

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Part I Leading Up to the Russian Revolution



PRE-REVOLUTIONARY RUSSIA



- # **Only true autocracy left in Europe**
- # **Nicholas II became last Russian czar in 1884**
- # **He believed he was the absolute ruler anointed by God**



RUSSIA'S SERFS (PEASANTS):

- # **Russia was divided into 2 groups — *the very rich & the very poor (serfs)***
- # **In exchange for working long hours for a landlord, a serf received a small log hut, a tiny piece of land, and a few animals.**
 - **Most of the serfs' crops went to pay the landlord's taxes.**
 - **Anyone who resisted the rules was beaten with a leather and wire whip. Many tried to escape, but few succeeded...**



Bloody Sunday

1905: Russia lost a war with Japan

▣ **This angered many serfs and workers**

▣ **January 22nd: thousands of people marched on the Winter Palace to ask Czar Nicholas for reforms**

▣ **Palace troops shot people in the crowd; this became known as “Bloody Sunday”**

▣ ***More and more riots began to occur after this...***



THE EFFECTS OF WORLD WAR I

1914: Russia entered World War I and did not do well

- Millions of soldiers were killed, wounded, or missing,
- people suffered severe food shortages,
- Soldiers did not have enough clothes, shoes, or weapons.



THE EFFECTS OF WORLD WAR I



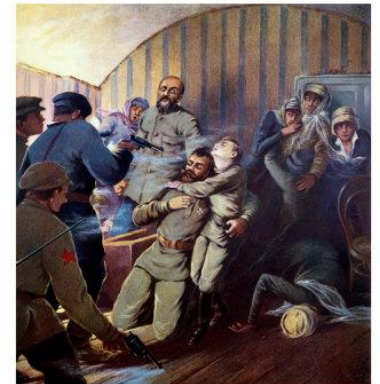
- # Czar Nicholas ignored the signs that people were unhappy
- # He was seen as a weak man & became increasingly remote as a ruler
 - He did not see that changes were needed in the way that his country was run
 - Numerous Soviets thus began to appear on the scene...

time for a change!

- **Early 1917**—there were riots in the streets
- **Women, factory workers, and farmers demanded a change!**
- **Groups greatly outnumbered the police & the military could not keep the peace**
- **Czar Nicholas was forced to give up his throne, and a weak government took over**
- **Czar & his family were captured**



Seeing stars of liberty





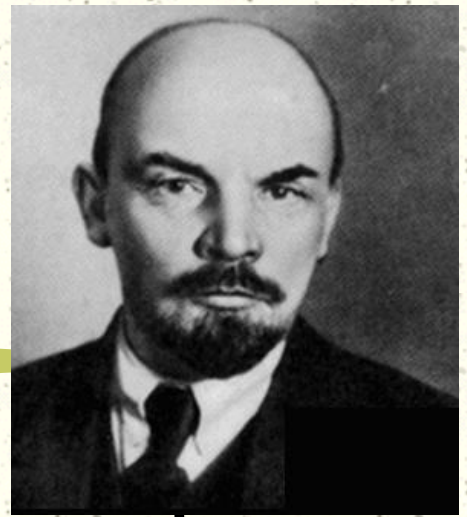
The Revolution Spreads...



Part II Lenin



lenin brings **communism** to russia



- # **1917:** Vladimir Lenin pushed the weak government aside and **Communists took control of Russia**
 - Czar Nicholas & his family were executed
- # **1922:** Lenin reorganized the country and named it the **Soviet Union**
 - Joined Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia, & Ukraine





Why COMMUNISM?

- # A theory that says the government should own the farms and factories for the benefit of all the citizens
- # Everyone should share the work equally and receive an equal share of the rewards
 - † Appealed greatly to many Russians (split between rich and poor)
 - † Lenin promised that communism would bring fairness and equality to ALL Russians...





View Communism
BrainPOP.