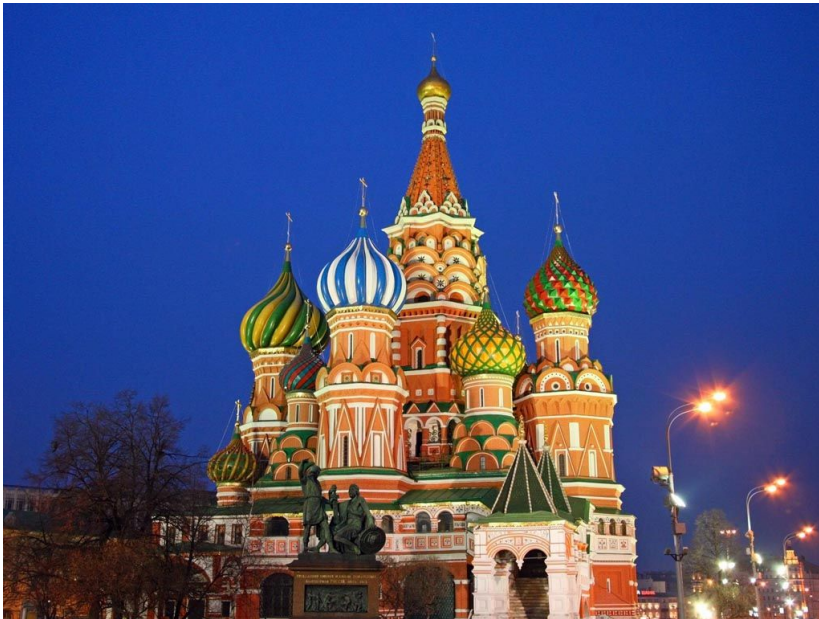




## Lost Civilizations: Russia : The Tsars Empire

HD



The history of Russia is that of the formation of a vast empire which gradually expanded between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, reaching from the plains of eastern Europe to the banks of the Pacific and the mountains of central Asia.

At first it was the Great Empire that covered the entire Dnieper basin with Kiev as its capital. The princes in Kiev establish relations with Byzantium and adopt the orthodox religion and Greek alphabet. In the 12<sup>th</sup> century the power will move from Kiev to the Russian cities of the Volga basin.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the invasion of the Mongols will put an end to this eastward expansion, by subjugating the Russian principalities to the Mongol Empire until the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

Amongst the vassals of the Mongols were the princes of Moscow, a city situated at a crossing of river routes, all the more important as they were the only ones that were passable in a vast region of forests.

The small principality of Moscow succeeded in founding a new Russia thanks to the prudent politics of its princes, who acted as zealous agents of the Mongol domination up to the moment where they felt strong enough to turn against it.

It was with Ivan III, contemporary of the French King Louis XI, that Russia was liberated and unified, at the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and links with Europe were renewed. In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, Pierre le Grand makes Russia a modern state, favoring the evolution of the society, developing the economy and encouraging the birth of a new culture.

With Catherine II, Russia takes its place amongst the enlightened monarchies of Europe. But not without brutality as is shown by her attitude during the various partitions of Poland

The Russian troops, in their fight against the French Revolution, even travelled to Switzerland and Italy, and broke through to Paris in 1814.

In reality, Russia also keeps an eye to the East where Turkey's dominance is collapsing, and, even though it was one of the powers behind the Holy Alliance, it does not escape revolutionary contagion.

**Directed by Jacques VICHET**

*French Version*  
*English Version*

A documentary of 52' Liberal, Alexander II has to reconsider his reforms after the Polish insurrection of 1863 and the progress of the opposition.

High Definition The repression is further worsened by Alexander III between 1881 and 1894.  
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9 It does nothing but delay a deadline that seems inevitable.

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The revolution of 1904-1905 signals the collapse of the Romanov dynasty in 1917.