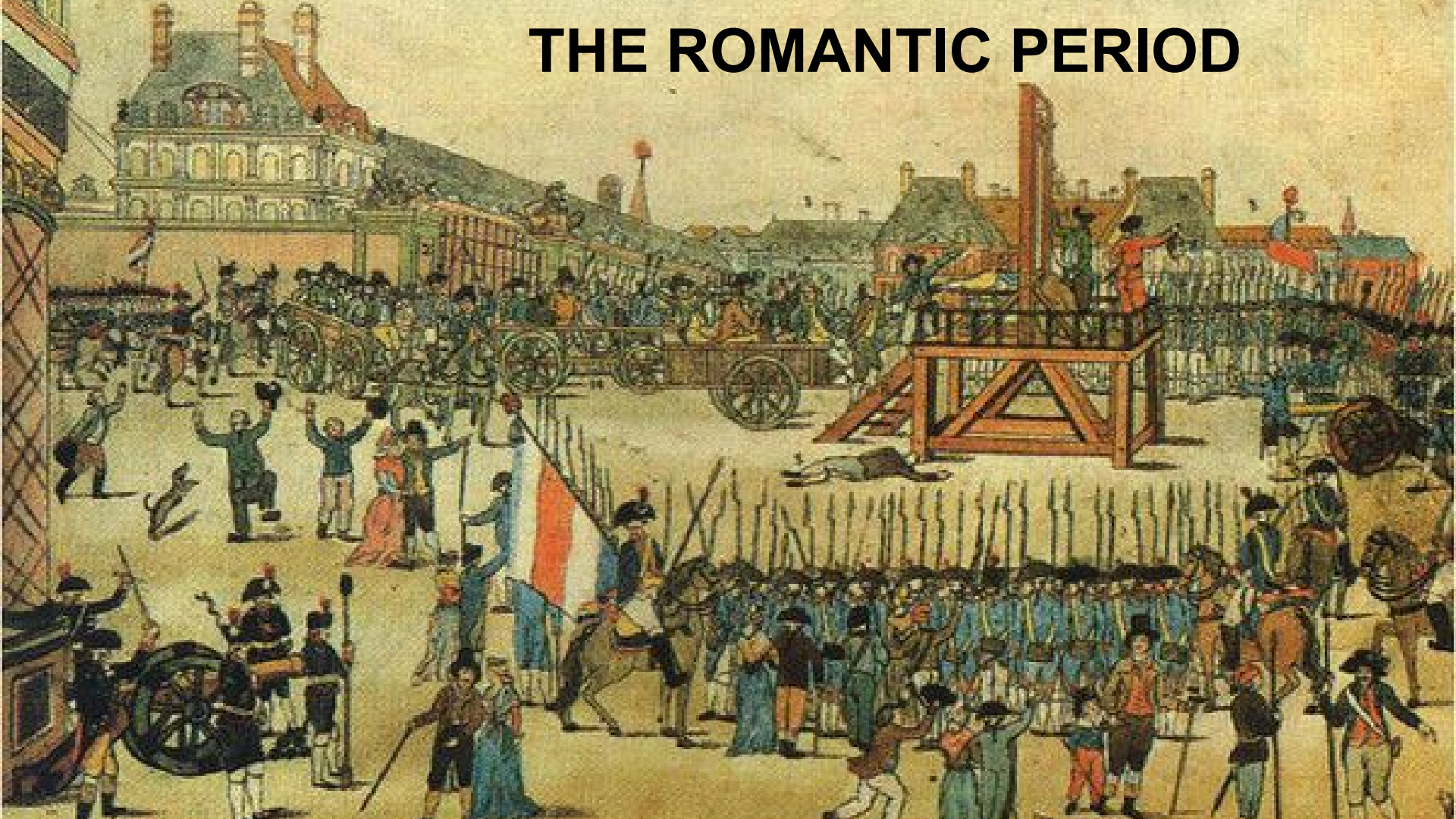


# THE ROMANTIC PERIOD

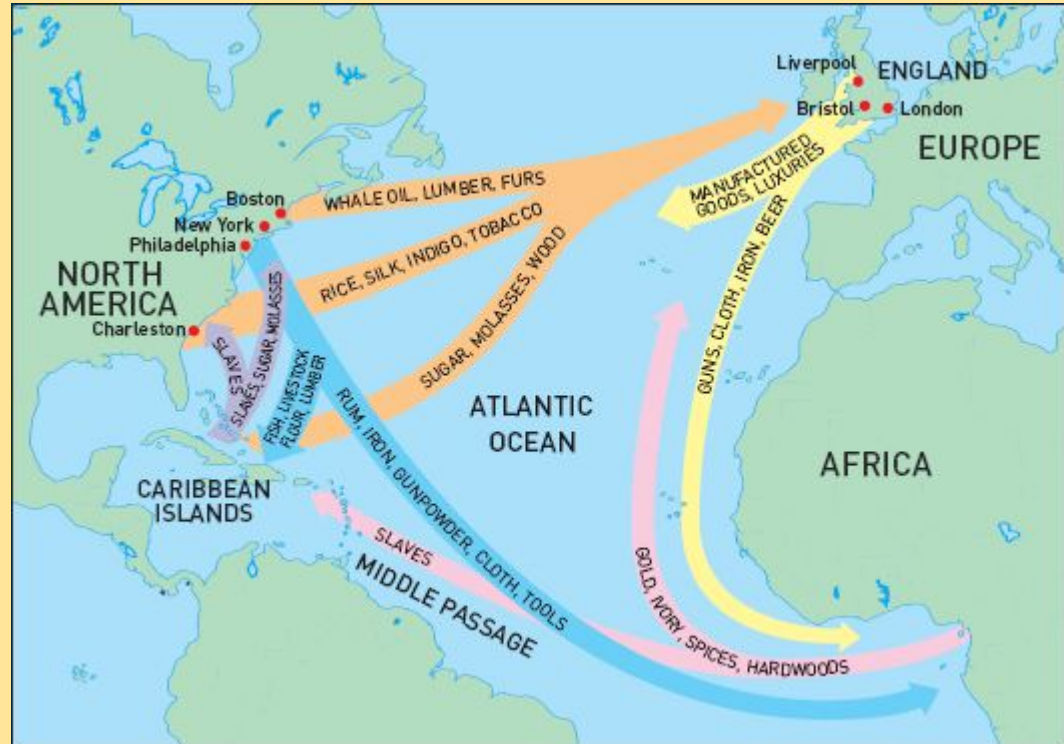


# Trade and Industry

Globalization and Trade, slavers and industry

Adam Smith, Wealth of Nations

East India Company, 1600-1874



# European Culture of the late 18th century

## **The Rise of the Public Sphere** (Jurgen Habermas):

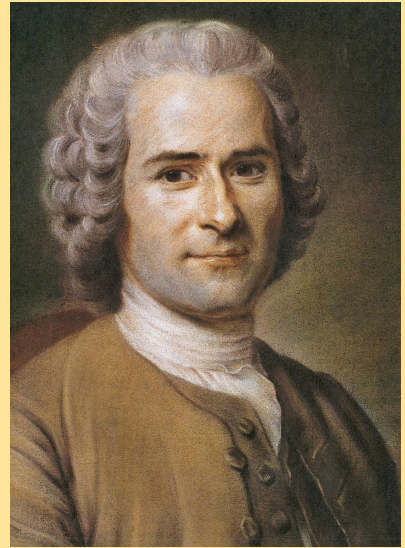
- Coffee-house culture (thanks Ottoman Empire!)
- Rise of the “public” (and also the private)
- The rights of women
- and of course, the perennially growing middle class

## **Radicalizing (Spinozist) Enlightenment:**

“Men will never be free until the last king is strangled with the entrails of the last priest” -- attributed to Denis Diderot, more likely Jean Meslier

"Man is born free, and everywhere he is in chains. The man who believes himself a master of others is more a slave than anyone else." -- Jean-Jacques Rousseau, **The Social Contract**

**The General Will** (sublimation of the particular will to the common good, which is sovereign and inalienable) and the valorization of nature (Rousseau against Hobbes)







# Declaration of the Rights of Man

1. Men are born free and remain free and equal in rights. Social distinctions can be based only on public utility.
2. The aim of every political association is the preservation of the natural and imprescriptible rights of man. These rights are liberty, property, security, and resistance to oppression.
3. The sources of all sovereignty resides essentially in the nation; no body, no individual can exercise authority that does not proceed from it in plain terms.
4. Liberty consists in the power to do anything that does not injure others; accordingly, the exercise of the rights of each man has no limits except those that secure the enjoyment of these same rights to the other members of society. These limits can be determined only by law.
5. The law has only the rights to forbid such actions as are injurious to society. Nothing can be forbidden that is not interdicted by the law, and no one can be constrained to do that which it does not order.
6. Law is the expression of the general will. All citizens have the right to take part personally, or by their representatives, and its formation. It must be the same for all, whether it protects or punishes. All citizens, being equal in its eyes, are equally eligible to all public dignities, places, and employments, according to their capacities, and without other distinction than that of their virtues and talents.



# The Age of Revolution

Transition from the absolute monarchies to constitutional republics/monarchies:

- American Revolution (1776)
- French Revolution (1789)
- Haitian Revolution (1791)
- Latin American Wars of Independence (1808)
- Greek War of Independence (see ya suckers, 1821)
- Revolutions of 1830 and 1848



# Romanticism

## The Kantian Moment

The three *Critiques*:

- *Critique of Pure Reason*: noumena (the thing itself) and phenomena, antinomies, categories
- *Critique of Practical Reason*: categorical imperative (think Rousseau General Will), ideals of practical reason
- *Critique of Judgment*: disinterested judgment, universality of taste, beautiful/sublime, freedom (autonomy) of the artwork, freedom of humanity

# Aspects of English Romanticism

**Individualism:** the autonomy of literature, the poet *outside of* or *against* society, and yet also a prophet binding society together through communication

**Imagination:** if the 18th century privileged wit, the Romantics privileged imagination and sensibility (movements in fact prepared by late 18th century literature, including Adam Smith's *Theory of Moral Sentiments* [1759]). Reason (analysis) separates us from the world, but the poet through imagination (synthesis) re-unites us with it. **Symbol** over **allegory**.

- “Spontaneous overflow of powerful emotions **recollected in tranquillity**”

**Nature:** Both against the artificiality of high society and the city (reaction to industrialization). Speaking to “men as men”; imagination as key to reintegrating the subjective mind with nature





Evil is the active springing from Energy.  
Good is Heaven. Evil is Hell.

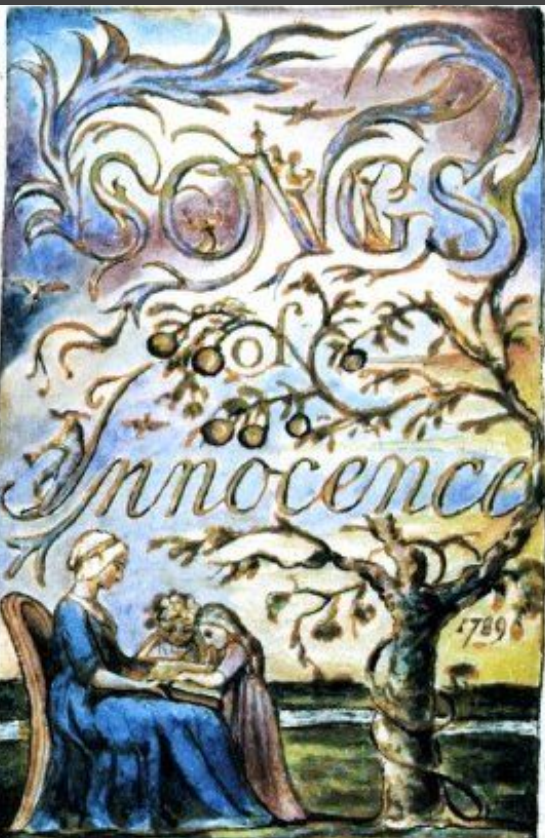












The Author & Printer W Blake

## THE Chimney Sweeper

A little black thing among the snow:  
Crying weep, weep, in notes of woe!  
Where are thy father & mother? say?  
They are both gone up to the church to pray

Because I was happy upon the hearth  
And smil'd among the winters snow:  
They clothed me in the clothes of death,  
And taught me to sing the notes of woe

And because I am happy, & dance & sing,  
They think they have done me no injury;  
And are gone to praise God & his Priest & King,  
Who make up a heaven of our misery.



For when our souls have learn'd the heart to bear,  
The cloud will vanish, we shall hear his voice,  
Saying: come out from the grove my love & care,  
And round my golden tent like lambs rejoice.

Thus did my mother say and kiss'd me,  
And thus I say to little English boy,  
When I from black and he from white cloud free,  
And round the tent of God like lambs we joy:

I'll shade him from the heat till he can bear,  
To lean in joy upon our fathers knee,  
And then I'll stand and stroke his silver hair,  
And be like him and he will then love me.

