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by N J

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Question 1

In the history of Britain, religion became a critical contributor to civilization and other social changes that were witnessed in the country between 1500 and 1850, an era that marked radical changes in every social sector like education, politics, rehabilitation, and media and reporting. The era saw the formation of different religious faiths that split from the Roman Catholic Church-the predominant church in Britain, a primary source of social aggression that made other social institutions to be formed. As a result, the protestant reformation impacted the lives of the people who lived in the rural areas of England's small towns and Villages. The religious reformations became the center of economic and social transformation among the English people, for they had the church leaders as the sources of their authority. Evidently, before the change of religious activities had hit the small village of Devonshire, the church's economic and social activities revolved around stores that required the parishioners to maintain and devote to in totality. The discussion for this question answers how religion became a force that historically changed Britain between 1500 and 1850 in its political and economic context.

First, religion is a significant factor that historically changed the politics of Britain between 1500 and 1850. The British monarchy used the influence of religion to push their political agenda among their subjects, the Britons. When both James I and Charles I realized that some popular MPs were challenging the authenticity and the lawfulness of the crown and confusing the commons, Charles I raised taxation among other means. Particular through the church, a move that was met with very little resistance. Religion teaches people to be obedient to the authority, and that is why Charles I had to face little resistance from the commons after he

had disbanded the radical parliament. Notably, the monarch constitutionally exists to date in Britain. Historically, if it were not for the church, the monarch rule could have been abolished during the British civil war and revolt against the crown. Since most Britons wanted to be given the freedom to read their bibles, they became unfriendly to the monarch leaders who embraced Catholicism and friendly to the ones that embraced Protestantism. For example, James II was expelled when he insisted on promoting catholic doctrines while Charles II was restored to leadership because he allowed Protestantism and partial parliament operation. For that reason, the church forms a basic system for political organizations and operations in Britain between 1500 and 1850 since most people subscribed to the political versions of their religious leaders, and it was from the church that major political mobilizations took place. Besides, the firm established British Monarchs, was religiously founded political institution in Britain.

Another factor that religion historically changed in Britain between 1500 and 1850 is the economy. In early modern Britain, religion and, therefore, religious leaders helped improve the economy by calling upon the corrupt officials who were looting the public resources to quit service. The strong guidance of the religious forces in Britain spirited the peasant revolts against their landlords, which made Charles I accept the peasants' grievances through their leader Wat Tyler. At times in early modern Britain, the church played a significant role in boosting the economy as it provided goods for trading. Failure to that, for instance, the economy of Devonshire's small village declined due to unavailability of church wools traded in the locality at around 1520-1570. Thus, this is a clear manifestation that religion played a crucial role in ensuring that its members were economically elevated out of poverty. However, it is also quite notable that the church leaders who held high positions in the King's cabinet also used that opportunity to loot public resources. Something that did not go well with people who, on many

occasions, did not care about their social status but went as far as killing some of them to act as examples and save the economy. After suspecting him to be a looter of natural resources, a bishop of Chichester had to be killed by the mob (Miller, 2017). Such public outcry made those in public offices refrain from corruption and form a prudent culture using the public resources to benefit the public.

Arguably, the church and religion played a significant role in shaping Britain's economic and political aspects between 1500 and 1850. Religion formed the basic social fabrics from where all sorts of societal norms and mobilization were drawn. Religious leaders had a more significant influence on the lives of the commoners than any other people. Therefore, whoever wished to rule had to get the backings of these religious leaders, as was seen by King Henry IV, whose cabinet majorly consisted of Bishops. Religion formed every fundamental social aspect of life for the Britons of early modern Britain.

Question 2

British Empire grew as the largest and the most powerful empire where all the protectorates dependencies, trusteeships, and colonies were all answerable and under the control of the British crown. In the book modern Britain, 1750 to present, it is noted that between 1800 and 1945, the British Empire grew and consequently shaped British society to witness tremendous growth in economy and democracy. After the collapse and defeat of the French empire, a significant threat in Europe, the British Empire became very powerful. It controlled almost 23% of the world population drawn from its colonies, protectorates, and dependencies. As a result, its ability to stamp authority to many of the world's populations turned into advantageous to British society. The discussion for this question describes how British society was shaped by foreign policy and colonization actions by the British Empire between 1800 and 1945.

The British society became a wealthy nation because of the empire's ability to acquire as many colonies as possible worldwide. The colonies acted as raw materials for the British companies and cheap human labor to work during the British industrial revolution. The British Empire was able to expand and acquire colonies worldwide, including America, which became a pivotal colony in facilitating the industrial revolution during this era. Notably, the British empire was capable of expanding its territories and colonies because it had enough resources gotten from the slave trade to fund its navy and army. A factor that was feared by most people who could not dare resist more so after defeating the previously stubborn French empire rival in Europe. On the same note, the Britons were given a priority in ruling and managing these colonies, for they were deployed in every colony to facilitate easy management of the colonies, making them get much wealth and reinvest in their country.

On the other hand, political economies that offered independence and progress to Britons seldom achieved their desires, for they became regularly secured by brutality and violence, a move that made them surrender and be loyal to the British Empire. Thus, the colonization agenda of the British Empire boosted the Britons in a way that they could quickly get cheap raw materials and human labor to keep their industries going. The money they got from the Industrial Revolution paid reasonable taxes to enable the empire to conduct infrastructural developments. The empire's colonization policy also made the Britons develop a sense of belonging, which made them believe that they were the best. So whatever undertaking they did, they conducted to the best of their abilities to show superiority over others.

Consequently, another way the empire shaped the British society around 1800 and 1945 is through its foreign policy of not confronting its neighbors. The empire was known for its peaceful coexistence with its alliance members and could do anything within its powers to avoid conflict with them. Despite the rapid growth in urbanization, industrialization, and imperial expansion, it is pretty notable that the British Empire chose the path of avoiding social conflicts. As a result, remaining peaceful with alliance members made the British Empire not be exposed to war situations. Therefore the peaceful climate was given to the Britons to concentrate on developing their industries and urban areas. This factor made them create immense wealth due to the political and social stability of the empire. Also, the accommodative foreign policy of the empire has made British society grow both socially and economically. This is evident in the union with the Irish nation making it possible and peaceful up to the time of the Anglo-Irish War. The British Empire, over this whole period, was considered polite by its alliance members. Political stability is one of the significant contributors to social and economic growth. Through

its peaceful and accommodative foreign policies, the empire gave the Britons a peaceful environment for their growth and country's growth.

Conclusively, it is right to note that the success of a nation depends on the policies made by its government. The period between 1800 and 1945 became a defining time for Britain and the empire's economic and social growth, providing a peaceful environment to its people, shaping the economy. Through the colonization and accommodative policies, the Britons had the best time to develop their nation as well as themselves, a factor that made them pride themselves on having one of the most respected and successful nations of the time.

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