

# *Age of Absolute Monarchs*



# Warm-Up

For each of the letters in the word ABSOLUTISM, give a word or phrase that starts with that letter that describes absolutism:

A

B

S

O

L

U

T

I

S

M

# Age of Absolutism

## I. Age of Absolutism

### A. Absolute Monarchy.

#### 1. Characteristics:

a. Monarchs claimed they ruled by "Divine Right"

1a. Believed they were God's chosen representatives on earth.

b. Succession of throne was inherited.

c. The decision of the monarch was final in all matters.

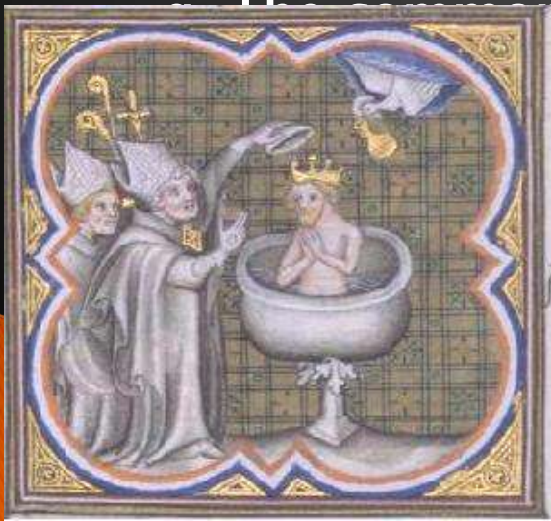
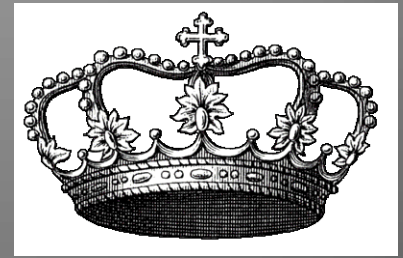
d. Controlled all foreign affairs.

1d. Declared war or made treaties.

e. Controlled or disregarded any national law-making body.

f. High offices were bestowed (given) to friends or family.

1f. The people had little voice in the government.



Monarchs claimed they ruled by "Divine Right." They believed they were God's chosen representatives on earth.

# *Absolutism in France*

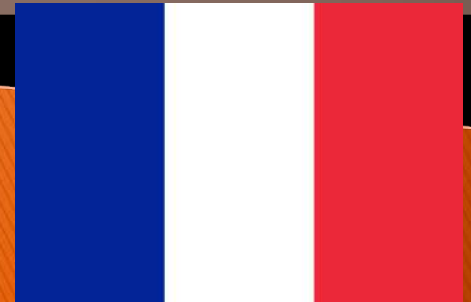
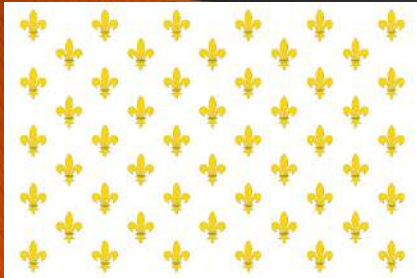
## Quotes attributable to Louis XIV

"I have no intention of sharing my authority"

"L'état, c'est moi." (I am the state)

"One king, one law, one faith."

"The interests of the state must come first"





**FRANCE:**

*territory from 1552 to 1798  
from Henri II to the Revolution*

- Henry II
- Henry IV
- Louis XIV
- Louis XV
- Revolution

- Henry II
  - 1552: Metz, Verdun, Toul
  - 1558: Calais
  - 1559: Salusso
- Henry IV
  - 1601: Bresse, Bugey
  - 1642: Roussillon
  - 1659: Artois
  - 1662: Dunkirk
- Louis XIV
  - 1668: Lille
  - 1675: Alsace
  - 1678: Franche-Comté
  - 1681: Strasbourg
  - 1713: Briançon
- Louis XV
  - 1766: Lorraine
  - 1768: Corsica
- Revolution
  - 1791: Comtat Venaissin
  - 1798: Mulhouse



# *Bourbon Monarchy: Henry IV*

## **I. Henry IV or Henry of Navarre (r. 1589-1610)**

### **A. Accomplishments:**

- 1. Cut taxes**
- 2. Encouraged new industries.**
- 3. Royal authority was increased.**
- 4. Enacted the Edict of Nantes (1598)**
  - a. Granted religious freedom to French Protestants (Huguenots).**

### **B. Assassinated in 1610.**



**Henry IV**

**The assassination  
of Henry IV.**



# *Bourbon Monarchy: Louis XIII*

## II. Louis XIII (r. 1610-1643)

A. Weak king, appointed a strong minister who made up for his weaknesses.

1. Cardinal Richelieu basically became the ruler of France.

a. Moved against the Huguenots.

b. Sought to weaken the nobles' power.

c. Wanted to make France the strongest state in Europe and  
France in the Thirty Years' War against the



**Louis XIII**



**Cardinal  
Richelieu**

# *Bourbon Monarchy: Louis XIV*

## III. Louis XIV (r. 1643–1715)

A. Most powerful ruler in French history; ruled for 72 years.

1. Took over the throne for himself at the age of 22 after the death of Cardinal Mazarin, the successor of Cardinal Richelieu.

B. Louis XIV was called the "Grand Monarch" and the "Sun King"

1. He strongly believed in the "Divine Right of Kings."

a. He strongly believed that he was chosen by God to rule.

b. "I am the State."

C. Moved the royal palace from Paris to Versailles, France.

(See p.600)

D. Minister of finance, Jean Baptiste Colbert helped Louis XIV accomplish his goals:

1. Believed in the theory of mercantilism.

2. Tried to make France self-sufficient.

3. Gave gov't funds and tax benefits to French companies.

E. Revoked the Edict of Nantes in 1685; in response thousands of Huguenot artisans and business people fled France.





**Louis XIV (See p.599)**

**Jean Baptiste Colbert**



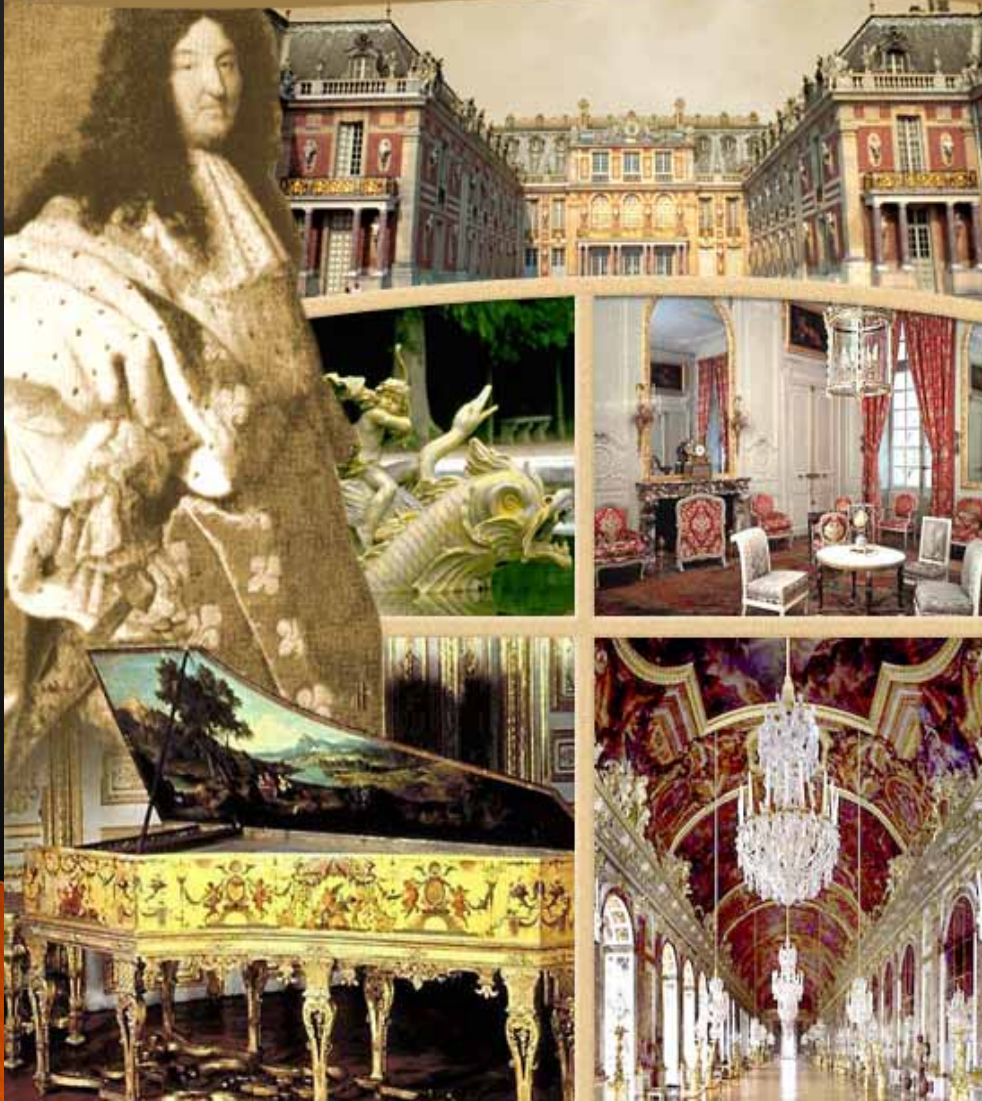
# France Under Louis XIV: Map



# Louis XIV: Fun Facts

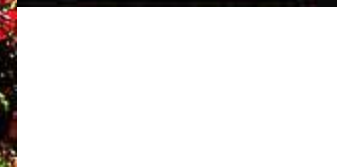
## The Epitome of Opulence

The brilliance of the reign of Louis XIV was embodied in the incomparable Versailles, his magnificent royal palace. Louis and his designers established a sumptuous, elegant style that they believed was fitting for an absolute monarch. The pomp and ceremony of Louis' life at Versailles glorified France as well as himself. Here's a glimpse of the regal style of Louis XIV.



## Fun Facts:

- Louis XIV, known as the “Sun King,” ruled France for over 72 years. He outlived his son and grandson. His great-grandson replaced him.
- The Hope diamond was acquired by King Louis XIV in 1668. It was worn 120 years later by Marie Antoinette and it now resides in the Smithsonian Institution. This beautiful natural blue diamond weighs 44.5 carats today.
- At the court of Louis XIV, prestige was measured by the height of the chair one was allowed to sit in. Only the King and Queen could sit in chairs with arms.
- During 18th century France, visitors to the royal palace in Versailles were allowed to stand in a roped-off section of the main dining room and watch the king and queen eat.





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# Reign of Louis XIV

## **Positives**

- France became a European power.
- Art
- Literature
- Statesmanship
- Military Leader

## **Negatives**

- Debt from Wars
- Debt from building Versailles
- Resentment over taxes
- Abuse of power



# *Bourbon Monarchy: Louis XV*

## IV. Louis XV (r. 1715–1774)

### A. The great-grandson of Louis XIV.

1. Louis XV was only 5 years old when he became king.

a. His marriage was a political arrangement and not a happy one.

1a. His wife, seven years his senior bore him nine children.

### B. Was a very weak king.

1. Intelligent, generous, but lacked the qualities of a strong ruler.

2. Lost French colonies in India and North America to England as a result of his un-  
successful wars.



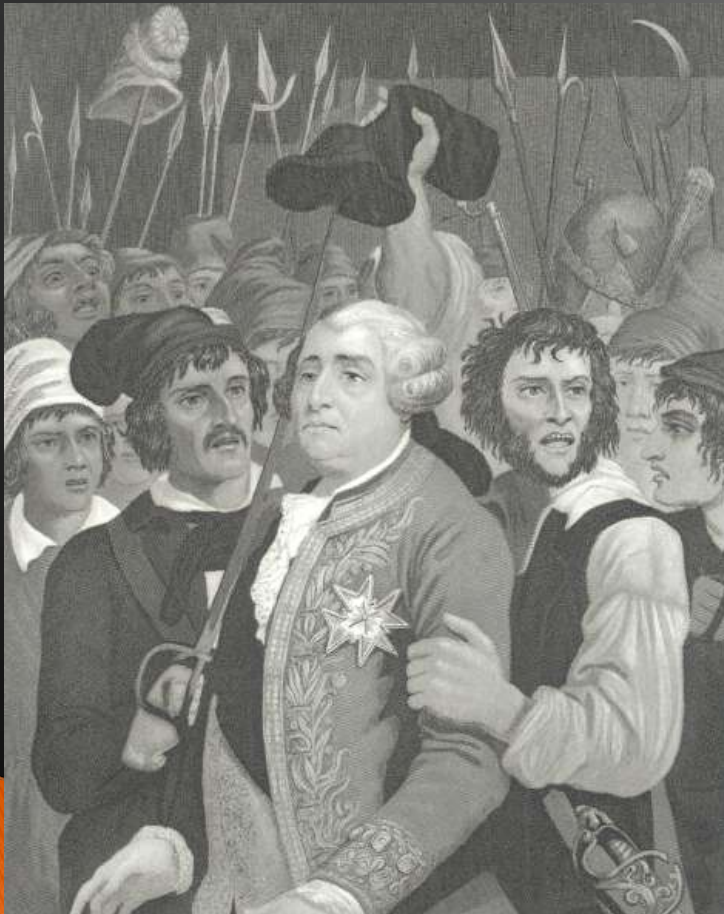
**Louis XV** (1710-1774) was king of France from 1715 to 1774. His reign was marked by the decline of the prestige of the monarchy and the deepening of the crisis that eventually led to the French Revolution.

# *Bourbon Monarchy: Louis XVI*

## V. Louis XVI (r. 1774–1793)

A. Inherited a corrupt and bankrupt government.

B. He was overthrown and beheaded during the French Revolution.



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# WARM UP

1. *“Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.”*

What do you think the author means by this quote?

2. What are some benefits of absolute rule?

3. If you had control of the School, what changes would you make?

# *Absolutism in Russia*



# *Russia Becomes a National State*

## I. Geography of Russia

### A. Advantages:

1. Unlimited natural resources (oil, coal, and natural gas).
2. Harsh climate made Russia difficult to invade.
3. Excellent river system, which provided natural highways.

### B. Disadvantages:

1. Harsh climate made it difficult for ships to travel in or out of its ports.

- a. Arctic Ocean was frozen almost year round.
- b. Most other ports were controlled by other nations.

2. Russia was very large & it was too hard to defend its entire territory.

a. Russia bordered several nations and was  
into

Asian and European.

ated of several different nation

f Russian population was Rus



# Ivan the Great

## I. Ivan III or Ivan the Great (r. 1462-1505)

A. Built up Russian army and pushed the Mongols back across the Ural Mtns.

B. He took the title Czar (Tsar) which means Caesar



**Ivan III: The first Russian Czar**



# Ivan the Terrible

## II. Ivan IV or Ivan the Terrible (r. 1533–1584)

A. Came to power at the age of 3. At the age of 16, Ivan seized power from the boyars (landowning nobles) and was crowned Czar.

1. 1547–1560 “Good period”

2. 1560–1584 “Bad period”, came after his wife’s death

B. He earned the nickname “Terrible” because:

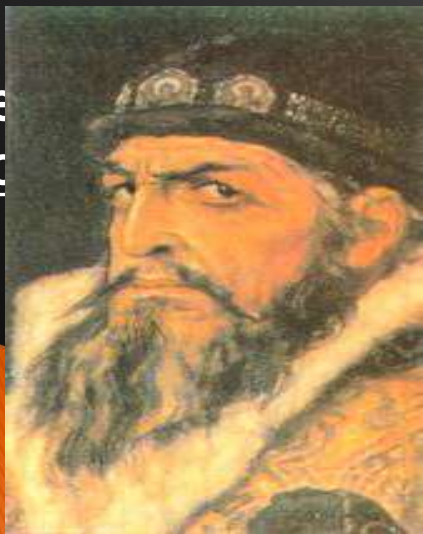
1. He had a private army that wore all black and killed anyone who questioned the Tsar’s behavior.

2. Accidentally killed his son during an argument over his son’s choice of

a bride. (She was Jewish)

C. Gained access to a warm-water port, but soon lost it.

D. Established friendly relations with English and German merchants.



death a  
im the



ent as the several  
often had violent and  
s made, Michael  
unpredictable temper  
tantrums. He even  
killed his favorite son  
with an iron club in  
one angry outburst  
because his son  
wanted to marry a  
Jewish woman.

# *Ivan the Terrible: Fun Facts*

## **Fun Facts:**

When Ivan became Czar at the age of 16 he had arranged for one of his chief childhood tormentors to be ripped apart by starving dogs.

While Ivan was killing his own subjects, real enemies posed a bigger threat; the Tatars attacked and burned Moscow in 1671, killing 60,000 people in one day.

After Ivan died, there were six different men, who claimed the throne. All were killed or deposed. One was an imposter from Poland and after he was exposed as a fraud he was killed and his body was burned. His ashes were then loaded into a cannon and fired westward toward Poland.

After the death of his beloved wife, Anastasia, Ivan the Terrible began to behave mischievously and often became ill tempered. He had a private army of thugs; they all wore all black and killed anyone who questioned the Tsar's behavior. He believed that by killing their families he left no one to mourn the dead and seek revenge.





# Peter the Great

## III. Peter I or Peter the Great (r. 1682–1725)

### A. Brought westernization to Russia.

1. Built roads, canals, established schools, strengthened the army and

navy, and began social reform within Russia.

### B. Extended Russia's borders.

### C. Built the city of St. Petersburg.

D. Followed by several ineffective rulers until Catherine the



# Westernizing Russia

- Introduced potatoes
- Started Russia's first newspaper
- Raised women's status by having them attend social gatherings
- Ordered the nobles to give up traditional clothes
- Opened a school of navigation and introduced schools for the arts and sciences
- Established St. Petersburg

# *Peter the Great: Fun Facts*

## **Fun Facts:**

As a young boy, Peter would stage elaborate war games using miniature forts and leather cannon balls; once 24 boys were killed in a battle.

Peter the Great of Russia was almost 7 feet tall.

While visiting Holland and watching an anatomy class dissect a human body, his entourage became disgusted. To shut them up, Peter forced each of them to take a bite from the corpse.

When Peter died in 1725, he did not name a successor. A succession of people claimed the throne, including his widow. At one point, there was even a two-month old infant who sat on the throne.

Peter the Great of Russia considered men growing beards to signify lack of culture. So, he issued a stiff tax on beards in 1698; those who couldn't pay the tax had to get their beard shaven.

**Peter the Great**



**St. Petersburg**

# Catherine the Great

## IV. Catherine II or Catherine the Great (r. 1762–1796)

### A. German princess who married Peter III.

1. Peter III proved to be incompetent.

a. Nobles had Peter III imprisoned and killed.

2. Catherine came to power with a promise to give the nobility more power.

### B. Catherine proved to be very shrewd and cruel.

1. Peasants were treated horribly and often massacred by the army.

### C. Catherine expanded Russia's borders.

1. Claimed land from Poland.

2. Defeated the Turks and gained access to the Black Sea.

3. Discovered Alaska as a Russian territory. Great plotted with nobles to have her husband, Peter III, murdered so she could rule Russia.



Peter III, to Catherine's annoyance used to play with toy soldiers in their bedroom.



# *Catherine the Great: Fun Facts*

## **Fun Facts:**

Catherine the Great was born in Germany.

Catherine the Great overthrew her husband, Peter III, by having one of her lover's brothers kill him in a scuffle at during dinner.

Catherine the Great kept her wigmaker in an iron cage in her bedroom for more than three years.

One of the sleighs of Catherine the Great was a miniature palace on runners. It contained a salon, library, and bedroom.



**Catherine the Great**



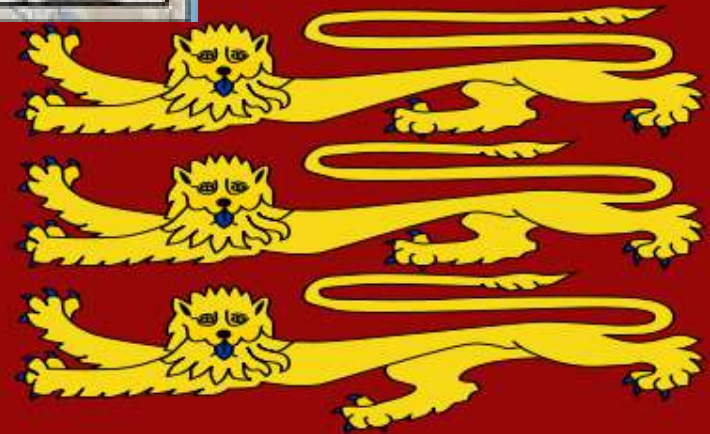
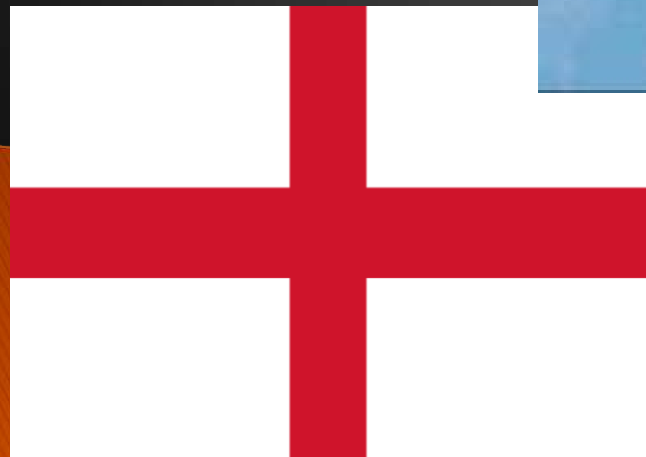
**The Palace of Catherine the Great**

# WARM UP

“Louis XIV was \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_.”

1. What event inspired Peter the Great to make changes in Russia?
2. What are two ways that Peter tried to “westernize” Russia?
3. What did beards symbolize to Peter?
4. What did beards symbolize to Russian boyars?
5. Was Peter’s decision fair? Why or Why not?

# *Absolutism in England*



- ▶ Elizabeth I died with no heir and leaving a huge debt for her successor. Her nearest relative was the King of Scotland James Stuart. He became James I of England.
- ▶ James I (r. 1603–1625) often battled Parliament over money. Parliament also wanted reforms to purify the English church of Catholic practices. He did not allow any reforms, but did agree to a new translation of the Bible (KJV)





# *Parliament limits English Monarchs*

## **I. Charles I (r. 1625-1649)**

**A. Charles always needed money for something; Parliament began to refuse and he dissolved it.**

**B. By 1628, Charles recalled Parliament.**

**C. Parliament refused to give him money until he agreed to four points in the Petition of Right:**

- 1. He would not imprison subjects w/o due cause.**
- 2. He would not levy taxes w/o Parliament's consent.**
- 3. He would not house soldiers in private homes.**
- 4. He would not impose martial law in peacetime.**

# English Civil War

## I. Charles I (r. 1625-1649)

C. After agreeing to the petition, Charles ignored it.

D. In 1630, he again dissolved Parliament. In order to get money he imposed ridiculous taxes on the people and his popularity decreased steadily.

E. From 1642 to 1649, supporters and opponents of Charles I fought the English Civil War.

F. Puritan leader, Oliver Cromwell and his New Model Army began defeating the king's forces and soon captured the king.

G. In 1649, Cromwell brought Charles to trial for treason against Parliament; he was found guilty and sentenced to death in a public trial and execution. **First time a reigning monarch had faced public trial and execution.**

# Charles I



During the English Civil War, those who remained loyal to Charles I were called Royalists or Cavaliers. Those who opposed him were known as Roundheads, because of how they wore their hair.



**Oliver Cromwell**

# *Cromwell's Rule of England*

## **I. Oliver Cromwell “First Lord Protector”**

- A. In 1649, Cromwell abolished the monarchy and the House of Lords.**
- B. He established a commonwealth-a republican form of gov't.**
- C. In 1653, he dissolved the rest of Parliament; he and a colleague drafted a constitution.**
- D. Cromwell eventually became a military dictator, however.**
- E. He immediately worked to put down a rebellion in Ireland; he seized all of the lands and gave them to the English.**
- F. Cromwell and the Puritans sought to reform society.**
  - 1. They wrote laws that promoted Puritan morality and abolished “sinful activities.”**
  - 2. Cromwell favored religious toleration for all except Catholics.**



"Oliver, by the Grace of God Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland and Ireland and other (territories)".



Cromwell's new signature  
"Oliver P."  
"P" is for Protector.

# Restoration and Revolution in England

## I. Charles II (r. 1660-1685)

- A. After Cromwell's death in 1659, his gov't collapsed and a new Parliament was selected.
- B. Parliament voted for Charles II to rule England.
- C. Because he restored the monarchy, this period of English history is known as the Restoration.
- D. During his rule, Parliament passed the writ of *habeas corpus* which guaranteed rights to people accused of crimes.
- E. In 1685, after Charles' death, his brother James II became the king.



Charles II



# *Restoration and Revolution in England*

## **I. James II (r. 1685-1688)**

- A. James II, who was Catholic, was not everyone's choice for king.**
- B. He appointed several Catholics to high office, making Parliament angry. When they protested, he dissolved it.**
- C. Several members of Parliament wrote to James' daughter, Mary, who was Protestant and wife to William of Orange, a prince of the Netherlands.**
- D. In 1688 William led his army into England and James fled to France.**
- E. This bloodless overthrow of James II is called the Glorious Revolution.**
- F. At their coronation, William and Mary recognized Parliament as a partner and established a constitutional monarchy instead of an absolute monarchy.**
  - 1. In 1689, Parliament drafted the English Bill of Rights to make the limits on royal power clear.**





**James II**



**William and  
Mary**



**James' "palace of exile" in France**

