

Animal Farm & Russian Revolution: A Historical Backdrop

English 10



Under

Czarinicholas II

Pow<mark>erless</mark>

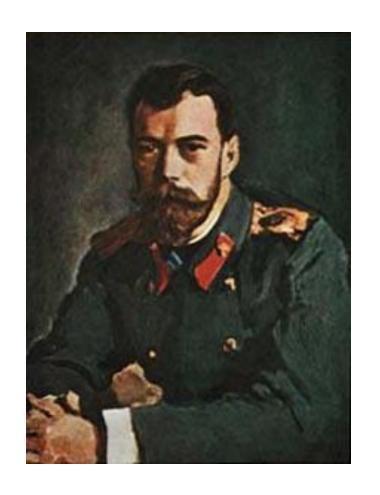
Proletariat
 Workers from
 Privatized Farms and Industry
 (owned by aristocracy)

Millions of People



1914-1917

- Czar Nicholas was dictator of Russia
- Czar = "power
 from God"







- Russia lagged behind other modernized countries in:
 - Industrialization
 - Government
 - Education



- Majority of population faced poverty, hunger, and unemployment
- **WWI**
 - Lost territory from war
 - Food & resources going to troops







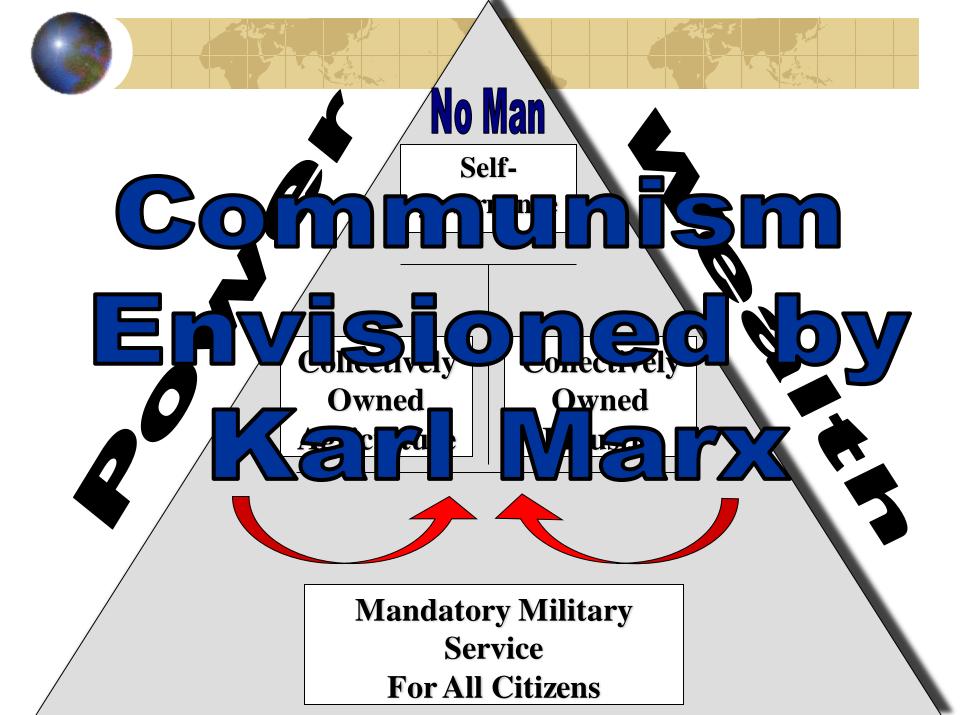
- Revolts led by hungry workers erupted across Russia
- 1917 Czar Nicholas II was overthrown



The Russian Revolution

Bolsheviks, under the leadership of **Vladimir Lenin**, Leon Trotsky, and Joseph Stalin proceeded to structure a **Communist country** as envisioned by Karl Marx.





Communism Envisioned by Karl Marx

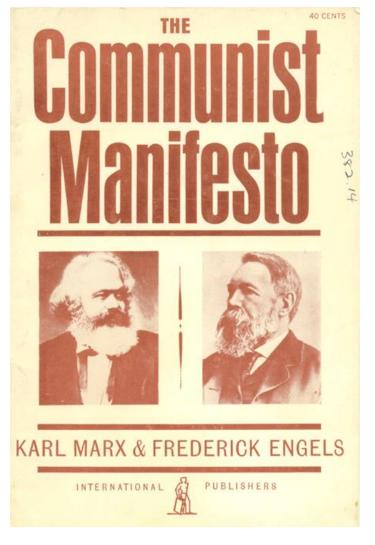
The communists hoped that after updating their country's industry, agriculture, & military, a populace of educated people could successfully govern themselves and collectively own the combined wealth of their nation.



Communism Envisioned by

Karl Marx

It was a utopian type dream where a classless society provided all its citizens with a comfortable and meaningful life.







The Russian Revolution

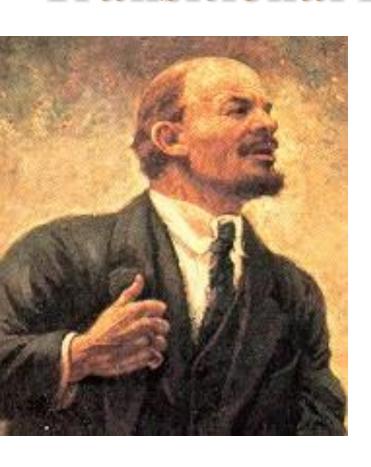


Joseph Stalin and Vladimir Lenin

Soviets gain popular support by promising:

- **Land**
- Bread
- Peace





- Their main goals were as follows:
 - Modernize industry and agriculture
 - Get rid of the aristocracy (middle & upper classes)

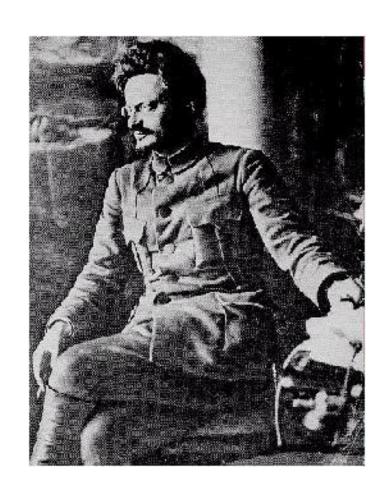


(Lenin's goals continued...)

- Provide adequate food, shelter, and medical services to the poor
- Educate the population in the ways of Communism
- Strengthen their military



1918: The Red Army, led by Leon Trotsky, identified and executed suspected anticommunists.



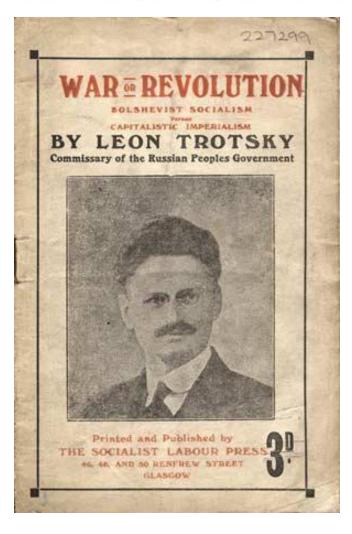




1918-1921

Civil War erupted between the Communists and their opposition





- \$1922: Lenin died before he could see a new Russia emerge.
- A power struggle developed between Trotsky and Stalin.

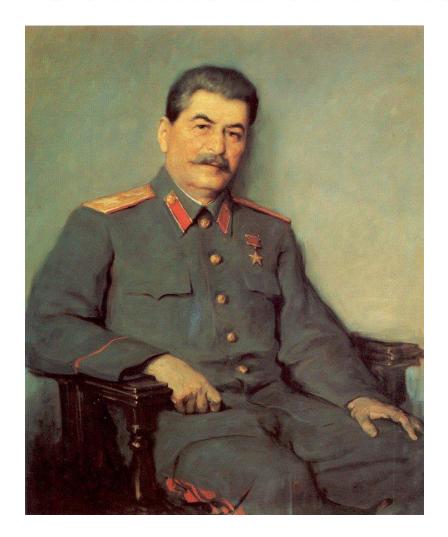


Trotsky was run out of the country by Stalin whose powers lie in his infamous secret police or "cheka" (KGB).









The Russia that Stalin developed was renamed the Soviet Union, and was not the same country that **Lenin had hoped** for.

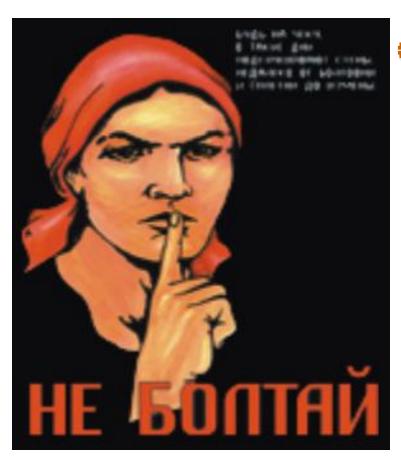


1928

- Stalin's "Five Year Plans"
 - Designed to bring Russia into the industrial age







- Stalin maintained power by using political and social terror.
 - KGB, Cheka, and system of spies



The Purges

- High ranking officials were arrested, forced to confess to false charges, and then executed
- Stalin was seen as protecting Russia







- In addition to his campaign of terror, Stalin also controlled all media sources.
- Stalin could effectively rewrite history to suit his political/military needs.







