



NOTES

SOCIAL SCIENCE

(HISTORY)

SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



**REVISION NOTES
CHAPTERWISE &
TOPICWISE**

Chapter 2: Socialism in Europe and The Russian revolution

Concepts Covered:

1. The Age of Social Change

- Introduction
 - Liberals
 - Radicals
 - Conservatives
- Industrial Society and Social Change
 - Workers and their problems
- The Coming of Socialism to Europe
 - Meaning of Socialism
 - Important Socialists and their ideas
- Support for Socialism

2. The Russian Revolution

- Introduction
- The Russian Empire in 1914
- Economy and Society
- Socialism in Russia
 - The Russian Social Democratic Worker's Party
 - Bolsheviks and Mensheviks
- A Turbulent time: The 1905 Revolution
 - Liberals and their demand
 - Bloody Sunday
- The First World war and the Russian Empire
 - Introduction
 - Impacts

3. The February Revolution in Petrograd

- Important Events
 - February revolution and forming of Provisional government
- After February
 - April Thesis by Lenin
 - Important events
- The Revolution of October 1917

4. What Changed after October

- Introduction
 - Steps taken by Bolsheviks
- The Civil War
 - The Red's, Green's and White's
 - Result
- Making a Socialist society
 - Centralised planning (Five-year plans)
 - Result
- Stalinism and Collectivisation
 - Reason and meaning of Collectivisation
 - Outcome

5.	The Global influence of the Russian revolution and USSR <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Various communist parties formed all over the world➤ Conclusion Communist Movement in Britain
6.	Mind Map <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ (Colourful & Interactive/ Complete All Concept Covered)
	Practice Questions (All Topics Available)



Fukey Education

THE AGE OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Introduction

Social change is the significant alteration of social structure and cultural patterns through time. Social structure refers to persistent networks of social relationships where interaction between people or groups has become routine and repetitive.

The age of social change

People started discussing the possibility of change. However, not everyone in Europe wanted a complete transformation of society. Some wanted gradual change, whereas some wanted the change radically.



Conservatives, Liberals or Radicals

Liberals

- Liberals wanted a nation which tolerated all religions.
- Opposed the uncontrolled power of dynastic rulers.
- Wanted to safeguard the rights of individuals against governments.
- Argued for a representative, elected parliamentary government, subject to laws, interpreted by a well-trained judiciary that was independent of rulers and officials.
- However, they were not 'democrats'.

Radicals

- Radicals wanted a nation in which government was based on the majority of a country's population.
- Many supported women's suffragette movements.
- Unlike liberals, they opposed the privileges of great landowners and wealthy factory owners.

Conservatives

- Opposed to radicals and liberals.
- Belong to ruling and person in power, didn't want the change according to the ideas of radicals and liberals.
- Conservatives realised the change is inevitable.
- Believed that the past had to be respected and change had to be brought about through a slow process.
- Analyse the groups and their role in world politics.

Industrial Society and Social Change

Workers and their problems

- This was the time of economic and social change.
- Men, women, and children were pushed into factories for low wages.
- Most of the factory owners were often liberals and radicals and they felt that workers' efforts must be encouraged.

Liberals and Radicals themselves were often property owner and employers. They wanted that efforts should be made to benefit workforce.

Many working men and women who wanted changes in the world rallied around liberal and radical groups and parties in the early nineteenth century.



More in social change

- Nationalists, liberals, and radicals wanted revolutions to put an end to the kind of governments established in Europe in 1815.
- Nationalist Demanded nations where all citizens would have equal rights.
- After 1815, Giuseppe Mazzini, an Italian nationalist, conspired with others to achieve this in Italy.

The Coming of Socialism to Europe

Meaning of Socialism

Socialist Against private property Saw it as the roof of all social ills. Society as a whole should control the property, so that more attention would be paid to collective social interest.

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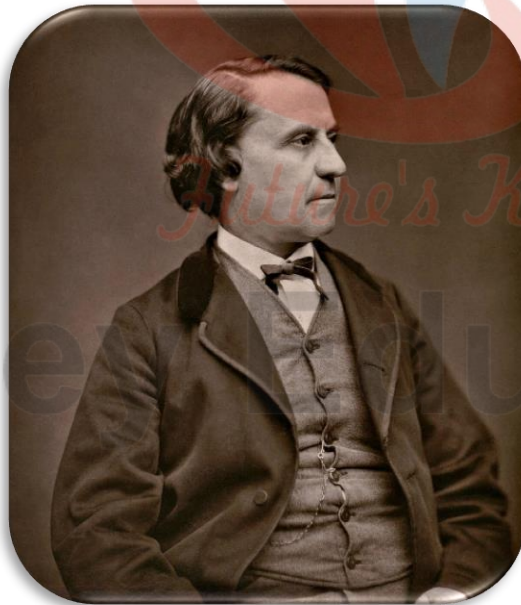
THE AGE OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Robert Owen (1771 - 1858)



Robert Owen built a cooperative community New Harmony in Indiana (U.S.A). Through collective individual initiative.

Louis Blanc (1813 - 1882)



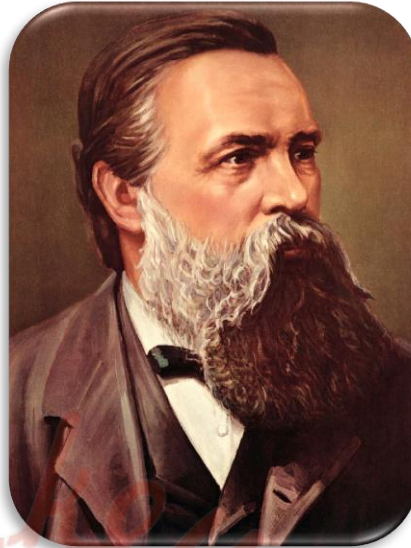
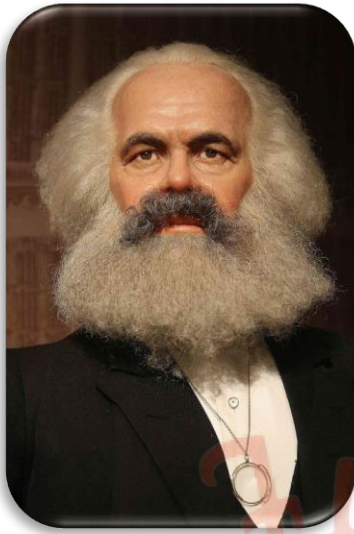
- He supports government encouraged cooperatives to replace capitalist enterprise.
- Government should be there to facilitates cooperatives.

Important Socialists and their ideas

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels further added on the idea of socialism.

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THE AGE OF SOCIAL CHANGE

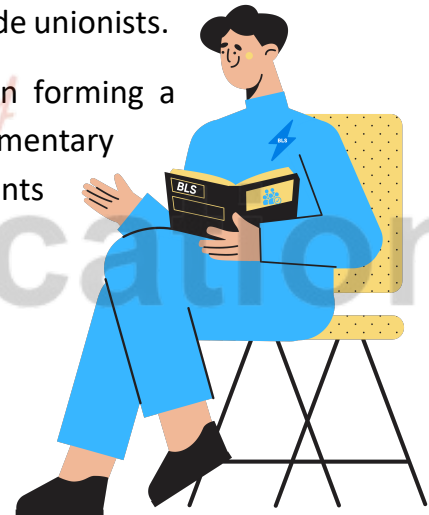


Marx believed that to free themselves from capitalist exploitation, workers had to construct a radically socialist society where all property was socially controlled.

Support for Socialism

- **Second International** - Socialist formed an international body to coordinate their efforts.
- **In Germany** - Associations worked closely with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) and helped it win parliamentary seats.
- **In Britain** - By 1905, socialists and trade unionists formed a Labour Party.
- **In France** - Socialist party was formed by socialists and trade unionists.

Socialism and Socialist Till 1914, socialists never succeeded in forming a government in Europe. Represented by strong figures in parliamentary politics, their ideas did shape legislation, but governments continued to be run by conservatives, liberals, and radicals.



THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Introduction



- Social and political conditions
- Russia before revolution.

The Russian Empire in 1914

Tsar Nicholas II ruled Russia and its empire.

Geography

- The Russian empire included current-day Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, parts of Poland, Ukraine, and Belarus.
- It stretched to the Pacific and comprised today's Central Asian states, as well as Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.
- The majority religion was Russian Orthodox Christianity. The empire also included Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, and Buddhists.



SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



Economy and Society

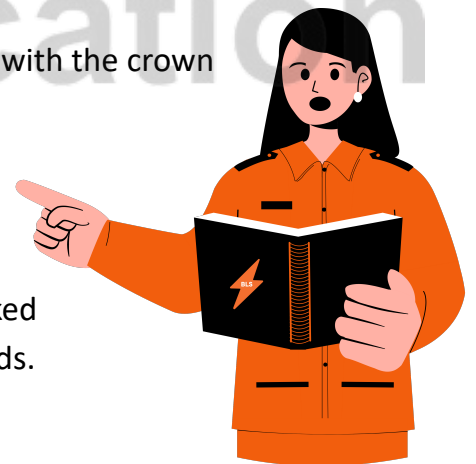
About 85 percent of the Russian empire's population earned their living from agriculture.

The industry was limited in number. Workers were divided into groups, but they did unite to strike work when they were dissatisfied. Peasants had no respect for nobility, very unlike the French peasant. Russian peasants were the only peasant community which pooled their land, and their commune divided it.

Industry was found in pockets. X Craftsmen undertook much of production. (St. Petersburg and Moscow) Russia's railway network was extended, and foreign investment in industry increased. Number of workers and craftsmen were almost equal.

Society in countryside

- Peasants cultivated most of the land and the ownership was with the crown and orthodox church.
- Like workers, peasants too were divided.
- Peasant in Russia, unlike France had no respect for nobles. Wanted their lands.
- Russian peasants were different in one more way. Worked pooling their land together and divided according to the needs.



SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



Let us see something about these growing industries.

Most industry the private property of industrialist.

Often these rule

Long working hours.

Workers were accommodated in rooms dormitories etc.

Profit Maximisation

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Was there not any regulation by government.

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Government worked to ensure minimum wages and limited hours of work.

Let us see something about these growing industries.

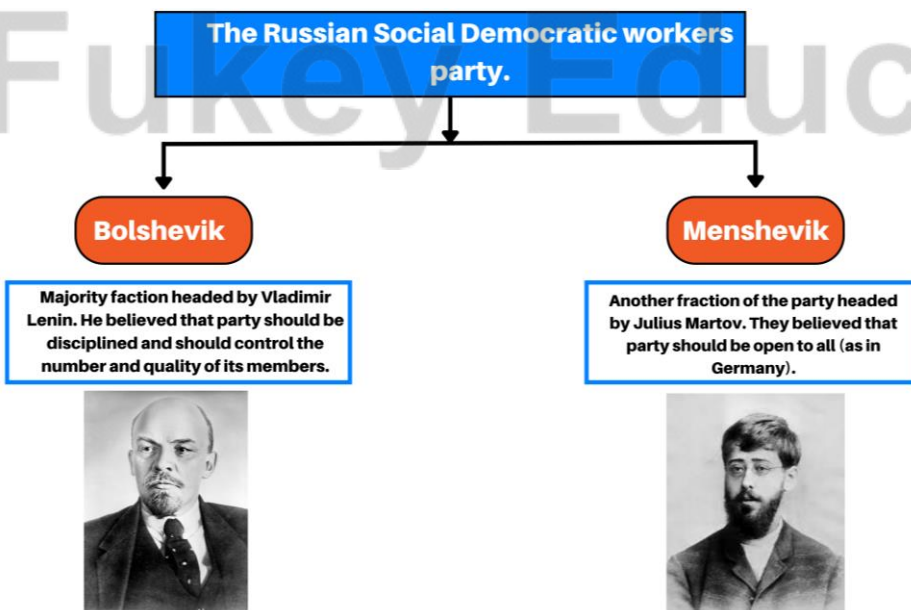
Socialism in Russia

The Russian Social Democratic Worker's Party

All political parties were illegal in Russia before 1914. In 1900, the Russian Socialist Democratic Labour Party was formed. It struggled to give peasants their rights over land that belonged to nobles. As land was divided among peasants periodically and it was felt that peasants and not workers would be the main source of the revolution. But Lenin did not agree with this as he felt that peasants were not one social group.

The party was divided into Bolsheviks and Mensheviks.

Bolsheviks and Mensheviks



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THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Bolshevik.

- Majority fraction headed by Vladimir Lenin.
- He believed that party should be disciplined and should control the number and quality of its members.

Menshevik

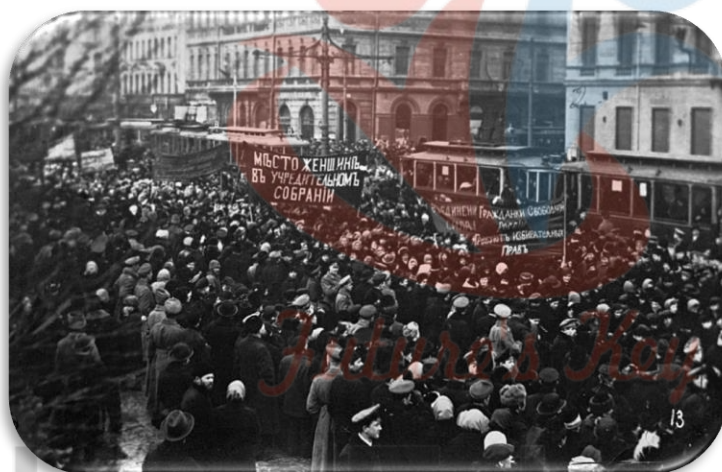
- Another fraction of the party headed by Julius Martov.
- They believed that party should be open to all (as in Germany).



A Turbulent time: The 1905 Revolution

Liberals and their demand

Russia was an autocracy; the Tsar was not subject to parliament. Liberal, Social Democrats and Social revolutionaries wanted to end this system and demanded a constitution. They were supported by Nationalists and Jadidists. Muslims reformers in Russian Empire who wanted to Modernise Islam



Bloody Sunday

Workers at Putilov Iron works went on Strike at St. Petersburg-

- Demanding a reduction in the working day to eight hours.
- An increase in wages and improvement in working conditions.



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THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

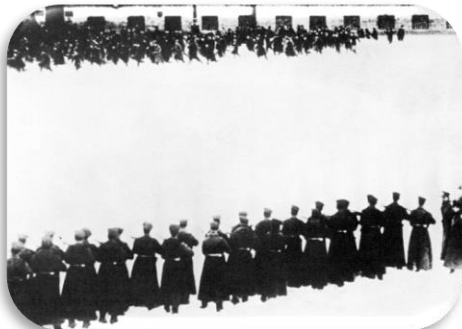


A procession of worker lead by Father Gapon reach winter palace. They were attacked by police and Cossacks. (100 killed and 300 wounded).

All this happened on 22 January 1905 day was Sunday.

Bloody Sunday started the series of events The 1905 Revolution.

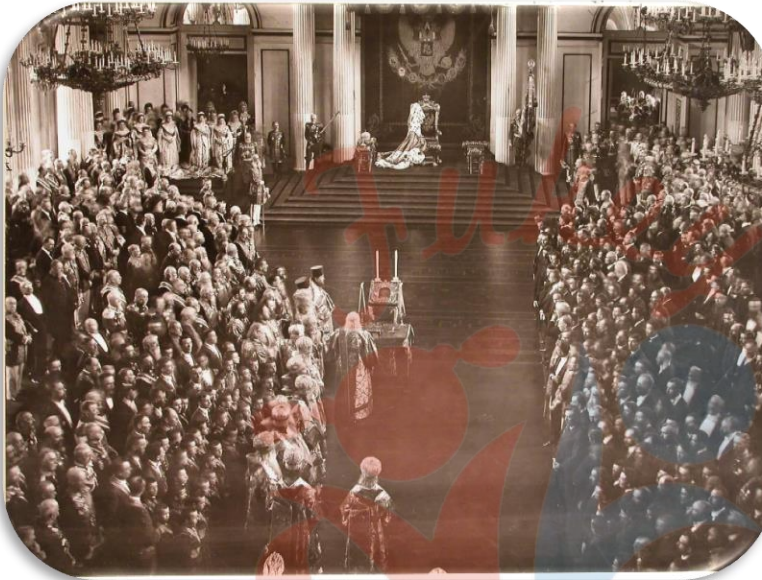
- Strikes all over the country.
- Universities were closed down. [Lack of civil liberties] What happened in it?



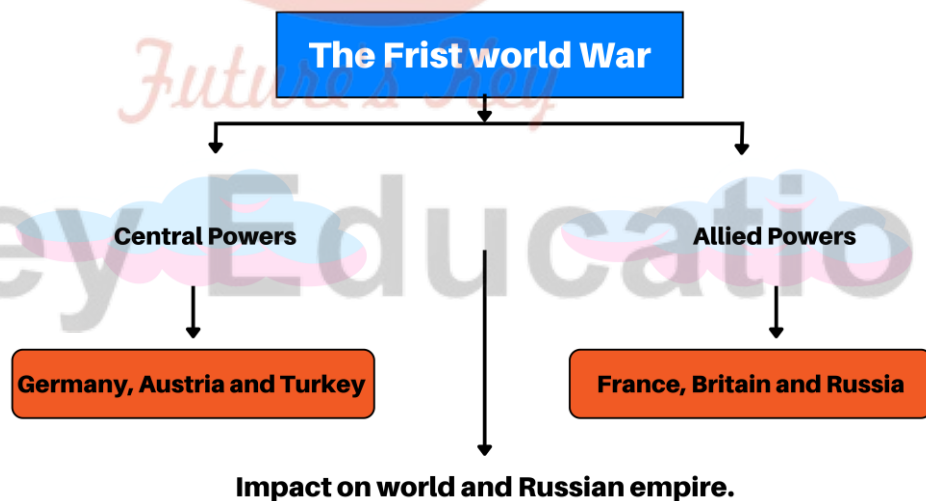
SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

- Lawyers, Doctors, Engineers, and other middle-class workers all started demanding constitution.
- Due to pressure from 1905 revolution, Tsar allowed formation of Duma.
- However, within 75 days Duma was dissolved and second Duma was elected.
- Third duma Packed with conservative politicians.



The First World war and the Russian Empire



Introduction

Initially war was supported Tsar Nicholas II was supported.

Over the period of time, support to Tsar went down. because: -

- Tsar refused to consult the main parties in Duma.
- Rasputin made the autocracy unpopular.
- German origin of Tsarina Alexandra was also criticized.

It differed on the 'eastern front' from that on the 'western front'.

- Russia's army lost badly in Germany and Austria. (7 million casualties)
- Increase in the refugees in Russia. (3 million refugees)
- Soldiers did not wish to fight such a war.

Impacts on Industry

- Due to German control over the Baltic Sea, Industrial equipment disintegrated.
- By 1916, Railway lines began to breakdown.
- Able bodied men were sent to war which caused labour shortages and small workshops producing essentials were shut down.
- Large supplies of grain were sent to feed the army.



SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

THE FEBRUARY REVOLUTION IN PETROGRAD

THE FEBRUARY REVOLUTION IN PETROGRAD

Important Events

February revolution and forming of Provisional government.

Layout of the capital city Petrograd.

On the left bank were the fashionable areas, the winter palace. and official building, Duma.

The workers quarters and factories were located on the right bank of River Neva.

Situation in city

- Food shortage, bad weather, Tsar was having a desire to dissolve the Duma, and parliamentarians were not happy with this.
- 22 February Lockout at a factory Strike by workers
- Many women also headed the strikes these days came to be recognised as International Women's Day.
- Demonstration reached to the centre of the Capital Nevskii Prospekt.
- As the workers reached there Government imposed curfew and the Demonstrators dispersed.
- Then they again came back on 24th and 25th. Police and cavalry were appointed to keep an eye on them.



Outbreak of the February revolution

- On 25 February 1917, Government [Tsar] Suspended the Duma.
- Politicians criticised this, Demonstrators returned on the streets on 26th.
- On 27th, Police Headquarters were ransacked, protest for bread, wages, better hours, and democracy.
- Government called the cavalry to control the situation. But the cavalry refused to fire on the demonstrators.
- Soldier and striking workers formed 'Soviet' or 'Council' = Petrograd Soviet
- Tsar Abdicated on 2nd March and Provisional government was formed to run the country.

After February

October revolution 1917

- Restriction on public meetings and associations were removed. Soviets
- In April 1917, Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin returned from exile.

April Thesis by Lenin

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THE FEBRUARY REVOLUTION IN PETROGRAD

After the downfall of the monarchy in Russia in February 1917, the Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin returned to Russia from his exile in April 1917. He felt that it was time for Soviets to take overpower. He put three demands which were known as Lenin's 'April Theses'. They were:

- The war (First World War) be brought to an end.
- Land be transferred to the peasants.
- The banks be nationalised.

Important events

Spread of workers movement Started questioning the way industrialist ran their factories.

- Formation of trade union, soldiers' committees.
- In June, about 500 Soviets sent representatives to an All-Russian Congress of Soviets.

As the Provisional Government saw its power reduce and Bolshevik influence grow, it decided to take stern measures against the spreading discontent.

Situations in countryside

- Peasants and their Socialist Revolutionary leaders pressed for a redistribution of land.
- Land committees were formed.
- Peasants seized land between July and September 1917



The Revolution of October 1917

Provincial government V/S Bolshevik

Fearful of dictatorship, Lenin began discussions for an uprising against the government.

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THE FEBRUARY REVOLUTION IN PETROGRAD

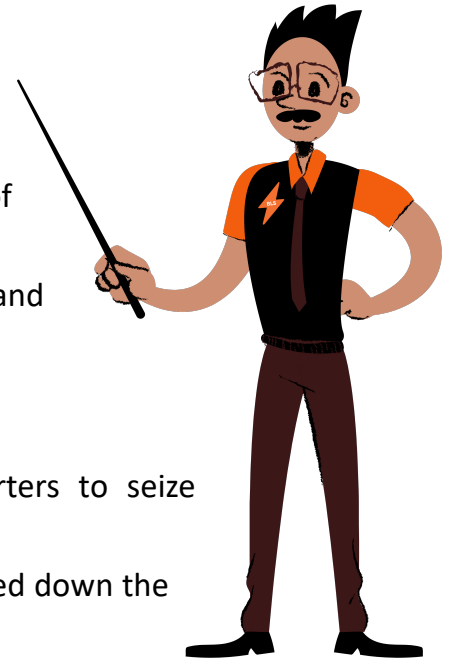
- Lenin persuaded the Petrograd Soviet and the Bolshevik Party to agree to a socialist seizure of power.
- A Military Revolutionary Committee was appointed by the Soviet under Leon Trotskii to organise the seizure. The date of the event was kept a secret.

Government –

- Sensing trouble, Prime Minister Kerenski had left the city to summon troops.
- Military men loyal to the government seized the buildings of two Bolshevik newspapers.
- Pro-government troops were sent to take over telephone and telegraph offices and protect the Winter Palace

Revolutionaries -

- The Military Revolutionary Committee ordered its supporters to seize government offices and arrest ministers.
- The ship Aurora shelled the Winter Palace. Other vessels sailed down the Neva and took over various military points.
- By nightfall, the city was under the committee's control and the ministers had surrendered.



Bolshevik action was given approval by majority soviet at all Russian Congress in Petrograd. There were fight in Moscow but by December, the Bolshevik controlled the Moscow Petrograd area.



WHAT CHANGED AFTER OCTOBER

Introduction

Steps taken by Bolsheviks:

- Banks were nationalised by November 1917 [Ownership and management by government]
- Peasants took over the land of nobility, as it was declared as social property.
- Large houses were partitioned according to the size of family.
- Use of old titles of aristocracy was banned. [Equality]
- To show the change new uniforms were designed for the army and officials.

Example: [Budenovka hat]

- Bolshevik party was renamed as the Russian Communist party.



The Civil War

The Red's, Green's, and White's

Non - Bolshevik socialist, liberals and supporters of autocracy organised troops to fight the Bolsheviks.

Red's: - Supporter of Bolsheviks

Green's: - Socialist Revolutionaries

White's: - Supporter of Tsar (Pro-Tsarist)

Green and Whites controlled most of the Russian Empire.



SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

WHAT CHANGED AFTER OCTOBER

- They were supported by French, American and British, to control the growth of socialism.
- Due to all this reason, there was a Civil war, looting, banditry, and famine became common.



Result

In October 1922, the Red Army seized the eastern port of Vladivostok, and the Russian Civil War came to an end. In the following years, the Red Army continued to fight to suppress numerous revolts against Bolshevik rule. By the time the Communists cemented their control over the country, millions had died fighting.

Making a Socialist society

Making a Socialist society

- Banks and industries were nationalised, collective work was performed by peasants on. Confiscated land.
- Centralised planning was introduced.
- Five-year plans: to set target for economy for upcoming five years.
- E.g. - First two five-year plans. (1927 - 1932) and (1933 - 1938).
- This all led to huge industrial growth and new factories began to come up.

However, there was a dark side to it.

- Rapid construction led to poor working condition.
- Workers lived hard lives.
- Frequent stoppage (E.g., 550 stoppages of work in the first year alone)



SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

WHAT CHANGED AFTER OCTOBER

Were there any efforts made by government to improve this situation?

Result

A process of centralized planning was introduced. Officials assessed working of economy and set targets for 5 years period and hence 5-year plans were made. Government fixed all prices to promote industrial growth leading to economic growth.



Children at school in Soviet Russia in the 1930s. They are studying the Soviet economy.



A child in Magnitogorsk during the First Five Year Plan. He is working for Soviet Russia



Factories came to be seen as a symbol of socialism. This poster states: 'The smoke from the chimneys is the breathing of Soviet Russia.'

Stalinism and Collectivisation

Reason and meaning of Collectivisation.

The collectivisation programme was started by Stalin. Under this programme, small landholdings of many peasants into one collective large farm. All large, collectivised farms were cultivated by the farmers with the help of tools pooled together.

SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

WHAT CHANGED AFTER OCTOBER

Stalinism and Collectivization

Stalinism



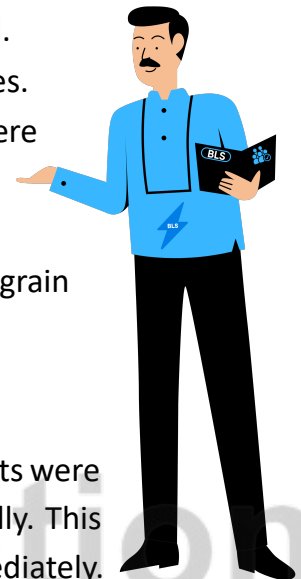
The time period when the Russian Communist party was headed by Stalin. His idea dominated the USSR and that period came to know as Stalinism.

Combining land of various farmers and then performing the agricultural activities on collective basis.

Collectivization

Reasons for Collectivisation.

- By 1927, Soviet Russia was facing shortage of food gains [especially in towns]
- To overcome this government fixed prices at which gain must be sold.
- But peasants refused to sell their grains to government at these prices.
- Stalin believed that rich peasants and traders in the countryside were holding stocks in the hope of higher prices.
- Speculation had to be stopped and supplies confiscated.
- Grains producing area were toured by party, supervising enforced grain collections and Raiding 'kulaks'.



Outcome

Stalin enforced collectivization of farms as solution to grain shortage. Peasants were forced to work in collective farms called 'kolkhoz' sharing the profits equally. This was not entirely successful as the production of grain did not increase immediately.

THE GLOBAL INFLUENCE OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION AND USSR

In 1919, the Bolshevik government in Russia instigated the creation of an international communist organisation that would act as the Third International after the collapse of the Second International in 1916. This was known as the Communist International, although it was commonly abbreviated as the Comintern.

Various communist parties formed all over the world.

Not all socialist parties in Europe were on the same position. The support for socialism was due the possibilities of a worker's state. Many communist parties were formed e.g., Communist party of Great Britain. By second World War USSR had given socialism a global face and world stature.



Conclusion Communist Movement in Britain

However, by 1950's it was observed that the style of government in USSR was not in keeping with the ideals of the Russian Revolution. No doubt a backward country had become a great power. Its industries and agriculture had developed, and the poor were being fed. But it had denied the essential freedoms to its citizens and carried out its developmental projects through repressive policies. Therefore, the international reputation of the USSR as a socialist country had declined.



SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

MIND MAP

