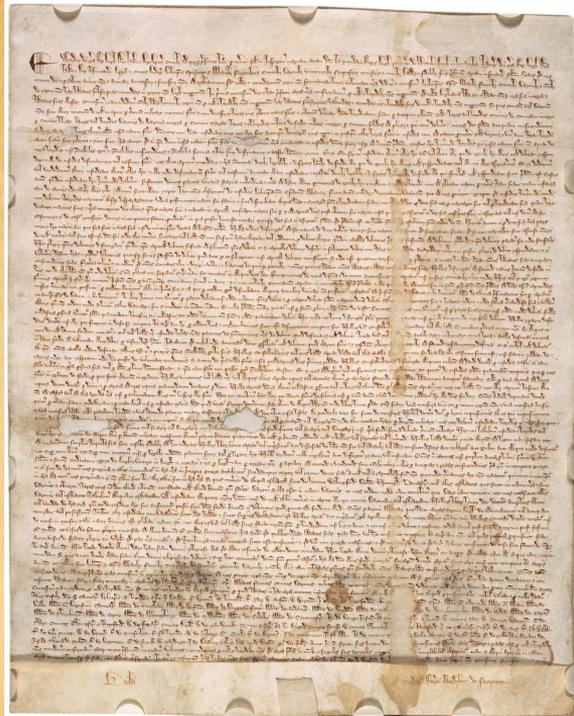


The Magna Carta

One of the most important documents in history.
It guaranteed the people certain rights, and
bound the king to certain laws.



<https://vimeo.com/121986958#embed>

<http://www.openculture.com/2015/03/an-animated-history-of-magna-carta.html>

King John



- King John (1199-1216) has been called the worst king of England.
- His brother Richard the Lionheart was popular and successful; John was unpopular and unsuccessful.

King John



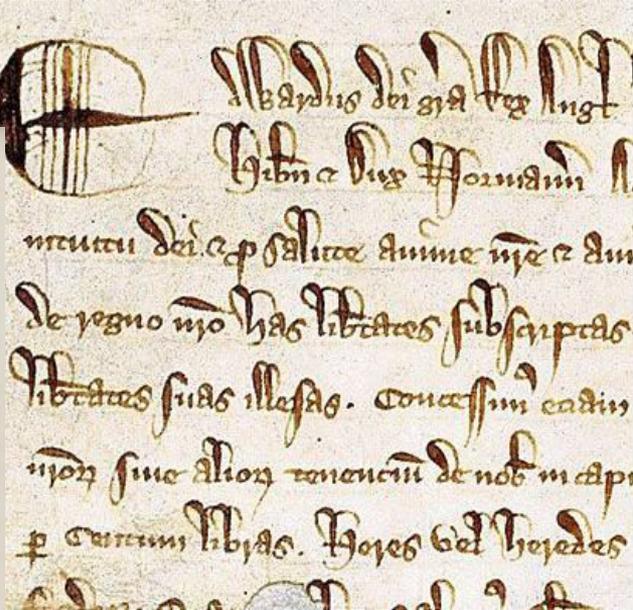
- John lost Normandy to the French and charged high taxes to pay for the wars to get it back.
- John fell out with the Pope about who should be Archbishop of Canterbury.
- The Pope banned John from the Church and all English churches were closed down.

King John



- The reign of King John shows what often happened in the Middle Ages when a monarch lost a war – his authority was completely undermined.
- The barons rebelled and, on 15 June 1215, they forced John to agree to Magna Carta

Magna Carta

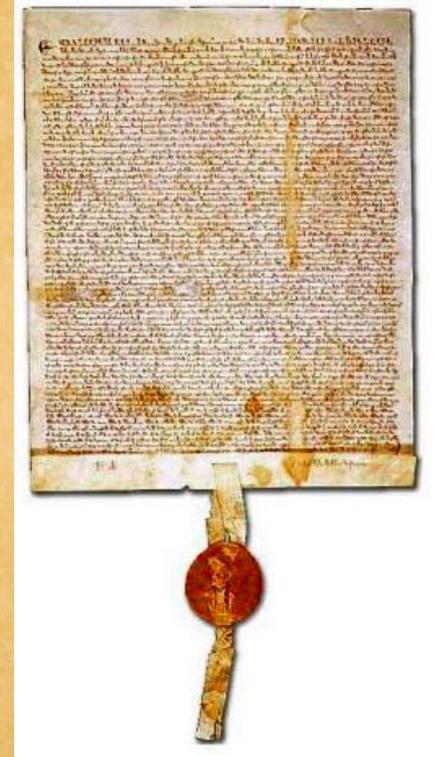


- The Magna Carta means “The Great Charter” in Latin
- a set of 63 demands by which the barons tried to limit the power of the king to their advantage.
- Also set up a council of 25 barons to ensure John kept his promises

Magna Carta

An agreement between the nobles and the monarch:

- The nobles agreed that the monarch could continue to rule.
- King John agreed to observe common law and the traditional rights of the nobles and the Church.



Problem



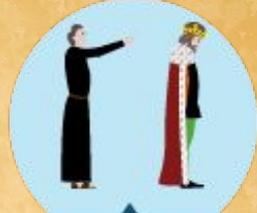
Powerful Church

Solution



John tried to tell the Church what to do.

Reaction



John was excommunicated.



No money left



A new land tax



Barons and knights were angry.



Disobedient barons



Increased control



Neighbours and barons unhappy

Magna Carta

I, King John have to rule according to the law. I agree...

- 1. Not to imprison barons without a trial*
- 2. To hold trials in court, not in secret*
- 3. To have fair taxes for the barons*
- 4. To let free men travel where they like*
- 5. Not to interfere with the Church*
- 6. Not to seize crops without paying*



Photos.com

King John's acceptance of Magna Carta has been illustrated and painted many times. He is often, as he is here, incorrectly shown signing his name with a pen. In fact, he stamped his royal seal on the document to show his agreement.

Why was it important?

- In many ways, Magna Carta only protected the rights and privileges of nobles.
- Limited the power of the king & ended the idea of rule by divine right.
- As time passed, the English came to regard it as the beginning of people's rights and liberties that would lead to democracy. Democracy: rule by the people.

Your task:

- Read pages 163-165
- answer the questions provided

Homework Check...

Review

1. What was the Magna Carta?
 - A document created by barons of England, that set limits on royal authority. Signed July 15, 1215.

2. What rights did the Magna Carta give to free people?

- The monarch had to treat his people according to the laws of the land
- The monarch had to obey the laws of the land, and was not above them
- Taxes had to be approved by a Great Council made up of lords and the clergy
- The monarch could not control the church
- No free person could be arrested or imprisoned without a trial

No freeman is to be taken or imprisoned or disseised of his free tenement [deprived of his property] or of his liberties or free customs, or outlawed or exiled or in any way ruined, nor will we go against such a man or send against him save [except] by lawful judgement of his peers [equals] or by the law of the land.

3. Why is the Magna Carta important to Canadians today?

- Was the foundation of democracy (rule by the people)
- “Due process” is a fundamental component of democracy, including in Canada
- Laws and rights introduced by the Magna Carta are reflected in Canadian society today.
 - For example??

Further Questions...

1. What would happen if the monarch broke the feudal contract?
 - Barons felt justified waging war against the king
 - They had large armies and strong castles and could call upon their vassals quickly to fight. The King on the other hand needed time to collect knights from all over the kingdom.

Further Questions...

2. Why was King John excommunicated?

Because he fought with the pope over who to appoint as archbishop

Further Questions...

3. Along with being excommunicated, the pope also placed England under interdict (authoritative prohibition). What did this mean?

No one in the country could be properly married, baptized, or buried. This was an unacceptable situation, so King John was forced to give in to the pope.

Further Questions...

4. King John's high taxes and abuses of the people of England continued however, until the barons forced him to sign the Magna Carta. This happened on what date?

July 15, 1215

Further Questions...

4. This illustration shows King John “signing” the Magna Carta. Scribes later sent out many copies of the terms. How many copies of the Magna Carta (from the time period) survive today?

Lasting Legacy

<http://www.openculture.com/2015/03/an-animated-history-of-magna-carta.html>

Comic Self-Assessment

- Using the rubric, highlight / circle / or underline what you feel you accomplished for each section (ie. how would you assess yourself?)
- Underneath the rubric, provide evidence from your comic strip to support your self-assessment for each:
 1. Historical Perspective
 2. Story
 3. Images and Captions
 4. Work Habits