

APUSH 1776-1789

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION & CONSTITUTION REVIEWED!

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 9
American History (Brinkley) Chapter 5-6
America's History (Henretta) Chapter 6

STATE GOVERNMENTS

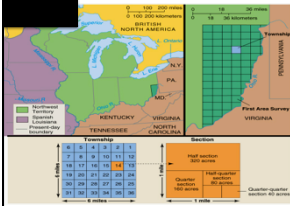
THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION, 1787

- Each state setup its own written plan of government (**constitution**)
- Characteristics of these new governments:
 - **Separation of powers:** power was typically split between 3 branches of government
 - **Property requirements** were typical for voter eligibility
 - Many states included **bill of rights** that outlined basic freedoms (religion, trial by jury, etc.)
 - **Virginia Statue for Religious Freedom** by Thomas Jefferson
- Government was set up based upon **republicanism** (power comes from the people)
 - Debate over what republicanism would look like

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

- **1st national government** of the United States
- Government could:
 - Conduct foreign policy, borrow money, make treaties
- Created a **central government** with **limited power**
 - Unicameral congress
 - No executive branch or court system
 - **No power to tax**
 - Could not regulate trade
- **Other Problems**
 - 9 votes out of 13 to pass laws
 - All states regardless of size had **one vote**
 - **All 13 states** must agree to amend the Article

Northwest Ordinances



- **Land Ordinance of 1784** established principle that territories could become states as their populations grew
- **Land Ordinance of 1785:** set up system for surveying and selling land in Northwest
 - Section set aside for public education
- **Northwest Ordinance of 1787:** set up the system for territories to enter the union as new states
 - **Banned slavery** in the Northwest Territory

FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS

- 1) **British** built forts in the west, disrupted trade, and armed Natives
- 2) **Spain** banned American shipping along the Mississippi in 1784
- 3) **France** demanded repayment of loans
- 4) **Barbary Pirates** harassed American shipping



Shay's Rebellion

- Following the American Revolution the economy suffered a **postwar depression**
 - Particularly hard hit were farmers
- **Shay's Rebellion (1786-87)** Daniel Shay veteran of the revolution and farmer in **Mass.** led a rebellion of poor farmers
 - **Demands:** lower taxes, end of foreclosures, paper \$, end of imprisonment for debt
- Government was **TOO WEAK** to put the rebellion down
 - Increased calls for a **stronger central government**



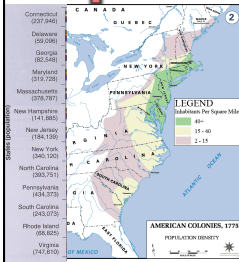
- ★ Attacks by Shay's followers
- ★ Encounters between Shay's and government forces

CREATING A NEW GOVERNMENT

- Growing demand to address the problems facing the nation (**int** trade, **finances**, **interstate commerce**, **foreign relations**, & **internal unrest**)
- **Annapolis Convention (1786): 5 states attend to discuss trade and commerce**
 - Plan to meet up in Philly in 1 year
- **Constitutional Convention (1787) meets for the purpose of revising the Articles**
 - 55 delegates sent "for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation"
 - Very quickly they decided to create an **entirely new stronger central government**



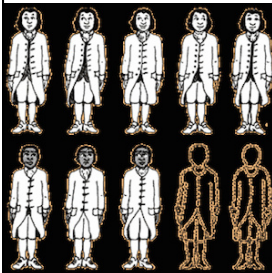
Compromises of the Convention:



- **Big Issue at the convention was about representation in Congress**
- **James Madison Introduced the Virginia Plan (Large State Plan)**
 - Bicameral (2 house) legislature
 - Representation would be based on **population size**
- **New Jersey Plan was favored by the small states**
 - Unicameral (1 house) legislature
 - Each state would have **equal representation**
- **Roger Sherman Introduced the Great Compromise**
 - Bicameral legislature
 - Upper house (**Senate**) 2 representatives per state
 - Lower house (**House of Reps**) based on population

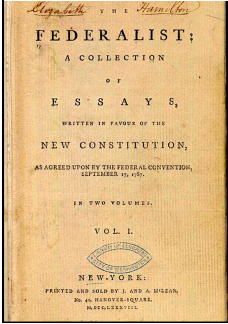


COMPROMISES OVER SLAVERY



- Debate over whether slaves should be counted in state population?
- **3/5th Compromise:** slaves would be counted 3/5 of a person when deciding representation in the House of Reps.
- **Slave trade** allowed to continue until 1808
- Although the word "slave" or "slavery" was not used in the Constitution, the **institution of slavery was very much protected** by the original document

DEBATE OVER RATIFICATION



- **Federalists:** supporters of the Constitution and a strong central government
- **Anti-Federalists:** critics of the Constitution and favored a weak central government
 - Favored state rights
- **The Federalist Papers** (85 essays) written by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, & John Jay to persuade people to support ratification of the Constitution
- **Guarantee of a Bill of Rights** helped achieve ratification
 - Enumerated individual rights and explicitly restricted powers of the fed govt.
- In 1789 **George Washington** takes office as the nations 1st President

Stuff You Should Know About the Constitution

- **The Constitution set up a government based upon popular sovereignty**
 - Power is in the hands of the people
- **Separation of powers** between the 3 branches
- **The Constitution set up a division of power between the national and state government (Federalism)**
- **Constitution would be "the supreme law of the land"**
- **Presidents would not be elected directly by the voters- wanted to limit excessive popular influence**
 - Feared too much democracy would lead to mob rule
 - Created the **electoral college**

