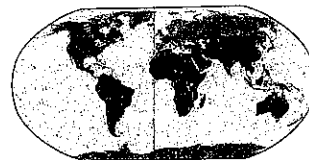


CHAPTER

23

Napoleon Bonaparte

Napoleon Bonaparte was a famous leader of the army of France. He became the emperor of France. He won many lands for France. Yet Napoleon died as a prisoner far from home.



THINK ABOUT AS YOU READ

1. How did Napoleon become the ruler of France?
2. What changes did Napoleon bring to France?
3. How did the Russians defend themselves against Napoleon?

NEW WORDS

- ♦ order
- ♦ Code Napoléon
- ♦ dictator
- ♦ censored
- ♦ defended
- ♦ allies
- ♦ allied nations

PEOPLE & PLACES

- ♦ Russia
- ♦ Russians
- ♦ Moscow
- ♦ Elba
- ♦ Waterloo
- ♦ Belgium
- ♦ St. Helena

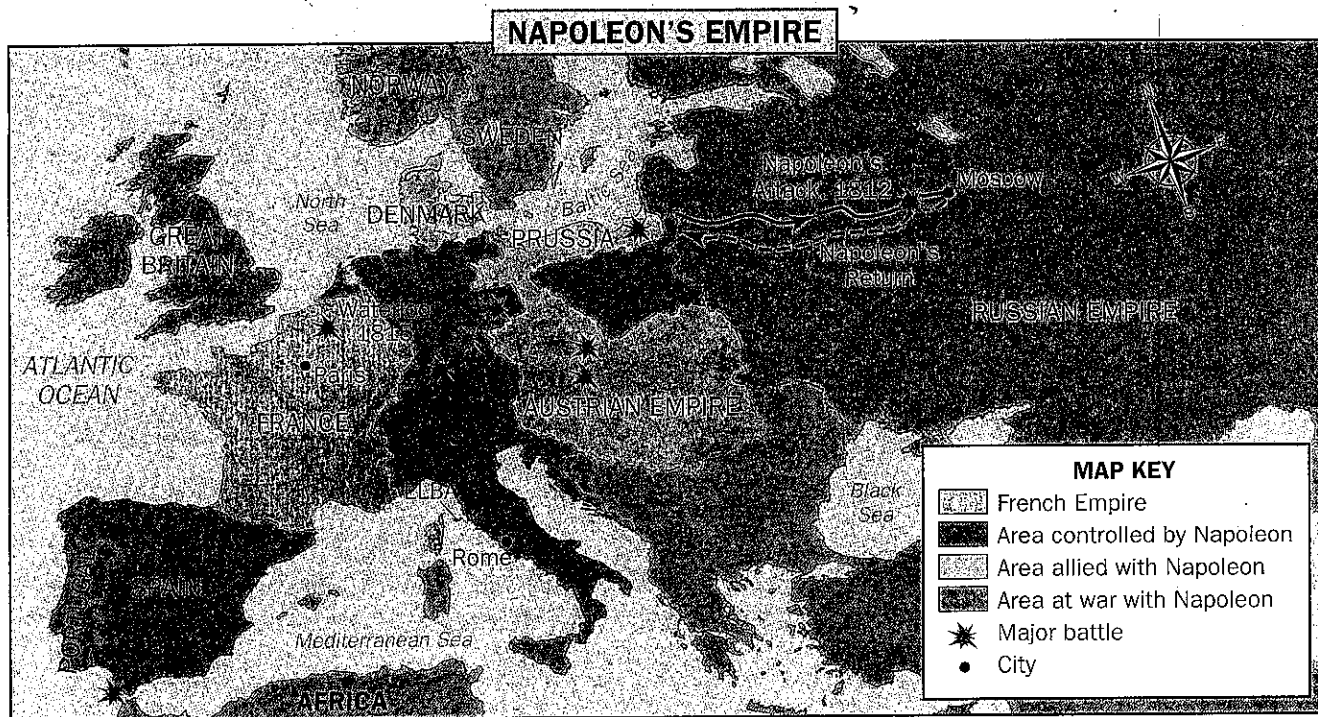
Napoleon was born in 1769. His parents came from noble Italian families. Napoleon joined the French army at the age of 16. Later, he became an important leader of the French army.

In 1796 Napoleon led the French army against its enemy, the Austrians. The Austrian army was in northern Italy. The French conquered the Austrians in Italy. Napoleon went on to win other battles. He soon became a famous French hero.

Napoleon wanted to rule France. The government of France was in Paris. In 1799 Napoleon went to the city of Paris with a group of French soldiers. Napoleon and his soldiers forced the leaders of the French



Napoleon Bonaparte carefully planned his attacks on the countries of Europe.



The map shows major battles fought by Napoleon. Which battle took place in the French Empire?

Republic to leave the government. Napoleon became the ruler of France.

The people of France wanted peace. They wanted the French Revolution to end. Napoleon was able to bring **order** to France. He helped solve France's money problems. Under Napoleon's rule, France built many new roads, buildings, and schools.

Napoleon made many fair laws. His system of laws was called the **Code Napoléon**. Some of his laws were based on the goals of the French Revolution. The laws gave religious freedom to all. The laws also said that all French people were equal. All people had to pay taxes.

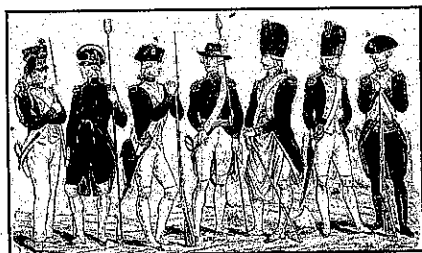
Napoleon set up a strong French government. He became a **dictator**. A dictator is a ruler who has full power. All the laws of France were made by Napoleon. Napoleon also **censored** newspapers. The newspapers were not allowed to say things against Napoleon. People did not have freedom of speech.

Much of the power of the Roman Catholic Church had been taken from the Church during the French Revolution. In order for the Church to help



Napoleon made himself emperor of France. Here he is crowning his wife empress.

him control France, Napoleon made changes that gave the Church more power. But Napoleon did not return land that was taken from the Church during the French Revolution.

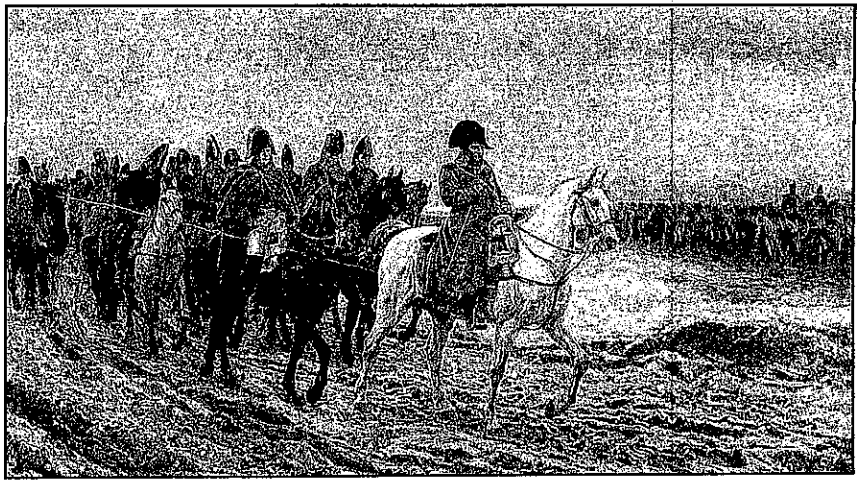


Soldiers of Napoleon

Napoleon wanted more power. So in 1804 Napoleon made himself the emperor of France. As the emperor he ruled all the nations France had conquered. But Napoleon wanted still more power. He wanted to rule all of Europe. He led the French army to war against many countries. By 1810 Napoleon controlled most of Europe. Look at the map of Napoleon's empire on page 156.

Napoleon wanted to conquer Russia. In 1812 he led a large army into Russia. This army had over 400,000 soldiers. Most of the soldiers were from the lands France had already conquered.

The Russians knew that Napoleon was coming. They did not have enough soldiers to win a war against France. They knew they could not defeat Napoleon by fighting. So the Russians **defended** themselves in a different way. They did not want French soldiers to use their homes or to eat their food. The Russians burned their homes and farms. They also burned Moscow, their capital city. They moved into eastern Russia.



Cold winter and snow led to the defeat of Napoleon in Russia.

Napoleon and his soldiers came to Russia. They found burned cities and burned houses. There were few Russians for the French soldiers to fight. Soon winter came to Russia. There was a lot of snow. The weather was very, very cold. The French soldiers did not have enough food or warm clothing. Napoleon knew he could not conquer Russia. So he decided to return to France with his army. Most of the cold, hungry soldiers died on the way back to France. The Russians and their cold winter had defeated Napoleon.



Napoleon and his soldiers in the burning city of Moscow

The conquered people of Europe hated Napoleon. He had forced the conquered people to pay a lot of taxes to France. He had forced conquered men to become soldiers in the French army. The conquered nations learned that Napoleon was defeated in Russia. His army was now very weak. The conquered nations decided to fight to be free again. These and other nations joined together as **allies** in a war against Napoleon. Some of the **allied nations** were Great Britain, Russia, and Austria.

The allied nations invaded France. They captured Paris. In 1814 the allies defeated Napoleon. Napoleon no longer ruled Europe. The allied nations forced Napoleon to leave France. They sent him to a small island called Elba. Elba is near Italy. The allied nations told Napoleon that he could never return to France.



Napoleon was captured by the allies after he lost the battle at Waterloo.



Napoleon on the island of St. Helena

Napoleon escaped from Elba and went back to Paris. He became emperor of France again. He was emperor for only 100 days. In 1815 Napoleon and his soldiers fought the allied nations again at Waterloo. Today Waterloo is a town in the country of Belgium. Find Waterloo on the map on page 156. Napoleon and his soldiers were defeated at Waterloo. Waterloo was Napoleon's last battle. Napoleon became a prisoner of the allies. The allies took Napoleon to St. Helena, a small island near southern Africa. Napoleon died there in 1821.

Napoleon was a strong ruler. He made laws to carry out some of the French Revolution's ideas about democracy. French soldiers spread the idea of "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity" to many parts of Europe. But Napoleon also took away the right to freedom of speech that people had won in the French Revolution. As a dictator and an emperor, Napoleon ruled with full power.

Napoleon had brought years of war to Europe. After Napoleon was defeated, the nations of Europe wanted peace. They wanted Europe to be the way it was before the French Revolution. You will read about Europe after Napoleon in the next chapter.

Using Vocabulary

Finish Up Choose words in dark print to best complete the sentences. Write the words on the correct blank lines.

defended allied nations dictator censored

1. As _____ of France, Napoleon ruled with complete power.
2. Napoleon _____ newspapers so that they could not say things against him.
3. Instead of fighting Napoleon's soldiers to save Russia, the Russians _____ their country by burning their homes and farms.
4. The nations that fought Napoleon were called _____.

Read and Remember

Finish the Paragraph Use the words in dark print to finish the paragraph below. Write on the correct blank lines the words you choose.

equal schools food Code Napoléon
fight allies Europe

Napoleon became the ruler of France in 1799. He was a strong ruler. Under Napoleon's rule, new _____ were built in France. The laws made by Napoleon were called the _____. These laws said that all French people were _____. Napoleon wanted to rule all of _____. He tried to conquer Russia, but the French army did not have enough warm clothing or _____. After that, the other conquered nations of Europe decided to _____ against Napoleon. At Waterloo, Napoleon and his soldiers were defeated by the _____.

Find the Answer Put a check (✓) next to each sentence that tells something true about Napoleon. You should check four sentences.

- _____ 1. Napoleon was the leader of the French army.
- _____ 2. Napoleon was caught trying to give secrets about France to Austria.
- _____ 3. Napoleon became emperor in 1804.
- _____ 4. Napoleon was a good emperor to all the people he ruled.
- _____ 5. Napoleon took away all of the Roman Catholic Church's power in France.
- _____ 6. In 1812 Napoleon led over 400,000 soldiers into Russia.
- _____ 7. Napoleon died on the island of St. Helena in 1821.

Think and Apply

Categories Read the words in each group. Decide how they are alike. Find the best title for each group from the words in dark print. Write the title on the line above each group.

Russia Waterloo Dictator Allied Nations

1. _____
Great Britain, Russia, and Austria
defeated Napoleon
took Napoleon to St. Helena

2. _____
censored newspapers
made all laws
had full power

3. _____
burned Moscow
cold winters
burned houses and farms
4. _____
Napoleon's last battle
1815
allies won

Journal Writing

Do you think Napoleon was a good ruler? Write a paragraph to explain your answer.