Revolutions and National States in the Atlantic World

AP World
Chapter 29
Enlightened and Revolutionary Ideas

- Popular sovereignty: relocating sovereignty in the people
  - Traditionally monarchs claimed a "divine right" to rule
  - The Enlightenment challenged the long-term assumptions about sovereignty and instead proposed that governments are bound to the will of the people - made the monarch responsible to the people
  - John Locke's theory of contractual government: authority comes from the consent of the governed
Enlightened and Revolutionary Ideas

- Freedom and equality: important values of the Enlightenment
  - Demands for freedom of worship and freedom of expression - Voltaire
  - Demands for political and legal equality
    (a) Condemned legal and social privileges of aristocrats
    (b) Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Social Contract*
  - Equality not extended to women, peasants, laborers, slaves, or people of color

*Ideals of Enlightenment had significant global influence*
Crash Course #28

- Tea, Taxes, and the American Revolution!
  - Reminder that you need 10 facts and a well-developed summary statement.
The American Revolution

- Tension between Britain and the North American colonies
  - Legacy of Seven Years' War: British debt, North American tax burden
  - Mounting colonial protest over taxes, trade policies, Parliamentary rule
    (a) Colonial boycott of British goods
    (b) Attacks on British officials; Boston Tea Party, 1773; "no taxation without representation"
  - Political protest over representation in Parliament: Continental Congress, 1774
  - British troops and colonial militia skirmished at the village of Lexington, 1775
The American Revolution

- The Declaration of Independence, 4 July 1776
  - Thirteen united States of America severed ties with Britain
  - Declaration inspired by Enlightenment and Locke's theory of government
The American Revolution

- The American Revolution, 1775-1781
  - British advantages: strong government, navy, army, plus loyalists in colonies
  - American advantages: European allies, George Washington's leadership
    - **Key to victory**: support from France, Spain, the Netherlands and some German principalities
  - Weary of a costly conflict, British forces surrendered in 1781
Building an independent state: Constitutional Convention, 1787
- Constitution guaranteed freedom of press, of speech, and of religion
- Created a federal government based on popular sovereignty, freedom and equality
- Full legal and political rights were granted only to men of property
The French Revolution
- Reminder that you need 10 facts and a well-developed summary statement.
The French Revolution

- More radical than the American Revolution
  - American revolutionary leaders sought independence but were content to retain British law and social and cultural heritage
  - French revolutionaries wanted to replace the *ancien régime* (“old order”) with new political, social and cultural structures
The French Revolution

** Causes of the French Revolution

- Staggering national debt and financial crisis - half of government revenue went to pay off debt
- Resentment at the privileges of the aristocracy (*ancien régime*) - they were exempt from many taxes
- Frustration with the extravagance of Queen Marie Antionette and the court at Versaille
- The opportunity presented by the summoning of the Estates General in 1789 (had not met since 1614)
The French Revolution

The Estates General

- An assembly that represented the entire French population through groups known as estates, or political classes; voting was one vote per estate (not based on individual populations)
- King Louis XVI was forced to summon Estates General to raise new taxes
  - First Estate = Roman Catholic clergy (100,000)
  - Second Estate = Nobles (400,000)
  - Third Estate = Serfs, Free Peasants, and Urban Residents (24 million)
- Many representatives wanted sweeping political and social reform
- First and Second Estates (nobles, clergy) tried to limit the Third Estate (commoners)
- Weeks of fruitless debate ended with the Third Estate seceding (breaking away from) the Estates General
The French Revolution

- The National Assembly was formed by representatives of Third Estate, 17 June 1789
  - Demanded a written constitution and popular sovereignty
  - Angry mob seized the Bastille on 14 July (The Storming of the Bastille); sparked insurrections in many cities
  - National Assembly wrote the "Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen"

- "Liberty, equality, and fraternity" was the slogan and values of the National Assembly
  - Between 1789 and 1791 the National Assembly reconfigured French society following the revolutionary ideals
The French Revolution

France became a constitutional monarchy in 1791
- King was made the chief executive official but did not have legislative authority
- Old feudal system was abolished along with the many fees and labor services that peasants owed to their landlords
- Altered the role of church by seizing church lands, abolishing the first estate, and defining clergy as civilians
- Austrian and Prussian armies invaded France to help restore the ancien régime
- In the face of military challenges, revolutionary leaders replaced the National Assembly with the Convention - an elected legislative body
The French Revolution

- Convention abolished the monarchy and proclaimed France a republic
  - King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette executed as traitors in 1793
  - Radical Jacobins dominated the Convention in 1793-94 in a "reign of terror"
  - Revolutionary changes: in religion, dress, calendar, women's rights
    - Women gained important property rights and the right to a divorce, but not the right to vote or participate in political affairs
The French Revolution

- The Directory, 1795-1799
  - A conservative reaction against the excesses of the Convention
  - Executed the Jacobin leader Robespierre, July 1794
  - New constitution
  - Unable to resolve the economic and military problems that plagued the revolutionary nation
The Reign of Napoleon

- Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)
  - Rose to power as a brilliant military leader and war hero; became a general in the royal army at age twenty-four
  - Supported the revolution; defended the Directory
  - His invasion of Egypt was defeated by British army
  - Overthrew the Directory and named himself consul for life and later crowned himself emperor
The Reign of Napoleon

- Napoleonic France brought stability after years of chaos
  - Made peace with the Roman Catholic church and pope
  - Extended freedom of religion to Protestants and Jews
  - Civil Code of 1804: political and legal equality for all adult men
    - Also established a merit-based society in which individuals qualified for education and employment because of talent rather than birth or social standing
    - French civil law a model for law codes elsewhere in Europe and North America
The Reign of Napoleon

- Although he approved of the Enlightenment idea of equality, he did not champion the ideals of intellectual freedom or representative government
  - Believed in equality under the law but not political freedom
  - Restricted individual freedom, especially speech and press
  - Established a secret police and manipulated public opinion through propaganda
The Reign of Napoleon

- Napoleon's empire: 1804, proclaimed himself emperor
  - Dominated the European continent: Iberia, Italy, Netherlands
  - Defeated Austria and Prussia; fought British on high seas
  - Disastrous invasion of Russia in 1812 destroyed the Grand Army
The Reign of Napoleon

- The fall of Napoleon
  - Forced by a coalition of enemies to abdicate in 1814, exiled to the island of Elba
  - Escaped, returned to France, raised army, but was defeated by British in 1815 at the Battle of Waterloo in Belgium
  - Banished a second time to the island of St. Helena in the South Atlantic where he died in 1821
Crash Course #30

The Haitian Revolutions

- Reminder that you need 10 facts and a well-developed summary statement.
The Haitian Revolution

- Saint-Domingue, rich French colony on western Hispaniola (1/3 of France’s foreign trade)
  - Society dominated by small white planter class
  - 90 percent of population were slaves working under brutal conditions
  - Large communities of escaped slaves, or maroons, that would support the revolution
  - Free blacks (*gens de couleur*) fought in American war, brought back experience and revolutionary ideas
  - Widespread discontent: white settlers sought self-governance, *gens de couleur* sought political rights, slaves wanted freedom
The Haitian Revolution

- Slave revolt began in 1791
  - Factions of white settlers, *gens de couleur*, and slaves battled each other
  - French troops arrived in 1792; British and Spanish forces intervened in 1793
The Haitian Revolution

- Toussaint Louverture (1744-1803)
  - Son of slaves, literate, skilled organizer, built a strong and disciplined army
  - He was an effective strategist who controlled most of Saint-Domingue by 1797
  - Created a constitution in 1801
  - Arrested by French troops; died in jail, 1803
The Haitian Revolution

- The Republic of Haiti
  - Yellow fever ravaged Napoleon’s French troops who were defeated and driven out by slave armies
  - Declared independence in 1803; established the Republic of Haiti (“land of mountains”) in 1804
Crash Course #31

- The Latin American Revolutions
  - Reminder that you need 10 facts and a well-developed summary statement.
Independence in Latin America

- Latin American society rigidly hierarchical
  - Social classes: *peninsulares* (*colonial officials from Spain/Portugal*), creoles (native-born descendants of Europeans), slaves, and indigenous peoples
  - Creoles sought to displace the *peninsulares* but retain their privileged position
  - The revolutions of Latin America would mostly be a result of power struggles between these two groups
Independence in Latin America

- **Mexican independence**
  - Napoleon's invasion of Spain in 1807 weakened royal control of colonies
  - 1810: peasant revolt in Mexico led by Hidalgo, defeated by conservative creoles
  - 1821: Mexico briefly became a military dictatorship, then in 1822 a republic
  - Southern part of Mexico was split into several independent states in 1830s
Independence in Latin America

- Simón Bolívar (1783-1830) led independence movement in South America; advocated popular sovereignty from Spanish rule
  - Inspired by George Washington, took arms against Spanish rule in 1811
  - Creole forces overcame Spanish armies throughout South America, 1824
  - Bolívar's effort of creating the Gran Colombia failed in 1830s due to strong political and regional differences – Bolívar was bitterly disappointed with it’s failure
Independence in Latin America
Independence in Latin America

- **Brazilian independence**
  - Portuguese royal court fled to Rio de Janeiro in 1807 when Napoleon invaded
  - The king's son, Pedro, agreed to Brazilian independence in 1821 and established a monarchy
  - Became Emperor Pedro I in the independent Brazil (reigned 1822-1834)
Independence in Latin America

- Creole dominance in Latin America
  - Independence brought little social change in Latin America
  - Military authority to local *caudillos* who were allied with creole elites
  - Continuation of slavery; wealth and authority for the Roman Catholic church; repression of lower orders of society
  - Principal beneficiaries were creole elites
Conservatism and Liberalism

- **Ideology** – a coherent vision of human nature, human society, and the larger world that proposes some particular form of political and social organization as ideal

- Conservatism: resistance to change
  - Importance of continuity, tradition
  - Edmund Burke viewed society as an organism that changed slowly over time
    (a) American Revolution: a natural and logical outcome of history
    (b) French Revolution: violent and irresponsible
  - A political conservative would have supported...
    - Limiting suffrage to men of property
    - Government support of the established church
    - The restoration of the French monarchy after Napoleon was defeated
    - The use of censorship as a mean of preventing social unrest
Conservatism and Liberalism

- Liberalism: welcomed change as an agent of progress
  - Championed freedom, equality, democracy/representative government, written constitutions
  - Many liberals consider democracy dangerous because it promoted mass participation in politics
  - John Stuart Mill championed individual freedom and minority rights
Limits of Revolutionary Ideals: Slavery

- Movements to end slave trade: began in 1700s, gained momentum during revolutions
  - In 1807 Britain became the first European country to outlaw the slave trade
  - Other states followed suit, though illegal slave trade continued from some time
- Movements to abolish slavery: more difficult because of property rights
  - In Haiti and much of South America, end of slavery came with independence
  - In Europe and North America, campaign against slave trade became campaign to abolish slavery
  - Abolition in Britain in 1833, France in 1848, the United States in 1865 and finally Brazil in 1888
- Abolition brought legal freedom for slaves but not political equality
Limits of Revolutionary Ideals: Women’s Rights

- Enlightenment ideals and women
  - Enlightenment call for equality not generally extended to women
  - Women used logic of Locke to argue for women's rights
    (a) Mary Astell attacked male dominance in the family
    (b) Mary Wollstonecraft: women possessed same natural rights as men

- Women crucial to revolutionary activities
  - French revolution granted women rights of education and property, not the vote
  - Olympe de Gouges's declaration of full citizenship for women was seen as too radical
  - Women made no significant gains in other revolutions
Limits of Revolutionary Ideals: Women’s Rights

- Women's rights movements gained ground in the nineteenth century in United States and Europe
  - In the U.S., the women’s rights movement began concurrently with the antislavery movement
  - Elizabeth Cady Stanton organized the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 – a conference of feminists who demanded that lawmakers grant women rights equivalent to those enjoyed by men
  - Women in the U.S. would not gain voting rights until the 19th Amendment in 1920.
Nations and Nationalism

- Cultural nationalism: an expression of national identity
  - Emphasized common historical experience
  - Studied history and language as a way to illuminate the distinctive characteristics of individual societies
  - Used folk culture and literature to illustrate national spirit (Volkgliest)

- Political nationalism more intense in the nineteenth century
  -Demanded loyalty and solidarity from members of the national group
  -Minorities sought independence as a national community
  -Young Italy formed by Giuseppe Mazzini – promoted independence and the establishment of an Italian national state; inspired other nationalist ideals in Europe
Nations and Nationalism

- Zionism: Jewish nationalism as a response to widespread European anti-Semitism
  - Movement founded by Theodor Herzl to create a Jewish state in Palestine
  - Developed as a result of the French military trial of Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish army officer who was convicted of spying for Germany (he was innocent and the charges were eventually reversed) which sparked bitter debates about the trustworthiness of Jews in French society
  - Herzl was a reporter at the trial and was shocked by the anti-Semitism he witnessed
  - Anti-Semitism practiced openly in many countries in Europe – as national communities tightened their bonds, they became distrustful of minority groups
  - Jewish state of Israel finally created in 1948
National Communites

- Congress of Vienna, 1814-15
  - Meeting of the “great powers” that had defeated Napoleon - Britain, Austria, Prussia and Russia
  - Conservative leaders determined to restore old order after defeat of Napoleon
  - Succeeded in maintaining balance of power in Europe for a century
  - Failed in repressing nationalist and revolutionary ideas

- Nationalist rebellions against old order throughout nineteenth century
  - Greek rebels overcame Ottoman rule in 1827
  - 1830 and 1848, rebellions in France, Spain, Portugal, German states, Belgium, Italy, and Poland
  - Conservative governments were usually restored afterward but ideals persisted
Unification of Italy

- Cavour and Garibaldi united Italy by 1870
  - Mazzini’s Young Italy inspired uprisings against foreign rule in Italy
  - Cavour led nationalists and expelled Austrian authorities in northern Italy, 1859
  - Garibaldi controlled southern Italy, returned it to King Vittore Emmanuele, 1860
Unification of Germany

- Prussian prime minister Otto von Bismarck (1815-1898) created a united Germany
  - In Germany, a nationalist rebellion was repressed in 1848
  - Bismarck provoked three wars that swelled German pride and generated strong nationalist sentiment
  - 1871, Prussian King Wilhelm I proclaimed emperor of the Second Reich – a united German empire following the Holy Roman Empire