

THE HISTORY OF UK

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Abstract: The article examines the main stages of the history of Great Britain, its socio-economic and political development, as well as the country's role in the global arena. The main periods of Great Britain's history - ancient times, the Middle Ages, the Industrial Revolution and the modern era - are analyzed. The article is written on the basis of scientific sources and reveals the cause-and-effect relationships of historical events.

Keywords: Great Britain, history, politics, industrial revolution, social development.

Ireland is an integral part of the history of Great Britain, having had a significant impact on its political, social and economic development. The island of Ireland has been historically important as a territory inhabited by various peoples since ancient times - Celts, Vikings and Normans. Through the invasions of the Anglo-Saxons and Normans, the territory of Ireland came under the influence of Great Britain, which later led to political and religious conflicts [1].

In the 16th century, the English and Scottish monarchies sought to consolidate political control over Ireland. During this period, issues of feudalism and land ownership became acute, and the local Celtic population faced heavy taxes and injustices in the distribution of land. At the same time, religious conflicts between Protestantism and Catholicism intensified internal conflicts in Irish society. In the 17th and 18th centuries, English and Scots colonized the southern and eastern parts of Ireland, which led to increased conflict with the native population [2].

The 19th century was a critical period in Irish history. Political union with Great Britain and the Act of Union were formalized in 1801, but local economic and social problems, particularly poverty and land issues, were not resolved. In particular, the Potato Famine of 1845–1849 caused the deaths of millions of Irish people and the emigration of millions more. This period led to the growth of national resistance against Great Britain and the independence movement in Ireland [3].

The early 20th century saw the rise of the Irish independence movement, culminating in the 1916 Pascal Rebellion and the 1919–1921 Irish War of Independence. In 1922, Ireland seceded from the British Empire and became independent as the Dominion of Ireland. At the same time, Northern Ireland remained part of the United Kingdom, which led to political and religious conflicts until the end of the 20th century [4].

Today, relations between Ireland and the United Kingdom are complex, but are largely defined by cooperation and economic ties. The Irish territory plays an important role in understanding political, social and cultural processes within the history of the United Kingdom. Ireland's historical experience, colonial policies and independence movements reveal aspects related to the political system and national identity of the United Kingdom [5].

Ancient times and the Middle Ages

The history of Great Britain dates back to ancient times and was shaped by many social, political and cultural processes. In ancient times, Britain was inhabited by various peoples - Celts, Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. During the Roman Empire, Britain developed as a region of strategic and economic importance. The Romans built roads, castles and urban infrastructure in the region, which served as a basis for economic and cultural development [1].

After the fall of the Roman Empire, the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings established their influence in the region. During this period, the social structure in Britain was based on the feudal system, land ownership and agriculture developed. At the same time, religious life also played an important role: the spread of Christianity influenced local culture and politics. During the Middle Ages, the monarchy strengthened in England and Scotland, and political centralization took place [2].

Industrial Revolution and the Imperial Era

The 18th–19th centuries are distinguished in the history of Great Britain as the period of the Industrial Revolution. During this period, production technologies, railways, and the transport system developed rapidly. As a result of the Industrial Revolution, the population in cities became more dense, a working class emerged, and social strata changed. At the same time, major achievements were made in the fields of science, technology, and education [3].

The Industrial Revolution made Great Britain an economically and politically powerful country in the world. During this period, Britain created a global empire, colonial policy, and maritime trade developed. The country's economy was significantly strengthened through colonies in India, Africa, and the Caribbean. The main goal of the Imperial Era was to strengthen political control and develop military and naval forces [4].

However, the Industrial Revolution also caused social problems. Living conditions for the urban population were often difficult, and sanitation and health care were insufficiently developed. Working conditions for workers were difficult and dangerous, and child labor was widespread. Therefore, in the late 19th century, social reforms and trade union activity intensified, labor laws were adopted, and the education system developed.

Relations between Ireland and Great Britain

Ireland has been an integral part of the history of Great Britain, having a significant impact on political and economic processes. Since the 16th century, the English and Scottish monarchies have sought to strengthen control over Ireland. During this period, the feudal system, land ownership issues, and religious conflicts intensified. The confrontations between Catholics and Protestants caused long-lasting conflicts in Irish society. Political unification with Great Britain took place in the 19th century, but economic and social problems, in particular poverty and the land issue, were not resolved [2].

The Potato Famine of 1845–1849 caused the death and emigration of millions of Irish people. This period intensified national independence movements, leading to political revolutions and struggles for independence in the early 20th century. In 1922, it gained independence as the Dominion of Free Ireland, but Northern Ireland remained part of the United Kingdom, which led to political and religious conflicts [3].

Modern era

The 20th century was a difficult political and economic period for Great Britain. World Wars I and II had a significant impact on the country's politics and economy. After the wars, the process of decolonization began, the territory of the empire was reduced, and the country began to play an active role in international organizations such as the European Union and the United Nations. At the same time, the democratic structure was strengthened, based on the principles of a parliamentary system and a constitutional monarchy [4].

Modern Britain is carrying out reforms in social and economic spheres. Education, healthcare, and infrastructure development remain among the main directions of state policy. At the same time, it is striving to maintain its position in the global political and economic arena, especially since the Brexit process has brought the country's relations with Europe to a new level. In conclusion, the history of Great Britain is an important source for understanding not only the political, economic and social processes within the country, but also global political and economic relations. Historical experiences, colonial politics, the Industrial Revolution and national independence movements have played an important role in the modern formation of

the country. In this regard, the history of Great Britain, as one of the important stages in human history, provides ample opportunities for scientific research.

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