

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION



French society was divided into three estates (classes).

- ✱ **First Estate:** Roman Catholic Clergy

- ✱ paid no taxes
- ✱ 1% of population
- ✱ controlled 5-10% of land
- ✱ lived luxuriously



French society was divided into three estates (classes).

- ✱ **Second Estate:** Nobility
 - ✱ paid no taxes
 - ✱ 2% of population
 - ✱ controlled 25% of land
 - ✱ held high positions in government & military



French society was divided into three estates (classes).

- ✱ **Third Estate:**

- ✱ peasants: small farmers
- ✱ artisans: craftsmen
- ✱ bourgeoisie: middle class

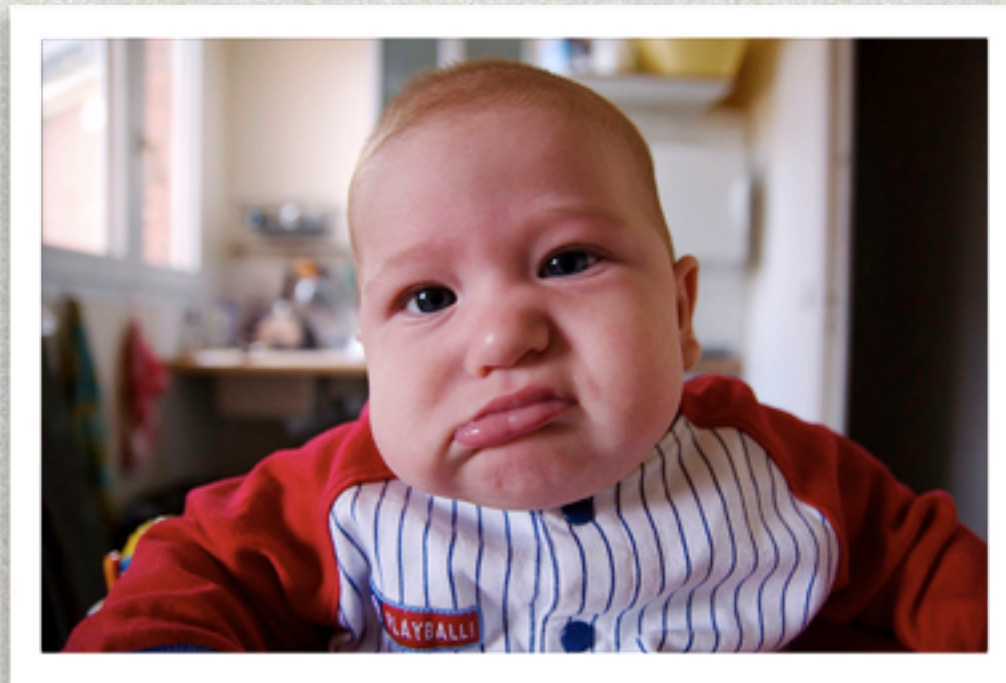


no political rights

heavily taxed



All of France upset with status quo.



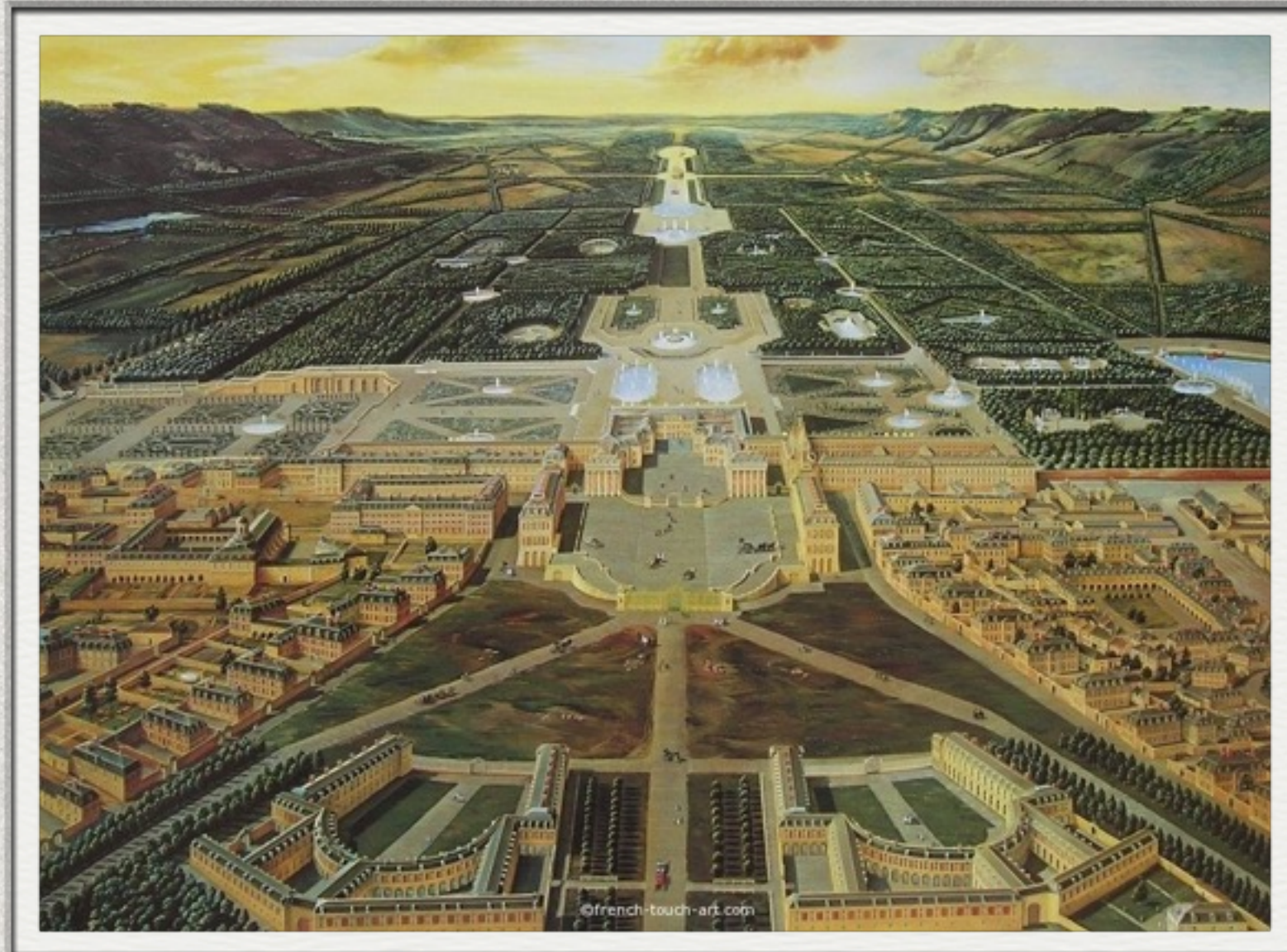
- ✱ **Peasants:** heavily taxed
- ✱ **Artisans:** increase in prices but wages were frozen
- ✱ **Bourgeoisie:** prosperous but no political rights
- ✱ **Nobles:** wanted more power from the king

HISTORICAL

WIFE SWAP

1700s: France heavily in debt

- ✱ Louis XIV's wars
- ✱ Louis XIV's luxurious lifestyle









Louis XVI

- ✱ became king in 1774 at 19 years old
- ✱ wife: **Marie Antoinette**
 - ✱ daughter of Maria Theresa of Austria
- ✱ recognized France's financial crisis
 - ✱ decides that nobles and clergy should be taxed
 - ✱ they refused to pay



LOUIS XVI



MARIE ANTOINETTE





- ✱ **1786: Banks refused to loan money to French government**
- ✱ **1788-89: Crop failures led to bread shortages in cities**

May 1789: Louis XVI calls the **Estates-General** to meet at Versailles

- * Estates-General: Assembly which had to approve a tax increase
- * hadn't met since 1614
- * each estate had a single vote
- * First & Second Estates always outvoted the Third Estate
- * Third Estate wanted the Estates-General to meet in one mass assembly with each delegate having one vote
 - * Third Estate (610 delegates); First and Second Estates (591 delegates)



Third Estate seceded from the Estates-General



- ✱ They met in an indoor tennis court
- ✱ They renamed themselves as the **National Assembly**

Louis XVI tried to make peace with the Third Estate

- ✱ ordered the nobles & clergy to meet with the National Assembly as one body
- ✱ at the same time, he ordered his **Swiss Guards** to march toward Paris
 - ✱ he no longer trusted French troops
 - ✱ Third Estate feared that the Swiss Guards were coming to break up the National Assembly





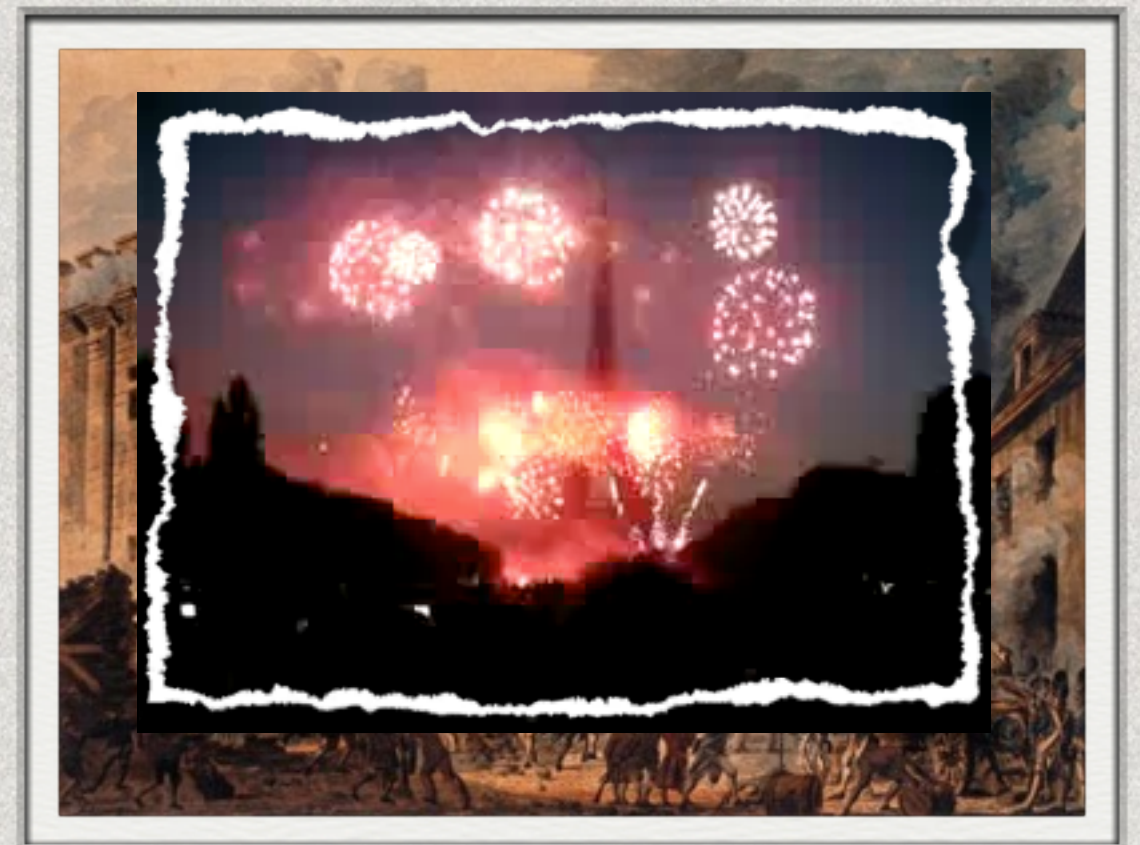


Parisians rioted over the price of bread



Mob surrounded the **Bastille**, a fortress.

- * political prisoners housed there
- * arms and gunpowder
- * mob wanted the weapons to fight against the Swiss Guard
- * July 14, 1789: The Bastille was captured
 - * **July 14: Bastille Day**, French National Holiday (like July 4th in the USA)
- * forced Louis XVI to give up the idea of bringing Swiss Guards into Paris



Rebellion spread from Paris to the countryside

- * **Grand Peur** = Grand Fear
- * Peasants feared a plot against them by nobles
- * Peasant mobs attacked nobles, burning their houses
 - * why?
 - * rumors nobles were hoarding food
 - * burn loan documents



Revolutionaries
were called
Sans Coulottes



Allons enfants de la Patrie,
Come, children of the Fatherland (Homeland),
Le jour de gloire est arrivé !
The day of glory has arrived!
Contre nous de la tyrannie
Against us, Tyranny's
L'étendard sanglant est levé, (bis)
Bloody banner is raised, (repeat)
Entendez-vous dans les campagnes
Do you hear in the countryside
Mugir ces féroces soldats ?
Those ferocious soldiers roaring?
Ils viennent jusque dans nos bras
They come up to our arms
Égorger nos fils, nos compagnes !
To slit the throats of our sons and wives!

Aux armes, citoyens,
To arms, citizens,
Formez vos bataillons,
Form your battalions,
Marchons, marchons !
Let's march, let's march!
Qu'un sang impur
May an impure blood
Abreuve nos sillons !
Water our furrows!

Que veut cette horde d'esclaves,
What does this horde of slaves,
De traîtres, de rois conjurés ?
Of traitors and conjured kings want?
Pour qui ces ignobles entraves,
For whom are these ignoble trammels,
Ces fers dès longtemps préparés ? (bis)
These long-prepared irons? (repeat)
Français, pour nous, ah ! quel outrage
Frenchmen, for us, ah! What outrage
Quels transports il doit exciter !
What fury it must arouse!
C'est nous qu'on ose méditer
It is we whom they dare plan
De rendre à l'antique esclavage !
To return to ancient slavery!



The Marseillaise

National Assembly Reforms

August 1789

1. adopted **Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen**

- * men born free and with equal rights
- * guaranteed equal justice,
- * guaranteed freedom of speech and religion

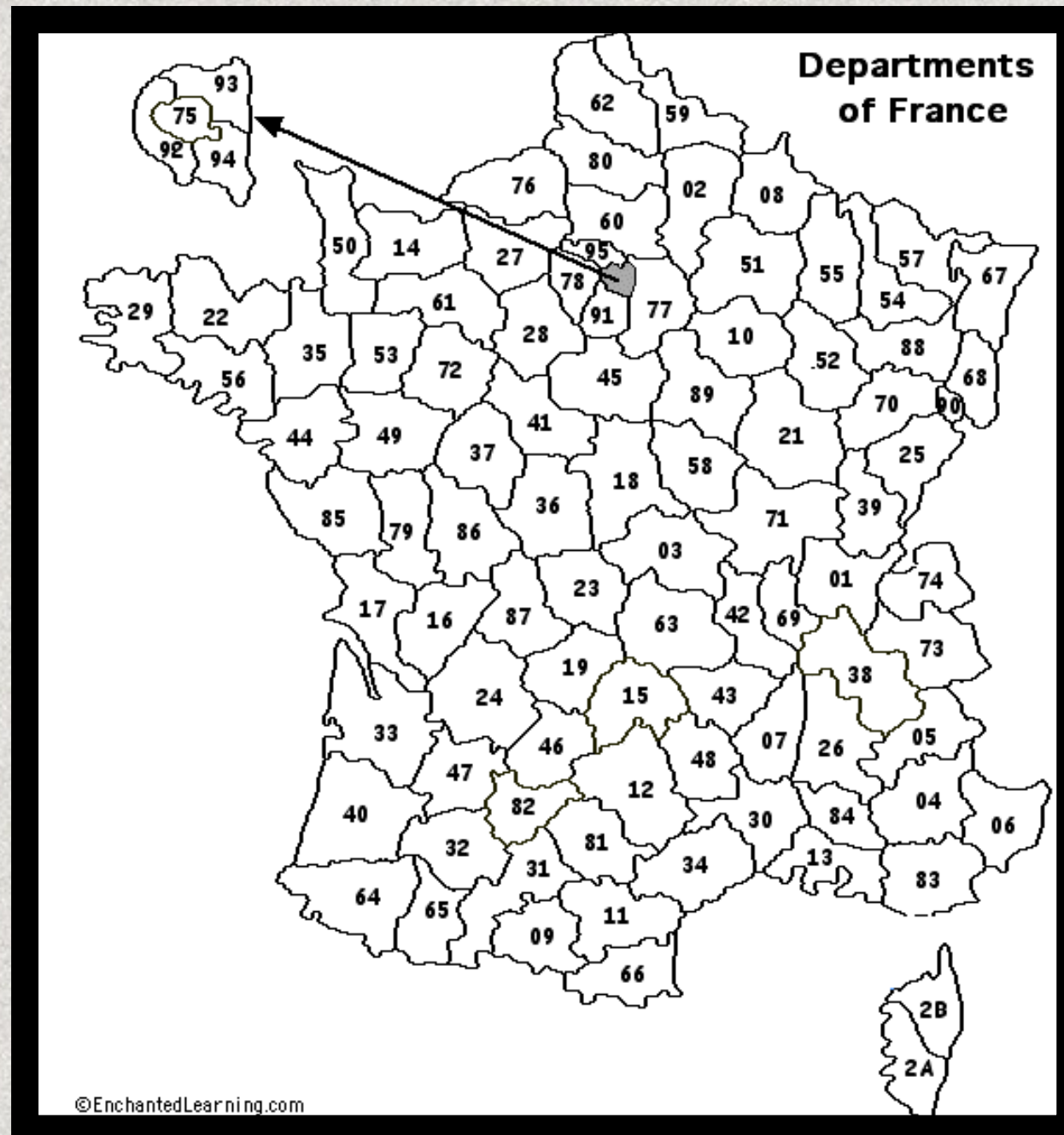
2. created a **constitutional monarchy**

- * monarchy lost absolute power
- * king still held executive power to enforce laws

Nation Assembly Reforms

August 1789

3. France divided into departments (states)



National Assembly Reforms

August 1789

4. Government acts against the Church

- ✱ took Church lands
- ✱ Church officials to be elected by land owners
- ✱ were paid as government officials
- ✱ caused a divide between peasants and bourgeoisie



✱ **October 1789: Parisian women rioted over price of bread**

- ✱ **anger directed at Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette**

- ✱ **“Why should they live in Versailles while Paris suffered?”**

- ✱ **broke into palace and ransacked the queen’s quarters**

- ✱ **forced the royal family to move to Paris never to return to Versailles**



June 1791: Louis XVI and family tried to escape France to Austrian Netherlands (Belgium).

- ✱ They were captured and returned to Paris



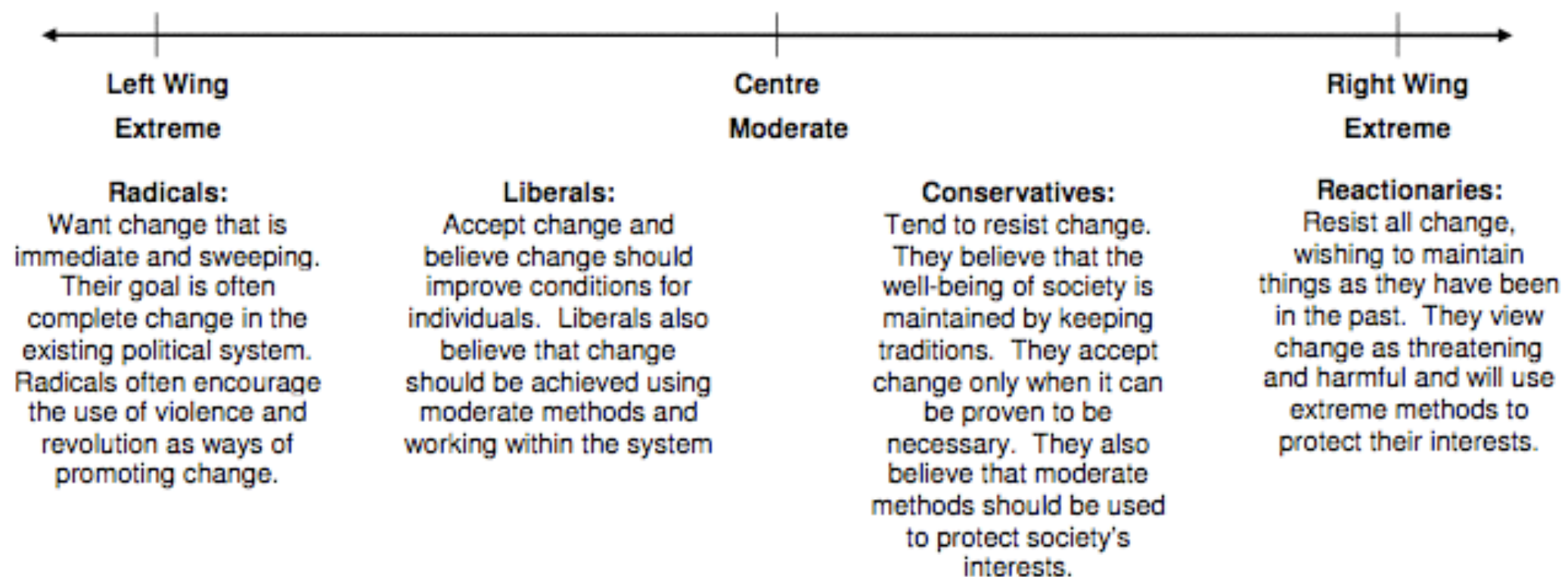
September 1791

- ✱ having created a new constitution, the National Assembly stepped down
- ✱ new elections
- ✱ **Legislative Assembly** created

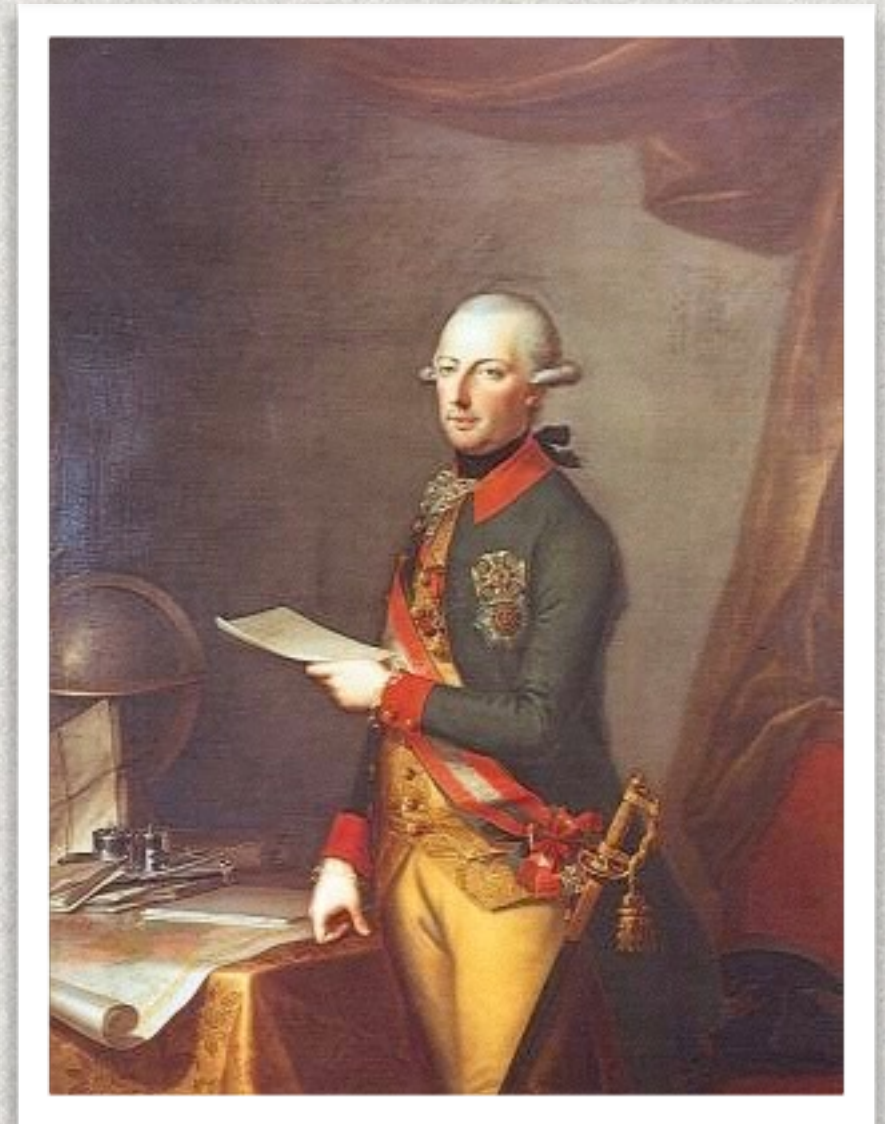
**Left
(Radicals)**

**Center
(Moderates)**

**Right
(Conservatives)**



- ✱ **Marie Antoinette's brother, HRE Josef II, threatened to attack France**
- ✱ **France hoped to spread revolution through Europe**
- ✱ **April 1792: Legislative Assembly declared war on Austria**
- ✱ **Prussia joined Austria in the war against France**
- ✱ **France did poorly**



- * Summer 1792: People joined political clubs
- * **Jacobins**: the most radical club
- * wanted to remove the king and create a republic
- * 2 leaders: Georges Danton & Jean-Paul Marat



GEORGES DANTON



JEAN-PAUL MARAT

- * **Summer 1792: Prussian armies marched toward Paris**
- * **threatened to destroy Paris if the royal family was harmed**
- * **this angered the French**





**The Louvre Museum
is in the
Tuileries Palace
today.**

- ✱ **August 10, 1792**
- ✱ mob of 70,000 attacked the **Tuileries Palace**
- ✱ 900 Swiss Guards tried to defend the king & queen
- ✱ Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were imprisoned

- ✱ **September 1792**

- ✱ **National Convention** created

- ✱ **officially abolished the monarchy**

- ✱ **all male citizens given the right to vote & hold office**

- ✱ **France defeated Austria and Prussia**

First Coalition

- ✱ **Fall 1792**
- ✱ **Britain, Spain, & Portugal joined Austria & Prussia in an alliance against the French Revolution**
- ✱ **France drafted an army of 800,000**
 - ✱ **before this most armies were made of mercenaries**
 - ✱ **France's army was made up of loyal patriots which led to French victories**

Reign of Terror

- * July 1793 - July 1794
- * **Maximilien Robespierre**
- * leader of Jacobins
- * formed **Committee for Public Safety** to find enemies of the republic



Reign of Terror

- ✱ During this period, Robespierre ruled France as a dictator
- ✱ paranoid, believed everyone was against him and the revolution

Louis XVI found guilty of treason and beheaded on January 21, 1793.



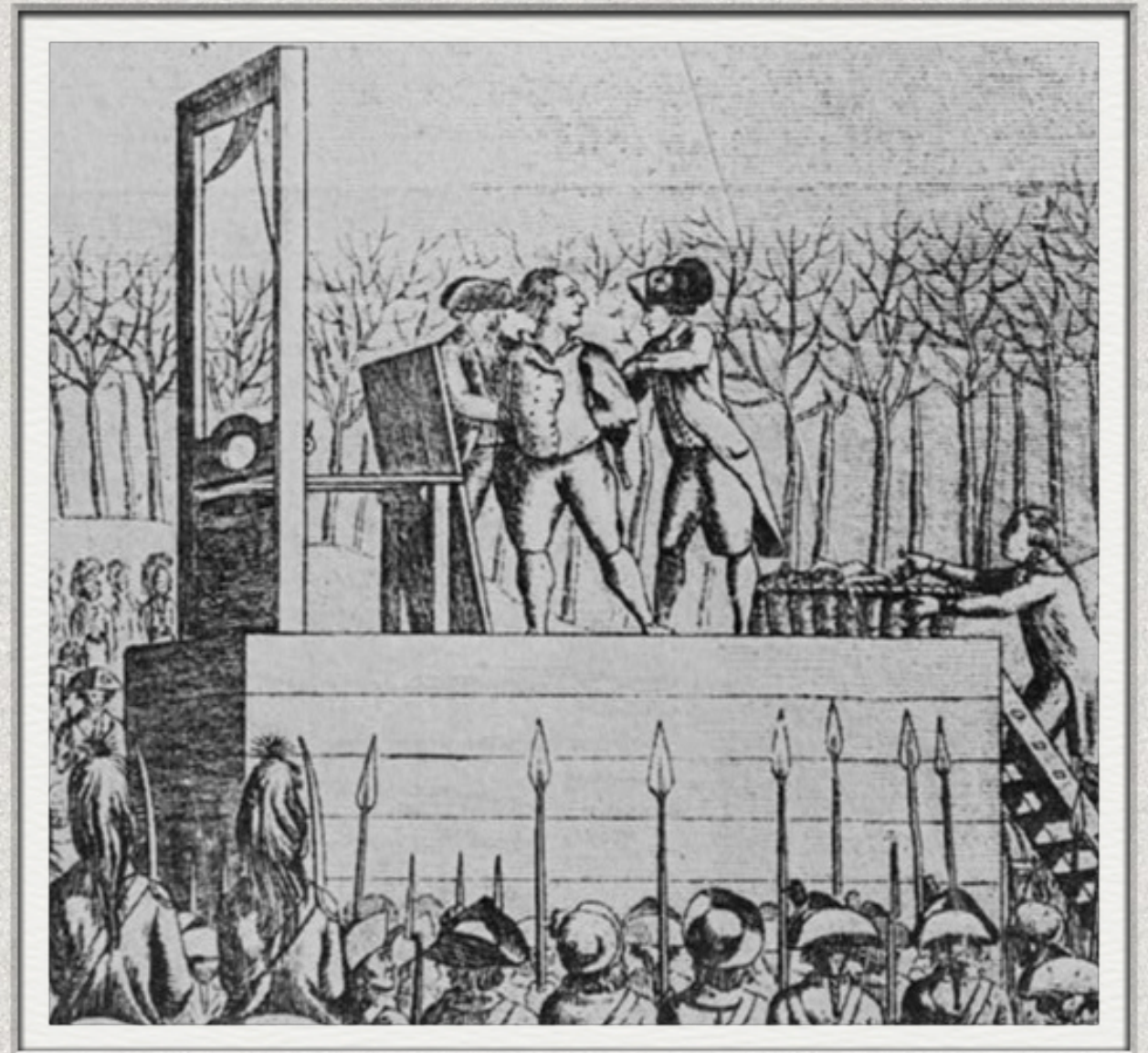


**Under
Robespierre,
people were
arrested in the
morning and
executed that
afternoon**





- ✱ **Marie Antoinette executed**
- ✱ **Danton executed for not being revolutionary enough**
- ✱ **3000 executed in all**



Changes under Robespierre

✱ All churches in Paris were closed

✱ Calendar changed

✱ 12 months with 30 days

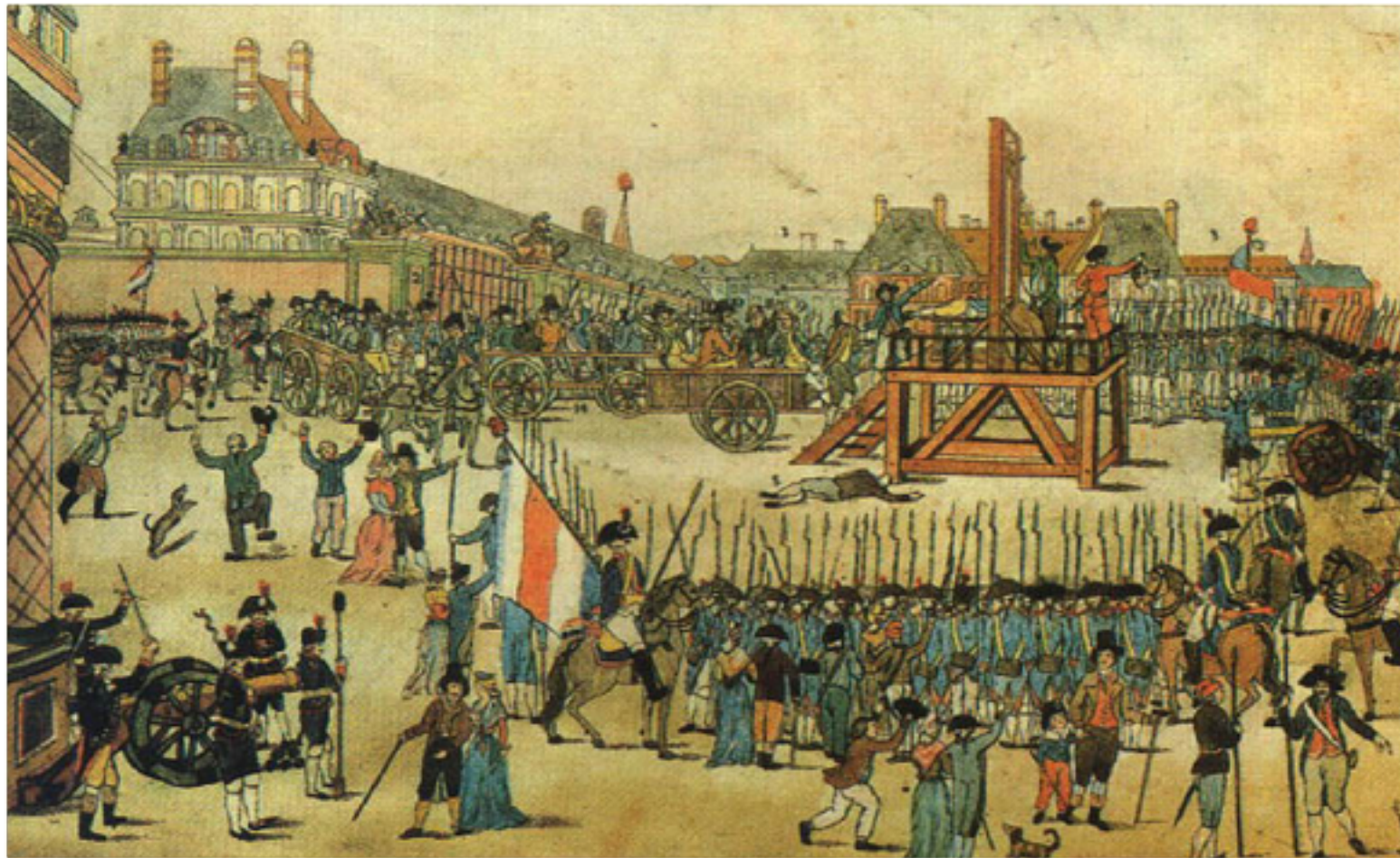
✱ no Sundays

- *primidi* (first day)
- *duodi* (second day)
- *tridi* (third day)
- *quartidi* (fourth day)
- *quintidi* (fifth day)
- *sextidi* (sixth day)
- *septidi* (seventh day)
- *octidi* (eighth day)
- *nonidi* (ninth day)
- *décadi* (tenth day)

- Autumn:
 - *Vendémiaire* (from Latin *vindemia*, "grape harvest") Starting Sept 22, 23 or 24
 - *Brumaire* (from French *brume*, "fog") Starting Oct 22, 23 or 24
 - *Frimaire* (From French *frimas*, "frost") Starting Nov 21, 22 or 23
- Winter:
 - *Nivôse* (from Latin *nivosus*, "snow") Starting Dec 21, 22 or 23
 - *Pluviôse* (from Latin *pluviosus*, "rain") Starting Jan 20, 21 or 22
 - *Ventôse* (from Latin *ventosus*, "wind") Starting Feb 19, 20 or 21
- Spring:
 - *Germinal* (from Latin *germen*, "germination") Starting Mar 20 or 21
 - *Floréal* (from Latin *flos*, "flowering") Starting Apr 20 or 21
 - *Prairial* (from French *prairie*, "pasture") Starting May 20 or 21
- Summer:
 - *Messidor* (from Latin *messis*, "harvest") Starting Jun 19 or 20
 - *Thermidor* (or Fervidor) (from Greek *thermos*, "heat") Starting Jul 19 or 20
 - *Fructidor* (from Latin *fructus*, "fruit") Starting Aug 18 or 19

Thermidorian Reaction

- ✱ July 1794
- ✱ National Convention realized that no one was safe from Robespierre.
- ✱ He was deposed and executed.



MARIANNE: PERSONIFICATION OF FRANCE





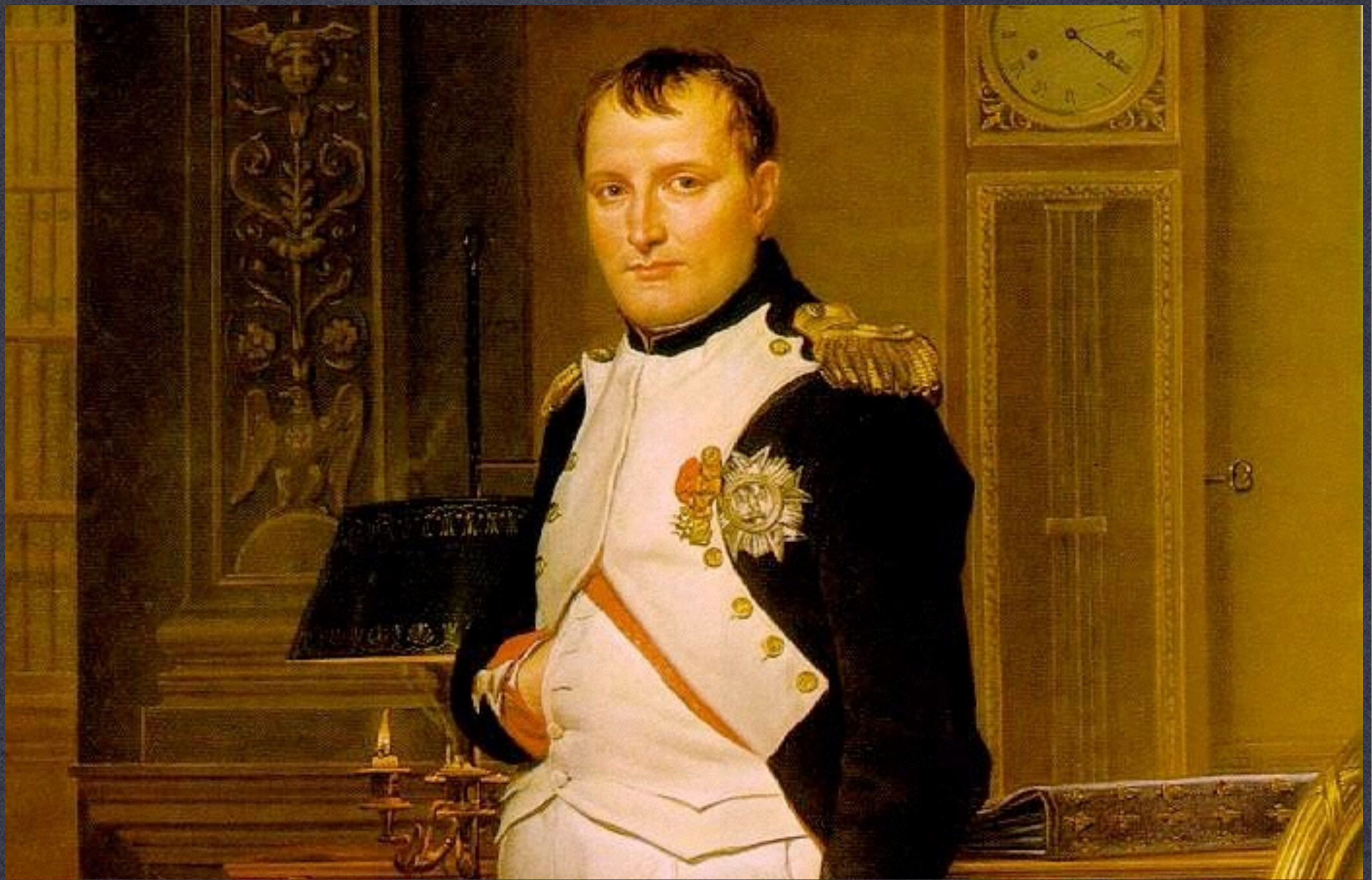
The French Revolution





- ✱ **1795: Moderates in the National Convention created a new constitution**
- ✱ **2 house legislature & the Directory**
- ✱ **Directory:** executive body made up of 5 men
- ✱ **Directory was corrupt but brought stability**
- ✱ **It chose a general to lead France's army**
 - ✱ **Napoleon Bonaparte**





NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

1769 - 1821

Napoleon Bonaparte

- ✱ born in Corsica
- ✱ went to military school near Paris
- ✱ joined the army of revolutionary government
- ✱ October 1795: defended where National Convention was meeting from an army of royalists



- * 1796: led French army against Austria and the King of Sardinia
- * took Milan and made it the capital of a new Italian republic dominated by France
- * 1797: **First Coalition** ends when Austria & Prussia make peace
- * 1799: Directory lost the confidence of the French people because of corruption
- * Napoleon decided to seize power

- * Napoleon sent 500 troops to occupy one house of the national legislature driving out the elected members
- * The other house then voted to end the Directory and gave power to three officials called **consuls**
- * one of these consuls was Napoleon
- * Napoleon became dictator as **First Consul of the French Republic**



INVALIDES
MILITARY HOSPITAL WHERE NAPOLEON IS BURIED