

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

RADICALISM - 1792-1794



THE END OF THE OLD REGIME

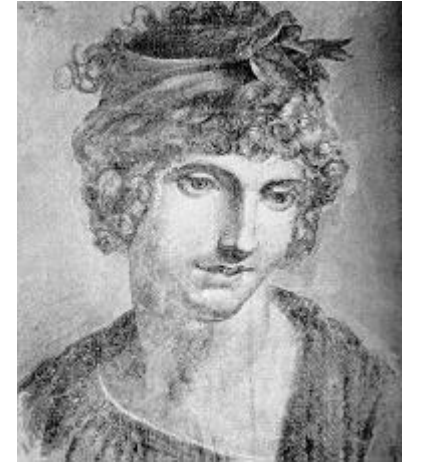
- With the peasant rebellion in full swing and rumours of a foreign invasion the newly formed National Assembly decided to abolish all legal privileges of the nobles and the clergy on Aug. 4, 1789.
- A few weeks later they adopted the *Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen*.

PROCLAMATIONS

- This declaration proclaimed that all men were free and equal before the law, that appointment to public office should be based on talent, and that no group should be exempt from taxation. Freedom of speech and of the press were affirmed.
- This raises an issue...

- “Believing that ignorance, omission, or scorn for the rights of woman are the only causes of public misfortunes and of the corruption of governments, [the women] have resolved to set forth a solemn declaration the natural, inalienable, and sacred rights of woman in order that this declaration, constantly exposed before all members of the society, will ceaselessly remind them of their rights and duties.”

- from *Declaration of the Rights of Women and the Female Citizen*, Olympe de Gouges, 1791



KING LOUIS XVI

- During the early days of the revolution Louis had remained at Versailles and refused to accept the National Assembly's decrees. However in early October thousands of Parisian women marched on the palace with broomsticks, lances, pitchforks, swords, pistols...to forced Louis to agree to the new decrees.
- They insisted that Louis and his family come to Paris to show support for the National Assembly. He agreed and brought wagonloads of flour as a sign of good will.



THE CHURCH

- The Catholic Church also felt this new change. Church lands were seized and sold off to increase the state's revenues.
- A new law was also passed that indicated that bishops and priests were to be elected by the people. Salaries of the clergy was to be paid by the state.
- These moves didn't sit well with many Catholics and they became enemies of the revolution.



THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF 1791

- This new Constitution set up a limited monarchy that shifted power from the king to the Legislative Assembly.
- This new constitution only allowed men over 25, who pay a certain amount of tax, to vote. Also, it was created in such a way that only wealthy people could run for office. Local governments were also given the task of taxation.

THE KING FLEES

- In June of 1791 the king and his family attempt to flee France in disguise. They nearly reach allies in the East but are spotted, captured and returned to Paris where he swears to uphold the new Constitution.



THE PARIS COMMUNE

- In mid 1792, a recent defeat in the war against Austria and an ongoing food shortage sends citizens into more violent protests. A group of Parisians declare themselves a commune and organize a mob attack on both the royal palace and the Legislative Assembly.
- Members of this Paris Commune capture the King and force the Legislative Assembly to suspend the monarchy and call a National Convention to demand full scale male suffrage.



According to sumptuary laws, only noblemen could carry swords.

Hats were worn on top of elaborate wigs or carried as accessories.

Noblemen wore knee-length, tight-fitting breeches. Both men and women wore silk stockings.



Wigs or hair were layered into powdered curls. Sometimes a hat with feathers was pinned on top.

Hoops, crumpled paper, or padding was used to enlarge and fluff the skirt.

Only nobility could wear satin, lace and fur according to sumptuary laws.



Blue, white and red were symbolic colors of the revolution. It was patriotic to wear the *bonnet rouge*.



Women of the Third Estate wore a hat with a badge and their hair loose.



Revolutionary women wore man-styled jackets over their dresses.

Revolutionaries made a political statement by wearing longer trousers. These men became known as the *sans-culottes* (without breeches).

Both men and women shunned high heels and wore more practical leather or wooden shoes.

Practical fabrics and plain styles replaced expensive fabrics and fussy styles.

ESCALATING RADICALISM

- After Louis had attempted to flee he remained on the throne for a very chaotic year. However, in 1792 the new Justice Minister, Georges Danton, rallied the sans-culottes and attacked the palace. The King had to seek protection from the Legislative Assembly and violence erupted in the streets leaving thousands dead.



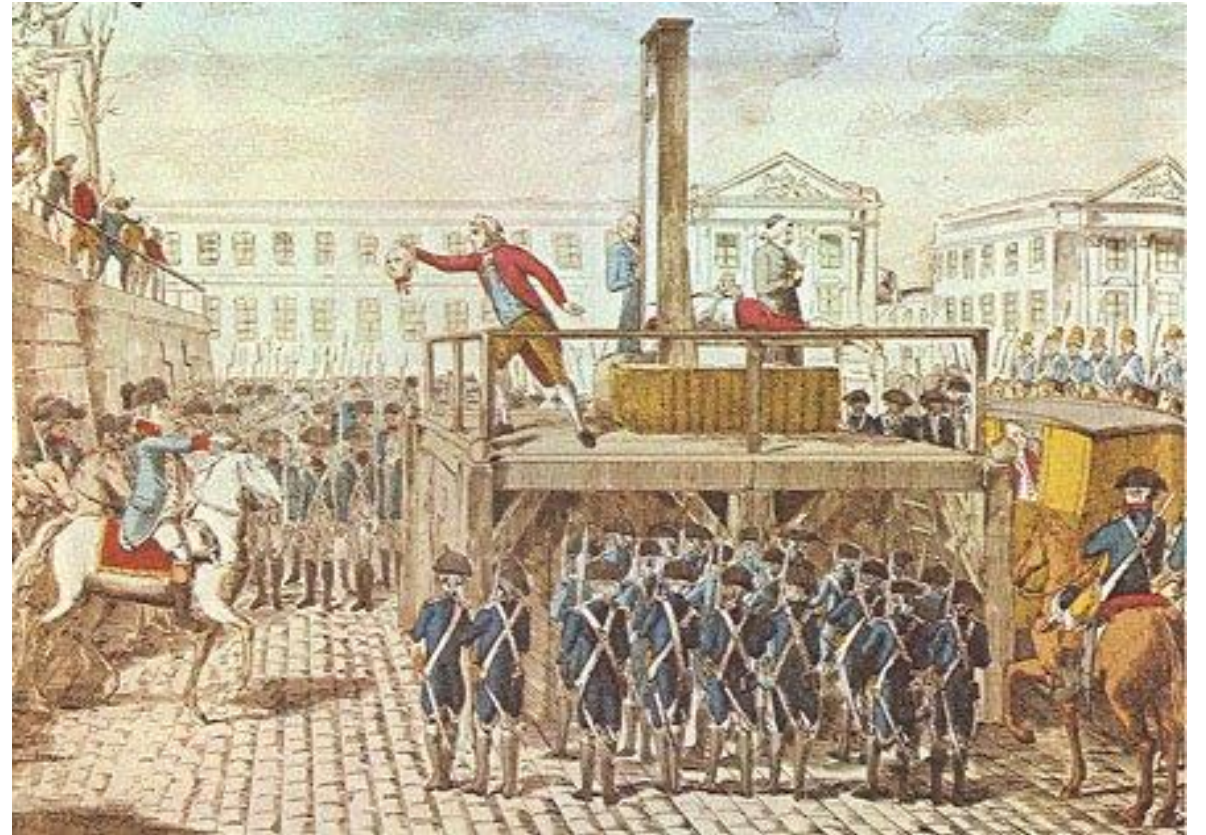
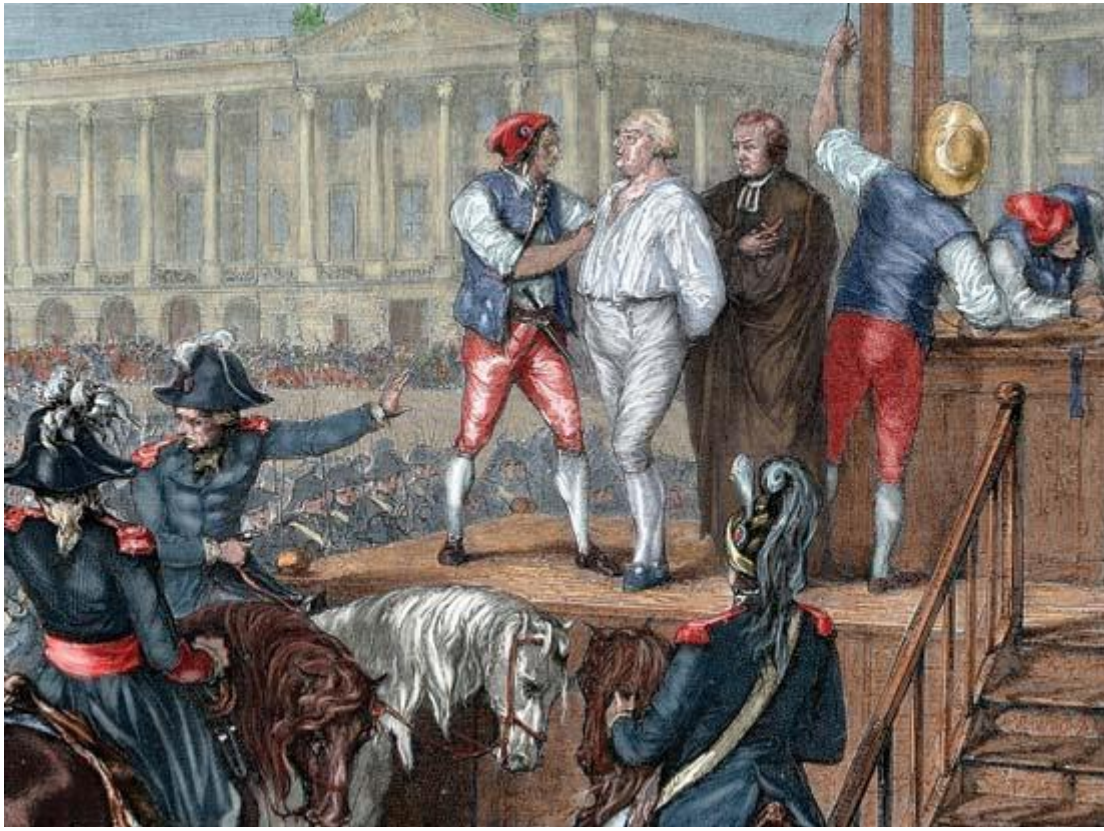
THE FIRST REPUBLIC

- In late 1792, the newly elected National Convention met and looked to draft a new constitution. While serving as the governing body in the country they immediately abolished the monarchy and established the French Republic.
- Since the start of the Revolution many small groups and political clubs gained influence and notoriety in and around Paris. These groups attempted to influence the rest of the citizens.
- The **Girondins** represented areas outside Paris and wanted to keep the king alive.
- The **Jacobins** were made up of radicals in Paris who felt the king needed to be executed.

THOUGHTS

- How might a king removed from power (but still alive) be dangerous to the republic?

DEATH OF A KING – JAN 21, 1793



CRISES AND RESPONSES

- Disputes between the Girondins and the Mountain continued to slow the writing of a new Constitution and uprisings continued in Western France and spread into the South.
- A coalition of Austria, Prussia, Spain, Portugal, Britain and the Dutch Republic took up arms against the French Army who had to fall back.
- The National Convention were forced to give the Committee of Public Safety broad powers.