Age of Napoleon

Objectives

- How did Napoleon rise to power?

- How were revolutionary reforms changed under Napoleon?

- How did Napoleon build an empire in Europe?

- What challenges threatened Napoleon's empire?

- What events led to Napoleon's downfall?

- What were the goals of the Congress of Vienna?

Rise of Napoleon

1769   Born on island of Corsica

1793   Helps capture Toulon from British; promoted to brigadier general

1795   Crushes rebels opposed to the National Convention

1796–1797 Becomes commander in chief of the army of Italy; wins victories against Austria

1798–1799 Loses to the British in Egypt and Syria

1799   Overthrows Directory and becomes First Consul of France

1804   Crowns himself emperor of France

Napoleon's Birthplace

France of Napoleon

- Napoleon consolidated his power by strengthening the central government.
    - *"Order, security, and efficiency" replaced "liberty, equality, and fraternity" as the slogans of the new regime.*

- Napoleon instituted a number of reforms to restore economic prosperity.

- Napoleon developed a new law code, the **Napoleonic Code**, which embodied Enlightenment principles.

- Napoleon undid some of the reforms of the French Revolution:
    - *Women lost most of their newly gained rights.*
    - *Male heads of household regained complete authority over their wives and children.*

Building an Empire

As Napoleon created a vast French empire, he redrew the map of Europe.

- He **annexed,** or added outright, some areas to France.
- He abolished the Holy Roman Empire.
- He cut Prussia in half.

Napoleon controlled much of Europe through forceful diplomacy.

- He put friends and relatives on the thrones of Europe.
- He forced alliances on many European powers.
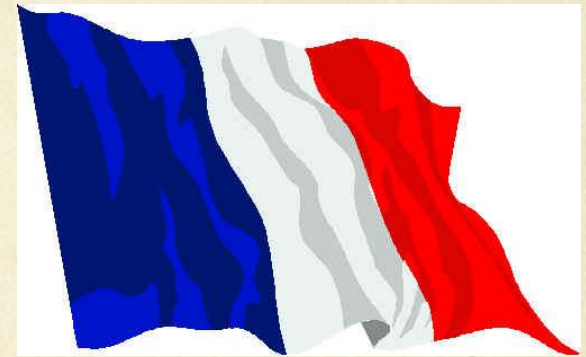
Britain alone remained outside Napoleon's empire.

Napoleon's Power in Europe, 1812

Challenges to Napoleon's Empire

The Impact of Nationalism

Many Europeans who had welcomed the ideas of the French Revolution saw Napoleon and his loyal armies as foreign oppressors. Became Nationalistic towards their OWN countries!!!

Resistance in Spain

Napoleon had replaced the king of Spain with his own brother, but many Spaniards remained loyal to their former king. Spanish patriots conducted a campaign of **guerrilla warfare** against the French.

Challenges to Napoleon's Empire

War with Austria

Spanish resistance encouraged Austria to resume hostilities against the French.

Defeat in Russia

Nearly all of Napoleon's 400,000 troops sent on a campaign in Russia died, most from hunger and the cold of the Russian winter.

Downfall of Napoleon

1812—Napoleon's forces were defeated in Russia.

Russia, Britain, Austria, and Prussia form a new alliance against a weakened France.

1813—Napoleon was defeated in the Battle of Nations in Leipzig.

1814—Napoleon abdicated, or stepped down from power, and was exiled to Elba, an island in the Mediterranean Sea.

1815—Napoleon escaped his exile and returned to France.

Combined British and Prussian forces defeated Napoleon at Waterloo.

Napoleon was forced to abdicate again, and was this time exiled to St. Helena, an island in the South Atlantic.

1821—Napoleon died in exile.

Napoleon's Exile

Legacy of Napoleon

1. The Napoleonic Code consolidated many changes of the revolution.
2. Many more citizens had rights to property and access to education.
3. **Napoleon's conquests spread the ideas of the revolution and nationalism.**
4. The abolition of the Holy Roman Empire would eventually contribute to the creation of a new Germany.
5. **Napoleon's decision to sell France's Louisiana Territory to America doubled the size of the United States and ushered in an age of American expansion.**

Causes and Effects of the French Revolution

Long-Term Causes	Immediate Causes
Corrupt, inconsistent, and insensitive leadership (Absolute Monarchies) Prosperous members of Third Estate resent privileges of First and Second estates Spread of Enlightenment ideas	Huge government debt Poor harvests and rising price of bread Formation of National Assembly Storming of Bastille
Immediate Effects	**Long-Term Effects**
Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen adopted France adopts its first written constitution Monarchy abolished Revolutionary France fights coalition of European powers Reign of Terror	Napoleon gains power Napoleonic Code established French conquests spread nationalism Revolutions occur in Europe and Latin America

What were the goals of the Vienna Congress?

The chief goal of the Congress was to create a lasting peace by establishing a balance of power and protecting the system of monarchy.

To achieve this goal, the peacemakers did the following:

- They redrew the map of Europe. To contain French ambition, they ringed France with strong countries.

- They promoted the principle of **legitimacy,** restoring hereditary monarchies that the French Revolution or Napoleon had unseated.

- To protect the new order, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Great Britain extended their wartime alliance into the postwar era.

Europe after the Vienna Congress