



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: Social Science	Sub: History
Chapter-2 QB:2	Topic: SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION	Year: 2025-26

1	<p>What were the different notions of the Liberals, the Radicals and the Conservatives regarding the formation of the government in Russia?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p><u>Liberals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supported religious tolerance and individual rights• Wanted an elected Parliament and independent judiciary• Opposed absolute monarchy• Did not support universal adult franchise• Believed that only property-owning men should have the right to vote, excluding women and non-property owners. <p><u>Radicals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wanted government based on the majority population• Supported women's right to vote• Opposed privileges of rich landowners and factory owners• Accepted private property but disliked its concentration <p><u>Conservatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opposed Liberal and Radical ideas initially• After the French Revolution, accepted the need for change• Believed in gradual reforms while respecting traditions
2	<p>Explain the views of different Socialists and Philosophers regarding the basis of a Socialist society?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Explain the views of Karl Marx on Capitalism</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>Different Socialists had different visions of the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some believed in the idea of cooperatives. Eg. Robert Owen, sought to build a cooperative community called New Harmony in Indiana (USA).• Louis Blanc and some other socialists demanded that governments should encourage cooperatives in France.• Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels had strong ideas about industrial society. Marx argued that industrial society was 'capitalist'. Capitalists owned the capital invested in factories, and the profit of capitalists was produced by workers.• Marx thought workers would continue to suffer unless they got rid of capitalism and stopped private ownership of resources.• He said workers should build a Socialist society where profit is shared by everyone. This would lead to a Communist society — the natural society of the future.
3	<p>Explain the economic and social condition of Russia before 1905</p> <p>Ans:</p>

	<p>Agrarian Economy: At the beginning of the twentieth century, about 85 per cent of the Russian empire's population earned their living from agriculture. Cultivators produced for the market as well as for their own needs and Russia was a major exporter of grain.</p> <p>Industry: St. Petersburg and Moscow were key industrial areas. Craftsmen did most work, but more factories came with railway growth. Industries were privately owned, and the government set rules for wages and hours. However, inspectors couldn't always enforce them.</p> <p>Condition of Workers: Workers lived hard lives, working long hours in poor conditions. Workers were a divided social group. For eg: Metalworkers considered themselves aristocrats among other workers. Though divided, they united to strike over unfair treatment.</p> <p>Peasants and Nobility: In Russia, peasants farmed most land, but nobles, the crown, and church owned large estates. Unlike in France, Russian peasants didn't respect nobles—some refused rent or killed landlords, demanding land. They also shared and redistributed land through village communes (mir).</p>
4	<p>“Social Democrats disagreed with Socialist Revolutionaries.” Explain Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the late 1800s, some Russian socialists thought peasants were natural socialists because they shared land and thus, peasants would lead the revolution, allowing Russia to become socialist faster than other countries. • The Socialist Revolutionary Party, formed in 1900, supported peasants and wanted land to be taken from nobles and given to them. • But Lenin and the Social Democrats disagreed, saying peasants were too divided—some were rich, some poor—so they couldn't lead a united socialist movement.
5	<p>What led to the division of the Russian Socialists Democratic Workers Party (RSDWP) and how was it divided? Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Russian Social Democratic Workers Party (RSDWP) was formed by socialists who respected Marx's ideas but divided over the strategy of organization into Bolsheviks and Mensheviks. • Bolsheviks under Vladimir Lenin wanted a small, disciplined party suited for Tsarist Russia. • The Mensheviks preferred a broad, open party like in Germany.
6	<p>Explain the major causes that were responsible for the Russian Revolution of 1905?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Which event came to be known as 'Bloody Sunday'? (Ans for this question: last point only) Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russia was ruled autocratically by Tsar Nicholas II, who ignored the Parliament and was seen as inefficient. • Liberals, Socialists, nationalists, and Muslim reformers (Jadidists) united to demand a constitution. • In 1904, rising prices of essential goods and poor conditions led to a surge in worker protests and strikes. • Bloody Sunday was a turning point in the 1905 Russian Revolution. Peaceful workers led by Father Gapon were fired upon by police while marching to the

	<p>Winter palace to give a petition to the Tsar, killing over 100 people. The event caused strikes and protests across Russia. Lawyers, doctors, engineers and middle-class professionals formed the Union of Unions and demanded a Constituent Assembly, leading to the creation of the Duma (Parliament).</p>
7	<p>How did the First World War affect Russia? Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1914, World War I began between two European alliances – the Central Powers (Germany, Austria, Turkey) and the Allies (France, Britain, Russia). • Russia faced heavy defeats, with over 7 million casualties by 1917 and 3 million refugees as the Russian army burned crops and buildings while retreating, to prevent the enemy from using them. • The war hurt Russian industry, which was already small and cut off from other suppliers of industrial goods. • By 1916, railways broke down, men were sent to war, and many workshops closed due to labour shortages. • Large supplies of grain were sent to feed the army, causing bread shortages and riots in cities during the winter of 1916.
8	<p>“Petrograd had led the February Revolution that brought down the Monarchy in February 1917.” Explain. Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Winter of 1917, conditions in the capital, Petrograd, were miserable. Petrograd was divided: workers lived on the right bank of River Neva and rich and officials lived on the left. • In February 1917, food shortages and freezing weather made life worse for workers. On 22 Feb, a factory lockout led to strikes in 50 factories. Women led the protests—this became International Women’s Day. • The government imposed a curfew and sent police and cavalry, but they couldn’t stop the growing unrest. • On 25 Feb, the Duma was suspended. By 26 Feb, workers and soldiers formed the ‘Soviet’ or ‘Council’ called as the Petrograd Soviet. • On 2 March, Tsar abdicated. A Provisional Government was formed, and Russia’s future was to be decided by an elected Constituent Assembly, elected on the basis of Universal Adult Suffrage.
9	<p>Explain Lenin’s ‘April Theses’.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Describe the major demands of Bolshevik during 1917. Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In April 1917, Lenin came back to Russia and wanted the Soviets to take control. • He declared that war be ended, land be transferred to the peasants and banks be nationalized. These three demands were Lenin’s ‘April Theses’.
10	<p>What is meant by ‘October Revolution’? Describe its major events. Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ‘October Revolution’ was when Lenin and the Socialists took control of Russia and started the world’s first Communist government. • Lenin feared the Provisional Government might become a dictatorship, so he planned an uprising with support from soldiers, soviets, and workers. • On 16 October 1917, Lenin convinced the Petrograd Soviet and Bolshevik Party to seize power, and Leon Trotsky was chosen to lead a Military Revolutionary

	<p>Committee to plan the takeover.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensing trouble, Prime Minister Kerenskii left the city to bring troops, while soldiers took over Bolshevik newspaper buildings, phone and telegraph offices, and guarded the Winter Palace. • As an immediate response, The Military Revolutionary Committee ordered its supporters to take over government offices and arrest ministers and later, the ship Aurora fired at the Winter Palace. • By night, the Bolsheviks had taken control of Petrograd, arrested ministers, and gained support from the Congress of Soviets and by December, they ruled Moscow and Petrograd.
11	<p>What were the main changes brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November 1917, the government took control of banks and industries. Land became public, and peasants were allowed to take land from nobles. • Big houses in cities were divided among families, old noble titles were banned, and new uniforms were made for the army and officials. • The Bolshevik Party was renamed the Russian Communist Party. • In January 1918, Lenin dismissed the Constituent Assembly after it rejected Bolshevik plans. • Later, only the Bolsheviks were allowed in elections and Russia became a one-party state. Trade unions were controlled by the Party, and secret police (called the Cheka first, and later OGPU and NKVD) punished anyone who spoke against them.
12	<p>What were the factors responsible for the Civil War which broke out in Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Russian Civil War was fought between the Reds (Bolsheviks), Whites (pro-Tsarists), and Greens (Socialist Revolutionaries) because: • The Russian army broke apart when Bolsheviks ordered land redistribution, and many soldiers mostly peasants went home. • Opponents of the Bolsheviks (the Whites and the Greens) formed armies in South Russia, supported by foreign countries who were worried about the growth of socialism. • The war caused looting, famine, and harsh treatment of peasants by the Whites, which made people turn against them. • By January 1920, the Bolsheviks gained control of most of Russia with help from non-Russian groups and Muslim reformers.
13	<p>Explain how a Socialist society was established in Russia</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>During the Civil War, the Bolsheviks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kept industries and banks under government control and allowed peasants to farm socialized land. • Started centralized planning and created Five-Year Plans to boost industry. • Built new factory towns, expanded schools, and gave workers and peasants access to universities. • Provided crèches for children, cheap healthcare, and model housing for workers. • But fast growth caused poor living conditions. For example, in freezing winters, they had to run outside from the fourth floor just to reach the toilet.
14	<p>Explain the Collectivization Policy of Stalin</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>What were the major changes introduced in agriculture by Stalin?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stalin started Collectivisation Policy to solve grain shortages in Russia • Land was taken from peasants and combined into large collective farms (kolkhoz). • Rich peasants (Kulaks) were removed to allow modern farming. • From 1929, all peasants had to work on collective farms and share profits. • Although Collectivisation programme was introduced to solve the acute problem of grain supplies, the production did not increase immediately, and those who resisted were punished or exiled.
15	<p>Explain the impact of Russian Revolution on the world?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communist parties were started in many countries, like the Communist Party of Great Britain. • Bolsheviks inspired people in colonies to fight against imperialism. • Many Non-Russians from outside the USSR, joined meetings like the Conference of the People of the East and the Comintern (an International Union of Pro-Bolshevik Socialist Parties). • Some people got education in USSR's Communist University. • By World War II, the USSR made socialism popular worldwide.