Selected Bibliography for The Year 1789

The Role of the Press during the French Revolution


This article discusses the development of the freedom of the press up until the time of the French Revolution. It highlights different writings and sources about how freedom of the press developed even during absolutist times. This freedom came to completion during the liberal stage of the Revolution. The article does not reach the radical stage of the Revolution where the freedom was again lost. DB


This article focuses more on group pamphlets or other types of informal printed communication during the Revolution. This includes propaganda from the time period both in word and picture. It focuses on the effect the printed word had on the Old Regime. DB


This article discusses the role that American and British intervention played in the Revolution and how this became expressed in the French press. It brings up the issue of emigration. It cites both revolutionary newspapers and other media sources, as well as American and British sources. DB


This article discusses the role of various Jacobin groups and the effect they had on the press in Revolutionary France. It refers to various publications by groups both in Paris and in the rest of France. The main point of the
article is to measure how the Jacobin ideas spread and the different ways in which they spread. DB


This article concentrates on the peasants of France and how their story was reported throughout France using periodicals. The study of press involvement in the peasant world is very important because this represents a modernizing of the media. Gruder uses actual pamphlets, as well as scholarly reactions to them, in the article. DB


Dechristianization and Enlightenment during the French Revolution


This book examines the idea of enlightenment in during the French revolution. Nigel Aston recognizes the subsistence of religious enlightenment convention during the revolution process. However, he argues that despite the religious enlightenment, there were still great numbers of superstitious beliefs among the citizens. This book is vital since it clarifies a highly significant interrelationship between the religion and revolution. Aston outlines that the revolution greatly impacted into religion reform and renewal thus leading to Dechristianization in the region. He concludes by sympathizing with Catholics who fought to maintain their practices and avoid Dechristianization. Nigel should be congratulated for his great research of analyzing the major relationship between religion and the French revolution. SA


Baker focuses on the relationship between the Enlightenment and the French revolution. The book clarifies that the revolution brought the Enlightenment into power. The major focus for the Enlightenment was to ensure conformation to the values and principles of the middle class French people. The author of the book also highlights changes in various sections of the country’s lifestyle such as overthrowing the feudal economy and introduction of capitalism. He concludes by saying that the revolution generally led to the philosophy of enlightenment that courageously attacked all issues related to socio-economic and socio-cultural French way of life. SA

This book addresses how the armies formed during the revolution played the most significant role in influencing Dechristianization and thus the Enlightenment. Richard clarifies that the army monopolized the crime of forcing all Christians in the French region to stop the Christianity practices. The content of this book highly aids my understanding that political leaders highly bought the notion of stopping the practice of Christianity values. The book argues that Catholic leaders tried hard to avoid these side effects of the revolution. It concludes that these activities greatly led to atheism in the army and resulted into the churchmen praying in hidden areas. SA


This article focuses on how priests and religious Christian men developed missions of reviving the beliefs of those men who had been affected by Dechristianization. The author’s main aim is to bring out how Dechristianization had changed most Frenchmen and the principles employed by the pastors recover the beliefs of these men. Kroen says that this was a complex task thus the challenges faced greatly opened their brains on how to conduct the functionality. This article enlightens my understanding of the historical research based on revolution experienced in the Europe. It clarifies that Catholic leaders played an essential role in the development of a well-strategized political system, rights to worship, and the general notion of nationhood. Kroen concludes that, if Church leaders did not try hard in enlightening people to a better way of social, cultural, and political life, then the revolution would have lasted for a very long time. SA


Phillips highlights the major cultural beliefs preferred by the Frenchmen that made them force people to stop practicing the Christianity practices. The article outlines the beliefs of being able to impose political policies under one’s requirements were the major influential factors to dechristianization. The author concludes by saying that, since the church was against political practices that frustrated the middle and lower class people, it made the political heads to enforce the avoidance of Christianity religious beliefs. SA


This article focuses on the relationship of enlightenment and revolution via an account of the French revolution. Sonenscher says that enlightenment during the French revolution, the wide range of political and societal disorder engulfed the
whole life of Frenchmen thus leading to them perceiving advanced ideas on leading a better way of life. The article agrees with the book (Sutherland, 1986) that the key influential factors to the revolution were the power struggles and socio-cultural misunderstandings between the French communities. The article concludes by clarifying that this Enlightenment led to opening up innovative ways for the study of the logical way of life. S4


This book focuses on the major factor that influenced the French revolution. The author critically analyzes the most significant synthesizes of the revolution. He affirms that the central cruise force to the revolution is based on the social conflicts between Frenchmen. He says that the collapse of the royal power led to existence of a power vacuum that triggered the revolution. Sutherland concludes by saying that power struggles and social misunderstandings between the communities led to the adoption of other religious cults that impacted to Dechristianization. S4

**The Role of Women during the French Revolution**


Abray says in her article that the feminist movement in France during the early part of the French Revolution was focused on gaining equal rights for all sexes and ages so all could participate in assemblies, debates, and appointments. Abray cites many instances where feminists campaign for economic, educational, legal, and political reform. PN


Desan states in her article that though French women were not usually prone to starting religious riots, they did take an active role in defending their families and communities. They felt a duty and right to riot and felt justified in using violence to accomplish their goals. PN


Garrioch’s article shows that women during the French Revolution, specifically the October Days, had both a sense of independence and of political awareness. Garrioch stresses the importance of women in the workplace, family life, and interactions with their male counterparts leading up to and during the October Days.  


Hufton states the importance of understanding the role women in the revolution is directly related to the role of women in the home and in the French economy. Hufton also talks about how women fought to keep their families above the line of destitution in the bread riots.  


Kindleberger focuses on women active in the political spheres of the French Revolution, specifically Corday, her appeal, and her letters. She also focuses on Marat and her similarities to Corday. Kindleberger uses iconography to help explain her finding on Corday and Marat.  


The Role of the Army in the French Revolution


Aston highlights the differences between the National Guard and Royal Army during the revolution. He argues that the Nation Guard was often provoked to react against the Royal Army. He explores the role of the army in years immediately following the revolution. He relies on primary sources, such as letter and government documents, to explain his argument.  


Clifford discusses how French citizens came to be a part of the National Guard. She shows how the uniform of the National Guard played in to the role of
citizenship. She argues that the uniform was available in various ways; it was largely open to the bourgeoisie but it was open to poor citizens too. Clifford relies on government archives and secondary sources. MP


Clifford begins by describing the formation of the National Guard. She details how the National Guard created the division of power and the roles different people took in the army. She describes the conflicts that arose within the formation of the Guard. MP


Lynn details the royal army prior to the revolution and shows the dramatic changes it underwent through the revolution. He shows how the royal army reacted to the revolution and how the National Guard grew from the conflict of July and August, 1789. Lynn then shows the growth and role of the army through the revolution. MP


Scott highlights the function of the National Guard and the royal army during the year 1790. He shows how conflicts that occurred between the two existing armies. Scott explains that the majority of the conflicts that arose during this, largely peaceful, year involved citizens rather than the opposing armies. MP


Scott helps illustrate the role of the National Guard in the French Revolution. He shows that the royal army existed with the National Guard and shows the conflicts they both faced. He shows that the armies helped shape the revolution. Scott uses various primary sources, including letters and personal correspondences, secondary sources that described the armies' roles, and political cartoons from the revolution. MP

Doug Brooking, Pete Nevers, Megan Parker, and Scott Amlung prepared this bibliography.