

Lesson 2

Totalitarianism



ПОД ВОДИТЕЛЬСТВОМ ВЕЛИКОГО СТАЛИНА—ВПЕРЕД К КОММУНИЗМУ!

A Government of Total Control

- The term **totalitarianism** describes a government that takes total, centralized, state control over every aspect of public and private life.
- To dominate an entire nation, totalitarian leaders devised methods of control and persuasion. These included the use of terror, indoctrination, propaganda, censorship, and religious or ethnic persecution.
- Read *Propaganda* pg. 458 – 459.

Totalitarian methods

- **Police Terror:** Dictators use police for terror and violence in order to force obedience and to crush any opposition.
- **Indoctrination:** To mold people's minds the control of education is essential to glorify the leader and his policies. Indoctrination begins with very young children (youth groups) in schools.
- **Propaganda and Censorship:** Totalitarian states spread propaganda, biased or incomplete information used to sway people to accept certain actions or beliefs. All mass media is controlled by the government. No publication, art, film, or music is allowed to exist without the permission of the state.
- **Religious or Ethnic Persecution:** Leaders create “**enemies of the state**” to blame for things that go wrong. These “enemies” are members of religious or ethnic groups.

Stalin Builds a Totalitarian State

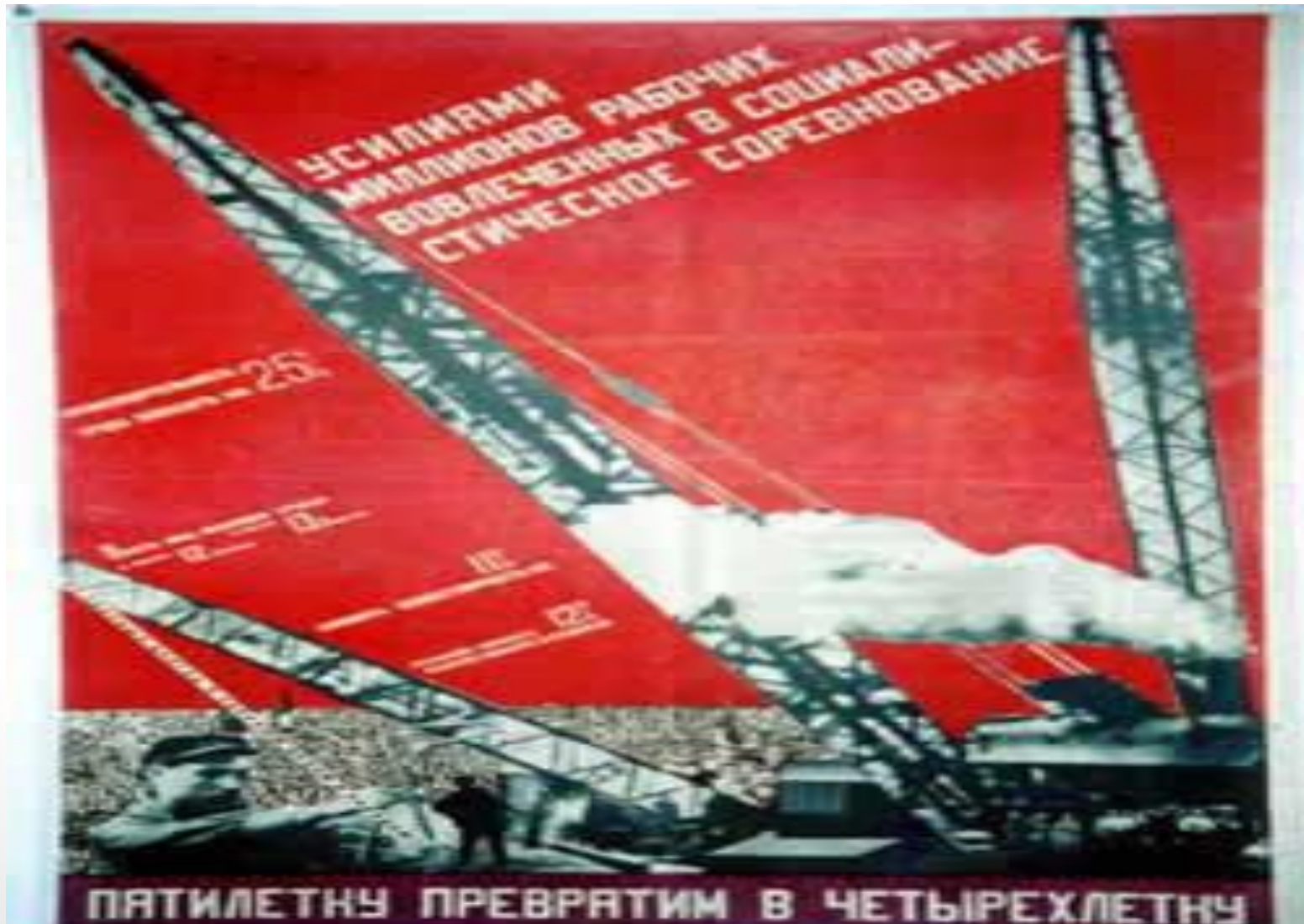
- After the death of **Vladimir Lenin** in 1924, **Joseph Stalin** turned the Soviet Union into a **totalitarian state** controlled by a powerful and complex bureaucracy.
- In the years to come Stalin would use ruthless measures to control the Soviet Union & its people.



Stalin's Five-Year Plans

- Stalin imposed government control over the Soviet Union's economy when he proposed the first of several **"five-year plans"** aimed at building heavy industry, improving transportation, and increasing farm output.
- The government owned all businesses and distributed all resources.
- The Soviet Union developed a **command economy**, in which government officials made all basic economic decisions.
- Between 1928 and 1939, large factories, hydroelectric power stations, and huge industrial complexes rose across the Soviet Union.
- Oil, coal, and steel production grew. Mining expanded and new railroads were built.
- Despite the progress, Soviet workers had very little to show for their efforts.

***“We will Turn the Five Year Plan
into a Four Year One”***



Forced Collectivization in Agriculture

- Stalin also brought agriculture under government control.
- Stalin wanted all peasants to farm on either state-owned farms or **collectives**, large farms owned and operated by peasants as a group.
- On collectives, the government would provide tractors, fertilizers, and better seed, and peasants would learn modern farm methods.
- Peasants would be permitted to keep their houses and personal belongings, but all farm animals and implements were to be turned over to the collective.
- The state set all prices and controlled access to farm supplies.

Peasants Resist Collectives

- Some peasants did not want to give up their land and sell their crops at the state's low prices.
- Peasants resisted collectives by killing farm animals, destroying tools, and burning crops.
- Stalin believed the **kulaks**, or wealthy farmers were behind the resistance and he responded with brutal force
- Stalin wanted to destroy or “liquidate the kulaks as a class” by confiscating their land and sending them to labor camps. Thousands were killed or died from overwork.
- Even after “**de-kulakization**,” angry peasants resisted by growing just enough food to feed themselves.
- In response, the government seized all of their grain, leaving the peasant to starve.
- In 1932, this ruthless policy led to a terrible famine, later called the **Terror Famine**, causing between 5 and 8 million people to die of starvation.

Terror Famine



Stalin's Terror Tactics

- Stalin's Communist Party used secret police, torture, and violent purges to ensure obedience.

Terror as a Weapon	The Great Purge	Results of the Purge
<ul style="list-style-type: none">>Stalin violated his people's individual rights.>Police spies opened private letters and planted listening devices.>There was no free press, and no safe method of voicing protest.>Critics were sent to the Gulag, a system of brutal labor camps, where many died.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">>Stalin feared rival party leaders were plotting against him.>He launched the Great Purge in 1934, where his secret police cracked down on Old Bolsheviks, army heroes, writers, industrial managers.>They were charged with a wide range of crimes and tortured into confessing to bogus crimes.>Over 4 million were sent to the Gulag.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">>The purges increased Stalin's power.>Among those purged were experts in industry, economics, and engineering, and talented writers and thinkers.>Most of the nation's military leaders and half of its military officers were purged.>The weakened military would pay a price in 1941 when Germany invades.

Gulag Labor Camp



#3a Stalin's Totalitarian State

- As you read this lesson, fill in the diagram with key characteristics of Stalinist Russia. Pg. 454-463

Industrial Policies	Agricultural Policies	Art/Religion
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.

#3b

- As you read this lesson, fill in the diagram with key characteristics of Stalinist Russia. Pg. 454-463

Education	Control Methods	Propaganda Methods
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.

Soviet Propaganda

“People and Army are One”

