783 for truce-agreement. After signing the truce agreement, America was declared to be the free nation consequently United States of America (USA) came into existence.**



GEORGE WASHINGTON

George Washington was a great landlord of Virginia.

He was appointed as a chief of Army of the colonies is composite troops.

He was the leader of American freedom war and become the first President of USA.

He developed Judiciary and economic system of America a powerful country in the world.

It is said that "He was the first in the war activities the first in peaceful America and also the first in the hearts of the citizens of America".



THOMAS PAINE

Thomas Paine, the revolutionary thinker of England expressed his revolutionary thoughts in his book's 'Common sense' and 'Rights of Man'.

Thomas was always against of the rule of a king and his kingdom. King is a crafty man with crown, he always asserted.

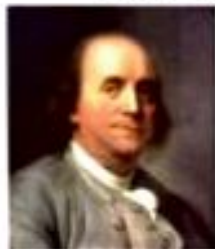
Thomas Paine was the first thinker in the world asserting about human rights in the world history.

He made scientific interpretation of human rights in his book 'Right of Man '. He said that the origin of human rights is in the Nature and people should form a government to protect human rights.

People who loved freedom, took inspiration from this book.



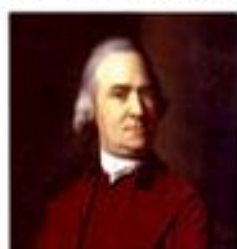
GREAT WORK OF THE THINKERS



Benjamin Franklin



Thomas Jefferson



Samuel Adams



Thomas Paine

The thinkers played a great role in performing American Revolution. This all great thinkers made a great impact on the people of America by asserting natural rights of mankind and freedom of man and created a great background to the American freedom war.



George Mason



Montesquieu



Rousseau



Voltaire

First Reform Bill - 1832

- **Major Reform - Distribution of Seats - Parliament.**
- **2 MPs - Each county / Town**
- **Due to Agrarian & industrial Revolutions- people moved - industrial Towns.**
- **New towns have no representation.**

Voting Rights

➤ Qualification – to Vote

- Free Holders
- Forty Shilling par Annum

➤ No Voting Rights

- Tenant farmers
- lowest People

Economical -Cause

- **Unemployment**
- **High price of Corn**
- **Due to Corn Law – 1815**
- **These all due to lack of more representation in Parliament.**
- **Agitation – Widespread- so Reform-came.**

Prime Minister - Earl Grey (1831)

- **Introduce Reform Bill in Parliament – 1831**
- **Reading Bill in House of Commons**
- **Sent to House of Lords.**
- **Lords opposed and rejects – Earl resigned**
- **King – Due of Wellington to be Prime Minister**
- **People opposed – Earl recalled as PM**
- **Once again –reform bill introduced by Earl**
- **100 lords absented – bill was passed – 7th July-1832**

Reforms in Reform Bill

➤ Total 658 Seats:

➤ 56 Seats – Less than 2000 people

➤ 32 Seats – Less than 4000 people

➤ 65 Seats – new boroughs

22 x 2=44 & 21x1=21 Total 65

➤ 65 Seats –English Countries

➤ Others

➤ Voting Rights:

➤ Householders – Ten Pounds rent

➤ 10 pounds copy holders / 50 pounds lease holders

Effects of Reform Bill

- **King and Lords lost their powers**
- **Middle Class got Authority**
- **Franchise (vote) – Lowered –voters became much**
- **220,000 –Received rights of Vote.**

Reform Bill into Law

- **Reform Bill Passed as law.**
- **People – Rung Bell and Bonfire were burned.**
- **Wages continued low, food was dear.**
- **Chartists – new party arose**
- **Called Chartist movement – spread over all towns**
- **Demanded 6 things: 1. Manhood suffrage,**
2. Vote by Secret, 3. Annual parliament,
4. Election districts, 5. equal in numbers of the Parliament, 6. regular payment.

Second Reform Bill - 1867

- **Gladstone introduce –but defeated in House of Commons itself**
- **Later Benjamin Disraeli - passed the bill in 1867**
- **Franchise qualifications was lowered.**
- **increased from 540,000 to 790,000**
- **All householders, workman – in towns – rights to vote**
- **But Agri labors & Miners remained without voting rights**

Third Reform Bill -1884

- **Gladstone – Prime Minister**
- **Voting rights extended**
- **Redistribution act – 52 seats redistributed**
- **England divided into electoral districts**
- **England became Democracy**