

FROM LENIN TO STALIN

- I. Lenin Builds a Communist State
 - a. Government
 - i. 1922 Constitution
 - 1. Supreme Soviet
 - a. Elected legislature
 - 2. All citizens over 18 could vote
 - 3. All political power, resources, means of production belong to workers and peasants
 - ii. Reality
 - 1. Communist Party ruled autocratically like the tsars did
 - 2. Russia dominates other republics within USSR
 - b. NEP
 - i. War communism failed
 - ii. New Economic Plan
 - 1. some capitalist business, but government control banks and large businesses
 - 2. peasants given land and could sell their surplus crops
 - 3. was temporary measure to help economy recover
- II. Stalin Gains Power
 - a. Stalin and Trotsky compete for power once Lenin dies in 1924
 - b. Joseph Stalin
 - i. Grew up poor in Caucus mountains
 - ii. Jailed for revolutionary ideas
 - iii. Stole money to help pay for Bolshevik revolution
 - iv. Becomes Party secretary in 20's
 - 1. controlled access to jobs
 - c. Stalin versus Trotsky
 - i. Trotsky
 - 1. firm Marxist
 - 2. believe in world wide revolution against capitalism
 - ii. Stalin
 - 1. want to build socialism in Russia before moving other countries
 - iii. Stalin wins power
 - 1. forces Trotsky into exile, then assassinates him
- III. Five Year Plans
 - a. Economic plans to industrialize Russia
 - i. Focus on heavy industry, transportation, farm production
 - b. Command Economy
 - i. Government makes all basic economic decisions
 - ii. Government owns all business and financial resources
 - c. Industrial Growth
 - i. Set high production quotas
 - 1. reward those who meet it, punish those who miss

- d. Mixed Results
 - i. Wages remained low and people remained poor
 - ii. Shortages and surpluses varied due to government, not market
 - iii. Pressure to meet quotas led to high quantity, low quality products
 - iv. Successful in building farm equipment
- IV. Revolution in Agriculture
 - a. Stalin eliminate all private ownership of land
 - i. collectives – large farms owned and operated by state
 - ii. all animals, tools, supplies belong to state
 - iii. government provide fertilizer, new technology
 - iv. surplus grain sold to help industry
 - b. Peasant reaction
 - i. kill animals, destroy food, only grow enough to survive
 - ii. kulak – wealthy peasants
 - 1. government take their land, send them to prison
 - c. Stalin reaction
 - i. take all grain, cause famine
 - ii. 8 million people died
- V. Great Purge
 - a. 1934 – Great Purge (reign of terror)
 - i. all opponents to Stalin arrested or executed
 - b. 1936-1938 show trials
 - i. enemies of state confess to crimes after being tortured
 - c. 4 million people killed
 - d. only people loyal to Stalin were left
- VI. Foreign Policy
 - a. Comintern
 - i. Communist International
 - ii. formed by Lenin to spread revolution against imperialists
 - iii. spread anti western propaganda, made west nervous
- VII. Impact of Three Revolutions
 - a. American Revolution
 - i. Declaration of Independence inspire democratic governments
 - b. French Revolution
 - i. inspired revolts against aristocracy world wide
 - c. Russian Revolution
 - i. created model for socialist and communist states