

Five Year Plans

- In 1928, Stalin ended the NEP
 - Turned to a *Command Economy*
 - Govt. planners make all economic decisions
 - NEP was an emergency measure - mostly govt. controlled (a planned economy)
 - Stalin wanted a permanent planned economy
- Stalin introduced *Five Year Plans*
 - Made to rapidly industrialize the USSR
 - Would make the country too strong for capitalist attack
 - Stalin said that in the past, Russia was ceaselessly beaten because she was so backward
 - Would make the USSR a model Communist state for the future
 - The plans contained goals for economic growth that were to be met within a 5-year period
 - The *First Five Year Plan* began in 1928
 - It set industrial, agricultural, and social (education, healthcare, housing) goals
 - It stretched the resources of USSR to the limit
 - Govt. needed to so they could modernize country
 - Two parts of program
 - Industrial
 - Agricultural
 - Expansion of heavy industry done at expense of consumer goods
 - Farms would be used to produce food for consumption and export
 - \$ from exports would pay for modernization of industry
 - Future of industry depended on agriculture

- Farms were collectivized - merged under govt. control



- Peasants joined collectives or suffered consequences
- Kulaks resisted - were purged
- First plan mostly successful
 - 70% of farmland collectivized
- Second Five Year Plan (1933) was even more ambitious
 - Called for production increases in industry
 - As with the 1st plan, growth came at the expense of food, clothing, and other consumer goods
 - All energy was focused on heavy industry
- The Five Year Plans were mostly successful in quickly modernizing heavy industry in the USSR
 - People of the countryside paid dearly for industrial growth
 - Food taken from their plates to sell & buy equipment
 - Resisters were jailed or killed (by the Millions!)
 - Some attempts at sabotage
 - Industrialization helped provide hardware to fight WWII
 - But Purges created a big problem for USSR in War
 - Military leaders were killed off