**TUDORS**

# in family: 19

Time period: 1475-1625

People in family: Henry VII, Elizabeth of York, Margaret Tudor, James IV, James V, Mary of Guise, Mary Queen of Scots, Henry Stuart, James VI & I, Henry VIII, Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, Catherine Parr, Mary I, Elizabeth I, Edward VI

The Tudors ruled England from 1485 to 1603. The family rose to power after the Wars of the Roses, a conflict between the Lancasters and the Yorks. Henry VII, the first Tudor monarch and a Lancastrian ally, married Elizabeth of York to secure his claim to the throne. Henry’s son Henry VIII (and his descendants) went on to rule England, while Henry’s daughter Margaret Tudor married James IV, the Stuart king of Scotland. The English Tudors saw periods of tremendous economic, social, and religious upheaval, particularly under Henry VIII during his break with the Catholic Church. The ensuing English Reformation pitted Catholics and Protestants against one another, resulting in a rapid succession of monarchs until the 45-year reign of Elizabeth I. Elizabeth also faced conflicts with Spain, a powerful Catholic country, and her cousin Mary Queen of Scots, who she eventually executed for treason. The Tudor line ended in 1603, when James IV & I, the Stuart king of Scotland, became the ruler of both countries and of Ireland, colonized by the English in decades prior.

**CHIANGS**

# in family: 14

Time period: 1863-2004

People in family: Charlie Soong, Ni Kwei-tseng, Soong Ai-ling, Soong Mei-ling, Soong Ching-ling, T.V. Soong, H.H. Kung, Sun Yat-sen, Chiang Kai-shek, Mao Fumei, Yao Yecheng, Chen Jieru, Chiang Ching-kuo, Chiang Fang-liang

The Chiangs were a powerful political family before, during, and after the Chinese Civil War in the first half of the twentieth century. They intermarried with the Soongs, another influential family during the revolution. The three Soong sisters--Soong Ai-ling, Soong Mei-ling, and Soong Ching-ling--married Chinese political leaders of various ideologies. Ching-ling married Sun Yat-sen, the nationalist reformer and instigator of the Xinhai Revolution, which forced the Chinese emperor to abdicate and set up a new republican government. Ching-ling remained in China after her husband’s death, taking part in the Communist Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution. Soong Mei-ling was the wife of Chiang Kai-shek, the leader of the nationalist party after Sun’s death, and military commander of the national army. For nearly 25 years, Chiang and his followers were engaged in a bitter civil war with the Communist party, eventually led by Mao Zedong. When Mao took power, Chiang fled to Taiwan, where the family continued to hold the highest government offices until the late 1980s.