

Russia Russian Revolution and After



Journal Activity



Imagine you had just succeeded in your political revolution. A new government is formed.

What are some of the first things you would do? In the government? For society? For the economy?

ROSES ARE RED SO IS THE STATE
LET US BE COMRADES
BECAUSE YOU ARE GREAT



Happy Valentine's Day

Love: _____, Marx, and also BenKling

BE MEIN



Happy Valentine's Day

Love: _____, Adolf, and also BenKling

QUIT STALIN
AND
BE MY VALENTINE



Happy Valentine's Day

Love: _____, Stalin, and also BenKling

LEON TROTSKY
THINKS YOU'RE
HOTSKY



Happy Valentine's Day

Love: _____, Trotsky, and also BenKling

PLEASE DON'T
EMBARGO
MY LOVE

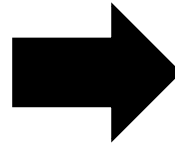


Happy Valentine's Day

Love: _____, Fidel, and also BenKling

Causes

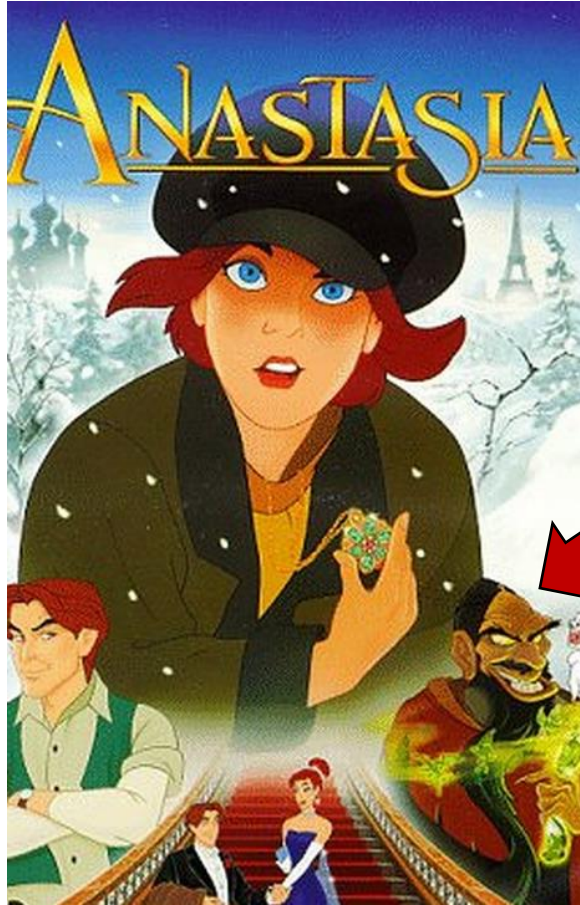
- Widespread discontent (dissatisfaction) among all Russian social classes
 - Strikes and riots
 - Bloody Sunday (1905)
- Weak leadership of Czar Nicholas II
 - Resistant to change
 - Rasputin
- Russian defeat in Russo-Japanese War (1905)
- Losses in WWI
- Food shortages



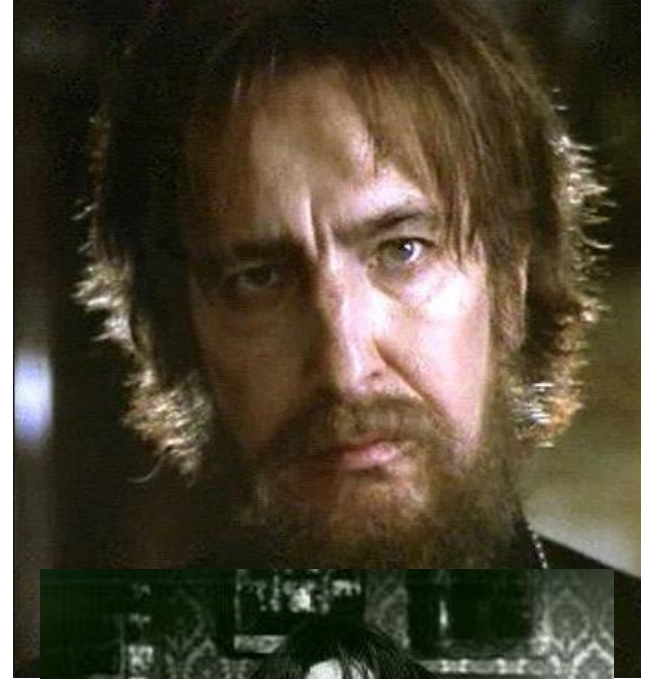
Effects

- Abdication of Czar Nicholas II
 - Execution
- Growing power of **soviets**
- Bolshevik takeover under **Lenin**
- Peace with Germany under Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (1918)
- Civil War (1918 – 1920)
- Bolshevik control of government
- Destroyed economy

Rasputin



- Self-described “holy man” and “healer”
 - Gained the trust and friendship of Czar Nicholas and his wife for “healing” son’s hemophilia
 - Gained power and influence
 - Opposed reforms
 - Increased corruption
 - Assassinated by young aristocrats in December 1916
 - Poisoned
 - Shot several times
 - Thrown in river

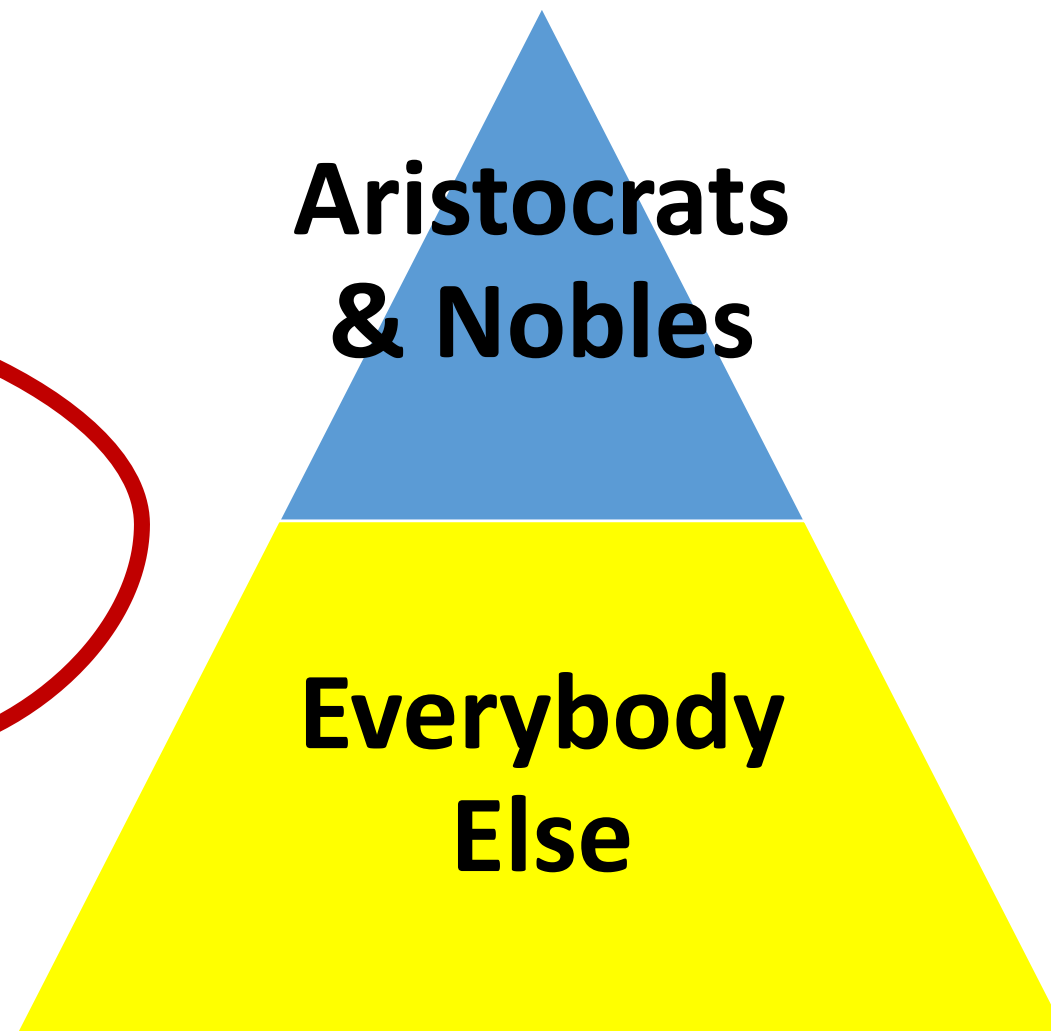


Russian Revolutions in March & November 1917

February Revolution (March 1917)

- Provisional government established, mainly led by aristocrats and nobles
- Insisted on staying in the war
- **Soviets** formed, local councils started gaining power
 - Workers, peasants, soldiers

**Germany had a secret
weapon!**



Vladmir Ilyich Lenin (V.I. Lenin)

- Marxist, ruthless, charismatic, excellent organizer

Bolshevik Revolution (November 1917)

- Bolsheviks, “one of the majority” seizes power
 - Largely consists of workers and peasants (proletariats)
- **Russian Civil War** (1917-1922) starts between Red Army and White Army
 - Red Army – Communists
 - White Army – Anti-communists
 - Allies sent soldiers to support
 - U.S. sent 11,000 soldiers



“Peace, Land, and Bread”

Why would this slogan be
attractive?

Soldiers

Peasants

Workers



Peace

Land

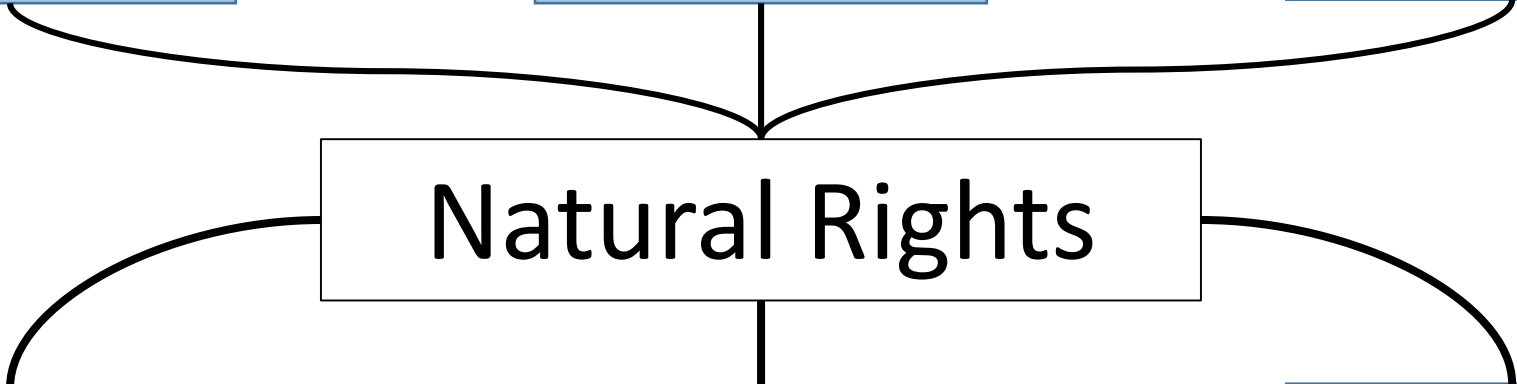
Bread

Natural Rights

Freedom

Property

Life





Bolshevik Revolution

Following the initial March Revolution in 1917 that overthrew Czar Nicholas, another revolution happened shortly after

- **Soviets** formed, local councils
- **Lenin**, leader of the **Bolsheviks** took control
- Farmland redistributed
- Workers gained control of factories



Russia under Lenin

- Renamed Bolsheviks to **Communist Party**
- Russia renamed to the **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics** or **Soviet Union**
- Communist Party held all the power
 - Disliked nationalism
- Believed that a **vanguard party** should take the lead in the communist struggle (Leninism)
- Created the **Comintern**
 - Spread communism around the world
- New Economic Policy (NEP)
 - Small-scale capitalism



Real communism is actually a classless society. Was Lenin's USSR communist?

Red Terror (1918 – 1922)

- Carried out by the **Cheka**, secret police
 - Mass killings of political, economic, and social rivals
 - **Kulaks**, wealthy peasants
 - Army deserters
 - Rioters
 - 50,000 – 1.5 million people dead

White Army did something similar, called White Terror. Thousands killed.



Gulag

- Started during the Red Terror, managed by the Cheka at first
 - Forced labor camps
 - Political prisoners, kulaks, criminals



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nUu7D9cHJc>



Power Vacuum

Lenin dies in 1924 from health conditions



Who will succeed Lenin?

QUIT STALIN
AND
BE MY VALENTINE



Happy Valentine's Day

Love: _____, Stalin, and also BenKling

VS

LEON TROTSKY
THINKS YOU'RE
HOTSKY



Happy Valentine's Day

Love: _____, Trotsky, and also BenKling

Joseph Stalin



VS

Leon Trotsky





Joseph Stalin

- Political leader
- Made alliances and put supporters in positions of power
- Finish the revolution and establish Russia first

VS

Leon Trotsky



- Military leader
- Concentrated on crushing the White Army and bring about the revolution
- Wanted to spread the revolution around the world

**“All that is necessary for evil
to triumph is for good
people to do nothing.”**