

the russian revolution answer key

the russian revolution answer key provides a detailed understanding of one of the most significant political and social upheavals of the 20th century. This article explores the causes, key events, major figures, and lasting impacts of the Russian Revolution. By examining the historical context, ideological battles, and the sequence of revolutionary actions, readers will gain a comprehensive overview and essential facts that clarify this complex period in Russian history. The russian revolution answer key also addresses common questions and misconceptions, making it a valuable resource for students and history enthusiasts alike. The article is structured to guide readers through the background, the revolutions of 1917, and the subsequent establishment of Soviet power, ensuring a thorough grasp of the subject matter. Following the introduction, the table of contents will outline the main topics covered in this detailed exploration.

- Background and Causes of the Russian Revolution
- The February Revolution of 1917
- The October Revolution and Bolshevik Seizure of Power
- Key Figures of the Russian Revolution
- Consequences and Legacy of the Revolution

Background and Causes of the Russian Revolution

The russian revolution answer key begins with an examination of the deep-rooted causes that set the stage for the upheaval. The Russian Empire in the early 20th century was marked by widespread social inequality, political oppression, and economic backwardness. The autocratic rule of the Romanov dynasty, under Tsar Nicholas II, faced mounting criticism due to failure in modernizing the state and addressing the needs of the growing population.

Several factors contributed to the revolutionary climate:

- **Social Inequality:** A vast majority of Russians were peasants living in poverty, while the nobility and aristocracy enjoyed privileges.
- **Economic Struggles:** Industrial workers faced poor working conditions, low wages, and lack of political representation.
- **Political Repression:** The absence of democratic freedoms and the use of secret police to suppress dissent fueled resentment.

- **The Impact of World War I:** Military defeats and enormous casualties exacerbated public dissatisfaction and economic hardship.

The Role of Political Movements

Various political groups emerged in response to the oppressive regime, including liberals, socialists, and anarchists. The most influential among these were the Marxist groups, which sought to overthrow the monarchy and establish a worker-led government. The Russian Social Democratic Labour Party (RSDLP) split into the Bolsheviks and Mensheviks, representing differing strategies and ideologies for achieving revolution.

The February Revolution of 1917

The Russian Revolution answer key identifies the February Revolution as the first major phase of the 1917 upheaval. It began with mass protests and strikes in Petrograd (now Saint Petersburg) due to food shortages, military defeats, and general war fatigue. The unrest escalated quickly as soldiers joined the demonstrators, refusing to suppress the protests.

This led to the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II, ending centuries of Romanov rule and the Russian monarchy. A provisional government was established, consisting mainly of liberal and moderate socialist leaders, attempting to maintain order and continue Russia's involvement in World War I.

Impact of the Provisional Government

The Provisional Government faced significant challenges, including:

- Continuing war efforts despite widespread opposition.
- Failing to address land reform demands from peasants.
- Struggles to control radical political groups and maintain authority.

These shortcomings set the stage for further revolutionary activity later in the year.

The October Revolution and Bolshevik Seizure of Power

The Russian Revolution answer key highlights the October Revolution as the decisive moment when the Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin, overthrew the

Provisional Government. Capitalizing on public discontent with the ongoing war and economic instability, the Bolsheviks promised "peace, land, and bread" to the masses.

On October 25, 1917 (Julian calendar), Bolshevik forces seized key locations in Petrograd, including government buildings and communication centers. This relatively bloodless coup led to the establishment of a Soviet government, marking the beginning of communist rule in Russia.

Bolshevik Policies and Reforms

After taking power, the Bolsheviks implemented sweeping changes:

1. Withdrawal from World War I through the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk.
2. Redistribution of land to peasants.
3. Nationalization of banks, industry, and resources.
4. Establishment of a one-party state under the Communist Party.

These policies aimed to dismantle the old social order and create a socialist state, but also sparked civil war and internal conflict.

Key Figures of the Russian Revolution

The Russian Revolution answer key recognizes several influential individuals whose actions and leadership shaped the course of the revolution and its aftermath.

Vladimir Lenin

Lenin was the leader of the Bolshevik faction and the principal architect of the October Revolution. His theories on revolutionary socialism and his ability to mobilize the masses were critical to the Bolsheviks' success.

Leon Trotsky

Trotsky played a vital role as the organizer of the Red Army and a key strategist during the civil war that followed the revolution. His leadership helped secure Bolshevik control over Russia.

Tsar Nicholas II

The last emperor of Russia, whose abdication marked the end of imperial rule. His inability to address the crises facing Russia contributed to the collapse of the monarchy.

Alexander Kerensky

Leader of the Provisional Government, Kerensky struggled to balance war efforts with demands for reform, ultimately failing to maintain power during the October Revolution.

Consequences and Legacy of the Revolution

The Russian Revolution answer key concludes with an analysis of the revolution's profound and lasting effects on Russia and the world. The overthrow of the monarchy and the rise of communism transformed Russian society, politics, and economy.

The Russian Civil War between the Red (Bolshevik) and White (anti-Bolshevik) forces resulted in Bolshevik victory and the formation of the Soviet Union in 1922. The revolution inspired other communist movements worldwide and influenced global geopolitics throughout the 20th century.

Social and Political Changes

The revolution abolished the feudal class system, redistributed land, and sought to eliminate social inequalities. However, it also established a totalitarian regime characterized by centralized control, suppression of dissent, and extensive state propaganda.

Economic Transformation

The introduction of planned economy policies aimed at rapid industrialization and collectivization of agriculture. While these policies modernized the Soviet economy, they also caused significant hardship, including famine and political purges.

Frequently Asked Questions

What was the primary cause of the Russian

Revolution?

The primary cause of the Russian Revolution was widespread dissatisfaction with the autocratic rule of Tsar Nicholas II, exacerbated by economic hardship, military failures in World War I, and social inequality.

Who were the main leaders of the Russian Revolution?

The main leaders of the Russian Revolution were Vladimir Lenin, Leon Trotsky, and Joseph Stalin for the Bolsheviks, while Tsar Nicholas II represented the monarchy.

What were the two main phases of the Russian Revolution?

The two main phases were the February Revolution, which led to the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II and the establishment of a provisional government, and the October Revolution, in which the Bolsheviks seized power.

What role did the Bolsheviks play in the Russian Revolution?

The Bolsheviks, led by Lenin, played a crucial role by organizing workers and soldiers to overthrow the provisional government in the October Revolution and establish a communist state.

How did World War I impact the Russian Revolution?

World War I exacerbated economic and social problems in Russia, leading to food shortages, military defeats, and loss of public support for the Tsarist regime, which contributed directly to revolutionary unrest.

What was the outcome of the Russian Revolution?

The outcome was the overthrow of the Romanov dynasty, the end of the Russian Empire, and the establishment of the Soviet Union under Bolshevik control.

How did the Russian Revolution influence global politics?

The Russian Revolution inspired communist movements worldwide, led to the Cold War between the Soviet Union and Western powers, and significantly reshaped 20th-century global political dynamics.

Additional Resources

1. *Ten Days That Shook the World* by John Reed

This classic firsthand account of the Russian Revolution was written by American journalist John Reed. Reed offers a vivid, on-the-ground perspective of the October Revolution of 1917, capturing the passion and turmoil of the Bolsheviks' rise to power. The book is widely regarded as a seminal work for understanding the dynamics and key figures of the revolution.

2. *The Russian Revolution: A New History* by Sean McMeekin

McMeekin provides a fresh interpretation of the Russian Revolution, challenging traditional narratives. He explores the roles of foreign intervention, international politics, and the internal chaos that led to the collapse of the Russian Empire. This book offers a detailed analysis with a critical eye on the causes and consequences of 1917.

3. *A People's Tragedy: The Russian Revolution 1891–1924* by Orlando Figes

Orlando Figes presents a comprehensive and deeply researched account of the Russian Revolution and its aftermath. Covering the period from the late 19th century through the civil war, Figes delves into the social, political, and cultural upheavals that shaped the revolution. His narrative provides insight into the experiences of ordinary Russians as well as the political elite.

4. *The Russian Revolution, 1917* by Richard Pipes

Historian Richard Pipes offers a detailed and critical examination of the 1917 revolution. Pipes focuses on the ideological motivations and the failures of the Provisional Government, which paved the way for Bolshevik dominance. This book is known for its clear prose and scholarly rigor, making it a staple for students of Russian history.

5. *The Bolshevik Revolution 1917–1923* by E.H. Carr

This multi-volume series by E.H. Carr is a fundamental resource for understanding the Bolshevik Revolution and the early Soviet state. Carr draws on a wealth of archival sources to explore the political, social, and economic developments during and after the revolution. His sympathetic yet critical approach helps readers grasp the complexities of the period.

6. *Revolutionary Russia, 1891–1991: A History* by Orlando Figes

In this expansive work, Figes traces the entire revolutionary period and its long-term impact on Russia and the Soviet Union. The book contextualizes the 1917 revolution within a broader century of turmoil, reform, and repression. It is notable for its engaging narrative and thorough exploration of both political events and cultural change.

7. *The Russian Revolution: A Very Short Introduction* by S.A. Smith

This concise book by historian S.A. Smith offers a clear and accessible overview of the Russian Revolution. It covers the causes, main events, and key figures in a brief format suitable for newcomers to the subject. The book also discusses the revolution's legacy and its influence on global history.

8. *Red Fortress: The Secret Heart of the Soviet Union* by Catherine Merridale

Merridale's book focuses on the Kremlin as a symbol and center of Soviet power emerging from the revolution. Combining history and vivid storytelling, she reveals the political intrigue and daily life within this iconic fortress during the revolutionary and Soviet eras. The work adds a unique spatial perspective to the understanding of revolutionary Russia.

9. *The Whisperers: Private Life in Stalin's Russia* by Orlando Figes

While focusing on the Stalinist period, this book by Figes provides essential context for the aftermath of the revolution. It explores how ordinary Soviet citizens lived under the shadow of political repression that grew out of revolutionary upheaval. The personal testimonies and archival research illuminate the human cost of the revolutionary legacy.

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The Russian Revolution Answer Key

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The Russian Revolution Answer Key: Unraveling the Events that Shaped the 20th Century

The Russian Revolution, a pivotal event in the 20th century, irrevocably altered the course of global history. Understanding its complexities is crucial to comprehending the geopolitical landscape we inhabit today. This in-depth analysis delves into the causes, consequences, and enduring legacy of this tumultuous period, providing a comprehensive "answer key" to its multifaceted nature.

Introduction: Setting the Stage for Revolution (H2)

The seeds of the Russian Revolution were sown long before the events of 1917. Decades of autocratic rule under the Tsarist regime, coupled with widespread social and economic inequalities, created a volatile atmosphere ripe for upheaval. Serfdom, abolished in 1861, left a legacy of rural poverty and land inequality. Rapid industrialization, while boosting economic growth in some sectors, also created a large, impoverished urban proletariat increasingly susceptible to revolutionary ideologies. The disastrous Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905) exposed the weaknesses of the Tsarist army and fueled public discontent, leading to the 1905 Revolution, a precursor to the events of 1917. This initial uprising, though ultimately unsuccessful in overthrowing the Tsar, forced concessions, including the creation of a Duma (parliament), demonstrating the growing power of revolutionary movements. The continued oppression and lack of meaningful reform, however, ensured that the underlying tensions remained, setting the stage for the more decisive revolutions to come. This section examines the key social, economic, and political factors that contributed to the escalating crisis within Tsarist Russia. We'll analyze the impact of figures like Sergei Witte, whose industrialization policies inadvertently created a large, discontented working class, and the growing influence of various revolutionary groups, including the Mensheviks and Bolsheviks. Understanding this historical context is fundamental to grasping the events that unfolded in 1917.

Chapter 1: Tsarist Russia: A System on the Brink (H2)

This chapter provides a detailed examination of Tsarist Russia's internal vulnerabilities. It explores the rigid social hierarchy, the autocratic nature of the Tsar's rule, and the pervasive corruption within the government. The vast inequalities between the aristocracy, the burgeoning middle class, and the peasantry are analyzed, demonstrating the growing resentment towards the ruling elite. We'll examine the role of the Orthodox Church in maintaining the Tsar's authority and the limitations placed on freedom of speech and assembly. The economic struggles of the peasantry and the harsh conditions faced by industrial workers are highlighted, demonstrating the widespread dissatisfaction that fueled revolutionary sentiment. The chapter also addresses the Tsar's failures in addressing the country's problems, emphasizing his inability to adapt to changing times and his reliance on outdated and repressive methods of governance. This section focuses on demonstrating the systemic weaknesses of the Tsarist regime, painting a clear picture of why revolution was ultimately inevitable. Key figures such as Tsar Nicholas II and his advisor Rasputin will be examined in detail, along with the limitations of the Duma and the effectiveness (or lack thereof) of various attempts at reform.

Chapter 2: The February Revolution: The Fall of the Tsar (H2)

The February Revolution (March in the Gregorian calendar), while initially spontaneous, was the culmination of years of simmering discontent. This chapter meticulously examines the events leading to the Tsar's abdication. We analyze the role of food shortages, widespread strikes, and the growing

influence of revolutionary propaganda in destabilizing the regime. The actions of the Petrograd Soviet, a council of workers' and soldiers' deputies, will be explored in detail, highlighting its crucial role in coordinating the uprising and challenging the authority of the Provisional Government. The chapter will also address the surprising lack of significant resistance from the Tsarist army, a key factor in the revolution's success. The complex dynamics between the Provisional Government, formed after the Tsar's abdication, and the Petrograd Soviet will be examined, showing the inherent instability of the new political landscape. The chapter concludes by examining the immediate aftermath of the February Revolution, setting the stage for the October Revolution. Specific events, dates, and key players will be discussed, providing a clear chronological narrative of the revolution's early stages.

Chapter 3: The October Revolution: The Bolshevik Seizure of Power (H2)

This chapter focuses on the Bolsheviks' successful coup d'état, led by Vladimir Lenin. It examines Lenin's return to Russia and his implementation of his revolutionary strategy. The Bolshevik's promise of "Peace, Land, and Bread" will be analyzed as a key factor in gaining popular support. The chapter will also delve into the October Revolution itself, detailing the key events and strategic decisions that led to the Bolshevik takeover of key government buildings and institutions in Petrograd. The relatively bloodless nature of the coup will be examined, contrasting it with the violence that characterized other revolutionary movements. This section will explore the debates within the Bolshevik party, highlighting the internal struggles and disagreements that shaped their strategy. The chapter will conclude by analyzing the initial response to the Bolshevik seizure of power, setting the stage for the Russian Civil War. The significance of the October Revolution in establishing the world's first communist state will be emphasized.

Chapter 4: The Russian Civil War: A Nation Divided (H2)

The October Revolution triggered a brutal and protracted civil war. This chapter explores the conflict between the Bolsheviks (Reds) and their opponents (Whites), a diverse coalition of anti-Bolshevik forces. The chapter will dissect the different factions involved in the conflict, their ideologies, and their strategic goals. We will examine the key battles and military campaigns, analyzing the military strategies employed by both sides. The widespread famine and violence that characterized the civil war will be addressed, highlighting the devastating human cost of the conflict. The role of foreign intervention, primarily by Allied powers fearful of Bolshevik expansion, will be explored in detail. This section analyzes how the civil war shaped the political landscape of the newly formed Soviet Union, consolidating Bolshevik power and establishing a totalitarian regime. Key figures like Leon Trotsky and their contributions (or failures) to the conflict will be highlighted.

Chapter 5: The Rise of Stalin and the Consolidation of Power (H2)

Following the conclusion of the civil war, Joseph Stalin gradually consolidated his power, establishing a totalitarian regime. This chapter examines Stalin's rise to power, exploring his strategic alliances and ruthless elimination of political rivals. The chapter will analyze the methods Stalin employed to maintain his grip on power, including the use of propaganda, secret police (NKVD), and the suppression of dissent. The implementation of collectivization and its devastating consequences on the peasantry will be discussed. The Great Purge, a period of widespread repression and execution of political opponents, will be examined in detail. This section explores the creation of a cult of personality around Stalin and the transformation of Soviet society under his rule. The chapter will emphasize the human cost of Stalin's totalitarian regime and its long-lasting impact on Russia and the world.

Chapter 6: The Legacy of the Russian Revolution: Global Impact and Lasting Consequences (H2)

This chapter examines the long-term consequences of the Russian Revolution, both within Russia and globally. The establishment of the Soviet Union and its impact on the geopolitical landscape of the 20th century will be explored. The spread of communist ideology and the rise of communist parties across the globe will be analyzed. The chapter will also address the revolution's influence on subsequent revolutionary movements and the ongoing debates about its significance. The revolution's impact on art, literature, and culture will be examined, showcasing its enduring legacy in various spheres of life. The lasting effects of the revolution on Russia's economy, social structure, and political system will be evaluated. The chapter concludes by providing a balanced assessment of the revolution's successes and failures, acknowledging both its positive and negative contributions to history.

Conclusion: Understanding the Enduring Significance (H2)

The Russian Revolution remains one of history's most significant turning points. Its lasting impact continues to shape global politics and ideologies. This concluding section summarizes the key takeaways from the preceding chapters, reiterating the revolution's multifaceted nature and its enduring relevance. It emphasizes the importance of understanding its complexities to fully grasp the 20th and 21st-century world.

FAQs

1. What were the main causes of the Russian Revolution? A combination of factors, including Tsarist autocracy, social inequality, economic hardship, and the disastrous Russo-Japanese War, fueled revolutionary sentiment.
2. What was the difference between the February and October Revolutions? The February Revolution overthrew the Tsar, while the October Revolution saw the Bolsheviks seize power from the Provisional Government.
3. Who were the key players in the Russian Revolution? Key figures include Tsar Nicholas II, Vladimir Lenin, Leon Trotsky, Joseph Stalin, and Grigori Rasputin.
4. What was the impact of World War I on the Russian Revolution? WWI exacerbated existing problems in Russia, weakening the Tsarist regime and fueling popular discontent.
5. What was the Russian Civil War? A brutal conflict between the Bolsheviks (Reds) and their opponents (Whites) following the October Revolution.
6. What was collectivization? Stalin's policy of forcibly collectivizing agriculture, resulting in widespread famine and death.
7. What was the Great Purge? A period of widespread repression and execution of political opponents under Stalin's rule.
8. What was the legacy of the Russian Revolution? The establishment of the world's first communist state, the spread of communist ideology, and lasting impacts on global politics and culture.
9. How did the Russian Revolution impact the 20th century? It fundamentally reshaped the global political landscape, leading to the Cold War and influencing numerous other revolutionary movements.

Related Articles

1. Lenin's Rise to Power: An in-depth examination of Lenin's political maneuvering and strategies that led to the Bolshevik seizure of power.
2. The Role of Propaganda in the Russian Revolution: Analysis of how propaganda was used by both sides to gain popular support and influence public opinion.
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together in a mass movement, organized democratic assemblies, mobilized for militant action, and overturned a vast regime of landlords, profiteers, and warmongers. Faulkner rejects caricatures of Lenin and the Bolsheviks as authoritarian conspirators or the progenitors of Stalinist dictatorship, and forcefully argues that the Russian Revolution was an explosion of democracy and creativity--and that it was crushed by bloody counter-revolution and replaced with a form of bureaucratic state-capitalism. Grounded by powerful first-hand testimony, this history marks the centenary of the Revolution by restoring the democratic essence of the revolution, offering a perfect primer for the modern reader.

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native Deep South; to suffragette leader Emmeline Pankhurst, who had come to Petrograd to inspect the indomitable Women's Death Battalion led by Maria Bochkareva. Drawing upon a rich trove of material and through eye-witness accounts left by foreign nationals who saw the drama unfold, Helen Rappaport takes us right up to the action – to see, feel and hear the Revolution as it happened.

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the russian revolution answer key: Russia in Revolution Stephen Anthony Smith, 2017 Russia in Revolution gives a full account of the Russian empire from the last years of the nineteenth century, through revolution and civil war, to the brutal collectivization and crash industrialization under Stalin in the late 1920s

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Revolution has prompted scholars to review and reassess our understanding of what happened in 1905. Recent opportunities to access archives throughout the former Soviet Union are yielding new provincial perspectives, as well as fresh insights into the roles of national and religious minorities, and the parts played by individuals, social groups, political parties and institutions. This text brings together some of the best of this new research and reassessment, and includes thirteen chapters written by leading historians from around the world, together with an introduction from Abraham Ascher.

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and Robinson's breakthrough ideas on the interplay between inclusive political and economic institutions? Why Nations Fail will change the way you look at—and understand—the world.

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the russian revolution answer key: *The French Revolution* Peter McPhee, 2017-03-13 On 14 July 1789 thousands of Parisians seized the Bastille fortress in Paris. This was the most famous episode of the Revolution of 1789, when huge numbers of French people across the kingdom successfully rebelled against absolute monarchy and the privileges of the nobility. But the subsequent struggle over what social and political system should replace the 'Old Rgime' was to divide French people and finally the whole of Europe. The French Revolution is one of the great turning-points in history. It continues to fascinate us, to inspire us, at times to horrify us. Never before had the people of a large and populous country sought to remake their society on the basis of the principles of liberty and equality. The drama, success and tragedy of their project have attracted students to it for more than two centuries. Its importance and fascination for us are undiminished as we try to understand revolutions in our own times. There are three key questions the book investigates. First, why was there a revolution in 1789? Second, why did the revolution continue after 1789, culminating in civil war, foreign invasion and terror? Third, what was the significance of the revolution? Was the French Revolution a major turning-point in French, even world history, or instead just a protracted period of violent upheaval and warfare which wrecked millions of lives? This new edition of *The French Revolution* contains revised text and new photographs. This edition includes video footage of Peter McPhee's interviews with Professor Ian Germani, University of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, on the role of military discipline in the French Revolutionary Wars; Dr Marisa Linton, Kingston University in London, about her book, *Choosing Terror: Virtue, Friendship and Authenticity in the French Revolution*, a major study of the politics of Jacobinism; and Professor Timothy Tackett, University of California, Irvine, on the origins of terror in the French Revolution.

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Times-bestselling author of *The Lincoln Highway* and *Rules of Civility*, a beautifully transporting novel about a man who is ordered to spend the rest of his life inside a luxury hotel 'A wonderful book' - Tana French 'This novel is astonishing, uplifting and wise. Don't miss it' - Chris Cleave 'No historical novel this year was more witty, insightful or original' - Sunday Times, Books of the Year '[A] supremely uplifting novel ... It's elegant, witty and delightful - much like the Count himself.' - Mail on Sunday, Books of the Year 'Charming ... shows that not all books about Russian aristocrats have to be full of doom and nihilism' - The Times, Books of the Year On 21 June 1922, Count Alexander Rostov - recipient of the Order of Saint Andrew, member of the Jockey Club, Master of the Hunt - is escorted out of the Kremlin, across Red Square and through the elegant revolving doors of the Hotel Metropol. Deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, the Count has been sentenced to house arrest indefinitely. But instead of his usual suite, he must now live in an attic room while Russia undergoes decades of tumultuous upheaval. Can a life without luxury be the richest of all? A BOOK OF THE DECADE, 2010-2020 (INDEPENDENT) THE TIMES BOOK OF THE YEAR 2017 A SUNDAY TIMES BOOK OF THE YEAR 2017 A MAIL ON SUNDAY BOOK OF THE YEAR 2017 A DAILY EXPRESS BOOK OF THE YEAR 2017 AN IRISH TIMES BOOK OF THE YEAR 2017 ONE OF BARACK OBAMA'S BEST BOOKS OF 2017 ONE OF BILL GATES'S SUMMER READS OF 2019 NOMINATED FOR THE 2018 INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLERS WEEK AWARD

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the russian revolution answer key: The State and Revolution Vladimir Il'ich Lenin, 1919

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