

Key Events in Pre-Revolutionary History [17.601J/21H.467J]

- 1581 -- Russian explorers begin pushing into Siberia.
- 1605-1613 -- The Time of Troubles, civil war in Russia
- 1613 -- Beginning of the Romanov dynasty which rules until 1917
- 1649 -- Enserfment of the peasantry
- 1654 -- annexation of most of Ukraine
- 1703 -- founding of St. Petersburg
- 1721 -- Estonia is annexed in the Treaty of Nystad after victory over the Swedes.
- 1772-1795 -- The partitions of Poland result in the annexation of Latvia, Lithuania, and Belorussia.
- 1801 -- incorporation of Georgia; 1828 -- annexation of Armenia
- 1812 -- defeat of Napoleon; Moscow begins to be recognized as a great European power.
- 1825 -- Decembrist uprising -- beginning of the Russian revolutionary tradition.
- 1861 -- Emancipation of the serfs. This is followed by other reforms: creation of an independent judiciary, the zemstva (local councils for self-government), reforms of municipal government
- 1865 -- Russian troops gain control of Tashkent and Kazakhstan
- 1867 -- Selling of Alaska to the United States
- 1881 -- Tsar Alexander II is assassinated by revolutionaries.
- 1891-1904 -- construction of the Trans-Siberian Railroad
- 1904-1905 -- Russo-Japanese War
- 1905 -- first Russian Revolution: economic and political upheaval; creation of the soviets; October manifesto; the Duma
- 1914-1918 -- World War I
- February 1917 -- abdication of Tsar Nicholas II. The Provisional Government begins to rule.
- October 1917 -- the Bolshevik seizure of power

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