

## 5 - CATHERINE the GREAT and Successors

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### The ROMANOV Dynasty

PETER III (1728 / r. 1762)

oo Sophie Frederike Auguste, Princess of Anhalt-Zerbst [in the Holy Roman Empire]

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CATHERINE II “The Great” ( Yekaterina Alekseyevna / 1729 / r. 1762 – 1796)

-the 1<sup>st</sup> Partition of Poland (1772)

-major reforms in Russia

- reorganization of the laws of Imperial Russia
- abolition of torture in legal proceedings
- proclamation of religious toleration
- administrative reforms to streamline the Russian government
- attempted easing of serfdom

-Pugachev’s Rebellion (1773 – 1774)

-the Charter of the Towns (1782)

-Jews are officially declared foreigners with foreigners' rights (1785)

-in France : the beginning of the French Revolution (summer 1789)

- the overthrow of the French monarchy  
and the establishment of the First Republic (1792)
- the execution of Louis XVI, former King of France (Jan. 1793)
- the First Coalition (against France) / Feb. 1793 >  
-Britain, the Netherlands, Spain, Naples, Austria and Prussia

-Catherine and Poland : the 2<sup>nd</sup> Partition of Poland (1793)

-in France : the collapse of Robespierre’s government  
and establishment of the Directory (1794 — 1795)

-Catherine and Poland : the 3<sup>rd</sup> Partition of Poland (1795)

-the major palaces:

- the Winter Palace, the Hermitage, Peterhof, Gatchina Palace,  
Tsarskoye Selo (Catherine I Palace), Pavlovsk

- the famous lovers
  - Grigory, and possibly Alexei, Orlov > Alexis Bobrinskoy
  - Grigory Potemkin
  - Prince Platon Zubov (the last lover, 40 years younger than Catherine)
- the popular plays and operas
  - The Story of Tsarevich Fevey* (a dramatic fairy tale), *O Time!* (a comedy in 3 acts),  
*From Rurik's Life* (a historical drama); etc
- Vicente Martin & Soler

PAUL I (Pavel Petrovich / 1754 / r. 1796 – 1801)  
 oo Sophie Dorothea von Württemberg > ALEXANDER

- the *Pauline Laws* : primogeniture for the House of Romanov
- the *Infantry Codes*
- Grand Master of the Order of the Hospitallers
- irritations with Napoleon

ALEXANDER I, Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias  
 (Aleksander Pavlovich / 1777 / r. 1801 – 1825)

- more irritations with Napoleon
  - the Grand Empire (1810)
  - invasion of Russia (1812)
  - abdication of Napoleon as Emperor of the French (April 1814)
  - the 100 Days and the Battle of Waterloo (1815)
- the Congress of Vienna and the re-organization of Europe (1814 — 1815)
  - Alexander becomes King of Poland
  - Alexander becomes Grand Duke of Finland
- the Holy Alliance
  - to govern Europe by Christian principles
  - to uphold legitimate governments
  - a confederation of free states

NICHOLAS I (1796 / r. 1825 — 1855)

ALEXANDER II (1818 / r. 1855 — 1881)

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