

The End of An Era

- 1812: Napoleon invades Russia...led to his downfall and an end to the era of the French Revolution



Ideas Spread

- French armies spread ideas of revolution
- Land reforms
- Abolished nobility
- Ended church privileges
- Open jobs to the talented
- Economic benefits



Seeds of Defeat

- Nationalism grew; foreign armies were seen as oppressors
- Resented imposition of French culture; Continental system (blockade)
- Brutal repression inflamed nationalism



Defeat in Russia

- 1,000 mile journey from France to Moscow
- Russians: scorched earth policy
- Of 600,000 soldiers only 100,000 survived



Downfall

- Russia, Britain, Austria and Prussia unite to defeat Napoleon
- 1814 abdicates; exiled to Elba
- Louis XVIII becomes king BUT Napoleon returns!



Waterloo

- March 1815 returns to Paris
- June 18, 1815 allies meet Napoleon in Belgium; defeated; exiled to St Helena



Hero or Tyrant?

- Napoleonic Code many changes from the Revolution (freedom of religion, government jobs based on talent; MEN are equal)
- centralized state
- constitution
- elections
- expanded voting
- rights to property; access to education



Congress of Vienna

- Try to create a lasting peace through the balance of power
- Ringed France with strong countries
- Restored monarchies
- Concert of Europe

