

# SSWH14: ANALYZE THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS



*Element B: Identify the causes and results of the Revolutions in England (1689)*

# Glorious Revolution

The causes of the Glorious Revolution in England date back to the first two kings of the Stuart Dynasty, James I and Charles I.

- By the early 1600s, a new form of Protestantism was taking hold in England, Puritanism.
  - Puritans argued that the Church of England needed to be purified of Catholic ritual, James and Charles disagreed.
- James and Charles also struggled with their subjects over taxation.
  - This conflict over taxation became particularly bad during the reign of Charles I.
  - In 1628 Parliament refused to give the king money unless he signed the Petition of Right which placed several limits on the powers of the king.
    - Charles signed the document but ignored it for the duration of his reign.
  - Further, Charles I started to raise revenue without the consent of Parliament through fees and fines on the English people.
  - This abuse of power provoked the English Civil War that lasted from 1642 to 1649.



# Glorious Revolution

- Parliament defeated the king's forces in the civil war and in 1649 King Charles I was beheaded for treason.
- The leader of Parliament's military, Oliver Cromwell, took power and promised to create a republic but established a military dictatorship instead.
  - This military dictatorship, called the Commonwealth, lasted until Cromwell's death in 1658.
- In 1659 the English Parliament reconvened and voted to restore the Monarch. The oldest son of Charles I, Charles II was invited to take the throne.
  - The relationship between Parliament the king during the reign of Charles II was generally congenial.
  - Charles II agreed to a law that gave his subjects the right to habeas corpus and respected Parliament's traditional right to control taxation.



# Glorious Revolution

- In 1685 Charles II died and his Catholic brother James II became the king.
  - James II was far less cooperative. He violated English laws, appointed Catholics to high office, and dissolved Parliament.
  - This behavior led several members of Parliament to reach out to James II's Protestant daughter Mary.
    - In 1688 seven members of Parliament invited Mary and her husband William, the Prince of Orange to invade England and overthrow James II.
    - James gave up without a fight and William and Mary became the king and queen of England in the Glorious Revolution.
- William and Mary cooperated with Parliament and together they created a constitutional monarchy for England in which the monarch and Parliament required mutual consent to govern.
  - Parliament drafted and the monarchs signed the English Bill of Rights which protected the rule of law and speech.

