Louisiana Purchase

Learning Objective: We will understand Jefferson's Dilemma regarding the Purchase of the Louisiana Territory.

Election of 1800

- Candidates: Federalist John Adams and Charles Pinckney (2nd term) vs. Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr.
- Electoral college voted T.J and A.B. with 73 votes for president. House of Reps. decide the election voting T.J into presidency.
- To prevent future ties between pres. and Vice Pres., Congress passed the 12th amendment.

Jefferson's Inauguration

- Jefferson tried to reach out to all parties saying "We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists."
- He further outlined his goals as president
 - maintain a frugal (economical) government.
 - support state governments rights
 - limit the power of federal government by implementing the french philosophy of Laissezfaire.(let people do as they choose)

Jefferson Takes Charge

- Jefferson scaled down military expenses by cutting the army by 1/3 and reducing the navy from 25 to 7 ships. (all lowering the national debt)
- Between the election and Jeffersons inauguration Federalists passed the Judiciary act of 1801 increasing the number of federal judges.
- Adams appointed federalist judges until midnight of his last day as president. "midnight judges"
 - These appointments ensured that federalists would control the courts.
 - William Marbury did not receive his commission in time and took his case to the supreme court.

Marbury V. Madison

- Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall established 3 principles of Judicial Review:
 - The Constitution is the supreme law of the land
 - When a conflict arises between the Constitution and any other law, the Constitution must be followed.
 - Judicial branch must uphold the Constitution.

Louisiana Territory

- Louisiana territory belonged to Spain in 1800.
- In 1802 Spain stopped allowing Americans to move through the port of New Orleans.
- Jefferson finds out that Spain agreed to transfer the Louisiana territory back to France.
- Jefferson sends Robert Livingston and James Monroe to negotiate a purchase of New Orleans, but end up acquiring the entire territory.

Louisiana Purchase

- The U.S. bought the Louisiana Territory for \$15 million dollars (3 cents per acre)
- Jefferson a Republican worried whether the purchase was legal as the Constitution says nothing about acquiring new territory.
 - Jefferson acted against his beliefs of a strict construction (interpretation) of the Constitution.
- Jefferson decided that the government's treaty making powers allowed the purchase of new territory.
- This new territory doubled the size of the U.S.