Chapter 1 French Revolution

**Introduction**

Morning of 14 July 1789, a large no of troops move into the city of Paris. Rumours spread that they will fire up openly on the citizens of the Paris. There are almost 7000 men and women gathered in a town hall and create people militia. They decide to go into the government office and search for the ammunition. Some several hundred of the people marched toward the bastille fort. They kill the commander of bastille fort in search of ammunition and they released the prisoner they are about seven. They abolished the fort because they all hate that fort because it stood for the power of king and sell it in the marked and keep the souvenir of destruction. These all incident happen because there are many people are protesting because of the high price of bread.

**French Society During the late Eighteenth Century**

In 1774, Louis XVI of the bourbon family became the king of the France at the age of 20 and married to princess of the neighbour country Austrian Marie Antoinette. When he became the king he found an empty treasury. This is because of the long time of war and they gave the thirteen American colonies freedom from the same enemy Britain and the maintains of the army, court and palaces because of these they have to take a loan. The currency of the France is livres. This creates a debt of more than 2 billion livers. Now the lenders also starting lending money at a very high interest that the reason what that the most of the money is gone to paid interest of the lenders. So, Louis XVI decided to increase the tax. There are three estates in the France in which only third estates are only paying taxes.

They old regime is the society and the institution of the France before 1789. Peasants made up about 90 per cent of the population and did not have land to cultivate. About 60 per cent of the land are disturbed between the nobles (People belonging to the ruling family) and clergy (Person who perform a special function in church). The members of the clergy and Noble enjoy certain prevailages by birth. Some are paying taxes to the state. Peasants were obliged to render services to the nobles and clergy to work in their house and fields and work in the army. The church too extracted taxes like Tithes and Taille. Tithes Tax levied by the church comes one-third of the produce. Taille Tax to be paid directly to the church.

**The struggle to survive**

The population of the France has increase about 23 million in 1715 to 28 million in 1789 because of these there is difficult to feed these all these people so the price of bread become rapidly increase condition become whenever any drought came in which condition become worst and no much output come from the grains. This leads to the subsistence crisis. This occurred in the old Regime also.