



100 Years War

France & England

1337 - 1453



Background Info

The Hundred Years War

(1337 → 1453) between **England** & **France**

- The Hundred Years War were a series of...
 - Plundering raids, sieges & naval battles interspersed w/truces & uneasy peace.
- 2 main causes of the Hundred Years War...
 1. Centered on the relationship b/tw the Kings of **France** & **England** regarding the duchy of Aquitaine located in SW France.

1259, Treaty of Paris → **Henry III** held the duchy as a fief of the **French King**

 - **Henry** was a vassal of the **King of France**
 - Required to pay liege homage to the king
 - **King of England** was required to pay homage whenever the kingship of **England** or **France** changed hands

Henry → King of England; how could a king be a vassal?

Irritations

English were irritated by...

- **French** trading interests
- **French** support of the Scots against **England**
- **French** attempts to control Flanders & its wool trade w/**England**

Provocation was not a one-way street.

French were angered by the **English**...

2. Due to **King Edward III**'s claim to the **French throne**
 - 1328, **Charles IV, King of France**, died w/out a male heir
 - **Edward III (King of England)** held claim to the throne via his mother (Isabelle) who was **Charles**' sister
 - Other claimant was **Philip VI**, grandson of **Philip III, King of France** 1270-1285
 - **Philip VI** gained the throne
 - Moved to confiscate Aquitaine in order to consolidate his power.

Battles

Started in May 1337

- **King Philip VI of France** attempted to confiscate the **English territories** in the duchy of Aquitaine (located SW France)
- **Edward** led a raid into **French territory** (1338) to defend his claim
- 2 years later declared himself the true king of France

From the beginning of the war (1337) until the battle of Orleans (1428-29)...

- **English** won many battles
- Used new methods of warfare
- Combining forces of long bowmen w/dismounted men-at-arms w/success

Conclusion

1429- Siege of Orleans

- **French** finally gained the upper hand
- **Joan of Arc** led a relief force & successfully defeated **English**
- Next 25 years → **French defeated** the **English** at many engagements

Ended in July 1453

- **French expelled** the **English** from the continent (except for Calais) by force
- Wars had become the consuming interests for 5 **English** & 5 **French** monarchs
 - Drained the treasuries of both countries



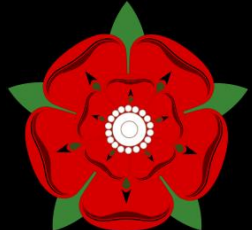


War of the Roses

English Throne

1455 - 1485

Who will be the next King of England?



WAR OF THE ROSES

Both houses are descendants of Edward III

Lancaster

York

**Henry VI
1422-61**

**Edward IV
1461-70**

**Henry VI
1470-71**

**Edward IV
1471-83**

**Edward V
1483**

**Richard III
1483-85**



Henry Tudor

**Elizabeth
of York**



House of Tudor

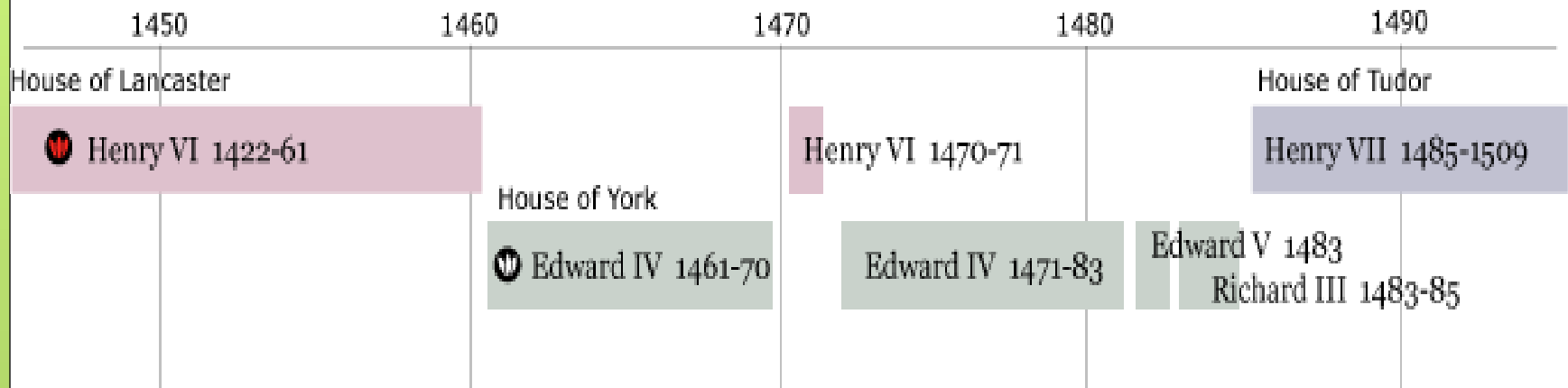
Introduction

- Quarrel b/tw the families of **York** & **Lancaster**
 - Over the right to occupy the English throne
 - Series of cruel civil wars in England (1455 to 1485)
- The emblem of...
 - House of **York** → **white rose** 
 - House of **Lancaster** → **red rose** 

Major causes of the conflict include:

1. Both houses were direct descendants of king **Edward III**
2. The ruling Lancastrian king, **Henry VI**, surrounded himself w/unpopular nobles
3. Civil unrest of much of the population
4. Availability of many powerful lords with their own private armies
5. Episodes of mental illness by king **Henry VI**

Background Info



Families of **York** & **Lancaster** descended from **Edward III**

- ◉ **Yorks**- better claim to the throne than the **Lancastrians**
- ◉ Passed over (1399) when **Richard II** was deposed (removed from office or position of power)

Yorks would not have won backing later if it had not been for...

- ◉ the failure of the English armies in the 100 Years War
- ◉ the mental and physical weakness of **King Henry VI**
- ◉ the excessive taxation and misrule at home

Richard of York ...

- Planned to take the gov't from incapable persons & secure it for himself.
- Later his ambition was to seize the crown.

Real head of the kingdom - **Queen Margaret (Lancastrian)**

- Young & beautiful French woman who resisted attempts to...
 - Dethrone her husband, **Henry VI**
 - Disinherit her son, **Edward**

Struggle Begins

- **Richard of York** won at St. Albans in 1455 & secured control of the govt.
- **Richard** was killed by the forces of **Queen Margaret** at Wakefield in 1460.
 - **Richard's son Edward**, w/the **Earl of Warwick's** ("Kingmaker") help became king as **Edward IV**
- **Henry VI** was imprisoned.

Here is where it all changes...



TRAITOR

- **Warwick** (Kingmaker/Richard Neville) quarreled w/**Edward IV**
 - Helped **Queen Margaret** drive **Edward** from England
 - Restored **Henry VI** to the throne in 1470

Edward returned to England

- **Warwick** was killed in battle
- **King Henry's son** was murdered
- **Queen Margaret's** forces were destroyed & she was captured
 - Several **Lancastrians** were executed

Edward IV reentered London

- Seized the throne again
- **Henry VI** was assassinated

Ends the 1st period of the struggle

Conclusion

14 years later war broke out again...

- **Henry Tudor (last Lancastrian)** defeated & killed **Richard III (last Yorkist king)**
- Became **King Henry VII** → ending the Wars of the Roses
- The following year **Henry** married **Elizabeth of York**, the daughter of **Edward IV**.
- **White** & **red** roses united in the rose of the Tudors, emblem of a new line of English kings.



The Wars of the Roses

- Broke the feudal power of the nobles
- **Marked the end of the Middle Ages in England.**
- Many of the ruling nobles had been slain during the wars & their estates → by the Crown

Results of the War of the Roses

- Lawlessness had torn England since the 100 Yrs War
 - Grew worse during the Wars of the Roses
 - Not enough able leaders remained to maintain law and order
- People longed for a strong gov't (**peace & prosperity**)
- Henry VII seized the opportunity to
 - Reestablish the royal power
 - Launch policies that marked the beginning of modern England



Politics of the Late Middle Ages

Look in your packet for the printed notes.

During the LMA, the monarchs of England, France and Spain began to create centralized nation-states. As unified states, these 3 nations dominated the politics of the early modern era. They were the dominant players in the warfare of the continent and they were the leaders in the Age of Exploration.

Spain: Ended the Middle Ages by concluding the successful Reconquista. The Catholic Spanish crusade against the Moors who had ruled Spain throughout most of the Middle Ages. This was completed by Ferdinand and Isabella, the rulers of the 2 Spanish kingdoms. Their marriage in 1469 had brought the 2 kingdoms together. The completion of the Reconquista in 1492 allowed the Spanish to turn their attention to the idea of overseas expansion. (Columbus)

#1

Power

Using marriages arranged for their children, the Spanish monarchies tied their family to the other royals of Europe. In 1516, their grandson became King Charles I of Spain. Three years later, this young man inherited the title Holy Roman Emperor from his paternal grandfather. Spain opened the early modern era as the greatest power in Europe as well as the first threat to the "balance of power".

France:

#2

Power

The Capétian dynasty (987 – 1328) and the Valois dynasty (1328 – 1589) began the centralization of the French state. Their work made France Europe's #2 power at the beginning of the early modern era. France felt obliged to limit the expansion of the Hapsburg (Spain & HRE) power. This led to the French wars in Italy to drive a wedge b/tw the Hapsburg lands. This is led to the expansion of the Renaissance.

England:

#3

Power

Following their failure in the 100 Years War (1337 – 1453), the English monarchy was plagued by thirty years of civil war in the War of the Roses (1455 – 1485). The Tudor dynasty emerged from this conflict and began the English rise to power. Beginning with Henry VII and continuing with the reigns of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, England established itself as a great power and laid the foundation for England's colonial empire in North America.

- A. Became Nation States
- B. King consolidated power = Nations
- C. Dominated Europe for 100's of years

Ununified Feudal States

Germany & Italy: These 2 great nationality groups of central Europe did not succeed in uniting as nation-states. Instead, both were embroiled in a huge feudal empire, known as the HRE. Led by German Hapsburgs from Austria, this large political unit was really a feudal pyramid with 100's of German and Italian states within its boundaries. Each prince fought to retain his independence from the Emperor's power. The Hapsburg emperor's often was involved in so many different political areas at one time that he could never concentrate on centralization. As a result, Germany and Italy fail to become great nations until the 19th century. Instead, Austria played the role of great power, while being unable to unite Germany. The Italian states of the Renaissance played political chess between the competing interests of Austria, Spain, France, and the Pope.

- A. Did NOT Unify
- B. HRE
- C. 100's of years behind in politics
- D. Anger led to the World Wars