

Art/religion



Stalin developed what became known as a "personality cult" where artists had to paint pictures glorifying Stalin and writers had to write novels doing the same.

Writers, artists, film makers, and even composers had to support the government by following the policy of socialist realism.

Some artists and authors were so depressed by all this that they committed suicide rather than do what the state ordered them to do. Others tried to leave the country.

Books which did not follow the party line were destroyed.

Stalin used the League of Atheists to crush religious belief.



Christian leaders were imprisoned and churches closed down.

Muslim mosques and schools were closed and pilgrimages to Mecca were banned.



The deportation of many ethnic groups took place.

