

Chapter 1 : Russian Revolution - Simple English Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Russian Revolution of 1917, two revolutions, the first of which, in February (March, New Style), overthrew the imperial government and the second of which, in October (November), placed the Bolsheviks in power.

Sometime in the middle of the 19th century, Russia entered a phase of internal crisis that in would culminate in revolution. Its causes were not so much economic or social as political and cultural. Ill-equipped and poorly led, Russian armies suffered catastrophic losses in campaign after campaign against German armies. The war made revolution inevitable in two ways: Riots over the scarcity of food broke out in the capital, Petrograd formerly St. When his brother, Grand Duke Michael, refused the throne, more than years of rule by the Romanov dynasty came to an end. The 2, delegates to this soviet were chosen from factories and military units in and around Petrograd. The Provisional Government was unable to countermand the order. All that now prevented the Petrograd Soviet from openly declaring itself the real government of Russia was fear of provoking a conservative coup. Between March and October the Provisional Government was reorganized four times. The first government was composed entirely of liberal ministers, with the exception of the Socialist Revolutionary Aleksandr F. The subsequent governments were coalitions. None of them, however, was able to cope adequately with the major problems afflicting the country: Meanwhile, soviets on the Petrograd model, in far closer contact with the sentiments of the people than the Provisional Government was, had been organized in cities and major towns and in the army. One reason was that radical socialists increasingly dominated the soviet movement. Kerensky became head of the Provisional Government in July and put down a coup attempted by army commander in chief Lavr Georgiyevich Kornilov according to some historians, Kerensky may have initially plotted with Kornilov in the hope of gaining control over the Petrograd Soviet. By September the Bolsheviks and their allies, the Left Socialist Revolutionaries, had overtaken the Socialist Revolutionaries and Mensheviks and held majorities in both the Petrograd and Moscow soviets. Although a previous coup attempt the July Days had failed, the time now seemed ripe. On October 24–25 November 6–7 the Bolsheviks and Left Socialist Revolutionaries staged a nearly bloodless coup, occupying government buildings, telegraph stations, and other strategic points. The Second All-Russian Congress of Soviets, which convened in Petrograd simultaneously with the coup, approved the formation of a new government composed mainly of Bolshevik commissars. Petersburg during the Russian Revolution of 1917, including a view of Vladimir Ilich Lenin speaking to a crowd.

Chapter 2 : Animal Farm/Russian Revolution Timeline | Preceden

The Russian Revolution was the most important revolution of the 20 th century, and was one of the most important revolutions in the history of the world. I would place it as the third most important revolution after the American and French Revolutions.

Background Of The Revolution[change change source] During the s, improvements in Russian industry put more jobs in cities. This made the cities larger as people moved there. The workers in the cities, with increasing levels of education, began to develop an interest in politics and the creation of political parties in order to try and change their lives for the better. The conditions that they lived and worked in were horrible. Poor people from other parts of the Russian Empire, like Poland and Ukraine , also created their own parties to try and stop the Russians oppressing them. It did not really change anything, but it meant that Nicholas promised to create an elected Parliament , or Duma. The Duma was elected for the first time in March . However, there were both left-wing and right-wing opponents to it, including socialists and people who were very loyal to the Tsar. There were also arguments over whether or not to take power from the Tsar and give it to more ordinary people. Nicholas eventually stopped the Duma three times, and because that meant they could not say anything against Nicholas, people became angry. In , Russia joined World War I. At first, people thought this was a good decision, and the country was united by patriotism. But there were huge problems with supplies, and by many soldiers were being sent to fight without any guns. Communication was bad, and Army officers argued a lot. That meant that they did not make plans well. The soldiers became unhappy, and over 3,, Russians died. Petersburg was also renamed to Petrograd by the tsar in because he thought St. Petersburg sounds too German, especially for a capital. In , the Tsar took personal control of the Russian Army, and moved to the Army headquarters. This was a mistake. Not only did he not improve the situation, he began to be blamed for it. The fact that he was not near the government also meant that his wife Queen Alexandra was left in charge. Whenever the Duma tried to warn her that the people were angry, she would say they were lying, so she would ignore them. She even ignored a report by his secret police, the Okhrana, which said that a revolution might happen if things did not get better for ordinary people. The February Revolution[change change source] The first revolution began with a series of strikes in early February . People in food queues in Petrograd , began a demonstration. They were joined by thousands of women, who left the fabrics c factories where they worked. The strike spread through the capital. By February 25, most of St. It told him to use his soldiers to stop the strikes. The army chief did that, but the soldiers joined the workers instead of stopping them. The police also joined them. On March 15, Nicholas abdicated. Control of Russia was given to a socialist provisional temporary government. Conditions from February to October[change change source] After the February Revolution, the Provisional Government was challenged by a large group of workers in St. Petersburg - the Petrograd Soviet. The leader, Alexander Kerensky, tried to improve things by allowing freedom of speech and letting political prisoners go, but people were becoming more unhappy. The national debt grew to 10 million rubles. Vladimir Lenin arrived in Petrograd in April . He was a Communist while the provisional government was Socialist. He had been exiled to Switzerland by the Tsar, but the Provisional Government had allowed him to come back. He began to lead a Communist group called the Bolsheviks. In July, the Bolsheviks spent four days demonstrating against the Government. The military attacked them. Lenin was forced to escape to Finland until August, when the Bolsheviks were asked to help defend the government against a takeover by the army. The result of this was that their reputation improved. The government gave them weapons. One began in Estonia on October . Another started in St. Petersburg two days later. This time the revolution was mostly peaceful. The Soviets took power and formed a Congress a new Government which began on October . Some members who were not Bolsheviks walked out during its first few meetings, but this made little difference to its decisions. The people who left were taunted by Leon Trotsky on their way out. He told them to go "where you belong The Congress began to get rid of private property. This meant that all land and money was to be owned by the people, and control of factories was given to their workers. The Aftermath[change change source] Several countries that had been in the Russian Empire before the Revolution, such as

Estonia and the Ukraine, had been asking for independence since February. As the new government formed they declared independence, and were allowed it. In Russia, the revolution was severely challenged by countries that were not Communist and by the invading White Armies. The ex-Tsar and his family were shot to stop them from being freed by the White Armies. In order to win the war, Lenin began a plan to divert food and supplies to the Communist Army. The Bolsheviks won the war, but the lack of food meant that between 3 and 10 million people died of hunger. It lasted from to Some European countries recognized the Soviet Union as a proper country in the early s. The United States refused to until

Chapter 3 : Russian Revolution of , Communism, Cold War

Russian revolution when he wrote 'In the conditions of the "freest" country, which was what, according to an expression in Lenin's Theses, the [February] revolution had made Russia.

Socialism in Europe and the Russian Revolution Article shared by: Socialism in Europe and the Russian Revolution! The Russian Revolution of has been one of the important events of world history. It has been praised and condemned vigorously. The Russian Revolution prompted governments all over the world to introduce legislative reforms to improve the conditions of workers. By the early years of the twentieth century, socialist ideas had taken roots in a number of European countries. But the outbreak of the First World War gave a severe set-back to socialist movement. When the war broke out the socialist groups in all countries chose to side with their own country irrespective of all other considerations. Social, Economic and Political Conditions in Russia before By the early twentieth century, life in most European countries had become liberal and progressive consequent to Industrial Revolution and Democracy. Britain had constitutional monarchy that made the monarch just a titular Head of the State. Feudal aristocracies had been replaced by a new middle class. Things were, however, different in Russia. The Czars still ruled as Emperors. Things had not changed materially with the abolition of serfdom in by Czar Alexander II. The monarchs, however, did nothing to improve the conditions of the peasants. The nobles and rich landlords exploited the peasants who lived in overcrowded village lands. They did not have any capital to invest on their small holdings. But a large part of capital for investment had come from foreign countries. Foreign investors were interested only in quick profits. They paid no attention to improve the conditions of the workers. The workers did not have any political rights. Whenever they demanded better wages they were suppressed with the help of secret police. The political system as it existed during the rule of the Czars was totally out of tune with the rest of Europe. The Czar still believed that the King had a divine right to rule. Nobility and the upper layers of clergy were supportive of the absolutism being practiced by the Czar. The bureaucracy was inefficient. Officers were selected not on the basis of their ability but on their privileged connections. The Czar had built a huge empire comprising diverse European nationalities. The cultures of the vanquished were shown little respect. Russian was made the compulsory language for all its people. Working Population Movements before Even before the revolution the people of Russia had rebelled against the monarchs. However, in Russia suffered a defeat at the hands of a small nation like Japan. They were annoyed at the incompetence of Russian troops. Petersburg went on strike to express their discontentment. Many persons died in the attack. The day came to be known as Bloody Sunday. Further strikes occurred in many other towns. There was complete stoppage in trade and industry. Workmen in factories, docks and railways also went on strike. The strikes were conducted by Council of their representatives Soviets. The word soviet got associated with political power so much so that it found a place in the nomenclature of post-revolution Russia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics " USSR. Czar Nicholas II agreed to give political rights to the people. The Collapse of Tsarist Autocracy: The Representative Assembly Duma promised by the Czar had its first session in But before anything could be accomplished, the Duma was abolished. The Czar had made great efforts to ensure that only his men were elected. The constitutional experiment failed and made Russians more desperate. They realized that only a structural change could save them from their hard life under the monarchy. Intellectual Ferment and Growth of Bolshevik Party: The frustrated Russians were readily attracted by the Communism as preached by Karl Marx, Lenin and other Marxist revolutionaries. Marxists had been preaching the ideas of Communism among the peasants and the industrial workers. He was a follower of Marx. Later this party was merged with other socialist groups to form the Russian Social Democratic Labour party in Within this party one group favoured a party on the model of similar parties in France and Germany. The group was for participation in elections. This group was, however, in minority and hence referred to as Mensheviks. The majority group known as the Bolsheviks believed that since no democratic rights existed for the people of Russia, the German and French models were not relevant. The Bolsheviks were for a party that would work towards a revolution in Russia. Lenin Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov was the leader of the Bolsheviks. After Marx and Engels, he is regarded as the

greatest leader of the socialist movement in Russia. He devoted himself to making the Bolshevik party a instrument of revolution in Russia. Socialist Revolutionary Party was another party of the workers that voiced the demands of the Russian peasants. The Czar had hoped to annex Constantinople and the Straits of the Dardanelles. The Germans were able to badly defeat the Russians. Russians had lost around 1,7 million soldiers. The Czar was simply incapable of leading a modern war against Germany. He was completely dependent on his wife who in turn was dominated by Rasputin, a friend of the Royals. Corruption was widely rampant. There was acute shortage of bread. The soldiers were as dissatisfied as the civilians. Conditions were ripe for the overthrow of the existing government. Lenin had set two fundamental conditions for the success of a revolution. Russia in was ready for a revolution on both these counts. February Revolution—Events and Effects: Hence the name February Revolution, the incident however relates to March 12, There was acute shortage of food in Russia. A demonstration was organized by working class women. The workers joined the protestors and struck work. Troops were ordered to crush the rioters. But the troops instead of putting down the rioters joined the strikers. The soldiers and the striking workers together formed a Soviet at the city of Petrograd. The Czar ordered the dissolution of the Duma but the Duma refused to carry out the orders of the Czar. Instead it voted to establish a provisional government. Czar Nicholas II gave up his throne. On March 15, the monarchy that had ruled for over three hundred years came to an end. The people had four fold demands: The three parties that had joined together to overthrow the Czar were led by Kerensky, Prince Lvoff and Paul Milyukoff. Kerensky was a revolutionary socialist while Prince Lvoff represented the liberal minded businessmen and land owners. Paul Milyukoff acted as the Foreign Minister. Those exiled to Siberia were allowed to return. Civil liberties were restored. Finland was recognized as an independent unit within the Russian federation. Estonia was granted autonomy while complete independence was granted to Poland. The people of Russia were not satisfied with these measures. The provisional government did not last long. It collapsed on November 7, October Revolution-Events and Effects:

Chapter 4 : Socialism in Europe and the Russian Revolution

The Russian revolution of 7 November , one hundred years ago today, was a profound political upheaval which put in power political leaders resolved to remove poverty, exploitation, unemployment, economic chaos, and war from Russia and the rest of the world.

Conscription swept up the unwilling across Russia. The vast demand for factory production of war supplies and workers caused many more labor riots and strikes. Conscription stripped skilled workers from the cities, who had to be replaced with unskilled peasants, and then, when famine began to hit due to the poor railway system, workers abandoned the cities in droves seeking food. Finally, the soldiers themselves, who suffered from a lack of equipment and protection from the elements, began to turn against the Tsar. This was mainly because, as the war progressed, many of the officers who were loyal to the Tsar were killed, and were replaced by discontented conscripts from the major cities, who had little loyalty to the Tsar. Political issues The Petrograd Soviet Assembly meeting in Many sections of the country had reason to be dissatisfied with the existing autocracy. Nicholas II was a deeply conservative ruler and maintained a strict authoritarian system. Individuals and society in general were expected to show self-restraint, devotion to community, deference to the social hierarchy and a sense of duty to the country. Religious faith helped bind all of these tenets together as a source of comfort and reassurance in the face of difficult conditions and as a means of political authority exercised through the clergy. Perhaps more than any other modern monarch, Nicholas II attached his fate and the future of his dynasty to the notion of the ruler as a saintly and infallible father to his people. With a firm belief that his power to rule was granted by Divine Right , Nicholas assumed that the Russian people were devoted to him with unquestioning loyalty. This ironclad belief rendered Nicholas unwilling to allow the progressive reforms that might have alleviated the suffering of the Russian people. Even after the revolution spurred the Tsar to decree limited civil rights and democratic representation, he worked to limit even these liberties in order to preserve the ultimate authority of the crown. Since the Age of Enlightenment , Russian intellectuals had promoted Enlightenment ideals such as the dignity of the individual and the rectitude of democratic representation. A growing opposition movement had begun to challenge the Romanov monarchy openly well before the turmoil of World War I. Workers responded to the massacre with a crippling general strike, forcing Nicholas to put forth the October Manifesto , which established a democratically elected parliament the State Duma. The Tsar undermined this promise of reform but a year later with Article 87 of the Fundamental State Laws , and subsequently dismissed the first two Dumas when they proved uncooperative. Unfulfilled hopes of democracy fueled revolutionary ideas and violent outbursts targeted at the monarchy. Nicholas also sought to foster a greater sense of national unity with a war against a common and ancient enemy. The Russian Empire was an agglomeration of diverse ethnicities that had shown significant signs of disunity in the years before the First World War. Nicholas believed in part that the shared peril and tribulation of a foreign war would mitigate the social unrest over the persistent issues of poverty, inequality, and inhuman working conditions. World War I The outbreak of war in August initially served to quiet the prevalent social and political protests, focusing hostilities against a common external enemy, but this patriotic unity did not last long. As the war dragged on inconclusively, war-weariness gradually took its toll. More important, though, was a deeper fragility: Hostility toward the Kaiser and the desire to defend their land and their lives did not necessarily translate into enthusiasm for the Tsar or the government. However, Austro-Hungarian forces allied to Germany were driven back deep into the Galicia region by the end of the year. Reports of corruption and incompetence in the Imperial government began to emerge, and the growing influence of Grigori Rasputin in the Imperial family was widely resented. In the eyes of Michael Lynch, a revisionist historian member of the School of Historical Studies at the University of Leicester who focuses on the role of the people, Rasputin was a "fatal disease" to the Tsarist regime. In , things took a critical turn for the worse when Germany shifted its focus of attack to the Eastern front. By the end of October , Russia had lost between 1,, and 1,, soldiers, with an additional 2,, prisoners of war and 1,, missing, all making up a total of nearly 5,, men. These staggering losses played a definite role in the mutinies and revolts that began to occur. In , reports of fraternizing with the

enemy started to circulate. Soldiers went hungry, and lacked shoes, munitions, and even weapons. Rampant discontent lowered morale, which was further undermined by a series of military defeats. Russian troops awaiting German attack in trenches. Casualty rates were the most vivid sign of this disaster. Already, by the end of 1914, only five months into the war, around 1 million Russian men had lost their lives and nearly 1.5 million were injured. Far sooner than expected, barely trained recruits had to be called up for active duty, a process repeated throughout the war as staggering losses continued to mount. The officer class also saw remarkable changes, especially within the lower echelons, which were quickly filled with soldiers rising up through the ranks. These men, usually of peasant or working-class backgrounds, were to play a large role in the politicization of the troops in 1917. The huge losses on the battlefields were not limited to men. The army quickly ran short of rifles and ammunition as well as uniforms and food, and, by mid-1915, men were being sent to the front bearing no arms. It was hoped that they could equip themselves with the arms that they recovered from fallen soldiers, of both sides, on the battlefields. The soldiers did not feel that they were being treated as valuable soldiers, or even as human beings, but rather as raw materials to be squandered for the purposes of the rich and powerful. By the spring of 1915, the army was in steady retreat, which was not always orderly; desertion, plunder and chaotic flight were not uncommon. By 1916, however, the situation had improved in many respects. Russian troops stopped retreating, and there were even some modest successes in the offensives that were staged that year, albeit at great loss of life. Also, the problem of shortages was largely solved by a major effort to increase domestic production. Nevertheless, by the end of 1916, morale among soldiers was even worse than it had been during the great retreat of 1915. The fortunes of war may have improved, but the fact of the war, still draining away strength and lives from the country and its many individuals and families, remained an oppressive inevitability. The crisis in morale as was argued by Allan Wildman, a leading historian of the Russian army in war and revolution "was rooted fundamentally in the feeling of utter despair that the slaughter would ever end and that anything resembling victory could be achieved. By the end of 1916, there were manifold signs that the economy was breaking down under the heightened strain of wartime demand. The main problems were food shortages and rising prices. Inflation dragged incomes down at an alarmingly rapid rate, and shortages made it difficult to buy even what one could afford. These shortages were a problem especially in the capital, St. Petersburg, where distance from supplies and poor transportation networks made matters particularly bad. Shops closed early or entirely for lack of bread, sugar, meat and other provisions, and lines lengthened massively for what remained. It became increasingly difficult both to afford and actually buy food. Not surprisingly, strikes increased steadily from the middle of 1916, and so did crime; but, for the most part, people suffered and endured, scouring the city for food. Working class women in St. Petersburg reportedly spent about forty hours a week in food lines, begging, turning to prostitution or crime, tearing down wooden fences to keep stoves heated for warmth, grumbling about the rich, and wondering when and how this would all come to an end. A report by the St. Petersburg branch of the security police, the Okhrana, in October 1916, warned bluntly of "the possibility in the near future of riots by the lower classes of the empire enraged by the burdens of daily existence. As discontent grew, the State Duma issued a warning to Nicholas in November 1916. It stated that, inevitably, a terrible disaster would grip the country unless a constitutional form of government was put in place. One year later, the Tsar and his entire family were executed. Demonstrations were organised to demand bread, and these were supported by the industrial working force who considered them a reason for continuing the strikes. The women workers marched to nearby factories bringing out over 50,000 workers on strike. Students, white-collar workers and teachers joined the workers in the streets and at public meetings. At least 100,000 troops were available in the capital, but most were either untrained or injured. Historian Ian Beckett suggests around 12,000 could be regarded as reliable, but even these proved reluctant to move in on the crowd, since it included so many women. It was for this reason that when, on 11 March [O.S.], the response of the Duma, urged on by the liberal bloc, was to establish a Temporary Committee to restore law and order; meanwhile, the socialist parties established the Petrograd Soviet to represent workers and soldiers. The remaining loyal units switched allegiance the next day. He did so on 15 March [O.S.]. But the Grand Duke realised that he would have little support as ruler, so he declined the crown on 16 March [O.S.]. The immediate effect of the February Revolution was a widespread atmosphere of elation and excitement in Petrograd. The center-left was well represented, and the

government was initially chaired by a liberal aristocrat, Prince Georgy Yevgenievich Lvov , a member of the Constitutional Democratic party KD. Between February and throughout October: In February , striking workers elected deputies to represent them and socialist activists began organizing a citywide council to unite these deputies with representatives of the socialist parties. On 27 February, socialist Duma deputies, mainly Mensheviks and Socialist Revolutionaries, took the lead in organizing a citywide council. The Petrograd Soviet met in the Tauride Palace , the same building where the new government was taking shape. The leaders of the Petrograd Soviet believed that they represented particular classes of the population, not the whole nation. They also believed Russia was not ready for socialism. So they saw their role as limited to pressuring hesitant "bourgeoisie" to rule and to introduce extensive democratic reforms in Russia the replacement of the monarchy by a republic, guaranteed civil rights, a democratic police and army, abolition of religious and ethnic discrimination, preparation of elections to a constituent assembly, and so on. The relationship between these two major powers was complex from the beginning and would shape the politics of Although the Soviet leadership initially refused to participate in the "bourgeois" Provisional Government, Alexander Kerensky , a young and popular lawyer and a member of the Socialist Revolutionary Party SRP , agreed to join the new cabinet, and became an increasingly central figure in the government, eventually taking leadership of the Provisional Government. As minister of war and later Prime Minister, Kerensky promoted freedom of speech, released thousands of political prisoners, did his very best to continue the war effort and even organised another offensive which, however, was no more successful than its predecessors. Nevertheless, Kerensky still faced several great challenges, highlighted by the soldiers, urban workers and peasants, who claimed that they had gained nothing by the revolution: Other political groups were trying to undermine him. Heavy military losses were being suffered on the front. The soldiers were dissatisfied and demoralised and had started to defect. On arrival back in Russia, these soldiers were either imprisoned or sent straight back into the front. There were great shortages of food and supplies, which was difficult to remedy because of the wartime economic conditions. The political group that proved most troublesome for Kerensky, and would eventually overthrow him, was the Bolshevik Party, led by Vladimir Lenin. Lenin had been living in exile in neutral Switzerland and, due to democratization of politics after the February Revolution, which legalized formerly banned political parties, he perceived the opportunity for his Marxist revolution. Although return to Russia had become a possibility, the war made it logistically difficult. Lenin and his associates, however, had to agree to travel to Russia in a sealed train: Germany would not take the chance that he would foment revolution in Germany. After passing through the front, he arrived in Petrograd in April

Chapter 5 : SparkNotes: The Russian Revolution (â€“): Overview

The Spread of the Russian Revolution Essays on Authors; Roger Pethybridge; Book. revolution Russia Russian Russian revolution. Bibliographic information.

The situations created new challenges and aspirations. With infusion of new ideologies, it led to the creation of political movements and parties. Explore what were the ideologies that spread and political parties that emerged, which played key roles in the Russian Revolution of Political Ideologies The 19th century ushered the development of new ideologies â€” various philosophies ending with â€”isms â€” both in Europe and Russia. Much of it developed from the Age of Enlightenment and by the Industrial Revolution. And in the case of Russia and Revolution of , towards reforms. Liberalism flourished in Russia during the age of Catherine the Great and her benevolent despotism. It took root from the ideas of the Enlightenment, like freedom of discussion, of assembly, of worship, of the press, etc. It became the foundation for political reform movements, such as the creation of a constitution and a legislature. These ideas propelled Europe to turbulence, and Russia also had a share. In , ideas of the Enlightenment and Liberalism urged the Decembrist Revolt. But other than revolts, it also inspired the reign of Tsar Alexander II. It also inspired many moderates in the court of Tsar Nicholas II as well as during the Revolution of Populism, on the other hand, developed in Russia during the middle of the 19th century and especially after the emancipation of the serfs in Populism took a socialist stand in the political spectrum, providing programs that embodied the aspirations of the peasantry, like land, better social services, and voice in the government. Nihilism also grew in Russia during midth century. It advocated the destruction of the establishment through a revolution no matter the cost â€” even morality itself. Some writers of this morbid movement advocated the creation of a political revolutionary elite to rule the state. Nihilism and Populism took some of its beliefs from Marxism. Since the start of social stratification, civilization transformed through various stages, from slavery to feudalism then capitalism thanks to greater need of profits. As the economic stage progressed, so too the intensification of differences in wealth and what Marx called the class struggle between the privilege and not. And in the stage of capitalism, the fight between the capitalist and the working class or the proletariat would result to a revolution, where the proletariat would rule and lead to the stage of communism. The last stage of communism promised equality and everlasting prosperity to the proletariat, making Marxism enticing and desirable to many. On the other side of the political spectrum, the motto Orthodoxy, Autocracy, and Nationality, summarized the tenants of conservatives. It originated from Tsar Nicholas I and had ever since been the slogan for Tsarist and conservatism. Extreme believers of this motto incited pogroms against Jews and the intensification of Russification of minorities in the peripheries of the Russian Empire during the 19th century and the early 20th century. Meanwhile, nationalism also grew out in many parts of the Empire. Many of the non-Russian minorities became aware of their own culture with the rise of nationalism in Europe, especially in Italy and Germany, as well as the growth of the Intelligentsias. Because of nationalism and opposition to Russification, movements for autonomy or even independence grew. Once again, the Intelligentsias in the region drove the rise of Jadidism. It changed traditional Islamic education of Madrassas to something broader in substance and appearances. From mere memorization of verses in the Koran, it promoted analysis, critical thinking, and pursuit of new sciences, such as geography, philosophy, and technology. It also used local language to prevent its disappearance under Russian rule. They also introduced new materials such as desk, chairs, and boards in schools. Jadidism was a moderate stand against the Russification of Russia. While nationalism grew, so as for internationalism. Various groups and ideas of internationalism developed in Russia alongside other political ideologies. Social Democrats who adhered to Marxist ideologies believed in the unity of various labor groups across Europe and the Russian Empire. This idea, however, promoted bloody event in the Caucasian region, which claimed the lives of thousands of non-Turks. Each ideology provided answers and means to different groups. These development in Russian politics allowed the diversity of ways as well as the aim for the reforms demanded in While there were parties emphasizing on the interest of the peasants, there were also for the working class. There were parties who took moderate and liberal stand but there were those who were radical

and revolutionary Conservative, Socialist, and Marxist groups. It also boomed in the peripheries of the Empire. These parties became the instrument of struggle for many to achieve reforms for the benefit of different groups based on the goals depending on the ideology they followed. Established in 1905, the party took its roots after peasants suffered from and famine exacerbated by falling earnings from exports caused by the introduction of the gold standards. They showed a great deal on the plight of the peasantry. They believed that the Bourgeoisie exploited the peasants for profits. The party then promoted the socialization of lands and placing production on communes. Besides populism and Marxism, nihilism also influenced the party. It used terrorist tactics to show their discontent and to gain attention for their cause. They orchestrated assassinations of high ranking officials, such as Interior Minister Vyacheslav von Plehve. Along with the Bolsheviks, they formed the most radical of the left wing parties. They also coordinated with other Social Democratic Parties within the Empire and outside to fulfill the idea of internationalist unity of all the proletariats without any regards to nationality. The founders of the party supposedly planned to establish the party in 1906. However, the Okhrana disrupted planned conference by arresting the participants. Only in 1907 when a Second Congress convened initially in Brussels but later to London - a city filled with liberality and away from the influence and surveillance of the Okhrana and the Tsar. The Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin, wanted to skip capitalism and proceed immediately to the stage of Communism. Lenin also fell under the influence of Nihilism when he promoted terrorism and criminal activities. He also took the idea of creating a government ruled by a revolutionary elite. The Mensheviks disagreed with Lenin. Led by Julius Martov and included the prominent writer and orator Leon Trotsky, the Menshevik took a moderate Marxist stand. They wanted to go to capitalism first before proceeding to socialism. They also differed in the form government. As Lenin believed in a revolutionary committee and elite, the Mensheviks wanted to establish a democratic form of government with elections based on universal suffrage. The Constitutional Democratic Party, with its members known as Kadets, emerged in 1905 after the issuing of the October Manifesto. It encompassed moderate liberals from the Intelligentsia class. Its foundation came as a result of the unity of two different liberal reformist groups: The Kadets aspired for the creation of a constitutional monarchy. However, they differed from other moderate liberals as they wanted a complete takeover of all lands and redistributing them to the peasants. On the other side of the political spectrum, in the extreme right or hardline conservatives, the Union of the Russian People better known for one of its arm groups the Black Hundreds. The Black Hundreds and the Union included powerful officials and supporters. The following of the group came from the landowners as well as nobles. Their strong nationalism and loyalty to the Tsar led them to support Russification of minorities and to commit pogroms or other kinds of violence against Jews and other non-Russian minorities. Along the Russian heartland, political parties also saw a rise in the late 19th century and the early 20th century. Like those in Russia, they embodied different agendas and aspiration. The rise of these parties in other parts of the Empire contributed to the spread of turbulence during the Revolution of 1905.

The Russian Revolution was a pair of revolutions in Russia in which dismantled the Tsarist autocracy and led to the rise of the Soviet Union. The Russian Empire collapsed with the abdication of Emperor Nicholas II and the old regime was replaced by a provisional government during the first revolution of February (March in the.

Outside support for the Whites was no threat to the Bolsheviks, who used the intervention as propaganda claiming the Whites were assisting foreign powers in invading Russia. The Bolsheviks eventually won the civil war, gaining greater support and acceptance from the population, and were better organized for the civil war. The Bolsheviks quickly mobilized to fight. Leon Trotsky became the new commissar of war, and his Red Army of 5 million defeated White armies in and put down the Nationalist uprisings in . The country suffered one million combat casualties, several million deaths from hunger and disease caused by the civil war, , executions, and permanent hatreds among ethnic minorities engendered by the barbarism of the war that brutalized society under the new Bolshevik regime. The civil war shaped Bolshevik economic "socialism. The Bolsheviks took control of large scale industry, small-scale private economic activity, banking and all major capital and let agriculture continue. These measures were responses to economic conditions beyond control. Radical Bolsheviks believed war communism would replace the capitalist system that collapsed in . The masses of urban workers supporting the Bolshevik revolution employed in major industries diminished, leaving fewer workers remaining on the job. War communism was devastating to agriculture. Peasants seized and redistributed noble lands and held small plots of land under twenty acres. Grain requisitioning and outlawing all private trade in grain brought famine in that claimed 5 million lives. Urban workers and soldiers grew discontented with the Bolsheviks. The promise of socialism and workers control turned out a military dictatorship. Strikes and protests broke out in , but the Bolsheviks subdued the "popular revolts. The Bolsheviks abandoned war communism due to an economic and political war-ravaged economy. The state continued to own all major industry and monetary concerns. Lenin called it the "commanding heights" of the economic system. People were allowed to own private property, trade freely, and farm their land for their own benefit. Fixed taxes were imposed on the peasantry, and what peasants grew beyond the tax requirement was theirs. Peasants were encouraged to "enrich themselves" so that their taxes could support urban industrialization and the working class. To Lenin the NEP was "one step backward in order to take two steps forward. Manufactured goods had to be produced cheaply enough to benefit urban markets. Hence, there were shortages in grain deliveries to cities. A program of social and economic transformation began designed to modernize the nation. The "revolution from above" was the most rapid social economic transformation to modernization in any nation. Stalin was the undisputed dictator of the USSR. Rejecting the priesthood, he participated in revolutionary activity and spent years in Siberian exile before the Russian Revolution. He was a Bolshevik party member during the Russian Revolution. He sidelined his Bolshevik party opponents, Trotsky and Bukharin, who supported the Leninist principle of collective leadership within the top ruling circle, by isolating and expelling them successively. He began forced industrialization and total collectivization of agriculture. In Stalin ordered officials to begin requisitioning grains in the Urals and Siberia. He soon applied the revival of war communism to the entire country. In he announced complete collectivization. Peasants gave up private farmlands and joined collective farms, supported by the state, where peasants worked as employees. Large scale rebellions required military intervention and artillery. Peasants resisted forced collectivization by slaughtering their livestock instead of turning it over to the farms. Stalin launched an attack on kulaks, well to do farmers, meaning "tight-fisted -ones. Their land and possessions were distributed to collective farms or to local officials bent on the "liquidation process of kulaks as a class. Famine spread senselessly across the southern region, the most productive farming region in Russia. The only famine in modern times to occur without natural causes cost 3 to 5 million lives. Famine stricken regions were sealed off and allowed people to starve, while the Bolsheviks had grain reserves in other parts of the country that were sold overseas for currency and stockpiled in case of war. Resistance to Soviet power never happened again, yet the state was forced to dispense small private lots o! Steel producing factory towns rivaled anything

the West had built.

Chapter 7 : Russian Revolution - Wikipedia

First, the February Russian Revolution toppled the Russian monarchy and established a Provisional Government. Then in October, a second Russian Revolution placed the Bolsheviks as the leaders of Russia, resulting in the creation of the world's first communist country.

Many people still continue to think and to talk of the Russian Revolution and of the Bolsheviks as if the two were identical. In other words, as if nothing had happened in Russia during the last three years. The great need of the present is to make clear the difference between that grand social event and the ruling, political party a difference as fundamental as it has been fatal to the Revolution. The following pages present a clear and historically true picture of the ideals that inspired the Revolution, and of the role played by the Bolsheviks. I consider this brochure a very able, and for popular reading sufficiently exhaustive, analysis of the Russian Revolution and of the causes of its undoing. It may be regarded as an authoritative expression of the Anarchist movement of Russia, for it was written by Anarchists of different schools, some of them participants and all of them well versed in the events of the Revolution. It is the joint work of four well known Moscow Anarchists. Their names cannot be mentioned at present, in view of the fact that some of them are still in Russia. Nor are their names important in this connection: I hereby accept full responsibility for the contents of the following pages, as I am also responsible for the rendering of the Russian manuscript into English. This brochure was written in Moscow, in June, , and secretly forwarded to Rocker. The fact of the authorship is as stated above. Russia but little resembled a country in which, according to Marx, "the concentration of the means of production and the socialisation of the tools of labor reached the point where they can no longer be contained within their capitalistic shell. It burst at a stage of low technical and industrial development, when centralisation of the means of production had made little progress. Russia was a country with a badly organised system of transportation, with a weak bourgeoisie and weak proletariat, but with a numerically strong and socially important peasant population. In short, it was a country in which, apparently, there could be no talk of irreconcilable antagonism between the grown industrial labor forces and a fully ripened capitalist system. But the combination of circumstances involved, particularly for Russia, an exceptional state of affairs which. Moreover, revolutionary Russia already had the benefit of a great experience the experience of , when the Tsarist autocracy succeeded in crushing the revolution for the very reason that the latter strove to be exclusively political and therefore could neither arouse the peasants nor inspire even a considerable part of the proletariat. The world war, by exposing the complete bankruptcy of constitutional government, served to prepare and quicken the greatest movement of the people a movement which, by virtue of its very essence, could develop only into a social revolution. Anticipating the measures of the revolutionary government, often even in defiance of the latter, the revolutionary masses by their own initiative began, long before the October days, to put in practice their Social ideals. They took possession of the land, the factories, mines, mills, and the tools of production. They got rid of the more hated and dangerous representatives of government and authority. In their grand revolutionary outburst they destroyed every form of political and economic oppression. In the depths of Russia the Social Revolution was raging, when the October change took place in the capitals of Petrograd and Moscow. The Communist Party, which was aiming at the dictatorship, from the very beginning correctly judged the situation. Throwing overboard the democratic planks of its platform, it energetically proclaimed the slogans of the Social Revolution, in order to gain control of the movement of the masses. In the course of the development of the Revolution, the Bolsheviks gave concrete form to certain fundamental principles and methods of Anarchist Communism, as for instance: Furthermore, the Communist Party exploited all the popular demands of the hour: This, as we shall see later, base demagoguery proved of tremendous psychologic effect in hastening and intensifying the revolutionary process. But if it was easy, as Lenin said, to begin the Revolution, its further development and strengthening were to take place amid difficult surroundings. And, indeed, the whole subsequent external history of Russia is full of difficulties in consequence of the necessity of fighting ceaselessly, often on several fronts at once, against the agents of world imperialism, and even against common adventurers. Only after the final defeat of the Wrangel forces

was at last put an end to direct armed interference in the affairs of Russia. No less difficult and complex, even chaotic, was the internal situation of the country. It must also be mentioned that there were still other specific problems with which the revolutionary government. Namely, the deep-seated contradictions and even antagonisms between the interests and aspirations of the various social groups of the country. The most important of these were: Notwithstanding their relative cultural and technical backwardness, these elements favored the application of true communist methods; b the numerically powerful peasant population, whose economic attitude was decisive, particularly at a time of industrial prostration and blockade. This class looked with distrust and even hatred upon all attempts of the Communist government to play the guardian and control their economic activities; c the very large and psychologically influential group in the sense of forming public opinion, even if of a panicky character of the common citizenry: Naturally, each of these groups looked upon the Revolution with their own eyes, judged its further possibilities from their own point of view, and in their own peculiar manner reacted on the measures of the revolutionary government. All these antagonisms rending the country and, frequently clashing in bloody strife, inevitably tended to nourish counter-revolution not mere conspiracy or rebellion, but the terrific convulsion of a country experiencing two world cataclysms at once: Thus the political party that assumed the role of dictator was faced by problems of unprecedented difficulty. The Communist Party did not shrink from their solution, and in that is its immortal historic merit. Notwithstanding the many deep antagonisms, in spite of the apparent absence of the conditions necessary for a social revolution, it was too late to discuss about driving back the uninvited guest, and await a new, more favorable opportunity. Only blind, dogmatic or positively reactionary elements could imagine that the Revolution could have been "made differently". The Revolution was not and could not be a mechanical product of the abstract human will. It was an organic process burst with elemental force from the very needs of the people, from the complex combination of circumstances that determined their existence. To return to tile old political and economical regime, that of industrial feudalism, was out of the question. It was impossible, and first of all because it were the denial of the greatest conquest of the Revolution: It was also impossible because of the fundamental principles of the new national economy: It was apparent that the only right and wholesome solution which could save the Revolution from its external enemies, free it from the inner strife which rent the country, broaden and deepen the Revolution itself lay in the direct, creative initiative of the toiling masses. Only they who had for centuries borne the heaviest burdens could through conscious systematic effort find the road to a new, regenerated society. And that was to be the fitting culmination of their unexampled revolutionary zeal. Lenin himself, replying in one of his works to the question, "How is the discipline of the revolutionary party of the proletariat to be maintained, how to be strengthened? For years trained in their peculiar "underground" social philosophy, in which fervent faith in the Social Revolution was in some odd manner blended with their no less fanatical faith in State centralisation, the Bolsheviki devised an entirely new science of tactics. It is to the effect that the preparation and consummation of the Social Revolution necessitates the organisation of a special conspirative staff, consisting exclusively of the theoreticians of the movement, vested with dictatorial powers for the purpose of clarifying and perfecting beforehand, by their own conspirative means, the class-consciousness of the proletariat. Thus the fundamental characteristic of Bolshevik psychology was distrust of the masses, of the proletariat. Left to themselves, the masses according to Bolshevik conviction could rise only to the consciousness of the petty reformer. The road that leads to the direct creativeness of the masses was thus forsaken. According to Bolshevik conception, the masses are "dark", mentally crippled by ages of slavery. The masses, according to the old but still correct maxim of Rousseau, must be made free by force. To educate them to liberty one must not hesitate to use compulsion and violence. This cynical doctrinairism, this fanatical quasi-philosophy flavored with Communist pedagogic sauce and aided by the pressure of "canonized officials" expression of the prominent Communist and labor leader Shliapnikov represent the actual methods of the Party dictatorship, which retains the trade mark of the "dictatorship of the proletariat" merely for gala affairs at home and for advertisement abroad. Already in the first days of the Revolution, early in , when Lenin first announced to the world his socio-economic program in its minutest details, the roles of the people and of the Party in the revolutionary reconstruction were strictly separated and definitely assigned. On the one hand, an absolutely submissive

socialist herd, a dumb people; on the other, the omniscient, all-controlling Political Party. What is inscrutable to all, is an open book to It. In the land there may be only one indisputable source of truth the State. But the Communist State is, in essence and practice, the dictatorship of the Party only, or more correctly the dictatorship of its Central Committee. Each and every citizen must be, first and foremost, the servant of the State, its obedient functionary, unquestioningly executing the will of his master if not as a matter of conscience, then out of fear. All free initiative, of the individual as well as of the collectivity, is eliminated from the vision of the State. All expressions of State activity must be stamped with the approving seal of Communism as interpreted by the faction in power. Everything else is considered superfluous, useless and dangerous. This system of barrack absolutism, supported by bullet and bayonet, has subjugated every phase of life, stopping neither before the destruction of the best cultural values, nor before the most stupendous squandering of human life and energy. By what means, then, did the Bolshevik dictatorship expect to use to best advantage the resources of the Social Revolution? What road did it choose, not merely to subject the masses mechanically to its authority, but also to educate them, to inspire them with advanced socialist ideas, and to stimulate them exhausted as they were by long war, economic ruin and police rule with new faith in socialist reconstruction? What has it substituted in place of the revolutionary enthusiasm which burned so intensely before? Two things, which comprised the beginning and the end of the constructive activities of the Bolshevik dictatorship: It is the doctrine of a zigzag political road: Scorning the "chuckling and giggling of the lackeys of the bourgeoisie", Lenin calls upon the laboring masses to "steer down the wind", to retreat, to wait and watch, to go slowly, and so on. Not the fiery spirit of Communism, but sober commercialism which can successfully bargain for a few crumbs of socialism from the still unconquered bourgeoisie that is the "need of the hour". To encourage and develop the virtues of the trader, the spirit of parsimony and profitable dealing: In the pamphlet referred to, Lenin scouts all stereotyped morality and compares the tactics of his Party with those of a military commander, ignoring the gulf which divides them and their aims. All means are good that lead to victory. There are compromises and compromises. To prove his assertion, Lenin enumerates in great detail various cases of bargaining with bourgeoisie parties, beginning with and up to the adoption by the Bolsheviki, at the time of the October Revolution, "of the agrarian platform of the socialists- revolutionists, in toto, without change". Compromise and bargaining, for which the Bolsheviki so unmercifully and justly denounced and stigmatised all the other factions of State Socialism, now become the Bethlehem Star pointing the way to revolutionary reconstruction. Naturally, such methods could not fail to lead, with fatal inevitability, into the swamp of conformation, hypocrisy and unprincipledness. The Brest Litovsk peace; the agrarian policy with its spasmodic changes from the poorest class of peasantry to the peasant exploiter; the perplexed, panicky attitude to the labor unions; the fitful Policy in regard to technical experts, with its theoretical and practical swaying from collegiate management of industries to "one-man power"; nervous appeals to West European capitalism, over the heads of the home and foreign proletariat; filially, the latest inconsistent and zigzaggy, but incontrovertible and assured restoration of the abolished bourgeoisie such is the new system of Bolshevism. A system of unprecedented shamelessness practiced on a monster scale, a policy of outrageous double-dealing in which the left hand of the Communist Party is beginning consciously to ignore, and even to deny, on principle, what its right hand is doing; when, for instance, it is proclaimed, on the one hand, that the most important problem of the moment is the struggle against the small bourgeoisie and, incidentally, in stereotyped Bolshevik phraseology, against anarchist elements, while on the other hand are issued new decrees creating the techno-economic and psychological conditions necessary for the restoration and strengthening of that same bourgeoisie that is the Bolshevik policy which will forever stand as a monument of the thoroughly false, thoroughly contradictory, concerned only in self-preservation, opportunistic policy of the Communist Party dictatorship. However loud that dictatorship may shout about the great success of its new political methods, it remains the most tragic fact that the worst and most incurable wounds of the Revolution were received at the hands of the Communist dictatorship itself. An inevitable consequence of Communist Party rule was also the other "method" of Bolshevik management: Long ago Engels said that the proletariat does not need the State to protect liberty, but needs it for the purpose of crushing its opponents; and that when it will be possible to speak of liberty, there will be no government. The Bolsheviki adopted this maxim not only as their

socio-political axiom during the "transition period", but gave it universal application. Terrorism always was and still remains the ultima ratio of government alarmed for its existence. Terrorism is tempting with its tremendous possibilities. It offers a mechanical solution, as it were, in hopeless situations. Psychologically it is explained as a matter of self-defense, as the necessity of throwing off responsibility the better to strike the enemy. But the principles of terrorism unavoidably rebound to the fatal injury of liberty and revolution. Absolute power corrupts and defeats its partisans no less than its opponents. A people that knows not liberty becomes accustomed to dictatorship:

Overview. The Russian Revolution took place in , during the final phase of World War calendrierdelascience.com removed Russia from the war and brought about the transformation of the Russian Empire into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), replacing Russia's traditional monarchy with the world's first Communist state.

The Russian Revolution The Russian Revolution was the most important revolution of the 20th century, and was one of the most important revolutions in the history of the world. I would place it as the third most important revolution after the American and French Revolutions. Like the American Revolution, and most other revolutions, the Russian Revolution was a revolution against economic oppression. In addition to this, the Russian Revolution started out as a revolution for democracy. So, if the Russian Revolution started out being for democracy then what happened? Basically Russia came into the 20th century as an extremely oppressed country that was ruled by the Czars. Russia was a feudal dictatorship. The people of Russia were horribly oppressed, poor, starving, cold, and without any real direction or hope. Essentially, Russia had never undergone the liberal revolutions that took place in Europe starting with the French Revolution , which had established liberal democracy and capitalism there. Russia remained as one of the last vestiges of Medieval European society. Then Russia went into a stage of anarchy and turmoil, out of which the Bolshevik Party of Lenin emerged as the dominant political force. Lenin and many of the Bolsheviks were not in Russia at the time of the Revolution. Some of them were from Russia originally but had left, while some were not from Russia at all. They were all Marxists and socialist revolutionaries that had been living in Europe studying science, economics, sociology, history, etc. The Bolsheviks did not cause the overthrow of the Russian government; they came in after the overthrow with the plan of putting Marxist revolutionary theory to practice. Their plan from the beginning was to develop Russia in such a way as to spread social revolution throughout Europe and eventually the world. The biggest political opponents of the Bolsheviks in Russia, aside from the Czars, were the Mensheviks and Social Democrats, both Marxist groups who also supported Socialism, but were less militant. What is important to understand about the Russian Revolution is that some of the biggest opponents to the Bolsheviks were other Communists. The "brand" of Communism that was promoted by the Bolsheviks was by no means representative of all Communist ideology. Bolshevik ideology was the least tolerant and most revolutionary form of Marxist ideology. Soviets were legislative assemblies of publicly elected officials that were to administer the activities of Workers, Peasants, and Soldiers. The Constitution of the U. They exposed all of the secret treaties that the Russian Czars had made with various countries as well as other information that the Russian government had acquired through its own intelligence operations. They did this because they felt that humanity should progress through honesty and they wanted to expose the corruption of other capitalists countries as well as of the old Russian regime. These actions only added to the international opposition to the situation in Russia. After World War I was over 21 countries from all over the world, including America, began supporting a counter-revolution in Russia in an attempt to stop the Bolshevik revolution. The Red Army was headed the by Leon Trotsky of the Bolsheviks and the White Army was headed by the Czars and was supported by the international community. This conflict led to an increasing degree of stress on the Reds and caused the Reds to become more dictatorial and militant as a defensive measure. The path that they took during the Civil War was known as "War Communism. Interestingly, the American forces in Russia suffered more attacks and problems from the White Army than from the Red Army. The American commanders in the field reported that the Czarist reign of terror was far more horrific and disturbing than the actions of the Reds. The American forces also discovered that the vast majority of Russians sympathized with the Bolsheviks and supported the revolution. In the end, the American troops were brought home without any fanfare, and the ordeal was considered one of the most ill-conceived interventions in American history up to that time. Major General Graves, who lead the expedition, was accused of being a "Red sympathizer" and was generally disgraced after the event. For more on this see: One was that Russia was incapable of undergoing a socialist revolution and that according to Marxist theory Russia would first have to establish a capitalist system to develop its economy. During the time that Russia was

developing its capitalist economy it was intended that socialist revolutionaries should attempt to promote socialist revolution in developed countries, particularly in developed Europe such as France and Germany, and America as well, which would all be supported by the Russia government. The opposing view to this was that a socialist state should be forced upon Russia and that Russia should lead the world by example in the matter of socialism. Stalin was a major supporter of this idea of "national socialism", which was contrary to the views of many of the Bolsheviks, including Lenin and Trotsky, two of the major figures in the Bolshevik Revolution. The Marxist theory of socialism stated that socialism would not be possible to support in a single country, but that socialism required a global revolution so that all countries could work together through the use of shared resources and shared labor in order to provide enough goods to satisfy the demands of all people. The revolutionaries were genuine in their desire to attempt to bring about this condition, which is why they made certain that Russia was to have a strong policy against imperialism. They felt that in order for a true social revolution to take place it would have to be won through education of the people not through the force of war. In Lenin was shot by a female Russian Socialist, Fanya Kaplan, who believed that Lenin had betrayed the Revolution and was not promoting Socialism. Lenin was highly influential in the development of the NEP, which was largely a concession to capitalists and property owners. The NEP allowed for the development of a free-market system and privatized production. Stalin began removing his political opponents from the soviets and took on an authoritarian position. Lenin tried to get the cooperation of Leon Trotsky to oppose Stalin but it was too late, Stalin had already consolidated too much power. Prior to his death, Lenin not only warned against the leadership of Stalin, but he also urged that the Soviet system become more open and democratic. I think that the fundamental factor in the matter of stabilityâ€”from this point of viewâ€”is such members of the Central Committee as Stalin and Trotsky. The relation between them constitutes, in my opinion, a big half of the danger of that split, which might be avoided, and the avoidance of which might be promoted, in my opinion, by raising the number of members of the Central Committee to fifty or one hundred. Comrade Stalin, having become General Secretary, has concentrated an enormous power in his hands; and I am not sure that he always knows how to use that power with sufficient caution. These two qualities of the two most able leaders of the present Central Committee might, quite innocently, lead to a split; if our party does not take measures to prevent it, a split might arise unexpectedly. That is why I suggest that the comrades think about a way of removing Stalin from that post and appointing another man in his stead who in all other respects differs from Comrade Stalin in having only one advantage, namely, that of being more tolerant, more loyal, more polite and more considerate to the comrades, less capricious, etc. This circumstance may appear to be a negligible detail. But I think that from the standpoint of safeguards against a split and from the standpoint of what I wrote above about the relationship between Stalin and Trotsky it is not a [minor] detail, but it is a detail which can assume decisive importance. By the NEP was officially ended, and forced collectivization began. At the congressional sessions members voted for who they wanted to head the party by voting against who they did not want. Stalin received the most votes against him. However, Stalin had the loyalty of those who were counting the ballots and Stalin had the ballots against him destroyed. It was Sergei Kirov who actually won the election. Stalin then proceeded to have Kirov and most of the other members of the 17th congress who were all Communists murdered. After Stalin took power most of the Marxist revolutionaries were either imprisoned in Siberia, executed, exiled, or they fled the country. Many of the socialist revolutionaries that fled Russia when Stalin took power traveled to other countries and organized Communist political parties in an effort to spread social revolution. Stalin eventually had Leon Trotsky assassinated while Trotsky was in hiding in Mexico. All of this is why Stalin is considered by many to be a traitor to the Socialist Revolution. Most Marxists argue that the actions of Stalin in no way reflected the ideals of Marxism, Leninism, or Communism. Though Stalin was not considered to be a particularly strong thinker in terms of Marxist ideology, he was a very intelligent man in the more traditional sense. He knew how to accomplish his goals and he proved to be a competent military strategist. He was, however, a brutal tyrant. The only people really aware of all of the details of this at the time were the high level members of the Bolshevik Party. This is not to say that Stalin did not have an understanding of Marxism or that he was not a student of Marxism, he was. Stalin had a firm grasp of the principles of Marxism, but his actions were strongly opposed by other Marxists as not

representative of the path of Socialism. There is also the matter of religion in relation to the Russian Revolution. If you read the Russian Constitution of you will notice that religious liberty is distinctly protected by the Constitution. Where then does all this talk about Communism and atheism come from? Many of the Russian revolutionaries were atheists, as was Karl Marx, but religious tolerance was felt to be important by most of the revolutionaries. During the Russian Revolution, much like the French Revolution, the churches and clergy sided with the Czars of Russia. This is because there was an established relationship between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Czars, much like there was a relationship between the Catholic Church and the French Crown prior to the French Revolution. Because of this, the church was opposing the revolution and working against the peasants and oppressed masses in their struggle to better their own condition. Out of this grew a backlash against religious leaders during the revolution. However, once Stalin came to power and had stabilized the country he began to promote the growth of the Russian Orthodox Church, but he opposed all other forms of religion and only allowed existence of the Russian Orthodox Church to support Russian nationalism. For more on religion in revolutionary Russia see: The Russian revolution was a reaction to the abuses and terror that was waged against the population by the Czars, a reaction to the horrible conditions of World War I, in which over a million Russians lost their lives, and a reaction to a country that had no stability or history of progressive development. Russia has one of the most brutal histories of any country in the world, and that history was very much a part of the nature of the Russian Revolution and the development of Stalinism as well. I can only afford to give a brief overview of the Russian Revolution here, but I strongly encourage anyone who is not familiar with the Russian Revolution to learn more about it. These are some excellent internet resources on the Russian Revolution: [International Socialism or State Capitalism?](#):

Chapter 9 : The Spread of Marxism & Its Influence on Russian Communism | The Classroom

The Russian Revolution's influence extended to nearly every major geopolitical event of the twentieth century, including both World Wars, the Cold War, Korea and Vietnam, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and wars between Israel and Arab states.

With Dates of Real Life Mr. This was the same as Czar Nicholas, who ruled Russia. He lived in luxury while his people starved to death. He told them about rising up against man, and he told them about his idea, Animalism. They crowded together, kicked down the fence, went to the food supply, and rebelled. This represents the October Revolution of They went out and wrote the Seven Commandments on the barn wall outside. Though nobody was technically named leader, the pigs naturally emerged as in charge. This happened after the October Revolution. The Bolsheviks emerged as the leaders after the revolution. After the rebellion, the race for power was between Snowball and Napoleon. After Lenin died, the struggle for power was between Trotsky and Stalin. His exile was signified when Snowball was chased off of Animal Farm. So Napoleon rounded up all the animals and forced certain animals to confess to terrible crimes. Then they were killed. But later, Napoleon discovered that the bills used to pay him were forgeries! This signifies when Hitler backstabbed Stalin. Once they were full-grown, they were vicious, blood-thirsty animals. Because Joseph Stalin had concentrated so ignorantly on weapons and industrial power, crops all over were making way for factories and industrial power. People all across Russia were starving. What kind of paper do you want to use?