

French Revolution

December 14th, 2022

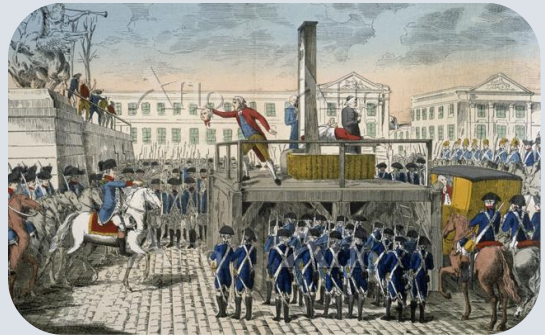


I'll talk about what happened in France after the French Revolution and the reign of Napoleon.



1789
Creation of the French
Republic

Guillotine



The monarchy was overthrown in 1789 and the French Republic was created.

During this chaotic period, governments changed frequently, and there was civil war and wars waged by foreign countries that wanted to restore the king.

The most famous symbol of this time was the guillotine.

The revolutionary government invented it to eliminate enemies of the revolution.

Napoleon Bonaparte



1804

Became emperor

1805

**Battle of the Three
Emperors at**

1806 **Austerlitz**

Failure of the Russian

1812 **expedition**

Defeat at the Battle of

1813 **Leipzig**

Abdication

General Napoleon Bonaparte stabilized the country in 1804 by making himself emperor.

He killed democracy, but increased France's military power.

He waged war across Europe to bring the values of republican government to the countries still ruled by monarchies.

He failed to conquer Russia, and he was defeated by the British in 1814, and after that a new era in Europe began.



The Vienna

System
Rejects the revolutionary ideals of freedom, equality and national unity.

It was a reactionary regime designed to restore the pre-revolutionary absolute monarchy's right to rule

This was called the Viennese regime of the 19th century.

The Vienna System was a conservative reactionary system that attempted to restore and maintain absolute monarchy in Europe after the Napoleonic Wars.

Citizens who had gained freedom and equality as a result of the French Revolution were outraged and started civil movements in their own countries.

These events will now be explained in more detail.



1814

**The Congress of
Vienna,
led by Metternich.**

1815

**The Holy League
League of Four
Nations**



In 1814, the Congress of Vienna, led by Austrian Foreign Minister Metternich, attempted to restore a conservative and restorationist political system.

On the basis of this Viennese regime, the Bourbon dynasty of France was restored because the French foreign minister insisted on orthodoxy. After the Congress of Vienna, the Holy League and the League of Four Nations were formed, which became the League of Five Nations when France joined in 1818.

In spite of all its unpopular aspects, the Vienna system made Europe much more peaceful than it had been in recent centuries.



1830

**The July
Revolution**
King bans freedom of publication
and amends elections to favour
large landowners.

Citizens of Paris uprising

A decade or so later, the Bourbon dynasty's restoration of the old political system was met with growing public resentment, leading to the July Revolution in Paris in 1830.

This forced King Charles X into exile and the dynasty fell.

The July Monarchy began with Louis-Philippe as king.

This time period is the setting of the famous story Les Misérables.

1848

**The February
Revolution**
Bourgeoisie vs. Working
class
**Realisation of universal
suffrage**



Another decade or so after this revolution, the February Revolution took place in Paris in 1848.

Workers supported the revolution because only the wealthy could participate in elections under the July Monarchy.

As a result, the king was deposed and France became a republic, and universal male suffrage was held.

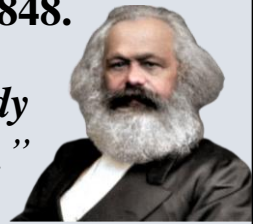


1848

He was elected the president, then he cancelled elections and made himself emperor, and stayed in power until 1870!

He was not a genius and had no achievements before 1848.

“History happens first as tragedy and the second time as comedy.”



Louis-Napoléon, Napoleon’s nephew, was elected president in 1848, and after a coup d'état, he took dictatorial power and became emperor, ending the brief period of democracy.

At this time, Karl Marx wrote his famous phrase, “History happens first as tragedy and the second time as comedy.”

He noticed that the second French Revolution was happening in the same way as the first French Revolution, but in a sadly comical way.

The first Napoleon was evil, but he was a genius at military strategy and governance.

Louis-Napoleon was a pale shadow of his uncle.

He was not a genius and had no achievements before he came back to France in 1848.

It was a great shock that such an ordinary fool had risen to power so quickly with only his famous name to support him.

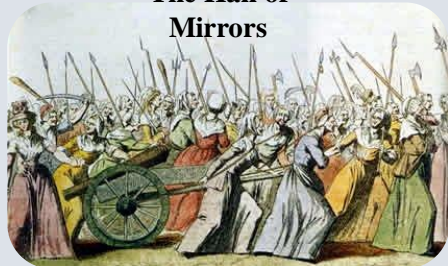
Some say he was much like Donald Trump in the US—a man with no political experience that no one expected to be president someday.



The Palace of Versailles



**The Hall of
Mirrors**



Here I would like to talk about art in relation to these events.

The art of the 17th century is known as Baroque.

Classicism was introduced under Louis XIV.

The Palace of Versailles, completed in 1715, is a typical example.

When we think of the Palace of Versailles, we think of the Hall of Mirrors, where there are 357 mirrors, which were very expensive when they were built.

It is also said that the king always ate his food cold because the cooking and dining rooms were far apart.

Seventy-four years later, during the French Revolution, citizens were outraged by the luxury of life at Versailles while they were suffering from poverty and hunger, and the main gates, decorated with gold, were torn down.



Louis David 1748 - 1825

The greatest master of French neoclassicism. He became a pioneer of neo-classicism in French painting, producing paintings with rigorous, intelligent composition and highly realistic depictions and stable scene development with little movement.



Art was also important after the monarchy was abolished.

The Revolutionary government hired Louis David to paint many glorious scenes of the Revolution.

Louis David was an interesting person during this era because he painted pictures for the monarchy, the Revolutionary government, and Napoleon. It was very unusual for such people to survive from one regime to the next. Unlike so many others in his position, Louis David did not lose his head in the guillotine.

Each successive government wanted to use him for their propaganda.



Thank you for listening.