

Cultural

awareness

Tuesday (14th) was a very important day in France. Do you know what French people celebrated ?

The 14th July is Bastille Day or "*le 14 Juillet*" .

It is celebrated across the whole country and is a bank holiday. It is considered to be a very patriotic celebration

So let's now see where it all began and how it is celebrated today



Where it all began ...

Bastille Day is at the origin of the French revolution



Have you already heard of the French revolution ?



The French revolution is one of the most important historical period which lasted from 1789 to 1799.

It affected the whole French social and political system.

It marked the end of the monarchy and church's authority on the working class, especially during the creation of the declaration of the human and citizen rights in 1799.

Where it all began ...

Some famous paintings on the French revolution



Where it all began ...



Where it all began ...



Where it all began ...



La déclaration des droits de l'homme et du citoyen- August 1799

Where it all began ...

The Bastille was a famous prison in Paris, built in 1357.

At that time, justice was only available for upper class called *bourgeoisie* which means that it was very easy for the working class to be sentenced for no reason





Where it all began ...

The church and the king were very powerful and imposed many taxes on the working class so much so that they often struggled to make end's meet.



1788 and 1789 were terrible for crops. France struggles to harvest enough food for its population and experiences a situation of famine.

Early July 1789, the king decides to create a new tax for the working class who strongly protest against it

Anger increases in Paris and the people in the morning of the 14th July decide to siege the Bastille, symbol of the king's authority, let the prisoners free and take all the gun powder.

The protests will spread first across Paris then all over France



Where it all began ...



This is the beginning of the French revolution !

Where it all began ...



After many violent conflicts, peace is re-established during the creation of the declaration of the human and citizen rights in August 1799.

Where it all began ...

The Bastille started to be demolished on 15th July.
Stones were given away as souvenirs and sent to many
places in France.



Where it all began ...

What is left of the Bastille today ?



Where it all began ...



La place de la Bastille

Bastille day was officially recognised as national day in 1880.

Benjamin Raspail passed a law which officially recognised the 14th July as a national day



How is Bastille Day celebrated in France ?

Bank holiday



Military parade on the champs Élysée



Fireworks and parties in many towns





FÊTE NATIONALE : OÙ FÊTER LE 14 JUILLET EN VAL DE LOIRE ?

[Accueil](#) · [Evènements](#) · Fête Nationale : Où fêter le 14 juillet en Val de Loire ?



Quel est le programme des **festivités du 14 juillet** cette année à Orléans, Blois, Tours et Angers ? **My Loire Valley** vous dit tout sur les animations, spectacles, cérémonies, feux d'artifices et bals du 14 juillet prévus ce week-end dans le **Val de Loire**.

QUIZ

Put yourselves in groups of 4



1. When did the French revolution take place ?

14 Juillet

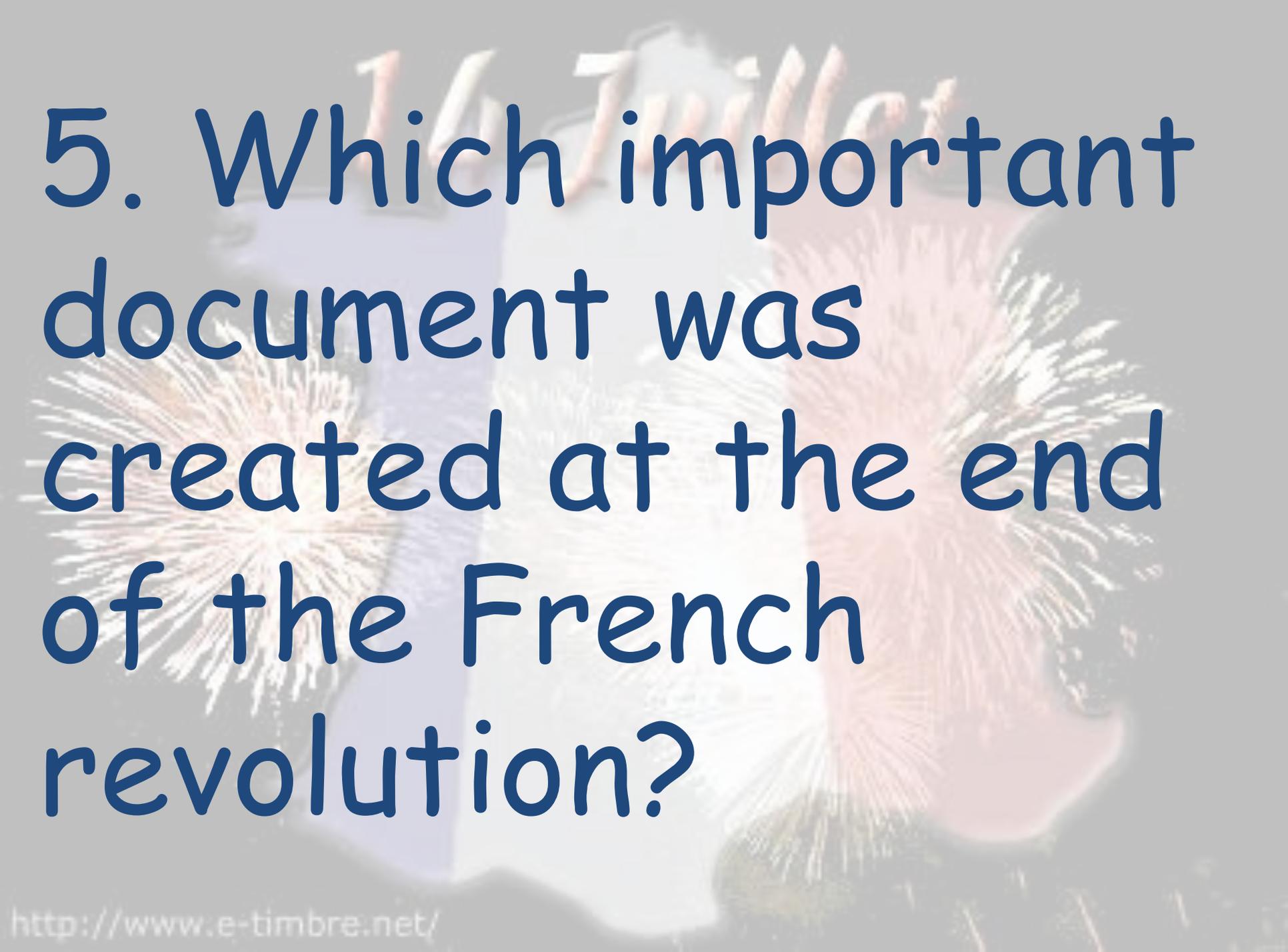
2. What was the Bastille?

The background of the slide features a vertical French flag (blue, white, and red stripes) with several large, bright fireworks exploding in the night sky behind it. The fireworks are in various stages of explosion, with some showing distinct starburst patterns.

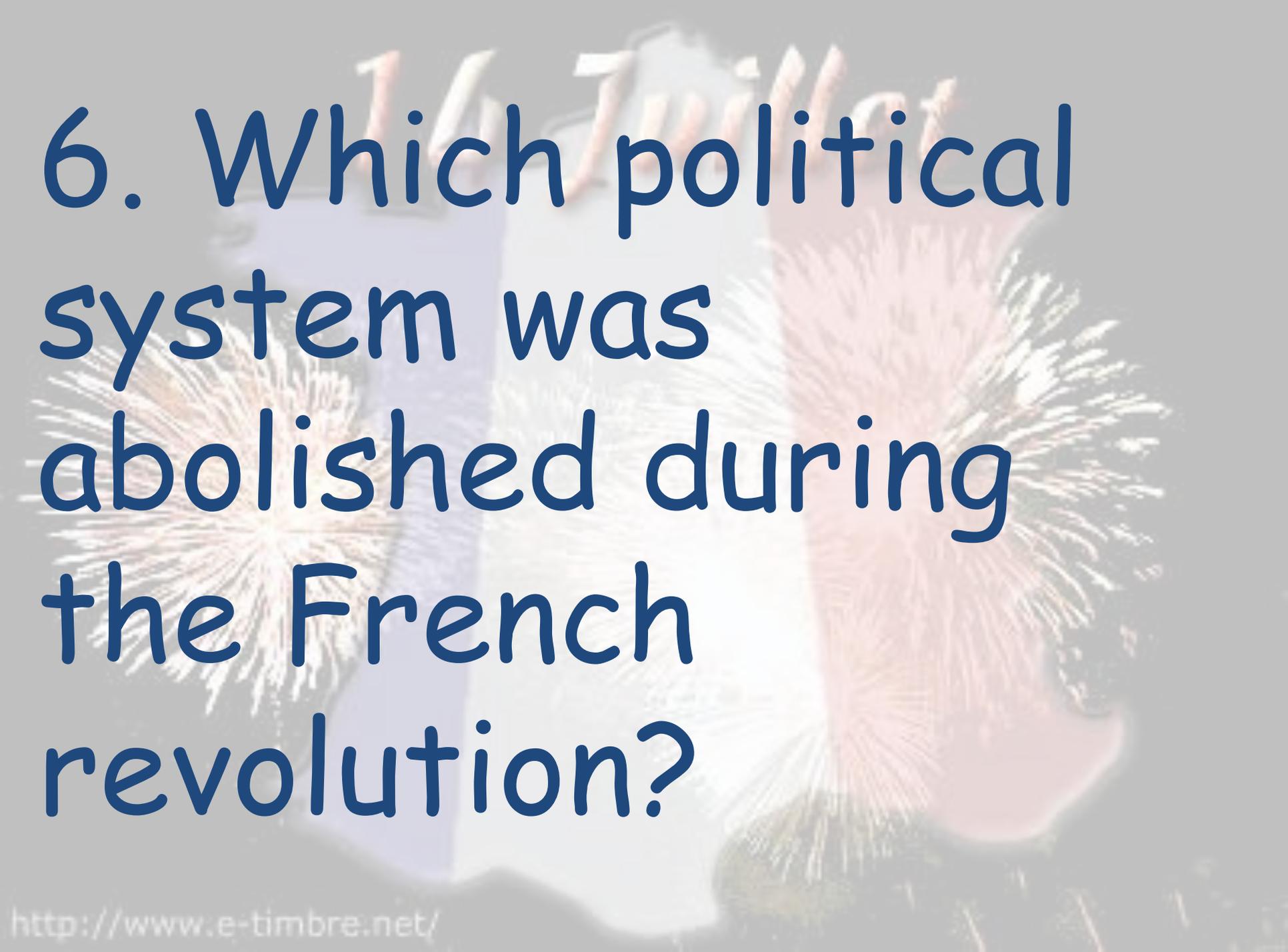
3. Where was the Bastille built?



4. What did the king do in early July?



5. Which important document was created at the end of the French revolution?



6. Which political system was abolished during the French revolution?



7. When was
Bastille Day
recognised as
National day?