Absolute monarchs in europe section 5 guided

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Absolute Monarchs: A Comprehensive Overview**

An absolute monarchy is a form of government in which a single ruler, such as a king, queen, or emperor, holds absolute political power. They are not subject to any constitutional or legal limitations and have the authority to make and enforce laws, command armies, and appoint and dismiss officials.

Who Were Europe's Absolute Monarchs?

Some of the most notable absolute monarchs in European history include:

- · Henry VIII of England
- Louis XIV of France
- Peter the Great of Russia
- Frederick the Great of Prussia
- Catherine the Great of Russia

What Are the Causes and Effects of Absolute Monarchies?

Causes:

- Religious wars
- Weaknesses in feudal systems
- Growing wealth and population
- Rise of nationalism

Effects:

- Centralized power and control
- Enhanced military strength
- Economic growth and prosperity
- Improved infrastructure and education
- Cultural patronage and artistic advancements

Why Did Absolute Monarchs Centralize Their Power?

Absolute monarchs centralized their power by various means, including:

- Establishing professional armies
- Creating a bureaucracy of loyal officials
- Inviting nobles to live in their palaces, such as Louis XIV at Versailles

Why Did Absolute Monarchs Hire Bureaucrats?

In the 17th century, absolute monarchs hired bureaucrats to:

- Manage complex government affairs
- Collect taxes and administer laws
- Provide expertise in specific areas such as finance or diplomacy

Is Queen Elizabeth I an Absolute Monarch?

No, Queen Elizabeth I was not an absolute monarch. Although she had significant power, her authority was limited by Parliament and other institutions.

Who Was the Most Absolute Monarch in History?

Louis XIV of France is often considered the most absolute monarch in history due to his famous declaration, "L'État, c'est moi" ("I am the state").

Why is Louis XIV the Best Example of an Absolute Monarch?

• He centralized power through the Palace of Versailles

- Established a professional army
- Appointed loyal nobles to key positions
- Controlled all aspects of French society

Disadvantages of Absolute Monarchy

- Power concentrated in the hands of one person
- No checks and balances to prevent abuse of power
- Inefficiency and corruption
- Lack of political representation for citizens

How Many Absolute Monarchies Are There in the World Today?

Today, there are only a handful of absolute monarchies remaining, including:

- Brunei
- Oman
- Saudi Arabia
- Vatican City (under the rule of the Pope)

Conclusion

Absolute monarchies played a significant role in European history, centralizing power and shaping social, political, and economic landscapes. While some monarchs used their authority to advance their nations, others were notorious for their tyranny and exploitation. The legacy of absolute monarchy continues to influence political thought and the development of democratic institutions worldwide.

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