



THE FRENCH REVOLUTION



Chapter 1 - Class 9 History

CBSE Curriculum 2025-26

Comprehensive Study Material by Math Love Institute

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1. INTRODUCTION

What was the French Revolution?

The **French Revolution (1789-1799)** was a period of radical social and political upheaval in France that had a lasting impact on French history and the world.

Key Points:

- It began on **14 July 1789** with the storming of the Bastille
- It ended the **absolute monarchy** in France
- It led to the establishment of a **Republic**
- It gave the world the ideas of **Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity**
- It inspired revolutionary movements across Europe and the world



France Before the Revolution (Ancien Régime)

Ancien Régime means "Old Order" - the social and political system in France before 1789.

Characteristics:

- **Absolute Monarchy:** King Louis XVI had unlimited power
- **Unequal Society:** Divided into three estates
- **No Democracy:** Common people had no say in government
- **Economic Crisis:** Heavy taxation, debt, food shortage



2. THE FRENCH SOCIETY (Three Estates)

The Estate System

French society was divided into three estates based on birth and occupation:

Estate	Who	Population	Privileges/Burdens
FIRST ESTATE	Clergy (Church officials)	About 1% (1,00,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Owned 10% of land✓ Exempt from taxes✓ Collected tithes from peasants✓ Enjoyed special privileges
SECOND ESTATE	Nobility (Aristocrats)	About 2% (3,00,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Owned 25-30% of land✓ Exempt from taxes✓ Enjoyed feudal privileges✓ Collected dues from peasants
THIRD ESTATE	Common People (97%)	About 97% (270 lakh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">X Paid all taxes (taille, tithes, etc.)X No political rightsX Worked hard, lived in povertyIncluded: Peasants, artisans, workers, middle class

Third Estate - A Closer Look

The Third Estate was not uniform. It included different groups:

1. Big Businessmen, Merchants, Court Officials:

- Wealthy but had no political power
- Wanted equality with nobility

2. Peasants (Majority):

- About 90% of population
- Owned some land but had to pay heavy dues
- Paid taxes to state, church, and landlords

3. Artisans, Workers, Servants:

- Worked in workshops, factories
- Low wages, high bread prices
- Lived in extreme poverty

Important Point

Burden of Taxes: The Third Estate paid all taxes while the First and Second Estates (only 3% population) enjoyed all privileges and paid NO taxes!

Taxes paid by Third Estate:

- **Taille:** Direct tax to the state
- **Tithes:** Tax to the church (1/10th of produce)
- **Indirect Taxes:** On salt, tobacco, etc.
- **Feudal Dues:** To the landlord

3. CAUSES OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

A. Social Causes

1. Inequality in Society:

- First and Second Estates (3%) enjoyed all privileges
- Third Estate (97%) bore all burdens
- No equality, no justice

2. Privileges of Clergy and Nobility:

- Exempt from paying taxes
- Collected taxes from peasants
- Enjoyed feudal rights

3. Discontent of the Middle Class:

- Educated and wealthy but had no political rights
- Wanted social equality
- Influenced by Enlightenment ideas

B. Economic Causes

1. Financial Crisis:

- France was in deep debt due to wars
- Louis XVI's lavish lifestyle drained treasury
- Queen Marie Antoinette's extravagant spending
- French involvement in American War of Independence (1776-1783)

2. Heavy Taxation:

- Only the Third Estate paid taxes
- Tax burden was unbearable
- No tax reform possible due to privileged classes' opposition

3. Food Crisis (1788-1789):

- Bad harvest due to drought and hailstorm
- Bread prices increased drastically
- Severe food shortage and famine
- Common people couldn't afford basic food

C. Political Causes

1. Autocratic Rule of Louis XVI:

- Absolute monarch with unlimited power
- No democracy or representation
- Weak and indecisive ruler

2. No Political Rights for Third Estate:

- Common people had no voice in government
- Estates-General was rarely called
- Voting system favored privileged classes

D. Intellectual Causes (Role of Philosophers)

The Enlightenment Movement inspired revolutionary ideas:

1. John Locke (England):

- Concept of **Natural Rights** - Life, Liberty, Property
- Government should protect people's rights
- Right to revolt against tyrannical rulers

2. Rousseau (France):

- Book: "**The Social Contract**"
- Theory of **Popular Sovereignty** - Power lies with people
- "Man is born free but is everywhere in chains"
- Government should be based on people's will

3. Montesquieu (France):

- Book: "**The Spirit of the Laws**"
- Theory of **Separation of Powers**
- Division into Legislature, Executive, Judiciary
- Checks and balances to prevent tyranny

4. Voltaire (France):

- Criticized church and monarchy
- Advocated freedom of speech and religion
- Attacked superstition and intolerance

 **Remember**

Impact of American Revolution (1776):

- America won independence from Britain
- Established a democratic republic
- French soldiers who fought in America brought back ideas of liberty
- Inspired French people to fight for their rights

4. THE OUTBREAK OF REVOLUTION

Key Events Leading to Revolution

May 5, 1789 - Meeting of Estates-General:

- Louis XVI called Estates-General after 175 years to solve financial crisis
- Meeting held at Versailles
- Third Estate demanded one vote per person (instead of one vote per estate)
- King rejected their demand

June 17, 1789 - National Assembly:

- Third Estate declared themselves **National Assembly**
- Led by Mirabeau and Abbé Sieyès
- Claimed to represent the whole French nation

June 20, 1789 - Tennis Court Oath:

- King locked the hall where Assembly met
- Members moved to a tennis court
- Took oath not to disperse until a Constitution was made
- Led by Jean Bailly

July 14, 1789 - Storming of the Bastille:

- King stationed troops around Paris
- Angry crowd stormed **Bastille prison** (symbol of royal tyranny)
- This date marks the beginning of French Revolution
- **July 14 is celebrated as French National Day**



Significance of Bastille

- A fortress-prison in Paris
- Symbol of the king's despotic power
- Prisoners were kept without trial
- Its fall represented the end of royal tyranny



5. THE REVOLUTION PROGRESSES

A. Abolition of Feudalism (August 4, 1789)

- National Assembly abolished feudal system
- Ended privileges of First and Second Estates
- Abolished tithes collected by church
- Peasants freed from feudal dues

B. Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen (August 1789)

One of the most important documents in human history!

Key Principles:

- **Liberty:** Men are born and remain free and equal in rights
- **Equality:** Law is same for all
- **Right to Property:** Right to own property is natural and sacred
- **Freedom of Speech:** Free communication of ideas
- **Popular Sovereignty:** Power resides in the people
- **Right to Resist Oppression**

Famous Quote: "Men are born and remain free and equal in rights"

C. Constitution of 1791

Main Features:

1. Limited Monarchy:

- France became **Constitutional Monarchy**
- King's powers were limited
- Legislative Assembly was created

2. Separation of Powers:

- **Legislature:** National Assembly (make laws)
- **Executive:** King (implement laws)
- **Judiciary:** Courts (interpret laws)

3. Right to Vote:

- Only **Active Citizens** could vote
- Active Citizens: Men above 25 years paying taxes equal to 3 days' wages
- About 40 lakh men got voting rights
- **Passive Citizens** (women, poor) had NO voting rights

Important Note

Women were disappointed:

- Women participated actively in revolution
- But Constitution of 1791 denied them voting rights
- They remained "passive citizens"
- This sparked women's movements for equality

6. FRANCE BECOMES A REPUBLIC

From Monarchy to Republic (1792-1793)

April 1792 - War with Austria and Prussia:

- Revolutionary France declared war on Austria
- Other European monarchies feared revolution would spread
- They wanted to crush the revolution

August 10, 1792 - Attack on Tuileries Palace:

- Angry mob attacked royal palace
- King Louis XVI and family imprisoned
- End of monarchy in France

September 1792 - National Convention:

- New assembly called **National Convention** was elected
- ALL adult men got voting rights (universal suffrage)
- France was declared a **REPUBLIC**

January 21, 1793 - Execution of Louis XVI:

- King tried for treason
- Found guilty
- Executed by **guillotine** in public

The Guillotine

A device consisting of two poles and a blade, used for beheading people during French Revolution.

- Named after Dr. Joseph Guillotin
- Considered more humane than other execution methods
- Became symbol of the Reign of Terror

7. THE REIGN OF TERROR (1793-1794)

Period of Extreme Violence

Led by: Maximilien Robespierre and the **Jacobin Club**

What Happened:

- Robespierre followed policy of severe control and punishment
- Anyone considered "enemy of the republic" was arrested and guillotined
- Ex-nobles, clergy, members of other political parties were executed
- Even Queen Marie Antoinette was executed (October 1793)
- Churches were converted into barracks or offices

Extreme Measures:

- Meat and bread were rationed
- Use of expensive white flour was banned
- All citizens forced to eat **pain d'égalité** (equality bread) made of whole wheat
- Peasants forced to sell grain at fixed prices

End of Terror:

- Robespierre's government became extremely unpopular
- People turned against him
- In July 1794, he was arrested and guillotined
- The Reign of Terror ended

Important

The Jacobin Club:

- Most radical political group during revolution
- Members were called **sans-culottes** (without knee breeches)
- They wore long striped trousers and red cap (symbols of liberty)
- Represented common people, artisans, workers
- Wanted equality and democracy



8. CHANGES BROUGHT BY REVOLUTION

A. Political Changes

1. **End of Absolute Monarchy:** France became a republic
2. **Democracy:** People got voting rights
3. **Constitution:** Rule of law established
4. **Equality before Law:** All citizens equal
5. **Separation of Church and State:** Clergy lost political power

B. Social Changes

1. **End of Feudalism:** Feudal system abolished
2. **Social Equality:** Privileges of nobles ended
3. **Slavery Abolished:** In French colonies (1794)
4. **Metric System:** Uniform system of weights and measures
5. **Freedom of Speech and Press**

C. Economic Changes

1. **Land Redistribution:** Church land confiscated and sold
2. **Guilds Abolished:** Helped growth of business
3. **Tax Reforms:** Fair taxation system
4. **Economic Freedom:** Encouragement to trade and industry

D. Cultural Changes

1. **New Calendar:** Republican calendar introduced
2. **Titles Abolished:** Everyone addressed as **Citoyen** (Citizen)
3. **National Symbols:**
 - Tricolor flag (Blue-White-Red)
 - National anthem: "**La Marseillaise**"
 - National motto: "**Liberty, Equality, Fraternity**"

9. IMPACT OF FRENCH REVOLUTION

A. Impact on France

- End of 1000-year-old monarchy
- Establishment of republic and democracy
- Ideas of liberty and equality spread
- Rise of Napoleon Bonaparte
- Modern France was shaped by this revolution

B. Impact on Europe

- Revolutionary ideas spread across Europe
- Monarchies felt threatened
- Inspired nationalist movements
- Led to reforms in many countries
- Changed political map of Europe

C. Impact on World

- Inspired democratic movements worldwide
- Concepts of human rights became universal
- Influenced American democracy
- Inspired anti-colonial struggles
- Ideas of liberty and equality became global

IN Impact on India

- Ideas of liberty and equality inspired Indian freedom fighters
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy was influenced by French revolutionary ideas
- Indian National Congress adopted similar democratic principles
- Indian Constitution reflects French revolutionary values



10. WOMEN IN REVOLUTION

Role of Women

Active Participation:

- Women from third estate had to work for living
- They participated in meetings and protests
- Led many demonstrations
- Demanded equal rights

October 1789 - Women's March:

- About 7,000 women marched to Versailles
- Demanded bread and brought king back to Paris
- Forced royal family to leave Versailles

Political Clubs:

- Women formed over 60 political clubs
- **Society of Revolutionary and Republican Women** - most famous
- Demanded voting rights and equal wages

Disappointment:

- Constitution of 1791 denied women voting rights
- Revolutionary government closed women's clubs in 1793
- Women remained "passive citizens"
- Many women activists were arrested

Notable Women Revolutionaries

Olympe de Gouges:

- Wrote "**Declaration of Rights of Woman and Citizen**" (1791)
- Demanded equal rights for women
- Opposed Robespierre and Reign of Terror
- Executed by guillotine in 1793

Charlotte Corday:

- Assassinated radical revolutionary leader Marat
- Executed in 1793



11. IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS & TERMS

Key Terms to Remember

- 1. Ancien Régime:** Old system of society and government in France before 1789.
- 2. Estates-General:** Political body consisting of representatives of three estates.
- 3. Taille:** Direct tax paid by members of third estate to the state.
- 4. Tithe:** Tax paid to the church (1/10th of agricultural produce).
- 5. National Assembly:** Assembly formed by third estate in 1789.
- 6. Bastille:** Fortress-prison in Paris, stormed on July 14, 1789.
- 7. Constitutional Monarchy:** Government where king's powers are limited by constitution.
- 8. Republic:** Government where head of state is elected, not hereditary.
- 9. Jacobins:** Radical political club led by Robespierre.
- 10. Sans-culottes:** Members of Jacobin club, common people without knee breeches.

11. Guillotine: Device used for beheading during French Revolution.

12. Reign of Terror: Period of extreme violence and mass executions (1793-94).

13. Liberty: Freedom from oppression and tyranny.

14. Equality: All persons equal before law, no discrimination.

15. Fraternity: Brotherhood, spirit of solidarity.

12. IMPORTANT QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Very Short Answer Questions (1 mark)

Q1. When did the French Revolution begin?

Answer: 14 July 1789 (Storming of Bastille)

Q2. What were the three estates in French society?

Answer: First Estate (Clergy), Second Estate (Nobility), Third Estate (Common People)

Q3. Who was the king of France during the revolution?

Answer: Louis XVI

Q4. What was Bastille?

Answer: A fortress-prison in Paris, symbol of royal despotism.

Q5. What is meant by 'Ancien Régime'?

Answer: The old system of French society and government before 1789.

Short Answer Questions (3 marks)

Q6. Describe the three estates of French society before revolution.

Answer:

First Estate - Clergy:

- 1% of population, owned 10% land
- Exempt from taxes, enjoyed privileges

Second Estate - Nobility:

- 2% of population, owned 25-30% land
- Exempt from taxes, collected feudal dues

Third Estate - Common People:

- 97% of population including peasants, workers, middle class
 - Paid all taxes, no political rights
-

Q7. What was the Reign of Terror? Why was it called so?

Answer:

The period from 1793 to 1794 is known as the **Reign of Terror**.

Why called so:

- Led by Robespierre and Jacobins
- Policy of severe control and punishment
- Thousands of people guillotined
- Ex-nobles, clergy, political opponents were executed

- People lived in constant fear
- Even innocent people were arrested and killed

It ended in July 1794 when Robespierre himself was guillotined.

Q8. What was the significance of the Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen?

Answer:

The Declaration (August 1789) was a revolutionary document that proclaimed:

- **Natural Rights:** All men born free and equal
- **Equality before law:** Law is same for all
- **Popular Sovereignty:** Power resides in people
- **Right to Property:** Natural and sacred right
- **Freedom of Speech:** Free expression of ideas
- **Right to Resist Oppression**

Significance: It became foundation of human rights globally and inspired democratic movements worldwide.

Q9. Why was Bastille hated by all? Why did people storm it?

Answer:

Why hated:

- Bastille was a fortress-prison in Paris
- Symbol of king's despotic power

- Prisoners kept without trial
- Represented royal tyranny and oppression

Why stormed:

- On July 14, 1789, angry crowd stormed Bastille
 - King had stationed troops in Paris
 - People feared attack by royal army
 - They wanted weapons stored in Bastille
 - Its fall symbolized end of royal tyranny
-

Q10. Who were Jacobins? What role did they play?

Answer:

Jacobins:

- Most radical political club during revolution
- Led by Maximilien Robespierre
- Members called **sans-culottes** (without knee breeches)
- Represented common people - artisans, workers, peasants

Role:

- Demanded republic and abolition of monarchy
- Wanted equality and democracy
- Implemented Reign of Terror (1793-94)
- Executed thousands including king and queen
- Finally lost power when Robespierre was guillotined (1794)

Long Answer Questions (5 marks)

Q11. Explain the social causes of the French Revolution.

Answer:

French society before 1789 was highly unequal, which led to revolution:

1. INEQUALITY IN SOCIETY:

- Society divided into three estates
- First and Second Estates (only 3%) enjoyed all privileges
- Third Estate (97%) bore all burdens
- No social justice or equality

2. PRIVILEGES OF CLERGY AND NOBILITY:

- First Estate (Clergy) and Second Estate (Nobility) exempt from taxes
- Owned vast lands but paid no taxes
- Enjoyed feudal rights over peasants
- Collected various dues from third estate

3. SUFFERINGS OF THIRD ESTATE:

- Paid all taxes - taille, tithe, indirect taxes
- Peasants paid feudal dues to landlords
- No political rights or representation
- Lived in poverty despite hard work

4. RISE OF MIDDLE CLASS:

- Educated and wealthy middle class emerged
- They had money but no political power
- Wanted equality with nobility

- Influenced by Enlightenment ideas
- Led the revolutionary movement

This extreme social inequality created widespread discontent and finally led to revolution.

Q12. Describe the role of philosophers in French Revolution.

Answer:

The **Enlightenment philosophers** played crucial role by spreading revolutionary ideas:

1. JOHN LOCKE (England):

- Introduced concept of **Natural Rights** - Life, Liberty, Property
- Said government should protect people's rights
- People have right to revolt against oppressive rulers
- Inspired revolutionary thinking

2. JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU (France):

- Wrote "**The Social Contract**"
- Gave theory of **Popular Sovereignty**
- Famous quote: "Man is born free but is everywhere in chains"
- Said government should be based on people's will
- Inspired idea of democracy

3. MONTESQUIEU (France):

- Wrote "**The Spirit of the Laws**"
- Gave theory of **Separation of Powers**
- Divided government into Legislature, Executive, Judiciary
- Said each should check others to prevent tyranny

- This system was adopted in Constitution of 1791

4. VOLTAIRE (France):

- Criticized church and absolute monarchy
- Advocated freedom of speech and religion
- Attacked superstition and intolerance
- Inspired rational thinking

IMPACT:

- These ideas spread through books, pamphlets, discussions
- Middle class was greatly influenced
- Ideas of liberty, equality, democracy became popular
- Created intellectual atmosphere for revolution

Q13. Describe the main events that led to the outbreak of French Revolution.

Answer:

MAY 5, 1789 - ESTATES-GENERAL MEETING:

- Louis XVI called Estates-General after 175 years
- Purpose: To solve financial crisis
- Third Estate demanded voting by head (one person, one vote)
- First and Second Estates wanted voting by estate
- King rejected third estate's demand

JUNE 17, 1789 - FORMATION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:

- Angry third estate members walked out
- Declared themselves **National Assembly**
- Led by Mirabeau and Abbé Sieyès

- Claimed to represent entire French nation

JUNE 20, 1789 - TENNIS COURT OATH:

- King locked the hall where Assembly met
- Members gathered in nearby tennis court
- Led by Jean Bailly
- Took oath not to disperse until Constitution was made
- This showed their determination

JULY 14, 1789 - STORMING OF BASTILLE:

- King stationed troops in Paris
- People feared military action
- Angry mob stormed Bastille prison
- Bastille was symbol of royal tyranny
- This marked the beginning of revolution
- July 14 celebrated as French National Day

These events show how political crisis led to revolutionary outbreak.

Q14. Describe the role of women in French Revolution. Were they disappointed?

Answer:

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION:

- Women actively participated in revolution
- Most women from third estate had to work for living
- They faced problems like low wages, high food prices
- Attended meetings and discussions in clubs
- Led many protests and demonstrations

OCTOBER 1789 - WOMEN'S MARCH:

- About 7,000 women marched to Versailles
- Demanded bread and fair prices
- Forced king to come to Paris from Versailles
- This was a major turning point

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES:

- Women formed over 60 political clubs
- **Society of Revolutionary and Republican Women** - most famous
- Started newspapers, gave speeches
- Demanded equal rights and voting rights

DISAPPOINTMENT - YES!

- **Constitution of 1791** denied women voting rights
- Women declared "passive citizens"
- Only men could be "active citizens"
- In 1793, revolutionary government closed women's clubs
- Women activists were arrested
- **Olympe de Gouges** who wrote Declaration of Rights of Woman was guillotined

CONCLUSION:

Despite active participation, women did not get equal rights. They had to continue struggle for equality for many more years.

Q15. What were the important changes brought about by French Revolution?

Answer:

French Revolution brought revolutionary changes in all aspects:

1. POLITICAL CHANGES:

- **End of Monarchy:** Absolute monarchy ended, republic established
- **Democracy:** People got voting rights
- **Constitution:** Rule of law established
- **Separation of Powers:** Legislature, Executive, Judiciary separated
- **Political Equality:** All citizens equal before law

2. SOCIAL CHANGES:

- **End of Feudalism:** Feudal system abolished completely
- **Social Equality:** Privileges of clergy and nobility ended
- **Slavery Abolished:** In French colonies (1794)
- **Freedom of Speech and Press**
- Everyone addressed as **Citoyen** (Citizen)

3. ECONOMIC CHANGES:

- **Land Reforms:** Church lands confiscated and sold
- **Guilds Abolished:** Helped business growth
- **Fair Taxation:** Tax reforms introduced
- **Uniform Measures:** Metric system introduced

4. CULTURAL CHANGES:

- **National Symbols:** Tricolor flag, National anthem (La Marseillaise)
- **National Motto:** "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity"
- **New Calendar:** Republican calendar
- Churches converted to secular buildings

5. IMPACT ON WORLD:

- Ideas spread across Europe and world
- Inspired democratic movements globally
- Human rights became universal concept

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13. EXAM PREPARATION GUIDE

High Priority Topics

- ✨ Three Estates of French society (detailed)
- ✨ Causes of French Revolution (Social, Economic, Political, Intellectual)
- ✨ Role of philosophers (Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu, Voltaire)
- ✨ Important events (Estates-General, Tennis Court Oath, Bastille)
- ✨ Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen
- ✨ Constitution of 1791 (Active vs Passive citizens)
- ✨ France becomes Republic
- ✨ Reign of Terror
- ✨ Role of women in revolution
- ✨ Changes brought by revolution
- ✨ Impact of revolution

EXAM STRATEGY

Common Question Patterns:

1. Comparison tables (3 marks)

- Three Estates of society
- Active vs Passive citizens
- Before and after revolution

2. Cause-Effect questions (5 marks)

- Causes of revolution
- Changes brought by revolution
- Impact of revolution

3. Role of individuals/groups (5 marks)

- Role of philosophers
- Role of women
- Role of Jacobins









4. Events and significance (3-5 marks)

- Storming of Bastille
- Tennis Court Oath
- Reign of Terror

Important Dates Timeline

Date	Event
May 5, 1789	Meeting of Estates-General
June 17, 1789	Formation of National Assembly
June 20, 1789	Tennis Court Oath
July 14, 1789	Storming of Bastille
August 4, 1789	Abolition of Feudalism
August 1789	Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen
1791	Constitution of 1791
September 1792	France declared Republic
January 21, 1793	Execution of Louis XVI
1793-1794	Reign of Terror
July 1794	End of Terror, Robespierre executed

Common Mistakes to Avoid

-  Confusing dates (July 14, 1789 is most important)
-  Not mentioning specific examples
-  Mixing up philosophers and their ideas
-  Forgetting women's role and disappointment
-  Not explaining significance of events
-  Incomplete comparison of three estates
-  Not mentioning specific names (Louis XVI, Robespierre, etc.)
-  Confusing Constitutional Monarchy with Republic

QUICK REVISION - Chapter Summary

FRENCH SOCIETY: Three Estates - Clergy (1%), Nobility (2%), Common People (97%)

CAUSES: Social inequality + Economic crisis + Autocratic rule + Enlightenment ideas

PHILOSOPHERS: Locke (Natural Rights), Rousseau (Social Contract), Montesquieu (Separation of Powers), Voltaire (Freedom)

KEY EVENTS: Estates-General → Tennis Court Oath → Bastille (July 14, 1789)

DECLARATION: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity

CONSTITUTION 1791: Constitutional Monarchy, Active vs Passive citizens

REPUBLIC 1792: Monarchy ended, Louis XVI executed

TERROR 1793-94: Robespierre, Jacobins, Guillotine

WOMEN: Active participation but denied rights

IMPACT: Democracy, Equality, Human Rights spread globally

Key Mnemonics

Three Estates - "CNC":

- **C**lergy - Church (1%)
- **N**obility - Noble class (2%)
- **C**ommon people - (97%)

Four Philosophers - "LRMV":

- **L**ocke - Life, Liberty, Property
- **R**ousseau - Right of people (Popular Sovereignty)
- **M**ontesquieu - Must separate powers
- **V**oltaire - Voice your opinion (Freedom of speech)

Revolution motto - "LEF":

- **L**iberty
- **E**quality
- **F**raternity

Causes - "SEPI":

- **S**ocial inequality
- **E**conomic crisis
- **P**olitical autocracy
- **I**ntellectual awakening

Writing Tips

- Always mention specific dates, especially July 14, 1789
- Use proper terms: Ancien Régime, sans-culottes, guillotine
- Give examples: Louis XVI, Robespierre, Olympe de Gouges
- For causes, divide into categories: Social, Economic, Political, Intellectual
- For changes, categorize: Political, Social, Economic, Cultural
- Always conclude with significance or impact
- Use connecting words: therefore, consequently, as a result

Map Work

Be prepared to locate on map:

- France
- Paris (capital)
- Versailles
- Bastille
- Neighboring countries: England, Spain, Italy, Austria, Prussia

Study Material Information

This comprehensive study material on **The French Revolution** (Chapter 1, Class 9 History) covers all aspects of the revolution including causes, events, changes, and impact as per the latest CBSE curriculum. It includes detailed explanations, timelines, and practice questions for thorough exam preparation.

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"Liberty, Equality, Fraternity"

- Motto of the French Revolution

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