

Absolute Monarchs in Europe 1500-1800 #3



France 1598

- Religious conflict between the Catholics and Huguenots.
- King Henry IV (first king of the Bourbon Dynasty) wanted to end French religious conflict and declared religious toleration for all French = Edict of Nantes
- Henry IV rebuilt France's wealth, peace, and monarchy. Stabbed and killed by a fanatic.



Louis XIII and Cardinal Richelieu

- After Henry's death his son Louis XIII reigned.
- Louis appointed a strong minister – Cardinal Richelieu. Becomes “ruler” of France.
- Richelieu increased the Bourbon monarchy. Moved out Huguenots (Protestants), allowed them to practice but did not allow their cities to have walls so they couldn't defy the king.
- Wanted to make France the strongest state in Europe- would have to take out the Hapsburg rulers – Owned Spain, Austria and the Netherlands.
- Skeptics didn't believe it could happen.



Louis XIV

- Richelieu paved the way for the most powerful French ruler – Louis XIV
- Louis XIV saw himself as the state.
- Louis became king in 1643 after his father Louis XIII died. Became king at the age of 4.
- Cardinal Mazarin (Richelieu's successor) ruled till Louis was old enough at 22.
- Louis came to power took control from the nobles and increased the power of the intendants. Canceled the Edict of Nantes.
- Devoted himself to helping France gain economic, political, and cultural brilliance.
- Jean Baptiste (Louis minister of finance) helped achieve goals. Expanded manufacturing wanted no outside support.



Sun King's Grand Style

- Louis spent a fortune to surround himself with luxury.
- Ate like a king – four plates of soup, a whole pheasant, partridge, ham, salad, pastries, fruit, and eggs.
- Had nearly 500 cooks, waiters, and other servants on staff.
- Every morning he woke to 100 privileged nobles to help him dress. Only 4 had the honor of holding his slippers and sleeves.
- Art was now made to glorify the king and promote values of Louie's absolute rule.



Versailles

- Louis XIV extravagant palace 11 miles outside of Paris.
- Huge royal courts, statues of Louis, palace stretched about 500 yards, small royal city.
- Rich in decoration, hall of mirrors 17 tall mirrors and 17 windows that open up to the garden, gilded ceilings, crystal chandeliers and painted ceilings.
- When he walked the gardens servants would turn on each fountain he passed. 1,400 fountains.
- 5,000 acres of gardens, lawns, and woods.





Image © 2007 The GeoInformation Group | InterAtlas

Louis Death and Legacy

- By 1660 France was the most powerful country in Europe.
- Strong French army in size, training, and weaponry.
- France wanted to expand its borders- other countries allied together to defeat the French.
- France faced a series of poor harvests the people suffered and new taxes to finance war brought debt.

- He realized war had ruined France and regretted the suffering it brought his people.
- 1715- Died in bed. Townspeople rejoiced.
- Legacy- France became a leading European power and military. Flip side war and building of Versailles brought France into debt.



Absolutism Russia and England #3



The First Czar Russia

- 1533 -Ivan IV, called Ivan the Terrible came to the throne at 3 years old.
- Boyars fought to control young Ivan.
- @ 16 he seized power and had himself crowned czar = Caesar
- First to use term czar



- Ivan's "good period" 1547-1560- great victories, added land to Russia, gave Russia code of law, and ruled justly.
- Ivan's "bad period" - after his wife died. Accused boyars of poisoning his wife, executed them and the families who worked their land. Thousands died.
- 1581 killed his oldest son, Ivan dies 3 years later, his weak son was left to rule.

Peter the Great

- 1696 becomes one of Russia's greatest leaders.
- Increased czar's power.
- Mind of a genius, body of a giant, and the temper of a bear.
- Visited Western Europe- traveled to learn new customs and manufacturing techniques.
- Goal – make Russia stronger. Reduced power of the nobles, brought state under Orthodox Church, modernized military.
- Westernization- introduced potatoes, newspaper, raised women's status, western fashion, and advanced education.
- By his death in 1725 Russia leading absolute power.



England 1603

- Queen Elizabeth I left no heir. Nearest cousin James I becomes king of England.
- Inherited financial troubles, refused Puritan reforms, he died and his son Charles I becomes king.
- English Civil War- 1641 Parliament passed law to limit royal power. Charles outraged tried to arrest Parliament leaders, mobs outraged with Charles, Charles fled London and raised an army.

• <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfgeLdXA87I>

- English Civil War- 1642-1649 supporters and opponents of Charles fought.
- Opponents Puritan supporters of Parliament captured the king and brought him to trial for treason and sentenced Charles to death.
- First king to face a public trial and execution.
- Oliver Cromwell (general of opponents) takes power



Parliament becomes partner with monarchy

- Constitutional democracy – no absolute monarchy, limited rulers power.
- 1689 created a Bill of Rights- no suspending Parliament's laws, no levying taxes, no interfering with freedom of speech.
- Balance of power.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbLTwQwXqWc>



WB104-CTT-CT41-CT60 22/12/2003 9:35 AM Page 057

57

MCDUGAL LITTELL
World History: Patterns of Interaction

Chapter 21:
Visual Summary

