

Eighteenth Century Dynastic Rivalries and Politics

Politics

- 18th century state system characterized by many kinds of rivalries
 - o Global Rivalries
 - Territorial
 - Expand Borders
 - o Commercial Rivalries
 - Trade
 - Desire for goods increased
 - New World and China
 - Colonial Rivalries
 - English
 - British East India Company Expanded
 - o Territorial reach
 - o Military power
 - Ran the government in India
 - o Commodities
 - Slaves
 - Opium
 - Manufactures
 - Tea
 - Spanish
 - Still largest empire
 - o Caribbean
 - o Philippines
 - o Most of South America
 - Dutch
 - Global Empire
 - o South America
 - o West and South Africa
 - Cape Colony
 - o India
 - o Japan
 - o Philippines
 - o Indonesia
 - French
 - New France
 - o St. Lawrence and Mississippi Rivers
 - o Scattered military and trading posts
 - o Small percentage of population
 - Different from British Settlements
- Rivalries
 - o British and French
 - N. America, W. Indies, India, Europe
 - o British and Spain
 - Disputes over trading rights
 - o Dynastic Rivalries
 - Challenges to ruling families
 - England
 - Austria

England

- George I
 - o 1714-1727
 - o First of the line of Hanover
 - o Rarely went to England
 - Spent most of his time in Germany
 - Depended on **Robert Walpole**
 - First Prime Minister
 - o The Fifteen (1715)
 - Uprising in support of James III
 - Jacobites – the pretenders
 - Started in Scotland
 - Quickly put down
- George II
 - o More sensitive to England
 - Still very German
 - Not very personable; boring
 - o The Forty-Five (1745)
 - Another Stuart rebellion
 - In support of Charles
 - Son of James III
 - *“Bonnie Prince Charlie”*
 - o “The Pretender”
 - Began in Scotland
 - Invaded England
 - Battle of **Culloden Moor 1746**
 - Bonnie Prince Charlie fled back to France
- George III
 - o 1760-1840
 - o Popular
 - Image of ordinary family man
 - Not so Germanic
 - o Personally took over reins of government
 - o Key developments
 - British Nationalism
 - Party politics
 - American Revolution

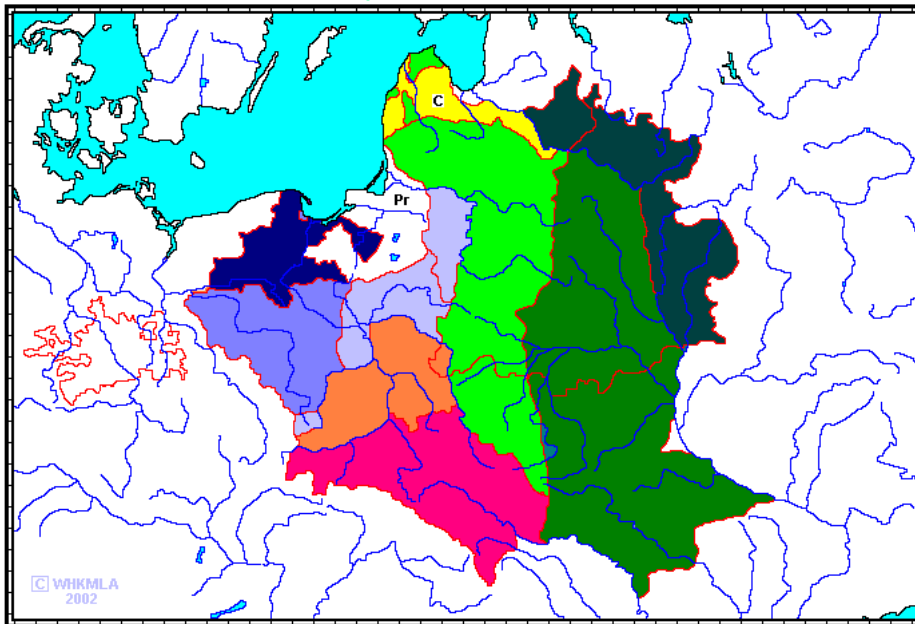
Austria

- Charles VI
 - o 1711-1740
 - o Hapsburg
 - o Emperor of Austria and Holy Roman Empire
 - o Goal: to keep Hapsburg lands together
 - Upset by loss of Spain in War of Spanish Succession
 - Feared growth of Prussia
 - o No Son
 - Pragmatic Sanction
 - 1713
 - Hapsburg lands indivisible
 - Recognized right of female successor

- Maria Theresa
 - o 1740-1780
 - o Empress of Austria
 - Not Holy Roman Empire
 - o Inherited weak nation
 - No Money
 - No Army
 - No Bureaucracy
 - Bad Advisors
 - o Mildly enlightened
 - o France and Prussia
 - Threat to Maria Theresa
 - Despite Pragmatic Sanction
 - Main threat is Frederick the Great of Prussia

Poland

- Characteristics
 - o Large
 - Bordered by Ottoman Empire, Russia, Austria
 - o Heterogeneous Population
 - Poles, Russians, Jews, Austrians, Slavs
 - o Social Classes
 - 8% were aristocrats
 - Aristocrats were very suspicious, and stronger than the king
 - Poor peasants
 - o Serfdom
 - No Middle class
 - o No major trade
- Government
 - o Monarchy
 - Elected by the nobles
 - Very weak
 - France and Russia had strong influence
 - o Lack of centralization
 - o Exploding the Diet
 - *Liberum Veto* (free vote)
 - If only one vetoed, then the whole diet was dismissed and reorganized
 - o Power vacuum
 - Had no power, and all other countries were being sucked in
- *Three Partitions of Poland*
 - o 1772
 - Austria, Russia, Prussia
 - Prussia united some of its land
 - o 1793
 - Russia, Prussia
 - o 1795
 - Russia, Prussia, Austria
 - o Easy to partition since king had no power
 - o The nobles invited to come in



The Polish Partitions
1772-1795

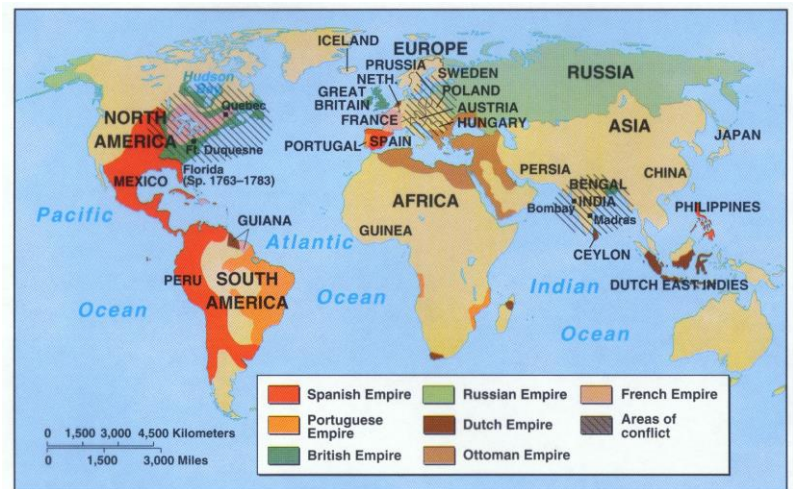
- Poland in 1771
- Poland 1772-1793
- Poland 1793-1795
- Courland
- Territorial Losses 1772 (First Polish Partition)**
 - to Russia
 - to Austria
 - to Prussia
- Territorial Losses 1793 (Second Polish Partition)**
 - to Russia
 - to Prussia
- Territorial Losses 1795 (Third Polish Partition)**
 - to Russia
 - to Austria
 - to Prussia
- C** Courland
- Pr** Duchy in Prussia

Great Wars of the 18th Century

- Fought to maintain balance of power
 - o War of Austrian Succession
 - Civil struggle within the Holy Roman Empire
 - Conflict between Hapsburgs and Bourbons
 - o 7 Years War

War of Austrian Succession

- Frederic the Great invades Silesia
 - o Wealthiest Hapsburg province
 - o Broke Pragmatic Sanction
- Alliances
 - o **Britain, Austria**, Russia, Spain, Netherlands
 - o **France, Prussia**
- Battle of Fontenot
 - o Most important battle
- Battle of Louisburg
 - o British defeated the French
 - o Tilted the balance
- Peace of **Aix-La-Chapelle**
 - o 1748
 - o Prussia kept Silesia
 - o Everything goes back to status quo
- Long-term results
 - o Weakness of French position revealed
 - o Austrians bitter but satisfied
 - o **German Dualism**
 - Two major German states



The Battlefields of the Seven Years' War

7 Years War

- Diplomatic Reversal
 - o 1756
 - o Same countries switch sides
 - Austria, France, Russia
 - Prussia, Britain
- Fighting on three continents
 - o Europe
 - o North America
 - Canada and Caribbean
 - o Asia
 - India
- War in India
 - o British East India Company vs. France East India Company
 - o Robert Clive
 - Led British troops and Indian mercenaries to Bengal
 - Black Hole of Calcutta
 - French locked British troops in a cave and let them die
 - British win in India
- War in Canada
 - o French and Indian War
 - British advantages
 - Permanent population and navy
 - Indian allies
 - French advantages
 - Indian allies
 - British won
- Treaty of Paris and Peace of Hubertusburg
 - o 1763
 - o Prussia kept Silesia
 - o Austria kept Austrian Netherlands
 - o Saxony remained independent
 - o British got India, Canada, and all territories east of Mississippi
 - o Spanish got all French territories west of Mississippi

18th Century Warfare

- Part of Aristocratic culture
 - o Took war very lightly
 - o Romantic view
 - o Gentleman's game
- Officers had more in common with enemy officers than own men
 - o Sometimes the officers were foreigners to the men
 - Ex. Hapsburgs
- Conscription
 - o Misfit soldiers
 - Forced to serve against their will
 - Long term enlistments
 - Desertion widespread and common
 - o Economically useless
 - Productive people more useful at home



- Mercenary Soldiers
 - o Wages
 - o Highly Trained
 - o Barracks
 - o Bright uniforms
- Style
 - o Weapons not very destructive
 - Or accurate
 - o Infantry predominant
 - o Generals hesitated to risk troops
 - o Little national feeling
 - o Wars were between governments and not people
 - Governments went to war lightly and withdrew readily
 - o Civilians affected very little
 - Except in India and America
 - o Brutal discipline and training
 - o Large Standing Armies
 - Except Great Britain
 - Mostly defensive
 - o Linear formations
 - Maneuvering
 - o More “civilized”
 - Prisoners well treated
- Navy
 - o Few decisive battles in the 18th century
 - Battles too expensive
 - o More sailors died of disease than battle

