

Napoleon Timeline

1769 – Born in Corsica

1792 - Siege of Toulon – surrendered to Napoleon – Napoleon cut off the supply lines by land and water to achieve victory

1793 – Napoleon was made a general at age 24 – he became a mythical hero

1795 – “Whiff of Grapeshot” 10/5/1795 – The Directory was in power

Royalists in France were angry and had demands. The angry mob in Paris marched towards Parliament. Napoleon had his soldiers’ line up cannons with “Grapeshot” and fire at the angry mob massacring them.

1795 – War with Austria – Austrians defeated in the Alps

Napoleon had his troops go through the Alps with only 3 days of supplies so they could catch the Austrians off guard with speed and surprise. They plundered small villages along the way. Took art and valuables back to France. Again he is looked at as a god.

1796 – Napoleon marries Josephine - They were not able to have children. He left Josephine for another woman named Marie. He loved Power more than his wife.

1798 – Egyptian Campaign – Napoleon decides to go to fight the British in Egypt. The black plague hits his army and wipes them out. He abandons his army, flees to Paris and will take over Parliament.

1799 – Coup d’ Etat – Napoleon overthrows the Directory but they shout him down and he runs out. His brother Lucien finds him scared and scratching his face as if he is having a break down. Lucien shakes him back to reality and helps him to force the government out and to get the members to sign onto a new government lead by Napoleon “Consulate Government”

1800 – First plebiscite (special election) Napoleon gets himself voted in as First Consul for life by 99% of the voters. He is beloved by the people and looked at as a great hero. He ignores the fact that he had a defeat in Egypt. Second plebiscite – Napoleon was ironically voted Emperor of France.

1804 – Emperor of France – Painting shows the arrogance of Napoleon crowning himself Emperor and his wife Josephine, Empress of France. He had painter put his mother looking on when she was not even there. The pope appears to be blessing the crowning to show church members he was approved by the pope. He is like the Roman emperor Caesar.

Key terms:

Concordat – the pope maintained control over the clergy and the government maintained control of property and religious freedom

Domain Extraordinaire – created contributions through seized possessions

Meritocracy – Government and civil service positions are to be awarded based on merit

Napoleonic Code – One single set of clearly written laws applying to all French citizens

1802 – Peace of Amien – Napoleon is trying to buy time as the Napoleonic wars are starting.

1805 – Battle of Trafalgar – a sea battle in the Strait of Gibraltar between the British and French and Napoleon's Navy was defeated. It was apparent that Napoleon would not be able to beat the British at sea.

1805 – Battle of Austerlitz – this is a land battle in which Napoleon defeats the 3rd Coalition and takes over Europe

1806 – Napoleon signs the Treaty of Tilsit with Tsar Alexander which creates the Continental System cutting Great Britain off from trading with the rest of Europe

1812 – Napoleon is defeated by Russia

1814 – Napoleon is captured and banished to the island of Elba, but later escapes and returns to France as Emperor

1815 – Napoleon is defeated at the Battle of Waterloo and banished to the island of St. Helena