

Worksheet 3 – The Failure of Constitutionalism, 1905-1914

Review: Lecture 2- The 1905 Revolution

In the previous lecture of the unit, Professor Waldron discussed the causes, events and consequences of the 1905 Revolution.

✓ Based on what you learnt in the last lecture:

- a) Which war was a main cause of the Revolution?
- b) Which peaceful demonstration is considered one of the most significant events of the Revolution?
- c) What did the Tsar publish as a consequence of the Revolution?

Recall: Lecture 3- The Failure of Constitutionalism, 1905-1914

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

1. What was the name of Russia's state parliament, introduced as a result of the October Manifesto in 1905?
 - a) Mir
 - b) Soviet
 - c) Zemstvo
 - d) Duma
2. When did Russia's newly formed state parliament meet for the first time?
 - a) April 1906
 - b) April 1908
 - c) January 1905
 - d) January 1907
3. What was the name of the Prime Minister from 1906-1911, who wanted to introduce reform?
 - a) Sergei Witte
 - b) Pyotr Stolypin
 - c) Pyotr Kropotkin
 - d) Georgy Gapon
4. What happened to Pyotr Stolypin in September 1911 ?
 - a) He became Tsar
 - b) He was assassinated
 - c) He was fired
 - d) He quit as Prime Minister
5. How many Russian state parliament's were there before the Revolutions of 1917?
 - a) 1
 - b) 3
 - c) 2
 - d) 4

Analysis

6. In the lecture [0:33-0:55], Professor Waldron suggests that it looked as though the demonstrators had managed to change the course of Russian history following the publishing of the October Manifesto in 1905. Do you agree with this suggestion? Give at least three reasons for your answer from the lecture.

7. Nicholas II took action to restrict the power of the State Duma. Give at least three examples of restrictions that the Tsar placed on the State Dumas between 1906-1914.
8. As Prime Minister, Pyotr Stolypin wanted to introduce reforms to Russian society.
 - a) What areas did Stolypin want to introduce reforms in?
 - b) What would have been the impact of these reforms if they had been introduced?
 - c) Why was Stolypin unable to introduce these reforms?

Evaluation

9. Consider the make-up, activities and roles of the first three Dumas between 1906 and 1912. To what extent were these State Parliament's effective?

Success Criteria (Have you included the following?)

- Introduction which links to the statement and gives an **overview** of your answer including your judgement.
- Body paragraph 1 focusing on the make-up (composition) of the 3 Dumas
- Body paragraph 2 focusing on the activities of the 3 Dumas
- Body paragraph 3 focusing on the role of the 3 Dumas
- Conclusion which makes a final judgement about their overall effectiveness.

Challenge: Some historians claim that over 3,000 suspects were convicted and executed by special courts that Stolypin introduced between 1906 and 1909, in order to charge political revolutionaries. As a result of this action the hangman's noose in Russia became known as "Stolypin's necktie". (From pg. 258 in Ulam, A. B. *The Bolsheviks* (1998) Massachusetts, Harvard University Press)

This excerpt shows Stolypin was willing to repress as well as reform. Which view of Stolypin do you think is more accurate and why?

Glossary

- **Assassination-** The planned murder of an important person
e.g. The assassination of Stolypin took place at Kiev Opera House
- **Conservative-** Being against change and holding socially and politically traditional values.
e.g. The Tsar had conservative beliefs and did not wish for Russia to become too progressive.
- **Constitution** – A collection of principles that constitute the legal basis of an organisation and commonly determine how it is governed
e.g. The October Manifesto can be viewed as Russia's first constitution.
- **Duma** – The state parliament in Russia, formed following the creation of the October Manifesto in 1905.

e.g. There were four State Dumas between 1905-1917.

- **Fundamental** – A central rule or principle on which something is based.
e.g. The fundamental rights of the Russian people had grown.
- **Parliament** – A decision making body of a government, usually in charge of law making.
e.g. The Russian parliament was called the Duma.
- **Reform** – To make changes in order to improve something
e.g. Pyotr Stolypin introduced policies of Land Reform.