



Document 1

Source: Stalin in a speech, 1929

The solution lies in enlarging the agricultural units...and in changing the agricultural base of our national economy....the Socialist way, which is to set up collective farms and state farms which leads to the joining together of small peasant farms into large collective farms, technically and scientifically equipped, and to the squeezing out of the capitalist elements from agriculture.

According to Stalin, how can agricultural production be increased?

Document 2

Source: A letter from Feigin to Sergo, a close and longtime friend of Stalin, who was latter thought to have been planning to denounce him and was found dead in 1937

I have driven around several collective farms [kolkhozes] and consider it necessary to inform you about a few items. I was in various kolkhozes--not productive and relatively unproductive ones, but everywhere there was only one sight--that of a huge shortage of seed, famine, and extreme emaciation of livestock. In the kolkhozes which I observed I attempted to learn how much the livestock had diminished in comparison with the years 1927-28. It turns out that kolkhoz Ziuzia has 507 cows at present while there were 2000 in '28; kolkhoz Ust'-Tandovskii collectively and individually has 203 head, earlier they had more than 600; kolkhoz Kruglo-Ozernyi at present has 418 head of beef cattle, in 1928 there were 1800 head; -Take care, Feigin **April 1932**

Identify two characteristics of collective farms according to Feigin.

Document 3

This excerpt, from “Forced Famine in the Ukraine: A Holocaust the West Forgot” by Adrian Karatnycky, was printed in The Wall Street Journal, on July 7, 1983.

Today, reliable academic estimates place the number of Ukrainian victims of starvation at 4.5 million to 7 million. . . . The famine was in part the by-product of Stalin’s relentless drive to collectivize Soviet agriculture. The famine was a clear result of the fact that between 1931 and 1933, while harvests were precipitously declining, Stalin’s commissars continued to . . . confiscate grain. Peasants were shot and deported as rich, landowning “kulaks”. . . . While the drive to collectivize agriculture was a wide-ranging phenomenon common to the entire U.S.S.R., only in the Ukraine did it assume a genocidal character. Indeed there can be no question that Stalin used the forced famine as part of a political strategy whose aim was to crush all vestiges of Ukrainian national sentiments.

According to this author, what were two explanations for the elimination of between 4.5 and 7 million Ukrainians between 1932 and 1933?

Document 4

Source: Stalin in a speech, November 3, 1929

We are advancing full steam ahead along the path of industrialization -- to socialism, leaving behind the age-old "Russian" backwardness. We are becoming a country of metal, a country of automobiles, a country of tractors. And when we have put the U.S.S. R. on an automobile, and the muzhik (Russian peasant) on a tractor, let the worthy capitalists, who boast so much of their "civilization," try to overtake us! We shall yet see which countries may then be "classified" as backward and which as advanced.

According to the document above, how does Stalin promise to affect the Soviet Union?

Document 5

The Five Year Plans			
	1927-8	1932	1937
Coal - millions of tons	35.4	64.3	128.0
Oil - millions of tons	11.7	21.4	28.5
Pig-iron - millions of tons	3.3	6.2	14.5
Steel - millions of tons	4.0	5.9	17.7
Electricity - thousand million kilowatt hrs.	5.0	17.0	36.2
Woolen cloth - millions of meters	97.0	93.3	108.3

According to the chart above, what was Stalin's impact on the Soviet Union?

Document 6



Source: Sirocenqo, 1938 Long Live the Great Stalin



Source: Maria Voron: Shock-brigade, Reaping for a Bolshevik Harvest

What are the intended messages of the posters of above?

Document 7

Great Purge

During the 1930s in the Soviet Union, an event known as the Great Purge eliminated any opposition to Joseph Stalin as he cemented his control of the Soviet Communist Party and the Soviet government. Stalin brought an end to factionalism within the party by conducting a series of show trials during which his enemies confessed to crimes, both real and imagined, which resulted in their imprisonment or execution. The trials were a source of great disillusionment to communists in the Western countries who had looked to the Soviet Union for leadership.

The first trial began in August 1936 and involved accusations against several prominent Bolsheviks who had participated in the Russian Revolution of 1917. These communist veterans were accused of plotting to overthrow Stalin, and all of them were found guilty and executed. Additional trials of veteran communist leaders were held in 1937 and 1938. These public spectacles were known as show trials because they were intended to show the Soviet public and the international press that the defendants were being given a fair trial under the Soviet judicial system. It was later determined that the accused figures in the show trials were innocent, and the charges were fabricated by the Soviet secret police.

In addition to these show trials, secret trials of top Soviet military leaders, who were accused of collaborating with the Soviet Union's enemies, were held. Purges of the entire Soviet armed forces were conducted, and thousands of military commanders were executed or sent to forced labor camps. As terror gripped the entire country, the secret police arrested millions of ordinary citizens, accused of being "enemies of the people," who never had any trial at all but were simply shot or imprisoned.

By the end of the 1930s, the Great Purge had begun to subside. Stalin successfully eliminated his critics and silenced any potential rivals. A vast prison labor force was put to work on monumental construction projects. The Soviet Union, however, suffered incalculable losses in the early stages of Operation Barbarossa, which began in June 1941 during World War II, as a result of Stalin's extermination of so many experienced military leaders.

MLA

"Great Purge." *World History: The Modern Era*. ABC-CLIO, 2014. Web. 18 Mar. 2014.

What were two reasons Stalin initiated the Great Purge?

Was he successful?

Document 8

The Purge of the Red Army 1937-38

Political Officials and Officers	Original Number	Number Executed
Vice Commissars of Defense	11	11
Army Commissars	17	17
Corps Commissars	28	25
Brigade Commissars	36	34
Members of Supreme Military Soviet	80	75

According to the document above, how was the Red Army affected by Stalin's policies?