

CLASS 9 HISTORY

SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION





One Shot Live Revision Series

Date	Class 10 th Live @ 6:00 PM Daily	Class 9 th <mark>Live</mark> @ 8:45 PM Daily
17 Sep 23	The rise of nationalism in Europe	The French Revolution
18 Sep 23	Resources and Development	India - Size and Location
19 Sep 23	Power Sharing	What is democracy? Why democracy?
20 Sep 23	Development	The story of village Palampur
21 Sep 23	Nationalism in India	Socialism in Europe and the Russian Revolution
22 Sep 23	Forest and Wildlife Resources	Physical Features of India
23 Sep 23	Federalism	Constitutional Design
24 Sep 23	Sectors of the Indian Economy	People as Resource
25 Sep 23	Gender, Religion and Caste	Electoral politics
26 Sep 23	Water Resources	Drainage



Introduction

Socialism in Europe



- Liberal, radicals and conservatives
- Industrial society and social change
- Coming of socialism to Europe and support

The Russian Revolution



- Russian Empire → Economy and society
- Roots of socialism
- 1905 revolution
- First world war → Impact
- February revolution
- October Revolution and aftermath



The age of social change



Understand the essence



Different group

Liberals

- They mainly wanted a nation that would tolerate all religions.
- They argued for an elected parliamentary government, subject to laws interpreted by a well-trained judiciary that was independent of rulers and officials.

Radicals

- They wanted a government which was based on the majority of a country's population.
- The idea of non-existence of private property and concentration of property in hands of a few was disliked by them.
- Supported voting rights for women

Conservatives

- They were against the change.
- They wanted the past to be respected and gradual change to take place.
- But soon after the revolution, began to accept the changes.

Not Democrat.



Industries and social change

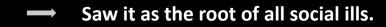
- This was a period of economic and social change. Men, women and children were pushed into factories on lower wages Whereas, Liberals and radicals, who were factory on lower wages.
- Whereas, Liberals and radicals, who were factory owners, considered that workers' efforts must be encouraged.
- Nationalists, liberals, and radicals wanted revolutions to put an end to the kind of governments established in Europe in 1815.



Socialism in Europe

Socialist

Against private property





Society as a whole should control the property, so that more attention would be paid to collective social interest.

How could a society without property operate?



Robert Owen (1771 - 1858)

- Sought to build a cooperative community.
- New Harmony in Indiana (U.S.A)
- Through collective individual initiative.

Louis Blanc (1813 - 1882)

- He support government encouraged cooperatives to replace capitalist enterprise.
- Government should be there to facilitates cooperatives.
- → <u>Karl Marx</u> and <u>Friedrich Engels</u> further added on the idea of socialism.



'Capitalism' — Exploitation of workers



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



Communist Society



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.c



The Russian Revolution



The fall of monarchy in February 1917 and the events of October are normally called the Russian Revolution.



Geography

Economy

Society

- The vast majority of Russia's people were agriculturists.
- Industry was found in pockets. Prominent industrial areas were St Petersburg and Moscow,
- Most industry was the private property of industrialists.
- Craft units and small workshops, the working day was sometimes 15 hours, compared with 10 or
 12 hours in factories. Accommodation and from rooms to dormitories.
- Workers were divided by skill. A metalworker of St. Petersburg recalled, 'Metalworkers considered themselves aristocrats among other workers.
- Despite divisions, workers did unite to strike work (stop work) when they disagreed with employers about dismissals or work conditions.



Economy and Society in countryside

- Peasants cultivated most of the land. But the nobility, the crown and the Orthodox Church owned large properties.
- They had no respect for the nobility. Nobles got their power and position through their services to the Tsar, not through local popularity.
- Peasants wanted the land of the nobles to be given to them.
- They pooled their land together periodically and their commune (mir) divided it according to the needs of individual families.



Socialism in Russia

- All political parties were illegal in Russia before 1914.
- The Russian Social Democratic Workers Party was founded in 1898 by socialists who respected Marx's ideas.
- Socialists Revolutionaries formed the Socialist Revolutionary Party in 1900.
 This party struggled for peasants' rights and demanded that land belonging to nobles be transferred to peasants.
- Social Democrats disagreed with Socialist Revolutionaries about peasants.

Vladimir Lenin (who led the Bolshevik group) thought that in a repressive society like Tsarist Russia, the party should be disciplined and should control the number and quality of its members. Others (Mensheviks) thought that the party should be open to all (as in Germany).



A Turbulent time: The 1905 Revolution

Tsar was autocratic

Social democratic and socialist revolutionaries demanded constitution



Workers in St Petersburg went on strike demanding a reduction in the working day to eight hours, an increase in wages and improvement in working conditions.







⇒ Strikes and protests = 1950 Revolution

- The Tsar allowed the creation of an elected consultative Parliament or Duma.
- The Tsar dismissed the first Duma within 75 days and the re-elected second Duma within three months.
- He did not want any questioning of his authority or any reduction in his power.
- He changed the voting laws and packed the third Duma with conservative politicians



The first world war and the Russian Empire



Central power V/S Allied powers



War made autocracy unpopular



Tsarina Alexandra's German origin, Tsar's nature not to consult and advisor like Rasputin

- Defeats were shocking and demoralising.
- Russia's armies lost badly in Germany and Austria between 1914 and 1916.
- Russia's own industries were few in number and the country was cut off from other suppliers of industrial goods by German control of the Baltic Sea.
- Railway lines began to break down. Able-bodied men were called up to the war.
- Large supplies of grain were sent to feed the army.



The February Revolution in Petrograd.

- In winter of 1917, the conditions in Petrograd were severe. There was food shortage in the workers' quarters.
- 22nd February, a lockout took place in the factory. Workers from 50 other factories joined the strike and there was an active participation from the women workers. This came to be known as International women's day.
- As the quarters of the fashionable area and official buildings were surrounded by workers, the government imposed a curfew.
- Followed by the incident, the government called out the police and cavalry to keep an eye on the protesters on the 24th and 25th.
- The government suspended the Duma on the 25th and the politicians spoke against this action.







- On the 27th, the police headquarters were ransacked.
- Due to this incident, the cavalry called out again.
- An officer was shot at the barracks of a regiment and other regiments mutinied, voting to join the striking workers gathered to form a soviet or council. This was the Petrograd Soviet
- On 2nd March The Tsar was relinquished.
- The Soviet and Duma leaders formed a provisional government to run the country.



After February revolution

- There were restrictions on public meetings by the government and associations were removed.
- Soviets' like Petrograd Soviet were set up everywhere.
- In April 1917, Lenin returned and Gave April theses
 - War be brought to a close.
 - Land be transferred to Peasants
 - Banks be nationalised.
- There was an increase in the popularity of Bolsheviks and the provisional government began to decline, and it decided to take strict measures against the spreading discontent.
- It resisted attempts by workers to run factories and arrested leaders.
- The peasants and socialist leaders demanded a redistribution of land. Soon land committees were formed and peasants seized land between July and September 1917.



The revolution of October 1917

- 16th OCTOBER 1917- Lenin persuaded the Petrograd Soviet and Bolshevik Party to agree to a socialist seizure of power. To organise a seizure, a Military Revolutionary Committee was appointed under Leon Trotsky.
- On 24th October -The uprising began. Prime Minister Kerensky left the city to summon troops.
- Two buildings of the Bolshevik newspaper were seized by the loyal military men of the government Troops were sent to take over telephone and telegraph offices and protect the Winter palace.
- The Aurora ship shelled the Winter Palace. Other ships took over strategic points.
- By the night, the ministers had surrendered, and the city had been taken over.
- The Bolsheviks were approved by all the Russian Congress of Soviets in Petrograd.
- Heavy firing in Moscow-by December, the Bolsheviks controlled the Moscow Petrograd area.



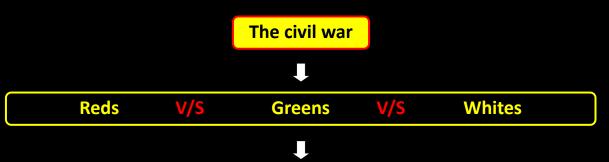
What changed after October

- In November 1917, most of the industries and banks were nationalised.
- Land was declared social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility.
- Use of old titles were banned.
- New uniforms were designed for the army and officials.
- Russia became a one party state.
- The Bolshevik Party was renamed the Russian Communist Party.

Conflicts

Many became disillusioned because of the censorship the Party encouraged.





- By January 1920, the Bolsheviks controlled most of the former Russian Empire.
- Cooperation with non-Russian nationalities and Muslim jadidists.





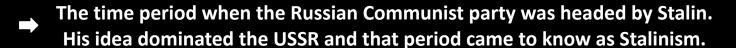
Making a Socialist Society

- 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)
- → Government took various steps to improve the condition.



Stalinism and Collectivisation







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

Reasons for Collectivisation?





Small sized peasants farms could not be modernised.



To modernise farms



- Farms should be run on Industrial lines with machinery.
- It was necessary to 'eliminate kulaks'.
- And large state controlled farm must be established.



Problems During Collectivisation

- In spite at collectivisation, production did not increased immediately.
 - You cannot win over the nature.
 - Bad harvest [1930 1933] ⇒ Devastating famines [4 million deaths]
- Due all this there were criticism of planned economy and collectivisation.
 - Such critics were charged with conspiracy against socialism.
 - E.g. Over 2 million were in prisons or labour camps.
 - Many were forced to make false confessions.



Then executed [Included talented professionals also].



The Global Influence of the Russian Revolution and the USSR



• 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 party were formed e.g. Communist party of Great Britain.
- Bolsheviks also encouraged colonial peoples to follow their experiment.
 - Conference of people of the East [1920].
 - Comintern (an international union of pro Bolshevik socialist parties).
- Education in the USSR's communist university of the workers of the east.
- The international reputation of the USSR as a socialist country had declined.

However the socialist ideals still enjoyed respect amongst its people.





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