

# VICTORIAN ERA OVERVIEW

1837 - 1901

## CATEGORY

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS & MILESTONES

### Politics & Empire

Expansion of the British Empire ("The sun never sets"); Pax Britannica; Rise of Liberalism and Socialism; Parliamentary Reforms (1867, 1884).

### Economy & Tech

Second Industrial Revolution; Railway Mania; Steamship dominance; Telegraphy; The Great Exhibition of 1851; Shift to globalized trade.

### Social Change

Urbanization; Emergence of the Middle Class; Rigid moral codes; Growth of Trade Unions; Early Women's Suffrage movements.

### Science & Thought

Darwin's *Origin of Species* (1859); Advances in germ theory (Pasteur/Lister); Professionalization of medicine; Social Darwinism.

### Culture & Arts

Realism and Romanticism; Gothic Revival architecture; The Victorian Novel (Dickens, Brontë's); Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.

### Major Conflicts

Crimean War (1853-1856); Indian Rebellion of 1857; Scramble for Africa; Second Boer War (1899-1902).