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The Old Regime (Ancien Regime)

- Old Regime socio-political system which existed in most of Europe during the 18th century
- Countries were ruled by absolutism the monarch had absolute control over the government
- Classes of people privileged and unprivileged
 Unprivileged people paid taxes and treated badly
 Privileged people did not pay taxes and treated well





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Society under the Old Regime

- In France, people were divided into three estates In France, people were divided into three estates

 - First Estate

 · High-ranking members of the Church
 · Privileged class

 - Second Estate
 · Nobility
 · Privileged class

 - Third Estate
 · Everyone else - from peasants in the countryside to wealthy
 bourgeoisie merchants in the cities
 · Unprivileged class

The Three Estates						
Estate	Population	Privileges	Exemptions	Burdens		
First	•Circa 130,000 •High-ranking clargy	Collected the tithe Constrolling of the press Control of education Kept records of birth, death, marriage, etc. Cutholic faith held honored position of being the state religion (practiced by monarch and nobliny) Owned 20% of the land	Paid no taxes Subject to Church law rather than civil law	 Moral obligation (rather than legal obligation) to assist the poor and needy Support the monarchy and Old Regime 		
Second	•Circa 110,000 •Nobles	Collected taxes in the form of feudal dues Monopolized military and state appointments Owned 20% of the land	Paid no taxes	-Support the monarchy and Old Regime		
Third	 Circa 25,000,000 Everyone else: artisans, bourgeoisie, city workers, merchants, peasants, etc., along with many parish priests 	*None	*None	Pikid all taxes "Tritle (Church tax) "Oran (tax on goods brought into cisies) "Carvel (forced read work) "Capletics (or local and "Virgitime (income tax) "Godentie (tax) "Safet (tax) "Safet (tax) "Safet (tax) "Safet (tax) "Safet (tax)		

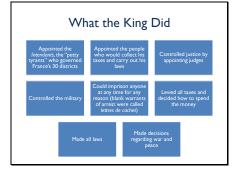


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Government under the Old Regime: The Divine Right of Kings

• Monarch ruled by divine right

- God put the world in motion
- God put some people in positions of power
- Power is given by God
- No one can question God
- No one can question someone put in power by God
- Questioning the monarchy was blasphemy because it meant questioning God



Economic Conditions under the Old Regime

- France's economy was based primarily on agriculture
- Peasant farmers of France bore the burden of taxation
- Poor harvests meant that peasants had trouble paying their regular taxes
- Certainly could not afford to have their taxes raised • Bourgeoisie often managed to gather wealth
- But were upset that they paid taxes while nobles did not

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France Is Bankrupt

- The king (Louis XVI) lavished money on himself and residences like Versailles .
- Queen Marie Antoinette was seen as a wasteful spender
- Government found its funds depleted as a result of wars - Including the funding of the American Revolution
- Deficit spending of unexhibited the value of the value of

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PALACE OF VERSAILLES AS SEEN FROM THE GARDENS This side of the palace is almost 2000 feet long. The portion seen in this picture contains the Gallery of Mirror, so named from the seventeen large mirrors which corrup the aids or the room opposite the round arched windows on the second flow. It was in this great hall that the Treaty of 1500 with Germany, edding the World War, was signal by divergent representing nearly line tends of the popula-world War, was signal by divergent representing nearly line in tends of the popula-tion.

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Philosophy of the French Revolution: The Enlightenment (Age of Reason)

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- Scientists during the Renaissance had discovered laws that govern the natural world
 Intellectuals *philosophes* began to ask if natural laws might also apply to human beings
 Particularly to human institutions such as governments
 Philosophes were secular in thinking they used reason and logic, rather than faith, religion, and superstition, to answer important questions
 Used reason and logic to determine how governments are formed
 Triel to figure out what logical, rational principles work to the people to their governments
 Questioned the divine right of kings

Long- and Short-term Causes

- Long-term causes
 Also known as underlying causes
 Causes which can stem back many years

- Short-term causes
 Also known as immediate causes
 Causes which happen close to the moment the change or action
 happens
- Example: A person is fired from his or her job.

 Long-term cause(s): The person is often late to work and is generally unproductive on the job.
 Short-term cause(s): The person fails to show up for work and does not call the employer.
- Key: One typically does not happen without the other. Events which bring important change (or action) need both long-term and short-term causes.

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Long-term Causes of the French Revolution Everything previously discussed System of mercantilism which restricted trade Absolutism Absolutism Unjust socio-political system (Old Regime) Poor harvests which left peasant farmers with little money for taxes Influence of Enlightenment philosophes Influence of other successful revolutions England's Glorious Revolution (1688-1689) American Revolution (1775-1783)

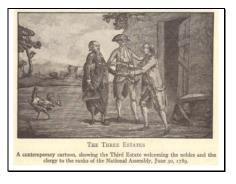
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Short-term Causes of the French Revolution Great Fear Extense-General - basis XVI had no choice but to call for a meeting of the Extense-General to find a solution to the bankruptcy problem - All three extates - Had not met since 1614 - Set in motion a series of events which resulted in the abolicition of the completely and political system for France Caused by deficit spending Financial ministers (Turgot, Necker, Calonne) proposed changes But these were rejected Assembly of Notables voted down taxation for the nobility in 1787 Worst famine in memory Hungry, impoverished peasants feared that nobles at Estates-General were seeking greater privileges Attacks on nobles occurred throughout the country in 1789

Preparing for the Estates-General

- Winter of 1788-1789
 - Members of the estates elected representatives
- Cahiers
 - Traditional lists of grievances written by the people
 - Nothing out of the ordinary Asked for only moderate changes

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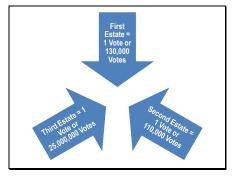
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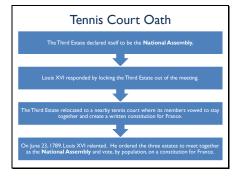
Meeting of the Estates-General: May 5, 1789

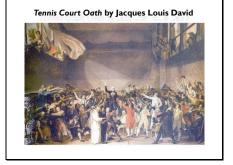
- Voting was conducted by estate

 Each estate had one vote
 First and Second Estates could operate as a bloc to stop the Third Estate from having its way
- \Diamond First Estate + \Diamond Second Estate vs. \Diamond Third Estate
- Representatives from the Third Estate demanded that voting be by population
 This would give the Third Estate a great advantage
- Deadlock resulted

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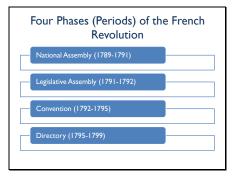
The Tennis Court Oath

"The National Assembly, considering that it has been summoned to establish the constitution of the kingdom, to effect the regeneration of the public order, and to maintain the true principles of monarchy; that nothing can prevent it from continuing its deliberations in whatever place it may be forced to establish itself; and, finally, that wheresover its members are assembled, there is the National Assembly;

"Decrees that all members of this Assembly shall immediately take a solemn oath not to separate, and to reassemble wherever circumstances require, until the constitution of the kingdom is established and consolidated upon firm foundations; and that, the said oath taken, all members and each one of them individually shall ratify this steadfast resolution by signature."

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Re	view Questio	ns
1. What was the Old Regime?	2. How does an absolute monarchy (absolutism) operate?	3. Describe the size, privileges, exemptions, and burdens of the three estates.
4. What is deficit spending?	5. Describe the type of thinking used by the <i>philosophes</i> .	6. What were the underlying (long-term) causes of the French Revolution?
7. What were the immediate (short-term) causes of the French Revolution?	8. Explain the debate over voting which occurred in the <i>Estates-General.</i>	9. What was the Tennis Court Oath?





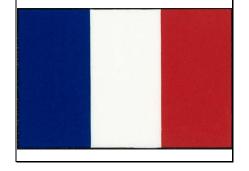




Uprising in Paris

People of Paris seized weapons from the **Bastille** July 14, 1789
 Parisians organized their own government which they called the Commune
 Small groups – factions – competed to control the city of Paris

Uprising spread throughout France Nobles were attacked
 Nobles were attacked
 Records of feudal dues and
 owed taxes were destroyed
 Many nobles fled the
 country – became known
 as *amigrés* Louis XVI was forced to fly
 the new tricolor flag of
 France

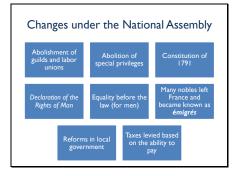


Goodbye, Versailles! Adieu, Versailles!

- Parisian Commune feared that Louis XVI would have foreign troops invade France to put down the rebellion
- Louis XVI's wife, Marie Antoinette, was the sister of the Austrian emperor
- A group of women attacked Versailles on October 5, 1789
 - Forced royal family to relocate to Paris along with National Assembly
 Royal family spent next several years in the Tuileries Palace as virtual prisoners

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Declaratio	n of the Righ	ts of Man
Freedom of religion	Freedom of speech	Freedom of the press
Guaranteed property rights	"Liberty, equality, fraternity!"	Right of the people to create laws
	Right to a fair trial	

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Deciarat	ion of the Woman	
Journalist Olympe de Gouges argued in her Declaration of the Rights of Woman that women are equal citizens and should benefit from governmental reforms just as men did.	Madame Jeanne Roland also served as leader in the women's rights movement, and was able to heavily influence her husband (a government official).	Women did gain some rights during the French Revolution, but these were designed for purposes other than liberating women. • Women could inherit property, buc on because doing to weakened reading the upper disses. among the upper disses. among th

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End of Special Privileges

- Church lands were seized, divided, and sold to peasants
- Civil Constitution of the Clergy required that Church officials be elected by the people,
- with salaries paid by the government
 2/3 of Church officials fled the country rather than swear allegiance to this
- All feudal dues and tithes were eradicated
- All special privileges of the First and Second Estates were abolished

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Reforms in Local Government

- The 30 provinces and their "petty tyrants" (Intendants) were replaced with 83 new departments
 - Ruled by elected governors
- New courts, with judges elected by the people, were established

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Constitution of 1791

• Democratic features

- France became a limited monarchy
- King became merely the head of state
 All laws were created by the Legislative Assembly
- Feudalism was abolished
- Undemocratic features
- Voting was limited to taxpayers
- Offices were reserved for property owners · This new government became known as the
- Legislative Assembly

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Legislative Assembly (1791-1792)

- Royal family sought help from Austria

 In June, 1791, they were caught trying to escape to Austria

 Nobles who fled the revolution lived abroad as
- émigrés
- They hoped that, with foreign help, the Old Regime could be restored in France
 Church officials wanted Church lands, rights, and
- privileges restored - Some devout Catholic peasants also supported the Church Political parties, representing different interests, emerged
 – Girondists

 - Jacobins



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Opposition to the New Government

- European monarchs feared that revolution would spread to their own countries

 France was invaded by Austrian and Prussian troops
 In the uproar, the Commune took control of Paris
 Commune was led by Danton, a member of the Jacobin political party

 Voters began electing representatives for a new convention which would write a republican constitution for France

 A republic is a government in which the people elect representatives who will create laws and rule on their behalf
 Meanwhile, thousands of nobles were executed under the
 - Denair Meanwhile, thousands of nobles were executed under the suspicion that they were conspirators in the foreign invasion

Convention (1792-1795)

- On September 22, 1792, the **Convention** met for the first time
- Established the First French Republic
- Faced domestic opposition and strife
- **Girondists** were moderates who represented the rich middle class of the provinces
- Jacobins (led by Marat, Danton, and Robespierre) represented workers Faced opposition from abroad
- Austria, England, Holland, Prussia, Sardinia, and Spain formed a Coalition invading France

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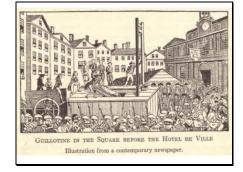
Abolishment of the Monarchy

- The Convention abolished the monarchy
 - As long at the royal family lived, the monarchy could be restored
 Put the royal couple on trial for treason
 Convictions were a foregone conclusion
 Louis XVI was guillotined on January 21, 1793

 - Marie Antoinette was guillotined on October 16, 1793
 - 1793 her Marie-Thérèse was allowed to go to Vienna in 1795
 She could not become gueen because of Salie law, which did not allow females to succeed to the throne
 Son Louis-Charles, a.k.a. Louis XVII (lived 1785-1795) was beaten and mistreated until he died in prison



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The three most memorable Jacobins were **Georges Danton**, **Maximilien Robespierre**, and **Jean**-

Because of a debilitating illness, **Marat** was eventually forced to work from home. He was assassinated (in the tub while taking a medicinal bath) by **Charlotte Corday**, a Girondist sympathizer, in July, 1793.

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Growing Coalition against the French

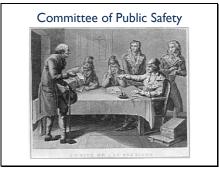
- Convention drafted Frenchmen into the army to defeat the foreign Coalition
 These troops were led by General Carnot
- The people supported military operations because they did not want the country back under the Old Regime • Rouget de Lisle wrote the "Marseillaise"
- Became the French national anthem
- Inspired troops as they were led into battle
- After two years

 Coalition was defeated
 - France had gained, rather than lost, territory

Reign of Terror: September 5, 1793-July 27, 1794

- Despite military successes, the Convention continued to face problems domestically
- **Danton** and his **Jacobin** political party came to dominate French politics
- dominate French politics Committee of Public Safety Headed by Danton (and later Robespierre) Those accused of treason were tried by the Committee's Revolutionary Tribunal Approximately 15,000 people died on the guillotine Guillotine became known as the "National Razor" Including innovative thinkers like Olympe de Gouges and Madame Jeanne Roland

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End of the Reign of Terror

- Members of the **Girondist** political party tried to end the **Reign of Terror** initiated by the **Jacobin** political party This opposition to the **Committee of Public Safety** caused many Girondists to be tried and executed for treason Eventually, even **Georges Danton** wanted to end the executions
- This resulted in Danton being tried and executed for treason
 Maximilien Robespierre became leader of the
 Committee of Public Safety
- Committee of Yubic Safety He continued the executions Convention came to blame Robespierre for the Reign of Terror **Thermidorean Reaction** July 27, 1794 ended the Reign of Terror Convention sent Robespierre and other members of the Committee of Public Safety to the guillotine Robespierre was guillotined on July 28, 1794

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Constitution of the Year III of the Republic (1795)

- With the foreign invaders vanquished and the Reign of Terror at an end, the Convention was finally able to inaugurate its new constitution
- Constitution of the Year III of the Republic (1795) created the Directory

