

American Revolution tends to be the extremely important historical event, giving birth to freedom of American nation. If to believe the view of most scientists, the revolutionary period is known to have started in 1763 with the end of French and Indian war. According to the general opinions, American Revolution is also frequently attributed to the chain of events, such as the Sugar Act, the Boston Massacre, the Townshend Duties, the Boston Tea Party, the battles for Lexington and Concord and the Declaration of Independence (Goldfield 1998, p. 42). We should be aware of the fact that all these events took place, because of the powerful ruining economic force, which was imposed by the British Parliament. Americans cannot suffer from the colonization policy and they were aimed to establish strong national government with rather broad personal liberties. In this paper we are aimed to investigate all the factors that caused the American Revolution and how the revolutionary war influenced America.

The American Revolution is regarded to be the most important historical event that provided freedom to Americans. The cause of the war was totally connected with economy. Although many scientists and historians believe that America's social position was the major cause of revolution, American people did not have any relation to the British debt, so America did not have to pay it back, in fact. The result of Indian and French War was the beginning of the *economic struggle* (Resch 2005, p. 141). The British policies that were applied on the territory of America broke the laws of the local citizens as well as neglected their freedom. Following the ideas of mercantilism, the British capitalists were aimed at getting huge profits in terms of the colonial policy, where all industrial levels were manipulated by means of the strict policy from the side of the British monopolies (Greene 1999, p. 5). Americans were not interested in engaging in manufacture, because it was not advantageous for them as trade and export were restricted for the benefit of Britain. The competition between American and British capitalists became the key event that forced Britain to invent stricter trade laws, reducing the trade chances for America to minimum. Being deprived of proper capitalist development, the problems soon became typical of social life (Greene 1999, p. 5). So, the main reason and cause of American

Revolution was that Americans feared that British would settle on their territory and introduce their factories there, where Americans would be *economically* dependent. This would mean the end of freedom for America forever.

To some other factors, leading to the American Revolution, we may also refer the severe policy of *mercantilism*, which was intentionally imposed by the British government with the purpose of making essential profits on the colonial territory. The mercantilism totally excluded and prohibited the colonial manufacturing. This meant that British would use various means of economical and financial manipulation. For example, colonial currency was manipulated, colonial trade was regulated, the expansion was prevented and the colonial markets were completely threatened by the monopolies in Britain. The adoption of the Iron Act prohibited the manufacturing of iron on the American territory so that there would be no competitions with British monopolies (Barnes and Charles 2000, p. 34). As the alternative, Americans were provided with job positions and were forced to work for small salaries, manufacturing hats and different textile products. That happened after the adoption of Hat Act and Woolen Act, both of which suggested that all the products had to be exported to Britain. The similar way American colony manufactured copper, cotton and furs to be exported and to be manufactured into finished products in Britain.

Taking complete control over American currency, Britain implemented severe trade restriction, which provided the flow of hard currency and gold in only one direction to Britain. This greatly undermined the American economy, which could not be developed at all. Printing the paper money and paying for work of American slaves, British people intentionally valued coins and did not accept paper currency in terms of purchasing. After the abolishment of the Currency Act in 1764 the colonists' view was that money became extremely scarce and reputable freeholders could find it impossible to pay their debts (Greene 1999, p. 5). The domestic American trade was restricted by the number of laws. Americans were forced to ship their products through England first, and then only through other countries and colonies. This could

not help American authorities rotate huge sums of money in terms of capital and the lack of huge businesses and proper investment contributed negatively to the development of the economy, which was totally controlled by Britain. With the extension of sugar plantations the trade concentrated on West Indies, the British Isles of Jamaica and Barbados, where sugar was sold to African slaves. Adopting the full set of laws, the British Parliament forced colonists to buy sugar only on the British islands. That way, the colonists were able to sell all their sugar at the highest prices possible.

One more reason for the beginning of American Revolution was the desire of British to invest in land, which could negatively shape the fur trade. After passing Quebec Act in 1774, Americans were forced to abandon their economic activity in Western areas, where British occupied the land, which was favorable in terms of attractive geographical conditions, soil and nutrients. The land policy greatly shaped trade between America and Britain (Greene 1999, p. 6). Enforcing new trade laws, British Parliament appointed customs commissioners, allowing officials searching for the smuggled goods. The usage of weapons was also mentioned as one of the most important points to show reasonable reaction to conflicts. The implementation of Tea Act from 1773 was also the great concern to Americans, because British East India Company was able to sell tea directly to Americans without paying taxes (Greene 1999, p. 6). This meant that the act generally bypassed the American nation in terms of shipment, import and selling of the British tea. Soon, we could investigate the British monopoly of the American tea market.

The American Revolutionary war lasted only six years and, although British army was more powerful, it still had difficulty when matching the territorial understanding for the cause of the Americans. French people as allies played a vital role for Americans during war years. The Peace of Paris granted land and sovereignty (Washburn 2006). Secondly, there was a great shift in job positions and social roles between women, African Americans and Native Americans. The extension of American territory, including the Spanish territory and Mississippi River, was easily noticed. This fostered trade by sea. American fishermen were allowed to move to Canadian

waters for fishing and trade. America was noticed to lose the business partners in Britain and West Indies and this resulted in massive loss of jobs in urban areas, although there was no dependency upon Britain any more. The American War also made the American economy highly inflated, although there were no trade limitations any more. The slavery remained only in the South as it was important for the domestic economy; in other regions it was abolished.

All in all, the result of numerous British economic restrictions has generally led to American Revolution. Landowners, merchants, investors and dealers were turned into rebellious enemies engaged in severe competition. The British restrictive legislation has led to great economic depression even in Britain, because many merchants and landowners faced bankruptcy, employees were driven out of work, farmers faced financial crisis due to devastation of land by British people. To summarize, American Revolution has become the result of political, social and intellectual transformations within American society and American government. They were interested in their own democratically-elected government, which would be responsible for protecting human rights. That is why, it is obvious why Americans were engaged in rebellion against British, they did not want to be dependent and they were striving hard to establish peace and order within their own country.

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