**French Revolution**

Importance: rid Catholic Church, King, nobility-brings democracy to France, BIGGEST MOST IMPORTANT OF REVOLUTIONS, new order to society

Leaders: Robespierre-leader, orator, dies by guillotine as well, the “incorruptible”

Louis XVI marries Marie Antoinette from Austria-not a great leader, shy, pudgy, can’t make decisions, marrying as an alliance, also young, frivolous

Louis XV bankrupts France with 7 years war, humiliate, population growing=hungry, strain on society, taxes, KINGDOM IN CRISIS

Enlightenment ideals being pursued, Paris is the philosophical center of the world, Don’t trust authority, use reason not orders, SALONS discuss ideas, Voltaire, Rousseau-control equality, begin to trickle down==threat to aristocratic way of life, why just some have privilege? HIERARCHY BAD, REASON & SCIENCE

Americans fighting using ideals, France becomes involved because England enemy, beginning of collapse, DEBTS

Royal Court COSTS, outrageous fashions, yet no heir

3 classes, divide wealth nobility/church and peasants, financial hardships, particularly bread shortages, Minister Necker says call Estates General first time 175

Robespierre rises again

Louis tries to reform, taxes rise but nobility and church don’t pay, 1788/89 terrible weather, food shortages, bread crisis-flour skyrockets, hunger turns to rage, riots, bakeries raided, lynchings of shopkeepers, economy in shambles, hires financial minister, NECKER, popular-govt duty is to guarantee bread, call Estates General (first in over 100 years)

First Estate Nobility, Second Church, Third is masses, 97% population- they demand other estates should pay taxes, June 20 locks out the third estate, move to a tennis court, take oath will meet until new govt, TENNIS COURT OATH to adopt people’s will, fear king’s response, he calls in troops, form national guard and arm selves, rioting, Louis fires Necker, where to get gunpowder?- Bastille symbol of power, prison, July 14, tricolor born in flag, kill warden, parade head through streets=tradition of popular violence, dismantle brick by brick, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Declaration of the Rights of Man, all equal, stop class distinctions, sovereignty to people, justice under reasonable laws, more press freedoms that had been limited, biased papers- Jean Paul MARAT (skin disease), King again gets troops to surround Paris, Marat urges open revolution, angry women gather outside gates of Versailles==let them eat cake-false line, agrees to sign Declaration, mob demands royals more to Paris, invade and march them to Paris, Versailles abandoned

Jacobins: Robespierre, the Incorruptible, govt is now a constitutional monarchy with loss of power daily to king 1791, June 21 the family escape disguised as servants, captured, labeled traitor, LIBERTY<EQUALITY<FRATERNITY,

Robespierre calls for end death penalty, end slavery, speech, Guillotine, national razor- a humanitarian option, use against all questioning the revolution

Fear others will attempt to interfere- pre-emptive war v Austria? April 1792 War declared v. Marie’s family, nationalism rise, Marie feared to be aiding enemy, huge losses, Prussia enters war, threaten to destroy Paris, August savage attack against Royals thinking complicit, end of monarchy, Robespierre decides king must die

Jacobins v Girondins- sans culottes to show loyalty, artisans, relatively well off, not rabble, seize control of Parisian govt, THE CONVENTION controls national policy, cracks down on royalist traitors, priests, journalists arrested,

Danton- leader, loud person, Minister controlling war effort, more working class than Robespierre, inspire people to war, prisoners feared to rebel-so Parisians ordered to kill the prisoners, enemy miles away as Prussians take Verdun, start impromptu trials ending in slaughter, hack aristocrats to pieces, priests, women 1600+ killed, International reaction to reject

Robespierre decides needs a strong hand to guide the revolution, puts King on trial, punishment question, Girondin call for mercy to live, Jacobins outnumber with call for blood, executed Jan 21, 1793, brought in closed carriage famous speech for people of France, hold head aloft, women who go to watch daily

French Republic, Jacobins using more violence, Girondins want decrease in violence, who represent the countryside, Marat names enemy - demands 200,000 die, massacres begin in Paris, outside hate spiraling brutality, Charlotte Corday, kills Marat in bath, creates martyr as pictured by David painting

Marie Antoinette follows husband, treated as common criminal, denied children, who die from neglect and abuse, has the revolution gone too far? Isolated, attacked by Austria, Prussia, and Britain

Sept 1793, 4 years into Rev, violent revolts in countryside against excesses, borders at risk as losing war at sea and on land, isolated in Europe, FEAR that bloodbath continue, Robespierre and Danton look to broad stroke, impose equality by single acts of justice TERROR is the order of the day, suspend constitution and all rights, spying, executions of Reign of Terror, neighbors turn on each other

Committee of Public Safety, collective dictatorship of 12,, censorship, de-Christianization of nation, rename Saint names, tributes to new saint Marat, worship the revolution, churches destroyed-even more shocking than other bloodshed, rename months and calendar dating from execution of king

Lyon-counter revolutionary stronghold, brutal example, 100s marched into fields and shot en mass, 100,000+ killed sinking on boats to drown

New commander, Napoleon Bonaparte, has military successes at sea, civil wars in several areas but all but crushed, doing better against foreigners, repelling, Robespierre now asks for a Republic of Virtue-using terror, Dantonists believe time to end violence, need normalization, R sees as direct threat to govt, Danton sent to scaffold

June 6, 1794- a new religious holiday silences guillotine, replace the Goddess of Reason, Cult of the Supreme Being, who does R think he is? So extreme, even his supporters see as fanaticism, 9 Thermidor, speech of threats with new list of enemies of the Republic, arrested before he can release his list, deputies declare an outlaw and remove him, 2 kill selves, R with bullet wound to head, bound up to be brought to guillotine, silenced July 27, 1794, terror dies too

Rights of Man, accomplishments of revolution outlive the revolutionaries, people taking justice into own hands, tear apart feudal fabric of Europe, period of uncertainty 5 years until power again consolidate in hands of Napoleon,

How much violence is justified in overthrowing an unjust system? Enduring question. Russia, Vietnam, Latin America cry for justice is eternal with Liberty, Justice, and Fraternity