

Emancipation Edict Process and Impact

- Positive
- Negative
- Neither / just process

Obj - to understand 3 phases of emancipation and the short and long term impact of emancipation.

Stage 1 - Freedom
Gave serfs the right to

- Marry.
- Own property.

However

- Continue to work for 2 years.
- Lands still had to be surveyed.

Stage 2 - Temporary Obligation
Serfs still had to pay rent and remained under the control of the landlords until land redeemed.

All non - domestic serfs to be given cottage and land close to it. Charters drawn up to distribute land subject to approval from serfs.

Stage 3 - Redemption Organisation. Serfs begin to pay for their allotted land - over 49 years @ 6% interest.

Serfs organised into rural communities - communes or new townships of 2 - 3000 people. Collected redemption payments.

Mir took responsibility for communal lands and redistributing lands as required.

'Peace Mediators' would supervise distribution of land. There was a minimum maximum amount and this varied by region.

'The single greatest piece of state - directed engineering in modern European History.'
Terrence Emmons

Ev- 'A cruel joke'.
John Grenville

Some hard - working or lucky peasants received healthy allotments of land. Minority even bought more from others. New class of wealthy peasants called - kulaks

Russian industry expanded.

Some sold their land and left the mir - moved to urban areas earning 'reasonable wages.'

Many landowners used redemption payments to pay off debts.

Landowners often able to obtain the best portions of land.

Serfs often paid inflated prices - 30 - 90%.

Inflated land prices led to 15% of peasants remaining 'obligated' to landlords until 1881.

Increasingly, peasants had to sell to landlords or kulaks. They joined former domestic serfs in a growing number of migrants labourers.

Ukraine 'wheat basket' Grain exports increased.

- 1861 = 31%
- 1891 = 47%

Average = of 9 acres was 20% less than before and not enough to sustain most peasants.

Ev - 'Despite initial hopes, discontentment increased ... redemption payments reduced the peasants' purchasing power. This measure consequently failed to stimulate industry' S.Waller.

Nobles = by 1905 has to sell 30% of land and 50% was mortgaged = **angry!**

Perspective - Edward Crankshaw - a sense of disorientation.

By 1878 - only 50% of peasants produced a crop surplus.

Change to land structure meant that peasants no longer had access to woods and common lands + pastures.

Perspective - Soviet Historians - reforms left peasants with heavy burdens and 'land hunger.'

Sharecropping system for some - who remained heavily in debt.

Land became sub - divided by mir to redistribute to children.

Peasants lost protections from landlords and the right to get fire wood from forests and graze animals on common pastures - now held by landlords.

Bezдна Unrest - April 1861. Commander shot 500 peasants.

Mir = increasingly oppressive .

- banishment to Siberia
- flogging.
- not issuing passports.
- F in law have sex with d in law!



Mir - groups of farms or farmsteads. Rural communities that made up the 'world' of the peasant.

Volost - an elected assembly of delegates chosen from the mir. Represented about 2000 - 3000 people.

Redemption Payments - What the serfs had to pay annually to buy their land.

Kulak - meaning fist—a new wealthy class of peasant. Bought land from others.

Nobles - the elite, landowning class.



Emancipation Edict Process and Impact - 1861 - 1905



Obj - to understand 3 phases of emancipation and the short and long term impact of emancipation. Consider 'Impact of Emancipation' type essay.

Process of Emancipation c 1861 - 1881		Terms
Stage 1		Mir Redeem Volost Kulak
Stage 2		
Stage 3		



	Short Term Impact of Emancipation	Long Term Impact of Emancipation	Perspectives
Serfs			<p>F. Dostoevsky 'The Liberator'</p> <p>T. Emmons 'greatest piece of state - directed engineering'</p> <p>E. Crankshaw (The Shadow of the Winter Palace) 'Too much, too soon' = a sense of chaos / confusion.</p> <p>Soviet View The heavy burden 'Land hunger'</p> <p>J. Westwood 'Alexander did little for the serfs'</p> <p>J. Grenville 'A cruel joke'</p> <p>P. Watts 'The peasants were incredulous they had to pay for land they thought belonged to them'</p>
Landowners			
Other			

ESSAY PLAN	Para 1		Para 2		Para 3		Para 4		Para 5	
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