

VOCABULARY

Revolution (revolución). Dramatic change that often includes the fall of a government or the transformation of a social and economic order.

New regime (nuevo régimen). Social and political order which replaced the Ancien Régime.

Constitutional monarchy (monarquía constitucional). Form of government in which a constitution limits the power of a monarch.

Republic (república). State without a monarch, in which power is held by the people.

Estates General (Estados Generales). Meeting of representatives of the three estates in France.

Assembly (asamblea). Group of people chosen to make laws or decisions.

Feudal rights (privilegios feudales). Privileges possessed by the nobility and clergy, such as exemption from certain taxes.

Guillotine (guillotina). Instrument used to execute people; introduced in 1792, strongly associated with the French Revolution.

Tennis Court Oath (Juramento de la sala de la pelota). This was a pledge that the members of the National Assembly signed after being locked out of the palace. It was meant to pledge that they'd help get equality. Vowed to continue meeting until they had drawn up a new constitution.

Bastille. A fortress in Paris built in the 14th century and used in the 17th-18th centuries as a state prison.

Louis XVI. King during French Revolution, he called the Estates general together.

Declaration of the Rights of Men (Declaración de derechos del hombre y del ciudadano). Document created in 1789 stating all men are equal before the law, today it is the French Constitution.

Estate (estamentos)

- 1st Estate (The Clergy)- Not required to pay taxes, considered highest on the social ladder, possessed an enormous amount of power.
- 2nd Estate (Nobles)- the richest of the nobility held top jobs in government, army, courts. Not required to pay taxes
- 3rd Estate- 98% of the population. Many different groups of people
 - Top-BOURGEOISIE: middle class-bankers-merchants-lawyers-doctors-journalists-professors
 - Middle-PEASANTS: Overworked and underpaid objected the most to the living conditions & politics in France became known as the sans culottes because of the way they dressed and their support for the French Revolution. REQUIRED TO PAY TAXES.