

## Stalin's Rise to Power: Timeline of Key Dates

### **1922:**

- Stalin was appointed **General Secretary** of the Party
- Lenin suffered from two strokes
- Triumvirate of Stalin, Zinoviev, and Kamenev formed collective leadership for the Party
- Lenin wrote his 'Political Testament' (will)

### **1923:**

- Lenin added a postscript to Political Testament, calling for Stalin's removal as General Secretary
- 'Scissors Crisis' led Trotsky and others on the Left to **question NEP**

### **1924:**

- Death of Lenin
- May: Lenin's 'Testament' **suppressed** by Central Committee

### **1925:**

- Trotsky loses position as War Commissar
- Zinoviev and Kamenev began to **oppose Stalin**
  - Kamenev and Zinoviev head the '**United Opposition**'
- Party Congress endorsed **NEP and Socialism in One Country**

### **1926:**

- Trotsky joins Kamenev and Zinoviev
  - United Opposition was **removed** from the Politburo
- Voroshilov and other allies of Stalin joined the Politburo

### **1927:**

- Zinoviev, Kamenev, and Trotsky were expelled from the Party
- 'Grain procurement crisis began as **peasants withheld grain**

### **1928:**

- 'Grain procurement crisis continued'
  - Stalin responded by **requisitioning grain** in the so-called Urals-Siberia method
- Bread rationing was introduced in Moscow and Leningrad
- '**First Five Year Plan** was introduced; NEP was abandoned

### **1929-1930:**

- Party Congress set **ambitious targets** for the First Five Year Plan
- 'Right **Opposition** (Tomsky, Rykov, and Bukharin) was **removed** from the Politburo
- Trotsky was expelled from the USSR
- '**Collectivisation** was introduced; the 'liquidation of the kulzks'