Napoleon Bonaparte: His Successes and Failures

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DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.26417/ejms.v6i2.p189-197

Abstract

Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821), also known as Napoleon I, was a French military leader and emperor who conquered much of Europe in the early 19th century. Born on the island of Corsica, Napoleon rapidly rose through the ranks of the military during the French Revolution (1789-1799). After seizing political power in France in a 1799 coup d'état, he crowned himself emperor in 1804. Shrewd, ambitious and a skilled military strategist, Napoleon successfully waged war against various coalitions of European nations and expanded his empire. However, after a disastrous French invasion of Russia in 1812, Napoleon abdicated the throne two years later and was exiled to the island of Elba. In 1815, he briefly returned to power in his Hundred Days campaign. After a crushing defeat at the Battle of Waterloo, he abdicated once again and was exiled to the remote island of Saint Helena, where he died at 51.

Napoleon was responsible for spreading the values of the French Revolution to other countries, especially in legal reform and the abolition of serfdom. After the fall of Napoleon, not only was the Napoleonic Code retained by conquered countries including the Netherlands, Belgium, parts of Italy and Germany, but has been used as the basis of certain parts of law outside Europe including the Dominican Republic, the US state of Louisiana and the Canadian province of Quebec. The memory of Napoleon in Poland is favorable, for his support for independence and opposition to Russia, his legal code, the abolition of serfdom, and the introduction of modern middle class bureaucracies. The social structure of France changed little under the First Empire. It remained roughly what the Revolution had made it: a great mass of peasants comprising three-fourths of the population—about half of them works owners of their farms or sharecroppers and the other half with too little land for their own subsistence and hiring themselves out as laborers. Industry, stimulated by the war and the blockade of English goods, made remarkable progress in northern and eastern France, whence exports could be sent to central Europe; but it declined in the south and west because of the closing of the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. The great migrations from rural areas toward industry in the towns began only after 1815. The nobility would probably have declined more swiftly if Napoleon had not restored it, but it could never recover its former privileges. Finally we can say that many of the territories occupied by Napoleon during his Empire began to feel a new sense of nationalism.
Napoleon Bonaparte help? I need help categorizing his successes and failures! I know there are a lot on here, but if you could just tell me whether there were a success or a failure for him would even help! or any website that you could give me full of information. creations of republics abolition of serfdom and feudalism show more I need help categorizing his successes and failures! I know there are a lot on here, but if you could just tell me whether there were a success or a failure for him would even help! or any website that you could give me full of information. creations of republics abolition of serfdom and feudalism show more

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Napoleon's reign was marked by both success and failure. On the one hand, he restored order to France, modernized its government, and improved its infrastructure. His reforms included the creation of the Napoleonic Code, which standardized civil codes throughout France, and the establishment of a new postal system. Napoleon's campaigns in Italy, Egypt, and Russia led to significant victories, cementing his reputation as a military genius.

On the other hand, Napoleon's policies also contributed to his eventual downfall. His aggressive expansionism led to international conflicts, including the Napoleonic Wars. These wars drained France's resources and ultimately led to Napoleon's defeat at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. After his abdication, Napoleon was exiled to the island of Elba, but he escaped and returned to France, only to be defeated again and sent into permanent exile on the island of Saint Helena, where he died in 1821.

Napoleon's legacy is complex, with both admirers and critics. Some view him as a great statesman and military strategist, while others see him as a tyrant and a war criminal. His influence on modern political and legal systems is undeniable, and his impact on European history is still felt today.