

GRADE 10 HISTORY 2

THE COURSE OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

THE SUMMONING OF THE STATES GENERAL

- France by 1789 was virtually bankrupt* (no money in the states coffers)
- King desperate to find funds .. unable to take foreign loans...cannot repay loans or the interest.
- King forced to call the States General (French Parliament) for assistance
- This body was not called for a sitting in a hundred years
- The king asked the states general in assisting with finance for France
- The THIRD ESTATE refused to help unless they were all vote in ONE Chamber.
- All THREE to date voted in separate chambers which meant that the third Estate (peasants) were always out by 2:1 in all decisions.
- The king REFUSED to accede to the demand of the third estate
- The next day the third estate returned to the chambers ONLY to find it locked

THE TENNIS COURT OATH

- The third estate decided to adjourn to a nearby Tennis Court under the leadership of Mirabeau.
- The people then decided to take action against and force reform
- Oath taken not to disband until France was given a new constitution
- This now marks a shift in attitude of the masses

THE STORMING OF THE BASTILLE

- The Bastille was always seen as a symbol of oppression
Since all prisoners...letter de cachet and others were imprisoned here
- The Paris mob decided to storm the Bastille
- Reasons: The King was mobilising his troops
Starvation in the cities
Unemployment
Agitators/activists
- The mob armed with crude weapons such as sticks, forks and spades attacked the Bastille
- Only 7 people were found in the Bastille ..one was a mad man
- Importance of the storming:: It was a MORAL victory for the people

- Its was not a military victory . It encouraged the mob to take the fight
- * It encouraged the mob to take the fight King and the privileged classes
- * Church personal (abbots, Bishops) were attacked and killed
- * Led to the EMIGRES (Nobles who fled from France and the wrath of the Mob)

THE MARCH TO VERSAILLES

- Women and children decided to march to the palace at Versailles
- Heard that the Queen Antoinette (called Madam Defecit because her Action caused some of France's economic problems or That Austrian Women because was not a French women)
- The Queen held a huge party for the nobles
- The women asked the queen for bread... she replied "give them cake"
- Queen out of touch with her people...made then angry
- Women attacked the Royal family... saved by Lafeyettee and the National Guard.
- Royal family captured and brought back to Paris and imprisoned at
- Tuileres the old palace

The king and queen disguised aas servant and Noble escaped but were caught
And brought back to Paris and guillotinedend of the revolution

TASK FOR COMPLETION (ESSAY),

The summoning of the States General marked the beginning of the French Revolution

Substantiate the above claim

(This means that you have to write an essay stating why you agree with the statement)

