



How did the Bolsheviks establish a single party state in Russia between 1917 and 1924?



BOLSHEVIK POLICY

First Soviet Constitution

- Feb 1918: Church and state separated
- April 1918: Nationalized banks, mineral resources, industrial concerns, foreign trade
- Classless society

Treaty of Brest-Litovsk

- Decree on Peace
 - Lenin gave away land to Germany
- Decree on Land
 - Abolished all land ownership

War Communism

- Strict centralized control of all forms of economic production and distribution
- Prevented private trade
- Mass printing of bank notes → destruction of money economy



“Peace,
Bread,
Land”
- what
happened?

POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE

1. Consolidate and Extend

- Authority of Administration with people of leadership qualities
 - Lenin (Chairman)
 - Alexei Rykov (Comm. of Interior)
 - Leon Trotsky (Comm. for Foreign Affairs)

2. Eliminate Opposition

- Overcame armed resistance in Moscow, Kiev, Kazan, Smolensk
- Forcefully dispersed opposition of *Social Revolutionaries* at the election of the Constituent Assembly, Petrograd
- Secret Police – *Cheka*
- Disregarded election results
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THE POWER OF LENIN

Social Perspective: Propaganda and its Effects

Lenin

- *Persuasive orator*
- *Political scientist*, creating a pragmatic Russian application of Marxism
- People *trusted* him, turned peasants against the White Army
- Dismembered the Bourgeoisie before creating a Proletarian state!

Propaganda

“Abolition of the police, the army, and the bureaucracy”

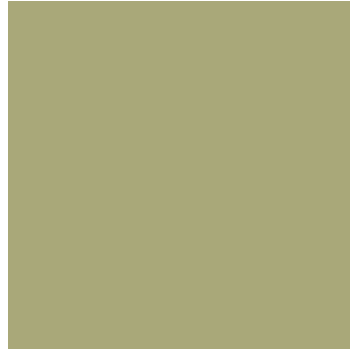
“The salaries of all officials are not to exceed the average wage of a competent worker”

Attention grabbing, gained support from the people

Methods

- Suppression of newspaper
- Banning Kadets
 - Mass arrest
- Suppressed literature/art
 - Lenin believed that these could be exploited for political purposes
- Control over publishing, libraries, bookstores
- Banning religion
- History revised





+ Economic Perspective

- Prevent capitalism by controlling banks, food trade, and industry
- Bolsheviks gained economic advantage over the Whites from the grants they received from Germany in return for disrupting Russian war efforts
- *New Economic Policy* declared that peasants are eligible to sell SURPLUS in a free market once the quota was met
- April thesis (1917)
 - “Bolsheviks will eventually gain economic advantage”
 - Shift of agrarian program to the Soviets of Agricultural Laborers Deputies
 - Union of a single national bank
 - Socialization of economy