


Revolution

By Rybakova Zlata
Egorova Anastasiia
Gorozhanko Maxim



Social revolution

are the rapid basic transformations of the state and class structures of society; they are accompanied and partly produced through class-based revolts from the bottom (class-based revolts)

Stages of social revolution

1. A crisis of state
2. The emergence of a dominant class to take advantage of a revolutionary situation

Reasons

- Poor economy
- Natural disasters
- Food shortage
- Security concerns

Principles and choices by Skocpol

The principle of "structural perspective": the causes of social revolutions lie in structural changes in the social system of society.


The principle of "international and world-historical context": when analyzing social revolutions, it is necessary to take into account the international, primarily the military-political situation of the country.

The principle of "potential autonomy of the state": the state is an independent force with their own organizational and security structures, own interests, which are not reducible to the interests of any other group or society as a whole. The state confronts not only the rest of society, but also other states on the international arena.

Crimean War of 1854-5



The revolution of 1917

A portrait of Alexander Dugin, a Russian philosopher, with a long grey beard and hair, wearing a black jacket. He is looking slightly to the left of the camera.

«...Самые страшные гетто будут созданы для серфингистов, — вот это самое наглое, самое антиевразийское явление. Нет ничего более отвратительного, чем катание с белозубой улыбкой на этой омерзительной доске. Одним словом, атлантизм — это наш абсолютный враг. Больше здесь сказать нечего. Самое главное сказано. Кто не понял, ему уже ничего не поможет. Ничего.»

А.Г. Дугин, "Четвертая политическая теория"
Глава 11. "Евразийство"

Russian philosopher about the emancipation of the serfs

- The war showed the superiority of France and Britain over Russia
- Russia began administrative and socio-political reforms
- Zemstvos appeared
- Municipal dumas appeared
- "Emancipation" of serfs in 1861
- The number of peasant revolts markedly increased

Industrialization 1870-1890

- the promotion of free enterprise → mining and steel industry in Russia aren't developed → Russia gets foreign loans and exports grain
- government expenditures for railroad building and operation; subsidies and supporting services for private industrialists; high protective tariffs for Russian industries; increased export; stable currency; encouragement of foreign investments (S. Witte's plan) → the pace of industrial development rises to 8% in 1890s ---> not enough

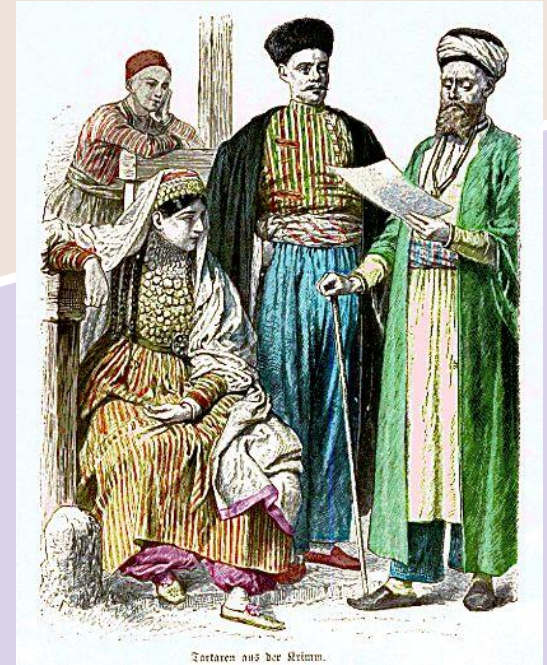
Closer to revolution

- 1904 -- Russia enters the war with Japan
- November 1904 -- The All-Russian Congress of the Zemstvos requires a liberal constitutional monarchy
- June 1905 -- sailors' uprising on the battleship Potemkin
- October 1905 -- a railway strike --> general strike

Aspects of the Russian revolution not mentioned by Skocpol:

National question

- in the second half of 19th century there were some difficulties concerning the nation question - like Polish rebellions and consequences of Caucasian wars
- the cure for this problem process of russification had started in attempt to prevent attempts of emancipation of national republics.
- Not everyone wanted to leave their ancestry behind and this caused dissatisfaction between the national minority representatives, some nations can't forgive this forced russification until now - like Baltic states, Ukraine, Poland, Finland.



Aspects of the Russian revolution not mentioned by Skocpol:

Dissident elites and leaders of the revolution

- Skocpol focuses mainly on the role of state and reasons caused by state, but doesn't really discuss the "leaders" of the revolution.
- in the head of bolshevik movement there were influential leaders - Lenin, Trotsky, Kamenev, Zinoviev, etc. - who were rooting for the revolution and abolishment of monarchy from the very beginning. In addition, there were some important cultural figures praising the revolution (at first, at least) - Futurists, Gumilev, Blok.



Aspects of the Russian revolution not mentioned by Skocpol:

Role of foreign countries in revolution

- there are *some* (very few) documented proofs of foreign help to bolsheviks as well as there are some facts that imply it - like the sealed railway carriage story
- another side of role of foreign countries is the fact that they gave opportunities for the revolutioners to live their, publish agitation materials and send them to Russia, earn money, etc.



Aspects of the Russian revolution not mentioned by Skocpol:

Role of mass-culture in revolution

- First protest acts of mass culture began to appear in Russia in 1820s around the time of Dekabrist rebel and then continued to gain popularity. By the beginning of the 20s century revolutionary tones were all around - from the popular Marseillaise and caricatures in magazines to literature, poetry - Blok's 12 is a bright example - and even painting - as the new revolutionary avantgarde genres appeared.



Aspects of the Russian revolution not mentioned by Skocpol:

Personal expectations of Russian people

- Structural functionalist approach implies focusing on the people's not fulfilled expectations - and we can see that 50 years before revolution were full of promises of brighter future: emancipation of serfs, industrial growth, Stolypin's reforms, etc. - but people's life didn't really improve and due to constant wars even deprived





THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!