Support for Peter
- A couple of Streltsy officers
- Foreign officers in the army
- Preobrahensky regiments
- LARGE AMOUNTS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

HAHA SOPHIA’S SUPPORT COLLAPSED

Failed negotiations
- Sophia attempted to negotiate with Peter
- She tried to visit the monastery Peter was at
- Peter SHUT HER DOWN.
- Peter used royal advisers to force Sophia to give him key advisers
  - GOLITSYN (BAD IDEA PETER, BAD IDEA)
- Formally removed Sophia from her regency and official positions

Reasons for the end of Sophia’s regency
- Peter’s role
  - He’d turned 17, was married, had a wife
  - Obviously her regency was coming to an end anyway
  - He seemed like he’d be a pretty solid leader
- Military power
  - He had LOTSSSS of support, had 2 ‘play regiments’ consisting of several thousand skilled army soldiers
- Sophia’s role
  - Unpopularity of (Golitsyn’s) western reforms
  - The church was crazy and was
    - People didn’t want to change their clothes- stupid people don’t like change- new clothes, ridding of traditions
- Failure of foreign policy
  - 2 failed campaigns against Crimean tatars- 1688&1689
  - Tried to disguise the loss as a victory (rookie error)
- Other roles
  - TRIGGERS
    - Laaaaarge streltsy escort mistakes as attempted attack on Preobrazenskae
    - Peter fled to Traitsky monastery and called for support, he announced he wanted to take on role

The Reforming Tsar

First Ventures in Foreign Policy and war

The causes of the Azov campaign: intro
- Sophia’s war against the Turks/Tatars 1689
- 1689-96 Peter was the dominant tsar because Ivan was increasingly ill 😐
5. Peter’s own ambitions

- He was actually still quite young and didn’t have much experience with battles- wanted to show he was worthy as a leader and was strong
- He wanted to put the preparation he’d done with the play regiments into action
- Obviously wanted to gain general experience
- Wanted to build a solid navy

Conclusions

- SIGNIFICANT FACTORS
  - Expansion
    - Natural continuation of events that had previously happened
      - Subjection of Crimean Tatars
  - Continuation of the war
    - The war had to be pursued and the advisers were like, “god dammit Peter just carry on the war or we’ll look like dicks”
  - Personal ambition
    - Wanted to show he was strong
    - Golitsyn
    - Experience
    - Build a navy

The Azov campaigns- 1695/6

Introduction

- Peter decided to renew the war against the Tatars
- Raids had continued after Sophia’s fall
- The Poles were threatening to break up with Russia
- They reaaaaally wanted the port- to build a fleet and it was a crazy good outlet to the sea
- Peter’s personal ambitions (experience in warfare)

Azov number one- 1695- THE FAILURE

‘Strategy’

- Two pronged assault
- Army:
  - HUGE peasant army- traditional, poorly equipped and not well trained AT ALL
  - Smaller modern Army, well-armed/trained, led by foreigners (Gordon)
    - Minority from new regiments (well equipped/trained)
    - Majority were Streltsy (douche bags, unwilling to obey orders, disliked foreign officers)
    - Inadequate supplies given
**The Streltsy Revolt 1698**

**June 1698 - Streltsy revolted again**
- Obviously were opposed to Peter’s new reforms
- Didn’t like his desire to build a navy
- Or the western clothes
- Moaned about the ‘improper treatment of Orthodox church’
- Gradual reduction of influence
  - Sidelined by the new regiments
  - Were sent far away
- July 1698 - revolt was crushed but Peter still had to come home early from the Grand Embassy 😊

**Peter’s response**
- Ferocious
  - Hundreds tortured appallingly
  - HELLA LOT OF MEMBERS WERE EXILED
  - 100 executed
  - The Moscow Streltsy regiments were abolished
  - Sophia was forced to become a nun
- Was basically pay back for the atrocities that’d taken place in 1682/1689

**Conclusion**
- Support against the turks
  - Failure:
    - Western powers were focused somewhere else
    - Peter faced isolation
- Technology/Trade
  - Success
    - Large no. of experts hired
    - Russians left behind to study
    - Limited trade gains
- Personal
  - Successful
    - Confirmed belief that Russia weren’t cool anymore
    - Exposed to new fashion ideas and scientific thoughts
- Cultural: MOST SUCCESSFUL
  - Generally successful
    - Understood power of church tradition had to be SHUT DOWN to allow for his new ideas (beards/clothes)
    - Failed to understand that ‘liberal’ forms of govs were part of the process- he thought he could be a lone wolf
- Holiday?
  - Obviously a success
    - Parties, affairs, incident in Riga, lad, thug life, go hard to go home
Damp and cold and nasty
Loads of diseases; malaria, dysentery
Unpaid wages
Mass desertion
25,000-30,000 died

- All materials were imported
  - Wood was rationed to preserve for building
  - 1714 building in stone was prohibited anywhere except St Petersburg - stupid
  - Forced stone masons to the city

**Population**
- 1708 Peter began forcing the nobility to move to St Petersburg - even his own family

**The houses**
- Specific designed for certain social standings
- Uniformity
  - Nobility = stone
  - Merchants = wood
- Often poor quality due to speed of process and unwillingness of owners

**Flood**
- Yearly event
- Neva broke banks almost every single autumn
- MAJOR floods in 1706/1721
- Billions of roubles damage
- Considerable suffering and massive loss of lives

**Standards of living**
- Little potential for agriculture
  - Food was crazy expensive
  - Some natural products (berries and fish)
- Countryside beyond the city was wilderness
  - Wolves, bears, largely uninhabited
- Forced settlement very slowly civilised the region

**Consequences**
- Split the Swedish Baltic empire in two
  - Strategically important in the war
- Named after Peter's patron saint - not himself (bit of a coincidence though, right?)
- Came to represent all Peter hoped to achieve
  - Naval base (personal enjoyment)
  - Western: cultured (built aviary in 1708, which had 8,000... bird is the word)
The end of the alliance
- Charles worked hard to break up alliance (killed 1718)
- 1719
  - Swedish peace with Hanover
  - Allowed Britain to send help to Sweden
  - Russian troops landed in Sweden and ravaged large areas
- 1720
  - Swedish peace with Prussia
  - Britain unable to help, urged peace
  - Sweden exhausted by fighting

Treaty of Nystadt
- 1st serious peace negotiations 1718- stopped by Charles death
- 1721, peace negotiations began again in Finland
  - Peter was now in a position of strength
  - Large armies were threatening Sweden
  - Savage border raids continued
- 1721, treaty of Nystadt finally signed
  - Terms:
    - Russia gained Karelia, Ingria, Estonia, Livonia
    - Peter promised to not interfere in Swedish politics, paid reparations for territorial gains and respect nights of Protestant churches in new lands

Consequences
- Sweden broken as northern power
  - Exhausted by fighting
  - Unable to match Russia’s military might
  - Financially damaged by loss of Baltic lands
  - Security diminished by loss of Southern coastline
  - Politically transformed-
- Russia is dominant in northern European power
  - Key enemies broken
  - Now considered credible political partner for major European powers
- Trade routes to west were secure
- Naval power grew in Baltic
- Influence in Northern Germany enhanced

Conclusion
- Significant victory
2. Debasing currency damaged imports
3. New taxes couldn’t keep up with the constant demand for money → had to cut government salaries by 25% in 1723
4. Large scale corruption cost Peter 30% of taxes - people smuggled money out of country - sneaky
5. Caused widespread suffering to ordinary people through heavy taxes

Conclusion

- Economic policies ‘as consistent and successful as those of any ruler of the age in W. Europe’
- Production raised but vital entrepreneurial class failed to emerge
- Shortage of adequate personnel
- Foundations laid of future success

Religious reforms

- Russia strongly ‘orthodox’
- Alexis
  - Almost monastic rulers
  - Almost on par with Partiarch
- Peter - believed in monarchs pre-eminence
  - Similar to western Europe (Oh look at that)
    - He didn’t want to share with anyone

Peter’s aims

1. Reduce influence of the church as a force for conservatism
2. More effective use by state of church resources
3. Bring church under direct control and use as administrative tool to support monarchy

The drunken synod

- Formed in 1692 - drunken parallel to the real religious establishment
- Included Peter and his friends
- Regular rites and rituals - hella lot of drinking
- Hierachy - clear rules written by Peter
- Basically was a dick to the church, mocked them, offended a shit load of people

Why?

- Because Peter was a dick
- He found it funny and didn’t care about who he offended
- Deliberate attempt to undermine the church and conservative forces within the country

Reduction of Influence

- Not completely new policy but more radical
- Combined persecution and toleration
Anti-western reforms, new taxes, labour duties, rumours (p intended to give women to foreigners), religious factors OB

July 1705 killed guards and officials in city

Spread revolt in other cities

August 1705-p offered a pardon [largely ignored & violence spread]

Dec 1705- loyal troops arrived in region

March 1706- Astakhan taken

Trials held for over 2 years, 350 killed

**Bulvarian revolt 1707-9**

Coincided with Charles’s invasion

Long term tension over steady Russian encroachment onto Cossack lands, seizure of enterprises by state, rumours (beard cuttings), 1707 Peter demanded Cossacks return all fugitives from Russia & stop harbouring in future

Oct 1707 bulavin massacred Peter’s agents in the region
  - Began calling for wider support
  - Used religious imagery as key rallying point
  - Support grew quickly- OB

April 1708 Bulavin defeated loyal Cossack forces

May 1708 bulavin elected ‘Atoman’ of the Cossacks

Despatched 32,000 troops (10,000 from Swedish war)

July 1708 Bulavin murdered after failed attempt to capture Azov

Resistance continued until early 1709

200 killed, Cossack villages burnt, boat building banned

**Alexis affair**

Born 1690

Mother was Eudoxia

Lived with her, weird relationship with P → P mean to E

9-13, placed in care of foreign tutors, conservative influence, P too busy

1703-9, forced to join army on campaign
  - Despite more academic talents

1709-10, sent to Dresden to study

1711 → forced to marry Charlotte of Brunswick
  - Political marriage
  - Charlotte protestant
  - 2 children- Natalia & Peter

1714- Alexis opening consortng with a mistress (serf)

Father son relations

Peter disappointed in heir
  - Clash of ehos
  - Alexis saw P as over-bearing and mean
  - P didn’t like A
1721, murder robbery of Russian traders in Northern Persian town. Excuse that was needed.

**The campaign**

- July 1722
  - 61,000 strong army sailed south from Astrakhan
  - 1722 Derbent captured
    - Campaign hindered by heat
    - Significant losses but little fighting
    - P returns to St. P
  - 1723
    - Baku occupied and Shah forced to negotiate
    - Baku & 3 other provinces on the Caspian given to P

**Consequences (Immediate)**

**Positives**
- Territory seized on Caspian sea
- Gained influence over Georgia in the Caucasus
- Deal with Turks (treaty of Constantinople)
- Avoided war against Turks
- Peter’s personal prestige enhanced

**Negatives**
- High casualties
- Expensive (1 million roubles)
- Failed to dominate whole Caucasus
- Land route to India not opened
- Silk route unchanged= trading profits v limited

**Consequences (Long term)**
- 1732; empress Anne abandoned Caspian sea provinces
  - Too costly, 15,000 soldiers dying a year of disease
  - Failure to conquer whole region allowed radical Islam to develop

THEN PETER DIED