

Stalin Rules The Soviet Union

Joseph Stalin's Rise To Power

- ❖ After Lenin died, Joseph Stalin took over the communist party.
- ❖ Stalin ousted Leon Trotsky from the party.
- ❖ Forced all rivals out of positions of power, making himself absolute dictator.



Soviet Union Becomes Totalitarian

- ❖ Totalitarianism: A form of government in which the national government takes control of all aspects of both public and private life.
- ❖ Stalin used multiple methods to create fear among the people:
 - Police Terror: Police serve to enforce the central government policies.
 - Indoctrination: Instruction in the government policies.
 - Propaganda and Censorship: Controlled information that was received by the people.
 - Religious or Ethnic Persecution: Members of religious or ethnic groups created to seem like “Enemies of the state”.

Building A Totalitarian State

- ❖ Stalin built a police state to maintain his power.
- ❖ He turned against members of the communist party (1934)
 - Great Purge: campaign of terror directed at eliminating anyone who threatened his power.
- ❖ Government controlled all education.
- ❖ Aimed to replace religious teachings with the ideals of communism.

Stalin Seizes Control Of the Economy

- ❖ Stalin called for a **command economy**.
 - Using this , political leaders identified the country's economic needs and figured out how to fulfill them.
- ❖ Outlined the first of several **Five-Year Plans** for the development of the Soviet unions economy.
- ❖ Five Year Plans:
 - Set impossibly high quotas, or numerical goals.
 - Government limited production of consumers goods.
 - Most targets fell short.

Industrial Revolution

- ❖ Set high goals to increase the output of:
 - Steel
 - Coal
 - Oil
 - Electricity
- ❖ People faced severe shortages of housing, food, clothes, and other necessary goods.
- ❖ Produced impressive economic results.

Agricultural Revolution

- ❖ Government began to seize over 25 million privately owned farms (1928).
- ❖ Large government farms were called **Collective Farms**.
- ❖ Families worked on these farms (collectives).
- ❖ Resistance was strong against the Kulaks.
- ❖ Government decided to eliminate them.

Agricultural revolution (Cont.)

- ❖ Peasants actively fought back against government control.
 - Many killed livestock
 - Destroyed crops
- ❖ Secret police herded peasants onto collective farms at the point of a bayonet.
- ❖ Between 5 million and 10 million peasants died as a result of this revolution
- ❖ That year, country produced almost twice the wheat then it had in 1928.

Daily Life Under Stalin

- ❖ Women's roles greatly expanded
 - Better education and mastered new technical skills
- ❖ Citizens found their personal freedoms limited, consumer goods in short supply, and dissent prohibited
- ❖ Economic plans created high demand for skilled workers.
- ❖ Women had to join labor force.

Propaganda

- ❖ Government controlled:
 - Newspapers
 - Motion pictures
 - Radio
 - An other sources of information
- ❖ Soviet newspapers and radio's glorified achievements of communism, Stalin, and his economic programs



Propaganda

