

## INHERITANCE

Head of domestic group must be replaced

Successor - claim resources - offspring

Replacement - offspring - problems

Special rules govern inheritance

2 systems: A) PARTIBLE and B) IMPARTIBLE

A) PARTIBLE- every member has some claim to ancestral homestead

-subdivide established unit

-weakens resource base

has 2 FORMS - 1) every offspring

2) sons only (very common) and daughters receive dowry

Underlying causes not well understood

in general look at 2 major contexts: Ecological and Hierarchical/Social

1) ECOLOGICAL

- frontier - (not Europe)

or - if have highly productive money-yielding crops

2) HIERARCHICAL SOCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

-power holders want to increase # of taxable units

-or prevent build up of large land holding

B) IMPARTIBLE

1) ECOLOGICAL

-maintain resource combination

-1 heir

-others must emigrate

2) HIERARCHICAL/SOCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

-lords favored single heir for stable source of taxes

Impartible has 3 forms

1) primogeniture

2) ultimo geniture

3) designated

one heir receives - others must accept subordinate position or leave,  
with or without compensation

## SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES

Of PARTIBLE - all members have a stake in the land

Inherit little land - can buy or rent

Of IMPARTIBLE - 2 groups: heirs and disinherited

Landed sons marry (or landed daughters)

often landless not allowed to marry

-stay and work for landed relatives or leave

Results in endless stream of unemployed men and women-

set stage for

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

PARTIBLE - no large mass of unemployed

Have underemployed people

- result in small cottage industry/ part-time work

-no large-scale industry

-fragmented countryside

So, INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION where have

IMPARTIBLE inheritance