



# The Russian Revolution: A Beginner's Guide (Beginner's Guides)

*By Abraham Ascher*

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1917: the year a series of rebellions toppled three centuries of autocratic rule and placed a group of political radicals in charge of a world power. Here, suddenly, was the first modern socialist state, “a kingdom more bright than any heaven had to offer”. But the dream was short-lived, bringing in its wake seventy years of conflict and instability that nearly ended in nuclear war.

How could such a revolution take place and what caused it to go so very wrong? Presenting a uniquely long view of events, Abraham Ascher takes readers from the seeds of revolution in the 1880s right through to Stalin’s state terror and the power of the communist legacy in Russia today. Original and shrewd, Ascher’s analysis offers an unparalleled introduction to this watershed period in world history

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**The Russian Revolution: A Beginner's Guide (Beginner's Guides)** By Abraham Ascher Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #870634 in Books
- Published on: 2014-04-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.70" h x .60" w x 5.00" l, .35 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 218 pages

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#### About the Author

**Abraham Ascher** is Distinguished Emeritus Professor of History at the City University of New York's graduate school. A highly respected scholar, he is the recipient of numerous awards and the author of seven books and over 30 articles. He lives in New York City.

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