SPIELVOGEL CHAPTER 18
THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY: EUROPEAN STATES, INTERNATIONAL WARS, AND SOCIAL CHANGE

Timeline

Map 18.1: Europe in 1763

The Absolutists
Louis XIV of France  Peter the Great of Russia  The Fredericks of Prussia

17th & 18th c.
Their Goal?
Sovereignty
Supreme and Independent Power

They competed in a real life game of chess.

CHECK!
1. Church
2. Nobility
3. Representative Bodies
4. Towns
5. Universities

The Church was not just a religious institution in early modern Europe – bishops held considerable wealth and influence.

Wealth and Power
Interior of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris
Medieval kings were heavily dependent on the hereditary warrior aristocracy.

**The Feudal Contract**

- **The King provides** LAND to his vassal.
- **The Vassal swears** FEALTY to his king.

**Castles**

The most powerful lords were protected behind the walls of fortified castles.

**Representative Bodies**

- **Taxation by CONSENT**
  - England: Parliament
  - France: Estates General
  - Prussia: Estates
Independent Charters
Special Privileges

CHECK!
Towns and Cities
Royal charters granted privileges and exemptions from certain taxes and laws.

CHECK!
Universities
Universities typically controlled by the Church.
(NOT by the king)

Walls
Medieval towns often had fortifications.

The Absolutist’s Goal

Sovereignty

Review
Which privileged groups threatened the sovereignty of kings?

1. Church
2. Nobility
3. Representative Bodies
4. Towns
5. Universities

Some rights reserved by OmarC
The Absolutists

Louis XIV of France
Peter the Great of Russia
The Fredericks of Prussia

NATURAL RIGHTS
1. Equality before the law
2. Freedom of religious worship
3. Freedom of speech
4. Freedom of the press
5. Right to assemble
6. Right to hold/own property
7. Right to seek happiness

THE THEORY OF ENLIGHTENED RULERS
- They should favor –
  1. Religious toleration
  2. Freedom of speech, press, assembly
  3. Foster arts, sciences, and education
  4. Obey the laws and enforce them

ENLIGHTENED ABSOLUTISM = ENLIGHTENED DESPOTISM
- Philosophes believed that only strong rulers/absolute monarchs had the power to reform society -> reform from above
- A new type of monarchy which emerged in the late 18th century
  - Frederick II of Prussia
  - Catherine the Great of Russia
  - Joseph II of Austria
- How enlightened were the enlightened despots?

THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD STATES IN THE 18TH CENTURY
France -> dominant power on land
England -> dominant power at sea/colonial empire
Dutch Republic -> declining power
Spain -> second rate power
Portugal -> second rate power

FRANCE – THE LONG RULE OF LOUIS XV 1715-1774
1. Five years old when he became king -> Duke of Orleans served as regent
2. Pulled back from foreign adventures = wars
3. Commerce, trade, industry expanded
4. In 1743 Louis XV takes control
5. Lazy and weak
6. Ministers and mistresses influence and control him -> Madame de Pompadour
7. Loss of the French Empire = loses the 7 Years’ War
8. High taxes/more debt/hungry people/clueless life at Versailles
KING LOUIS XVI
1774-1792
1. Grandson of Louis XV
2. Unprepared to be the new king/knew little about governing
3. Weak and indecisive
4. Marie Antoinette = his wife/spoiled Austrian princess/hated by the French people
5. Increasing debt and looming financial crisis

GREAT BRITAIN
- The Glorious Revolution 1689 =
  1. No absolutism in England
  2. Beginning of constitutional monarchy
  3. Sharing of power between king and parliament
  4. Parliament gradually gains control

- The United Kingdom of Great Britain
  1707 = the governments of England and Scotland are united

Glorious Revolution (1688)
- William III (William of Orange) and Mary Stuart (daughter of James II form first marriage): Protestantism secured in England
  - Act of Toleration: granted religious freedom (except to Catholics, Jews, and Unitarians)

Bill of Rights (1689)
- Act of Parliament (one of the bases of the “British Constitution”) that includes:
  - freedom from royal interference with the law
  - freedom from taxation by royal prerogative, without agreement by Parliament
  - freedom to petition the King
  - freedom from a peace-time standing army, without agreement by Parliament
  - freedom to elect members of Parliament without interference from the Sovereign
  - the freedom of speech in Parliament.
  - freedom from cruel and unusual punishments, and excessive bail.

Locke v. Hobbes
- Thomas Hobbes: Leviathan (1651): Justified strong government. Life was "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short"
- John Locke: Two Treatises on Government (1689): Right to overthrow tyrannical rulers; Social contract; philosophical argument for supremacy of Parliament.

Queen Anne & Act of Union
- Act of Settlement (1701): only Anglican could succeed to the throne
- Queen Anne (1702-1714):
  - Act of Union (1707) – English and Scottish Parliaments merged = United Kingdom of Great Britain
  - Royal veto used for last time
  - On her death the Elector of Hanover, George I took the throne.
The Jacobites
► Beginning in the 1690s and through the 1740s, revolts in Highland Scotland broke out in support of Stuarts (James II and Bonnie Prince Charlie).
► These ended in 1745-46 with the Battle of Culloden and the Highland Clearances.

The Parliament
Parliamentary debate in the House of Commons
1. King chose some members to serve as his ministers
2. Parliament made the laws
3. Levied taxes
4. Passed the budget
5. Indirectly influenced the king’s ministers
   - Parliament was dominated by the land owning aristocracy –
     1. The Peers – the House of Lords
     2. The Landed Gentry – House of Commons

ROYAL PATRONAGE
1. The means by which the king exercised power over the parliament
2. Awarding of titles
3. Government positions
4. Positions in the church and royal household

Old Sarum in Wiltshire, an uninhabited hill that elected two Members of Parliament. Painting by John Constable, 1829

THE HANOVERIAN DYNASTY IN BRITAIN
1. Began in w/the death of Queen Anne -> the last Stuart
2. Protestant rulers of the German kingdom of Hanover are invited to become king
3. George I (1714-1727)
4. George II (1727-1760)
5. George III (1760-1820)
6. First Hanoverian king didn’t even speak English -> didn’t understand the British system
7. Ministers exercised greater power -> the rise of the “Prime Minister”

Parliamentary Government
► Cabinet System of preparing laws for Parliament developed during early 18th century
► Party system (Whigs and Tories) become prominent.
► Prime minister became leader of cabinet and responsible to majority party in the House of Commons.
► Robert Walpole (1721-1742) became first prime minister
BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS

- Robert Walpole 1721-1742
  1. Prime Minister
  2. Peaceful foreign policy
  3. Low taxes
  4. Growing trade and industry

- William Pitt the Elder
  1. Becomes PM in 1757
  2. Policy of expanding trade and global empire
  3. Acquires Canada and India in 7 Years’ War

- Lord Bute
  1. Appointed by George III
  2. Replaces William Pitt
  3. George III wants to exercise more monarchical power and patronage

“WILKES AND LIBERTY” -> JOHN WILKES

1. Journalist
2. Member of parliament
3. Publicly criticizes king’s ministers
4. Advocates freedom on the press
5. Advocates idea that law applies equally to everyone
6. Expelled from parliament -> reelected to parliament -> expelled again from parliament
7. Wilkes came to symbolize liberty and the demand for electoral reform

THE DECLINE OF THE DUTCH REPUBLIC

1. Decline in economic power of the Dutch Republic in the 18th century
2. Competition for power between – local oligarchies = the regents
   verses
   the Stadholder = the house of

What is a Stadtholder?
Stadhouder
(Dutch)

Stadhouder
“Placeholder”

Place (In Place of)
Stead (Instead of)
Stadhouder
“Placeholder”

Three Phases:
1. Royal Steward
2. Rebel Leader
3. Republican
Head of State(s)

Steward
In the Middle Ages, Stadholders
governed territories
as representatives of higher absentee
nobiles.

Habsburg
Netherlands
1472-1581
Stadtholders appointed
by Habsburg emperors

Map Credit: Denis Jackman
William of Orange
Stadtholder of Holland, Zeeland, and Utrecht

William vs. Philip II
The Dutch Revolt

The Rebel General

William of Orange
Stadtholder of Holland, Zeeland, and Utrecht (1572-1584)

Confederation
In the Republic, each province appointed its own stadtholder.

The States of Holland
William of Orange
Republican Stadholder of Friesland (1580-1584)

Confederation
Several provinces would often appoint the same Stadholder.

Confederation
But provinces sometimes named different stadtholders. Typically descendants of William of Orange

What is a Stadtholder?

James Madison
Notes on Ancient and Modern Confederacies (1786)

Influencers:
Sir William Temple, Charles Joseph Pencleche, Hugo Grotius
Civil Powers

*Head of State(s)*

1. Settle differences between provinces
2. Recommend and influence the appointment of ambassadors
3. *Ex officio* member of the Council of State
4. Preside in the Provincial Courts of Justice where his name is prefixed to all public Acts
5. Supreme Curator of most of the Universities
6. Appoint town magistrates
7. Gives audiences to Ambassadors
8. Power of Pardon

**Captain General**

*Commander-in-Chief*

**Admiral General**

**A Republican Institution**

**KING**

*Hereditary* *Permanent*
His clothes look like those of a humble student, his jacket is a knitted sweater, like those worn by one of our ferrymen. His friends are citizens of this beer-brewing city (Delft), and he fits in perfectly...
PROBLEM
The Republic’s Constitution Presented Contradictions.

A Federal Republic
with a
Semi-Hereditary (Nominally Elected)
Noble Figurehead

A strange effect of human contradictions...
Men too jealous to confide their liberty to their representatives who are their equals, abandoned it to a Prince who might the more easily abuse it.

Orangists vs. the States

Staatsgezinden (States’ Party)
- Provincial Sovereignty
- No Federal Figurehead
- Liberal, Non-Assessing Calvinism
- Peace with Spain
- Territorial Conquests

Maurits
Stadtholder

J. Oldenbarnevelt
Land’s Advocate of Holland

J. Oldenbarnevelt
Land’s Advocate of Holland
Prinsgezindheid
(Orangists)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>General Sovereignty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supported Stadholders</td>
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<tr>
<td>(both from the Regents &amp; Holland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strict Calvinism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War with Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(benefits Stadholders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territorial Conquests</td>
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<tr>
<td>(benefits Dutch Protestantism)</td>
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</table>

It is certain that so many independent Corps & interests could not be kept together without such a center of Union as the Stadholdership.

Stadtholderless

1650-1672 1702-1747

Pretensions

In the intermission of the Stadholdership Holland by her Riches & Authority... drew the others into a sort of dependence.

-- Madison
(citing Temple)

With such a government, the Union never could have subsisted, it in effect the provinces had not within themselves a spirit capable of quickening their tardiness, and impelling them to the same way of thinking.
This spring is the Stadtholder.

1754
Stadtholder General
(Hereditary)
William IV & William V
Stadtholders General

1795
What is a Stadtholder?

Single
Engaged
Divorced
Separated
In a Relationship
Married

It's Complicated
ABSOLUTISM IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

- The major states in central and eastern Europe -
  1. Prussia
  2. Austria
  3. Russia

PRUSSIA – THE ARMY AND THE BUREAUCRACY

- Two most significant kings of 18th century Prussia –
  1. King Frederick William I (1713-1740)
  2. King Frederick II = Frederick the Great (1740-1786)

Frederick the Great of Prussia (r. 1740-1786)

- 1712 — 1786.
- Succeeded his father, Frederick William I (the “Soldier King”).
- He saw himself as the “First Servant of the State.”

THE GENERAL DIRECTORY

1. Primary instrument of govt administration
2. Supervised the military
3. Supervised the police
4. Handled economic and financial affairs
5. Highly efficient and organized
6. Govt bureaucracy was closely supervised by king

THE JUNKERS

1. Prussian aristocrats/nobles
2. Owned large estates with many serfs
3. Served as officer corps of Prussian military
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THE PRUSSIAN ARMY</th>
<th>FREDERICK THE GREAT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The best in Europe</td>
<td>1. One of best educated/most cultured monarchs in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Large</td>
<td>2. Enlightenment thinker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Belief in duty, obedience, sacrifice</td>
<td>3. Saw himself as “first servant of the state” = responsible and serious leader of the state</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Prussian militarism = the military is always right/best</td>
<td>4. New law code/system of laws</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5. Granted limited freedom of speech/press</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6. Complete religious toleration by the state</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Military genius and commander</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRUSSIAN KING FREDERICK II = FREDERICK THE GREAT</th>
<th>THE AUSTRIAN EMPIRE OF THE HABSBURGS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Led by the Habsburg monarchy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Vienna was the capital of the empire</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>3. Empire was multinational and multicultural</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Difficult to create a unified system of laws and administration</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hohenzollern Dynasty</th>
<th>Frederick William</th>
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<tr>
<td>“The Fredericks”</td>
<td>(r. 1640-1688)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The “Great Elector”</td>
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<td>Father of Prussian Absolutism</td>
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Frederick William I
(r. 1713-1740)

The “Soldier King”
Soldatenkönig

Frederick II “the Great”
(r. 1740-1786)

Enlightened Absolutist
Friend of Voltaire

“A formidable army and a war chest large enough to make this army mobile in times of need can create great respect for you in the world, so that you can speak a word like the other powers.”
-- Frederick William I

MILITARISM

Carl Röchling (d. 1920), Attack of the Prussian Infantry

12TH Largest Population

Carl Röchling (d. 1920), Attack of the Prussian Infantry

12TH Largest Population

4TH Largest Army

Carl Röchling (d. 1920), Attack of the Prussian Infantry

Carl Röchling (d. 1920), Attack of the Prussian Infantry
MILITARISM

Armies from Russia to the United States adopted the Prussian drill model.

Carl Röchling (d. 1920), Attack of the Prussian Infantry

Baron von Steuben

Trained Washington’s Continental Army in Prussian-style drill

“Sparta of the North”

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Comedies
“All successful rulers keep God before their eyes and have no mistresses or, rather, whores, and lead a godly life…”

-- Frederick William I

Marie Angélique de Scorailles, one of Louis XIV's many mistresses

“The most beautiful girl or woman in the world would be a matter of indifference to me, but tall soldiers - they are my weakness.”

-- Frederick William I

Potsdam GIANTS

Internationally-recruited regiment of tall soldiers

“Everything must be committed except eternal salvation – that belongs to God, but all else is mine.”

-- Frederick William I
Building an Absolutist State

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Protestant</th>
<th>Religious Tolerance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nobility (Junkers)</td>
<td>Cooperation (Service Nobility)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Representative Bodies (Estates)</td>
<td>Reduced Power Taxation by Decree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Compulsory Public Education (1st system of its kind)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

1. Reforms her empire to strengthen it against Prussia
2. Makes the empire more centralized and bureaucratic
3. Enlarges and modernizes the army
4. Deeply Catholic and conservative -> resisted the radical reforms the philosophes wanted

EMPRESS MARIA THERESA 1740-1780

- Great believer in the Enlightenment
- Reason should dominate government and society
- Radical reforms
- Abolished serfdom
- Economic modernization -> eliminated internal trade barriers, monopolies, and guild restrictions
- New law code/equality before the law
- Religious reforms = toleration
- Reforms too radical -> upset everyone
- When he died most reforms cancelled -> failed

1765-1790

His mother was Maria Theresa.

b.1741 – d.1790

Habsburg Family Crest

AUSTRIAN EMPIRE MARIA THERESA

EMPEROR JOSEPH II 1780-1790

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**Joseph II, Holy Roman Emperor**

1772: First partition of Poland.

1778-1779: He failed to annex Bavaria to Austrian lands.

1781: Declared the Toleration Patent.

1781: Abolition of serfdom and feudal dues.

1785: He failed to exchange the Austria Netherlands for Bavaria.

1787-1792: Austria joined Russia in the Russo-Turkish War, but little was gained.

1795: Third partition of Poland.

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**Russia Under Catherine the Great, 1762-1796**

- Reform
- *Instruction*, 1767
- Strengthens landholders at expense of serfs
- Rebellion of Emelyan Pugachev, 1773-1775
- Territorial Expansion

---

**Joseph II of Austria**

---

**Catherine the Great (r. 1762-1796)**

- German Princess Sophie Friederike Auguste of Anhalt-Zerbst.
- 1729 — 1796.
1. Leader of mass peasant rebellion in S. Russia
2. Peasants rise up - burn estates - 1500 aristocrats and their families murdered
3. Pugachev is captured and executed
4. Pugachev’s rebellion scares the hell out of nobles - crackdown - no reform

TERRITORIAL EXPANSION UNDER CATHERINE THE GREAT

1. Westward into Poland
2. Southward to the Black Sea

- Treaty of Kuchuk-Kainarji - gain some territory and rights from Ottoman Turks

THE DESTRUCTION OF POLAND

- Problems for Poland
  1. Weak elected monarch
  2. Limited powers for king
  3. Small bureaucracy
  4. Small army
  5. King had no power/nobles had all the power
  6. Surrounded by 3 powerful neighbors

THE PARTITIONS OF POLAND

- Three strong neighbors = Prussia, Austria, Russia - seize Polish territory and divide it among themselves
  1. First partition 1772 - 30% of territory
  2. Second partition 1793 - more land taken
  3. Third partition 1795 - Poland ceases to exist/disappears from the map

- The lesson of Poland = strong, absolutist state was necessary to survive!
The Partitions of Poland

Map 18.2: The Partitioning of Poland

Reformer? OR Despot?

1767: Catherine summons the Legislative Commission.
1768-1774: Russo-Turkish War.
1771-1775: Pugachev Rebellion is suppressed.
1772: First partition of Poland.
1773: Charter of Nobility.
1785: Second partition of Poland.
1795: Third partition of Poland.

THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD

- Spain
  1. Last Habsburg monarch dies 1702 - inbreeding, feeble minded, impotent
  2. He name grandson of Louis XIV as heir to the Spanish throne
  3. Philip V -> first Bourbon monarch of Spain
  4. War of the Spanish Succession 1702-1713 -> France/Spain loses but Philip is allowed to remain king
  5. Spain loses control of Italian territories and Netherlands
  6. Bourbon rule temporarily rejuvenates Spain

- Portugal
  1. Decline
  2. No longer has overseas empire they had in 16th century

- Italy
  1. Control of Italy switches from Spain to Austria

THE SCANDINAVIAN STATES

1. Sweden was big dog in N. Europe in 17th cent
2. Sweden loses the Great Northern War against Peter the Great -> loses control of the Baltic
3. King Gustavus III -> enlightened ruler -> reasserts power of the monarchy

ENLIGHTENED ABSOLUTISM REVISITED

- The 3 great enlightened despots/enlightened absolutists
  1. Emperor Joseph II = Austria
  2. Frederick II = Prussia
  3. Catherine the Great = Russia
- Only Joseph II attempted radical reforms based on Enlightenment ideas
- Frederick II and Catherine the Great interested in Enl thinking and made some limited reforms - > more interested in power/maintain traditional structures of their societies
HOW ENLIGHTENED WAS ENLIGHTENED ABSOLUTISM

1. A little, but not very
2. Monarchs used the ideas to strengthen and modernize their states
3. Stronger and more efficient govt = bigger armies and military
4. Aristocrats still very powerful -> didn’t want society to change
5. Most significant reforms = legal reform, religious toleration, expansion of educ system

THE SOCIAL ORDER OF THE 18TH CENTURY

- Social status not determined by wealth/economics -> based on traditional hereditary based “social orders”/“estates”
  1. The clergy
  2. The nobility = aristocrats
  3. Commoners = everybody else, no how rich or poor
- Enlightenment thinkers argued that traditional social order was illogical/hostile to progress

THE PEASANTS

1. Peasants made up 85% of the pop.
2. Conditions for varied from region to region
3. Biggest differences were between free peasants in W. Europe and serfs in Central and E. Europe
4. Compulsory Service of peasants =
   A. tithes - had give 1/3 of crops to church/aristocrats
   B. misc. dues and fees which they were forced to pay
   C. denied hunting rights even on their own land
   D. aristocrats monopolized village mills, ovens, wine/oil presses
5. Serfdom in E. Europe = aristocrats had almost complete legal, social and economic control over serfs
6. The village was center of social life for the peasants
7. Diet of the peasants = dark bread, water/wine/beer, and soups of grain and veggies

THE NOBILITY

1. Nobles made up 2-3% of pop.
2. Noble status based on birth - automatically at the top of the scale
3. Legal and social privileges
4. Diet of the aristocrats = meat, fish, cheese, sweets
5. Controlled top positions in military and government
6. Differences in wealth, education, and political power both within and between countries
7. Money began to make it possible for rich middle class to buy their way into the nobility

The center of aristocratic life was the country house and the aristocratic rural property

- Marked their domination of local life
- The Georgian style of country house in England influenced by the architecture of Palladio
- The country house focused on comfort, practicality, and beauty/prestige
- New desire for greater privacy - upper floors personal/lower floors public
- Parks and gardens began to built the country to provide even greater separation from lower class

THE ARISTOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE – THE COUNTRY HOUSE

1. The 18th century was golden age of the landed aristocrat
2. Had all the power, privileges
3. Final century before the Industrial Revolution changed economic structure of Europe
4. Before the rise of the middle class
5. Before the political changes and bloodshed of the French Revolution

“Chocolate Drinkers”
THE ARISTOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE ->
THE GRAND TOUR

- The Grand Tour = son’s of aristocrats completed their education by making a tour of Europe’s major cities.
  1. The English were particularly keen on the grand tour
  2. Spend lots of money
  3. Tutors accompanied to make it educational
  4. Big interest in “wine, women, and song” = party on dude!
  5. Visit Paris to learn sophistication
  6. Visit Italy to look at art
  7. Visit Rome to see St. Peter’s and ancient ruins

- Once in Italy, the tourist would visit Turin (and, less often, Milan), then might spend a few months in Florence, where there was a considerable Anglo-Italian society accessible to traveling Englishmen “of quality” and where the Tribuna of the Uffizi gallery brought together in one space the monuments of High Renaissance paintings and Roman sculptures that would inspire picture galleries adorned with antiquities at home, with side trips to Pisa, then more on to Padua, Bologna, and Venice. The British idea of Venice as the “focus of decadent Italianate allure” made it an epitome and cultural sequoia of the Grand Tour.

- From here the traveler traversed the Alps heading north through to the German-speaking parts of Europe. The traveler might stop first in Innsbruck before visiting Vienna, Dresden, Berlin and Prussia, with perhaps some study time at the universities in Munich or Heidelberg. From there travelers visited Holland and Flanders (with more gallery-going and art appreciation) before returning across the Channel to England.

- The most common itinerary of the Grand Tour shifted across generations in the cities it embraced, but the British tourist usually began in Dover, England and crossed the English Channel to Ostend, in the Spanish Netherlands/Belgium, or to Calais or Le Havre in France. From there the tourist, usually accompanied by a tutor (known colloquially as a “bear-leader”) and (if wealthy enough) a troop of servants, could rent or acquire a coach (which could be resold in any city or disassembled and packed across the Alps, as in Giacomo Casanova’s travels, who resold it on completion), or get to make the trip by boat as far as the Alps, either traveling up the Seine to Paris, or up the Rhine to Basel.

- Upon hiring a French-speaking guide (French served as the language of the elite in Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries) the tourist and his entourage would travel to Paris. There the traveler might undertake lessons in French, dancing, fencing, and riding. The appeal of Paris lay in the sophisticated language and manners of French high society, including courtly behavior and fashion. This served the purpose of preparing the young man for a leadership position at home, often in government or diplomacy.

- From Paris he would typically go to urban Switzerland for a while, often to Geneva (the cradle of the Protestant Reformation) or Lausanne. (“Alpinism” or mountaineering developed in the 19th century.) From there the traveler would endure a difficult crossing over the Alps into northern Italy (such as at the Great St Bernard Pass), which included dismantling the carriage and luggage.[13] If wealthy enough, he might be carried over the hard terrain by servants.
THE INHABITANTS OF TOWNS AND CITIES

1. Minority of people in 18th Europe lived in cities
2. Most urbanized areas - Dutch Republic, Britain, and N. Italy
3. Biggest city in Europe was London
4. Death rates were higher in cities = unsanitary, polluted water, lack of sewerage facilities, over-crowding

Inhabitants of Towns and Cities

- Townspeople still a minority of the population
- Importance of towns
  - Centers of culture
  - Urban oligarchy
  - Middle class
  - Petty bourgeoisie
  - Laborers
  - Sanitation and poverty

THE PROBLEM OF POVERTY

1. Many poor forced to turn to begging and prostitution
2. Earlier attitude towards poor -> Christian duty to care for them
3. Starting in late 16th century -> old attitude began to change
4. By 18th century it was argued that charity just encouraged idleness, vice, and crime
5. Poverty was a major unsolved problem of the 18th century

The Legacy of the Enlightenment?

1. The democratic revolutions begun in America in 1776 and continued in Amsterdam, Brussels, and especially in Paris in the late 1780s, put every Western government on the defensive.
2. Reform, democracy, and republicanism had been placed irrevocably on the Western agenda.

The Legacy of the Enlightenment?

3. New forms of civil society arose --- clubs, salons, fraternals, private academies, lending libraries, and professional/scientific organizations.
4. 19th conservatives blamed it for the modern “egalitarian disease” (once reformers began to criticize established institutions, they didn’t know where and when to stop!)
5. It established a materialistic tradition based on an ethical system derived solely from a naturalistic account of the human condition (the “Religion of Nature”).
6. Theoretically endowed with full civil and legal rights, the individual had come into existence as a political and social force to be reckoned with.
18TH CENTURY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. States should act in their own self interest
2. Balance of power = states will join together against a state that becomes too powerful
3. Creation of large armies to defend the state
4. Armies sometimes used for offensive purposes
   - Frederick the Great said govts should use their power to extend their territory

“reason of state”

- Rulers began to see their primary task as insuring the health and strength of the state and not seeing the state as their own personal possession

THE STORY OF 18TH CENTURY WAR AND DIPLOMACY

1. International rivalry
2. Continuing centralization of state power
3. Creation and support of large standing armies and navies
4. Need for more taxes
5. Need for more efficient and effective bureaucrats = employees of the state

THE TWO GREAT CONFLICTS OF THE 18TH CENTURY

- The War of the Austrian Succession
- The Seven Years’ War

THE WAR OF THE AUSTRIAN SUCCESSION 1740-1748

1. No male heir to Habsburg throne
2. The Pragmatic Sanction = other rulers agree to recognize the emperor’s daughter as legal heir
3. Empress Maria Theresa comes to the throne in 1740
4. Prussian king Frederick the Great takes advantage of the new empress by invading Austrian Silesia
5. Other countries join either Austria or Prussia
6. Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle = all sides exhausted = Prussia keeps Silesia = nothing really settled
7. Prussia and Austria remain bitter enemies

“THE DIPLOMATIC REVOLUTION”

1. After the loss of Silesia -> Maria Theresa rebuilds her army
2. Austria engineers “the diplomatic revolution” = Austria and France switch from being rivals to being allies
3. Russia joins with Austria and France
4. Britain allies with Prussia
5. The new alliances open the way for The Seven Years’ War
Wars and Diplomacy

- European Rivalries
- The War of the Austrian Succession (1740 – 1748)
  - A world war?
- Seven Years’ War (1756 – 1763)
  - Diplomatic revolution
  - European war
  - Indian war
    - Robert Clive (1725 – 1774)
  - North American war
    - William Pitt the Elder
    - British victory
- The Seven Years’ War
  - 1756-1763
  - Three major areas of conflict –
    1. Europe
    2. India
    3. North America
  - Prussia + Britain v. Austria + France + Russia
    1. Frederick the Great is almost overwhelmed and almost conquered
    2. Russia drops out of the war
    3. Prussia is able to hang on and survive the war
    4. Austria agrees to allow Prussia to keep Silesia

Map 18. 3: The Battlefields of the Seven Years’ War

- The Seven Years’ War Overseas ->
- The First Global War

  1. The great war for empire
  2. British led by Robert Clive drive the French out of India
  3. The French and Indian War –
     British v. French in N. America
  4. William Pitt – British PM ->
     organizes victory in N. America
  5. British naval power gives them advantage
  6. British General Wolfe defeats French General Montcalme at Quebec
  7. French lose control of and are driven out of N. America

European Armies and Warfare

  1. Increase in the size of armies
  2. Aristocrats are the officers in the army
  3. Soldiers came mostly from lower classes
  4. Some countries relied on mercenaries and foreign soldiers
  5. Armies and military equipment was expensive so rulers were careful not destroy them
  6. In battle the strategy was to avoid direct conflict -> engage in maneuvers and strategy

Economic Expansion and Social Change

  1. 18th century ->economic recovery from the decline in the 17th century
  2. Rapid population growth
  3. Expansion in banking and trade
  4. Beginnings of industrialization
  5. Increase in worldwide trade
GROWTH OF THE EUROPEAN POPULATION

- Population began to grow around 1750 - pop. in 1700 = 120 million/pop. in 1790 = 190 million
- Russia - from 14 to 28 million
- France - from 20 to 27 million
- Spain - from 6 to 10 million
- Prussia - from 1.5 to 5.5 million
- Britain - from 5 to 9 million

POP INCREASE IN 18TH CENTURY

Causes of the pop. increase -
1. Decline in the death rate
2. More food and transportation of food supplies
3. The end of the bubonic plague

FAMILY, MARRIAGE, AND BIRTHRATE PATTERNS

- Family was at the core of Europe's social organization
- Husband dominated the wife and children in family structure
- Parents still selected marriage partners for their children

CHILD CARE

- Attitudes towards childcare began to change in the second half of the 18th century –
  1. Influenced by Erst ideas - Rousseau’s book Emile
  2. Drop in infant/child mortality rates led to new attitudes
  3. Childhood began to be seen as a phase in human dev.
  4. Children’s clothes
  5. Increase in breast feeding rather than use of wet nurses
  6. Appearance of toys and games for children
INFANTICIDE AND ABANDONMENT OF CHILDREN

1. In times of economic crisis children were a burden to lower class parents
2. Infanticide = murdering of an infant/child, accidentally suffocated in bed
3. More often infants were abandoned - left at foundling homes or hospitals
4. Conditions in foundling institutions = overcrowded, high mortality rates

The Practice of Infanticide

MARRIAGE AND BIRTHRATES

- Nuclear family = newly married couples establish a separate household independent of their parents
- Men and women married at later ages - needed to wait and save money to set up their own household
- Later marriages = fewer children/natural form of birth control
- Increase in illegitimacy rates = children born to unmarried women
- Married couples =
  1. first child within one year of marriage
  2. Additional children born every 2-3 years
  3. Average number of births per family = 5
- Birth control techniques -
  1. Used by the upper classes mostly
  2. Limited the number of children born
  3. Coitus interruptus = “pulling out”

AN AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION

- Increases in food production due to -
  1. More farmland
  2. Increased yields per acre = more food grown on same amount of land
  3. More and healthier livestock
  4. Improved climate

MORE FARMLAND

- Abandoning the old open-field system
- Planting of new crops which restored the soil’s fertility - alfalfa, turnips, clover
- More winter fodder/feed for livestock = more farm animals
- More livestock = more meat in diet and more manure for fertilizer = better crop yields

Jethro Tull = new farm tools
hoe and seed drill

- Introduction of new crops from the Americas = the potato and corn

CHANGES IN LANDHOLDING

- The end of the open field system
- The end of cooperative farming at the village level
- Combining of many small holdings into larger units
- The Enclosure Movement/Acts = laws passed in England allowing the fencing of agricultural lands
AG. REV. BEGAN IN ENGLAND = MODERNIZATION OF AGRICULTURE

1. Surplus food
2. Not as many workers needed – surplus labor
3. Paved the way for England to be the first to industrialize

EUROPEAN INDUSTRY

- Most important product of European industry in 18th century = textiles
- Textiles = cloth and fabric

- The “putting out” or “domestic” system –
  1. New method of textile production
  2. Raw materials/wool brought by capitalism entrepreneur to rural workers/farm houses
  3. Wool was spun and weaved in farmers' homes/cottages
  4. Capitalist entrepreneur picked up finished textiles, paid farmers for labor, dropped off more wool
  5. Cottage industry was a family enterprise

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

- Importation of cotton from India then later slave plantations in the Americas transformed the textile industry
  1. Demand for cloth increased
  2. New/faster methods of production were needed
  3. New methods = machines
  4. Machines = the Industrial Revolution
  5. Disappearance of cottage industry = replaced by factory system

NEW METHODS OF FINANCE

1. Est of new public and private banks
2. Acceptance of paper notes = paper money

- New financial methods and institutions sometimes led to speculation and financial disasters
  1. The South Sea Bubble
  2. The Tulip Bubble

Cottage Industry

Economic Expansion & Social Change

- Population and Food
  - Population Growth
    - Falling death rate
    - Improvements in diet
    - Ideal growing conditions
    - New crops
- Family, Marriage, and Birthrate Patterns
  - Nuclear family
    - Late marriages
    - Limits on the birthrate
Economic Expansion & Social Conditions (cont)

- An Agricultural Revolution?
  - Debate
  - Increased food production
  - New methods and new crops
  - Enclosure
- New Methods of Finance
  - National debt
  - National Banks
- European Industry
  - Cottage industry
  - New methods and new machines

The Social Order of the Eighteenth Century

- Patterns of Society
- Forces of Change
- The Peasants
  - General situation
  - Compulsory services
  - Importance of the village
  - Domination by wealthy landowners
  - Diet
- The Nobility
  - Privileges of the nobility
  - Military service
  - Moving into the ranks of the nobility

Discussion Questions

- Compare and contrast European warfare in 1600 and 1750. How did changes in the nature of warfare shape political development?
- What factors contributed to population growth in eighteenth-century Europe? How did population growth shape economic development?
- What obstacles to reform faced enlightened monarchs in eastern Europe?
- Who held political power in eighteenth-century Britain? What limits were there on monarchical authority?
- In what ways did the country house embody the lifestyle and values of the eighteenth-century aristocracy?

Web Links

- The Seven Years’ War Website
- The Agricultural Revolution in England
- William Hogarth and Eighteenth-Century Print Culture
- Everyday Life: Primary Sources
- From Popular to Mass Culture: Primary Sources
- Historical Maps of Europe