AMSCO Chapter 18

Russia Unifies and Expands

1. Looking East
2. Russia was Eastern Orthodox Christian, based on Constantinople’s religion and government model
3. Russian Orthodox Church established by princes of Moscovy to unite people and rule by divine right
4. Russia experienced neither the Reformation nor the Renaissance, as Mongols had control at the time
5. Russian princes gained wealth as tax collectors for the Mongols
6. Russia traded eastward into Siberia for fur they exported to Europe and China
7. Through port of Archangel, they imported cloth from England; from the Silk Road to the south they for silk in exchange for grain, leather, iron, hemp, wood, potash, pitch, tar, honey, caviar
8. Developed shipyards using European technologies
9. Asian influences in the west competed with European influences in the east, like the Vikings
10. Technology and Enlightenment ideas made their way to Russia, making it more European
11. Ivan III (1462-1505)
12. AKA Ivan the Great threw the Mongols out and named himself tsar (from Caesar), then married Zoe, niece of last Byzantine emperor, giving him religious legitimacy
13. Unified Russian city-states and tripled the size of Russia
14. Moscow – Ivan rebuilt walls of Kremlin and established Moscow as center for fur trade, decreasing importance of Kiev
15. Social Classes – nobles or boyars were land owners, then merchants, then peasants and eventually serfs (peasants tied to the land); boyars and tsars in conflict over power, and Ivan confiscated lands from nobles, forcing them to move to Moscow
16. Ivan IV (1547-1584)
17. AKA Ivan the Terrible expanded eastward, taking lands from descendants of the Golden Horde (Mongols) using gunpowder; built St. Basil’s Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow as a visual that tsar and church were united
18. Into Siberia
19. Stroganovs (landowners) hired Cossacks (fighters) to fight local Siberian tribes and khan, gaining Ivan control of Volga River and passage to Caspian Sea, bypassing Crimean Tartars in trade with Persia
20. Slowly Russia took over lands eastward and made locals convert to Orthodoxy, reaching Pacific Ocean by 1639
21. Explorers went eastward to Alaska and western coast of North America
22. Violence and Expansion – Ivan established Oprichnina, paramilitary force to control boyars with violence; Ivan killed his own son in anger and developed paranoia, and died with no heir
23. Time of Troubles and the Romanovs
24. Time after 1603, where no strong tsar ruled and anarchy existed until in 1613 a national assembly (Zemsky Sobor) chose Michael Romanov as next leader , establishing Romanov dynasty that ruled until revolution in 1917; eastern Russian border pushed even further
25. Peter the Great
26. Conflict between the Church, the boyars, and the tsar and his family
27. Peter I (1682-1725) had to defeat half-sister Sophia and her boyar supporters and military forces (Streltsy)
28. Orthodox Church and Reforms – Peter abolished position of patriarch of church, and established Holy Synod, priests overseen by government officials who answered to tsar; also made 50 the minimum age for monks, keeping the young men as soldiers
29. Window on the West
30. Peter went to Europe in 1697 to view naval technology and he hired German technicians to help build a Russian navy
31. Used the navy first to take land from Sweden on the Baltic, then moved capital from Moscow to St. Petersburg, where he developed an organized rectangular grid city and the Winter Palace
32. More of Peter’s Reforms
33. Forced boyars to cut their beards, change their dress, and educate their sons to be like Europeans; mandatory education in math and geometry for sons of nobles and government officials and established schools for medicine and naval studies
34. Removed traditional veils for women and gave them choice in marriage
35. Built shipyards and iron mines and encouraged private industry
36. Raised taxes and forced laborers to work in shipyards; replaced tax on land with a head tax
37. Established new Table of Ranks for military and government meritocracy
38. Created provinces and divisions to administer the territory and gave officials a salary; created a senate to advice government officials when he was away at war
39. Overall peasants became poorer during his rule but nobles status improved.
40. Catherine the Great (1762-1796)
41. German born Protestant who married Peter III and took throne after his death as tsarina; joined Orthodox Church
42. Corresponded with philosophes to codify Russian laws, but boyars resisted; she needed boyar support against peasant revolts, so she exempted the boyars from taxes and mandatory state service, nobles gained more power over serfs
43. Expansion of the Empire
44. Gained Crimean peninsula, giving them access to the Black Sea; gained area along Caspian Sea; partitioned Poland with help of Prussia and Austria
45. Established schools for girls, inoculations for smallpox, continued Westernization started by Peter the Great
46. Slavophilism –movement to retain traditional Russian culture in face of Westernization
47. Pale of Settlement – the area where Jews of Russia were forced to live, encouraging anti-Semitism and pogroms (vicious attacks on Jews)
48. Russian Serfdom
49. Central government had weakened in 14th and 15th centuries, strengthening nobles and reducing rights for serfs
50. Serfs forced to produce more and more food and to pay tribute, first to Mongols and later to Russian princes, increasing peasant debt and leading to them losing their land
51. Serfdom benefited government because nobles kept serfs under control and benefited nobles by giving them free labor
52. Serfdom expanded as Russian territory expanded, and lasted much longer than in Western Europe (ended in England in 1574, in Russia in 1861)
53. Cossacks and Peasant Rebellions
54. Cossacks were fierce warriors who lived on steppes southwest of Moscow, often escaped serfs or Mongol descendants
55. They fought for tsar as mercenaries, and often against tsar as well
56. Yemelyan Pugachev started a Cossack-led peasant rebellion against Catherine the Great in 1774
57. Pugachev’s Rebellion crushed and he was executed
58. France and Russia, 1750
59. Both led by well-known rulers, Louis XIV and Peter the Great
60. Neither had effective legislature
61. Louis XIV and Peter the Great’s expansion into new lands led to wars and financial burdens
62. France had Enlightenment ideas, Russia did not; no Protestant Reformation in Russia; serfdom ended in France, not Russia; French revolution in 1789, Russian Revolution over 100 years later in 1917