The years 1776 and 1789 are pivotal dates in world history. The impact of the American Revolution and the French Revolution extended far beyond the borders of those two countries. Other revolts followed, and in spite of a conservative reaction in Europe, the world was not the same afterward. Some common elements of the revolutionary era:

- **New ideals.** The ideals of freedom, equality, & popular sovereignty 1st expressed by the philosophes of the Enlightenment were now enacted. John Locke’s theory of gov’t as a contract between rulers & subjects inspired the leaders of the American Revolution. Likewise, Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s concept of a “social contract” based on the “general will” found expression in the National Assembly of France.

- **New gov’ts.** Vastly different gov’ts emerged in the United States, France, & Latin America. However, most revolutionary gov’ts began w/ written constitutions, statements of individual rights, & elected assemblies. Political power was generally the privilege of men of property. Only Haiti empowered all men regardless of race.

- **New ideologies.** Political theories emerged to address the dramatic changes of the age. Conservatism, liberalism, & later, socialism (see Ch 26) differed in the understanding of change & authority & came to express the social & economic currents of the 19th century.

- **Uneven social progress.** Some changes, such as the abolition of feudal rights & obligations in France, were profound & permanent. Other changes, like the abolition of slavery in the Americas, came more slowly & piecemeal. Equal rights for women did not gain momentum until late in the 19th century.

- **Nationalism.** Popular sovereignty gave voice to a new form of identity. Based on notions of a common cultural & historic experience, nationalism was a powerful force in the 19th century. Ethnic minorities like the Greeks within the Ottoman empire demanded national independence, & scattered cultural groups like the Italians & the Germans created new states to house their national identities.

### 1. Popular Sovereignty and Political Upheaval

#### A. The Enlightenment

1) Science and society
   a. Enlightenment thinkers sought natural laws that governed human society in the same way that Newton’s laws governed the universe

2) **Popular sovereignty:** relocating sovereignty in the people
   a. Traditionally monarchs claimed a “Divine Right” to rule
   b. **John Locke** challenged “Divine Right,” instead made the monarch responsible to the people. In Locke’s theory of limited gov’t: authority comes from consent of the governed. Gov’t must protect citizens’ 3 “Natural Rights” (which come from Nature, not from a monarch)
      (a) Life
      (b) Liberty
      (c) Property (not “pursuit of happiness,” that was Jefferson’s version)

   (2) Citizens have a right/duty to overthrow any gov’t that does not protect these rights.
3) **Adam Smith**: 3 Laws of Economics *The Wealth of Nations*, 1776
   a. Supply & Demand
   b. Competition
   c. Self-Interest

4) Center of Enlightenment = France, where philosophes debated
   a. **Montesquieu**: (not in text) Argued that gov’t is best when divided/shared among separate “branches.” Any one branch that attempted to become “too” powerful could be “checked” by other two branches.
      (1) Legislative: Makes the laws
      (2) Executive: Enforces the laws
      (3) Judicial: Interprets the laws
   b. **Jean-Jacques Rousseau**: *The Social Contract* 1762
      (1) Society is (collectively) the sovereign. (ideally) All individuals should participate directly in gov’t policy & laws.
   c. **Voltaire** (François-Marie Arouet) (1694-1778)
      (1) philosophe, championed religious liberty & individual freedom
      (2) Prolific writer; wrote some 70 volumes in life, often bitter satire
   d. **Deism** ("day-ism") (not in textbook) popular among Enlightenment
      (1) Accepted existence of a god, but denied Christianity’s supernatural teachings
      (2) God = “Clockmaker,” universe ordered by rational/natural laws

5) Ideology of the philosophes
   a. **Progress**: using reason, humans can improve their own lives
   b. **Reason**: Humans are logical, rational beings with inherent “worth”
   c. **Popular sovereignty**: gov’t power rests with “the people”
   d. (Individual) **Freedom/Liberty**: incl religious ideas/expression
   e. **Equality**: (NOT extended to women, peasants, laborers, slaves, or people of color)
   f. **Nature/Order**: There is a wondrous beauty in the natural world

6) Global Influence of Enlightenment
   a. Weakened the influence of organized religion, encouraged secular values based on reason rather than religious revelation
   b. Subjected society to rational analysis, promoted progress & prosperity
   c. Ideals served as foundation/justification of political rebellions/revolutions that followed in late 18th century

B. The American Revolution
   1) Tension between Britain & the N American colonies
   a. Legacy of Seven Years’ War: British debt, N. Am. tax burden
   b. Colonial protest re: taxes, trade policies, Parliamentary rule
      (1) Colonial boycott of British goods
      (2) Attacks on British officials; **Boston Tea Party**, 1773
   d. British troops & colonial militia skirmished at Lexington, & Concord, April 14-15, 1775
2) The **Declaration of Independence**, July 4, 1776
   a. Thirteen United States of America severed ties w/ Britain
   b. Declaration inspired by Enlightenment & Locke’s theory of gov’t
3) The American Revolution, (Rebellion?) 1775-1781
   a. British advantages: strong gov’t, navy, army, loyalists in colonies
   b. American advantages: European allies, Washington’s leadership
   c. Weary of a costly conflict, British forces surrendered in 1781
4) Building an independent state: Constitutional Convention, 1787
   a. New Const. Guaranteed freedom of press, speech, & religion
   b. Republic based on Enlightenment principles, BUT …
   c. Full legal & political rights granted ONLY to men of property

C. The French Revolution
1) Summoning the **Estates General**
   a. Financial crisis: 50% of gov’t revenue went to national debt (!)
   b. Louis XVI forced to summon Estates General to raise new taxes
   c. Many representatives wanted sweeping political & social reform
   d. 1st & 2nd Estates (nobles, clergy) tried to limit 3rd Est. (commoners)
2) The **National Assembly** formed by representative of 3rd Estate, 1789
   a. Demanded a written constitution & popular sovereignty
   b. Angry mob seized the **Bastille** on July 14, sparked insurrections
   c. NA wrote “**Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen**”
3) “**Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity**” was NA’s slogan & values
   a. Abolished feudal system, altered role of church
   b. France became a constitutional monarchy, 1791
4) Legislative Assembly (not mentioned in text) governed 1791-92.
   a. Divided into “conservative, moderate, & liberal” factions
   b. Increasingly dominated by Jacobins, most liberal/radical faction
   c. Tried (and failed) to defend France against foreign invasions.
5) **National Convention** replaced LA w/ new constitution, 1792
   a. Austrian & Prussian armies invaded to restore ancien régime
   b. Convention abolished monarchy, proclaimed France a republic
   c. King Louis XVI & Queen Marie Antoinette executed, 1793
   d. Radical Jacobins under leadership of Maximilien Robespierre
      dominated the Convention in 1793-94 in a “**Reign of Terror**”
   e. Revolutionary changes: religion, dress, calendar, women’s rights
6) The Directory, 1795-1799
   a. Conservative reaction against the excesses of the Convention
   b. Executed Robespierre, July 1794
   c. New Constitution

D. The Reign of Napoleon, 1799-1815
1) **Napoleon Bonaparte** (1769-1821)
   a. Brilliant military leader; became a general at age 24 (!)
   b. Supported the revolution; defended the Directory
   c. Overthrew the Directory & named himself “Consul for Life” 1799
2) Napoleonic France brought stability after years of chaos
   a. Made peace w/ Roman Catholic church & Pope
   b. Extended freedom of religion to Protestants & Jews
   c. Civil Code of 1804: (Napoleonic Code) political & legal equality for all adult men
d. Restricted individual freedom, especially speech & press
3) Napoleon’s empire: 1804, proclaimed himself Emperor
   a. Dominated the European continent: Iberia, Italy, Netherlands
   b. Defeated Austria & Prussia; fought British on high seas
c. Disastrous invasion of Russia, 1812
4) The fall of Napoleon
   a. 1814 Forced by coalition of enemies to abdicate, exiled on Elba
   b. Escaped, returned to France, raised army, but was defeated by British & Prussians in 1815 at Waterloo

2. The Influence of Revolution

A. The Haitian Revolution: (The Only Successful Slave Revolt in History)
   1) Saint-Domingue, rich French colony on western Hispaniola
      a. Society dominated by small white planter class
      b. 90% of pop = slaves working under brutal conditions
      c. Large communities of escaped slaves, or maroons
      d. Free blacks fought in Am. Rev, brought back revolutionary ideas
      e. Widespread discontent: white settlers sought self-governance, gens de couleur sought political rights, slaves wanted freedom
   2) Slave revolt began in 1791
      a. White settlers, gens de couleur, & slaves battled each other
      b. French troops arrived 1792; British & Spain intervened, 1793
   3) Toussaint Louverture (1744-1803)
      a. Literate, skilled organizer, built strong disciplined army
      b. Controlled Saint-Domingue by 1797, created constitution in 1801
      c. Arrested by French troops; died in jail, 1803
   4) The Republic of Haiti
      a. Yellow fever ravaged French troops; defeated & driven out
      b. Declared independence, 1803; established Republic of Haiti, 1804

B. Wars of Independence in Latin America
   1) Latin American society rigidly hierarchical
      a. Social classes: peninsulares, creoles, zambos, slaves, etc.
      b. Creoles sought not to “invert” social hierarchy, but to displace peninsulares while retaining their own privileged social position
2) Mexican independence
   a. Napoleon’s 1807 invasion of Spain & Spanish colonial control
   b. 1810: Father Miguel Hidalgo led peasant revolt, defeated conservative creoles
   c. 1821: Mexico briefly a military dictatorship, then republic, 1822
   d. Southern Mexico split into several independent states in 1830s
3) Simón Bolivar (1783-1830) led independence movement in S America
   a. Inspired by Washington, took arms against Spanish rule, 1811
   b. Creole forces overcame Spanish armies throughout S Am 1824
   c. Bolivar’s effort of creating a united Gran Colombia failed in 1830s
4) Brazilian independence
   a. Portuguese royal court fled to Rio de Janeiro, 1807
   b. The king’s son, Pedro, agreed to Brazilian independence, 1821
   c. Became Emperor Pedro I in independent Brazil (r. 1822-1834)
5) Creole dominance in Latin America
   a. Independence brought little social change in Latin America
   b. Principal beneficiaries were creole elites

C. The Emergence of Ideologies: Conservatism and Liberalism
1) Conservatism: resistance to change
   a. Importance of continuity, tradition
   b. Edmund Burke’s view: society = organism changing slowly
      (1) Am. Revolution: a natural & logical outcome of history
      (2) French Revolution: violent & irresponsible
2) Liberalism: welcomed change as an agent of progress
   a. Championed freedom, equality, democracy, written constitutions
   b. John Stuart Mill championed individual freedom & minority rights

D. Testing the Limits of Revolutionary Ideals: Slavery
1) Movements to end slave trade: began 1700s, gained momentum
      British Navy greatly reduced, almost de facto ended slave trade.
   b. Other states followed suit, though illegal slave trade continued
2) Abolishing slavery: much more difficult (b/c “property rights”)
   a. Haiti & much of S America, end of slavery came w/ independence
   b. In Europe & S America, campaign against slave trade became campaign to abolish slavery
   c. Abolition: Britain 1833; France 1848; U.S. 1865; Brazil 1888
3) Abolition brought slaves legal freedom, but not political/social equality

E. Testing the Limits of Revolutionary Ideals: Women’s Rights
1) Enlightenment ideals & women
   a. Enlightenment call for equality not generally extended to women
   b. Women used John Locke’s logic to argue for women’s rights
      (1) Mary Astell attacked male dominance in the family
      (2) Mary Wollstonecraft: women = same natural rights as men
2) Women crucial to revolutionary activities
   a. Fr Rev granted rights of education & property, but not suffrage
   b. Olympe de Gouges’s declaration of full citizenship for women
      thought too radical by most of society
   c. Women made no significant gains in other revolutions, though
      (much later) gained ground in 19th century U.S. & Europe

3. The Consolidation of National States in Europe

   A. Nations and Nationalism
      1) Cultural nationalism: an expression of national identity
         a. Emphasized common historical experience
         b. Used folk culture & literature to illustrate national spirit (Volkgeist)
      2) Political nationalism more intense in the 19th century
         a. Demanded loyalty & solidarity from members
         b. Minorities sought independence as a national community
      3) Zionism: Jewish nationalism as response to European anti-Semitism
         a. Founded by Theodor Herzl to create a Jewish state in Palestine
         b. (Postlogue: Jewish state of Israel finally created in 1948)

   B. The Emergence of National Communities
      1) Congress of Vienna, 1814-15
         a. Conservative leaders determined to restore old order after defeat of
            Napoleon (“turn back the clock” to pre-Fr Rev)
         b. Succeeded in maintaining balance of power in Europe for 100 yrs
         c. Failed in repressing nationalist & revolutionary ideas
      2) Nationalist rebellions against old order throughout 19th century
         a. Greek rebels overcame Ottoman rule, 1827
         b. 1830 & 1848, dozens of rebellions (France, Spain, Portugal,
            Germn states)
         c. Conservative gov’t usually restored, but rebellions’ ideals persisted

   C. The Unification of Italy and Germany
      1) Cavour and Garibaldi united Italy by 1870
         a. Mazzini’s Young Italy inspired uprisings against foreign rule
         b. Cavour led nat’lists, expelled Austrian authority in N Italy, 1859
         c. Garibaldi controlled S Italy, returned it to King Emmanuele, 1860
      2) Prussian Chancellor Otto von Bismarck (1862-1888) created united
         Germany
         a. 1870 Bismarck cleverly & cynically provoked war vs. France.
            (Franco-Prussian War)
            (1) French army decisively defeated, French Emperor captured
         b. 1871, Prussian king proclaimed Emperor of the 2nd Reich (Empire)