

SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

HISTORY

Chapter 2 Socialism in Europe and the Russian Revolution

Q1. Name the classes which controlled economic and social powers in the society in 18th century.

Ans. Aristocracy and Church controlled economic and social power in the society.

Q2. What was suffragette movement?

Ans. A movement to give women the right to vote.

Q3. Who formed the Labour Party in Britain in 1905?

Ans. Socialists and trade unionists formed Labour Party in Britain in 1905.

Q4. Who was the ruler of Russia in 1914?

Ans. Tsar Nicholas II.

Q5. Who were Jadidists?

Ans. Jadidists were Muslim reformers within the Russian Empire.

Q6. What was the main result of the February Revolution?

Ans. Petrograd had led the revolution that brought down the monarchy in February 1917.

Q7. What is known as April Thesis?

Ans. April Thesis was introduced by Lenin. It had the following features:-

- i) War to be brought to close.
- ii) Land to be transferred to the peasants.
- iii) Banks be nationalized.

Q8. When did Bolshevik uprising take place in Petrograd?

Ans. 24 October 1917.

Q9. What was the new name of Bolshevik Party?

Ans. Russian Communist Party.

Q10. What was nomadism?

Ans. Nomadism means lifestyle of those who move from one place to another to earn living.

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Q11. Who introduced collectivisation programme in Russia?

Ans. Stalin introduced collectivization programme. All peasants were forced to cultivate in collective farms.

Q12. When were there bad harvests in USSR and what was its effect?

Ans.

- i) Bad harvests occurred in 1930-33.
- ii) It led to one of the most devastating famines in Soviet history when over 4 million people died.

Q13. Describe the effects of industrialization on society.

Ans.

- i) Industrialisation enabled men, women and children to work in factories.
- ii) The condition of workers was poor due to low wages, long working hours and unemployment during times of low demand for industrial goods.
- iii) There were problems of housing and sanitation in the cities due to rapid growth of cities.
- iv) Industries were private properties of the individuals.

Q14. Describe the main ideals of Karl Marx(1818-1883).

Ans.

- i) Marx argued that industrial society was 'capitalist society'.
- ii) Capitalist owned the capital invested in the factories and the profit of capitalist was produced by the workers.
- iii) The condition of workers could not improve as long as profit is accumulated by private capitalists.
- iv) Workers had to overthrow capitalism.
- v) He was convinced that workers would triumph in their conflict with capitalists.

Q15. Explain the consequences of the February Revolution of 1917 in Russia.

Ans.

- i) Tsar was abdicated on 2 March
- ii) Provisional government was formed to run the country

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- iii) It was agreed that Russia's future would be decided by a constituent assembly, elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage.
- iv) The provisional government removed restrictions on public meetings and associations.
- v) Soviets, like the Petrograd Soviet, were set up everywhere, though no common system of election was followed.

Q16. What changes took place after the 1905 Revolution?

Ans.

- i) The Tsar allowed the creation of an elected consultative Parliament or Duma.
- ii) Trade Unions were declared illegal
- iii) Severe restrictions were placed on political activity
- iv) The Tsar dismissed the first Duma within 75 days. The Tsar re-elected second Duma within 3 months.
- v) He did not want any questioning of his authority or reduction in his power. He changed the voting laws and packed the Third Duma with conservative politicians.

Q17. How did Bolsheviks establish a socialist state? Explain.

Ans.

- i) During civil war, industries and banks were nationalized.
- ii) Peasants were permitted to cultivate the socialized land.
- iii) Centralized planning was introduced.
- iv) Five-year plans were made
- v) An extended schooling system was introduced.
- vi) Arrangements were made for factory workers and peasants to enter universities.
- vii) Creches were established in factories for the children of women workers.
- viii) Cheap public health care system was provided.
- ix) Model living quarters were set up for workers.

Q18. Describe global impact of the Russian Revolution.

Ans.

- i) In many countries, communist parties were formed eg. Communist Party of Great Britain.
- ii) The Bolsheviks encouraged colonial people to fight against imperialism.
- iii) Many non- Russians from outside the USSR participated in the Conference of the People of the East (1920) and the Bolsheviks

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- founded Comintern which was an international union of pro-Bolshevik socialist parties.
- iv) Some received education in the USSR'S Communist University of the Workers of the East.
 - v) By the time of the outbreak of the Second World war, the USSR had given socialism a global face.

Q19. Describe the views of liberals about the transformation of society in the eighteenth century.

Ans.

- i) A nation with policy of religious toleration
- ii) Against the uncontrolled powers of dynastic rulers.
- iii) Wanted rights of the individuals against the government
- iv) In favor of representative elected parliamentary government
- v) Not in favor of universal adult franchise but only men of property to have right to vote. Not in favor of right to vote for women too.

Q20. What was the impact of World War I on the Russian economy?

Ans.

- i) Initially the war was popular.
- ii) As the war continued, the support became less as Tsar did not consult the main parties in the Duma
- iii) There was defeat of Russian armies in Germany and Austria.
- iv) By 1916, railway lines began to break down and men were called up to war.
- v) As a result, there were labour shortages and small workshops producing essential goods were shut down.

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