

# *RUSSIA*

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*At the beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> century Russia was very strong country. It was getting bigger by gaining new lands and countries. Also the structure of society was very strict because of strong absolutistic ruling. Russia needed to modernize but there was war started by Napoleon so tsar Alexander I. had to stop his reforms and new enlightened ideas . In 1825 Alexander I. dies suddenly and unexpectedly. After his dead new tsar Nicholas I. was crowned.*



*A group of officers make a constitutional demands upon the new tsar. Nicholas didn't agree and argued with people in St. Petersburg square. When he ends his speech he let his artillery to shoot the people. Officers are afraid and they run. It doesn't help them because they were arrested immediately. Nicholas I. ruled as an orthodox ruler , he was leader of orthodox church and he held the tradition of Christianity in Europe.*

*After his rule there came Alexander II. on a throne. Russia lost some territories in Black sea because of the Crimean war( the treaty was written in Paris then). The new tsar devotes himself to a radical change of policy- anachronism in Russia - the survival of serfdom.*

*The problem of serfdom was hardly discussed and Alexander did some reforms but he didn't satisfied liberals, peasants and radicals too. There were two groups of people formed.*

*The first was Slavophilis which was the group of people who belived in Russian empire in autocratic rule and who belived in ideas of tsar( their main example was Peter the Great).*

*The second group was Narodniki. This group wanted to apply the ideas of Karl Marx to the lives of common people and serves. They called upon these people, sended students to talk to them. These revolts ended by an extremistic murder of Alexander II. One of radicals had thrown bomb to him on St. Peterburg square.*



*The Russian autocracy continues successfully during reign of two Romanov dynasties. At the throne was Nicholas II. The last two decades of the 19th century are years of intense political activity in Russia, carried on in universities and in secret societies. Intellectuals are influenced by ideas of Karl Marx.*

*There are many people who are in exile, also people who wanted to assassinate Alexander III. were executed( also Lenin´s brother). Lenin returned to Russia from exile and he became one of the founders in St Petersburg of the Union for the Struggle of the Liberation of the Working Class. He is soon arrested and sent to exile also with his friend Trotsky.*



*In July 1900 Lenin leaves Russia with the intention of publishing a newspaper abroad for circulation in Russian cities. Under the title Iskra , it becomes the organ through which Lenin makes himself the centre of an influential party. Trotsky joins him on the staff of Iskra in 1902. In 1904 there also starts war with Japan. It lasts to 1905 and Russia had lost in this war. Then in 1914 the WWI had started. Also Nicholas II. with all his family was assassinated by Bolsheviks in . Also nobles are arrested or killed by Bolsheviks and in Russia during the civil war -Bolsheviks against the "white"(nobles, aristocratic families and etc.). It was from 1918 to 1922 and Bolsheviks won civil war and established Russia as a communistic state.*