

Name: _____ Date: _____

The French Revolution

Q1. Explain the conditions which led to the rise of Jacobins.

Ans. _____

Q2. How was the church responsible for the French Revolution?

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Q3. How did political system work in France under the constitution of 1791?

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The French Revolution

Q1. Explain the conditions which led to the rise of Jacobins.

Ans. The revolutionary wars brought losses and economic difficulties to the people. Large sections of the population were convinced that the revolution had to be carried further, as the Constitution of 1791 gave political rights only to the richer sections of society. Political clubs became an important rallying point for people who wished to discuss government policies and plan their own forms of action. The most successful of these clubs was that of the Jacobins, which got its name from the former convent of St Jacob in Paris.

Q2. How was the church responsible for the French Revolution?

Ans. The church was responsible for the French Revolution in the following ways:

- i. The Church too extracted its share of taxes called tithes from the peasants.
- ii. The members of the church, clergy belonged to the First Estate. The clergy enjoyed certain privileges by birth. The most important of these was exemption from paying taxes to the state.
- iii. About 60 per cent of the land was owned by nobles, the Church and other richer members of the third estate.

Q3. How did political system work in France under the constitution of 1791?

Ans. The National Assembly completed the draft of the constitution in 1791. Its main object was to limit the powers of the monarch. These powers instead of being concentrated in the hands of one person, were now separated and assigned to different institutions the legislature, executive and judiciary. This made France a constitutional monarchy. The Constitution of 1791 vested the power to make laws in the National Assembly, which was indirectly elected. That is, citizens voted for a group of electors, who in turn chose the Assembly.