

French Revolution Timeline

1661 --> Louis XIV spends \$100 million to build palace at Versailles

1715 --> Louis XIV dies leaving **France in debt**

1750s --> Enlightenment or Age of Reason reaches its height

1770 --> Louis XVI marries Austrian **Marie Antoinette**

1774 --> Louis XV dies also leaving France in debt from wars fought during his reign; **Louis XVI** takes over.

People of France are poor and hungry

1776 --> Declaration of Independence is written and the colonists win American Revolution in 1781

1789 --> Peasants mad about new tax plan; Louis calls first meeting of **Estates-General** in 175 years

1789 --> The Third Estate declared themselves the National Assembly and made the **Tennis Court Oath**

1789 --> Fearing Louis would use force to dismiss the **National Assembly**, the people of Paris stormed the **Bastille**; tore it down

The Great Fear starts shortly after

August 1789 --> Declaration of Rights of Man written guaranteeing freedoms of equality, press, religion, & justice

June 1791 --> Royal family attempts to escape but are caught and arrested

1792 --> Guillotine is introduced

1793 --> Jean-Paul Marat, member of radical political group **Jacobins**, is stabbed in bathtub by Charlotte Corday

1793 --> Jacobin leader Maximillien Robespierre is slowly gaining power- wants to erase France's past; becomes leader of **Committee of Public Safety** and rules France for next year like a dictator -His rule was known as the **Reign of Terror**

January 21, 1793 --> King Louis is executed by guillotine

October 16, 1793 --> Marie Antoinette is executed by guillotine

July 28, 1794 --> Robespierre is executed by guillotine ending radical phase of revolution

Impacts of the French Revolution:

1. French Monarchy is no more
2. Catholic Church is temporarily removed
3. Democracy is introduced (though not fully enacted just yet)
4. Thousands killed or executed (40,000 alone during Reign of Terror)
5. Equal rights introduced
6. Napoleon Bonaparte comes to power

