

II. Analyzing Spatial Patterns of Development

A. Rostow's Stages of Economic Growth

1. Walt W. Rostow: shows shift from traditional to Modern society
2. Assumed all countries want to modernize,
3. Assumed all countries do modernize, just at different speeds

B. Outline of Stages

1. Traditional Society

- a) Depends on Primary Sector Activities
- b) Limited Technology
- c) Local + Regional Trade
- d) Limited Socio-economic mobility.

Ex: English colonies in 17th century, Medieval Europe, No country is in this stage today.

2. Pre-Condition for take off

- a) Improves infrastructure (roads, electrical grid)
- b) Farming Techniques improve, shifts toward commercial Agriculture
- c) Exports Ag. goods + raw materials internationally
- d) Tech diffused widely
- e) Start of socio economic mobility

Ex: USA in early 19th century, ~~Japan late 19th century~~ ~~Benign~~ ~~today~~
Nigeria Today, Afghanistan today

3. Take-off

- Major Tech innovations
- Starts industrialization and primary sector starts to shrink
- Spreads entrepreneur mentality
- Begins to Urbanise
- Includes self-sustaining growth.

Ex: USA mid 19th century, Japan late 19th century, Bangladesh

4. Drive to Maturity

- Creates new industries while strengthening existing ones.
- Improves energy transportation, and communication systems
- Economic Growth > Population Growth
- Investments in social infrastructure (schools, hospitals, etc)

Ex: USA late 19th century, Germany early 20th century, Brazil Today

5. High Mass Consumption

- Spend money on non-essential goods (Consumerism)
- Purchases of high order goods become common.
- Desire to create egalitarian society
- Supports a strong tertiary sector

Ex: USA 1920 - Today, Japan 1950 - Today

C. Criticism of Rostow

- Based on American + European examples
- Encourages exploitation of LDCs
- Suggests all countries have potential for development, but some have major hurdles
- Doesn't take into account the carrying capacity of Earth
- LDC's find it hard to find other countries to exploit

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D. Wallerstein's World System Theory (Core-Periphery Model)

* 1970's Immanuel Wallerstein

* Dependency model: countries do not exist in isolation, all countries are dependent on each other.

* Includes politics and economics.

1. Core

a) Includes the economically advantaged area of the world and the center of world business and finance.

b) HQ of most large multinational corporations located here

c) Focus on high skill, capital-intensive production

d) Promotes capital accumulation

e) Dominates periphery and semi-periphery economically and politically, and by paying low wages and exploiting weak environmental laws

f) Benefits greatly from international trade

Ex: USA, UK, Japan, Australia, Germany

2. Semi-Periphery

a) includes middle income countries

b) Sometimes known as emerging economies

c) Provides the core with manufactured goods and services that the core once provided themselves but no longer does

Ex: India, Mexico, S. Africa, Brazil, China

3. Periphery

a) includes least developed countries

b) high % of jobs in low skill labor-intensive production and extraction of raw materials

c) Receives jobs, but few profits from manufacturing

d) Weak laws protecting workers + the environment

Ex) Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Peru, Kenya

4. Changing Categories

a) Wallerstein does not suggest all countries can reach the highest level

b) Doesn't go into how they can advance

c) Some examples of changes

i. 1705 N.A British colonies were periphery → 1870 USA was core

ii. 1900 Argentina was core → 2000 semiperiphery

d) BRICS

i. Brazil, Russia, India, China, S. Africa

ii. Challenging Core Dominance

5. Labor Trends

a) Peripheral: Primary Sector Workers

b) Semiperipheral: Secondary Sector (factory) and Tertiary

c) Core: Quaternary + Tertiary

6. Criticisms

a) Downplays culture

b) Outdated: based on industrial production but many countries are now post industrial.

c) Suggests countries can change but does not mention how.

d) Does not take into account NGO's 'Supranational Org