

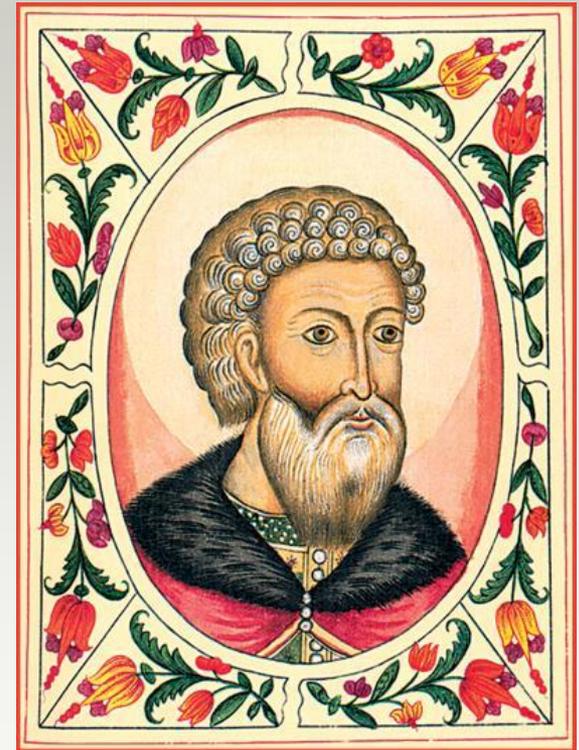
Chapter 18: The Rise of Russia



Peter the Great

A Newly Independent Russia

- 1480: Russia gained independence from Mongol control (Golden Horde).
 - Led by Duchy of Moscow and Ivan III
- Mongols left Russia weak and isolated in connections, especially with Western Europe.
- Mongols reduced vitality of Russian culture.
- Economic life was slow.
 - Trade was down, limited manufacturing
 - Purely an agricultural economy reliant on peasant labor



Ivan III

Emergence as a New Power

- Ivan III (Ivan the Great) (reign 1462-1505)
 - Makes Russian rule legitimate
 - Organized a strong military to push Mongols back
 - Gained territory for Moscow
 - Asserted control over all Orthodox churches
- Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible) (reign 1547–1584)
 - Continued territorial expansion into Siberia
 - Killed supposed opposition through the Oprichniki (police group)
 - Establishes absolute monarchy while weakening authority of *boyars*
 - Dies without an heir



Expansion Under the Ivans

- Territorial expansion pushed Mongols back.
 - Recruited Cossacks (Russian peasant pioneers/military) to aid expansion.
 - Took over sparsely populated regions
 - Expansion leads to addition of Muslims in Central Asia to Russian territory
- Expansion offered rewards; Tsars gave nobles and bureaucrats estates on new land.
- Tsars had contacts with Western Europe.
 - Ivan III: diplomatic missions
 - Ivan IV: established trading contacts (traded fur and raw materials for manufactured products)



Russian Expansion Under the Early Tsars



From its base in the Moscow region, Russia expanded in three directions (N; W; S); the move into Siberia under Ivan the Terrible involved pioneering new settlements, as the government encouraged Russians to push eastward.

Quick Review Question

1. Why, and how, did Russia expand under the Ivans?
2. How did the Ivans legitimize their rule?
3. Who are the Cossacks and how did they affect Russian history?

Romanov Dynasty

- Time of Troubles
 - Ivan IV died without an heir.
 - New claims to power by *boyars*.
 - Weakness leads to attacks from Sweden and Poland.
- Romanov Dynasty (1613-1917 CE)
 - Mikhail Romanov (1st Romanov) reestablished internal order.
 - Drove out invaders.
 - Expanded borders up to Ottoman Empire
 - Alexis Romanov (2nd Romanov)
 - Put state in control of Russian Orthodox Church.



Peter the Great

- Peter I (Peter the Great) (reign 1689-1725)
 - Built up tsarist control over bureaucracy and military; absolute monarch
 - Chancery of Secret Police
 - Wanted to move Russia into Western sphere, but didn't want Russia to become entirely Western
 - Expanded territory
- Shifted focus westward:
 - Attacked Sweden in the Great Northern War; secured an ice-free port on Baltic Sea and created a navy
- Moved capital from Moscow to the new St. Petersburg



Peter the Great's Westernization

- Opens Russia up to Western influence
- Improvements in political organization
 - Specialization of Russian bureaucracy
 - Revision of law codes
 - Improved weaponry and navy
 - Revised tax system (lower peasant taxes)
- Economic developments (inherited a Russia that was largely agricultural)
 - Built up mining industries so Russia will not need to import metal for weapons
 - Used Western technology knowledge
 - Landlords rewarded for using a serf system
- Cultural change from his trips to Western Europe
 - Brought Western science, technology, ballet, gender attitudes
 - Encouraged Western-styled clothing among boyars
 - Limited to the elite; no wide-spread cultural change

Russia Under Peter the Great



 *The Expansion of Russia under Peter the Great. Peter added vital territory on the Baltic Sea to the vast Russian empire.*

From 1696 to 1725, Peter the Great allowed his country only one year of peace. For the rest of this reign he pursued war. By the end, he had established territory on the southern shores of the Baltic Sea, where he founded the new city of St. Petersburg.

Quick Review Question

1. What was the Great Northern War? What does it accomplish?
2. What was included in Peter the Great's Westernization program?
3. What is the world historical significance of Russia's westernization under Peter?

Catherine the Great

- Peter the Great died in 1724
 - Several decades of weak rule
- Peter III took the throne in 1761; he was assassinated and his wife Catherine II rules
- Catherine II (Catherine the Great) (reigned 1762-1796)
 - Defender of monarchical powers; strict interpretation of absolute monarchy
 - Continues expansionist trends and westernization of Peter the Great
 - Interested in Enlightenment



The Catherinian Era

- Supported *boyars*: gave them new powers over serfs and their estates
- Pugachev Rebellion (1773-1775)
 - Claims she needs greater military and judicial powers
- Instruction of 1767
 - Selective Westernization
- Patronized Western-style art and architecture
- By 1798, Russia had the largest land empire in the world and is one of the great powers of Europe.



Russian America

- Catherine the Great continued Russian expansion into Siberia; Alaska; N California
- Used for the Russian fur trade
- Russian population was 700
- 1860s: Overhunting had reduced available furs; distance from Russia made it difficult to supply
- Sold in 1867 to the U.S. for \$7.2 million (2 cents an acre)



Quick Review Question

1. How was Catherine the Great like earlier Russian Tsars?
2. Catherine's forces put down the Pugachev Rebellion. Who, within Russia, would be rebelling? Over what?

Russian Serfdom

- 17th and 18th: serfs' rights decreased.
 - 1649: serfdom becomes hereditary
- By 1800, 1/2 people in Russia were serfs.
 - Struggling Russian economy leads peasants to fall into debt and accept serf status.
 - Subordinate to western economy
- Power of nobles over serfs steadily increased
 - Way for government to satisfy the nobility and regulate peasants
- Serfs paid high taxes, were illiterate and poor → Recurring serf rebellions



Economics in Russia

- 95% of Russia was rural.
- Russian economy produced enough money to support an expanding state and empire.
- Agricultural methods were highly traditional and limited (old technology)
 - Serfs were unmotivated because extra production was taken by landlords
- No merchant class; most merchants are Westerners stationed in Russia
 - Government has greater role in economy than West because of lack of merchants

Questions

1. What is a serf? How prominent was serfdom in Russia by the 18th century?
2. Draw a pyramid showing the social class system in Russia.