

\* The political and constitutional changes that came in the wake of the French Revolution led to the transfer of sovereignty from the monarchy to a body of French citizens.

\* The ideas of la patrie (the fatherland) and le citoyen (the citizen) emphasised the notion of a nation community enjoying equal rights under a constitution.

\* A new French flag, the tricolour, was chosen to replace the former royal standard.

- \* The Estates General was elected by the body of active citizens and renamed the National Assembly.
- \* New hymns were composed, oaths taken and martyrs commemorated, all in the name of the nation.
- \* A centralised administrative system was put in place and it formulated uniform laws for all citizens within its territory.
- \* Internal customs duties and dues were abolished and a uniform systems of weights and measures was adopted.
- \* Regional dialects were discouraged and French, as it was spoken and written in Paris, became the common language of the nation.