

# The French Revolution & Napoleon

AP European  
History  
Mr. Bayer



Painting by D. Jaurat, c. 1794

Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the Symbols of the Revolution. Rousseau represented as the author of the Social Contract and the philosopher who promoted the regeneration of natural sentiments and values against the corrupting influences of urban society. The eye of vigilance is a symbol from the Free Mason movement, to which many revolutionary leaders belonged. Other symbols are those of the French Republic: the tri-color flags above the principles of "Love of County" and "French Republic;" an altar dedicated to the rights of man and guarded by a soldier and a canon; the fisc of pikes surmounted by the red bonnet and adjacent to the tree of Liberty. The rising, glowing light in the foreground suggest the regeneration of social justice; two figures hand in hand represent the sign of unity, while a dog, symbol of faithfulness, and a horn of plenty complete the picture.

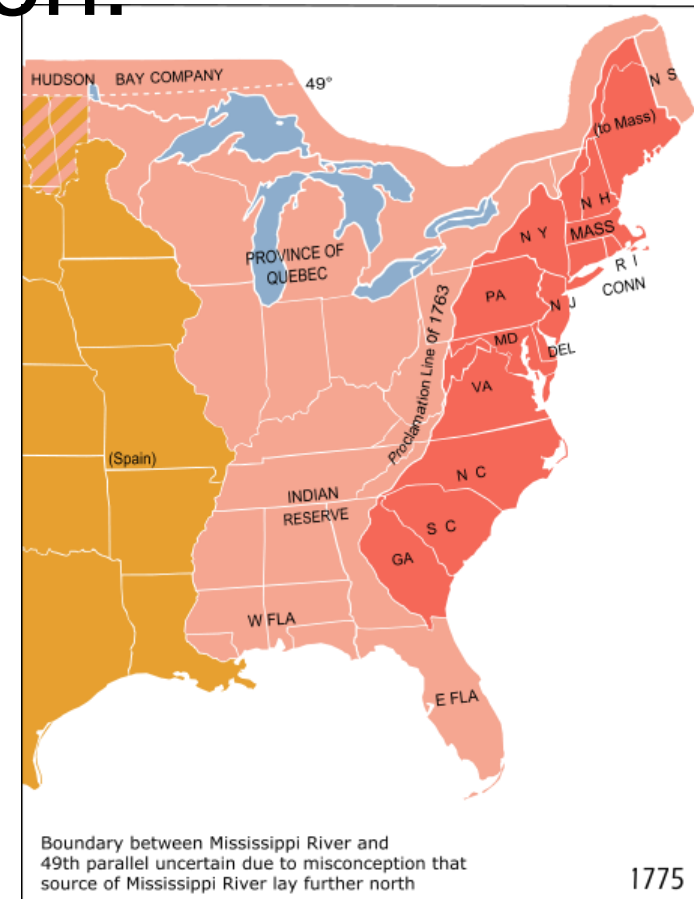
# Characterizing the French Revolution...

- Was it REALLY a “democratic revolution”?
- Political movement embodying liberal enlightenment thought
- Precursors to the French Revolution:
  - English Civil War
  - American Revolution
  - Dutch Republic/Swiss Cities/Austrian Netherlands
- Serious challenge to Old Regime

# The American Revolution:

## Origins of the Revolution

- Effects of the Seven Years' War (1756-1763)
  - The high cost of the war
  - Defense of new lands
    - Chief Pontiac – Proclamation of 1763 – prohibited settlement
  - The Stamp Act (1765) – riots/repeal
- Views of the British
  - Sharing of defense costs
  - Relatively low rate of American taxes
  - Colonists resented/ignored Navigation Acts

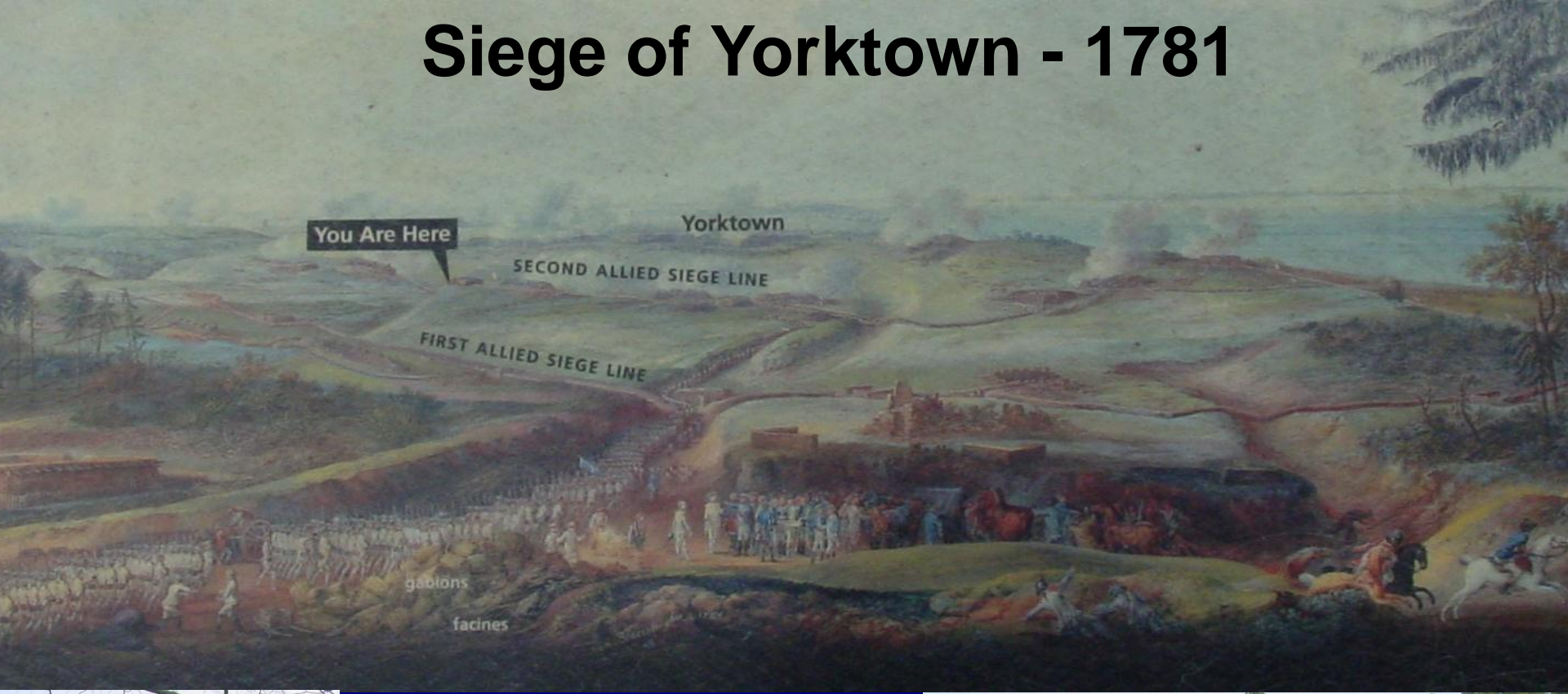




# The American Revolution: Independence

- *The Declaration of Independence* and the embodiment of Enlightenment ideals (p. 574) **# 6.**
- The division of the colonists into Loyalists (15-30%) vs. Patriots (~25%) and the apathetic masses (50%) **# 3., #4.**
  - Social position of each group
  - Patriots' harassment of loyalists
  - Broad social base of revolutionaries ensured this would be a democratic revolution
- Involvement of other European nations **# 5.**
  - French desire for revenge
    - Supplied guns & gunpowder
    - Marquis de Lafayette
    - Formal alliance in 1778
  - Spain, Netherlands get involved
  - Catherine the Great and the League of Armed Neutrality (vs. British Naval trade restrictions)
- Siege of Yorktown and surrender (1781)
- Treaty of Paris (1783)

# Siege of Yorktown - 1781





GREAT BRITAIN

UNITED STATES

SPAIN

Disputed by  
U.S. and Spain  
1784-1795

Atlantic  
Ocean

SPAIN

Gulf of Mexico

Treaty of Paris 1783

# The American Revolution:

## European thought and the new nation

- *Articles of Confederation* (1781)
- *US Constitution* (1787) – embodiment of the social contract in a written document
  - Federal system – central government (levy taxes, raise a national army, regulate trade, national currency)
  - Separation of Powers Montesquieu
  - American Bill of Rights
    - From English Bill of Rights (1689)
      - Trial by jury, due process, right of assembly, freedom from unreasonable searches
    - From 'natural rights' of philosophes
      - Freedom of speech and press (Kant)
      - Freedom of religion (Voltaire)





# The American Revolution:

## Equality's Limits

- Applied to legal equality, not social equality
  - More widespread right to vote (Pennsylvania)
  - Right to private property (5<sup>th</sup> amendment) and “just compensation”

# The American Revolution: # 7., #8.

## Impact on Europeans

- Covered widely in newspapers/magazines
- Showed that Enlightenment ideals were practical
- Inspired those who wanted more equality
- Reinforced Enlightenment belief in progress
- Marquis de Lafayette – Society of Thirty
- Parallels between the *Declaration of Independence* and the *Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen*



*“This vast continent which the seas surround  
will soon change Europe and the  
universe.”*

Swiss philosophe:

*“I am tempted to believe that North America  
is the country where reason and humanity  
will develop more rapidly than anywhere  
else.”*





...yet, the French Revolution  
was

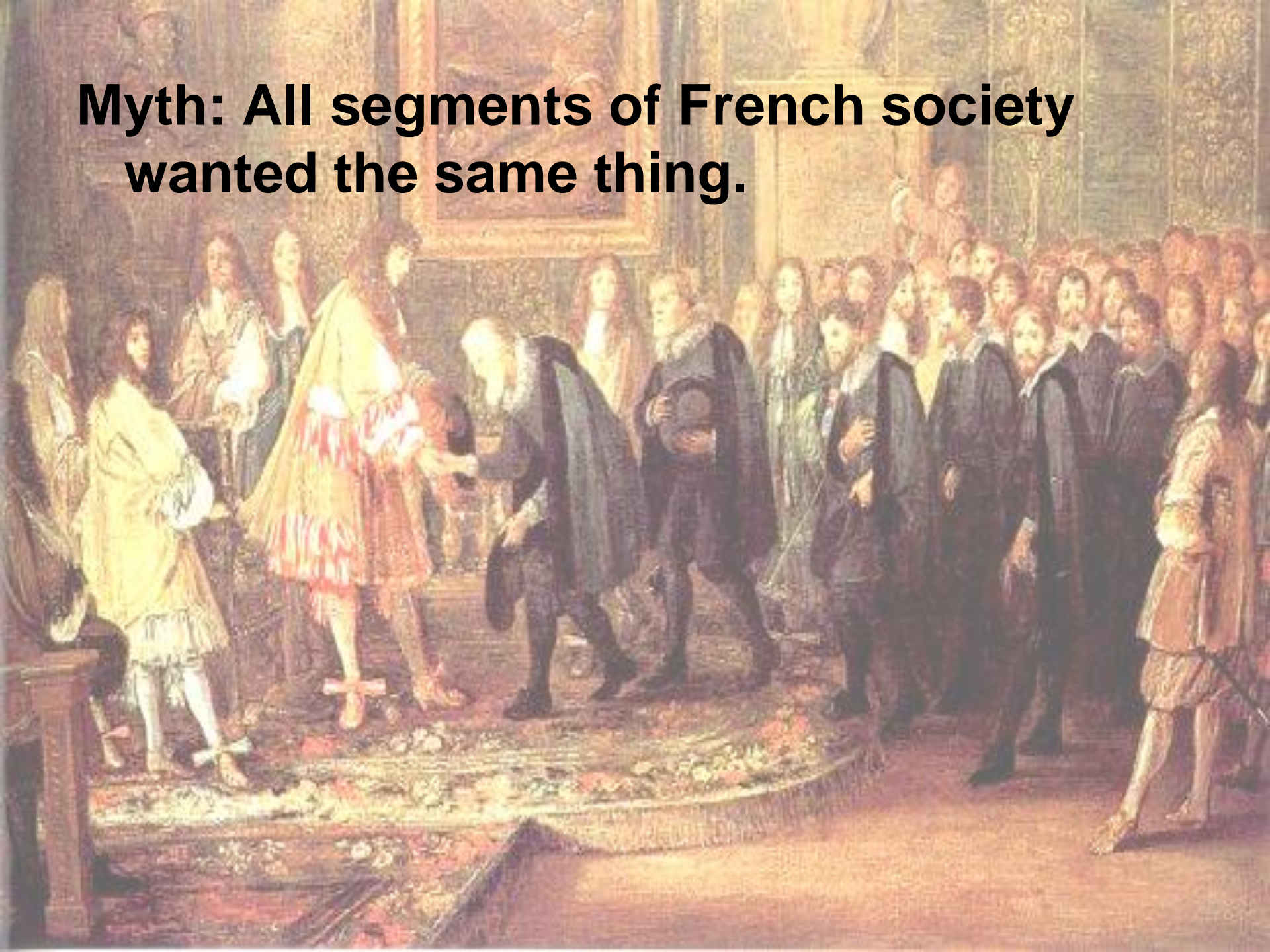
More complex, more radical, more violent,  
more impactful on Europe – and an  
attempt at a political reordering...

# **The French Revolution: Myths of the French Revolution**

**Myth: The French Revolution was  
primarily a political revolution.**



**Myth: All segments of French society wanted the same thing.**



**Myth: The leaders of the French Revolution wanted to overthrow the monarchy.**





**Myth: The French Revolution began with the attack on the Bastille.**



# Life Under the *Ancien Regime*

- End of the “dualist state” on the continent
- Absolutist state/divine right – standing army, royal bureaucracy, Church
- Static society – based on tradition/ritual
- Estates System – social position, rights, privileges, obligations
- **BIG IDEA:** Social, Economic, Political/Legal inequality in among France’s 27 million people w/ no effective way of dealing with crises as they arose

# Estates of France

## ■ First Estate: Clergy

- Less than 1% of population
- Owned 10% of land
- Exempt from the *taille* (voluntary taxation)
- 2% of income to gov't
- Some services to poor
- Divided priests vs. higher clergy

## ■ Second Estate: Nobility

- Less than 2% of population
- Owned 25-30% of land
- Nobility of the robe (offices) vs. sword (medieval nobility)
- Tax exemptions – *taille*
- Blocked new royal taxes via parlements



# Estates of France (cont.)

## Third Estate: 97% of population

### 1) Bourgeoisie: middle class (8%)

- 20-25% of the land
- Paid high taxes; lacked privileges of nobility (growing resentment)
- Complicated -- Upper middle class entered nobility

### 2) Workers in cities: trades people, servants

- Decline in purchasing power; rise in food prices/rent often hungry/unable to buy bread (1/3-1/2 income)
- Frequently out of work – growing unrest/insubordination

### 3) Peasants: 80% of population

- 35-40% of land
- Feudal obligations - paid 50% of income to nobles – use of community mills, presses, etc.
- 10% to church
- Taxes on salt – *gabelle*



***“What is the Third Estate? Everything. What has it been in the political order up to the present? Nothing. What does it ask? To be something.”*** - Abbe Sieyes, Priest 1789 in a Pamphlet



# The French Revolution:

## Problems Facing the French Monarchy

### ■ Review

#### □ Line of succession

##### ■ Louis XIV



##### ■ Louis XV

- Duke of Orleans, Cardinal Fleury
- Madame de Pompadour
- Loss of empire in the Seven Years' War

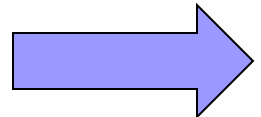


##### ■ Louis XVI

- Marie Antoinette
- Role in the American Revolution



#### □ Philosophes and the Enlightenment



- Louis XIV was almost constantly at war which drained the treasury.















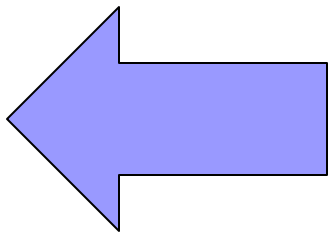
- The Palace of Versailles was used to control the nobles who lived there and were totally dependent upon the king.



The lavish lifestyle of the Palace of Versailles and the constant wars left the French in deep debt.



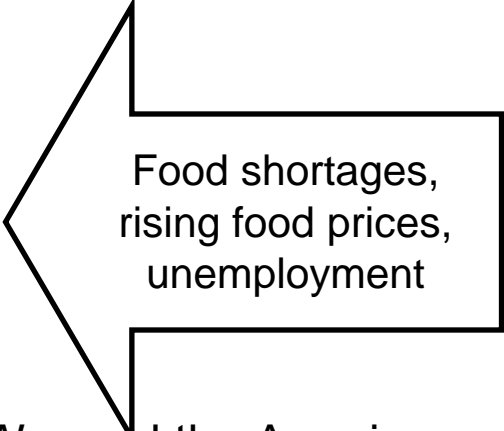
French national debt went from 400 million livres in 1643 to 2 billion livres when Louis XIV died in 1715.



# The French Revolution:

## Problems Facing the French Economy

- Economic problems of the 1780s
  - Economic prosperity of mid-1700s
    - Height of foreign expansion/trade
    - Industrial production
    - Prosperity was not shared
  - Enormous debt – monarchy
    - Over ½ of budget – interest on debt (Seven Years' War and the American Revolution)
  - No way to pay debt
    - Lenders refusal to lend to French Monarchy
    - Tax privileges of nobility/parlements (wealth was with the aristocracy)
  - Bad harvests of 1787-1788
  - Manufacturing depression
  - 1/3 of population was impoverished
  - Over taxation of Third Estate - taille



Food shortages,  
rising food prices,  
unemployment

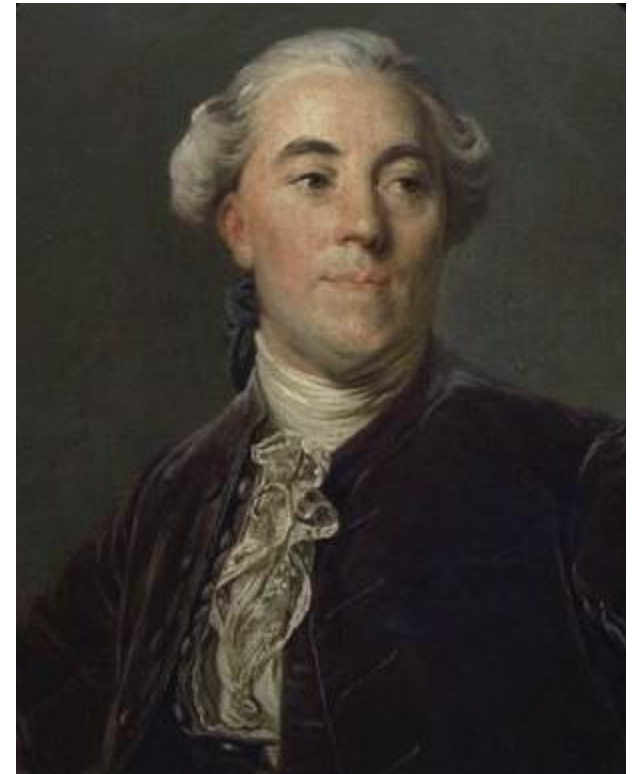


## Blocking of Royal Authority

- Power of the *parlements* and the failure to make reforms
  - Recall: France had 13 *parlements* (regional courts of law)
    - Traditional hereditary nobility - power to block royal edicts – difficult to tax wealthy
    - Were abolished by **Louis XV** and reinstated by **Louis XVI**
  - *Parlements*' view of themselves as 'protectors of liberty' --- positive public opinion (opposed the monarchy)
  - Nobles looking out for own self-interests and refusal to approve new taxes

# Jacques Necker

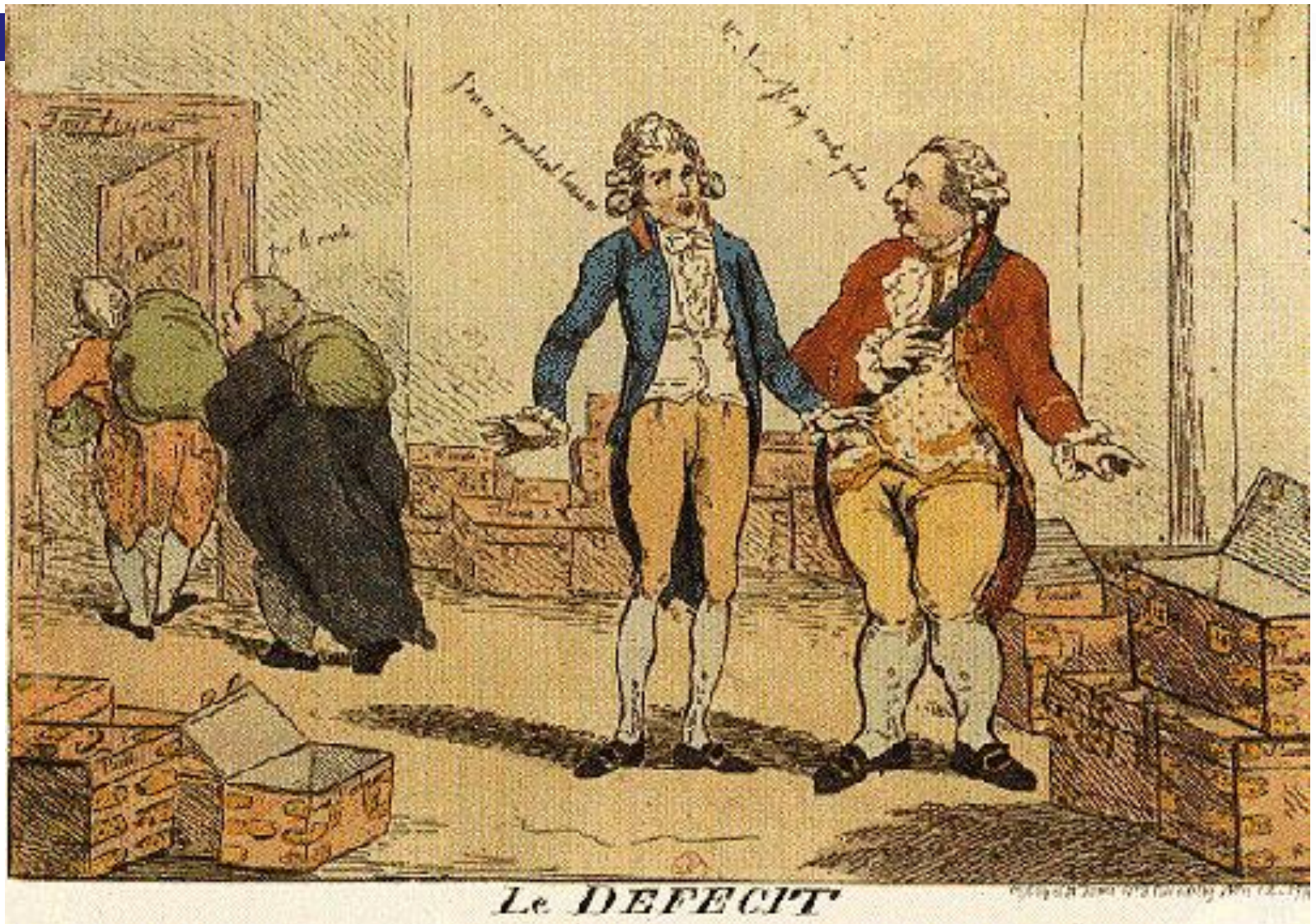
- Royal director-general of finances
- Argued that the economy was really not that bad
- Revealed a large portion of royal costs went to pensions for aristocrats
- Angered the aristocrats and as a result left office



# ■ Toward a solution to the financial crisis?

- Charles de Calonne and the **failure** of the Assembly of Notables (1787)
  - 1) Cut Government Spending
  - 2) Create a revival of free trade methods
  - 3) Authorize the sale of Church property
  - 4) Equalization of salt and tobacco taxes
  - 5) Establish a universal land tax
- New local assemblies made up of landowners based on land more than social status would determine any additional taxes
- Aristocracy refused to accept Calonne's plan
- Called for the reappointment of Necker
- Calling of the Estates-General to raise taxes
  - First time since 1614
  - Made up of representatives of three estates
  - *cahiers de doléances* (local grievances – during elections to E-G)





**In this cartoon from the time, Louis is looking at the chests and asks "where is the tax money?" The financial minister, Necker, looks on and says "the money was there last time I looked." The nobles and clergy are sneaking out the door carrying sacks of money, saying "We have it."**

## Governing Bodies

National Assembly  
(1789-1791)

Legislative Assembly  
(1791-1792)

National Convention  
(1792-1795)

Directory  
(1795-1799)

Napoleon's Imperial France  
(1795-1799)

1789-1791  
Moderate Phase

- Led by bourgeoisie, uprisings of common Parisians, peasants
- Abolition of aristocratic and ecclesiastical privilege
- Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen
- Church subordinated to state
- Administrative/Judicial systems reformed
- Constitution – created parliament and limited king's power

1792-1794  
Radical Phase

- San-culottes, urban poor
- Counterrevolution led by clergy/aristocracy (undo reforms)
- International pressure & war to limit expansion of France/ideals
- Republic est. Sept. 1792 & dethronement / decapitation of Louis XVI – Jan. 1793
- Jacobins take power – defend against invasion, counterrevolution – Reign of Terror & Radical Reforms

1794-1799  
Moderate Phase

- Departure from Jacobin radicalism – reassertion of bourgeoisie control
- Robespierre killed
- Bourgeoisie moderation of reforms
- Directory Established

1799-1815  
Napoleonic Phase

- Napoleon's *Coup d'Etat*
- Establishment of authoritarian regime
- Revolutionary/Counterrevolutionary?
- European Conquest /Defeat



# Why is it Important?

- Destruction of aristocratic privileges
- Opening careers to talent
- Advanced the idea of equality under the law
- Secularization – weakened the power of the clergy
- Role of parliament, constitution, diminishing of divine-right monarchy – move toward liberal democratic state
- Elimination of serfdom
- Fairer tax system
- Nationalism



Look for the  
Goals of the Revolution!!!

Look for revolutionary,  
liberal/moderate, conservative  
and reactionary  
(counterrevolutionary) goals!!!

# The French Revolution


1. Convening of the Estates General – called to solve financial crisis (May 5, 1789)
  - Goals limited to solving financial crisis – no intent to institute the revolutionary changes that would occur
  - Third Estate allowed 600 delegates (2 X)
    - Urban, legally trained
  - Ties between the Third Estate and the First/Second Estates (liberal/urban/young/anti-old-regime)
  - Cahiers de doléances – reg. const. gov't – abolish tax privileges of church/nobility
  - Rules? – by order (17<sup>th</sup> C. tradition - Paris Parlement) or by head (Patriots/"lovers of liberty", Society of Thirty)?



# The National Assembly:


## Formation of the National Assembly

- Support for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate and the push to vote by head
  - Abbe Sieyes: *What is the Third Estate?*
- First Estate's declaration to vote by order
- Third Estate's declaration of National Assembly and decision to draw up a constitution (June 17)



*“Who then shall dare to say that the Third Estate has not within itself all that is necessary for the formation of a complete nation? It is the strong and robust man who has one arm still shackled. If the privileged order should be abolished, the nation would be nothing less, but something more. Therefore, what is the Third Estate? Everything; but an everything shackled and oppressed. What would it be without the privileged order? Everything, but an everything free and flourishing. Nothing can succeed without it, everything would be infinitely better without the others.”*

□ - Abbé Sieyès



**The National Assembly:  
“The lawyers’ revolution...”  
Oath of the Tennis Court (June 20, 1789)  
...action by lawyers – not legally justified  
Louis XVI – sides with First Estate,  
prepared to dissolve/use force**



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# **Saving the National Assembly: Fall of the Bastille**

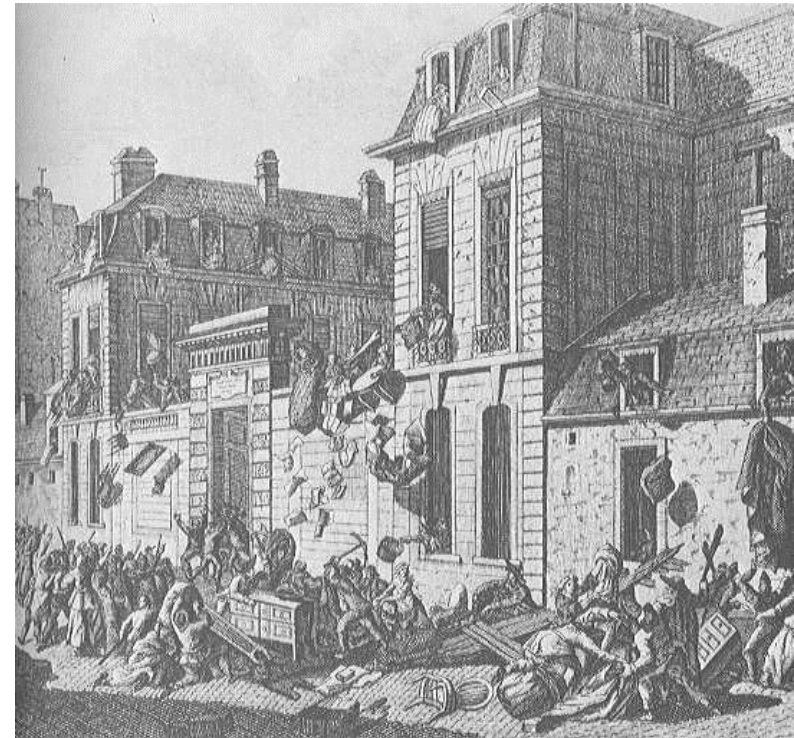
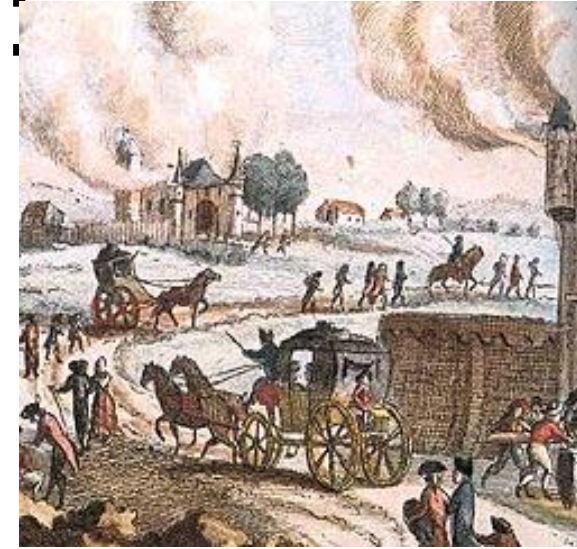
- **Limited goals of the “lawyer’s revolution”**
- **Revolutionary vs. counterrevolutionary popular sentiment**
- **King’s attempt to defend Versailles/armories and inflammation of public opinion at dissolving of Estates General**
- **Parisian citizens’ desire to arm themselves**
- **Attack on Bastille (p. 579)**
- **Symbolic and real victory for National Assembly – collapse of Royal authority**
- **Legitimization of the revolution: “National Guard” formed - Marquis de Lafayette**
- **Peasant revolutions in the countryside**



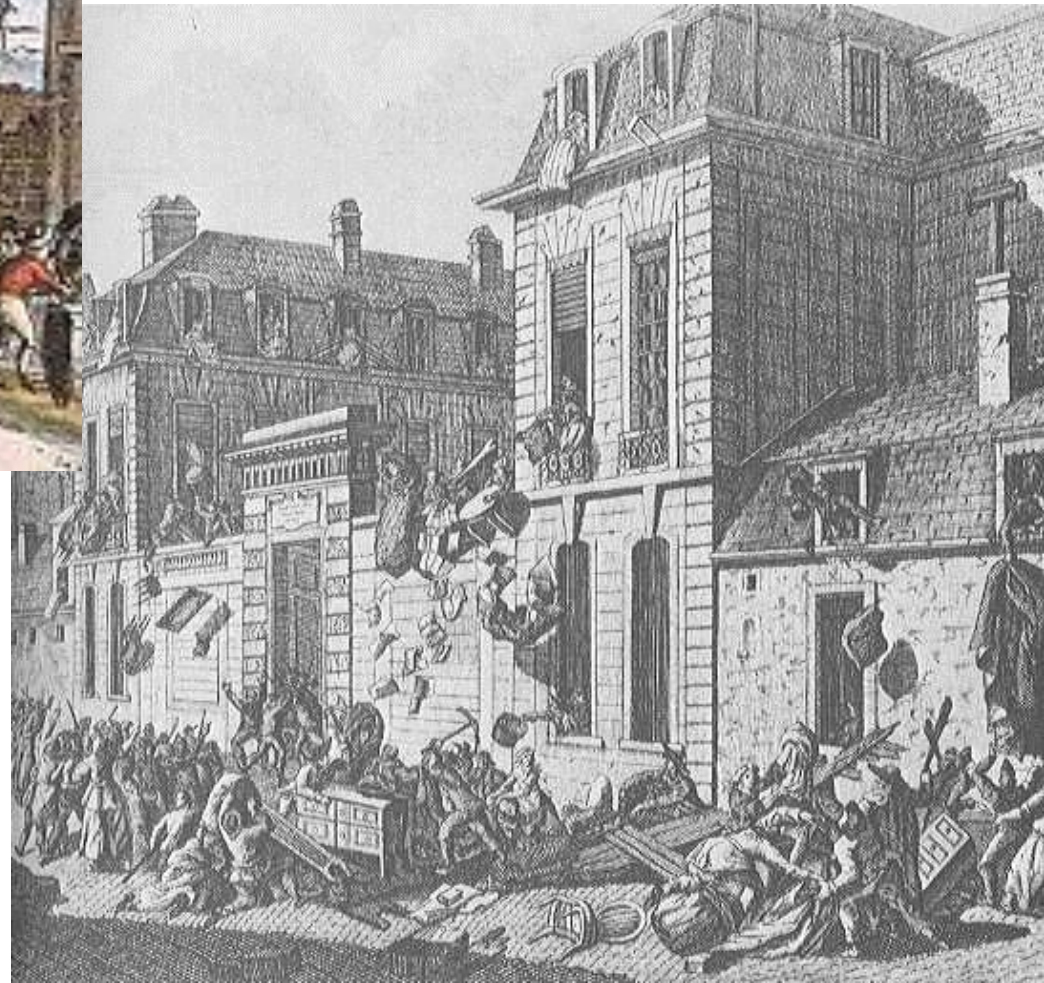


# The National Assembly: The Great Fear

- Agrarian peasant rebellions throughout France – (July 19<sup>th</sup> – August 3<sup>rd</sup>)
  - Inspired by a belief in their actions being supported by the king
- Varied response – general resentment of feudal obligations, tithes, quitrents and dues (privileges of the nobility)
- “Great Fear” – foreign troop invasion (aristocratic)
- Popular uprisings influenced National Assembly









# The National Assembly:

Night of August 4<sup>th</sup>

## ■ Impact of the Great Fear

- Need to restore order and destruction of ‘relics of feudalism’ – BUT went beyond this and voted to abolish seigneurial rights/fiscal privileges/exemptions of nobility, clergy, towns
- Jacobin influence

# The National Assembly: *Declaration of the Rights of Man*

(August 26, 1789)

Reflection of philosophes'  
ideas and Declaration of  
Independence

- Civic equality and popular sovereignty
- “natural and imprescriptible rights of man”
- “liberty, property, security, resistance to oppression”
- Ending of privileges and exemptions of nobility
- Restricted monarchy/rep. gov't
- Meritocracy

(p. 581)



Olympe de Gouges  
and *Declaration of  
the Rights of Woman  
and the Female  
Citizen*

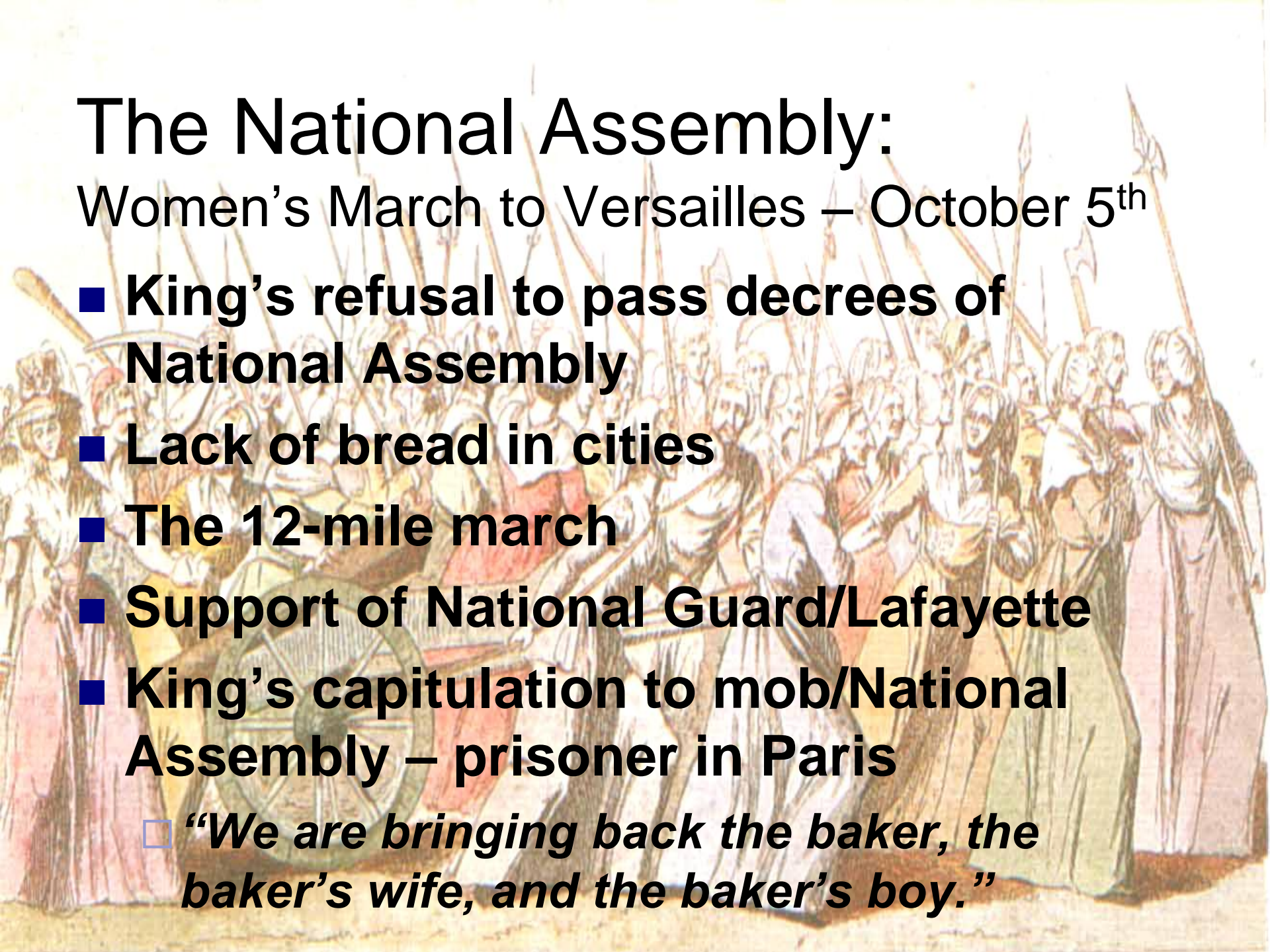
(National Assembly  
ignores)



# The National Assembly:

Women's March to Versailles – October 5<sup>th</sup>

- **King's refusal to pass decrees of National Assembly**
- **Lack of bread in cities**
- **The 12-mile march**
- **Support of National Guard/Lafayette**
- **King's capitulation to mob/National Assembly – prisoner in Paris**
  - *“We are bringing back the baker, the baker's wife, and the baker's boy.”*





*Depart des Heroines de Paris pour Versailles le 5 Octobre 1789 .*

© Wadsworth, Cengage Learning

**“detachments of women coming up from every direction, armed with broomsticks, lances, pitchforks, swords pistols and muskets.”**

# The National Assembly: Secularization of the Church

- Confiscation of church property and issuance of *assignats* (paper \$)

- Civil Constitution of the Clergy (July 1790)

- Election of bishops and priests – paid by **state**

- Oath of allegiance – Civil Constitution

- Just over 1/2 did

- Blunder of National Assembly – church as an enemy gave fuel to the counterrevolution – condemned by Pope Pius VI & driver of civil war (Vendee Revolt)



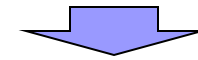
# The National Assembly:

## Constitution of 1791

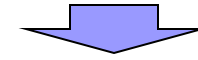
- Made France a limited **constitutional monarchy**
- Increased power of bourgeoisie
  - Less aristocrats – more Jacobins
  - Election of deputies
  - Administrative restructuring of France
    - Depts, districts, communes
    - Bourgeoisie occupied offices
  - Active vs. passive citizens → tiered system based on wealth



4.3 million (25+ yrs w/ taxes= 3 days labor)



50,000 electors (X10 days labor)



745 deputies (X54 days labor)



(A) FRENCH PROVINCES BEFORE 1789



(B) FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY DEPARTMENTS AFTER 1789



(C) FIRST FRENCH REPUBLIC 1792-1799





# The National Assembly:

## Rise of Jacobins

- Growing (varying) opposition to National Assembly
  - Resentment of Civil Constitution for Clergy
  - Lower classes - *Assignats* – inflation
    - Dues still being imposed
- Emergence/growth of Jacobin clubs throughout France – late summer 1791
  - Radical – elite (900 by summer 1791!)
- Desire for more radical changes

# The National Assembly: King's Flight from Paris (June 1791)

- ...widespread tax evasion – severe debt
- National Assembly's trust of the king and fear of a republic
- King's distrust of revolutionary movement
- Attempted to flee NE to Austrian Netherlands – launch a counter-revolutionary attack
- Capture at Varennes:



The King begged the grocer Sauce and his family not to hand them over to the authorities, saying:  
*"I am your King; this is the Queen and the royal family. Surrounded in the capital by daggers and bayonets, I have come to the country, into the midst of my faithful subjects, to seek the peace and liberty you all enjoy. I could not stay in Paris; it would have been death to myself and my family. I have come to live among you my children, whom I will not forsake....Save my wife, save my children."*





RETOUR DE VARENNES ARRIVÉE DE LOUIS SEIZE À PARIS,  
le 25 Juin 1791.



- Radicals: sought removal of Louis XVI – popular calls for republic in Paris
- National Assembly: Chose to characterize the King's escape attempt as a kidnapping
- **Legislative Assembly** called in October 1791 (bourgeois/Jacobin dominated)



# Legislative Assembly:

## War with Europe

- **Fear rising in other European countries**
  - Declaration of Pillnitz (August 1791) – an invitation to oppose revolutionary France
    - Leopold II (Austria) & Frederick William II (Prussia)
    - Strengthen the position of the King of France
- **French declaration of war on Austria (April 1792)**
  - Why declare war?
    - Reactionaries: slow revolution, defeat – reinstallation of old regime
    - Radicals: galvanize the revolution

# Legislative Assembly: Rise of Paris Commune

- Initial failures in war (Austrian Netherlands) – fear of invasion – leads to draft
- Defeats in war → economic shortages & anti-monarchical fervor (popular push for suspension of monarchy and est. of national convention-universal male suffrage)
- Formation of Paris Commune
- Attack on royal palace (capture of Louis/family) and Legislative Assembly (August 1792)
  - September Massacres
- Role of mob action
- Growth in political consciousness
- British reaction?
  - Paris Commune, sans-culottes





The Radical's Arms.

J. Stoddard del.

Printed and Published by W. H. & A. S. 11, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

This is an example of the French Revolution-era clothing worn by the Sans-culottes or members of the poorer classes and their leaders. The outfit is comprised of the pantalon (long trousers), carmagnole (short-skirted coat), red cap of liberty, and sabots (wooden shoes).







**THINK!!!**

**What do we see are the  
Goals of the Revolution?**

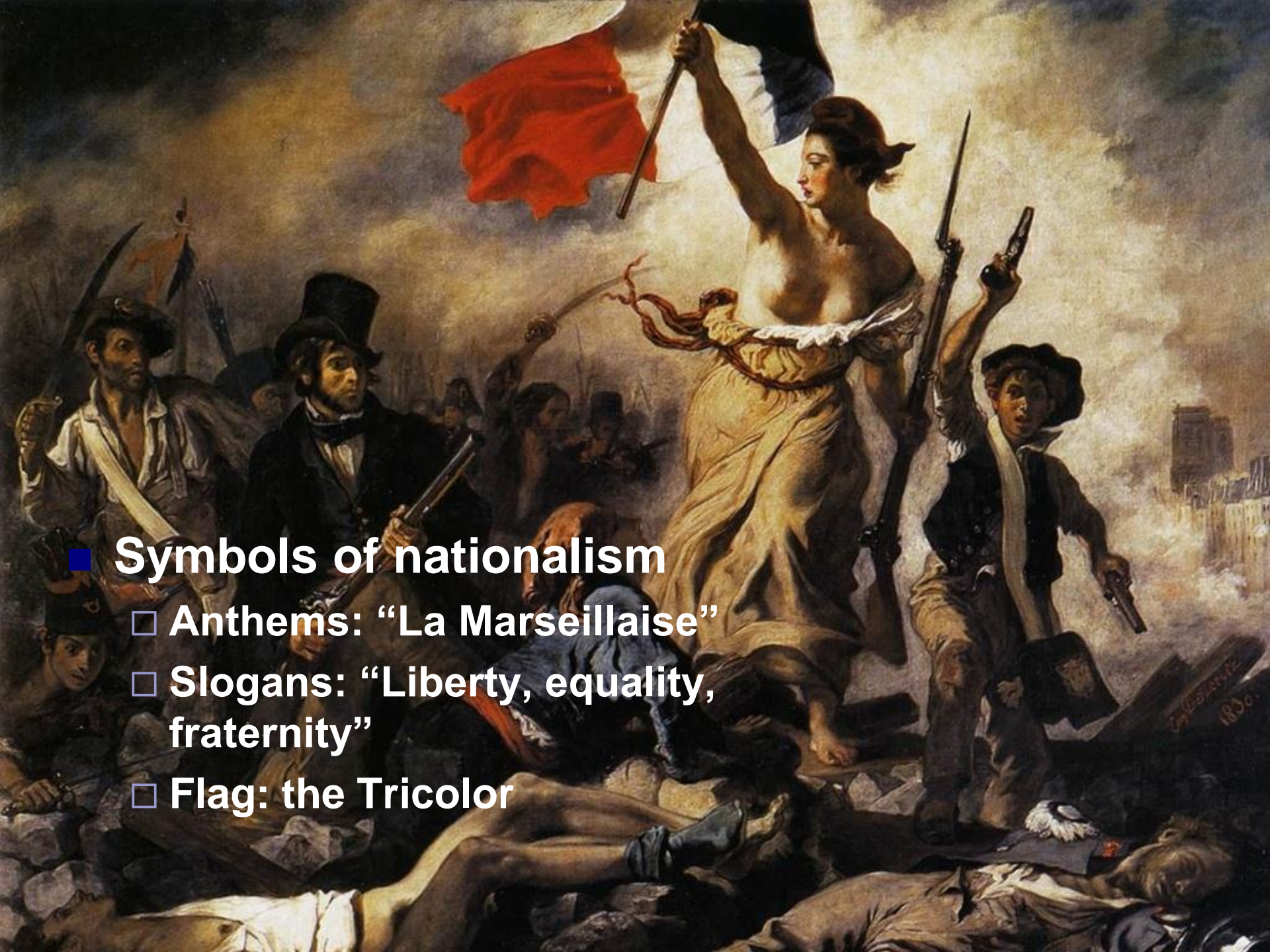
# Legislative Assembly:

## Rise of Nationalism

*My dear mother,*

**“I know well that you and all the others in our village do not share these sentiments. They are not aroused by the cries of an outraged fatherland. But I have been brought up in conscience and thought, and have always been republican in spirit, although obliged to live in a monarchy. These principles of love for la patrie, la liberté, la république, are not only engraved in my heart, but are deeply etched and will remain there as long as it will please the Supreme Being to sustain in me the breath of life.”**

*Your son, Jolclerc*



## ■ Symbols of nationalism

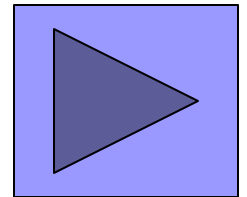
- Anthems: “La Marseillaise”
- Slogans: “Liberty, equality, fraternity”
- Flag: the Tricolor

Allons enfants de la Patrie,  
Le jour de gloire est arrivé !  
Contre nous de la tyrannie,  
L'étendard sanglant est levé. *(bis)*  
Entendez-vous dans les campagnes  
Mugir ces féroces soldats ?  
Ils viennent jusque dans nos bras  
Égorger nos fils, nos compagnes !

*Aux armes, citoyens !  
Formez vos bataillons !  
Marchons, marchons !  
Qu'un sang impur  
Abreuve nos sillons !*

Arise, children of the motherland  
The day of glory has arrived!  
Against us, tyranny's  
Bloody banner is raised. *(repeat)*  
Don't you hear in our countryside  
The roar of their ferocious soldiers?  
They are coming into your homes  
To butcher your sons and your  
companions.

*To arms, citizens!  
Form your battalions!  
We march, we march!  
Let their impure blood  
Water our fields!*



Marseillaise/  
French National  
Anthem



# THE RADICAL PHASE...

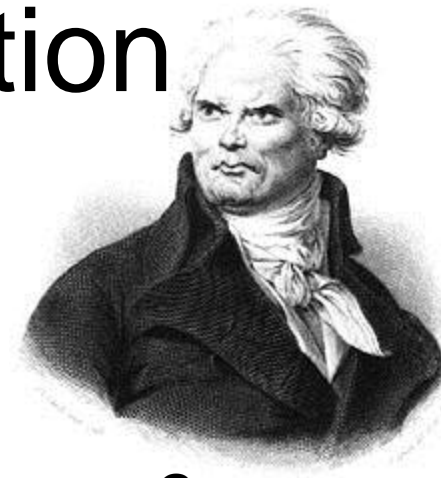
# National Convention

(September 1792)

## ■ National Convention (George Danton)

- Fear of Prussian invasion of Paris
- Response to September Massacres
- Monarchy? Abolition/Preservation
- Arrest and massacre of traitors
- Jacobin Factions

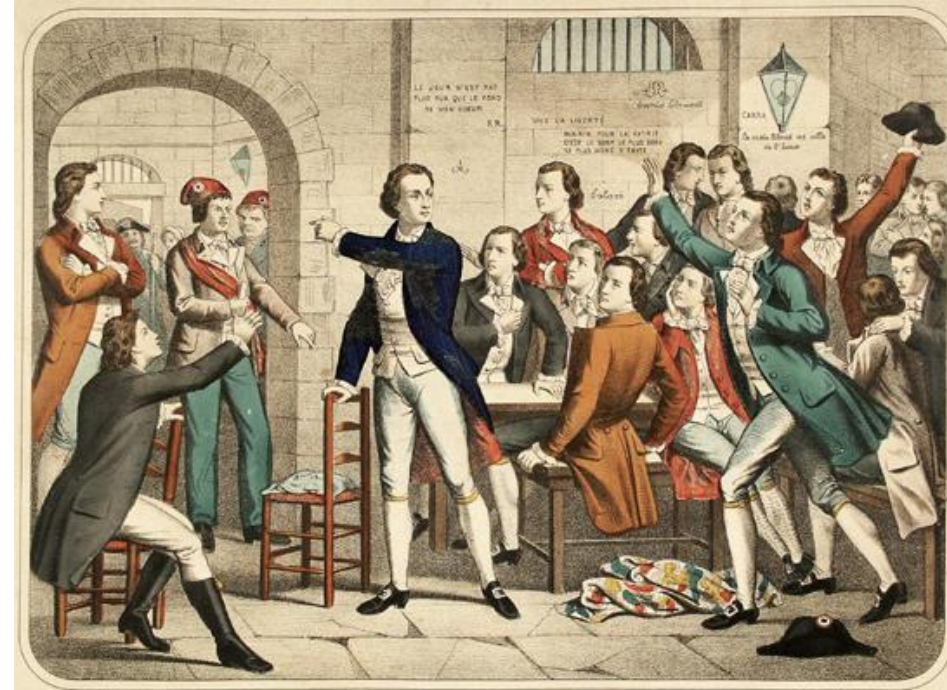
- Girondins: fearful of Parisian mobs – Louis – alive (moderate)
- Mountain: represented Paris – for Louis's execution (radical)



**George Danton**



**Jean-Paul Marat**





Marat's death mask

Death of Marat - Jacques Louis David (1793)  
-- murdered by a Girondin woman

# Execution Louis XVI

(January 21, 1793)





# Continued Radicalization of the National Convention

- Paris Commune drove the National Convention
  - Invasion/execution of leading Girondins
  - Vendean Rebellion – counterrevolutionary moderates break from Paris (cities > anti-Parisian, peasants > anti-draft, “The Catholic Army vs. secularization) **\*Throughout the Revolution**



*Battle of Cholet in 1793*  
by Paul-Emile Boutigny,  
(19th C.)



# Old Regime Backlash to Louis XVI's Execution

- Austria, Prussia, Spain, Portugal, Britain, Dutch Republic
- May 1793 – coalition poised for invasion
- National Convention - initiative to curb domestic dissention and mobilize for war (8/1793)
- Committee of Public Safety  
(Defend Against  
Internal/External enemies of the State)
  - Danton, Robespierre
  - Mobilization – 9/1794 – over 1 M
- A nation at arms (p. 586) – nationalism
  - Drove enemies across Rhine/Conquered Austrian Netherlands





# “Reign of Terror”

- **Committee of Public Safety** – internal/external enemies
- Royalists (Marie Antoinette), Girondins (Olympe de Gouges), opposition to sans culottes –
- ~ 50,000 people guillotined
  - Mostly in places of open rebellion
  - Resistance movements crushed (p. 586-87&88)
  - Height – Summer 1794 (800/mo.)  
“Great Terror”
- Many in the countryside (Vendee, Lyon, Marsailles)
- Ended with Robespierre’s or execution
- “Republic of Virtue”- 12 Jacobins

## *Justification*

- *“Since the French people has manifested its will, everything opposed to it is outside the sovereign Whatever is outside the sovereign is an enemy.”*



On the way to her execution in 1793, Marie Antoinette was sketched from life by Jacques-Louis David as she passed his window.



# “Republic of Virtue”

- De-Christianization
  - Cult of the Supreme Being (Notre Dame)
  - “St.” removed from street names, celebrations, “Temple of Reason”
  - Calendar – 12 months, 3 weeks/month, 10 –days/week
  - Celebration of revolutionary values: Virtue, Intelligence, Labor, Opinion, Rewards
  - Renaming of months – seasons, temperature, state of vegetation
  - Ultimately a failure
  - Robespierre’s role in the Festival of the Supreme Being

September 22, 1792  
Republic proclaimed...

Abandoned in 1806

CALENDRIER REPUBLICAIN.

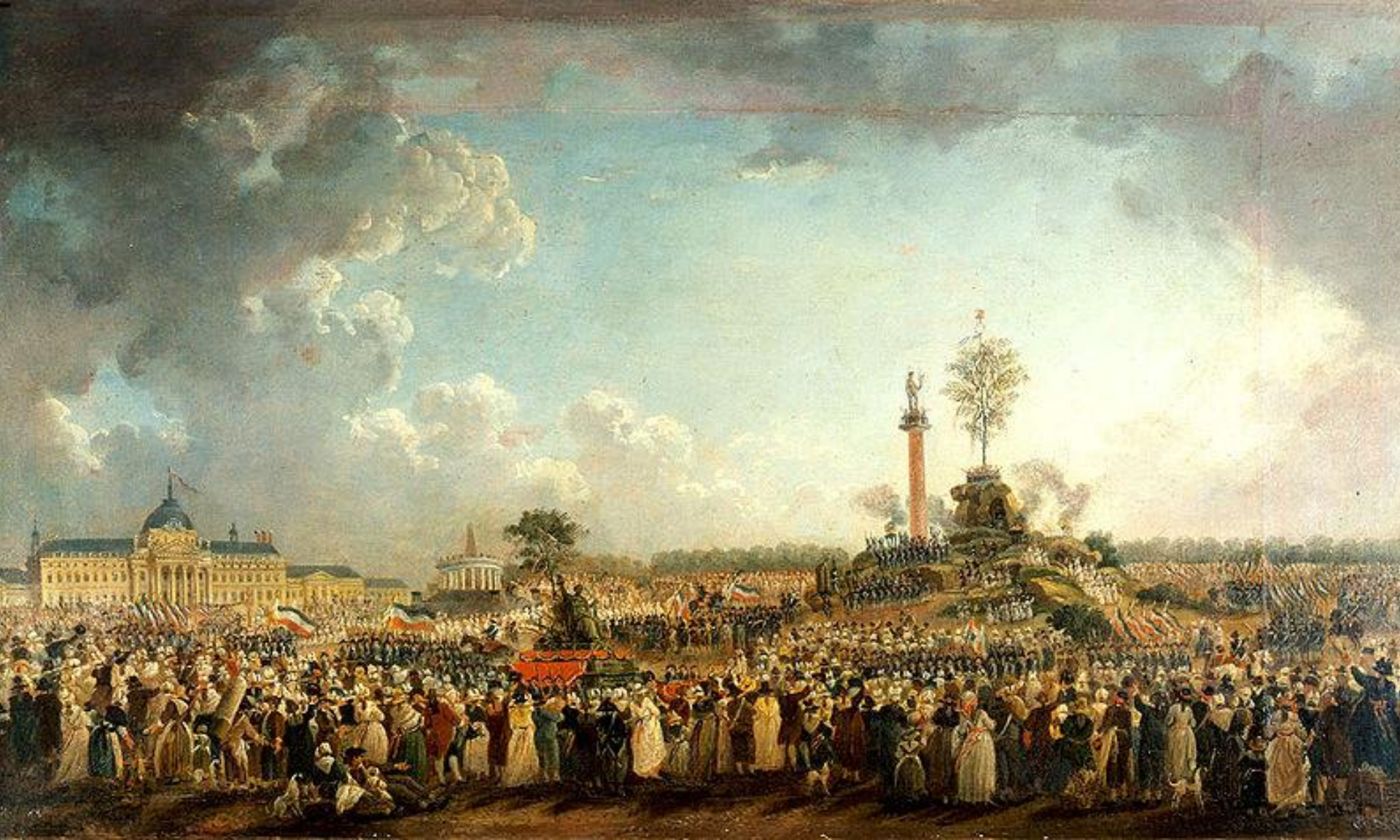
AN II.

Mois	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Janvier	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Fevrier	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mars	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Avril	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mai	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Juin	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Juillet	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Août	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Septembre	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Octobre	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Novembre	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Décembre	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

CALENDRIER REPUBLICAIN.

Il est un grand bien de philosopher avec soi-même, c'est un acte de courage, c'est un acte de liberté, c'est un acte de dignité, c'est un acte de vertu. Il est un grand mal de philosopher avec les autres, c'est un acte de lâcheté, c'est un acte de servitude, c'est un acte de bassesse, c'est un acte de vice.





Festival of the Supreme Being & Robespierre...

# “Republic of Virtue”

- Abolitionist Movement
  - Friends of Blacks
  - Violent slave revolt (1791) – Saint Domingue – Toussaint L’Ouverture
  - February 1794 – abolition of slavery
  - 1802 – reinstatement of slavery (capture and imprisonment of L’Ouverture)
  - 1804 – Haitian independence





*Battle on Santo Domingo.*, a painting by [January Suchodolski](#) depicting a struggle between Polish troops in French service and the Haitian rebels

# Decline of the Committee of Public Safety – de-radicalization (1794)

## ■ National Convention

- De-Christianization – slowed
- CPS - Terror – directed on radicals: leaders of Paris Commune
- CPS less relevant – Military successes (vs. British Navy & in Austria), improved food supplies
- **BIG QUESTION: Committee of Public Safety a success or failure?**

# Fourth Phase: The Directory (1795-1799)

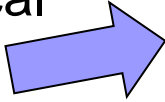
## ■ Thermidorean Reaction and an end to the 'radical revolution'

- Robespierre's over-zealous radicalization, execution of Danton & followers
- Backlash and execution of Robespierre – July 28, 1794
- Curtailing the power of the Committee of Public Safety
- Reopening of churches
- Ending of price controls
- Finishing of new constitution



## Third Phase: The National Convention (1792-95)

Goals	Methods	Effectiveness
Write a new, republican constitution		Constitution of 1795, created a republic called the Directory
Deal with enemies abroad	Full mobilization of nation (1.2 million in army)	Preserved revolution by preventing invasion
Deal with perceived enemies at home	Reign of Terror (50,000 killed)	Silenced “counter-revolutionaries”
Deal with economic problems	Law of the General Maximum	Ineffective, unable to enforce
Replace Christianity with a republic of virtue	Closed churches, changed street names, new calendar	Too much public opposition made it ineffective

- Constitution of 1795  
conservative/revolutionary
  - Comparison to Constitution of 1791
    - Bicameral, not unicameral
      - Council of 500 – initiate legislation
      - Council of Elders (250) – approve legislation
        - \* Chosen by 30,000 electors chosen by active citizens (All male tax payers over 21)
    - The Directory – Executive branch of 5 directors elected by Council of Elders
- Problems facing the Directory – radical politics: Royalists vs. **Conspiracy of Equals** 
- Reliance on military and possibility of coup d'état



François-Noël  
*Gracchus* Babeuf  
"anarchist"  
"socialist"  
"communist"

# Napoleon Bonaparte



- Recall: French Revolution more of a *social* revolution
- To what extent is the following statement true? “Napoleon embodied the principles of the Enlightenment.”



# Napoleon's Rise



- His childhood
- His military experience
  - Rise made possible by Revolution
  - Saved National Convention in October 1795
  - Commander of French army in Italy; defeated Austria
  - Conquest of Egypt and escape back to France
- The coup d'état (1799)
  - Weakness of the Directory
    - Reliance on military made coup d'état possible
  - Establishment of new government (Consulate)
    - Appearance of republic, power of the consuls
    - Power of First Consul
- France's desire for stability and love of Napoleon
  - 1802: named consul for life
  - 1804: crowned Emperor Napoleon I