

2.1

What Inspired Our Government?



As a Young Political Scientist, I will be able to...

- Analyze Basic Concepts of Government
- Examine Primary Documents that shaped colonial ideas
- Compare & Contrast the Different Types of Colonies

Origins of Constitutional Government

England controls 13 colonies on the east coast of North America

Colonists followed English Common
Law- A judge made system with
English Constitutionalism...

...which was a belief that government leaders are subject to limitations of the law.

Colonists saw a need for some basic concepts of Government...

BASIC CONCEPTS OF GOVERNMENT

Ordered Government- Orderly regulation of laws & relationships with each other.

Limited Government- Government is restricted in what it may do & individual rights

Representative Government-Government serves the will of the people & people should have a voice in government

The Magna Carta

"The Great Charter" signed by King John at Runnymede in 1215

Guaranteed fundamental rights such as...

Trial by Jury & Due Process!

Established that Monarchy's power is not absolute!

The Petition of Right

Limited the Kings Power, adding onto key concepts set forth by the Magna Carta

1. King could not imprison or punish a person, only a lawful judgement by their peers

2. King cannot impose martial law in times of peace!

3. King had to follow the law of the land!

English Bill of Rights

William & Mary of Orange ascend to England throne in the Glorious Revolution

Parliament created a list of provisions that said...

No standing army in peacetime & Parliamentary elections are free

Right for a fair trail & safety from cruel & unusual punishment

The Establishment of Colonies

The Native Americans had the first form of government in America with the Iroquois League

King George II & England begins establishing colonies

Each colony needs a charter- Written grant of authority by the King. --- Define & Sketch

Charters gave colonists or companies a grant of land & some governing rights

Royal Colonies

Subject to direct control by the crown

King names a governor to serve as colony's chief executive & a council to serve as an advisory board

Property owners elected the council in a bicameral- a two house legislature

Laws had to be approved by governor & the Crown

The Proprietary Colonies

Colonies run by a proprietor, a person the King made a grant of land

Maryland to George Calvert & Lord Baltimore
Haven for Catholics

Pennsylvania to William Penn

Pennsylvania had a unicameral- One house legislature



Group of people establish colonies to worship own religion or own ideas

Most of them self-governed with a two house legislature & did not need approval by the King.