

Worksheet 2 – The 1905 Revolution

Review: Lecture 1- Russia in 1900

In the previous lecture of the unit, Professor Waldron explained some of the geopolitical challenges that challenged the Russian Empire and its ruler, Tsar Nicholas II, at the beginning of the 20th century.

- ✓ Based on what you learnt in the last lecture, name 3 problems that the Tsar faced when ruling Russia in 1900.

Recall: Lecture 2

Answer these questions after watching the video lecture to check how much you remember.

1. Which country did Russia go to war with in 1904?
a) China c) Korea
b) Japan d) Mongolia
2. In what city did the January 1905 peaceful demonstration take place?
a) Moscow c) Kiev
b) St Petersburg d) Yekaterinburg
3. Which growing articulate and vocal social class including teachers, lawyers and doctors publicised their demands for change in 1905?
a) Working Class c) Nobles
b) Serfs d) Middle Class
4. Nicholas II believed that he should not share his absolute power with anyone, what type of ruler was he?
a) Democratic c) Autocratic
b) Theocratic d) Plutocratic
5. As a result of the events of 1905, what did Tsar Nicholas II introduce, giving more constitutional power to the citizens of Russia, in addition to personal freedoms?
a) April Theses c) October Manifesto
b) July Days d) February Revolution

Analysis

6. In the lecture [0:28-1:52], Professor Waldron explains that Russia went to war with the island nation of Japan in 1904. Using the image below and the information from the lecture, answer the following questions:
- a) How did Russia expect the war against Japan to end?
 - b) Why did Russia expect the war to end like this?

- c) What was the outcome of the war? Give two examples of events during the war that led to this outcome.
- d) How did the outcome of the war impact the Tsarist regime?



Russian Navy hits Japan Navy. 1904. [Political Cartoon]. [Accessed 10 Nov 2021] Available from: <https://www.artfund.org/whats-on/exhibitions/2013/05/17/propaganda-power-and-persuasion-exhibition>

Evaluation

7. Evaluate the consequences of the 22nd January 1905 demonstration, which became known as 'Bloody Sunday'.
- **Identify** at least 3 consequences of the Bloody Sunday demonstration
 - **Explain** why these consequences were concerning for the Tsarist Regime
 - **Justify** which consequence you think had the most significant impact on the Tsarist Regime

Challenge: Read the excerpt from British Historian Orlando Figes' 1996 book *A People's Tragedy: The Russian Revolution, 1891-1924*:

"In the mind of the ordinary peasant the Tsar was not just a kingly ruler but a god on earth. He thought of him as a father-figure who knew all the peasants personally by name, understood their problems in all their minute details, and, if it were not for the evil boyars who surrounded him, would satisfy their demands. Hence the peasant tradition of sending direct appeals to the Tsar."

Following the events of the 1905 Revolution, do you think this opinion of the Tsar was still true for the majority of Russian peasantry? Why/why not?

Glossary

- **Assailed** – Criticised strongly
e.g. He assailed a group of advisors for giving their opinions.
- **Comprehensively** – In a way that includes or deals with all or nearly all elements or aspects of something.
e.g. Historians have comprehensively considered the outcome of the 1905 Revolution.
- **Concessions** – Something that is granted, usually in response to demands.
e.g. The Tsar was forced to make concessions.
- **Demonstration** – A gathering which people take part in to show their opposition to something or their support for something.
e.g. Peaceful demonstrations began to take place in the cities of Russia.
- **Discontent** – Not being satisfied or happy with the current circumstances.
e.g. The discontent of the Russian population continued to grow.
- **Manifesto** – A published declaration of the intentions, motives, or views of the issuer
e.g. The Tsar released the October Manifesto, issuing the concessions he was willing to make.
- **Mutiny** – An open rebellion against those in charge of you, especially by members of the armed forces against their officers.
e.g. Sailors led a mutiny against their commanding officers.
- **Rebellion** – The action or process of resisting control or those in authority, sometimes leading to armed resistance.
e.g. The Tsarist Regime were quick to try to put down the rebellion.