

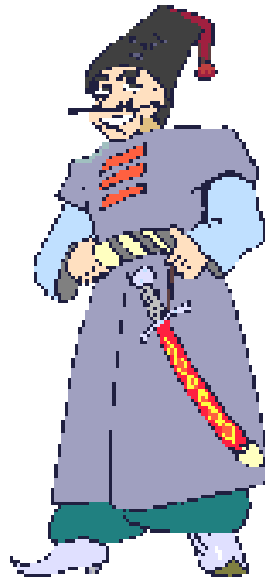
The Russian Empire

- **1480— Mongols expelled from Russia**
- **Absolute monarchy**
- **Ivan III—1st czar of Russia**
- **Third Rome**



Russian Expansion

- Expanded from the **eastern border of Poland into western Siberia**
- **Cossacks** = Russian pioneers sent into conquered territories



Russian Serfdom

- **After Mongols, peasants fell into debt**
 - **Became servants (serfs) of noble landowners when couldn't repay**
 - **17th C. laws tied serfs to the land**
 - **System was close to slavery (could be bought & sold)**

ST. BASIL'S CATHEDRAL, MOSCOW



**Commissioned
by Ivan IV**

**Melded
Renaissance
style w/
Russian style**

**Ornate, onion-
shaped domes**

Peter I (the Great) 1689-1725

- Peter opened Russia to **Western influence**
- **1697—Great Embassy!**



Changes Under Peter I

- Gained a **warm water port on the Baltic Sea**
 - Moved capital from Moscow to **St. Petersburg**
- Created a Russian **navy**
- **Improved military weapons**
- **Secret police to control people**
- **Eliminated noble council**
- **Systemization of law codes**



Winter Palace in St. Petersburg







Peterhof—series of palaces & gardens of Peter I









French Style Interior

Grand Throne Room



Peter's Westernization

- Required **boyars to shave the beards & wear Western clothing**
- Brought **ballet** from France
- **Upper class women were allowed to attend public events for 1st time**
- Westernization **limited to the elite**



**"The Russia of today, that is to say,
European Russia, diplomatic, political,
military, commercial, industrial, scholastic,
literary - is the creation of Peter the Great.
Everywhere we look, we encounter this
colossal figure, who casts a long shadow over
our entire past."**

Nikolai Pogodin, Russian historian, 1846