

The Revolution and Its Aftermath

Chapter 1: The French Revolution · Topic 2

Key Concept

After seizing power, the Bolsheviks withdrew Russia from World War I and began nationalising industries and redistributing land from wealthy landowners to peasants.

A civil war (1918-1922) erupted between the Bolshevik 'Red Army' and various opposition groups called the 'White Army', causing significant suffering and economic disruption.

The Bolsheviks eventually won the civil war, consolidating their control and establishing the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1922.

Under later leadership, particularly Joseph Stalin, the Soviet Union underwent rapid industrialisation and collectivisation of agriculture, though at significant human cost.

Quick Revision Notes

- The Bolsheviks withdrew Russia from WWI.
- They nationalised industries and redistributed land.
- A civil war occurred from 1918-1922.
- The war was between the Red Army and White Army.
- The Bolsheviks won the civil war.
- The USSR was established in 1922.
- Stalin later led rapid industrialisation.
- Collectivisation of agriculture came at significant human cost.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research the Russian Civil War and its outcome.
- 2 Discuss why the Bolsheviks withdrew from WWI.
- 3 Explain what land redistribution meant for peasants.
- 4 Research when and how the USSR was formed.
- 5 Discuss Stalin's policies of industrialisation and collectivisation.
- 6 Create a timeline from the revolution to the USSR's formation.