

Joseph Stalin

1879-1953

-real name...

Josef Vissarionovich

Dzhugashvili

-son of a drunken

cobbler who abused him

-adopted two nicknames
during revolution period

"Koba"-mountain bandit

"Stalin"-man of steel

- Stalin, along with Leon Trotsky, were Lenin's 2 main helpers
- these two would have a power struggle after Lenin's death, Lenin preferred Trotsky
- Trotsky looked outward, wanted to continue Communist revolution worldwide, very Marxist, very idealistic

- Stalin looked inward,
 - wanted to "satisfy"
Russians first,
create a "workers paradise"
- Stalin wins power struggle,
- - Stalin noted for being extremely paranoid
- The Great Purges
 - the elimination of Stalin's rivals & political enemies
 - - use of secret police - KGB

- false imprisonments

torture

forced confessions

public "Show Trials"

w/confessions as evidence

public death penalty or

life imprisonment in gulags

importance

- "Stalinization" of society, he made himself central figure of society, created "cult of personality"

- Stalin tried to industrialize
- Russia quickly to catch up to rest of Europe/US
- show trials/purges eliminates much of countries military/political
- leadership - this hurts Russia in WWII
- art & culture virtually eliminated
- he had history re-written to eliminate some and give himself more credit

-most estimates by historians say Stalin is responsible for the deaths of 20 million Russians (does not include war dead during WW II)

-Trotsky assassinated in Mexico in 1940 by Soviet agents sent by Stalin

"UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE GREAT STALIN—FORWARD TO COMMUNISM" (19

