Peter the Great
Tsar of Russia
Peter the Great
1672-1725
Peter’s reign can be summed up with one letter.
Westernization
ORIENT RUSSIA TOWARD EUROPE
Warm Water Ports
PROBLEM: NO Warm Water Ports
Peter created a professional military force based on the Prussian model.

Carl Röchling (d. 1920), *Attack of the Prussian Infantry*
Azov Campaign 1695-1696

Objective: Control of Sea of Azov

Peter the Great vs. the Ottoman Empire
Peter took control of the sea with the help of his fleet of ships.
Father of the Russian Navy
Peter’s European Tour

1697-1698

England

Amsterdam
The Expansion of Russia under Peter the Great. Peter added vital territory on the Baltic Sea to the vast Russian empire.
Amsterdam & England had the best shipyards in Europe.
Portrait of Peter I by Godfrey Kneller (1698)
Cultural Revolution
Young Peter the Great wearing a Traditional Eastern Kaftan
Those who paid Peter’s Beard Tax carried tokens to prove it.
Раскольник говорит слушай цырюльник я бороды стри́чь не хочу вот пёдя на тебя скорой заку́ръ.

Цырюльникъ къ хо́зяю раскольнику бороду стри́чь.
Peter paid for the sons of Russian nobles to study abroad in Western Europe.
Before 1700, the Russians had observed the New Year in September.
Resistance to Westernization
Entrenched Classes

BOPARS
(Nobility)

STRELTSP
(Musketeers)

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Streltsy Rebellion
Gen. Patrick Gordon

The Streltsy rebellion was put down by Gen. Patrick Gordon, a Scottish general who westernized Peter’s army.
“Their leaders, with several of their officers and priests, were condemned to death; some were broken upon the wheel, and two women were buried alive; upwards of two thousand of the Streltzy were executed, part of whom were hanged round about the walls of the city...”

-- Voltaire
Peter and the Church

Saint Petersburg Orthodox Theological Seminary
The Russian Orthodox Church, led by a Patriarch, had not supported Peter’s reforms.
The Russian Orthodox Church banned the use of tobacco, a Western import.
CHURCH
REFORMS
SYNOW
A Council of Bishops
1917 Patriotarchate Reinstated
The Great Northern War
Russia vs. Sweden
1700 - 1721
St. Petersburg

Russia’s “Window to the West”
Plan of St. Petersburg, with its Fortifications, built by Peter the Great in 1703.
Monument to Peter “The Carpenter”

St. Petersburg
The Bronze Horseman
Population of St. Petersburg
1760-2000