AP Human Geography

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**Chapter 12 – Services and Settlements**

**What determines the growth of villages into towns or towns into cities? Growth is dependent on:**

* + economic factors –
  + cultural factors –
  + political factors –
    - A decision as to where to locate the **capital** may cause one town to grow and provide specialized businesses and employment opportunities.
    - A town **not chosen as the capital** could lose population, businesses, and employment.

**Geography** plays a key role in determining urban growth because location and topography influence where people settle, causing some cities to grow and other to stagnate.

**How did cities originate?**

* The first agricultural revolution, also known as the **Neolithic Revolution**, occurred approximately 10,000 years ago.
* It led to permanent settlements, but the communities remained small and simple.
* Government buildings appeared on the landscape and villages became more diversified.

**Formative Era**

* The period between 4000 and 2000 B.C.E. is called the **Formative Era** for both the development of states and urbanization.
* As the more complex settlements grew, the need for central authority increased.
* As a result, states (organized territories under governments) appeared.
* **States grew in the following areas along the:**
  + Nile River (Egypt)
  + Tigris and Euphrates Rivers (Mesopotamia)
  + Indus River (South Asia)
* Other early **civilizations** appeared:
  + along rivers in East Asia (early China)
  + around the Aegean Sea (forerunners of the Greeks)
* All of these civilizations had major cities that increased in size and complexity as **farming techniques improved** and **trade developed**.

**Function and Location of Ancient Cities**

* Agriculture had to be planned and controlled so as to guarantee a flow of food into the city, especially once irrigation developed.
* Governments began to:
  + collect **taxes**
  + build **fortified walls** to protect the city from invaders
* City sites were chosen for their:
* A group of **urban elite** (decision makers and organizers) controlled the resources and, sometimes, the lives of others.
  + The urban elite:
    - saw that the gods looked favorably upon the people and food production
    - helped organize resources
    - organized the construction of public buildings such as:
      * temples
      * government centers
      * granaries for storing food

**Function of ancient cities:**

* + Centers of power—
  + Religious centers—
  + Economic centers—
  + Educational centers—

**The Classical Period**

* **Athens** was one of the first cities to reach a population of 100,000 during the 5th and 4th centuries B.C.E.
* When the Romans succeeded the Greeks as rulers of the region, their urban empire incorporated:
  + a large part of Europe’s interior
  + North Africa
  + Settlements were established as centers of administrative, military, and other public services, as well as trading and other retail services former Mesopotamian lands
* Many cities were part of the hinterlands.
* Rome reached a population of 250,000 inhabitants in the second century B.C.E.
* The cities of the Roman Empire were connected by land and sea routes.
* Roman roads were so expertly built that many are still intact today.
* The earliest civilizations in **East Asia** grew around the Huang River and its tributaries.
* The great Silk Road stretched from China to the Mediterranean Sea.
* This trade route brought much wealth and diversity to Chinese cities.
* **These cities became centers for:**
  + government
  + culture
  + education
  + the economy
* By the 11th century, the greatest of the trading cities of the south was Hangzhou.
  + It was home to merchants, craftsmen, and government officials.
  + Its primary exports included silk, copper coins, and ceramics.

**Medieval Cities – Middle Ages**

* After the fall of the Roman Empire, urban life began to revive during the 11th century.
* Urban life was stimulated by trade between the Italian cities of Genoa and Venice and the Middle East (a result of the Crusades).
* Characteristics of medieval cities:
  + narrow and winding streets
  + occupational groups (e.g. bakers, carpenters) clustered in distinct sections of the city

**Preindustrial cities –Renaissance Era**

* **Mercantile city** (developed in the pre-industrial age)
  + Trade was central to the design of the city.
  + The central square was lined with shops that specialized in products brought in by the trade routes.

**The Industrial Revolution**

* **Manufacturing city**
  + Factories attracted workers from rural areas.
  + Cities grew along railroad lines that connected the cities to markets.
  + Cities suffered from problems such as:
    - overcrowding
    - sanitation
    - pollution
    - disarray
  + As cities grew, problems multiplied, although conditions improved as a result of:
    - government intervention
    - legislation
    - introduction of city planning and zoning

**Connection between Industry and Urbanization**

Industrial development led to urban growth during the 1800s in Europe and North America.

**Today about ¾ of people in developed countries live in urban areas.**

* **More recently, migration from rural to urban areas has rapidly increased in the less developed countries of:**
  + Africa
  + Asia
  + Latin America
* As countries begin to industrialize, opportunities shift from rural to urban areas.
* The pull to the city stimulates migration.
* Nearly all countries have two things in common:
  + The proportion of people living in cities is rising.
  + The cities themselves are large and growing.