

# CHAPTER 16

## The Age of Absolutism

1550 - 1800

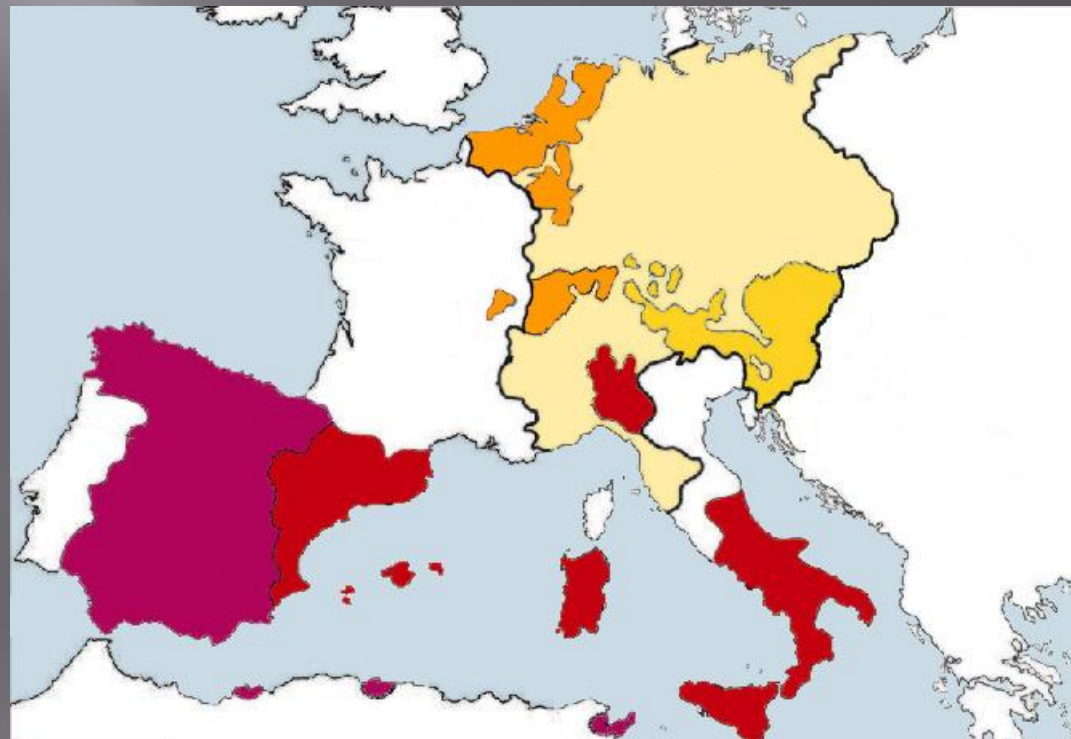
# CHAPTER 16, SECTION 1

Spanish Power Grows

# Charles V Inherits Throne

- 1516 → Ferdinand and Isabella's grandson Charles I became king
  - He now is in control of the colonies in Americas
- 1519 → Charles I other grandfather died and he inherited Hapsburg empire (includes Holy Roman emp.)
  - He then took the name Charles V

# Charles V's Empire



# Ruling Two Empires

- Charles was in constant warfare
  - He was a dedicated **Catholic** who fought to end Protestantism
- After years of conflict he was forced to let others practice their own belief
- Eventually, the Hapsburg Empire became too big to rule for one man; he divided it
  - Charles V gave up his titles and entered a monastery in 1556

# Describe Charles V

- Make a quick list of what you know about Charles V:

# Philip II Gains Power

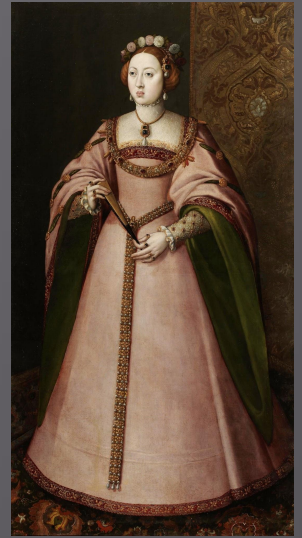
- Philip II - given Spain, Netherlands, and Spanish American colonies  
(ruled 42 years)
- He expanded Spanish influence and strengthened the Catholic Church
  - Philip made his own power absolute
  - He devoted most of his time to government work

# Philip II

- Eventually, Philip made every part of the government responsible to him
- He reigned as an absolute monarch (complete authority)
  - Stated that he ruled by divine right
  - Saw himself as a guardian of the Roman Catholic Church
  - Wanted religious unity so he turned the Inquisition against Protestants

# Philip's Marriages

- 1 – Maria of Portugal (alliance)
- 2 – Mary Tudor of England (alliance)
- 3 – Elizabeth Valois of France (alliance)
- 4 – Anna of Austria (alliance)
- Therefore, Philip had an influential role in all Europe's major royal houses.



# Battles in Mediterranean

- The Ottoman Empire - a constant threat to Spain in the Mediterranean
- Battle of Lepanto (1571) → Spain defeats Ottomans off the coast of Greece easily
  - showed how powerful Spain had become



# Battle in Netherlands

- Philip battled rebels in the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg
  - (richest part of Philip's empire)
- Protestants resisted Philip's power and Catholics resisted high taxes

# Philip vs. Queen Elizabeth

- 1580s → Philip saw Queen Elizabeth as his major Protestant enemy
  - (Elizabeth supported the Dutch against Spain)
- SPANISH ARMADA 1588 - Philip prepared a huge armada (fleet) to carry a Spanish invasion against England
  - 130 ships, 20,000 men, 2,400 pieces of artillery (Spain was very confident)

# Outcome

- In the English channel, the large Spanish ships were outmaneuvered by lighter, faster English ships
  - This marked the beginning of the end for Spain's power
- 1600s → Spain's power and prosperity declined
  - Philip II's successors were far less capable than he was to rule

# Spain's Golden Age

- 1550-1650 → Spain's Golden Age
  - Philip II was a huge patron of the arts and literature
- This century produced several famous Spanish writers and painters
  - Writers: Miguel de Cervantes (comedy), Lope de Vega (comedy/romance)
  - Painters: El Greco → master of Spanish painting (religious pictures)

# Review

- 1) Why did Charles V eventually give up his titles as ruler/prince and go into a monastery?
  - A His empire was too small for his liking
  - B He wanted to practice religion
  - C He wanted to find a new wife
  - D His empire became too big to rule
- 2) Philip II is considered to be which type of ruler?
  - A Democratic President
  - B King
  - C Aristocrat
  - D Absolute Monarch

# CHAPTER 16, SECTION 2

France Under Louis XIV

# Henry IV Restores Order

- 1600s → France becomes the most powerful country in Europe
- 1589 → Henry IV inherits throne and fights against Catholic opposition
  - Under Henry, the gov't reached into every aspect of French life
  - Officials administered justice, repaired roads, built bridges and revived farming
  - Henry set the foundation for absolute rule

# Absolute Monarch Rises

- Louis XIV inherited the throne in 1643 at the age of FIVE
  - Disorder would sweep across France
- Eventually, Louis XIV stood firmly on his divine right to rule
- At 23 years old, he took FULL control of the government
  - Called himself the Sun King (center of universe)

# Louis XIV

- Never called a meeting of the Estates General
  - Representatives from all of the French social classes
  - Estates General now has no power
- Louis expanded bureaucracy and app'td intendants → royal officials who collected taxes, recruited soldiers, and carried out his policies

# Louis XIV

- Often gave intendant jobs to wealthy middle class men for support
- Built the French army into the strongest in Europe
  - France would pay, feed, train and supply 300,000 soldiers
  - Louis used this army to enforce his policies at home and abroad

# Versailles: Symbol of Power

- Countryside, near Paris → Louis turned a hunting lodge into a palace
  - a magnificent building
- Millions of flowers, trees, etc. filled the fields at Versailles
- This was Louis seat of government
  - Nobles, officials and servants were all present

# Patronizing the Arts

- Louis supported a “splendid” century of the arts
- Painting, music, architecture, and decorative arts of France began to be used all over Europe
- Louis sponsored the French Academies...set high standards for both arts and sciences

# Costly Wars

- During Louis 72 year reign, France was the strongest country of Europe
  - However, some decisions he made eventually led to decline
- He poured vast resources into wars to expand France's borders
  - Rival countries would work together to prohibit this from happening
  - Dutch and English had a strong alliance

# Strong State Declines

- 1700 → Louis's grandson takes the throne in Spain (Philip V)
  - Neighboring nations fought to prevent the union of France & Spain
- The War of Spanish Succession dragged on until 1713
  - France signed the Treaty of Utrecht: stated Philip would remain king and the two crowns would not unite

# CHAPTER 16, SECTION 3

Parliament Triumphs in England

# Tudors Work w/ Parliament

- From 1485-1603 England was ruled by Tudor monarchs (family)
- They believed in divine right and worked very closely w/ Parliament
- Elizabeth I also consulted and controlled Parliament when in power
- She was a popular and successful ruler in England

# Century of Revolution

- Elizabeth died in 1603 w/ no children
- Her heir was a distant relative: James Stuart (King of Scotland)
- Stuarts were not as popular or as skilled in dealing w/ Parliament as the Tudors
  - They also inherited problems that Henry and Elizabeth had never dealt with which created conflict w/ Parliament

# Stuarts Issue a Challenge

- James I agreed to rule England according to the laws and customs
- But, he began to lecture Parliament about divine right...this led to multiple disagreements w/Parliament
  - James eventually dissolved Parliament and collected taxes on his own
  - James also clashed with religious groups such as Protestants and Puritans

# Parliament Responds

- 1625 → Charles I takes the throne
- Continued the ways of James: 1) take \$\$\$, 2) imprisonment w/o trial
- Eventually Parliament made him sign the Petition of Right: prohibited the king from raising taxes without Parliament
  - Eventually he ignores the document and rules without Parliament for 11 years

# Long Parliament Begins

- 1640 → Parliament is known as “Long Parliament” because it lasted on and off until 1653
- Actions triggered greatest political revolution in English history
  - Parliament tried and executed Charles I chief ministers
  - Declared Parliament could not be dissolved w/o its own consent

# Fighting a Civil War

- Clashes b/t the King and Parliament led to the English Civil War
  - Cavaliers (rich followers of Charles) vs. Roundheads (common folk supporting Oliver Cromwell)
- Parliament won out and executed Charles I (beheaded)
  - Sent message to Europe that no ruler in England could claim absolute power

# Cromwell and Commonwealth

- The House of Commons abolished the monarchy, House of Lords, and the official Church of England
- Declared England a Republic known as the Commonwealth
- Under the leadership of Cromwell
  - This was the Rise of the Puritans
  - Wanted to purify England

# Puritan Influence

- Parliament put in place laws that ensured Sunday was reserved for religious observance
- They encouraged education for all people (wanted all to read the Bible)
- Believed in religious freedom and welcomed back the Jewish followers after 350 years of exile

# Commonwealth Ends

- After Cromwell's death, many were tired of Puritan ways and military rule
- A newly elected Parliament placed Charles II on the throne
- Became a very popular ruler
  - Reopened theatres and taverns
  - Restored the Church of England but tolerated others

# Glorious Revolution

- James II inherited the throne
  - Favored absolute rule and Catholicism
- Parliament looked to seat William and Mary on the throne
  - Signed the English Bill of Rights
    - Reestablished much of the Magna Carta
    - Served as a model for later governments
- This non-violent overthrow is known as the Glorious Revolution
- Established Limited Monarchy in England

# Constitutional Gov't Evolves

- Political Parties
  - Emerged in England in 1600s (powerful)
  - 1) Tories – wanted to restore old ways
  - 2) Whigs – supported Glorious Revolution (changes)
- Cabinet System
  - Est'd in 1700s-George I inherited throne, spoke no English and needed the help of Parliament to ensure order

# Society Ruled by the Few

- British government eventually turned into an oligarchy – ruling power belongs to a few people
  - “Natural” Ruling Class → landowning aristocrats
  - Highest Nobles held seats in House of Lords
  - Wealthy landowners/rich businessmen controlled House of Commons

# Review

- 1) Royal officials who collected taxes, recruited soldiers and carried government policies are...?
  - A Intendants
  - B Recruiters
  - C Scholars
  - D Aristocrats
  
- 2) The non violent overthrow in England is known as which of the following?
  - A Glorious Rebellion
  - B Glorious Age
  - C Glorious Time Period
  - D Glorious Revolution

# CHAPTER 16, SECTION 4

Rise of Austria and Prussia

# Thirty Years' War

- Started in present day Czech Rep.
  - Began in May 1618
- Sparked by the fact that the Holy Roman Emperor didn't have any control over his states
  - Actually, he seemed powerless compared to the princes that ruled
- This would divide the German states even more than they already were

# Thirty Years' War

- Ferdinand, Catholic Hapsburg King of Bohemia, wanted to suppress Protestants and assert royal power
  - Protestants rebelled and actually threw two royal officials out of a castle window
- This led to several other rebellious acts taking place
  - Both sides went out to find allies and this turned into a European War

# End of the War

- Finally in 1648 a series of treaties was accepted by all sides
  - Became known as the Peace of Westphalia
- This was aimed to bring European peace and settle international problems
  - This settlement left the German states divided into more than 360 areas

# Results

- France was the clear winner
  - Gained territories from Spain and Germany
- Hapsburgs were not successful
  - Had to accept independence from all local princes of Holy Roman Empire
- Netherlands and Switzerland won recognition of independent states

# Hapsburg Austria Changes Focus

- The Hapsburgs still wanted to create a strong unified state
  - Kept the title “Holy Roman Emperor”
- They wanted to expand their own lands
- They would add Bohemia, Hungary, parts of Poland and Italy to Austria
  - Uniting these lands was not easy

# Challenges to Unity

- The lands Hapsburgs wanted were divided by geography as well as by culture and diversity of the people
  - In many parts of the empire, people had their own language, laws, politics, and customs
- The Hapsburgs would show some control over these areas but never est'd a central gov't like France

# War of Austrian Succession

- Charles VI of Hapsburg Empire dies with no male heir
  - His daughter Maria Theresa and son Frederick II both want to be in power
  - This conflict sparked an 8 year war
- Maria eventually got support from Britain and Russia
  - She wanted to prevent Frederick from gaining anymore land

# War of Austrian Succession

- Maria eventually won the support of most of her people
- She reorganized the bureaucracy and improved tax collections
- She even forced nobles and clergy to pay taxes
  - This would ease the burden of taxes and labor services on the peasants

# Rivalry of Great Powers

- 1750 → Europe is dominated by Austria, Prussia, France, Britain and Russia
  - These nations formed various alliances to keep the power balanced
  - Sometimes they would switch partners
- Once in a while, this struggle would turn worldwide (Seven Years War)
  - Power shifted a few times between the rivals

# CHAPTER 16, SECTION 5

Absolute Monarchy in Russia

# Peter the Great Modernizes Russia

- 1682 → Peter takes the throne at age 10
  - Did not take control of government until 1689
- 1697 → Peter sets out to learn about Western ways of life
- He visited factories and art galleries, learned about anatomy, etc.
  - Brought a group of European experts to Russia to help him Westernize the country

# Westernization

- Upon his return, Peter brought back technical advisors to carry out his policy of Westernization
  - Peter wanted to make Russia like Europe
  - In order to persuade his countrymen, Peter had to employ autocratic rule
  - Brought everything under his control
  - Forced the nobles (boyars) to serve the government
  - Executed those who opposed him

# Peter the Great Expands

- Needed to control a “warm-water” port in order to expand
  - Open all year long
  - Wanted the area of Sweden on Baltic Sea
- Sets out on war to attain this goal
- He wins and builds St. Petersburg
  - Brought in Italian architects
    - Served as his “Window on the West”

# To the Pacific

- Peter continued to expand Russia
- Sent explorers into Siberia
  - Vitus Bering...hired by Peter to explore the Pacific Coast and Bering Strait
- Russians expanded into Alaska
- Russian traders built outposts in Alaska and Northern California

# Peter's Death/Legacy

- Died in 1725 – left a mixed legacy
  - He ended Russia's long period of isolation and expanded borders
- However, many of his ambitions died when he did
  - Nobles began to ignore his policies
- He had to use force to ensure his power which widened the gap between Russia and Europe

# Catherine the Great

- Peter died without an heir and without naming one specifically
- This set off a power struggle in Russia with the Romanov family
- After a few ineffective leaders, the Russian nobles reasserted power
- Then → a new monarch firmly took the throne:  
Catherine the Great

# Enlightened Ruler

- Catherine was an efficient, energetic ruler
- She reorganized the provincial gov't, codified laws, and started education
- She encouraged Western ideas like Peter the Great
  - She was a student of the French thinkers who led the Enlightenment

# Ruthless Absolute Monarch

- Catherine was very ruthless in her ruling:
  - She exempted the boyars from taxes and let them increase their power against the peasants
  - Peasants would eventually rebel and Catherine would make their lives worse
  - She was determined to expand borders
  - Fought the Russo-Turkish war against Ottomans and seized land from Poland

# Partitions of Poland

- 1770s → Catherine, Frederick II of Prussia and Joseph II of Austria all want parts of Poland
- To avoid fighting each other, they split up the country of Poland
- Catherine took Eastern Poland
  - Poland would remain like this until 1919 when it would become independent

# Review

- 1) Who was the clear winner of the Thirty Years War?
  - A Poland
  - B France
  - C Germany
  - D Russia
  
- 2) It can be said that Peter the Great, wanted to do which of the following?
  - A Make Russia like the Middle East
  - B Make Russia like the Indian Peninsula
  - C Westernize Russia like most of Europe
  - D Create a democracy