

## **LIFE IN A TOTALITARIAN STATE (THE SOVET UNION)**

**An Age of Totalitarian Control** - Stalin created a totalitarian state - form of govt. in which one-party dictatorship regulates every aspect of the lives of its citizens

**Terror** - Stalin's Communist party used secret police, censorship, violent purges, and terror

**Propaganda** - radios & loudspeakers blared into factories and villages - citizens heard about communist success and the evils of capitalism in movies, theaters, schools, newsreels, and newspapers - *Pravda* (or "Truth") was the Communist party newspaper

**Changes in Soviet Society** - **The New Elite** - head of society: Communist party members - only a few Soviet citizens could join - included industrial managers, military leaders, scientists, some artists and writers

- they enjoyed special privileges: best apartments in cities, vacation homes in the country, shopped at special stores - good shoes distinguished the elite from the common citizens

**The Arts and the State** - Stalin forced artists & writers to conform to social realism, an artistic style that tried to boost socialism by showing Soviet life in a positive light

- govt. controlled what books were published, what music was heard, which works of art were displayed - artists who ignored Communist guidelines couldn't get materials, work space, or jobs

- writers, artists and composers faced govt. persecution under Stalin's totalitarian policies