

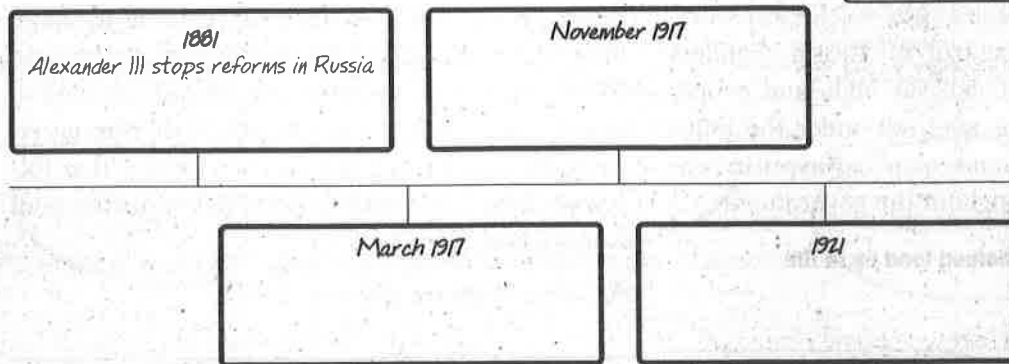
Revolutions in Russia

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last chapter, you read about World War I. In this section, you will learn about the revolutions in Russia that occurred at the same time.

AS YOU READ

Use the time line below to take notes on key events in Russia's history just before, during, and after the revolutions.



TERMS AND NAMES

pogrom Organized violence against Jews

Trans-Siberian Railway World's longest continuous rail line

Bolsheviks Group of revolutionaries led by Lenin

V. I. Lenin Leader of the Bolsheviks and first ruler of the Soviet Union

Duma Russia's first parliament

Rasputin Eccentric monk assassinated because of his corrupt influence on the Russian royal family

provisional government Temporary government led by Alexander Kerensky

soviet Local governing council

Alexander III Upholds the Autocracy (page 769)

How did Alexander III rule?

In 1881 Czar Alexander II was killed by radical students. The new czar, Alexander III, took back control of the Russian government. Reforms stopped. He cracked down on anyone who seemed to threaten his government. He also mistreated all non-Russian peoples who lived within the Russian empire, especially Jews. A wave of **pogroms**—organized violence against Jews—broke out in many parts of Russia.

1. What negative changes occurred during Alexander III's rule?

Nicholas II Resists Change

(pages 769–770)

What progress occurred during Nicholas II's reign?

In 1894, Nicholas II became czar. He was the son of Alexander III. Nicholas continued his father's firm rule. He started a buildup of Russia's industry. Russia quickly became a leading producer of steel. Russia also built the **Trans-Siberian Railway**—the longest continuous rail line in the world.

Although there was progress, working conditions were poor, wages were low, and children were forced to work. Workers grew angry. Revolutionary groups wanted to overthrow the government. Some followed the teachings of Karl Marx. In 1903, they split into two groups. One group—the **Bolsheviks**—was led by **V. I. Lenin**. He fled

Russia a few years later to await a better time to put forth his ideas.

2. Who were the Bolsheviks?

Crises at Home and Abroad

(pages 770–771)

What crises did Russia face?

In early 1905, the Russian army killed hundreds of hungry workers who had peacefully gathered to ask for relief. Strikes spread in protest. Nicholas was forced to allow some reforms to take place. He approved the creation of the **Duma**, Russia's first parliament.

The suffering caused by World War I was the final blow against the czar's rule. As the war worsened, the czar lost control of Russia. Soldiers refused to fight, prices shot sky high, and people starved. Meanwhile, his wife fell under the influence of an eccentric monk named **Rasputin**. He spread *corruption* throughout the government.

3. What developments helped lead up to the revolution?

The March Revolution (pages 771–772)

What was the provisional government?

In March 1917, the czar was forced to step down. A year later, he and his family were *executed*. A **provisional government** led by Alexander Kerensky was formed.

Kerensky hoped to keep Russia in the war. The decision cost him the support of soldiers who no longer wanted to fight. He also lost the support of workers and peasants who wanted an end to food shortages. Across the country, these forces formed local councils called **soviets**. In some cities, the soviets had more real power than the government.

In the middle of all this change, Lenin returned to Russia.

4. How did Kerensky lose support?

The Bolshevik Revolution

(pages 772–773)

Who led the Bolshevik Revolution?

Lenin's slogan "Peace, Land, and Bread" was soon taken up by many people. In November 1917, armed workers took control of government offices. Kerensky's power came to an end.

To win the peasants' support, Lenin ordered all farmland be given to them. Workers were given control of the factories. Soon, Lenin agreed to a peace treaty with Germany. It gave away large amounts of Russian land, but it ended the war. Then, forces opposed to Lenin's revolution tried to defeat the Bolshevik army. The civil war lasted three years. The fighting and the famine that followed killed 15 million Russians. In the end, Lenin's Red Army won.

5. Who fought the civil war?

Lenin Restores Order (page 774)

How did Lenin bring back order?

In 1921, Lenin started a new plan to rebuild the Russian economy. It allowed for some private ownership of property. He also changed the government to form a new nation—the Soviet Union. It would be run by the leaders of the Communist Party. By the late 1920s, the Soviet economy had recovered. Farms and factories were producing as much as they had before World War I.

6. What changes did Lenin make?

CHAPTER 30 Section 2 (pages 775–780)

Patterns of Change: Totalitarianism

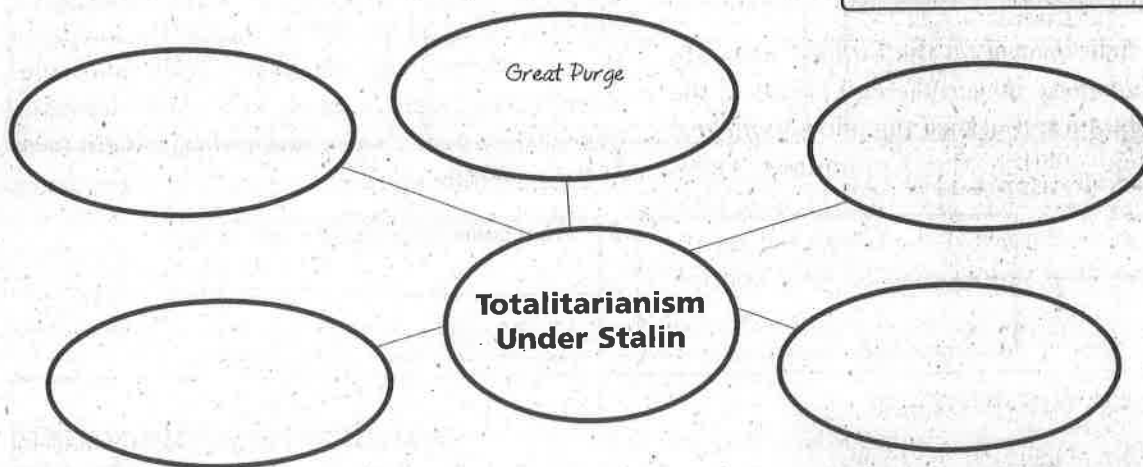
BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you learned about the factors leading to revolution in Russia.

In this section, you will read about the totalitarian government that resulted.

AS YOU READ

Use the web below to show what Stalin's totalitarian state was like.



Stalin Becomes Dictator; Stalin Builds a Totalitarian State

(pages 775–776)

Who was Stalin?

Joseph Stalin was a member of Lenin's revolutionary movement. He slowly built his power over time. Lenin died in 1924. Stalin was in control of the Communist Party by 1928. He was not as interested as Lenin was in promoting revolution around the world. Stalin wanted to increase the power of the Soviet Union. To do that, he built a totalitarian state. **Totalitarianism** exists when the government has total control over people's lives.

TERMS AND NAMES

Joseph Stalin Revolutionary leader who took control of the Communist Party after Lenin

totalitarianism Government that has total control over people's lives

command economy Economy in which the government makes all the economic decisions

collective farm Large, government-owned farm

kulak Member of a group of wealthy peasants brutally mistreated by Stalin's government

Great Purge Arrest, exile, or killing of thousands of suspected enemies of the Communist Party

socialist realism Artistic style that praised Soviet life and communist values

1. What was Stalin's goal, and what did he create to achieve it?

Stalin Seizes Control of the Economy

(pages 776–777)

How did Stalin change the economy?

Stalin built a **command economy**—one in which the government makes all the decisions about economic life. He tried to make the economy fully

industrial. All resources went to this effort. As a result, there were shortages of food, housing, and clothing for many years.

Stalin also began a farming revolution. The government took control of people's farms. It put them together into large, government-owned farms called **collective farms**. Wealthy peasants called **kulaks** resisted. Millions were killed, and millions more were exiled to *Siberia*. Stalin got farm output to rise by using these brutal methods.

2. How did Stalin's economic changes result in suffering?

Weapons of Totalitarianism

(pages 777–778)

What were the weapons of totalitarianism?

Stalin kept tight control on the Soviet Union. He did this by creating a powerful secret police. In the mid-1930s, he turned against enemies—both real and imagined—within the Communist Party. Thousands were arrested. Many were sent to exile or killed. This was known as the **Great Purge**.

Stalin also used *propaganda* to keep control.

Official literature praised the government and its success. Any writings that expressed a different point of view were seized. Their authors were punished. Art was used in the same way. **Socialist realism** is an artistic style that praised Soviet life and communist values. Stalin's government also moved against religion. Churches were destroyed. Church leaders were killed or sent into exile.

3. What forms did propaganda take?

Daily Life Under Stalin (page 780)

How did Stalin change Soviet society?

Stalin completely changed Soviet society. Women enjoyed equal rights—though the rights were few. They filled all kinds of jobs on farms and in factories. They studied for careers that before had been closed to them. People in general were more educated. Along with learning new skills, however, they also were given constant propaganda in favor of the government.

4. What benefits did Stalin's rule bring?



Credit: Sovfoto/Eastfoto

The slogan on this poster reads, "Young Communists [are] the Shock Brigade of the Five-Year Plan."

Skillbuilder

Use the poster to answer the questions.

1. What message does this poster send?

2. Why is this an example of propaganda?
