



The Russian REVOLUTION

1861

THE ABOLISHMENT OF SERFDOM

The Russian Empire, ruled by Alexander II, passed the Emancipation Reform. The Abolishment of Serfdom created a new dynamic in the country, granting serfs the rights of free citizens. Former serfs now had the ability to marry, own property and businesses, but more importantly serfs were liberated which provided them with more opportunities to organize.

1890

RUSSIAN POPULATION

During the years between 1890-1910 the population of major Russian cities, including St. Petersburg and Moscow, doubled. This directly contributed to the increase in the number of industrial workers. Crowded cities led to poor living conditions. The working class was subjected to food shortages, limited resources dreadful weather and lack of government investment to ameliorate conditions. |

1905

BLOODY SUNDAY MASSACRE

The worker's frustration against the monarchy led to the unrest of Russian citizens, whom decided to organize an unarmed protest. The march was led by priest Georgy Apollonovich Gapon. The workers were attacked by the Czar's troops killing hundreds of workers during the demonstration. The massacre sparked strikes and riots across country.

1914

WORLD WAR I

Russia joined World War I, in support of Serbs and their French and British allies. Russia's participation in World War I rapidly proved to be disastrous for the Empire. The Russian empire was no match for Germany, which led to their economic collapse. As a result Russians experience food shortages further proving the empire was more interested in supporting capitalist nations than its own citizens.

1917

FEBRUARY REVOLUTION

In Petrograd, protesters took to the streets demanding bread. Striking industrial workers joined the protesters as they confronted the police after refusing to abandon the streets. Despite the police effort, demonstrators continued to protest, forcing the troops to withdraw. The Duma formed a temporary government, soon after the Czar Nicholas abandoned the throne, ending centuries of Russian Romanov rule.

1917

BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION

Leftist radicals, directed by Bolshevik Party leader Vladimir Lenin, conducted a coup d'état against the Duma's temporary government assigned by Russia's bourgeois capitalist class. Bolsheviks believed in a government councils of soldiers, peasants and workers. They occupied strategic government buildings. The Bolshevik formed a new government with Lenin as its head, making him the dictator of the world's first communist state.



THE BLACK ORCHID PARTY