

World History: Connection to Today

Chapter 19

The French Revolution And Napoleon (1789–1815)

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Section 1: On the Eve of Revolution

Section 2: Creating a New France

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On the Eve of the Revolution



- What was the social structure of the old regime?
- Why did France face economic troubles in 1789?
- Why did Louis XVI call the Estates General?
- Why did a Paris crowd storm the Bastille?



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The Old Regime



Under the *ancien regime*, or old order, everyone in France belonged to one of three classes.

FIRST ESTATE	SECOND ESTATE	THIRD ESTATE
<p>The CLERGY</p> <p>Enjoyed enormous wealth and privilege</p> <p>Owned about 10 percent of land, collected tithes, and paid no taxes</p> <p>Provided some social services</p>	<p>The NOBILITY</p> <p>Owned land but had little money income</p> <p>Hated absolutism</p> <p>Feared losing traditional privilege, especially exemption from taxes</p>	<p>The BOURGEOISIE and PEASANTS</p> <p>Peasants were 90 percent of French population</p> <p>Resented privilege of first and second estates</p> <p>Burdened by taxes</p> <p>Many earned miserable wages and faced hunger and even starvation</p>



Economic Trouble



- Economic woes added to the social unrest and heightened tension
- For years, the French government had engaged in **deficit spending** that is, a government's spending more money than it takes in.
- Louis XIV had left France deeply in debt. Recent wars, a general rise in costs in the 1700s, and the lavish court were incredibly costly. To bridge the gap between income and expenses, the government borrowed more and more money.
- Bad harvests in the late 1780s sent food prices soaring and brought hunger to poorer peasants and city dwellers.



The Meeting of the Estates General



France's economic crisis worsened, bread riots spread, and nobles denounced royal tyranny.

Louis XVI summoned the Estates General.

The Third Estate declared themselves to be the National Assembly and invited delegates from the other two estates to help them write a constitution.

When reform-minded clergy and nobles joined the Assembly, Louis grudgingly accepted it.



Storming of the Bastille



On July 14, 1789, more than 800 Parisians gathered outside the Bastille, a medieval fortress used as a prison. They demanded weapons believed to be stored there.

The commander of the Bastille opened fire on the crowd, and a battle ensued, in which many people were killed.

The storming of the Bastille quickly became a symbol of the French Revolution, a blow to tyranny. Today, the French still celebrate July 14 as Bastille Day.



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Section 1 Assessment



Which class made up 98 percent of the population of France in 1789?

- a) the First Estate
- b) the Second Estate
- c) the Third Estate
- d) the First and Second estates combined

Which of the following was *not* a cause of France's economic troubles?

- a) deficit spending
- b) bad harvests
- c) overspending by Louis XIV
- d) increased wages for peasant workers

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Section 1 Assessment



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Creating a New France



- How did popular revolts contribute to the French Revolution?
- What moderate reforms did the National Assembly enact?
- How did foreign reaction to the revolution help lead to war?



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Popular Revolts



The political crisis of 1789 coincided with the worst famine in memory. Starving peasants roamed the countryside or flocked to the towns. Even people with jobs had to spend most of their income on bread.

- In such desperate times, rumors ran wild and set off what was later called the “Great Fear.”
- A radical group called the Paris Commune replaced the royalist government of Paris. Various factions, or small groups, competed for power.
- In the countryside, peasants attacked the homes and manors of nobles.



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Reforms of the National Assembly



REFORMS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Political

- Proclaimed all male citizens equal before the law
- Limited the power of the monarchy
- Established the Legislative Assembly to make laws
- Granted all tax-paying male citizens the right to elect members of the Legislative Assembly

Social and Economic

- Abolished special privileges of the nobility
- Announced an end to feudalism
- Called for taxes to be levied according to ability to pay
- Abolished guilds and forbade labor unions
- Compensated nobles for lands seized by peasants

Religious

- Declared freedom of religion
- Took over and sold Church lands
- Placed the French Catholic Church under control of the state
- Provided that bishops and priests be elected and receive government salaries



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Foreign Reaction



Events in France stirred debate all over Europe.

- Supporters of the Enlightenment applauded the reforms of the National Assembly. They saw the French experiment as the dawn of a new age for justice and equality.
- European rulers and nobles denounced the French Revolution.
- In 1791, the monarchs of Austria and Prussia issued the Declaration of Pilnitz, in which they threatened to intervene to protect the French monarchy.
- Revolutionaries in France took the threat seriously and prepared for war.



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Section 2 Assessment



Which of the following was a reform of the National Assembly?

- a) compensating peasants for lands seized by the Church
- b) calling for taxes to be levied according to Estate
- c) supporting labor unions
- d) ending feudalism

Who issued the Declaration of Pilnitz?

- a) the peasants of France
- b) the monarchs of Austria and Prussia
- c) the Second Estate
- d) revolutionaries in France

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Section 2 Assessment



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Radical Days



- Why did radicals abolish the monarchy?
- How did the excesses of the Convention lead to the Directory?
- What impact did the revolution have on women and daily life?



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Radicals and the Convention



Radicals took control of the Assembly and called for the election of a new legislative body called the National Convention. They granted **suffrage**, or the right to vote, to all male citizens, not just to property owners.

The convention set out to erase all traces of the old order. It voted to abolish the monarchy and declare France a republic. The Jacobins, who controlled the Convention, seized lands of nobles and abolished titles of nobility.



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From Convention to Directory



By early 1793, France was at war with most of Europe. Within France, peasants and workers were in rebellion against the government. The Convention itself was bitterly divided.

To deal with threats to France, the Convention created the Committee of Public Safety.

The Reign of Terror lasted from about July 1793 to July 1794. Under the guidance of Maximilien Robespierre, some 40,000 people were executed at the guillotine.

In reaction to the Reign of Terror, moderates created another constitution, the third since 1789. The Constitution of 1795 set up a five-man Directory and a two-house legislature.



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Women in the Revolution



Women of all classes participated in the revolution from the very beginning.

Many women were very disappointed when the Declaration of the Rights of Man did not grant equal citizenship to women.

Women did gain some rights for a time. However, these did not last long after Napoleon gained power.



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Changes in Daily Life



By 1799, the French Revolution had dramatically changed France. It had dislodged the old social order, overthrown the monarchy, and brought the Church under state control. Many changes occurred in everyday life:

- New symbols, such as the tricolor, emerged.
- Titles were eliminated.
- Elaborate fashions were replaced by practical clothes.
- People developed a strong sense of national identity.
- **Nationalism**, a strong feeling of pride and devotion to one's country, spread throughout France.



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Section 3 Assessment



In reaction to the Reign of Terror, moderates set up the

- a) Convention.
- b) Directory.
- c) National Assembly.
- d) "Great Fear."

Which of the following was true of women in the French Revolution?

- a) The rights of women increased under Napoleon.
- b) Women were granted equal citizenship under the Declaration of the Rights of Man.
- c) Peasant women were confined to the home and did not participate at all.
- d) Women of all classes participated from the very beginning.

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Section 3 Assessment



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The Age of Napoleon Begins



- How did Napoleon rise to power?
- How were revolutionary reforms changed under Napoleon?
- How did Napoleon build an empire in Europe?



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The Rise of Napoleon



- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1769 | Born on island of Corsica |
| 1793 | Helps capture Toulon from British; promoted to brigadier general |
| 1795 | Crushes rebels opposed to the National Convention |
| 1796–1797 | Becomes commander in chief of the army of Italy; wins victories against Austria |
| 1798–1799 | Loses to the British in Egypt and Syria |
| 1799 | Overthrows Directory and becomes First Consul of France |
| 1804 | Crowns himself emperor of France |



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France Under Napoleon



Napoleon consolidated his power by strengthening the central government. Order, security, and efficiency replaced liberty, equality, and fraternity as the slogans of the new regime.

Napoleon instituted a number of reforms to restore economic prosperity.

Napoleon developed a new law code, the Napoleonic Code, which embodied Enlightenment principles.

Napoleon undid some of the reforms of the French Revolution:

- Women lost most of their newly gained rights.
- Male heads of household regained complete authority over their wives and children.



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Building an Empire



As Napoleon created a vast French empire, he redrew the map of Europe.

- He **annexed**, or added outright, some areas to France.
- He abolished the Holy Roman Empire.
- He cut Prussia in half.

Napoleon controlled much of Europe through forceful diplomacy.

- He put friends and relatives on the thrones of Europe.
- He forced alliances on many European powers.

Britain alone remained outside Napoleon's empire.

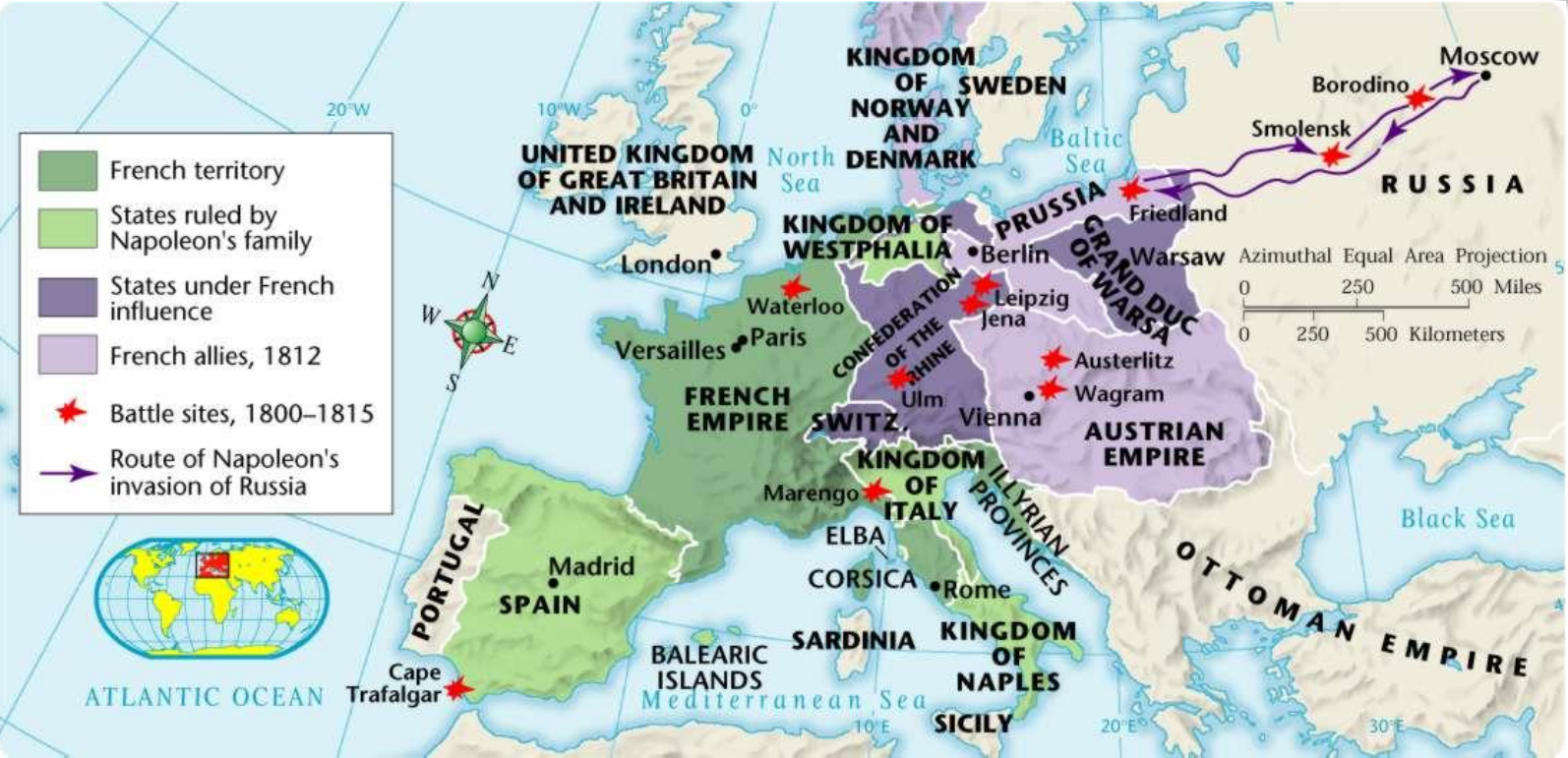


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Napoleon's Power in Europe, 1812



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Causes and Effects of the French Revolution

Long-Term Causes	Immediate Causes
<p>Corrupt, inconsistent, and insensitive leadership</p> <p>Prosperous members of Third Estate resent privileges of First and Second estates</p> <p>Spread of Enlightenment ideas</p>	<p>Huge government debt</p> <p>Poor harvests and rising price of bread</p> <p>Failure of Louis XVI to accept financial reforms</p> <p>Formation of National Assembly</p> <p>Storming of Bastille</p>
Immediate Effects	Long-Term Effects
<p>Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen adopted</p> <p>France adopts its first written constitution</p> <p>Monarchy abolished</p> <p>Revolutionary France fights coalition of European powers</p> <p>Reign of Terror</p>	<p>Napoleon gains power</p> <p>Napoleonic Code established</p> <p>French public schools set up</p> <p>French conquests spread nationalism</p> <p>Revolutions occur in Europe and Latin America</p>



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Section 4 Assessment



Which of the following never became a part of Napoleon's empire?

- a) Prussia
- b) the Holy Roman Empire
- c) Britain
- d) Spain

Which of the following was an immediate cause of the French Revolution?

- a) the storming of the Bastille
- b) the Reign of Terror
- c) the establishment of the Napoleonic Code
- d) Napoleon's rise to power

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Section 4 Assessment



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The End of an Era



- What challenges threatened Napoleon's empire?
- What events led to Napoleon's downfall?
- What were the goals of the Congress of Vienna?



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Challenges to Napoleon's Empire



The impact of nationalism

Many Europeans who had welcomed the ideas of the French Revolution nevertheless saw Napoleon and his armies as foreign oppressors.

Resistance in Spain

Napoleon had replaced the king of Spain with his own brother, but many Spaniards remained loyal to their former king. Spanish patriots conducted a campaign of **guerrilla warfare** against the French.

War with Austria

Spanish resistance encouraged Austria to resume hostilities against the French.

Defeat in Russia

Nearly all of Napoleon's 400,000 troops sent on a campaign in Russia died, most from hunger and the cold of the Russian winter.



Downfall of Napoleon



1812—Napoleon's forces were defeated in Russia.

Russia, Britain, Austria, and Prussia form a new alliance against a weakened France.

1813—Napoleon was defeated in the Battle of Nations in Leipzig.

1814—Napoleon **abdicated**, or stepped down from power, and was exiled to Elba, an island in the Mediterranean Sea.

1815—Napoleon escaped his exile and returned to France.

Combined British and Prussian forces defeated Napoleon at Waterloo.

Napoleon was forced to abdicate again, and was this time exiled to St. Helena, an island in the South Atlantic.

1821—Napoleon died in exile.



Legacy of Napoleon



The Napoleonic Code consolidated many changes of the revolution.

Napoleon turned France into a centralized state with a constitution.

Elections were held with expanded, though limited, suffrage.

Many more citizens had rights to property and access to education.

French citizens lost many rights promised to them during the Convention.

On the world stage, Napoleon's conquests spread the ideas of the revolution and nationalism.

Napoleon failed to make Europe into a French empire.

The abolition of the Holy Roman Empire would eventually contribute to the creation of a new Germany.

Napoleon's decision to sell France's Louisiana Territory to America doubled the size of the United States and ushered in an age of American expansion.



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What Were the Goals of the Congress of Vienna?



The chief goal of the Congress was to create a lasting peace by establishing a balance of power and protecting the system of monarchy.

To achieve this goal, the peacemakers did the following:

- They redrew the map of Europe. To contain French ambition, they ringed France with strong countries.
- They promoted the principle of **legitimacy**, restoring hereditary monarchies that the French Revolution or Napoleon had unseated.
- To protect the new order, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Great Britain extended their wartime alliance into the postwar era.



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Europe After the Congress of Vienna, 1815



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Section 5 Assessment



The alliance that formed to defeat Napoleon was made up of

- a) Britain, Switzerland, and Prussia
- b) Britain, Russia, Prussia, and Austria
- c) Britain, Italy, Poland, and Austria
- d) Russia, Prussia, and Italy

Which of the following was an action taken by the peacemakers at the Congress of Vienna?

- a) They restored hereditary monarchs to their thrones.
- b) They set up representative governments in France and Austria.
- c) They helped France regain some of its lost power.
- d) They dissolved the alliance that had defeated Napoleon.

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Section 5 Assessment



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