

INDUSTRY IN THE THIRD WORLD

SLIDEFOLIO
S.1219

The countries of the Third World have about two thirds of the world's population but only a sixth of the world's industry. Many of these countries have few resources, such as minerals or timber, or have resources which could be developed but have not been developed in ways which provide their people with a reasonable standard of living. Most of the people in these countries are very poor by the standards of most of the industrially developed countries of the world. Many of them suffer from hunger, malnutrition and sickness which makes it difficult for them to work. This vicious circle can only be broken from outside. The Third World countries themselves are also trapped in a vicious circle. A poor country with few resources which cannot industrialise or develop another sound source of income, will have nothing to sell to other countries and so remain poor.

Many underdeveloped countries are rich in resources. They have mines, forests and plantations which provide raw materials needed by

industries. Most of these resources, however, are exported to the industrially developed countries of, for example, Europe and North America, to be manufactured into goods which the Third World countries may then need to import. The Third World countries may not obtain a high price for these exports but have to pay large sums for their imports. Unless they can borrow money, or are given aid, they cannot afford to set up their own industries. Even if they do establish industries, they may not be able to export the goods they make to the developed countries because these countries have trade restrictions to protect their own industries. Some Third World countries, for example Saudi Arabia and Nigeria, are now able to obtain high prices for raw materials, such as oil. Therefore, they have large sums to invest not only to industrialise their own countries but some are also investing in the industries of the developed countries.

1. Many Third World countries have modern shops and supermarkets but few of them can afford to import many consumer goods and do not have the industries to make their own. These new shops are in Chandigarh, India.
2. The countries which can afford most imported goods are those which can obtain good prices for their raw materials. For example, with the profits from oil, many people in Qatar, on the Persian Gulf, can afford to buy large American cars, television sets and the materials needed to develop their roads and ports. If a car breaks down it is dumped rather than repaired.
3. Most people in the Third World make only small quantities of goods mainly by traditional methods in their homes or in small workshops.
4. Many Third World countries are the homes of ancient civilisations and their craftsmen have long been able to make beautiful objects. This Persian carpet from Iran would cost thousands of pounds in a British shop. It is hand knotted and took many months to make, but the carpet makers receive little for their work.
5. As Third World countries begin to use modern methods and mass produce goods in factories so the traditional craftsmen find themselves out of work. This cotton factory is in India, the world's most famous workshop until it became part of the British Empire and its industries were almost destroyed. Most Third World countries were once colonies of the European industrial countries which destroyed their industries so that they would not compete with European industries and would become markets for goods made in Europe.
6. The industrial countries developed the resources of the Third World mainly for their own interest. Roads and railways were built to the coast to export the raw materials found inland. Here bauxite waits to be shipped from Jamaica so that aluminium can be made in the United States.
7. Some raw materials are processed in the Third World but usually it is only the first stage of processing, as is the case at this sugar refinery. It is often the large multinational companies from the developed countries which control the production and the processing in the Third World countries.

8. A country needs a basic structure on which to build new industries. For example, water, power, roads, ports and telephones are necessary. Many countries lack the money for expensive equipment to provide these facilities. Here, local hand labour is used to build a road, but the workers must be fed, clothed and equipped.
9. This road, in the mountain state of Bhutan in the Himalayas, was the first in the country and has only recently been opened. Now Bhutan can develop resources such as timber and hopes to start small industries. The introduction of road vehicles resulted in the first vehicle repair shops.
10. A building industry must be developed if factories and offices are to be built. Many Third World countries have only slow, traditional building methods and may lack the right kinds of materials. The sun baked bricks carried by this donkey in India are not suitable for a large factory but they could be used for a local workshop.
11. Social attitudes to industry are often a hindrance to development, for example, it is difficult to adjust to keeping factory hours, or certain kinds of work may not be acceptable. These Indians are working with leather, an occupation which is only acceptable in the lowest class (religious caste) of society.
12. In some societies, small scale industrialisation may be better than large scale production. The use of sewing machines caused a revolution in making clothes. Home industries using improved methods can be efficient and do not need large investments of money. This example is in the New Hebrides.
13. Small village workshops can also be encouraged. If craftsmen, such as this Indian blacksmith, are unemployed they drift to the cities where they also fail to find work. Simple improvements can make their village workshops more efficient but, unfortunately, the goods they make will not sell abroad to earn the money the country needs.
14. Third World countries need to provide as much food as they can and they all need farm equipment and fertilisers. Most of them need to import these items. To be able to make their own is particularly useful. This tractor works is in the Punjab, India.
15. Help is needed from the developed countries to build and run many new industries, for example to provide the necessary skills until local people can be educated and trained.
16. The developed countries make many goods which are unnecessary in many ways and are a waste of valuable resources. The same trend can be seen in the Third World. Here in Nigeria the market stalls are laden with goods which include colourful plastic pots and unnecessary bright packaging alongside the traditional clay pots, and there are advertisements encouraging people to want more goods.
17. Careful planning is needed to find the most appropriate type of industry and the most appropriate way of manufacturing. Factories which may be intended to make goods to give the country prestige may be doomed to failure. Experts from bodies such as the International Labour Organisation (ILO) of the United Nations give help and advice on many projects. This new furniture factory in Ecuador uses local materials and training is given by the ILO.
18. In Jamaica the ILO has encouraged cotton printing which is a simple process needing little training. The finished articles are popular with tourists.
19. In Peru, in the Andes of South America, the ILO is encouraging new building methods of the kind which the local people can manage by themselves.
20. Many Third World countries look to the example of China which has organised all of its human resources to pull itself out of poverty by developing its farms and industrialising. This Chinese poster encourages workers to go west to work in the oilfields. Chinese agricultural methods have been introduced into parts of West Africa. Tanzania has received Chinese help to build a railroad and has encouraged a pioneering spirit.
21. Third World countries are increasingly being looked to as a source of supply for raw materials as the world demand for resources grows. These surveyors are working in Lesotho, Southern Africa. If resources are discovered then the developed countries may become rivals to exploit them. Third World countries consider this kind of interest to be a new form of colonialism or neo-colonialism.
22. Mineral resources only exist in limited quantities and eventually they will run out. Other resources are replaceable but need careful management. Here, timber supplies are being replanted in Paraguay, South America.

23. There are many unemployed people in the cities of the Third World and the numbers are swelling. Many live in shanty towns and find work providing small services for each other. Some others may be employed on public projects and buildings such as on this new shopping centre in India. But without industry the cities do not have the funds to cater for their growing populations.

24. Some Third World governments try to copy the governments of the richer countries. They buy computers and expensive machines for prestige. They could build several factories for the cost of a military jet or civil air-line plane. These scientists are using their skills to study nuclear energy. Some economists would say that such advanced industrial methods are not yet appropriate to the needs of most Third World countries.

The pictures and notes in this set are not intended as a complete treatment of the subject. They provide a core of material to which the teacher can add further materials and questions. Additional sets in the series provide a useful library of pictures to illustrate the general themes of development studies in the Third World. Other relevant folios are to be found under separate sections in this series of "World Studies" and in the series "Themes for Integrated Studies". A large amount of case study material is available, such as that published by CWDE and Oxfam. Well illustrated studies of these general themes may be found in "The Third World" by R.Clare (Macdonald Educational: World Topics, Colour Units) and other books in the same series. Similar themes are considered more simply in "Tropical Forests" and "Hot Deserts" by R.Clare (Edward Arnold: Meet the World).

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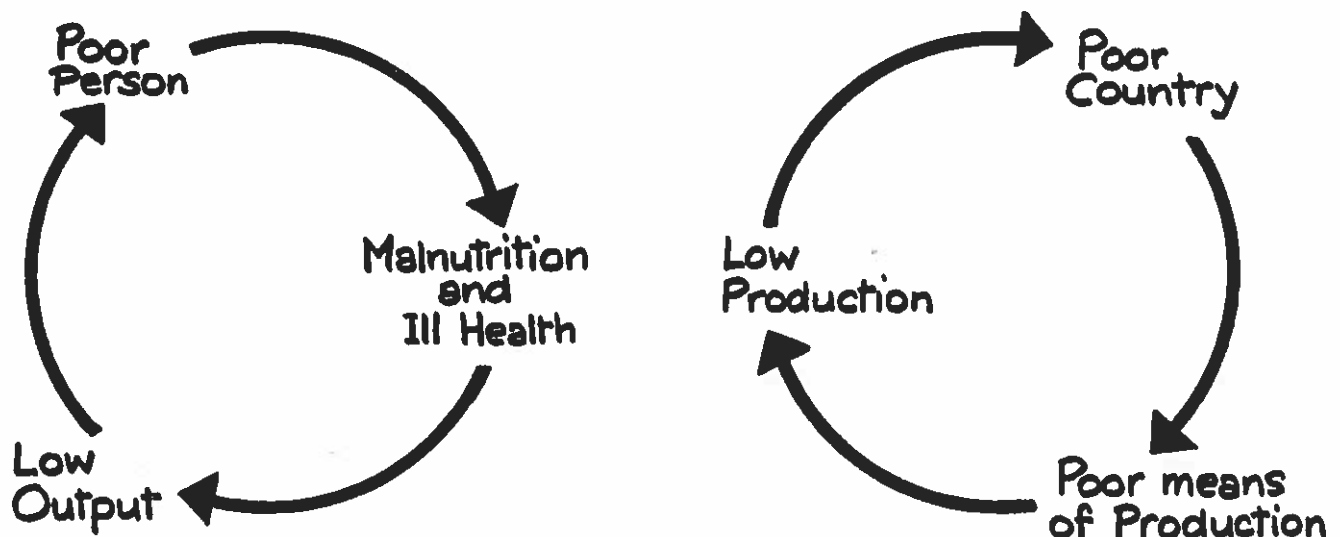
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CIRCLES OF POVERTY



INDUSTRY IN THE THIRD WORLD : QUESTIONS

S.1219

(Numbered to correspond with the related slides)

1.
 - a. What is sold in these shops?
 - b. Why are many Third World countries short of consumer goods; such as cars and television sets?

2.
 - a. Find Qatar on a map of the Middle East.
 - b. Why can Qatar afford to import many goods?

3.
 - a. What is this boy doing?
 - b. Where are most industries to be found in the Third World?

4. Find examples of some of the traditional craft industries of the Third World.

5.
 - a. What is being made?
 - b. Why did the Colonial powers prevent their colonies from industrialising?

6.
 - a. Why were most Third World railways built to and from ports?
 - b. Find out where bauxite is made into aluminium.

7. Why do most Third World countries not benefit fully from their resources of raw materials?

8.
 - a. Why do most Third World countries have to rely on hand labour to build the basic facilities necessary for them to industrialise?
 - b. As well as roads what else is needed as a basis for industry?

9. What have been the advantages of new roads in the development of Bhutan?

10. Why does the absence of a modern building industry hinder developments?

11. How might social attitudes hinder development?

12-19

- a. Which of the industries and products illustrated in these pictures are most suitable in a poor Third World country which is trying to establish its own industries?
- b. What are (1) the advantages (2) the disadvantages of the methods of production illustrated?
- c. Which developments will require help from other countries?
- d. Which developments might be a good source of income from other countries?

20. How has the example of China helped some Third World countries?

- a. Why are detailed surveys needed?
- b. What discoveries would make the developed, industrial countries interested in this area?

- a. What kinds of industries could this tree planting support in Paraguay?
- b. Find other examples of renewable resources which Third World countries can exploit.

23. Why do many Third World cities desperately need an income from industries?

24. Which is the more important (1) modern factories producing prestige products for the world's markets or (2) simple improvements at the village level?

General:

- a. How do the circles of poverty, in which many Third World countries are trapped, hinder the development of their industries?
- b. What is needed to break the circles of poverty?
- c. Which slides in this folio show (1) the difficulties of industrialisation in the Third World (2) ways in which the circles of poverty may be broken.