Absolute Monarchy

1500s - Late 1800s
King Henry IV of France

Ruled from 1589-1610

• Was the first leader of the BOURBON DYNASTY which developed absolute monarchy in France.
King Henry IV of France was previously known at Henry of Navarre, who was a powerful Huguenot (French Calvinist) leader. Henry converted to Catholicism to become the king of France in 1589.
King Henry IV of France

Converted to Catholicism

“Paris is well worth a mass!”

Passed the 1598 Edict of Nantes which granted religious freedom to the Huguenots in France

Promised a “chicken in every pot”

Significantly reduced taxes on peasants
Henry IV of France

To make up for lost revenue from cutting taxes on peasants, Henry IV started a new tax called the paulette. Royal officials had to pay this to make their jobs hereditary.

Kept France at peace for most of his rule - - saved much money!!
King Henry IV
France

Created a strong central state (absolute monarchy) by:

1. Weakening provincial governors
2. Weakening parlements (courts)
3. Weakening the Parlement of Paris (highest court in the nation – like our Supreme Court)

These institutions were at the center of the power of the nobility in France.
Old Regimé = old culture of privileges to the nobility and clergy.

Nobility & clergy exempt from property taxes.

Top government & military jobs reserved for 1st and 2nd Estates.
1st Estate = Clergy

2nd Estate = Aristocracy

3rd Estate = Bourgeoisie (middle class who had money, but no political power / included doctors, lawyers, larger merchants), urban workers (domestic servants, street sweepers, waiters, etc.), and peasants (farm workers).
**Mercantilism** - - is an economic policy with the goal of making the mother country self-sufficient and powerful. In mercantilism, the mother country gets any resources she lacks by taking control of colonies. Mercantilism developed in the 1600s and caused a major increase in exploration and competition for colonies. Mercantilism was supposed to create a favorable balance of trade in which the mother country gained large amounts of gold & silver bullion.

Mercantilism was an economic system used to fund absolute monarchy. Most absolute monarchs did NOT want to go to their legislatures to get permission for tax increases because the legislature would also try to take political power away from the king.
The Mercantilist Argument for Colonial Expansion

Source: Philip Dorf, Our Early Heritage: Ancient and Medieval History, Oxford Book Company (adapted)
Key Elements of Mercantilism:

1) Increase the amount of silver & gold bullion in the national bank.

2) Export only processed goods (not raw materials) because they produce bigger profits.

3) Import as little as possible. Get resources you need through colonies.

4) The government establishes a monopoly on trade mostly through the use of tariffs and navigation laws to keep out imports.

5) Nations must have a large fleet of merchant marine ships (cargo ships) to export products and a large navy to protect the cargo ships.
Colonies Are Used For {Mercantilism}:

A) Provide any resources the mother country needs

B) Additional markets for the mother country’s products

C) Naval bases for military & commercial use

D) Cheap labor supply
Effects of Mercantilism:

1) Rearranges the wealth of the world. Many resources are stolen by powerful nations. Ex. = Spain and the silver it stole from the Aztec Empire.

2) Increased competition and warfare between mercantilist empires.
Maximilien de Bethune (Duke of Sully)

- Finance Minister for King Henry IV
- Used gov’t money to finance the French Company for Trade with the Indies
- Created gov’t monopolies on sale of gunpowder, mines, and salt
- Created the corvée (an involuntary labor requirement for peasants to improve roads) & used it to start a national highway system & to build a canal to connect the Mediterranean & Atlantic Seas
- Helped build the system of mercantilism which funded Henry IV’s rule.
King Louis XIII of France

Son of King Henry IV

Ruled 1610-1643

Mother (Marie de Medici) served as regent since he became king at age of 9
Marie de Medici

Regent for Louis XIII from 1610-1617

Nation ruled by boy king or woman was vulnerable

Signed Treaty of Fountainebleau with Spain in 1611 = 10 year military alliance. Included provision for King Louis 13 to marry Spanish infanta.
French nobility called a meeting of the Estates General to try to take advantage of the weak boy king (Louis XIII) to get back the powers that King Henry IV had taken away. **Estates General disbanded in 1614 and didn’t meet again for 175 years!**
Cardinal Richelieu, 1585-1642

Chosen by Marie de Medici to be a royal advisor who could help protect the King from the nobility.

Became Chief Minister to King Louis 13 in 1628.

Richelieu made France a top European power.
Both King Louis 13 and King Louis 14 wanted to expand France to her natural boundaries: to the Rhine River in the east and to the North Sea in the north. This meant conquest of German lands and the Spanish Netherlands {modern day Belgium & Netherlands}. 
Cardinal Richelieu brought the French nobility under the control of the crown:

1. Continued to reduce powers of provincial governors & parlements
2. Expanded use of royal intendants to spy on the nobility and help run gov’t
3. Promoted *divine right rule
King Louis XIV of France

Son of Louis 13. Was 4 years old when he became king!

Mother, Anne of Austria, and Cardinal Mazarin ruled as Louis 14’s regents (1643-1661) until Mazarin’s death in 1661.
From the left side: Cardinal Richelieu, King Louis XIII, the dauphin (prince / future Louis 14), and Anne of Austria.
Bishop Bossuet

Divine Right Rule
Young Louis XIV
The Fronde {1648-1653}

Series of aristocratic revolts against the reduction of political power

“Fronde” means slingshot

Revolts started by Parlement of Paris and spread to the rest of the nobility

Cardinal Mazarin, young Louis XIV (13 yrs old), and mother, Anne of Austria fled France to protect their lives!
Leaders of the Fronde finally submit to the leadership of young King Louis XIV and his mother, Anne of Austria, in 1653.
Results of the Fronde

France turned into competition between the interests of the most powerful nobles while King Louis XIV was gone - - total chaos!

*** KEY RESULT = The Fronde convinced the French people that one powerful king might be better than many powerful nobles who constantly competed for dominant power. This allowed further development of ABSOLUTE MONARCHY.

Young Louis XIV and his mother were traumatized by the event since they were frequently threatened and even had troops storm into their bedrooms in the middle of the night!

*** KEY RESULT = Louis XIV was convinced of the need for absolute monarchy and NEVER AGAIN TRUSTED THE NOBILITY.
Louis XIV took the throne when he was 23 years old and ruled from 1661-1715.

France dominated Europe under his rule.

Louis was known as “the Sun King!”

King Louis XIV was also known for his famous quote - - “L’ etat c’est moi!” {meaning “I am the state”}
King Louis XIV’s Methods of Building Royal Power

1. **Reorganized the French Army** - - Min. of War, Marquis de Louvois, created a highly disciplined national *Standing Army. Started national draft in 1688. Size of army increased from 100,000 to 400,000! Uniforms, ranks, and weapons were standardized. Standing army became way for Louis to put down uprisings and spread French power.

![Portrait of Marquis de Louvois, Minister of War](image-url)
King Louis XIV’s Methods of Building Royal Power

2. Gained Personal Control of the Government - - Used bourgeois royal intendants \{noblesse de robe\} to rule provinces & assess taxes. Gave royal intendants political responsibilities that overlapped with the responsibilities of existant bureaucrats. This created *duality of office which created purposeful confusion. Meanwhile, King Louis made all the decisions.

3. Eliminated Religious Division in France - - Louis revoked the Edict of Nantes in 1685. Huguenot towns were no longer allowed to have their own militias, Huguenot schools were closed and ministers were exiled. They were put in galleys as slave rowers if they refused to leave. Mass numbers of Huguenots left France and it did hurt her financially since most were very successful.
King Louis XIV’s Methods of Building Royal Power

4. Moved the Center of Government out of Paris, to Versailles - - King Louis ordered a palace built 12 miles SW of Paris. This took the royal family out of the dangerous city of Paris where many lower class citizens did not like them. Palace took 27 years to build and consumed 60% of royal revenues!! (extremely expensive)

36,000 workers were involved

A river was diverted to provide water for all the pools and fountains!

In 1682, the royal family moved from The Louvre Palace {now a famous art museum} to Versailles.

SHOW THE VERSAILLES PP NOW!
Jean Baptiste Colbert

Finance Minister to King Louis 14

Colbert expertly carried out the mercantilist economy which funded King Louis 14’s rule
Colbert’s Mercantilist Strategy:

1. Increased efficiency of tax collection through strict system of accounting for royal intendants {unlike tax farmer system}.

2. Encouraged creation of trade companies by allowing tax exemptions until companies became successful. {aka “trickle down economics”}

   **Key problem - - Louis 14 refused to allow Colbert to tax the 1st & 2nd Estates.**

3. Set high **tariffs to prevent imports** {esp. from Dutch & English}

4. Encouraged export of French products. Set up **state system of inspection to guarantee quality of French goods.** Encouraged skilled craftsmen to immigrate to France.

5. Promoted acquisition of additional colonies to obtain more resources. Sent 4000 Fr. peasants to populate Quebec in French Canada to get control. Sent Marquette & Joliet to explore upper Mississippi R. and LaSalle to explore lower. **Result – 1684 France claimed Louisiana!!!**

6. **Built a large merchant marine to move French goods.**
Quebec and Ontario - - French lands occupied as a result of Colbert.

Louisiana Territory - - French colony named after King Louis XIV
French Colonies in North America

La Salle's Routes:
1678-1682, 1684-1687
The Wars of Louis XIV

Louis’ major goal was to expand France to her **natural boundaries**: to the Rhine River in the east and to the North Sea in the north. This meant conquest of German lands and the Spanish Netherlands {modern day Belgium & Netherlands}.

**Specific Wars:**
1. War of Devolution (1667-1668)
2. Dutch War (1672-1678)
3. War of the League of Augsburg (1688-1697)
4. The War of Spanish Succession (1701-1713)
Louis XIV’s War of Spanish Succession (1701-1713)

1. King Charles II of Spain was mentally retarded and impotent. Europeans created a treaty that said Spanish lands would be divided between King Louis XIV and Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I (Charles II’s brothers-in-law). BUT Charles II’s will said Spanish lands should go to Louis XIV’s grandson, Philip of Anjou AND the French and Spanish crowns SHOULD NOT BE UNITED. King Louis XIV ignored the treaty and accepted the will on behalf of his grandson in order to unite the two crowns and take over the Spanish Empire.

In response, the English, Dutch, Austrians, and Prussians formed THE GRAND ALLIANCE and defeated France.

The 1713 Peace of Utrecht ended the War of Spanish Succession and demonstrated “balance of power” politics. This also set a precedent of limiting the amount of power allowed to one nation.
Results of Louis 14’s Rule

Huge national debt was left for future Kings to deal with. **This became a major cause of the French Revolution in 1789.

Debt Came From:

• (mainly) French Wars of Expansion
• Palace of Versailles
• Refusal to change tax structure
Constitutionalism in England

Both Queen Elizabeth I (Tudor) and King James I (Stuart / Scotland) maintained political stability by using Parliament and appointing nobles to leadership offices in the counties of England. This was especially important since England had no standing army and relied upon nobles to send armies to defend the crown.
English Royal Power was Bolstered By:

1. **The Star Chamber** - - court under the control of the king

2. **Court of High Commission** - - ditto

*** These courts had no jury and allowed witnesses to incriminate themselves!
England had a long history of limiting the power of the monarch, beginning when King John I was forced to sign the **MAGNA CARTA** in 1215 AD!!
Magna Carta’s Limits on Royal Power:

1. King had to follow the laws like any other citizen.
2. Accused people must have jury trial
3. Parliament must approve any increase in taxes {“power of the purse”}
King James I of England, 1603-1625
(Stuart Dynasty from Scotland)
James I (r. 1603-1625)

James I's speech to the House of Commons:

I am surprised that my ancestors should ever be permitted such an institution to come into existence. I am a stranger, and found it here when I arrived, so that I am obliged to put up with what I cannot get rid of!
Jamesown, Virginia

1622 Powhatan Indian massacre of Jamestown residents
King Charles I of England 1625-1649
(Stuart Dynasty / son of James I)
Policy of “thorough”

Thomas Wentworth, Chief Minister to King Charles I of England
King Charles I appointed William Laud as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633. Laud was an *Arminian (Dutch Calvinists that did not believe in the idea of predestination) and appointed other Arminian bishops to the episcopal system.
Different Sects of Calvinism

Arminians - - originally Dutch Calvinists who rejected the doctrine of predestination in favor of free will. They were more like Anglicans and wanted to be ruled through the episcopal system.

Puritans:
1. Wanted an end to rituals such as “signing of cross” during baptism and “wedding ring”
2. ** End Episcopal System and stop using the Book of Common Prayer. Puritans saw the Episcopal System as a tool of absolutism and Anglican power. Remember the 1534 Act of Supremacy made the English king the head of both state and religion.
3. Wanted emphasis on the sermon, not scriptural readings

Presbyterians - - moderate Calvinists that wanted reorganization of England on Calvinist faith with each congregation subject to a higher representative body known as the “presbyteries.” Presbyterians were the majority in Scotland.

Independents - - extremist Calvinists that wanted each congregation to independently control itself (AKA “Congregationalists”)


1637 - - Charles I and William Laud tried to force the episcopal system on Calvinist Scotland and the Scots rebelled!! Most Scots were Presbyterians who did not like the episcopal system and wanted religious rule by the presbyteries.
The “Short” Parliament

“Short Parliament”

- No Parliament in 20 yrs.
- Rebellion in Scotland over Laud issues.
- Charles need £ → war with France.

Calls Parliament into session in 1640

- MPs demand more protection of property.
- Charles dismisses them after 3 weeks.

Charles I by Van Dyck (1633)
The “Long” Parliament

- In session from 1640 to 1660.
  - Laud executed.
  - Triennial Act passed → Parliament must be called in session at least once every 3 yrs.
  - Parliament can’t be adjourned without its own consent!

- Charles enters the House of Commons to end the session and arrest 5 MPs → unsuccessful

- Charles heads north to form an army!
The Civil War
(1642-1649)
English Civil War

1640 - - Scottish forces invaded England and defeated the English at the Battle of Newburn. {caused King Charles I to reconvene Parliament to get money}

1641 - - Irish forces rebel against English efforts to turn Ireland into a Protestant nation. ** The Irish realized that the English were now vulnerable since the Scots were already at war with them. Catholic Irish forces massacred large numbers of Scottish Presbyterians.
Ulster Plantation Established Under King James I
Ulster Plantation: 1609-1660
Notice that **Northern Ireland** is still part of the United Kingdom (England).
Civil War (1642-1649)

Royalists (Cavaliers)
- House of Lords
- N & W England
- Aristocracy
- Large landowners
- Church officials
- More rural

Parliamentarians (Roundheads)
- House of Commons
- S & E England
- Puritans
- Merchants
- Townspeople
- More urban
Key Issues to be Decided for England {in English Civil War}:

1. Absolute monarchy OR Parliamentary Monarchy?

2. Anglican Church controlled by the Episcopal System of the King OR Decentralized Presbyterian Church Structure??
In this agreement, Parliament created a military alliance with Scotland in exchange for a promise to unite Ireland, Scotland, and England around a “Presbyterian system” of church government.

**The key benefit of this agreement was to get rid of the EPISCOPAL SYSTEM which gave the English King the ability to order priests, bishops, archbishops to preach his political beliefs in churches.**
1644 Oliver Cromwell reorganized the Parliamentary army under the religious zeal of the Puritans. It became known as “The New Model Army!”
The New Model Army, created in 1644
Battles of the English Civil War
The Battle of Naseby [re-enactment], 1645

- Charles I is defeated at Marston Moor, Naseby, and Preston.
- He is handed over to Parliament.
Pride’s Purge, 1648

† Cromwell purges the House of Commons of moderates [anyone who isn’t anti-monarchy].
† The results is the “Rump” Parliament.
% Of Land Owned by Catholics in Ireland

- 1641 (59%)
- 1688 (22%)
- 1703 (14%)

Maps showing the percentage of land owned by Catholics in Ireland over different years.
Cromwell ruled as “Lord Protector”
Parliament could no more exist without the Crown than the Crown without Parliament. This was the most important lesson of the English Civil War!
King Charles II  \[r. 1660-1685\]

- Had charm, poise, & political skills [unlike his father!].
- Restored the theaters and reopened the pubs and brothels closed during the Restoration.
- Favored religious toleration.
- Had secret Catholic sympathies.
- Realized that he could not repeat the mistakes his father had made.
King Charles II [r. 1660-1685]

a 1661 → “Cavalier” Parliament [filled with Royalists]
   - Restored the authority of the Church of England.

a 1662 → Clarendon Code [Act of Uniformity]
   - All clergy & church officials had to conform to the Anglican Book of Common Prayer.
   - It forbade “non-conformists” to worship publicly, teach their faith, or attend English universities.
King Charles II [r. 1660-1685]

a 1673 → Test Act
- Parliament excluded all but Anglicans from civilian and military positions.
[to the Anglican gentry, the Puritans were considered “radicals” and the Catholics were seen as “traitors!”]

a 1679 → Habeas Corpus Act
- Any unjustly imprisoned persons could obtain a writ of *habeas corpus* compelling the govt. to explain why he had lost his liberty.
Charles II’s Foreign Policy

1665 – 1667: Second Anglo-Dutch War

To Charles II, Louis XIV is an ideal ally against the Dutch.

1670 → Treaty of Dover
King James II [r. 1685-1688]

- Was a bigoted convert to Catholicism without any of Charles II’s shrewdness or ability to compromise.
- Alienated even the Tories.
- Provoked the revolution that Charles II had succeeded in avoiding!
The Glorious Revolution
1688
The “Glorious” Revolution: 1688

- Whig & Tory leaders offered the throne jointly to James II’s daughter Mary [raised a Protestant] & her husband, William of Orange.
  - He was a vigorous enemy of Louis XIV.
  - He was seen as a champion of the Protestant cause.
English Bill of Rights [1689]

- It settled all of the major issues between King & Parliament.
- It served as a model for the U. S. Bill of Rights.
- It also formed a base for the steady expansion of civil liberties in the 18\textsuperscript{c} and early 19\textsuperscript{c} in England.
English Bill of Rights  [1689]

Main provisions:

1. The King could not suspend the operation of laws.
2. The King could not interfere with the ordinary course of justice.
3. No taxes levied or standard army maintained in peacetime without Parliament’s consent.
5. Sessions of Parliament would be held frequently.
6. Subjects had the right of bail, petition, and freedom from excessive fines and cruel and unusual punishment.
7. The monarch must be a Protestant.
9. Censorship of the press was dropped.
The Seesaw of King & Parliament:

1603-1689
The Spanish Netherlands – Union of Utrecht, 1579

Seven northern provinces declared their independence from Spain in 1581
The Dutch Economy:

• Exported Diamonds, Linens, and Pottery

• Had low inflation rates

• Great Dutch Land Reclamation project launched at this time

• Known as the “wholesalers of Europe” because they re-exported European goods of all types {had lowest shipping rates in Europe}
Amsterdam Stock Market – *Bourse*

Jewish refugees helped found it in 1602.
Dutch Canal in Leiden, common to the Low Countries
Dutch Global Commerce

Dutch Trade Routes:
- Areas under Dutch control
- Ports under Dutch control
- Other major ports
- Spices: Goods shipped to the Netherlands

- Dutch Brazil (1630-1654)
  - Sugar
  - Tobacco

- West Indies
  - Tobacco
  - Sugar

- Stabroek (Georgetown)
  - Sugar

- Cape Verde Is.
  - Slaves

- London
  - Herring
  - Iron
  - Copper
  - Fur

- The Baltic
  - Wheat
  - Rye

- Scandinavia
  - Timber
  - Tar
  - Pitch

- North Sea
  - Herring

- Wool
  - Amsterdam

- France
  - Wine

- Netherlands
  - Wheat

- Asia
  - China
    - Canton
    - Silk
    - Luxury goods
  - Japan
  - Nagasaki
  - Silk
  - Luxury goods

- Africa
  - Madagascar
  - Mauritius
  - Zanzibar

- South America
  - Guiana
  - Sugar

- Equator

- New Holland
  - New Guinea

- Pacific Ocean
  - Moluccas
  - Spices
  - peppers, Sandalwood

- Equator

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The End!!!!!

Cha, cha, cha!