Year One of the Russian Revolution: A Timeline of Key Events

Year One of the Russian Revolution by Victor Serge



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The Russian Revolution was a period of political and social upheaval in Russia that began in 1917 and lasted until 1923. The revolution led to the overthrow of the Tsarist autocracy and the establishment of the Soviet Union.

Year one of the Russian Revolution was marked by a series of key events that set the stage for the rest of the revolution. These events included the February Revolution, the October Revolution, and the Russian Civil War.

February Revolution

The February Revolution began on February 23, 1917 (March 8, 1917 in the Gregorian calendar), when a series of strikes and demonstrations broke out in Petrograd (now Saint Petersburg). The protests were initially sparked by food shortages and high prices, but they quickly turned into a political movement demanding the overthrow of the Tsar.

On February 27, 1917, the Tsar ordered the military to suppress the protests, but the troops refused to fire on the protesters. The Tsar was forced to abdicate on March 2, 1917, and a provisional government was established.

October Revolution

The October Revolution began on October 25, 1917 (November 7, 1917 in the Gregorian calendar), when the Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin, seized power in Petrograd. The Bolsheviks were a radical socialist party that had been calling for the overthrow of the provisional government and the establishment of a socialist state.

The October Revolution was a success, and the Bolsheviks quickly consolidated their power. They established a new government, the Council of People's Commissars, and began to implement their socialist policies.

Russian Civil War

The Russian Civil War began in November 1917, when the Bolsheviks seized power. The war was fought between the Bolsheviks and a variety of anti-Bolshevik forces, including the White Army, the Green Army, and the Ukrainian National Army.

The Russian Civil War was a brutal and bloody conflict that lasted for five years. It is estimated that between 7 million and 12 million people died in the war.

Year one of the Russian Revolution was a period of great upheaval and change. The February Revolution overthrew the Tsar and led to the establishment of a provisional government. The October Revolution brought the Bolsheviks to power and led to the establishment of the Soviet Union. The Russian Civil War was a brutal and bloody conflict that lasted for five years and resulted in the deaths of millions of people.

The Russian Revolution was a watershed moment in world history. It led to the overthrow of the Tsarist autocracy and the establishment of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union would become a major world power and would play a significant role in the Cold War.



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