

The Enlightenment

For me the first take away was the social life and relationships. In the enlightenment time the novelty was leaking to every day's life of the Europeans. Coffee, tea, chocolate, tobacco, and some other commodities started to be experience at those days, that before this period they had never been used. Coffee and tea were becoming important in the society, and they had brought civility and sobriety in the society and everyday life of Europe. Europe was experiencing of low cultivation but in the enlightenment period cultivation of new foods like potatoes, corn and many other new plants was increasing. In this period of time tens of thousands of Europeans were traveling to around the world and they were experiencing other societies norms and traits. For instance, some ethic changes emerged that were counted important socially. In this age Rousseau promoted middle-class values such as hard working, paratactically and domesticity for women. There were also some great changes and differences in fashion world, there was believe that people should be as simple as they are without any make up. Fashion, and literature was developing this age.

The second takeaway is that enlightenment age was more worldly age than Godly. In Scotland David Hume promoted reason above religion, concluding that belief in God was mere superstition. Some people were saying that God exist but has no influence in everyday life. Persecution of people for their religious beliefs starts to seem like cruel fanaticism. Also, in this age work had started on abolishing of slavery, that was very massive and common at those days.

The third take aways was the trade, manufacturing function, and freedom movements. The most important trade in this period was trading of slaves and was very massive. In this time for the first time there were advocacy about the inhumanly behaviors about the slaves. It was not only slaves' freedom, but there were lots of other injustice issues that was being fought for. The other movement was for the market freedom in this age. For instance, Adam Smith believed that the global wealth was static, and states could only increase wealth by taking if from others when he rejected ideas about stockpiling gold, and refusing entry of goods into one's country, and remaining a subsistence agricultural economy with serfs. He advocated for manufacturing, the division of labor, and free trade. In a free market, an individual would work and interact with others in the economy on the basis of the self-interest. And the sum of all self-interests would bring balance, harmony, and prosperous society.

I believe that there were a lot of things happened that are still going on this period of time. The changes and the movements that came out at this time, were actually made the history of today's world. Movements of freedom for human freedom or markets are very important. The knowledge, literature, the rule of women is also the most important.