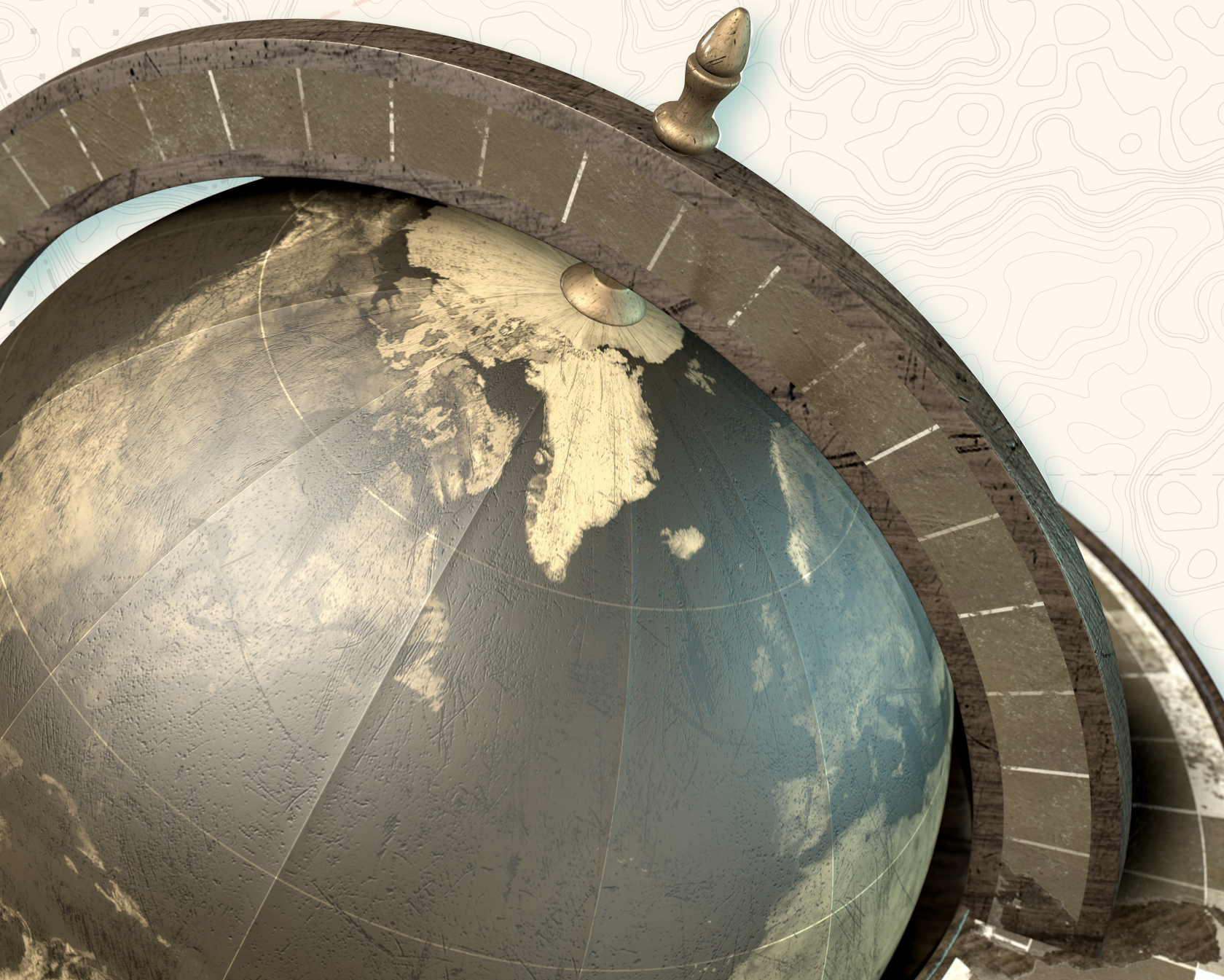


GLOBAL  
*History*  
1680 - 2000 | VOL. 3



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and Economic Changes



GLOBAL  
*History*

UNIT ONE

*Revolution  
and  
Change*

1680-1821

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# Key Events

## 1680–1821

- 1689 John Locke Writes “Two Treatises of Government”
- 1734 Voltaire Publishes “Letters Philosophiques”
- 1748 Montesquieu Publishes His Ideas About Government
- 1751 The First Volume of The Encyclopedia Is Published
- 1762 Rousseau Publishes the Social Contract
- 1763 The Treaty of Paris
- 1765 The Stamp Act Is Passed for the Colonies
- 1770 Charles Hargrave Invents the Spinning Jenny
- 1775 Richard Arkwright Constructs the First Mills
- 1776 The Declaration of Independence Is Written and Presented
- 1783 The Second Treaty of Paris Is Signed
- 1788 The U.S. Constitution Is Ratified
- 1789 Samuel Slater Brings the Secrets of the Textile Industry to New England
- 1789 (June) The Tennis Court Oath
- 1789 (July) The Storming of the Bastille
- 1789 (August) The Signing of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen
- 1791 The Bill of Rights Is Added to the U.S. Constitution
- 1791 King Louis XVI Attempts to Escape France
- 1793 Eli Whitney Invents the Cotton Gin
- 1793 The Reign of Terror
- 1799 The Coup d’Etat of 18 Brumaire
- 1802 Napoleon Bonaparte Is Declared Consul for Life
- 1804 Napoleon Is Declared Emperor of France
- 1805 The Battle of Trafalgar
- 1807 William and John Cockrill Introduce the Industrial Revolution to Belgium
- 1812 Napoleon and His Army Enter Moscow
- 1814 Napoleon Abdicates the Throne
- 1815 The Battle of Waterloo
- 1821 The Death of Napoleon

# The Enlightenment

## CHAPTER 1

### BACKGROUND

The European view of society began to shift in the mid-1600s during an era called the **Enlightenment**. The Enlightenment was an intellectual movement that began in Western Europe during the 1600s and 1700s. It emphasized reason and the power of the individual. It was composed of intellectuals who based their ideas on **humanism**, a belief that emphasizes human actions and the importance of human nature, reason, individualism, science, and on **skepticism**, which questions anything and demands evidence to support all positions.

The basis for the Enlightenment, also known as the Age of Reason, traces its roots back to the earlier movements of the Renaissance, the Scientific Revolution, and the Protestant Reformation.

The Enlightenment began in France, spreading throughout Europe and eventually to North America. Its new views changed the social hierarchy, government, religious attitudes, and principles of economics.

### *Roots of the Enlightenment*

**Humanism**—developed during the Renaissance—believes in the power of human actions and the importance of human nature.

The **Scientific Revolution** emphasized the importance of understanding the natural world through reason and explanation.

The **Protestant Reformation** not only challenged the authority of the Catholic Church but also promoted freedom and human rights to all classes of society.

### READING CHECK

#### BELIEFS

? Which previous historical movements influenced the Enlightenment?

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### CHANGES IN SOCIAL HIERARCHY

The majority of adherents to the Enlightenment were the aristocracy. They were not satisfied with the social norms of the times. They objected to unfairness and bigotry and to prejudice against people based on to their belonging to a particular ethnic and religious group or based on their social position in a lower class.

As the wealth of the middle class grew during this time, they, too, became followers of the Enlightenment. They promoted education for all citizens, and the literacy rate grew rapidly. Hence, the number of books published grew, and new types of reading material, such as **periodicals** were developed. Periodicals are journals and newspapers that are published at regular intervals.



A drawing room in the style of the 18th century  
Credit: Bachelot Pierre J-P, Wikimedia

THE  
MONITOR,  
OR THE  
British Freeholder.

N<sup>o</sup>. 1. SATURDAY, August 9th, 1755.

*Postquam illos videt queri de avaritia magistratum, accusare senatum, quod in eo auxilii nihil esset, miseris suis remedium mortem expectare, at ego, inquit, vobis si modi viri esse vultis, rationem ostendam qua tanta mala ista effugiatis.*  
SALLUST.

**T**HE Liberty, which every Briton has of delivering his sentiments freely on public measures, is essential to the nature of our government; and our history abounds with instances, where the exertion of this right in the collective body has produced great and noble effects. How often has the voice  
B of

A British periodical

## READING CHECK .....

### CHANGE

? List the changes that occurred for the middle class during the Enlightenment.

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## SKEPTICISM

During the Enlightenment, people began to question many of the beliefs of the past. They believed strongly in humanity and the basic good nature of human beings. They claimed that just as scientists questioned past scientific ideas using reason, so could they determine through reason the way that people should live. This is **skepticism**, and those who think this way are **skeptics**.

One of the many issues they questioned was the Divine Right of Kings, which stated that a king's ascendance to the throne was G-d-given. Divine right allowed kings not to be subject to the law of the land; rather, it entitled them to do whatever they desired. This attitude was decried as unreasonable by many of the philosophers of the Enlightenment, whose writings, essays, and **treatises** argued for a more democratic approach to government.



.....

A treatise is a piece of writing that examines a subject in a systematic way. Their ideas would lead to the American Revolution and the French Revolution of the later 1700s.

Most people during the Enlightenment still believed in G-d, but many had new ideas about how He runs the world. These ideas had their roots in the Protestant Reformation and caused a further breakdown of the Catholic Church's authority and power.

## READING CHECK .....

### BELIEFS

 How did the approach of the Scientific Revolution affect the ideas of Enlightenment thinkers?

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## THE PHILOSOPHES

*Philosophes* was the French name for philosophers of the Enlightenment.

1. John Locke
2. Charles Louis de Secondat, Baron de La Brède et de Montesquieu
3. Jean-Jacques Rousseau
4. François-Marie Arouet, known by his pen name, Voltaire
5. Denis Diderot
6. Adam Smith

### Science

Among the famous scientists considered contributors to the Enlightenment were **Sir Francis Bacon** and **Sir Isaac Newton**. Their approach to studying science based on reasoning and questioning was used by the Enlightenment's philosophers in other areas of study.

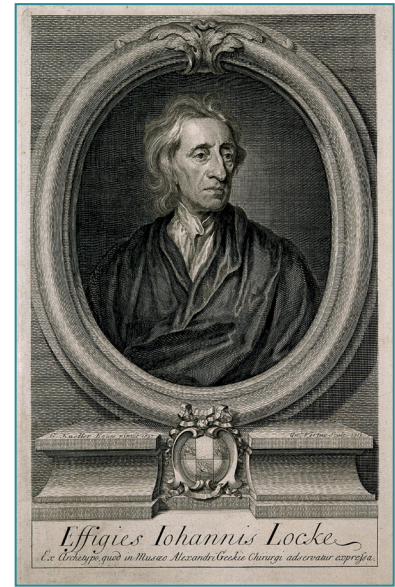
### JOHN LOCKE

John Locke, an English philosopher, lived during the era of the English Civil War and the Glorious Revolution. Locke's philosophy of government would have its greatest effect on the American Revolution, which was based on his theories and gave the colonists a framework to think about and then declare their independence from England. His work, *Two Treatises of Government*, states that government is a contract between the people and itself to ensure a person's natural rights of life, health, liberty, and possessions.

## Primary Source

"[R]eason...teaches all mankind, who will but consult it, that being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions...[and] when his own preservation comes not in competition, ought he, as much as he can, to preserve the rest of mankind, and may not, unless it be to do justice on an offender, take away, or impair the life, or what tends to the preservation of the life, the liberty, health, limb, or goods of another."

— John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*



John Locke  
Credit: Wellcome Images, Wikimedia

? Summarize the words of John Locke.

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Locke proclaimed that because the government is a social contract, it is obligated to ensure these rights by creating laws to those ends and punishing anyone who infringes on another's rights. If it is the government that infringes on the rights or desires of the people, the people have the right to void the contract and begin a new government.



The signing of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776. This document reflected some of Locke's fundamental ideas.

## Government

Locke's ideas are reflected in the American Declaration of Independence.

## READING CHECK

### GOVERNMENT

? Explain John Locke's ideas of the purpose of government.

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## CHARLES LOUIS DE SECONDAT, BARON DE LA BRÈDE ET DE MONTESQUIEU

One of the major philosophers who had a great influence on changing future governments was **Charles Louis de Secondat, Baron de La Brède et de Montesquieu**. He is generally referred to as **Montesquieu**.

One of Montesquieu's most significant works was *The Spirit of the Laws*, published in 1748. In this work, Montesquieu developed the idea of separation of powers within government. He divided a government into three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial. The executive branch's functions are to **veto** – reject—bills, accept and sign bills, represent the nation in talks with foreign countries, and enforce the laws passed by the legislative branch. The legislative branch is the part of the government that develops the country's laws. Lastly, the judicial branch is the part of the government that makes sure all the laws passed are in accordance with the law of the land.

Montesquieu believed that no one branch of the government should have too much power, so each branch has some control over the others. This is called a system of checks and balances and is one of the bases of the U.S. Constitution.

In *The Spirit of the Laws*, Montesquieu also categorized and explained three forms of government:

1. **Monarchy**: government ruled by a king or a queen
2. **Republic**: government headed by an elected leader
3. **Despotism**: government run by a dictator

Montesquieu deeply opposed despotism and felt that the more power the people had, the better government worked. The Church opposed Montesquieu's writings and put his book on their list of banned books. Others agreed with Montesquieu, and his work was heavily supported by the Founding Fathers of the United States.



*The U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., home to the legislative branch of the federal government. Credit: Debaird, Wikimedia*

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## READING CHECK

### GOVERNMENT

? *What does Montesquieu's system of checks and balances ensure?*

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## JEAN JACQUES ROUSSEAU

Philosopher Jean Jacques Rousseau greatly impacted the world of his time, the 1700s. Many historians feel his view had a major influence on the French Revolution, which occurred in 1789, 11 years after his death.

Rousseau wrote many treatises, essays, and books on government, human nature, education, and philosophy and viewed the ideal man as one who lived in the pre-civilized world.

He claimed that man is born good but that living in a structured society leads to corruption because people compete with each other, leading to destruction. He believed children should be educated away from society in a more natural setting.

According to Rousseau, the correct government creates free, independent citizens and a proper educational system.



Jean Jacques Rousseau

## READING CHECK .....

### BELIEFS

? According to Rousseau, what is the ideal man?

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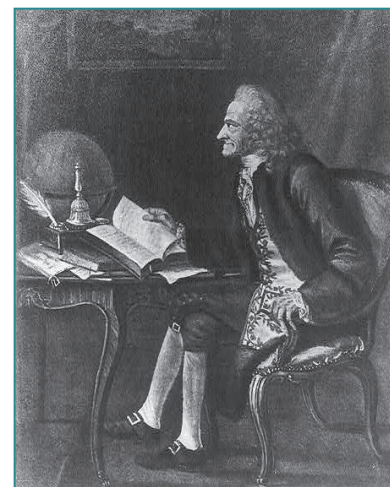
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### FRANÇOIS-MARIE AROUET, KNOWN BY HIS PEN NAME, VOLTAIRE

François-Marie Arouet, known by his pen name, **Voltaire**, was one of the primary influential philosophers of the Enlightenment. He was a prolific writer of essays, fiction, and poetry, where he expressed his views.

Voltaire was a skeptic, meaning a doubter, and he did not believe any fact that could not be proven by evidence. In his writings, he attacked government monarchies while, on the other hand, protecting human rights and liberty of the common man.

Voltaire was critical of all social structures of his time. He considered the French **bourgeoisie**, the middle class, ineffective and criticized the nobility for being corrupt. Even the commoners did not escape his criticism, as Voltaire considered them ignorant and superstitious. Voltaire felt that government structures contributed to the lack of intelligence of the masses. He used **satire**, or mockery and humor, in his writing as he criticized the world and society for its cruelty and for how it functions.



Voltaire

### *Economics*

Voltaire criticized the way the wealthy became rich by taking advantage of the poor. This idea would later be adopted by and become the basis for the philosophy of communism expounded by Karl Marx.

## READING CHECK

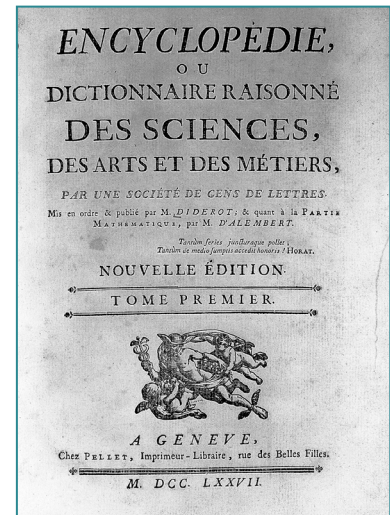
### CULTURE

? What style of writing did Voltaire use to criticize the world and society?

## THE ENCYCLOPEDIA

In the midst of the 1700s, Denis Diderot, a French philosopher of the Enlightenment, wrote a 17-volume book called *Encyclopedia, or A Systematic Dictionary of the Sciences, Arts, and Crafts*. Its purpose was to compile all knowledge of his time in one book while analyzing the truth of these facts according to the philosophy of the Enlightenment. The book contained charts and diagrams to clarify the work for even the common man.

Since Diderot did not believe in organized religion, the Church strongly disapproved of the work. They brought its first volume to King Louis XV of France, who appointed a committee to study it. The committee rejected its findings, and a royal decree was issued to stop Diderot from writing and publishing any more volumes. However, Diderot got help from friends who had influence in the government to revoke the decree. His work became very popular and is considered an important contribution of the Enlightenment era.



A page from *Encyclopedia*  
Credit: Wellcome Images, Wikimedia

## NEW ECONOMIC IDEAS

Another change during the Enlightenment had to do with the role the government should play in a country's economy. Based on the ideas of earlier French economists, **Adam Smith**, a Scottish economist, promoted the idea of a new economy and wrote his ideas in a well-publicized book, *The Wealth of Nations*, published in 1776.

Adam Smith believed in a **laissez-faire** economy. This French idiom means "let the people do what they want," while the government should have little involvement in the economy. Smith felt that government intervention in the lives of citizens should be very limited, only getting involved in affairs that individual people could not do on their own, such as:

1. Funding the military to protect the country from invasion
2. Funding the police to keep the public safe
3. Funding public works, such as roads, that individuals cannot afford to finance on their own

### *Economy*

Throughout American history, debate has continued about how much power the government should use to maintain the economy. For example, after the Great Depression began in 1929, President Hoover felt that the government should not interfere. His successor, Franklin D. Roosevelt, elected in 1932, instituted government programs to boost the economy.

.....  
**READING CHECK** .....

**ECONOMY**

? *According to Adam Smith, how involved should a government be in its country's economy?*

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**CHANGES IN THE WORLD**

The Enlightenment would lead to great changes in the world. For example, many commoners who had been denied human rights were now about to receive them. This was due to an increased number of **enlightened despots**, rulers who held absolute power but still instituted legal, social, and educational reforms. Among them were Frederick II of Prussia (Frederick the Great), Peter I and Catherine II of Russia (Peter the Great and Catherine the Great), and Maria Theresa, Joseph II, and Leopold II of Austria.



*Three paintings depicting scenes of the American Revolutionary War*

Some countries took the ideas of the Enlightenment even further. In 1776, the 13 English colonies of North America rebelled against England and created the democratic country of the United States. In 1789, the French revolted against their monarchy, declaring "Liberty, Equality, and **Fraternity**," for all. *Fraternity* means "brotherhood."

.....  
**READING CHECK** .....

**CHANGE AND CONTINUITY**

? *In what ways did some of the rulers of Europe change because of the Enlightenment, and in what way did they stay the same?*

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