Useful Information #9
From NEP to Stalinism
The USSR from 1921 to 1939

Terms and People:

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<th>Kronstadt</th>
<th>NEP</th>
<th>kulaks</th>
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<td>USSR</td>
<td>korenizatsiia (indigenization)</td>
<td>socialism in one country</td>
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<td>Nikolai Bukharin</td>
<td>Joseph Stalin</td>
<td>Leon Trotsky</td>
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<td>Stalin Revolution</td>
<td>&quot;Great Retreat&quot;</td>
<td>soft line on culture</td>
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<td>Cultural Revolution</td>
<td>&quot;bourgeois experts&quot;</td>
<td>Shakhtry trial</td>
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<td>Magnitogorsk</td>
<td>Dneprstroi</td>
<td>Mikhail Tomskii</td>
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<td>Nikolai Bukharin</td>
<td>Aleksei Rykov</td>
<td>&quot;Right Opposition&quot;</td>
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<td>Stakhanovite movement</td>
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<td>Kolkhoz</td>
<td>&quot;Dizzy with Success&quot; article</td>
<td>Cheka</td>
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<td>GPU / OGPU / NKVD</td>
<td>Sergei Kirov</td>
<td>Nikolai Ezhov</td>
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<td>Great Terror (Ezhovshchina)</td>
<td>&quot;show trials&quot;</td>
<td>Gulag</td>
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Important moments (1917-39)

1917
Dec
Finland & Lithuania declare independence from Russian empire

1918 Jan-Feb
Latvia & Estonia proclaim independence
March
Bolsheviks sign peace treaty with Germans at Brest-Litovsk
May
Recently formed Transcaucasion Federation dissolves
Georgians declare independence with German encouragement
Azerbaijan & Armenia declare independence more or less by default
Nov
End of World War I; Bolsheviks repudiate treaty of Brest-Litovsk

1919 Feb
Signing of Soviet-Bashkir agreement (to make Bashkir Autonomous Republic)

1920 April
Outbreak of Soviet-Polish War
May
Establishment of Tatar Socialist Soviet Republic (within RSFSR)
Begins the process of creation of many autonomous regions (1920-22)

1921 March
Treaty of Riga ends Russo-Polish war
Revolt of sailors at Kronstadt fortress against communist rule
Passing of resolution against factions within Communist Party
Introduction of New Economic Policy
summer
Famine begins to spread in Russia, lasting until 1922

1922 March
Lenin suffers first stroke
Stalin becomes General Secretary of the Communist Party
1923  March  Lenin suffers another stroke, removing him from political life
        July  Formation of USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

1924  Jan  Lenin dies. Stalin, Zinoviev, and Kamenev form Triumvirate
        Dec  Stalin & Bukharin promote idea of "Socialism in One Country"

1926  Oct  Trotsky & Kamenev removed from Politburo
        Nov  Code on Marriage, Family, and Guardianship

1927  Nov  Trotsky and Zinoviev are expelled from Communist Party
        Dec  Party calls for 5-Year Plan of economic development, collectivization

1928  Jan  Trotsky exiled to Kazakhstan (eventually deported from USSR in 1929)
        March  "Cultural Revolution" begins with Stalin's attack on "bourgeois specialists"
        May  Beginning of the Shakhty trial

1929  Feb  Politburo condemns Bukharin, Rykov, & Tomskii (the "Right")
        Dec  Stalin's 50th birthday: beginning of the "Stalin Cult."
        Dec  Stalin calls for more rapid collectivization and liquidation of kulaks

1930  March  Stalin's "Dizzy with Success" article
        July  Peasant communes & village gatherings are officially abolished1

1931  June  Cultural Revolution comes to a close

1932  Nov  Stalin's wife (Nadezhda Allilueva) commits suicide
        Dec  Introduction of internal passports for urban population
        Dec  Beginning of famine in Ukraine (lasts into 1933)

1933  Jan  Beginning of Second Five-Year-Plan

1934  June  Law on "betrayal of motherland" prescribes the death penalty
        Dec  Assassination of Leningrad party head Sergei Kirov

1935  Jan  First trial of Old Bolsheviks Kamenev & Zinoviev
        Aug  Beginning of Stakhanovism campaign

1936  June  New laws prohibiting abortion and tightening structure of family
        Aug  Moscow "show trial" of Zinoviev & Kamenev, who are convicted & shot
        Dec  Adoption of new constitution of USSR

1937  May  Great Purges ("Ezhovshchina") reach their height

1938  March  "Show trial" of Bukharin & Rykov
        Dec  Lavrentii Beria replaces Ezhov as head of NKVD

1 Surely, Stolypin would have been proud!
Who gets what after 1917-23?

**Full Independence (for now):** Poland, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

**Temporary independence, but eventual inclusion in USSR as SSRs:** eastern Belorussia, eastern & central Ukraine, Transcaucasia (Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan).

### Structure of USSR (December 1922)

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<tr>
<th>Union Republics (SSR)²</th>
<th>Autonomous Republics (ASSR)³</th>
<th>Autonomous Regions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Federated</td>
<td>Bashkir</td>
<td>Komi</td>
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<td>Ukrainian</td>
<td>Tatar</td>
<td>Votiak (Udmurt)</td>
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<td>Belorussian</td>
<td>Mountaineer (Norh Cauc.)</td>
<td>Mari</td>
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<td>Moldovan</td>
<td>Nachichevan</td>
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<td>Georgian</td>
<td>Dagestan</td>
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<td>Armenian</td>
<td>Abkhaz</td>
<td>Karachai-Chekeress</td>
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<td>Azerbaijani</td>
<td>Kirgiz [Kazakh]⁴</td>
<td>Kabardino-Balkar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Turkestan</td>
<td>Chechen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Crimean</td>
<td>Buriat-Mongol (East Sib.)</td>
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<td>Yakut</td>
<td>Buriat-Mongol (Far East)</td>
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<td>South Ossetian</td>
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<td>Kalmyk</td>
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<td>Karelian (Toilers' Commune)</td>
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<td>Volga German (Toilers' Com)</td>
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² By 1939, the following additional SSRs had been created (some of them promoted from ASSRs): Turkman, Uzbek, Tajik, Kirgiz, Kazakh.

³ By 1939, the following additional ASSRs had been created (or were promoted from lesser status): Ajarian, Kabardino-Balkar, North Ossetian, Chechen-Ingush, Moldavian, Kalmyk, Volga-German, Mordvin, Chuvash, Mari, Karelian, Udmurt, Karakalpak, Komi, Buriat-Mongol

⁴ "Kirgiz" was the pre-revolutionary Russian name for Kazakhs. The people now called "Kirgiz" were called "Karakirgiz" before the revolution.