

Ch-1 → French Revolution

CW

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1) Louis XVI belonged to which dynasty? When did the French Revolution begin?

Ans) Louis XVI belonged to the Bourbon Dynasty of kings. On 5 May, 1789 the French Revolution began.

2) Name the taxes collected by the clergy and Nobility.

Ans) The taxes collected by the clergy and Nobility are tithe which was a religious tax collected by the churches and taille which was collected by the state.

3) When did the French Revolution begin?

Ans) The French Revolution began on 5 May, 1789.

4) Why was the Bastille hated by all?

Ans) The Bastille hated by all because it stood for the Despotic powers of King Louis XVI.

5) What was the subsistence crisis in France? Mention its causes.

Ans) Subsistence crisis was an extreme situation where the basic means of livelihood are endangered. In France, due to the rapid expansion of the population from 23 million in 1715 to 28 million in 1789, a subsistence crisis occurred.

- The causes of subsistence crisis in France:-
- The population of France rose from about 23 million in 1715 to 28 million in 1789 which led to a rapid increase in the demand for food grains.
- Production of grains couldn't keep pace with the increasing demand.

6) What was proposed by Montesquieu in the Spirit of Laws?

Ans) The proposed by Montesquieu in the Spirit of Laws is the theory of separation of powers. He advised that the division of powers is must in between, the 'legislative', the 'executive' and the 'judiciary system' in France. This book is a 'treatise on political theory and presents 'pioneering work' in comparative law.

7) How was the French Society in the late 18th Century divided into?

Ans) The French Society in the late 18th Century divided into 3 categories :-

→ 1st estate:- Clergy

→ 2nd estate:- Nobility

→ 3rd estate:- Big businessmen, merchants, court officials, lawyers etc

→ Peasants and artisans

→ Small peasants, landless labour, servants

8) What is the name of the national anthem of France? Who composed it?

Ans) The name of the national anthem of France is Marseillaise. The poet Roget de L'Isle composed it.

9) When was the slavery abolished in the French colonies?

Ans) The slavery was abolished in the French colonies in 1848.

10) When was the monarchy abolished and France declared a republic?

Ans) The monarchy was abolished and France declared a republic on 21 September 1792.

11) What was the immediate cause of the French Revolution?

Ans) The immediate ~~of~~ cause of the French Revolution:-

- Unfair distribution of taxes
- Unfair voting system - members of third estate want that assembly should be conducted as assembly vote should be taken as each member should have one vote
- Storming of Bastille by agitated crowd.
- Population rose from 13 million to 28 million

hence scarcity of food.

12) The fall of Bastille marked the beginning of the French Revolution. Give a brief account of that important event?

Ans) One important law that came into effect soon after the storming of the Bastille in the summer of 1789 was the abolition of censorship. In the old Regime all written material and cultural activities - books, newspapers, plays - could be published or performed only after they had been approved by the censors of the king. The Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen proclaimed freedom of speech and expression to be a natural right. Newspapers, pamphlets, books and printed pictures flooded the towns of France from where they travelled rapidly into the countryside.

13) How did Napoleon rise to fame and power?

Ans) In 1804, Napoleon Bonaparte crowned himself Emperor of France. He set out to conquer neighbouring European countries, dispossessing dynasties and creating kingdoms where he placed members

of his family. Napoleon saw his role as a moderniser of Europe. He introduced many laws such as the protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system. Initially, many saw Napoleon as a liberator who would bring freedom for the people. So, this how Napoleon rise to fame and power.

14) How did France become a constitutional monarchy? Why were women disappointed by the constitution of 1791?

Ans) The National Assembly completed the draft of the constitution in 1791. Its main object was to limit the powers of the monarch. These powers instead of being concentrated in the hands of one person, were now separated and assigned to different institutions - the legislature, executive and judiciary. This made France a constitutional monarchy. Women were disappointed by the constitution of 1791 because women were not provided with the same legislative rights as men for instance, right to vote. They were not given the right to be elected in the assembly and

to operate any administrative department. They were not provided with some essential rights such as freedom to speak, write, print, education and worship.

15) When and why did Louis XVI recognise the National Assembly? Why is 4th August 1789 significant?

Ans) From June 17 to July 9, 1789, Louis XVI recognised the National Assembly. When people revolted, Louis XVI finally gave recognition to the National Assembly and accepted the fact that his powers now would be checked by the constitution. On 4 August 1789, the National Assembly passed a law abolishing the feudal system of obligations and taxes. Members of the clergy too were forced to give up their privileges. Tithes were abolished and lands owned by the church were confiscated by the government.