**Effects of Napoleon’s Armies in Europe**

The immediate effects of the Napoleonic Wars were the development and spread of nationalism and further revolution in Europe. As Napoleon’s armies were conquering other nations, his soldiers also began to spread ideas of the Enlightenment, changes in government, and revolution. These ideas indirectly led to Napoleon’s defeat as people in Europe began learning about challenges to government as well as new systems of government. Napoleon’s armies, who had lived through the French Revolution, shared news of the causes and events of their own revolution, therefore spreading Enlightenment ideas about natural rights, social contract, and limited government. Napoleon’s armies even backed revolutionary governments or movements in the lands they conquered.

1. What were two effects of the Napoleonic Wars in Europe?

2. As Napoleon’s armies were conquering other nations, what ideas were they spreading?

3. What specific Enlightenment ideas were spread by Napoleon’s armies throughout Europe?

At the same time, Napoleon began trying to impose French customs and culture, and in response the conquered people began feeling more loyal to their own nations and customs. Citizens of conquered lands such as Austria, Prussia, Italy, and Portugal therefore began wanting to eliminate the French presence in order to gain self-rule, and the idea of Nationalism developed and began to spread. Nationalism is the belief that one’s greatest loyalty is to a shared culture (including aspects of common history, language, religion, and nationality) rather than to a leader or border. As a result of Napoleon’s conquest of Europe, nationalist sentiments were ignited. Enlightenment ideals became the rallying cry for the masses across Europe and throughout the world in the 1800s, contributing to the growth of nationalism, which in turn caused various revolutions across Europe and Latin America.

4. What was the result of Napoleon forcing French customs and culture on the people of Europe?

5. What is Nationalism?

6. What was the result of combining Enlightenment ideals and growing nationalism in Europe and Latin America?