



THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

- What impact did the Great War have on Russia?



WHAT DID ALEXANDER II DO?

While The industrial revolution was sweeping most of Europe, Russia was still living as it did during the **MIDDLE AGES**

The **TSAR**, or emperor, was the ruler of Russia. Anyone who disagreed with him was killed or sent to prison in Siberia

Below the tsar were the wealthy noble families

At the bottom of the social pyramid were the farmers

There were millions of them, and they were extremely **POOR**

- By the 1700's, most of Europe had done away with **SERFS**
- Most of Russians were still serfs even up to the 1800's
- The serfs were beginning to revolt
- Tsar **ALEXANDER II** was beginning to fear a revolution, so he ended the serfdom in 1861
- He gave the freed serfs plots of **LAND**
- But they were now forced to pay **TAXES**, which was hard because they were given so little land

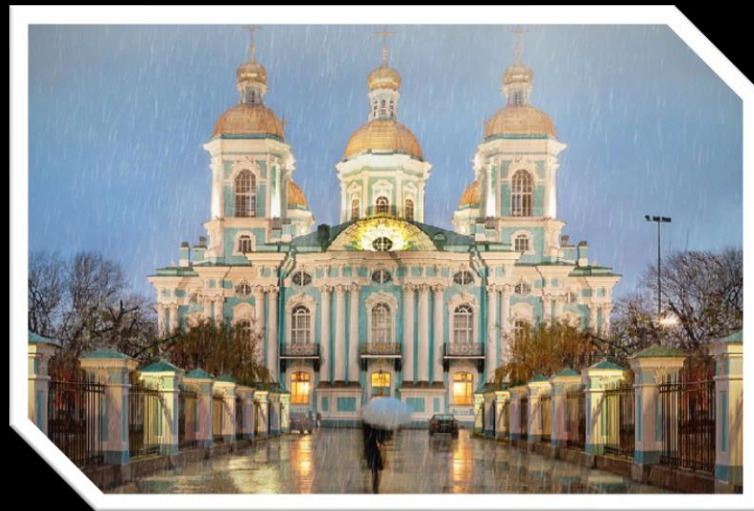




WHY DID ALEXANDER II END SERFDOM?

WHAT WAS 'BLOODY SUNDAY'?

- Many former serfs were forced to move to the big cities
- Factories began to spring up as the Industrial Revolution finally caught up with Russia, many of the them in the capital, **ST. PETERSBURG**
- More than a million people lived in St. Petersburg, including the new tsar, **NICHOLAS II**
- The Tsar had amazing palaces, churches, and universities in the city



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- The cities factories also darkened the skies with smoke
- Conditions were **TERRIBLE** inside the factories
- When they protested in 1987, the workday was shortened to 11 ½ hours!
- In 1905, workers shut down the city with another strike
- They marched to the **PALACE** to talk with the tsar



- Soldiers fired their weapons into the crowd, over 100 people were killed, this day would be known as “**BLOODY SUNDAY**”



- The tsar agreed to share some of his **POWER** after more revolts swept the nation
- The newly elected parliament, the **DUMA**, wanted different things than the tsar, they argued for the next nine years



WHAT WAS "BLOODY SUNDAY"?

How was World War I affecting people in Russia?

- During the first **WORLD WAR**, millions of troops from Russia died on the battlefield
- All **SUPPLIES** were being sent to the war, so many factories had to close, many goods became scarce



- March of 1917 was one of the coldest months in Russian history, many people starved
- They lined up in the cold for hours, just in hope of getting a loaf of **BREAD**





HOW WAS THE WORLD WAR AFFECTING PEOPLE IN RUSSIA?

HOW DID RUSSIANS FEEL ABOUT THE WAR?



- Protestors packed the streets of St. Petersburg
- They cried out for the war to **END**
- The tsar called for soldiers to help the police control the crowds, but the soldiers **JOINED** the crowds in rebellion against the government
- As tsar Nicholas was returning from a meeting with his generals, angry workers forced his train to stop
- He was forced to **RESIGN** as tsar, not long after, he and his family were **EXECUTED**



HOW DID RUSSIANS FEEL ABOUT THE WAR?

• WHAT HAPPENED TO TSAR NICHOLAS AND HIS FAMILY?

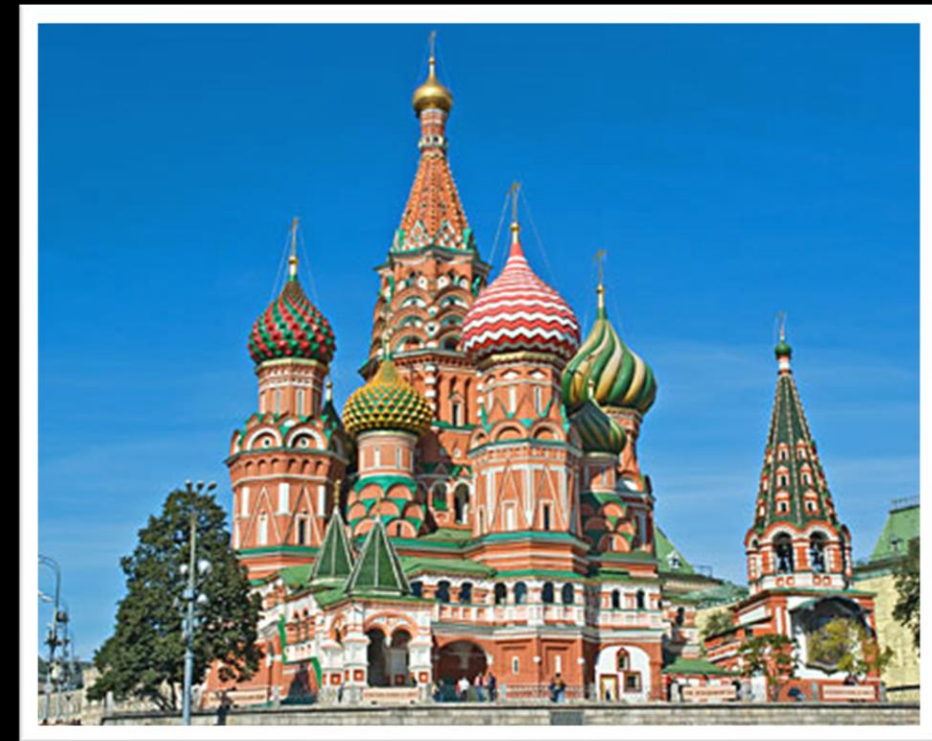
A NEW GOVERNMENT

WHAT DID LENIN AND THE BOLSHEVIKS DO WHEN THEY TOOK CONTROL?

- After the revolution, the Duma chose new leaders to run the country
- World War One was still being fought and Russia's military leaders wanted their troops **WITHDRAWN**
- Food was scarce and farmers began seizing **LAND** for themselves
- Another political group called the **BOLSHEVIKS**, led by a man named Vladimir **LENIN** was gaining power



- The Bolsheviks wanted the **WORKERS** to take control of the government and own all the property
- Lenin promised the Russians “Peace, Land, and Bread”
- Lenin and the Bolsheviks overthrew the Duma, and began peace talks with **GERMANY**
- The Bolsheviks allowed the workers to take control of the factories and the farmers could use the land of the wealthy
- They also moved the capital of Russia to **MOSCOW**



- The landowners, nobles, and factory owners were **UPSET** about losing their money and power
- **CHRISTIANS** and other ethnic groups were also upset
- They led a **REVOLT** against the Bolsheviks
- World War and the Revolution had caused poverty and starvation, millions died from disease and battles.





**WHAT DID LENIN AND THE BOLSHEVIKS DO
WHEN THEY TOOK CONTROL?**

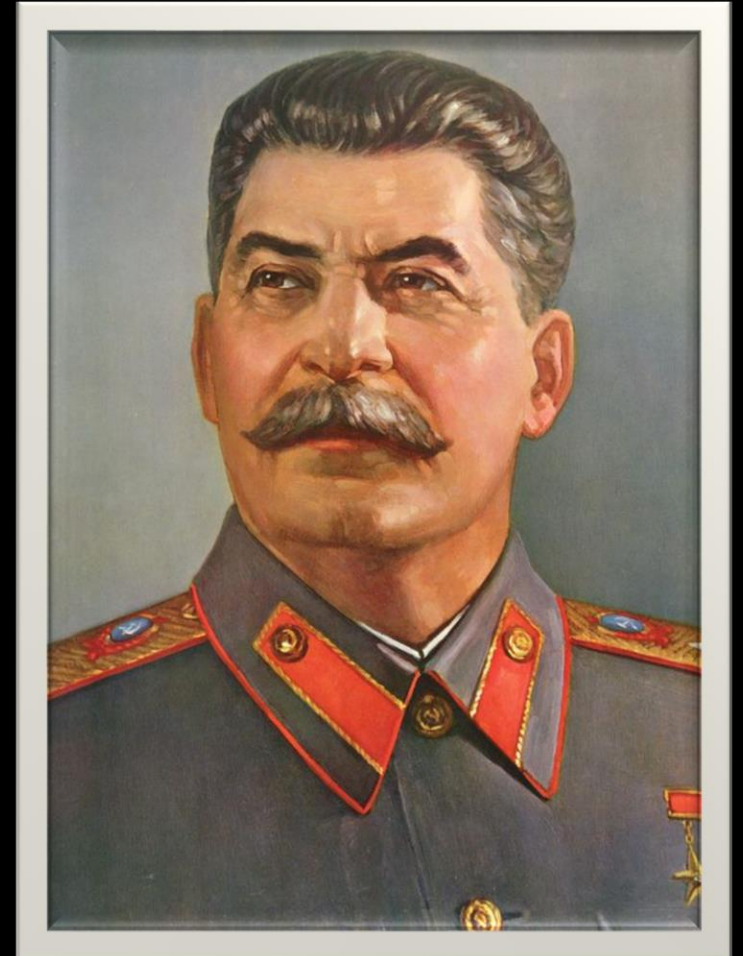
COMMUNISM

WHAT TYPE OF LEADER WAS JOSEF STALIN?

- Lenin wanted all land and businesses to be controlled by the government, this is known as **COMMUNISM**
- All **PRIVATE** property was outlawed, farmers were forced to give up their grain to the government
- Lenin made sure that all loyalty was focused on the government, he even closed churches and arrested religious leaders
- The Bolsheviks had defeated all their enemies, the new nation was called the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, or the **SOVIET UNION**



- In 1924, Lenin grew ill and died, but his reign of terror was replaced by another leader named **JOSEF STALIN**, this new dictator was even worse
- Stalin tried to make the new nation stronger, he made everything under the **CONTROL** of the government
- He created huge farms to produce more food
- Railroads began linking towns and cities in Russia, and factories were also springing up
- Stalin and the communist party controlled the people through **FEAR** and terror



- People were arrested just for speaking their **MINDS** , or because their factories were not **PRODUCING** enough food
- Many religious groups had to worship in secret for fear of being killed
- Stalin had more than 15 **MILLION** people killed or sent to prison
- But things were about to get much worse as another **DICTATOR** in Germany began to gain power.....



WHAT TYPE OF LEADER WAS JOSEF STALIN?

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

- What impact did the Great War have on Russia?





THE END...??