

Russia: Land of the Tsars (Part III)

Russia: Land of the Tsars is a four-part series about the leaders of Russia from the Vikings in 862 to the Revolution in 1918. It discusses aspects of Russian history including expansion of the monarchy, the origins of the Russian Orthodox Church, armed conflicts, the changing political climate, opposition to the Tsars, and the gradual modernization of Russian society.

Objectives:

Students will explore and analyze the history of the Russian rulers and the impact of their policies on the Russian people. They will examine complex political intrigues, the development of a nation, the process and consequences of introducing new political ideas, and the role of opposition movements in historical change.

Discussion Questions

1. When Elizabeth seized power, what happened to the baby Tsar?
2. Who was Frederick the Great?
3. How did Catherine the Great come to power?
4. What kinds of ideas did Catherine encourage?
5. A peasant revolt took place in the _____ River Basin in 1773.
6. Catherine the Great was obsessed with taking the Black Sea coast from the _____ Empire.
7. The assassination of King _____ XVI of _____ worried Catherine and caused her to doubt the ideals of the Enlightenment.
8. Grigory Potemkin, a favorite of Catherine's, guided the assault on the _____ and was later named a Prince of the Russian Empire.
9. How long did Catherine the Great reign over the Russian Empire?
10. Catherine's grandson _____ took the throne from his father Paul in a palace coup.
11. Who forced Alexander I to sign a treaty of friendship with France in 1807?
12. Alexander I declared an alliance with England in 1811, as a result Napoleon marched on _____ with the largest army in European history.
13. The Battle of _____ took place outside of Moscow on September 7th, 1812. It was the single bloodiest battle of the Napoleonic wars with over 75,000 soldiers killed.
14. Napoleon Bonaparte lost over _____ men in the war with Russia.
15. Alexander's successor, Nicholas I, put down a revolt by the _____ Rebels.