# Absolutism in England



#### What is Absolutism?

- Essentially the ruling power is not subjected to any other agency:
- 1. judicial,
- 2. legislative,
- 3. religious,
- 4. economic,
- 5. electoral.

«I am the State!»





## **Absolute Monarchy**

- Absolute monarchy originated in early modern Europe after the breakup of the medieval order.
- The leaders were strong and claimed the absolute authority of the state against former restraints such as:
- 1. Church
- 2. Feudal lords
- 3. Medioeval customary Law





### The Divine Right

- Kings derived their authority from God.
- God chooses political leaders.
- God grants the right to rule to the nobility.

Which was the origin of such theory?

The medioeval conception according to which God awarded the ruler of temporal power and the Church of spiritual power.





temporal

spiritual









I actually became the Head of the Church and the State as well.....

With the Act of Supremacy!

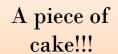


Wait a minute,
wait a minute!
How could Henry
rule as an absolute
monarch?



The Magna Charta limited his power in economic matters and put him under the control of Parliament!





Remember,
Parliament
summons only
if I wish, hence,
only if I need it.

I took control of the possessions and lands of the Church with the act of Supremacy

Hence, I became stronger and I didn't need the money of Parliament any longer!



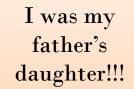
As far as I can remember I called Parliament....let me think.....

One....two...Seven times!

Seven times in 26 years!

We were not in speaking terms, actually!!!



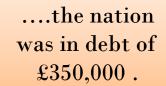


I called
Parliament 13
times ... in 45
years!!!!!

I could do whatever I wanted, I was Elizabeth, after all!



Despite a frugal policy in economic matter, when Elizabeth died.....



It was not an excessive debt, but a wise policy in economic matters was needed.



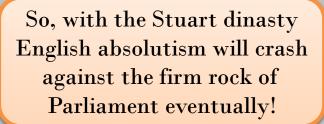
If a monarch had not been wise enough to avoid undertaking a policy of heavy taxtations....

....it would have been difficult to escape the control of Parliament.

But the Stuart kings ignored the lesson of the Tudor monarchs!







And the English monarchy won't be the same any longer.

But that is another story! See you!!







#### The Stuarts

