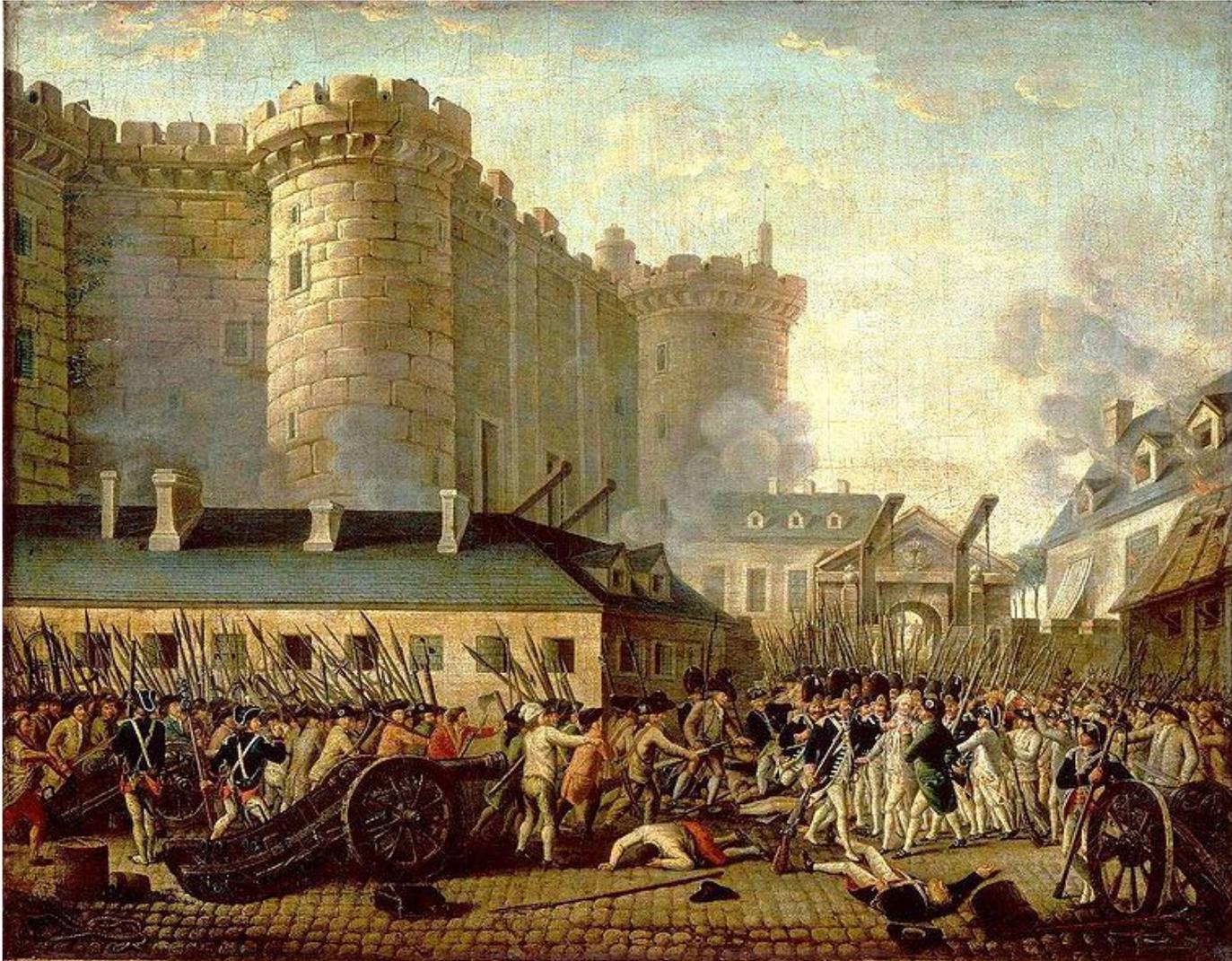
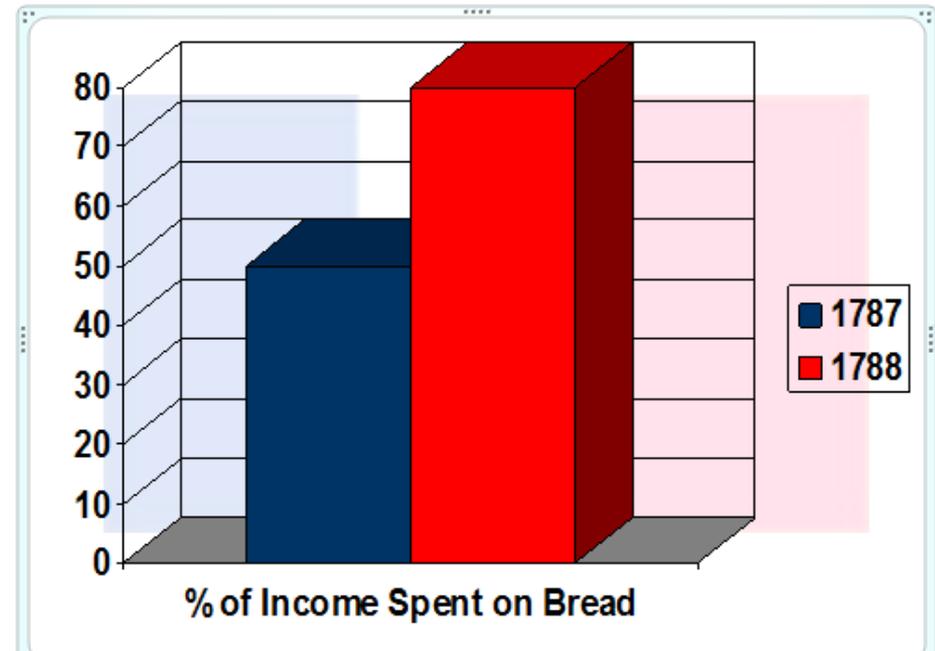


The Revolt of the Poor and a Limited Monarchy



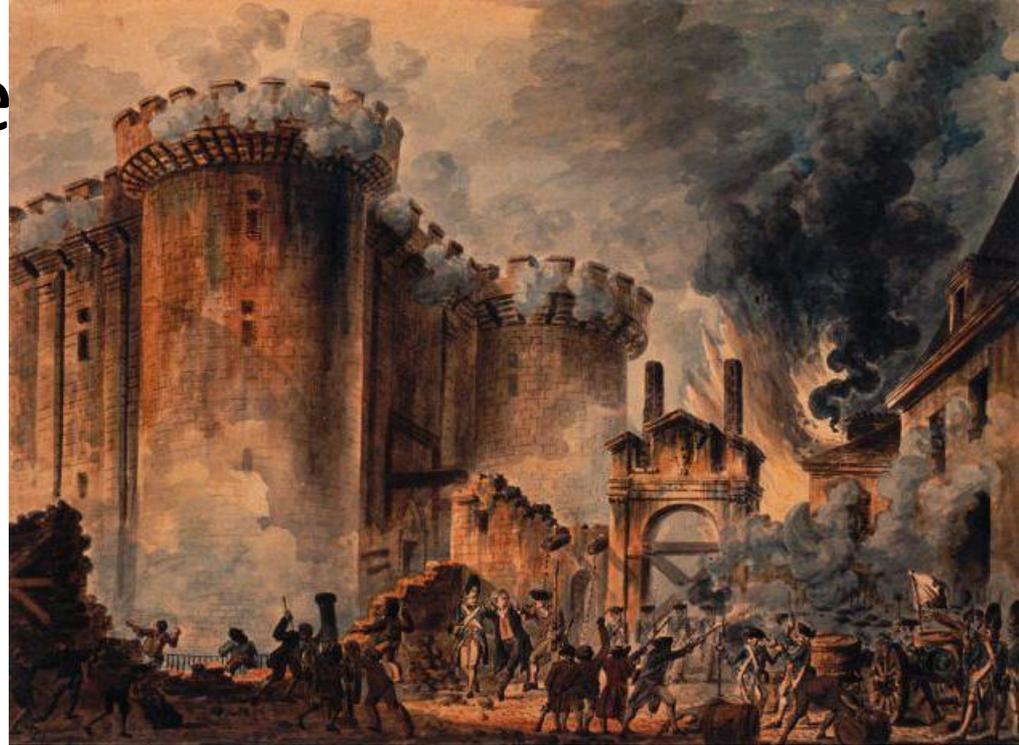
Causes of Peasant Unrest

- Poor grain harvests led to bread inflation in 1789
 - With high prices, people no longer demanded manufactured goods!
 - Unemployment possibly 25%
- Most people believed in a moral economy
 - Steady work and fair prices for everyone!



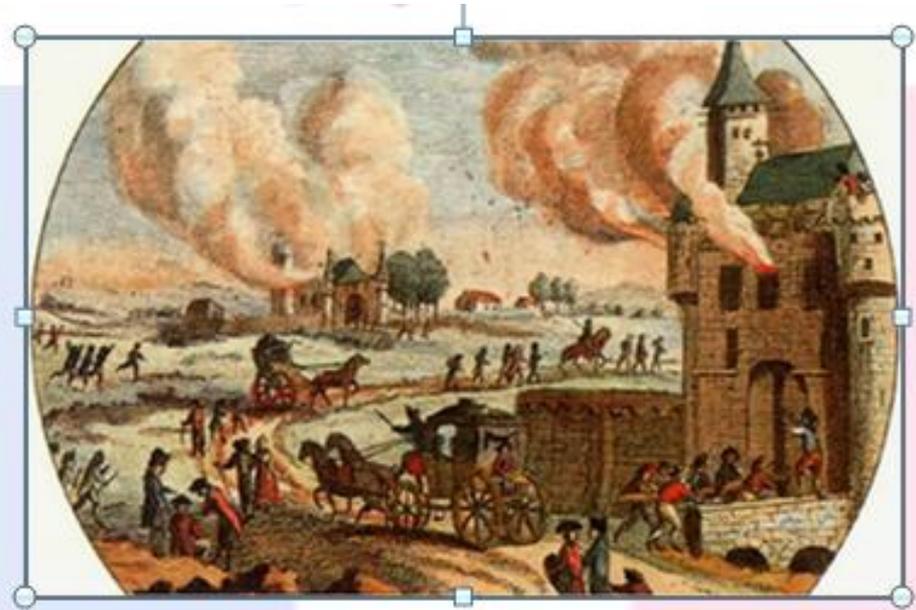
Storming of the Bastille

- July 14, 1789 – Mob attacked the Bastille to gain arms and weapons for defense against the King's troops
 - Killed the guards and paraded around the streets with decorated pikes!
- The King gave in and dispersed his troops...the National Assembly had been saved!



The Great Fear

- Inspired by the chaos in Paris, the peasants in the country rose up against the nobles
 - Ransacked manor houses, tore down enclosures, seized forests, and killed nobles
 - Goal: To destroy manorial rights and exploitation by lords



August Decrees

- Afraid to call on the king to restore order, the National Assembly approved the peasants' demands in a night session on August 4
 - All feudal dues were eliminated
 - The Old Regime was finally destroyed!
- However, the peasants were supposed to make payments to the lords to compensate them for this new “freedom”
 - These payments were generally never paid!



Declaration of the Rights of Man

- August 27, 1789
 - Three main ideals:
 - Equality before the law
 - Representative gov't
 - Individual freedom
- Natural Rights
 - Liberty, property, security, and resistance to oppression
- Not for women, though!
 - Olympe de Gouges executed in 1793



Women in the Revolution

- Positive reforms:
 - Legalized divorce in 1792
 - Inheritance laws changed to benefit women
- Negative response:
 - “Women are disposed...to an over-excitation which would be deadly in public affairs.”
 - Corruption of the Old Regime was viewed as the fault of immoral women
 - 1793 - All women’s political clubs will be closed
- Goal of the Revolutionaries:
 - Gov’t of men, raised by women, would achieve civic virtue



Women's Bread Riot

- October 5, 1789 –
Women's Bread Riot
 - Women, who served as household managers, invaded the National Assembly and protested the rising price of bread
 - “We are going to cut off her head, tear out her heart, fry her liver, and that won't be the end of it.”
 - Forced royal family to leave Versailles and live in Paris
 - The National Assembly followed!



Reforms of the National Assembly

- While writing a new constitution, the NA pushed through many reforms
 - Economic liberty triumphed as guilds and tariffs were abolished!
 - Historic provinces were replaced by 83 equal departments
 - Officials elected locally and power was decentralized



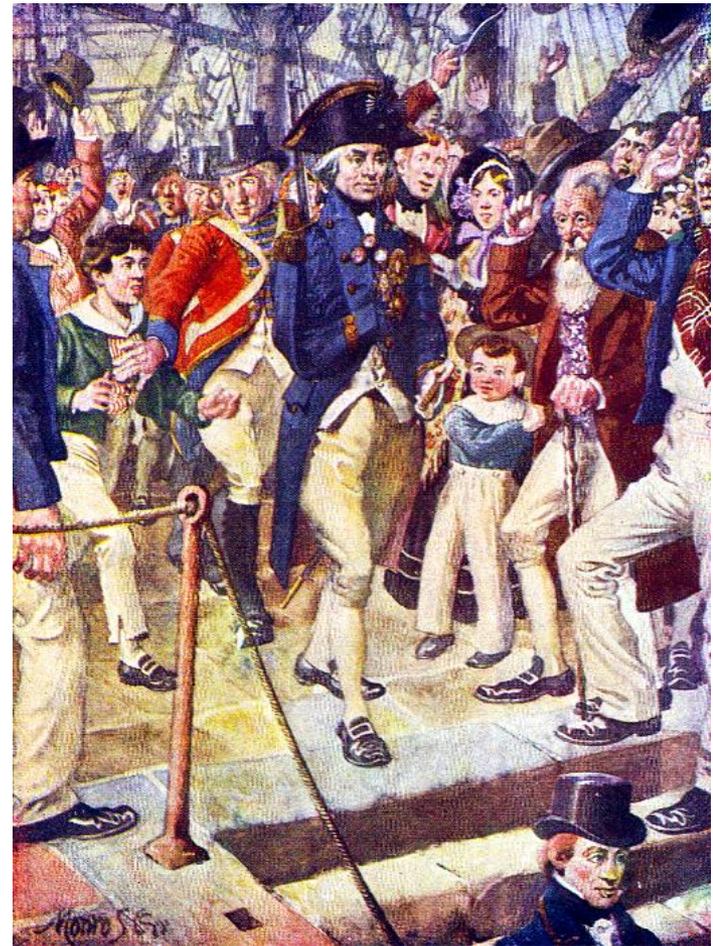
A State-Controlled Church

- Nationalization of all church land and elimination of monasteries
 - All church land was taken away and sold to speculators, who then sold the land to peasants
 - Creation of national currency, *assignats*, that were guaranteed by this church land
- Civil Constitution of the Clergy
 - All church officials were to be elected and paid by the state
- Peasants, as devout Catholics, did not approve!
 - Divide between the educated classes and the common people continued to grow



Constitutional Monarchy

- Constitution of 1791 creates a Bourgeois government
 - King as head of state
 - Legislative Assembly had all lawmaking power
 - Elected by upper half of French males
- Robespierre said, “The Revolution is over.”
 - It had only just begun!
- Factionalism will quickly take over the Legislative Assembly as radicals and conservatives discuss the issue of France’s future



International Response

- French Emigres convinced the conservatives of Europe to intervene in French affairs
 - In 1790, Edmund Burke predicted that reform by the masses would lead to chaos
- June 1791 – Royal family was arrested while trying to flee France
- Declaration of Pillnitz
 - Austria and Prussia issue warning to the revolutionaries of France



Revolutionary France Goes To War

- The newly-formed Legislative Assembly, dominated by a radical group of Girondins, declared a “war on tyranny”
 - Preemptively declared war on Austria and Prussia in April 1792
- Almost every country in Europe joins war against France
 - Known as the First Coalition
- Patriotic rumor-mongering spread through Paris
 - August 10, 1792, Crowds attacked the Tuileries
 - King pleaded with the LA for protection, but he was denied and stripped of all his powers
- The “Second Revolution” had begun!

