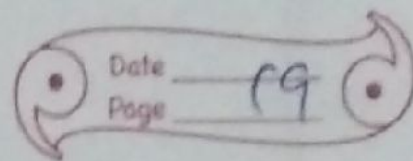


# FRENCH REVOLUTION

## HOME ASSIGNMENT



28/5/21

1. Louis XVI belonged to which dynasty? When did the French Revolution begin?
2. Name the taxes collected by the Clergy and Nobility.
3. When did the French Revolution begin?
4. Why was the Bastille hated by all?
5. What was the subsistence crisis in France? Mention its causes.
6. What was proposed by Montesquieu in the spirit of law?
7. How was the French society in the late 18th century divided into?
8. What is the name of the national anthem of France? Who composed it?
9. When was the slavery abolished in the French colonies?
10. When was the slavery abolished in the French colonies?
10. When was the monarchy abolished and France declared a republic?
11. What was the immediate cause of the French Revolution?
12. The fall of Bastille marked the beginning of the French Revolution! Give a brief account of that important event.
13. How did Napoleon rise to fame and power?
14. How did France become a constitutional monarchy? Why were women disappointed by the constitution of 1791?

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

Answers

1. Louis XVI belonged to Bourbon Dynasty.  
On 5 May 1789 the French Revolution began.
2. There were 2 taxes collected by the Clergy & Nobility.  
(i) Tithe - a tax levied by the church, comprising one-tenth of the agricultural produce.  
(ii) Taille - Tax to be paid directly to the state.
3. The French Revolution began on 5 May, 1789.
4. The Bastille was hated by all, because it stood for the despotic power of the king.
5. Subsistence crisis is an extreme situation where the basic means of livelihood are endangered.  
In France, due to the growth of population, production of food grains were insufficient and the wages of the workers did not keep pace with the rise in price.  
For which the situation became worse and led to a subsistence crisis in France.  
Causes of Subsistence Crisis in France:-
  - The population of France increased from 1715 to 1789 (23 million to 28 million)
  - It increased the demand of the food grains.
  - As a result of the bad harvest the prices of the

bread also increased.

- But the labours in the workshops has got very less and fixed wages.

- All these factors led a subsistence-crisis in France.

6. Montesquieu proposed an idea of division of power within the govt. between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary in his book 'The Spirit of the laws'.

7. The French society in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century was divided into three estates :-

(i) The first estate - consisted of the Clergymen.

(ii) The second estate - consisted of the Nobles.

(iii) The third estate - consisted of the common people most of whom were <sup>small</sup> peasants, others were big businessmen, merchants, court officials, lawyers, ~~etc~~ artisans, landless labourers & servants.

8. The National Anthem of France was "Marseillaise" composed by Rogee de ~~l'Isle~~ L'Isle.

9. The slavery was abolished in the French colonies in the year 1848.

10. On 21st September, 1792, the monarchy abolished and France declared a republic.

11. The immediate cause of the French Revolution

was when Louis XVI signed the constitution and entered into a secret negotiation with the king of Prussia.

12. The fall of Bastille marked the beginning of the French Revolution. On 14th July 1789, the city of Paris was in a state of alarm. A rumour spread that the King of Bastille would soon order the army to open fire upon the citizens. So, a group of several hundred people marched towards the eastern part of the city and stormed the fortress-prison, the Bastille, where they hoped to find hoarded ammunition. In the armed fight, the commander of the Bastille was killed and the prisoners were released, even though there were only 7 of them. The fortress was demolished and its stone fragments were sold in markets to those who wished to keep it as a symbol of destruction. The fort stood for the despotic power of the King. After this event, all the revolutionary actions and protests for reforms gradually began. This marked the beginning of the French Revolution.

13. Napoleon received more to fame and Power as follows:-

- The fall of Jacobin's govt. allowed wealthier middle class to seize power.
  - A new constitution was introduced which denied the vote to non-propertied section of society.
  - It provided for two elected legislative council.
  - These then appointed a ~~direct~~ directory, an executive made up of 5 members.
  - This was meant for the safeguard against concentration of power in a one-man executive as under the Jacobins.
  - The directors often clashed with the legislative councils, who then sought to dismiss them.
  - The political instability of the directory paved the way for the rise of a military dictator, Napoleon Bonaparte.
14. ~~From~~ France became Constitutional monarchy on 1791.
- The National Assembly completed the draft of the constitution in ~~1791~~ 1791.
  - Its main objective was to limit the powers of monarch.
  - These powers instead of being concentrated in the hands of one person, were now separated

- and assigned to different institutions, the legislative, the executive and the Judiciary.
- This made France a Constitutional monarchy.

Women were disappointed by the Constitution of 1791 because it reduced them to passive citizens, but they wanted to enjoy the same political rights as men like the right to vote.

15. On 20<sup>th</sup> June 1789, when the people of third estate revolted against their rights being ~~compromised~~ compromised, Louis XVI finally gave recognition to the National Assembly and accepted the fact that his powers now would be checked by ~~the~~ the constitution.

4<sup>th</sup> August 1789 was significant day because on that day, the Assembly passed a decree 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.