Building States: Absolutism & Limited Monarchy

Growth of Commercial Capitalism

- The burst of commercial activity that came with sea routes to Asia and the founding of the New world
- Commercial market economy (price revolution)
- Expansion of overseas trade
- 80% of Europeans still worked the land
- Lives became

The Social Crisis

- Why the social crisis of the early 1600's?
  - Economic recession
  - War, famine, plague, rebellion
  - Religious uncertainty
  - Replacement of old communal values of a medieval Europe
- Brings a desire for peace and order
- The Enlightenment

Thirty Years War

- Outcomes of the war
  - Peace of Westphalia (1648)
  - German States free to determine religion
  - France gained Alsace
  - Brandenburg gained territory
  - German states independent
  - Religion and politics separated
  - Holy Roman Empire destroyed
  - Birth of modern armies? (1500 -1700)

Theory: Absolutism

- A form of government
- Jean Bodin:
  - Bishop Jacques Bossuet
- Bossuet's Work on Kingship

Absolutism and France

- Absolutism (centralization)
- Localism (provincial control)
- Cardinal Richelieu (1624-1642) strengthens monarchy
- Louis XIV takes thrown 1643
- The Fronde (1648-1653)
- Louis XIV restructures central policy-making machinery of Government
The Rise of Prussia
  • Hohenzollern Dynasty (1701-1918)
  • Frederick William I (the Great Elector) (1640-1688)
  • Junkers (Landed aristocracy)
  • Frederick III (Frederick I of Prussia)
  • Frederick II Prussia (The Great)

Peter The Great
  • Ivan IV (The Terrible) 1533 – 1584
  • 17th Century Moscow
  • Peter the Great (1689-1725)
  • Under Peter Russia became great power

England’s Constitutional Monarchy
  • Right to taxation, making laws, and religion
  • James I (1603-1625)
  • Charles I (1625-1630, 1649)
  • 1629-1640 Charles rules without summoning Parliament

The English Civil War (1642-1648)
  • Charles I
  • Charles calls parliament
  • Oliver Cromwell
  • Rump Parliament beheads Charles I

The Glorious Revolution (1688)
  • English Commonwealth (1649 – 1653)
  • 1660 English Monarchy restored under Charles II
  • 1685 James II becomes King of England
  • 1688 William and Mary take thrown
    – “Glorious Revolution”
  • Parliament becomes dominant in England
    – Declaration of Rights (1689)
    – Bill of Rights (1689)
    – Toleration Act (1689)