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Governments of Revolutionary France

Background:

* After the initial start of the French Revolution, the people of France struggled to create a more democratic government.

Directions

* **Review the Quick Facts Visual from page 208 provided below**
* **Add notes on topics listed under each heading as indicated in blue you may use the text or on line sources. A few samples have been added in blue so that you can better understand the focus of your work**
* **Once you have completed your work copy it and save it to your hard drive or desk top then upload the finished work to your wiki on your French Revolution page**

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| **GOVERNMENTS OF** **REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE** | Quick Facts |

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| Throughout the Revolution, legislative bodies dissolved to create new governments. Methods of electing the legislatures differed. |

**National Assembly,** created June 17, 1789

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|  | **Ended feudalism and privileges of the First and Second Estates** – **It Eliminated the idea that the first two Estates were above the law**  **The end of feudalism helped guarantee the help of the peasants** |
|  | **Approved the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen**  ***Everyone got equal rights at that moment.***  ***Many people were happy and got the rights that they deserved.***  ***Excluded women and slaves.***  ***Inspired by the enlightened thinkers.*** |
|  | **Seized church lands and made clergy paid employees**  ***Clergy was not happy about this, but was in no position to resist.***  ***Became public officials.***  ***Made clergy sell land to pay off debt.*** |
|  | **Wrote constitution that reduced the king’s power**  **The purpose was to promote the rights to the members of the 3rd Estate who were men who were taxpayers over the age of 25** |

**Legislative Assembly,** first met September 1791

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|  | **Inexperienced representatives, often deadlocked on domestic issues**  **Often supported only the group of people they represented**  ***Made up of people with little experience.*** |
|  | **Declared war on Austria in April 1792**  ***Prussia also declares war on France to help Austria.***  ***Hoped that war would spread ideas on the revolution.*** |

**National Convention,** first met September 1792

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| **** | **Ended monarchy, proclaimed France a republic**  **Marked the end of the Old Order.**  **Would end the rigid control of the king and end the superior power of the first two estates.** |
|  | **Tried and executed Louis XVI for treason**  **The king was seen as the symbol for all that was wrong in the French Government and society** |
|  | **Instituted draft to increase size of army**  **Feared the execution of the king would lead to repercussions from other monarchies of Europe**  **Wanted to prepare in case of attack by foreign power** |
|  | **In power during Reign of Terror**  **Tightened control over government to avoid a counter-revolution**  **Soon anyone who had ever criticized the Revolution or had any link to the Old Order was subject to possible imprisonment or execution** |
|  | **Began codifying (categorizing) laws and creating public education system**  **Laws that apply to all people and education that is open and free for all** |
|  | **Abolished slavery in French colonies**  ***Shortly happened after the adoption of the declarations of the rights of man.***  ***Declared that slavery or blacks in all colonies to be immediately abolished.***  ***Restored by the consulate in 1802*** |
|  | **Wrote a new constitution, and created the Directory**  ***Split into 2 directories the first and the second***  ***Republic ended with the fall of Robespierre*** |

**Directory,** first met in 1795

***Systems run by 5 directors.***

***Held executive power in France***

***Members chosen by council of ancients***

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|  | **Run by an executive branch of five directors**  ***Systems run by 5 directors.***  ***Held executive power in France***  ***Members chosen by council of ancients*** |
|  | **Weak, corrupt, and inefficient**  ***Caused French leaders to fear monarchy***  ***Others feared growing opposition of Europe nations*** |
|  | **Ended in 1799 when Napoleon seized power** |

***Napoleon set out to conquer Europe.***

***Napoleon was now a dictator.***