



The French Revolution

Revolution:

A forcible overthrow of a government or social order in favor of a new system



France in late 1700's



- King Louis XVI was an absolute monarch but was shy, indecisive, overweight, not interested in ruling & easily persuaded by people around him.
- Louis XVI (15 years old) was wed to Marie Antoinette, a daughter of Austrian's Empress (14 years old).
- Their wedding brings France & Austria to be allies instead of enemies
- They had difficulty having children, which caused a lot of gossip within the country
- Has abundant lavish food at every meal. Yummy yummy in his tummy.

France in late 1700s



- Marie Antoinette
- Lived lavishly (expensive)
- More interested in fashion & expensive lifestyle:
 - Jewelry
 - Shoes
 - Dresses
 - Overly large hairstyles





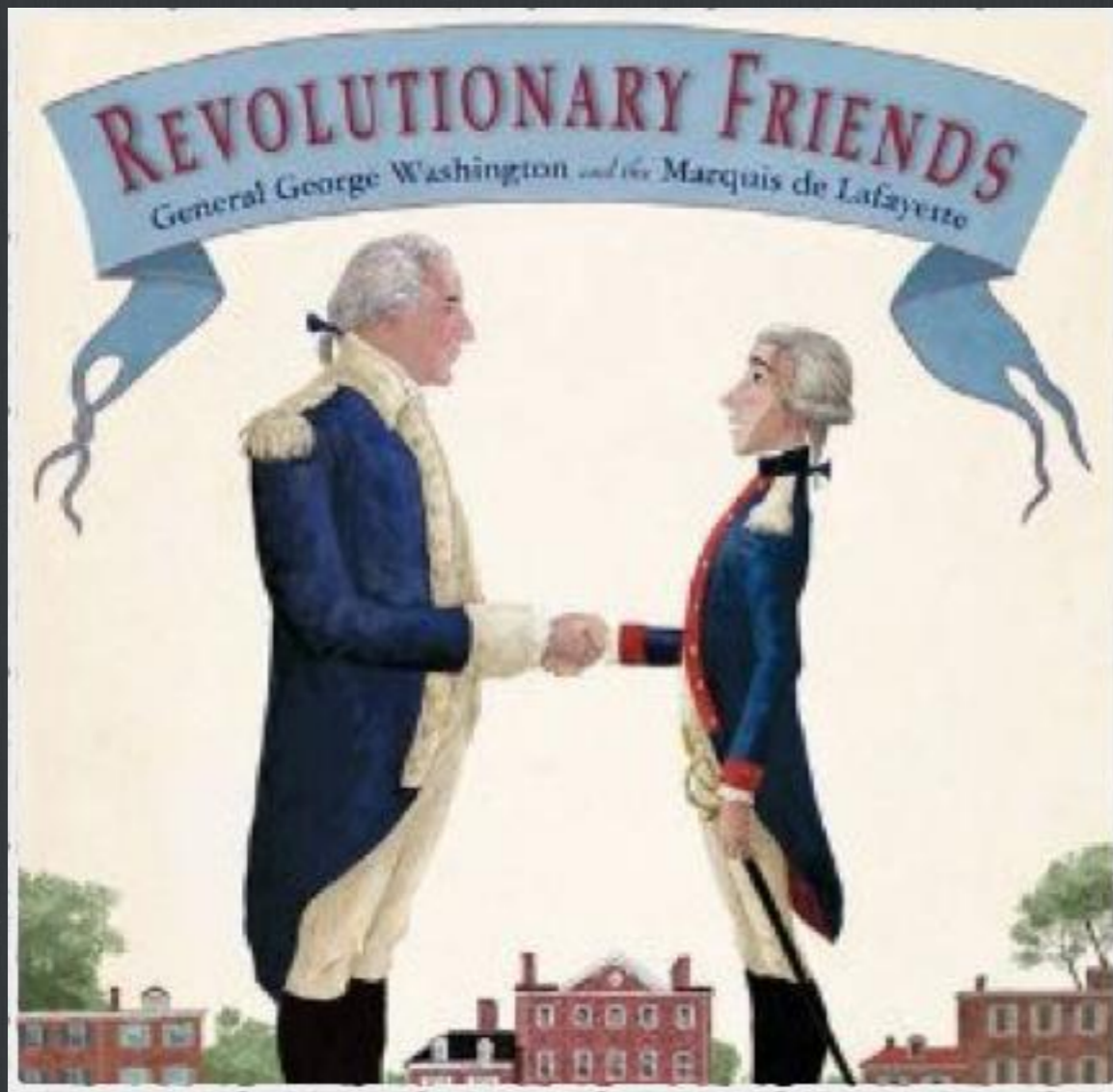
**King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette lived in the
Palace Versailles**



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CHAMBRE DU ROI
SACRÉ CHAMBRE
CHAMBRE DU ROI



France in late 1700s



- France tried to fight the British in America over land but lost. A costly war ("7 Years War" AKA "French and Indian War")
- France was also in debt due to spending money & military to help the American Colonies fight the British for Independence. France goes bankrupt.
- Government has neglected the needs of the public and many are starving.
- Less threat of disease=more population to feed

France in late 1700s



- 1787-1788- Bad harvests, food shortages, unemployment & rising food prices
- Main food source: Bread
 - Cost of flour increases

“Let them Eat Cake”

Myth: When the peasants were starving and needed bread, Queen Marie sarcastically stated “Let them eat cake”

Not true. But it does symbolize how royalty ignored the needs of the people.



Social Classes	Who were they?	How many?	How many owned land?	% that paid <i>taille</i> (taxes)
First Estate (Clergy)	Higher Clergy- cardinals, bishops, heads of monasteries (wealthy)	.5% of the population (130,000 out of 27 million)	Owned 10% of land	0%
	Priests (poor)			
Second Estate (Nobility)	Military, law courts, & Roman Catholic Church (Title of Duke, Baron, etc) -Some Third Estate members were able to “ buy into” the 2 nd Estate	1.5% of the population (350,000 out of 27 million)	Owned 20-30% of land	0%
Third Estate (Commoners)	Bourgeoisie - merchants, lawyers, doctors, writers, bankers	8% of population	Owned about 20-25% of land	100%
	City Workers- skilled workers	10% of population	Owned about 35-40% of land	
	Peasants	75-80% of the population	Owned 35-40% of the land but at least 1/2 didn't own any land	

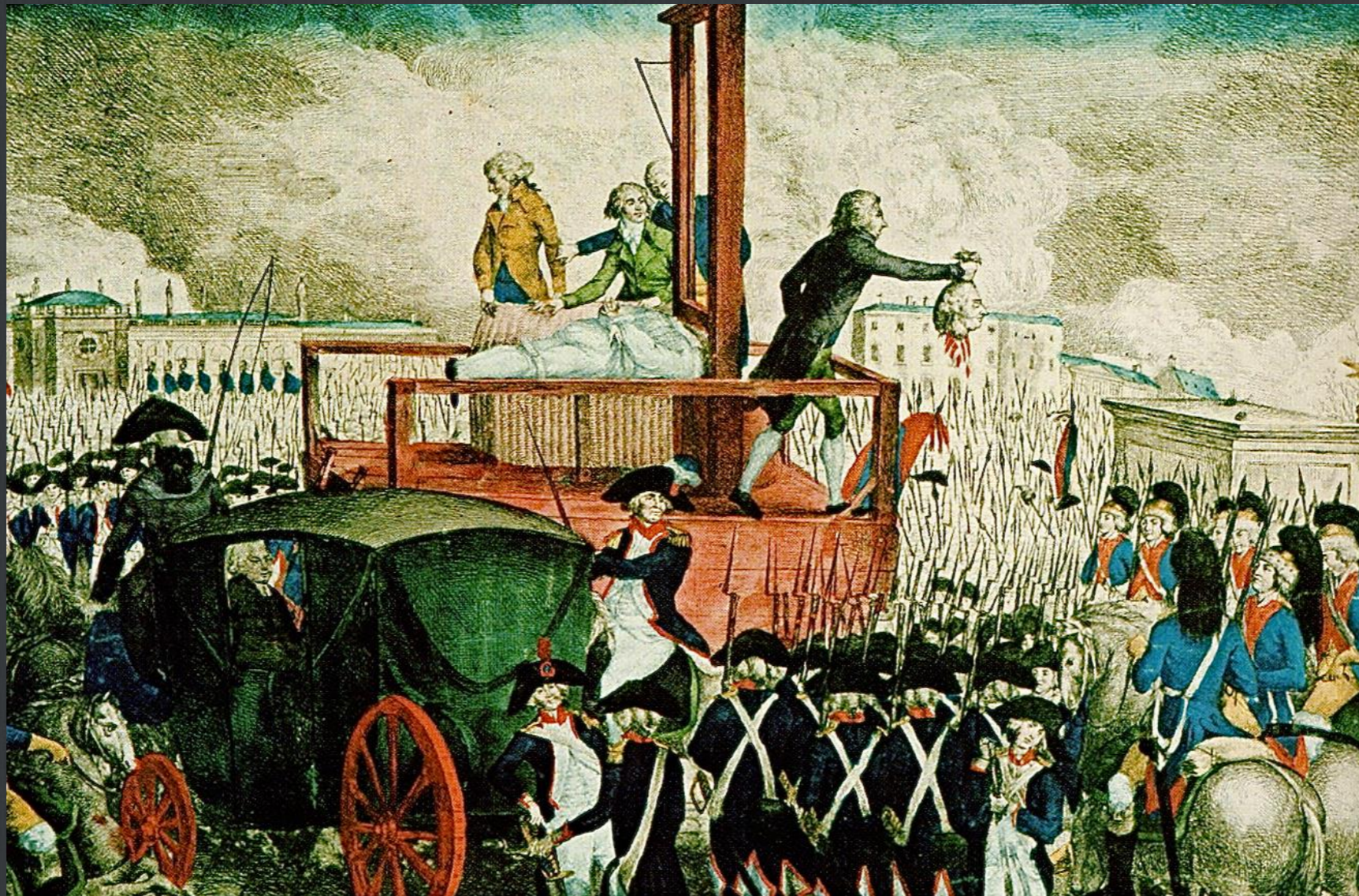
Society is divided into 3 classes: First Estate, Second Estate & Third Estate

Age of Reason

- France is cultural capital of the world. In French salons, Enlightenment Thinkers are discussing new ideas of rights, government, freedoms, etc (Voltaire, Rousseau)
- Scientific Revolution inspired thinking critically about society not just doing what you are told and believing what you are told



What lead France into a Revolution?



Causes of French Revolution



- Poor leadership
 - ignore people's needs
 - interests in personal luxuries
- Starvation
 - bread price increases
 - bad harvest (early winter)
- Social Class
 - 3rd estate pays all taxes
 - 98% of population
 - Pays 50% in taxes
 - Out-voted by 1st and 2nd Estate in General Assembly
- Enlightenment inspiration
- American Revolution inspiration
- \$ Crisis
 - debt after Rev War

The French Revolution

King Louis XVI (16th)	Enlightenment	Marie Antoinette	American Revolution	Conditions of peasants
<p>Palace of Versailles -home of King & Queen -Huge, Luxuries, expensive</p> <p>Good Leader? -Shy, indecisive, not interested in ruling</p> <p>Execution</p>	<p>What was it? -New ideas on rights, government, freedoms</p> <p>Main People Locke Voltaire Montesquieu Rousseau Hobbes Wollstonecraft</p>	<p>Hair -Large, luxuries, expensive (like her)</p> <p>Execution</p>	<p>Debt of France -spent \$ & troops to help Americans win Revolutionary War</p> <p>Ideas of Revolution -inspired France to also revolt & change government</p>	<p>Bread -food shortage, bad harvest, cost of flour increases</p> <p>Taxes -Only 3rd Estate pays -50% of their income</p>

French Revolution

Estates	Tennis Court Oath	Bastille	Declaration of Rights of Man & Citizen	Guillotine
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1st Estate (Clergy) 2. 2nd Estate (Nobility) 3. 3rd Estate (Commoners) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -3rd Estate locked out of General Assembly to discuss taxes -Met at a tennis court & created National Assembly -Oath to create a new Constitution & change government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Riot to steal gunpowder from government *Beginning of Revolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -influenced by Jefferson's Declaration of Independence -List of rights & freedoms for citizens -Against absolute monarchy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -device used to quickly cut off heads -Robespierre used to kill those against Revolution

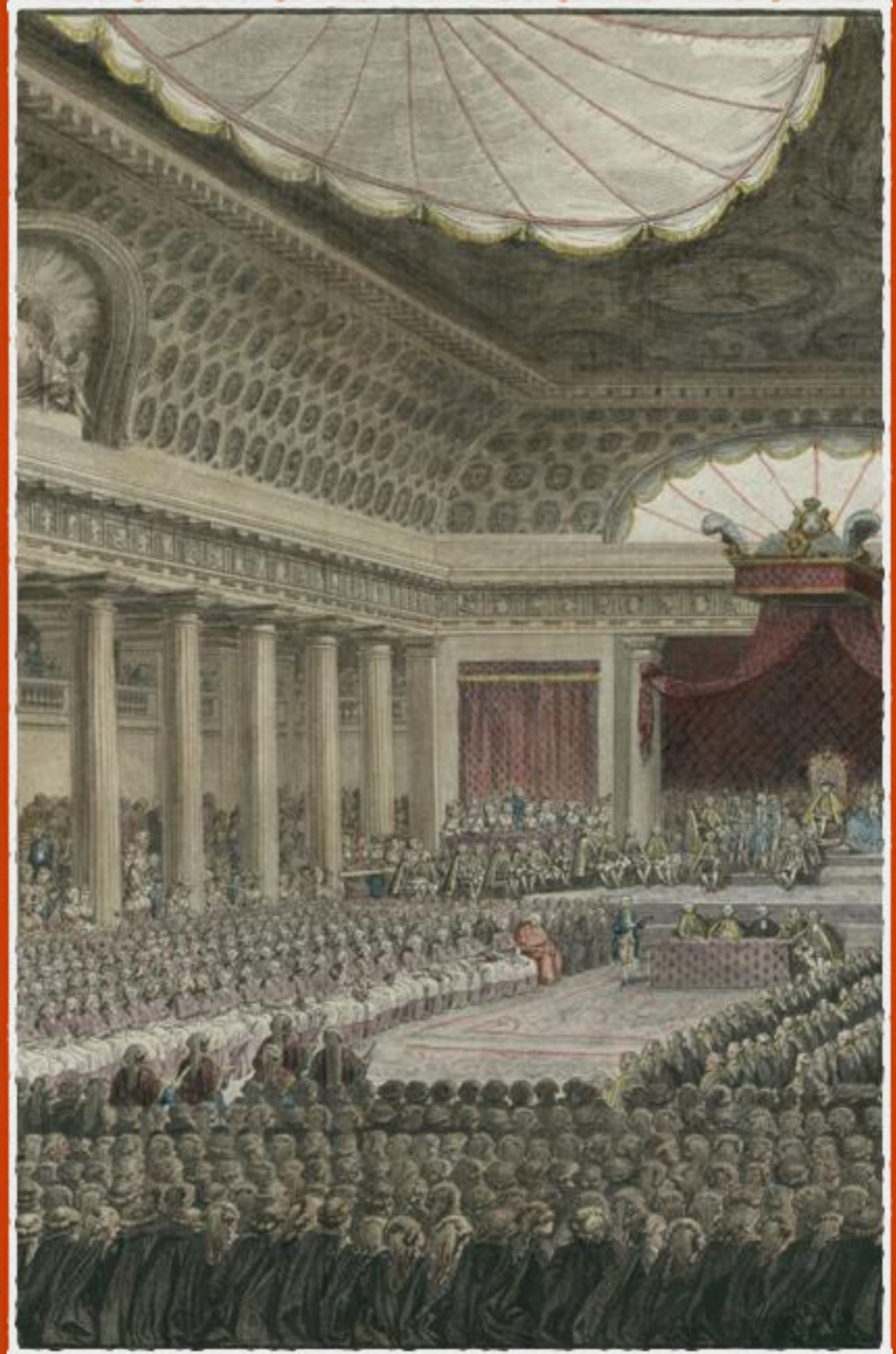


Events of the French Revolution

General Assembly meets in the Estate- General of 1789

3rd Estate demands the 1st and 2nd
Estate pay taxes to help pay off French
debt

3rd Estate was locked out of meeting





3rd Estate meet in a nearby tennis court and create the “National Assembly”- a group of representatives from the 3rd estate.

They took an oath to create a new constitution (limiting the King’s power)

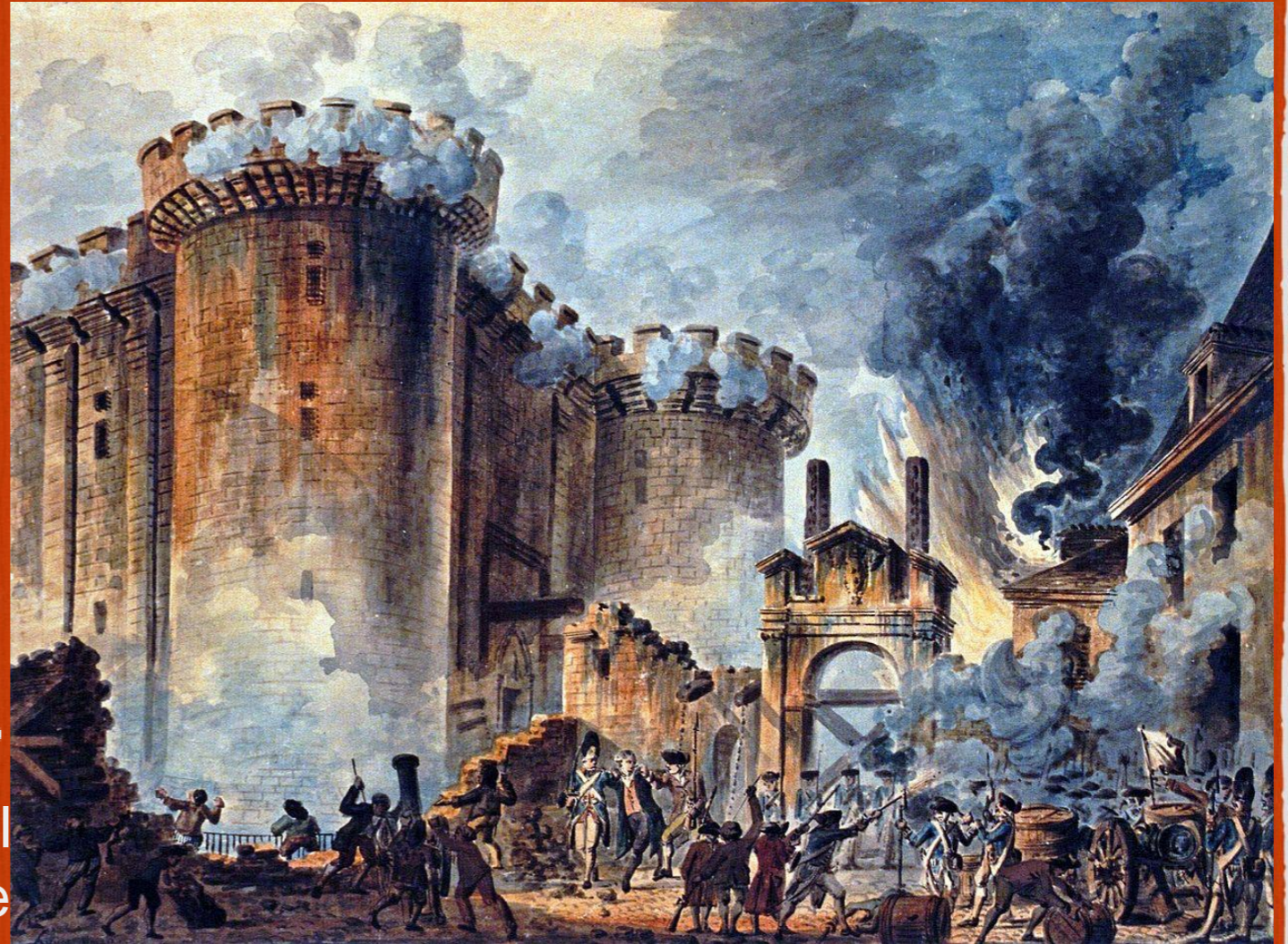
Tennis Court Oath

Storming of the Bastille

-Citizens revolt and storm the Bastille fortress to steal gunpowder and free prisoners

-The Bastille was completely destroyed

Fun Fact: “Bastille Day” is now France’s national day of celebration (Like 4th of July in U.S.)



Declaration of Rights of Man & of Citizen

A document written by the French people that guaranteed their rights to life & liberty





-Angry mobs stormed into the Palace Versailles, killing guards and threatened the King and Queen

-King and Queen were escorted back to Paris where the people of France can better control their actions

March of Versailles

National Assembly creates a new Constitution

French Constitution of 1791

-limited the King's power

-Constitutional Monarchy created

-Separation of powers

-King Louis XVI was forced to sign it

LA CONSTITUTION

FRANÇOISE,

PRÉSENTÉE AU ROI

PAR

L'ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE,

*le 3 Septembre 1791, acceptée le 13
et le 14.*

Égalité, Liberté, Propriété, Sureté.

A PARIS,

DE L'IMPRIMERIE DE DUPONT,

Député de Nemours à l'Assemblée nationale,
hôtel de Bretonvilliers, Isle Saint-Louis.

1791.



King and Queen flee Paris and try to get to Austria for safety

King and Queen were caught and brought back to Paris

Fun Fact: The King was recognized because all of the French coins had his face on it

King & Queen flee Paris

War with Austria & Prussia

- Aristocrats fled to Austria & Prussia
- France fears Austria is planning an attack to re-instate King Louis XVI as King again

France declares war on Austria and Prussia

- Revolutionaries thought winning the wars would spread the idea of revolution across Europe and unite the country





-Fear that advancing Austrian & Prussian armies would free Anti-Revolution prisoners

September Massacres

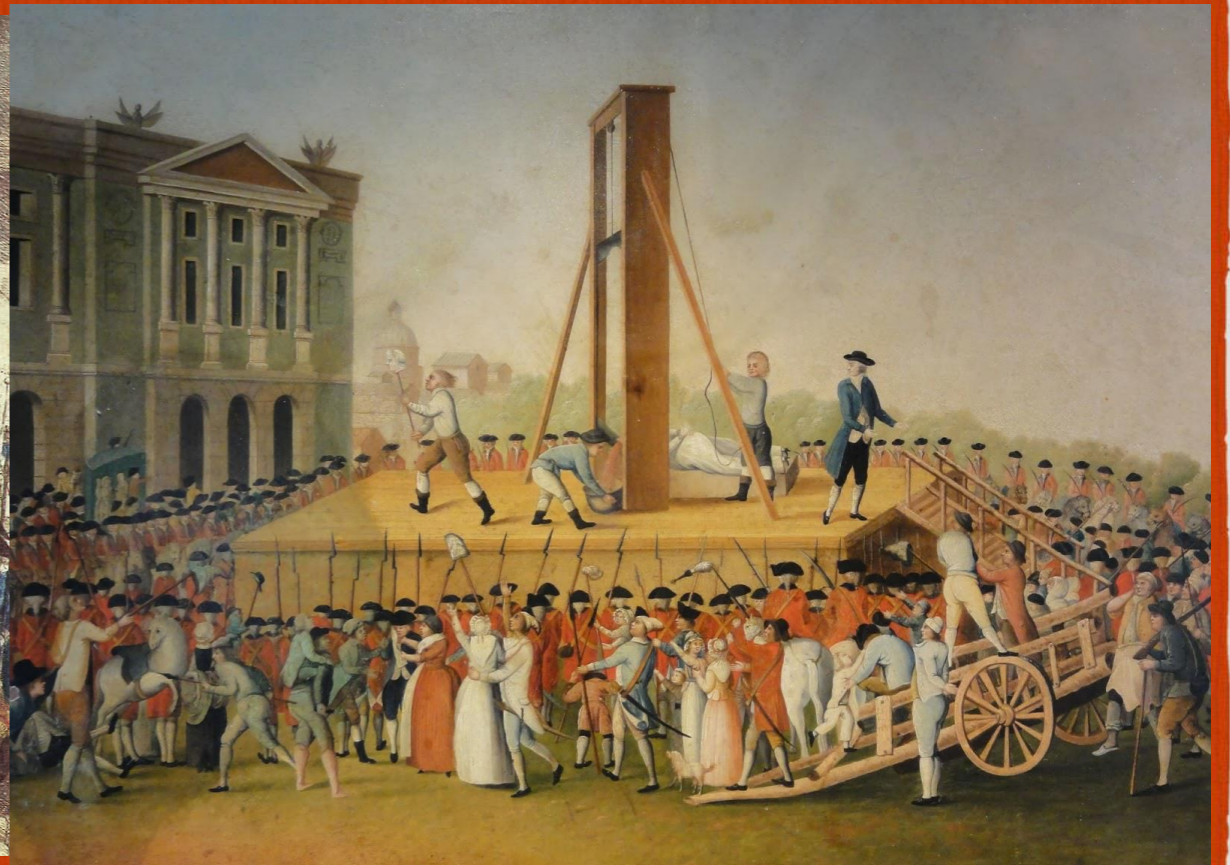
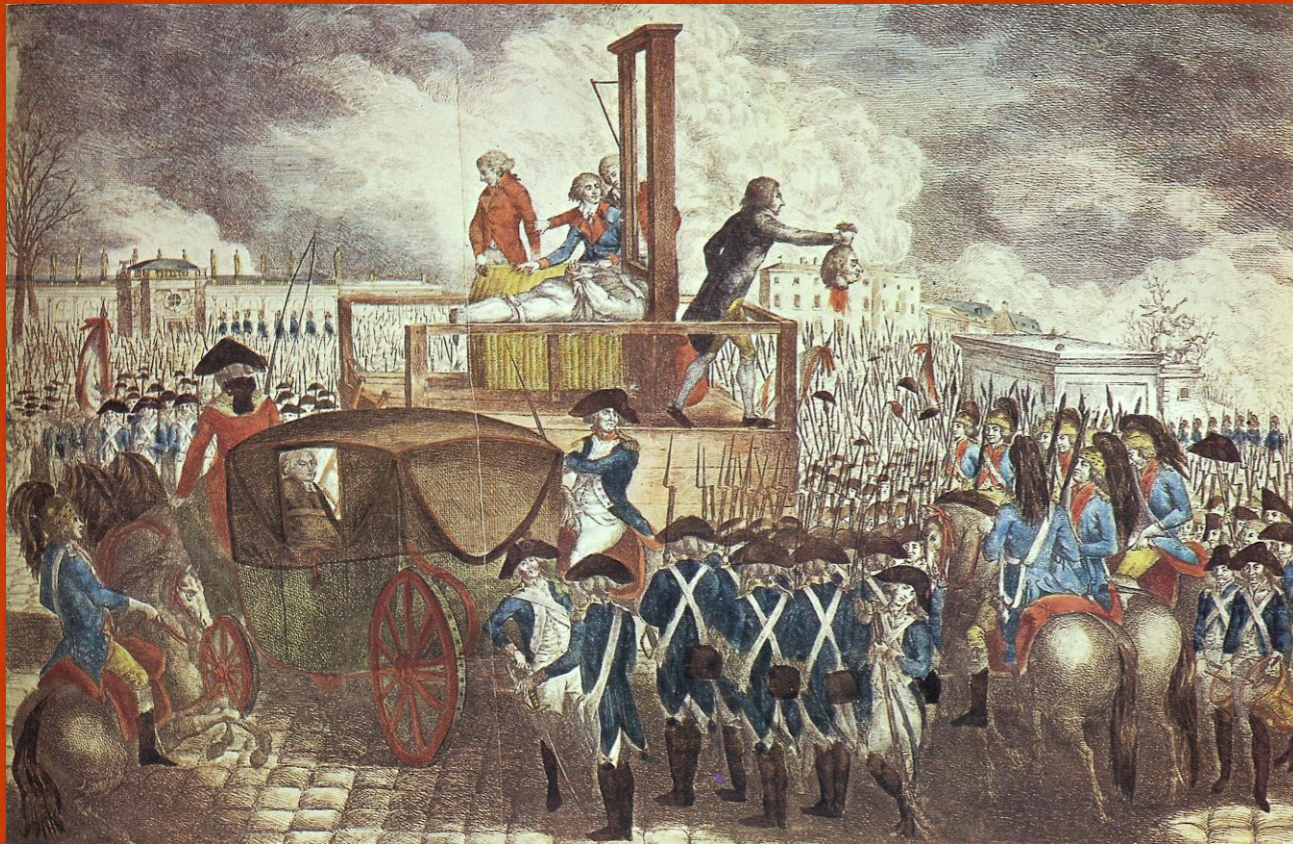
-Jean Paul Marat orders inmates to be killed before being freed



The National Assembly becomes the
“National Convention” and creates a
new government “The French Republic”

-Created a Republic government

**French Republic
created**



Majority vote of 361-288 voted execution of the King for conspiring with the enemy (Prussia & Austria)

-Marie Antoinette is accused to conspiracy with her family in Austria. Giving away military movements to help Austria in war

Execution of King Louis XVI & Queen Marie Antoinette

King & Queen are executed

Louis' execution was not clean. His fat neck did not allow a clean kill and the blade needed to be raised a 2nd time (Jan 1793)

-Angry mobs dipped their handkerchiefs in his blood yelling "Long Live the Revolution!"

Marie Antoinette was given a fake trial out of mockery, her hair was cut in preparation of the guillotine (but left her almost bald) (Oct 1793)

It is believed Marie Antoinette paid her executioner with a full purse of gold coins to make sure the blade was sharp for a quick death

It is also believed she accidentally stepped on the executioners toe and said "I'm sorry"



Napoleone Bonaparte

-Military leader that helped French beat Austrian & Prussian armies





Reign of Terror

-a period of violence during the French revolution marked by mass executions of enemies of the Revolution

Robespierre takes Control

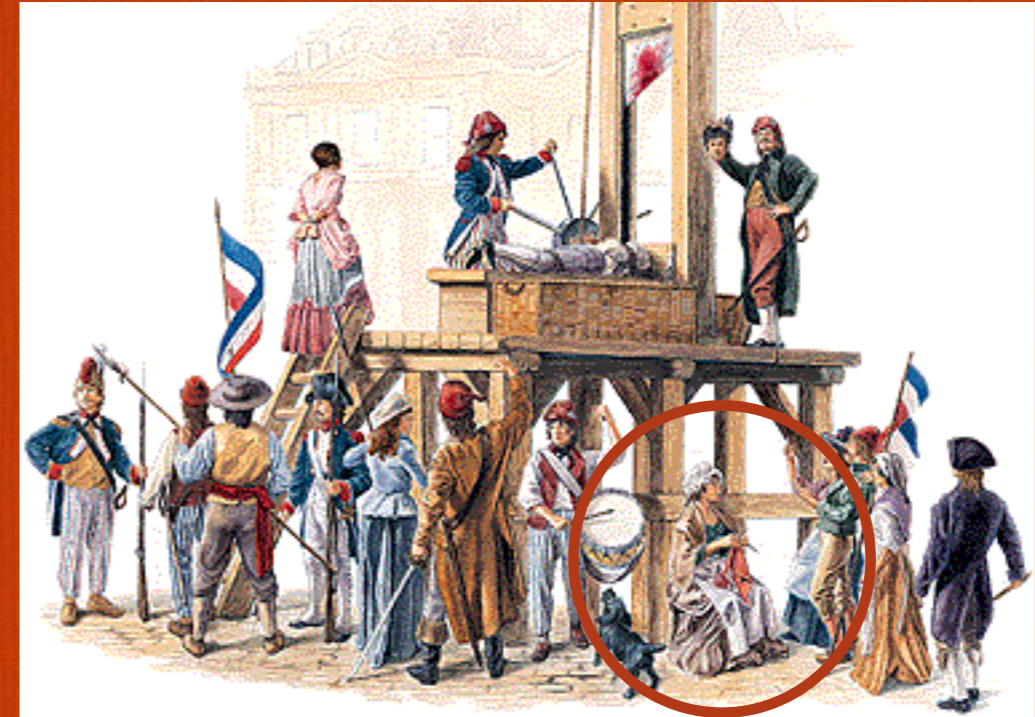
- wanted to get rid of enemies of France, anyone that objected to the Revolution
 - (-merchants who's business' were suffering
 - military leaders & soldiers
 - Catholic Church members, etc)
 - No trials, only accusations
- Causes fear within the public due to unknown safety
 - became a dictator & corrupted with power
 - Guillotine killed at least 16,000
 - Up to 40,000 more killed by guns, drowning, etc
 - Eventually eliminated Freedom of Speech





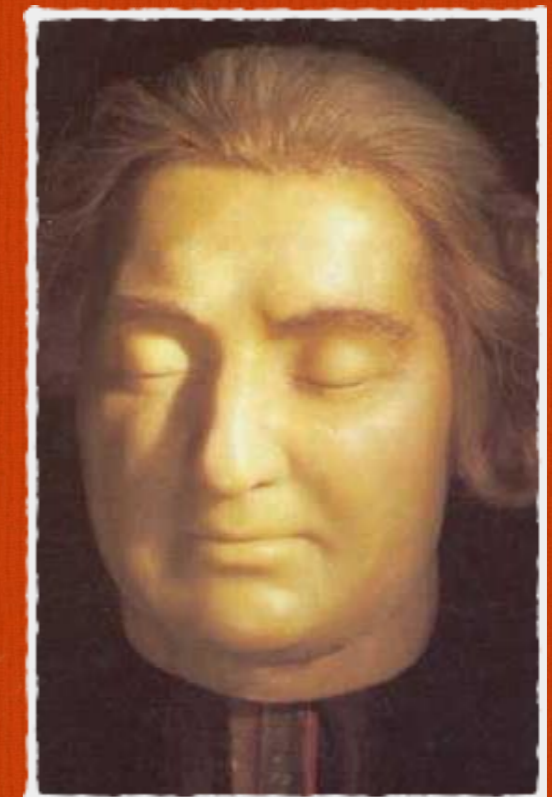
Guillotine

- beheading was usually only reserved for royalty
- People wanted everyone equal opportunity in death
- Was created to make a painless death



Guillotine Fun Fact

- women were encouraged to attend executions and knit & watch
- Madame Tussaud would take fresh heads from the basket and create wax death masks & sell them. She later toured London showing her famous death masks
- Now Madame Tussaud are famous wax museums



Great Terror

-period of extreme violence

-increased killings

-Wants a "Republic of Virtue" - "terror without virtue is disastrous, but virtue without terror is powerless"

-"The Cult of the Supreme Being" - Robespierre created a new religion glorifying himself

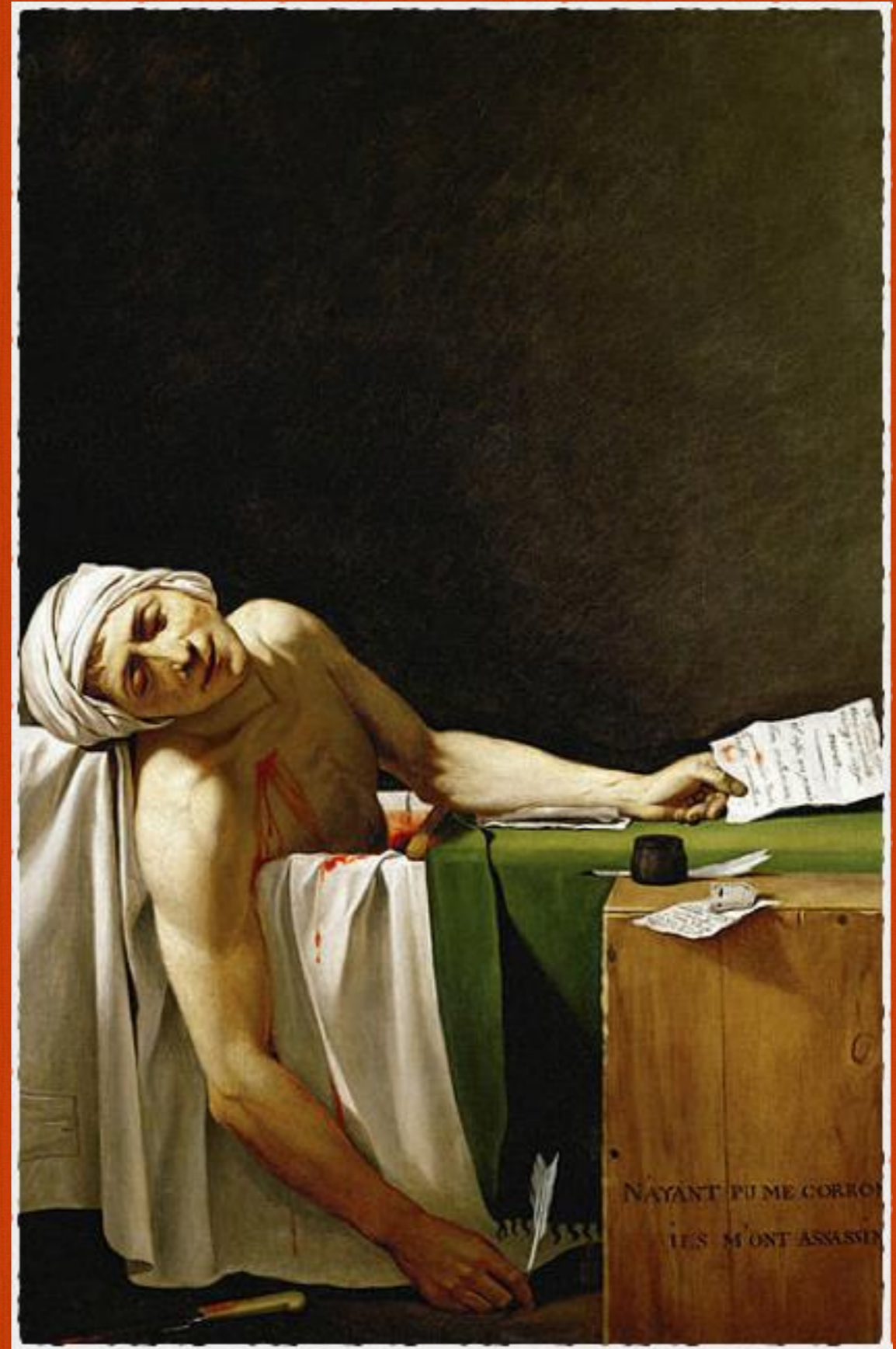


Jean Paul Marat's Murder

Marat, an extreme Revolutionary journalist encouraged violence and killings of many against the Revolution

Charlotte Corday believed he was too extreme and dangerous for France

Stabbed him with a knife while he was in his bathtub



Anger toward Catholic Church

Many blame the priests and Catholic Church for the root of the problem

- Tries to destroy power of Catholic Church

 - “Saint” is removed from street names

 - Many churches were destroyed

 - Created a new calendar not based on Christianity (“Revolutionary Calendar”)



Committee of Public Safety

a committee of 12 members making up
an executive branch

-Ruled France

-Eventually ordered Robespierre to be
arrested & executed



Robespierre is Arrested and Executed

-People no longer trust Robespierre and
want him dead

-He is arrested but escapes

-Tried to kill himself but misses and
severely injures his jaw/cheek

-He is executed by guillotine

