

Revolutions of 1820

Monday, January 30, 2006
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While conservatives dominated, still not completely non-liberal
trying to regain power in 1820's
Liberalism tried, kept falling

German States (1819)

- German Confederation established by Congress of Vienna
 - much smaller than Confederation of the Rhine
- Burschenschaften
 - student clubs, in universities, political organizations
 - tended to be very liberal
 - **wanted German unity**
 - Conservatives opposed (Nationalism)
- **Metternich issued Carlsbad Decrees**
 - weakened Burschenschaften
 - imposed censorship (~~free thought~~)
 - dissolved organizations
 - fired liberal instructors
- Germany firmly in hands of Conservatives

Spain (1820)

- King Ferdinand returned to throne after C. of V.
 - **conservative**
 - did many conservative things
 - army officers revolted v. Ferdinand
 - led to public revolts
 - Revolts vs. Spanish rule in Latin Amer.
- Liberals tried in Spain
 - Metternich and Congress system horrified
 - Congress System- any liberalism, act together, get rid
- Congress of Verona (where met) empowered France to put down revolt
 - Liberals wiped out, success for conservatives

Italian States (1820)

- Carbonari= Liberals (carbon burners)
 - led revolts in Naples and Sicily
- Congress of Tropeau empowered Austria to put down Revolts
 - **every time liberalism became visible, held congress, put down**

Russia (1825) Decembrist Revolt

- Death of Alexander I
 - crown passed to Nicholas I (very conservative)
 - upset Liberals
- Liberal Army officers supported Constantine (Nicholas brother)

- felt they could push Constantine around, get their way
- revolt put down
 - killed all involved in Decembrist Revolt

Greece

- **Only successful revolt of 1820's (part of Ottoman Empire)**
- Greek rebels vs. Turkish rule
 - wanted independence
- Conservatives in trouble
 - Concert of Europe divided
 - didn't like Turks
 - Savages, infidels, uncivilized
 - didn't approve rebellion against government, too liberal
- Revolt led by Alexander Ypsilantis
 - founded *Society of Friends* (liberal nationalists)
- **Congress condemned insurrection at first, but later supported**
- Greek cause popular internationally
 - Romantic artists supported Greek independence
- Turks **defeated** at Battle of Navarino by **international forces**
 - **Greek Independence (1821)**
- Congress system shattered
 - unsuccessful, ridiculed, foolish
- Massacre at Chios- Eugene Delacroix
 - interested in exotic subjects
 - vivid colors, strong emotion
 - pictured Turks massacring Greeks, hearts of Europeans went out to Greek cause, emotion stirred

Revolutions of 1830

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- **Louis XVIII**
 - Brother of previous king
 - After Napoleon's death
 - Very old
 - Very cautious
 - Signed charter
 - Constitutional monarch
 - 2 house legislature
 - Freedom of press, religion
 - Code Napoleon
 - Napoleon's Concordat
 - Conservative

- **Charles X**
 - 1824-1830
 - King of France after Louis XVIII
 - Brother of Louis XVIII
 - More conservative
 - Censorship
 - Church control education
 - Give land back to the nobles
 - **July Ordinances**
 - Disenfranchised 3/4 of the voters
 - Censorship
 - More conservative legislature
 - Led to July Revolution

- **July Revolution of 1830**
 - Public outbreak
 - Fighting in the streets
 - Charles X scared and left
 - Louis Philippe became ruler

- **Louis Philippe**
 - Not an immediate relative
 - **"July Monarch"**
 - Businessman king
 - Wore a business suit, carried an umbrella
 - Accepted charter
 - Relatively liberal
 - Double the vote

- Opposition
 - Republicans (no king at all)
 - UMS supporters
 - The poor
- Victory for the liberals
 - "Dike and the flood"
 - France = dike
 - Flood = liberals in other nations
- **Liberal Revolts of the 1830s**
 - Other nations took France's example
 - Belgium
 - In Netherlands
 - Belgians vs. Dutch (language, religion, wealth)
 - Belgium independent in 1830
 - Switzerland
 - States = cantons
 - Liberal cantons vs. Conservative cantons
 - Liberals won (1845)
 - Semi-successful
 - Poland
 - Independence from Russia
 - Nationalistic
 - Led by tiny middle class (thinking that French and British would help them)
 - Failed
 - Russia crushed them
 - Italy
 - Northern Italy
 - Mazzini
 - Nationalist
 - To Unify Italy
 - Inspiration for liberals
 - Young Italy (youth organization)
 - Italy vs. Austrians
 - Failed
 - Spain and Germany
 - Failed

Crisis and Compromise in England

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

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- **England able to avoid revolution in the 19th century**
 - No real revolution
 - Signs of dissatisfaction
 - Slight popular unrest
 - Grain riots
 - Bad harvest
 - High prices
 - Working class unrest
 - Demanding rights
 - Luddites = working class who destroyed machines
 - Old fashioned political system

- **Peterloo Massacre**
 - 1819
 - Mass meeting at St. Peter's Fields (near Manchester)
 - 50,000 in attendance
 - Liberal demonstrations
 - Freedom of assembly
 - Got out of control
 - Police fire on demonstrators
 - Arrest and violence
 - 11 killed
 - Hundreds were wounded
 - Massacre of the poor
 - As bad as it got

- **Responses to Peterloo Massacre**
 - Six Acts
 - Repressive
 - Banned demonstrations
 - Suspended habeas corpus
 - Restricted press
 - Government willing to compromise
 - Fear of violence and civil war
 - Ease political pension
 - Slow and steady
 - Reforms led to idea of *liberal consensus*
 - Government should make reforms to help the people
 - Victorian England

- **Early Reforms**

- **Repealed Test and Corporation acts**
 - 1828
 - No longer required public office holders to be Anglican
- **Catholic Emancipation Act**
 - 1829
 - Removed legal restrictions on Catholics
- **Demand for electoral reform**
 - Unequal electoral districts
 - Rotten boroughs
 - Old voting districts
 - Very little population but representation
 - Industrial cities
 - High population but no representatives
 - Pocket boroughs
 - "rigged"
 - One person controlled borough
 - Limited franchise
 - 1 out of 15 adult males voted
- **Reform Bill of 1832**
 - Vote to more people
 - Extended franchise
 - Doubled the size of electorate
 - 1 out of 5 adult males could vote
 - Far from democratic
 - Significance
 - Turning point in history of modern Britain
 - Led to development of broader political parties
- **Other reforms**
 - Abolished slavery
 - **Factory Acts**
 - First in 1833
 - *Child labor*
 - Problem: no means of enforcement (inspectors)
 - **Poor Law**
 - Public assistance ended
 - Poor houses
 - **Municipal Corporations Act**
 - City government more uniform
- **Repeal of Corn Laws**
 - **Corn Laws**
 - Tariffs on all imported grains
 - Only helped landowners/farmers

- Kept cheap foreign grain out of British markets
- Hurt the poor
 - Mostly urban poor (had to buy food)
- Hurt businessmen
 - Had to pay higher salaries to workers
- Pressure to repeal corn laws
 - Bad harvests 1839-1841
 - Potato famine / *Great Hunger* in Ireland 1845
 - Expanding population
 - **Anti-Corn Law League** (1839)
 - Pressure group
 - Middle class
 - Laissez-faire
 - John Bright: repeal of Corn Laws = step toward democracy
- PM Robert Peel
 - Feared open revolt
 - Knew he would fall from power
 - Supported repeal
- 1846 Repeal of Corn Laws
- Significance
 - Government willing to *compromise* to avoid revolution

- Chartists

- 19th century British liberals who wanted political reform
- **People's Charter**
 - Petition
 - Signed by millions
 - *Liberal reforms*
 - Annual elections
 - Electoral districts
 - Secret ballot
 - UMS
 - Salaries for MPs
 - 1839 and 1842
 - Rejected
 - Significance
 - Peaceful reform
 - Use of parliamentary process
 - Largest working class political movement (closest thing to socialism)
 - Eventually all passed except annual elections