

The French Revolution



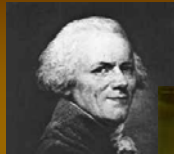
Pre-Revolutionary Period: People

- Louis the 14th – The Sun King – had created a great kingdom but still an absolute monarchy.
- Louis the 16th had been a very poor leader and had led to the ultimate downfall of Absolute Monarchies.
- heavy taxation and raised costs of wheat
- THE ESTATES
 - First Estate : The Clergy
 - Second Estate: The Nobility
 - Third Estate: The middle class and peasants.
- The Estates-General was a semi-democratic vote which gathered members of all estates to vote on the worsening financial situation of France.



Pre-Revolutionary People: cont'd

- The Intelligentsia
 - **Robespierre**: Leader of the Jacobins and major instigator of the French Revolution
 - elected deputy of the Estates-General
 - **Emmanuel Joseph Sieyès**: created literary work on ideals of the revolution and stated: "What is the Third Estate? Everything."
 - **Mirabeau**: a man who had dreamed of a French Constitutional Monarchy – much like Britain had during this era.



The Salons

These were places where all people were welcome to discuss political issues openly and comfortably

Women played a large role in the salons and this way were assistants to the revolution

This is where people were able to find such people as Voltaire, Mme. Geoffrin, and many others

The first encyclopedia ever was made among these salons



The People Rise Up: The Tennis Court Oath and....

In the last Estates-General meeting, first two Estates called upon the old and classic way of voting: each party gets one vote; this left the nobility with the upper hand at all times

- people were outraged and called for a new system

The Tennis Court Oath: without notice to the citizens of France, on June 17th, the first two estates decided to proclaim themselves the national assemble. The third estate was not invited and not let into the Estates General meeting and the rain forced them into a tennis court...



The Storming of The Bastille

The Bastille was a large fortress which doubled as a prison; to the revolutionaries it was a sign of oppression.

On July 14th, 1789 the people and some soldiers stormed the fortress looking for prisoners (of which they were only seven) and weapons to fight back against the Kings army.

This had become the turning point where reform turned into the full forced revolution.



During the Revolution

The political spectrum was changing: the nobility became afraid of the escalating violence and one by one turned to join sides and put an end to the feudal system on August 4th, 1789.

After this, near the end of August, the Declaration of Man and of Citizen was created and carried through reluctantly by Louis the 16th on Sept. 14, 1791.

France was divided into 83 districts called departments, where one person was elected to take care of laws, taxes, education and poor relief.



The End of the Monarchy and the Beginning of the Reign of Terror

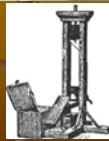
Robespierre, a VERY charismatic speaker, led the Third Estate to the king's palace and ended up killing not only all of the guards, but most of the noble family in October, 1792.

Louis was eventually sentenced to the guillotine.

Starting in Sept. 1793, Robespierre starts his reign of terror on all those who try to oppose the republican government.

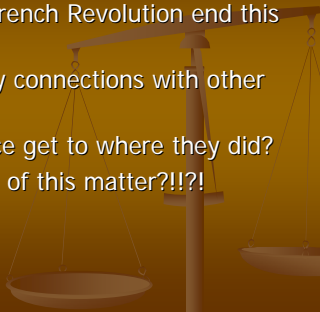
He sentenced 20,000 to 40,000 people to death within the next ten months.

Because of his radical positions, Robespierre was arrested and beheaded in mid-1794.



Discussion Break!

- 1) Why did the French Revolution end this way?
- 2) Do we see any connections with other revolutions?
- 3) How did France get to where they did?
- 4) Why does any of this matter?!?!?



My main man: NAPOLEON!!

Napoleon, once a general in the French army, was the main person to restore order to a broken France

After making great advancements with the army, he returned to France to save his country

In the 1799 coup d'état, Napoleon gained power and created a new regime – the consulate – which he ruled over.

Napoleon, although a dictator, worked for much more liberal causes than any other dictator of this time

He consolidated all the rights which those of the revolution asked for: justice and liberty



Napoleonic Wars & Legacy



Napoleon's End ☹️

- Napoleon's wars were successful until his campaign took him to Russia where his troops lost and he was exiled on April 11, 1814
- He tried to reform Elba, the island he was exiled to, but failed and snuck back into France in 1815
- Tried to rally support but failed and was once again exiled again to the island of St. Helena where he died in 1821



Legacies

- After Napoleon, the Congress of Vienna kept the peace until the first World War
- Symbols of Napoleon still exist all over France – the Arch De Triumph



Overview of the 18th Century

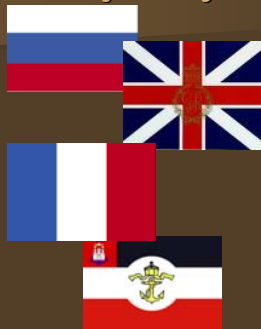


Modernization Theory: One country's political movement from traditional to modern societies and political ideals and why some countries were left behind

VS.

Dependency Theory: The creation of third world nations in which labour can be kept cheap to fuel a separate country's economic growth

Major Players in this Century



- Russia, Britain, France and Prussia (Austria-Germany) were the major powers
- Britain controlled most land overseas and beat France in multiple battles securing the West, including the Maritimes and many parts of Africa
- Russia expanded south-east and defeated parts of the Ottoman Empire

Africa



- The intrusion of the British and French and Spanish on Africa forever changed the continent.
- Slave trade and those who were against slave trading - mostly ended in Canada by 1800's
- "White Man's Burden"
- Dutch colonies in South Africa and their effects on life there
 - Joseph Conrad, *A Heart of Darkness*
 - Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

India



- Because of the East India Trading Company, India flourished
- Rich in resources and goods to trade
- Mongols: British provincial governors ruled over local land owners (aka Zamindars)
- This caused turmoil between the two
- Citizens were taxed heavily to fund British armies (especially salt)

China



- Was praised by many as being virtuous and wise
- Demand in silver rose and trade with Britain began - Tea for silver
- Demand became too high and Britain gave the Chinese opium. This drug became a major source of addiction and forever changed China
 - Opium Wars
- Fine China (plates, etc.) were in high demand as well

Discussion

- 1) Why does all of this matter?
- 2) Were there any effects of this Century?
What were they? Why were they important?
- 3) What modern day examples can we see of the effects of the 18th Century?
