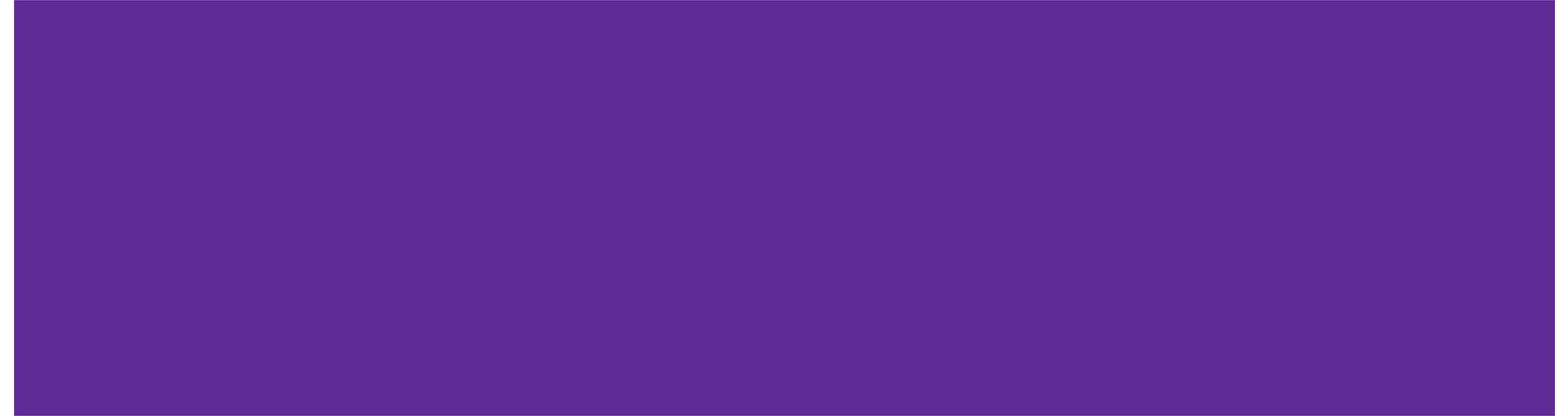


# Unit 4

Industrial Revolution, Russian Revolution, and Chinese Revolution



# Day 4: Russian Revolution



## **Starter: March 20th and 21st**

In your own words, what is the difference between capitalism, socialism and communism?

# RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



# Bolshevik Revolution



- Took place in 1917 when the peasants and working class people of **Russia** revolted against the government of Tsar Nicholas II.
- They were led by Vladimir Lenin and a group of revolutionaries called the Bolsheviks.
- The new communist government created the country of the Soviet Union.

# 8 Causes of the Russian Revolution

1. Rapid Industrialization
2. Russo-Japanese War
3. Bloody Sunday Massacre
4. Russian Revolution of 1905
5. Russia in the great war
6. Weak leadership from Tsar Nicholas II
7. Peasant Support of the Bolshevik
8. Karl Marx, Fredrich Engels, and the Communist Manifesto

# Rapid Industrialization

- The industrial revolution came to Russia largely in the 1900s, with ironworks, factories and the associated elements of industrial society, leading to Russian cities beginning to expand and large numbers of peasants moving to the cities to take up new jobs
- By the turn of the nineteenth to twentieth centuries, millions were in these tightly packed and expanding urban areas, experiencing problems like poor and cramped housing, bad wages, and a lack of rights in their jobs.
- These workers swiftly began to grow politicized and verbally fought against government restrictions on their protests, forming a fertile ground for the socialist revolutionaries who moved between cities and exile in Siberia.
- In the revolutions of 1905 and 1917, heavily politicized socialist workers played a major role, although there were many different factions and beliefs under the umbrella of socialism

# Russo-Japanese War

- In 1904 Russia and Japan went to war over territory and colonial rights in Asia, particularly Manchuria and Korea.
- Japan sought a negotiated settlement, while Russia underestimated Japan's capacity and willingness for war.
- Japan initiated the war with a surprise attack on Port Arthur, which was later captured after a five-month siege.
- In May 1905 almost the entire Russian Baltic Fleet was captured or destroyed at the Battle of Tsushima.
- Russia was forced to negotiate peace terms, which resulted in the Treaty of Portsmouth in September 1905. **The war worsened Russia's already recessed economy and its disastrous management further discredit the tsar and his advisors.**



# “Bloody Sunday” Massacre

<https://youtu.be/9Jxzolu4Vbo>

# Bloody Sunday Massacre



- Russian industrial workers endured low wages, poor working conditions and appalling treatment from employers.
- Conditions worsened in 1904 due to the war and economic recession, leading to the formation of workers' sections.
- In January 1905 workers at the Putilov plant, led by Georgy Gapon, drafted a petition intended for the tsar.
- When they attempted to deliver this, scores of workers were gunned down in the street by tsarist soldiers.
- 'Bloody Sunday', as it became known, eroded respect for tsarism and contributed to a wave of general strikes, political demands and violence that became the 1905 Revolution.

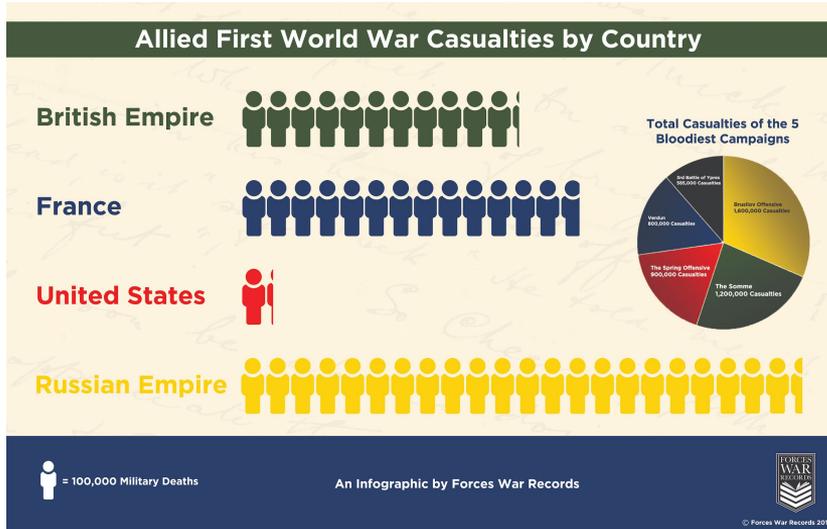
# Russian Revolution of 1905

- The 1905 Revolution was not a coordinated revolution but a series of anti-tsarist strikes, protests and actions.
- Triggered by the January shootings in the capital, it began as general strikes imposed by industrial workers.
- There was also political violence, such as the assassination of the tsar's uncle Grand Duke Sergei.
- Other features of the revolution were military mutinies and the formation of workers' soviets.
- The tsar responded by promising a representative Duma but this was not done either promptly or sincerely.



**Duma:** a legislative body in the ruling assembly of Russia and of some other republics of the former Soviet Union.

# Russia in the Great War

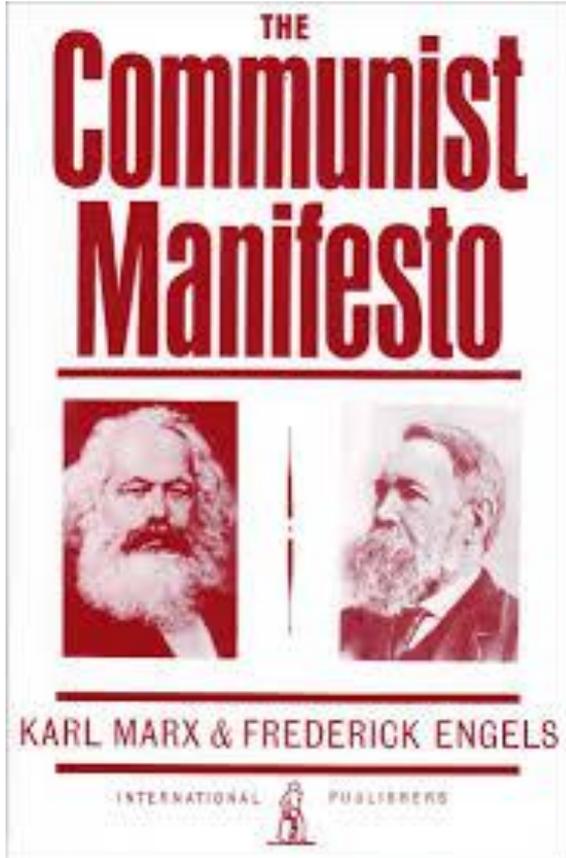


- Russia entered World War I in August 1914, after promising support to its Balkan ally Serbia against Austria-Hungary.
- The war doused anti-government sentiment which had peaked with a general strike in St Petersburg in July 1914.
- Russia's first military forays were disastrous: its soldiers were poorly equipped, its officers barely competent.
- In September 1915 the tsar took command of the army, a move that associated him with future defeats and losses.
- By mid-1916, two years of war had decimated the Russian economy, triggered downturns in agrarian production, problems in the transportation network, currency inflation and food and fuel shortages in the cities.

# "Peace, Land, and Bread."



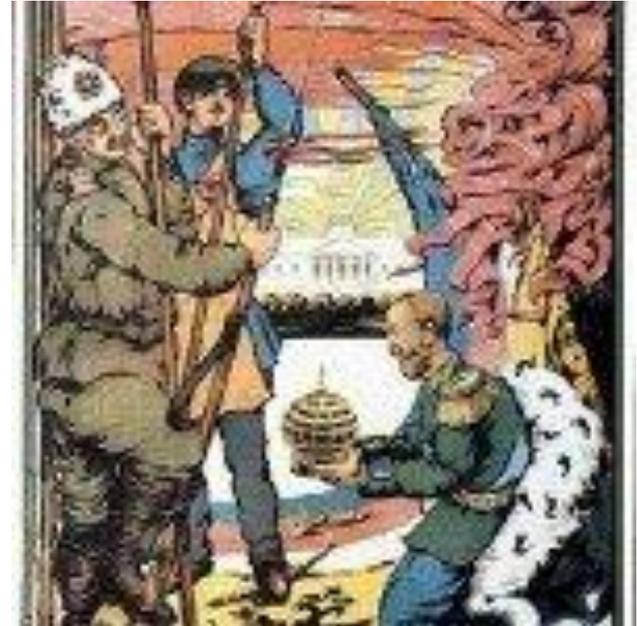
# Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels



- "The Communist Manifesto," published in 1848 by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, was among the most influential writings in world history.
- Marx theorized that all of human history was defined by a class struggle between the ruling class and the working class. He further argued that the working class would eventually overthrow the ruling class and usher in a Utopian society in which all property was owned by society as a whole.
- Marx's philosophy was highly influential in the development of communism in Russia and throughout the world. Marx's writings had a profound impact on Vladimir Lenin and Leon Trotsky, who would in turn promote communist ideas in Russia through publication of a Marxist periodical called "Iskra" -- "The Spark."
- The ideas of Marx and Engels influenced the overthrowing of the Russian Tsar and made way for social change in Russia.

# February Revolution

- The February Revolution began as a public strike about food and fuel shortages in the Russian capital Petrograd (St. Petersburg.)
- War and domestic mismanagement had caused the transport system to fail, reducing the movement of food especially.
- In late February food protests in Petrograd became a popular revolution, prompting the tsar to dissolve the Duma.
- This order was ignored. The Duma instead formed a provisional committee to organise a temporary government.
- When soldiers refused the tsar's orders to fire on civilians, and his generals refused to back him, he eventually agreed to abdicate. The document was signed in a stranded railway car in Pskov on March 2nd 1917.



# October Revolution



On October 25th the Bolsheviks captured Petrograd and the Winter Palace, arresting the Provisional Government.

This was triggered by Kerensky's attempt to silence Bolshevik propagandists and leaders on October 24th.

The takeover was carried out by sympathetic soldiers and sailors, Red Guards and the Trotsky-led Milrevcom.

Lenin had earlier led the push for a revolution to remove the Provisional Government, against some opposition.

Moderate non-Bolsheviks later walked out of the Congress of Soviets, leaving it in the hands of the Bolsheviks.

# Crash Course Thought Bubble



CRASH COURSE WORLD HISTORY #36  
WORLD WAR I

Stop at 1:18(ish)