The Age of Religious Wars

Elizabeth and Spain

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**Rivalry and War in the Age of Phillip II**

-most wars caused by religion

-Catholics and Protestants treated each other brutally

**Philip of Spain**

-ruled Spain from 1556 to 1598

-leader of European Catholics during the religious wars

-built a massive bureaucracy due to the massive territory he ruled

-his main concern was the enemies of his church—both Catholic and Protestant

-navel victory in the Battle of Lepanto made him a hero and reduced Muslim power

-his power was unchallenged in the West in the 1580s

-tried to prevent Protestant Henry IV from becoming king of France (later Henry IV converted to Catholicism)

-Protestant Elizabeth became Queen of England in 1558

-Philip got along with her until English ships threatened his New World possessions (pirates!!)

-1585 Elizabeth helped the Protestant Dutch rebel against Spanish rule

-England and the Netherlands caused the most problems for Spain

**Elizabeth I of England**

-ruled from 1558 to 1603

-seemed like an underdog compared to Spain

-poor

-secondary role in Europe

-people were united by Parliament and committed to Protestantism

-Elizabeth had the qualities of a good leader-

-dedicated to government

-good choice of advisors

-civilized the court by encouraging elegant manners

-supported the arts

-tolerance of religious dissent (if it posed no threat)

-understood the people’s needs, wants etc.

*Royal Policy*

-Elizabeth’s refusal to marry caused problems

-planning of her chief minister Robert Cecil enabled the king of Scotland—James Stuart of succeed her in 1603

-her treatment of the few remaining Catholics in England was indecisive

-plotted against Mary Queen of Scots (next in line to succeed Elizabeth) and executed her in 1587

-traveled all over England making powerful speeches—devoted followers

-spun the rivalry with Spain as a patriotic and religious cause

**The Dutch Revolt**

-first major victory for people resisting royal authority

-Phillip II had inherited the land from his father Charles V

-the Dutch did not want Catholic rule

*Causes of the Revolt*

-Phillip reorganized the ecclesiastical in hopes of gaining control of the Dutch Catholic Church—nobility lost their patronage

-ordinary citizens resented the billeting of troops all over

-Phillip II put the Inquisition to work on the Calvinists in the area

-Phillip II brought in the Jesuits

-overall—undermined local authority and made Protestant enemies of the king

-1566 mobs of Protestants assaulted Catholics and sacked churches

-Protestants were still a minority

-Phillip II tried to suppress the rebellion

-hung Protestants in public

-hunted down rebels

*Full Scale Rebellion*

-1572 groups of Dutch sailors allied with William of Orange seized a fishing villiage

-stimulated uprisings all over

-William of Orange became a symbol of resistance

-1576-Phillips troops mutinied in Antwerp

-16 of the 17 provinces were behind William

-1577 Phillip II offered a compromise to the Catholic nobles and ten of the Southern provinces returned to Spanish rule

*The United Provinces*

-1579 the remaining seven provinces formed the independent United Provinces

-William of Orange was assassinated in 1584

-the Dutch were still able to resist Spanish invasion

-used the dykes—opened them and flooded the area when the Spanish attacked

-Phillip II often distracted by other wars and did not have complete confidence in commanders

-Calvinists were the heart of the resistance—fighting for country and religion

-William of Orange’s son, Maurice of Nassau, was a committed Calvinist

-helped make Calvinism the religion of the United Provinces

-1609-United Provinces and Spain called a truce

-did not make peace officially until the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648 where Spain recognized the United Provinces

*The Armada*

-1588-Phillip II’s attempt to end the conflict with Northern Europe (England)

-England was interfering with the New World trade (Pirates!!)

-Elizabeth was also helping the Dutch Protestants

-sent his armada to the Low Countries to pick up the Spanish Army and invade England

-English ships could move better and had more firepower then Spanish Armada ships

-England and a storm defeated the Armada

-few ships made it back to Spain

-Doomed Phillips’s ambitions in England, the Netherlands, and France

-**Power shifted to Northern Europe** (England)

Civil War in France

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**Civil War in France**

-by the 1550s, Calvinism had become very popular in southern France-Huguenots

-created their own semi-independent state

-Guise family led Catholics

-Bourbons led the Calvinists

-1559-Henry II died-last strong king

-Huguenots organized first national synod

-Henry’s weak sons ruled France for the next 30 years

-Henry’s widow-Catherin de Medici tried to preserve royal authority and acted a regent

-religious conflict and conflict between Guises and Bourbons intensified

*The Wars*

-started in 1562-lasted 36 years with short peace agreements interrupting the fighting

-Catherine switched sides and tried to prevent either side from becoming too powerful

-she may have approved the St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre

-August 24, 1572-started in Paris and spread across France

-destroyed Huguenot leadership-Henry Navarre was the only one to escape

-Catherine made peace with the Huguenots in 1576-the Guise family formed the Catholic League which dominated the eastern half of France

-1584-Catherine allied with Spain to attack heresy and denied Bourbon Henry the throne

-1588-defeat of the Spanish Armada-Spain could no longer support the Catholic League

-duke of Guise was assassinated

-Henry of Navarre became King Henry IV

-Huguenots and Catholics continued to run semi-independent states

-nobles reasserted control

Peace Restored

-Henry IV was able to restore order

-Duke of Guise was replaced by a Spanish candidate—French people rejected the foreign ruler

-support for the Catholic League fell apart

-uprisings in Eastern France demanded peace-increased in 1593 when Henry IV converted to Catholicism- “Paris is worth a Mass”

-Henry was crowned king in 1594-defeated the Spanish in their attempt to put a Spaniard on the French throne

-the peace treaty was signed in 1598

-Henry issued the Edict of Nantes-limited toleration to Huguenots

-made Calvinist worship legal

-protected rights of minority

-opened public office to Huguenots

The Thirty Years War

437-444

**From Unbounded War to International Crisis**

-Fifty years after Philip II died-lots of fighting in Europe

*The Thirty Years War*

-Holy Roman Empire-no central authority or unifying institutions

-small scale fighting erupted after 1550-religious reasons

-began for real in 1618 and ended in 1648

-started in the Kingdom of Bohemia

-started as a fight between Protestant and Catholic, but by the end political rulers were using it to gain power

*The First Phase*

-1609-Hapsburg Emperor Rudolf II promised toleration for Protestants in Bohemia

-his cousin, Ferdinand (a pious Catholic) succeeded him and refused to honor his promise in 1617

-Bohemians rebelled in 1618-declared Ferdinand deposed and replaced him with Calvinist Frederick II of Palatinate

-the first decade was mostly Catholic victories

-Maximilian of Bavaria gave Ferdinand the use of his army

-imperial troops defeated the Bohemians

-Ferdinand II confiscated all of Frederick’s land

-Maximilian received half for use of the army, the rest went to the Spanish

*The Second Phase-1621-1630*

-truce between Spain and the Dutch expired in 1621-war resumed in Germany and the Netherlands

-Albrecht von Wallenstein-a minor Bohemian noble became one of the richest men in the empire and raised an army

-by 1627-began to conquer the northern part of the empire-last stronghold of the Protestants

-1629-Ferdinand issued the Edict of Restitution-ordered the restoration of all Catholics that had been taken by the Protestants since 1552

-once the princes realized that Wallenstein’s successes posed a danger to their power they united against him (both Protestants and Catholics)

-1630 forced his dismissal by threatening to keep Ferdinand’s son from the imperial crown

-Sweden and France prepared to attack the emperor only Wallenstein could have stopped them

*The Third Phase*

-1630-shift toward Protestants and more political aims

-France (Catholic king) joined the Protestants to undermine the Hapsburgs

-France allied with Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden in 1631

-Adolphus had invaded the Holy Roman Empire in 1630 because the Hapsburgs had threatened Swedish lands around the Baltic Sea

-Adolphus destroyed the Empire’s army

-Ferdinand recalled Wallenstein—met the Swedes in the Battle of Lützen-1632

-Gustavus died in battle—saved the Hapsburg dynasty

-Princes forced the emperor to turn against Wallenstein-had him assassinated

-Wallenstein was the last person who had the power to unify Germany

*The Forth Phase*

-Political ambitions almost completely replaced religion as an aim

-war became a struggle between the Hapsburgs and their enemies

-Protestant princes started to raise new armies-1635

-Ferdinand was forced to make peace with them

-princes pledged to help drive out the Swedes

-Ferdinand agreed to suspend the Edict of Restitution and grant amnesty to all except Frederick of Palatinate and few rebels from Bohemia

-French could not let it go-1635 declared war on Ferdinand—disaster for Germany

-peace negotiations started in 1641-no treaty until 1648

-hostilities elsewhere did not end until 1661

*The Effects of the War*

-more than 1/3 of German population died

-economic dislocation-princes debased their money

-continent wide depression

**The Peace of Westphalia**

-fighting was so widespread diplomats knew it would take a new kind of negotiation to end it

-a new way of dealing with war and peace

-gathered all the participants in one place

-allowed a series of treaties that dealt with the issues

-state system emerged from the meetings—countries were creating mechanisms for dealing with each other

-Peace of Westphalia became the first comprehensive rearrangement of Europe’s map

Peace Terms

-France gained Alsace and Lorraine

-Sweden got land in the Holy Roman Empire

-United Provinces and Swiss Confederation both reorganized as independent

-Other German princes who did not join the emperor were given almost complete independence

-losses for the Hapsburgs

-1657-Princes elected emperor Leopold I head of the House of Hapsburg in return for two promises:

-he would not help his cousins (the rulers of Spain)

-the empire would be a state of princes in which each ruler would be free from interference

-allowed the rise of Brandenburg Prussia and the growth of absolutism because the political authority of the ruler in each kingdom was unlimited

-Hapsburg focused attention on the East—beginning of the Austro- Hungarian Empire

*The Effects of Westphalia*

-seen as a basis for all international negotiations

-after 1648-more stability in Europe

-less passionate and religious

-better treatment for civilians

-fewer causalities on the battlefield

*Changed International Relations*

-France replaced Spain as the dominant power

-England and the Netherlands dominated the economy-Population growth and trade recovered more quickly than other countries

-European states only willing to fight for territory, economic, or political advantage

-Dynasty was important, but religion would no longer dominant foreign policy

-last conflict based on religion

-emergence of the STATE as an interest and object of loyalty

**The Military Revolution**

-big changes in warfare

**Weapons and Tactics**

Use of Gunpowder

-became central to warfare around 1500

-new industries developed—gunpowder, cannon, and guns

-new tactics—elaborate fortifications necessary to survive a siege

-town walls were more expensive, but necessary for defense

New Tactics

-traditional cavalry charge obsolete

-changed to ranks of infantry organized in large blocks

-men with pikes fended off horses while the men with guns killed them

-Spanish perfected the strategy

-required many, many soldiers (about 40,000 for Spain)

-Sweden’s Gustavos Adolphus countered Spain with small groups of well-timed salvos (everyone shoots at once)

**The Organization and Support of Armies**

-new tactics—steady increase in size of the army

-need for conscription—Gustavus introduced in 1620

-less use of mercenaries—easier to control own people

-armies not disbanded in the fall—kept ready all the time

-drills, training, uniforms, officer ranks introduced to keep discipline

-taxes grew-armies expensive

-lower class felt the brunt of taxes and they were the most recruits

**The Life of a Soldier**

-some volunteered, many did not

-many enlisted with friends

-wives and children often came along—tons of jobs to do (cooking, cleaning, repairs, etc.)

-every soldier needed about five support people

-troops housed with ordinary people—local civilians had to buy food

Discomforts of Military Life

-cold, wet, long marches

-simple wounds could be fatal—medical care non-existent

The Witch Craze

485-487

**Belief in Magic and Rituals**

-people believed in magic—could not control their own lives

-one had to defend against evil spirits and encourage good spirits

*Charivari*

-celebrations of good times and mourning bad

-known as “rough music” in English and Charivari in French

-common theme-“a world turned upside down”

-form of public opinion and letting off steam

-potential for violence was great at such occasions

*Magical Remedies*

-sophisticated paid astrologers to read horoscopes and tell people how to act

-poor consulted wise women, white witches, or cunning men to deal with their problems

Witches and Witch Hunts

-misfortunes were not bad luck—there was someone behind it (a witch)

-led to the persuction of helpless women

-believe that women who could read were dangerous

-16th Century and 17th Century—Great Witch Craze

-suspects almost always tortured

-Punishment-burning at the steak

**Forces of Restraint**

-political leaders became concerned that the witch craze would turn on the upper classes

-turned to doctors and lawyers who were less emotional then then clergy

-as people moved to cities, less dependent on weather and chance

*Religious Discipline*

-the Church played a role in suppressing belief in magic

-Counter-Reformation produced better educated priests—imposed doctrine instead of tolerating local customs

-worked gradually

The Dutch

Pg. 453-455, 477-480

**Political Change in an Age of Crisis**

-general crisis in Europe—Who should hold political authority?

**The United Provinces**

-Dutch ruling family wanted to extend authority

-locals wanted to retain their rights

-had a long tradition of a strong representative assembly—the estates general

-many citizens participated through elected delegates

-social differentiation less in United Provinces then the rest of Europe

*Commerce and Tolerance*

-Dutch were the best traders

-Amsterdam-Europe’s financial capital and controlled the world’s richest markets

-Dutch were the cheapest international shippers—carried most European trade

-society was open-tolerated all religions

-free thinking society

*Two Political Parties*

-2 most urbanized provinces dominated the Estates General—supplied most of the taxes

-representatives made up the Mercantile Party—wanted peace so trade would be easy

-wanted government by the Estates General because they had influence

-religious tolerance in cities attracted enterprising people of all faiths

-House of Orange opposed the Mercantile Party

-descendants of William of Orange

-wanted their family to rule the Dutch

-supported by rural provinces

-wanted war—power came from command of the army

-centralized power

-strict Calvinist

-Maurice of Nassau (from House of Orange) use religion to execute his chief opponent Jan Van Oldenbarneueldt (Member of Parliament) from Holland in 1618

-Van Oldenbarneueldt against the war with Spain

-his execution left the House of Orange in charge of the United Provinces

-Maurice resumed the war and the House of Orange remained in control

-1648 a new leader-William II tried to prolong the fighting and the Mercantile Party reasserted power and insisted on peace

-the Dutch signed the Treaty of Westphalia—recognized the independence of the United Provinces

-Holland and Zeeland looked to have won

-House of Orange did not give up—William II died in 1650

-successor was his son—William III

*Jan De Witt*

-leader of the mercantile interest—representative from Holland

-took over the government in 1653

-wanted to leave as much power as possible in the hands of the provinces (especially Holland)

-weakened the executive and prevented a House of Orange comeback

-perused the trading advantage

-maintained peace and economic superiority of the Dutch

-lead the country into its golden age

-1672-French armies overran southern provinces—De Witt could not confront them (no military skills)

-the Dutch turned to the House of Orange

-a mob murdered De Witt and William III resumed control

**Alternatives to Absolutism**

-another model—also committed to order and uniformity and state building—government dominated by aristocrats or merchants

-Constitutionalism-political authority depends on the consent of the governed (or the leaders of society)—wanted full rights for the leadership, not all

**Aristocracy in the United Provinces, Sweden, and Poland**

-1672-William III became stadholder-seemed to be a move toward absolutism

-he led the resistance to Louis XIV

-increasingly concentrating government in his hands

-merchants and leaders in the Estates General soon reasserted itself—forced William III to sign a peace treaty and the end of the war with France

-when William sought the English crown, he had to get the Estates General’s approval

-2 separate assemblies ruled Holland and the Netherlands

-when he died without an heir—government was controlled by the Estates General

-in finance and trade the Dutch were gradually overtaken by the English

*Dutch Society*

-Aristocrats were merchants and mayors (unlike in the rest of Europe)

-social distinctions were less prominent

-rich did not have more privileges then the poor

-no ostentatious court

*Sweden*

-long struggle with the king—nobles dominated policy

-under Charles XI nobles got back huge pieces of land that they had received for their loyalty

-Charles stayed out of war—did not have to depend on the nobles

-strengthened by a smooth running bureaucracy

-Charles XII (r. 1697 to 1718)-revived military tradition

-won land from Peter the Great

-then invaded Russia (stupid)

-defeated at Poltava in 1709

-Swedish Empire dismantled-neighbors invaded

-signed treaties and lost land 1719-1721

-nobles reasserted authority during Charles XII’s absences

-ran the government

-forced successor Queen Ulrika to accept a constitution that gave the Riksdag (legislative assembly) control

-nobility ended up with the same role as the English Gentry

*Poland*

-chaos and disunity

-Poland no longer existed as a state by the late 18th Century

-result of dominance of old landlord aristocracy—blocked all attempts at centralized government

-kings raised armies and fought, but upon return could not exercise power over the nobles

-Polish kings were elected from an assembly of nobles

-had to agree not to interfere with independence of lords who were growing rich from serf labor

-Poland looked like a feudal kingdom with power in local hands

**Stability and Restraint in Arts**

-Classicism-attempted to recapture the values and strict forms favored by Greece and Rome

-aimed for grandiose effects (like Baroque)

-achieved them through restraint (unlike Baroque)

-rise in classical style echoed trend toward stability—age of striving and unrest coming to an end

*Poussin*

-Nicolas Poussin (1594-1665)

-French, spent his career in Rome

-muted colors, restrained figures, serene settings

-men and women in togas and classical buildings

*The Dutch Style*

-major influences in the United Provinces—Republicanism and Protestantism influenced painters

-Reformed (Calvinists) Church frowned on religious art which reduced the demand for it

-any religious art reflected personal faith

-no court meant that patrons of art were sober merchants—more interested in dignified portraits then ornate displays—resulted in the calm restraint of Rembrandt

*Rembrandt (1606-1669)*

-human character, emotion and self-revelation

-subjects presented without elaboration of idealization

-painted changes in his own face over a lifetime

-when he died in 1669-serentity, calm, and elegance typified European painting

Classicism and Drama

-new plays followed Greek/Roman structure

-Classical unities—place-no change of location

-time—24 hour period

-action-simple plot

*Corneille*

-dominated by French theater

-master piece-Le Cid (1636)

-some criticism for not strictly following the three unities

-very successful

**Social Patterns and Popular Culture**

-tensions were easing at all levels

**Population Trends**

-due to poor nutrition, later marrying, and plague, war, and famine Europe’s population did not grow

**Social Status**

-3 indicators of social status—wealth, education, and family background

-wealth—important to merchants

-education—important to professionals

-family background—important to nobility

-focus began to shift

-wealth became a more general sign of status

-titles-more highly prized

-mobility was more possibly

*Contradictions in Status of Women*

-women still subordinate in the legal system

-some successful scientists, writers, businesswomen

-involved in husband’s businesses

**Mobility and Crime**

*The Peasants Plight*

-taxes were rising fast

-food prices were stabilizing so peasant incomes were flat

-landlords began making more demands on peasants—seigniorial reaction

-raised rents

-squeezed money out of the land

-if they moved to towns, they were poorly paid

-army was diseased and ill fed

*Crime and Punishment*

-for many crime was only alternative to starvation

-many streets were unsafe at night

-law enforcement was spotty

-in England-constables

-defendants had few rights

-torture was common

-execution

-women did not have the right to start a case