

Lesson 2 Curry Travels around the World

(Part 1)

Many of you know that curry was born in India. However, did you know that Indian people do not use the word “curry”? British people began to use it.

A recipe for curry was introduced from India to the UK. In 1772, Warren Hastings brought back rice with many spices from India. After that, British people started eating curry with rice.

In the early 19th century, the first curry powder appeared in the UK. Until then, mixing the many spices for curry was hard work. People were able to make curry easily with the curry powder. So, curry spread across the UK.

(Part 2)

Early in the Meiji era, curry powder was imported into Japan from the UK. In those days, curry was so expensive that only rich people could eat it. Surprisingly, long green onions and frog meat were used in it!

Since the late Meiji era, curry has been popular all over Japan. In the Japanese military, soldiers began to cook curry. They could make a lot of curry at one time and keep it for a few days. They took the recipe for curry back to their hometowns. Then, people began to eat curry in many parts of Japan.

(Part 3)

After curry spread around Japan, Japanese people invented a lot of new curry-based foods. By mixing curry with noodles and bread, they made curry-*udon* and curry-*pan*. Maybe you have also eaten some kinds of curry-flavored snacks.

The curry roux and “curry in a pouch” were especially successful. They were exported overseas, and they have become popular in some countries like Australia, China, South Korea, and the US. “Curry in a pouch” is now eaten even in the International Space Station (ISS)!

Curry was born in India. Later, it was taken to the UK, and then to Japan. Now it is eaten all over the world.