

## Alexander II

1. Russian Society before 1861
  - Nobility and gentry
  - Merchants
  - Petty officials
  - City dwellers (meschane)
  - Free and state peasants (about 9 million)
  - Serfs (about 10 million)
2. Serfdom
  - Indentured servitude
  - Used to just be a contract that the serf could buy out of
  - Regulated in the 15th century by Ivan III. Made it so that peasants could only leave for 2 weeks a year (Yuri's Day)
  - Yuri's day cancelled in 17th century by Tsar Alexey Mikhailovich
  - Peter I - no serf can leave their master without written permission
  - Radishev - "A Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow" criticized serfdom, spent 10 years in Siberia for the book
    - Catherine the Great: "He is a rebel, worse than Pugachev" allegedly
  - Abolished in 1861 by Alexander II
3. Terrorism
  - Alexander II assassinated on 1881
    - Started growth of terrorism in Russia
  - 1905-1906: 3611 officials killed or wounded
4. Imperial Manifesto 1861
  - Freed the serfs
  - Serfs have to pay landlords to buy their land from them
    - Left many in debt
  - Changes in society
    - New class of bourgeoisie
    - Raznochintsy (people of different classes/ranks of non-noble origin) who got educated and could go into govt service of professions
    - Led to a new 'class' of intelligentsia (educated people)
  - Women's Rights in 60s as well
5. Other reforms
  - Zemstvo reform (local governments)
    - Elected council headed by noblemen/gentry
    - In charge of schools and medicine
    - Hired teachers and doctors
  - Military
  - Judicial

## **Turgenev *Fathers and Sons***

1. Historic period: Just before liberation of serfs in 1861
2. Location: Kirsanov estate in central Russia
3. Central conflict: Conflict of generations: ideology, lifestyle, values
4. Plot: 2 friends, Arkady Kirsanov and Evgeny Basarov come back from university in St. Petersburg to visit their families
5. Turgenev's achievement: study of nihilism
  - Denied authority
  - Destroy everything
  - Terrorism as a method of resistance
    - “People's Freedom” terrorist group

## **Non-Russians in the Russian Empire**

1. Volga Germans by invitation from Catherine II
  - Gave them land
  - Exempted from taxes
  - Not subject to military draft
  - Guaranteed right to exercise religion
  - Why?
    - Catherine the second was a German princess
    - Europe was weakened by 30 years war
2. Koreans by invitation
  - Moved in 19th century
  - Relocated back to Korea in 1937 by Stalin

## **Peasant Life in Russia after 1861**

1. Geographic and economic mobility
2. Education
3. Love
4. Lecture based off of letters from a peasant family
5. Background
  - Letters written to 2 sons
  - Class: “State peasants”
  - Parents: No formal education
    - Self taught “literate”
6. What letters tell us
  - Births and deaths: baptisms and funerals
  - Marriages: arranged and for love
  - Parent-child: parental power and its shifts

- Siblings and in-laws: seniority, cooperation, fights
- Religion: prayers, charity, pilgrimage, values
- Language: norm and dialect
- Daily life: food, drinking, clothing, house
- Economy: farming, delivery business
- Mobility: starvation -> wealth
  - “horseless” in 1881 -> big steam ship owners by 1896
  - 1886 bought 1st steam boat (6 HP, 2,600 rbl)
  - 1892 bought 2nd steam boat (25 HP, 8,500 rbl)
  - Opened a pub in Pazdery
  - 1894 bought 3rd steam boat (40 HP, 19,000 rbl)
  - Abandon farming and pub (movement against alcohol)
  - 1896 bought a steam ship (120,000 rbl)
- 7. Random stuff
  - One woman had a child out of wedlock and was punished for it, never married either
  - Her son Ivan was adopted
  - Letters refer to his mother as Baushka, adopted grandmother as Babushka

## Russian Cuisine

1. Variety of pies–pirogi, pirozhki
2. Main technology used to be boiling, stewing, keeping on low heat because cooking done in a Russian stove
3. A lot of fish
4. A lot of restrictions by the church, no meat on certain days etc.
5. Zakuski
6. Vodka
  - Traditional medieval drink: mead
  - Vodka appeared in XIV-XV centuries
  - From voda (Water)
  - State had a monopoly on selling vodka
7. Kulich – Easter bread
8. Know staple dishes and soups (quiz online)

## Painting

1. Before 18th century – icons and folk art (lubok)
2. 18th century – portraits
3. 19th century: A variety of genres (social themes, history, portraits, landscapes)

4. Lubok – equivalent of a comic strip
  - Sold in markets for cheap
5. Wanderers
  - Wanted to paint real life and bring art to people
  - 14 students left the Imperial Academy of Arts
  - Formed Peredvizhniki (Wanderers) society
  - Created Association of Travelling Art Exhibits
  - Content over form
  - Most famous
    - Ilya Repin (1844-1930)
6. “An Unexpected Return” – Repin
  - Exiled family member returning from exile
7. Isaak Levitan (Landscapes)
8. Futurism
  - Originated in Italy
  - Natalya Goncharova
  - Kandinsky
  - Malevich (Suprematism)
9. Chagall
  - Policies of Russification
    - Jewish pogroms
    - Language policies
  - Surrealism
  - Wanted to study art in Russia, but was Jewish so could not
    - Went to France instead

## Literature

1. Realism
2. Symbolism
  - Came from France
  - Alexander Blok
3. Futurism
  - Mayakovsky