

# Chapter 13: The Old Regime: Absolutism and Enlightment

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- Absolutism: A form of government, usually hereditary monarchy, in which the ruler has no legal limits on his or her power.
- 2. Adam Smith: Scottish professor of philosophy. Developed the idea of free enterprise, critical of mercantilism. Wrote Wealth of Nations; law of supply and demand
- 3. **Baron de Montesquieu:** wrote The Spirit of the Laws: developed the idea of the separation of powers into three branches of government
- 4. Commercial Revolution:



(17th-18th centuries) The transition from the local economies of the Middle Ages to an economy based on overseas trade, the extension of banking and credit, and mercantilist policies.[198]

### 5. Divine Right:



Belief that a ruler's authority comes directly from God

- 6. **English Bill of Rights:** (1689) A Bill of Rights written after the Glorious Revolution of 1688 which placed William and Mary on the throne of England. The bill created a limited monarchy and established Parliament as the ruling body of the nation. King could no longer creat laws, raise taxes, or raise an army without Parliament.
- 7. English Civil War: Sparked by the dismissal of Parliament in England in 1629 by King Charles I, the war began in 1640 and ended in 1649 with the decapitation of King Charles I. The rebellion was spearheaded by the Puritan soldier Oliver Cromwell
- 8. **Enlightened Depotism:** Monarchical gov. in which an educated, autocratic ruler tries to govern justly through the practical application of reason.
- 9. **Enlightenment:** A European intellectual movement that stressed the use of human reason. Stated that people had natural rights and that government should be by consent of the governed

### 10. Free Enterprise:



Economic idea promoted from the beginning of the United States stating that individual citizens have the right to an opportunity to own a business that competes with other businesses to make a profit with little interference or control from the government.

### 11. Henry VIII:



(1491-1547) King of England desire to annul his marriage led to a conflict with the pope, break with the Roman Catholic Church, and its embrace of Protestantism. Henry established the Church of England in 1532.

- 12. **Jean-Jacques Rousseau:** "The Social Contract"-individuals are in a contract with each other to form an organized society, the power lies in the general will and that rulers can be removed if they fail to carry out the people's wil
- 13. **John Locke:** (1632 -1704) English philosopher who advocated the idea of a "social contract" in which government powers are derived from the consent of the governed; also said people have natural rights to life, liberty and property.
- 14. **Limited Monarchy:** a system of government in which a king or queen reigns as head of state but with power that is limited by real power lying in a legislature and an independent court system. Even the government has to follow the law.

#### 15. Louis XIV:



"the Sun King;" considered to be the model of absolute monarchs; he controlled all aspects of government, and demonstrated his power and wealth with his palace at Versailles; engaged in efforts to increase his power by taking attacking Huguenots and engaging in wars to acquire more territory and power

## 16. Mercantilism:



A governmental philosophy which professed that in order to become wealthy and powerful, a nation had to accumulate gold and silver by trading.

- 17. **Robert Boyle:** "the father of modern chemistry" published "The Sceptical Chymist" in 1661, proposing that matter was made of smaller primary particles joined together in different ways. His Law explains how volume, temperature, and the pressure of gas affect each other.
- 18. Scientific Method: A series of steps followed to solve problems including collecting data, formulating a hypothesis, testing the hypothesis, and stating conclusions
- 19. **Scientific Revolution:** A major change in European thought, starting in the mid-1500s, in which the study of the natural world began to be characterized by careful observation and the questioning of accepted beliefs
- 20. **Sir Isaac Newton:** Discovered Gravity. Gravity was one of the three laws of motion that Newton came up with

#### 21. Thomas Hobbes:



Enlightenment thinker who believed people need a strong, absolute government to rule over them (absolute monarchy), and suggested a social contract, in which citizens gave up their freedom in support of an organized society.

- 22. **Thomas Jefferson:** (1743-1826) 3rd president. Member of second continental congress, drafted Declaration of Independence. presidency included Louisiana Purchase and Embargo Act of 1807
- 23. Voltaire: (1694-1778) French philosopher. He believed that freedom of speech was the best weapon against bad government. He also spoke out against the corruption of the French government, and the intolerance of the Catholic Church.
- 24. William Blackstone: English thinker that solidified the ideals of English common law, which later helped shape the Declaration of Independence and Constitution