

Oak Meadow  
Grade 7  
Teacher Manual:  
World History

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## Grade 7



# The Age of Monarchs

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### 1. Shakespeare:

- a. Biography:** Lived from 1564 to 1616. Born in Stratford-upon-Avon, he married Anne Hathaway, went to London in 1580's, and by the 1590's had become well-established as a dramatist and poet. Was a member of Lord Chamberlain's Company, called the "King's Men" in 1603. Eventually they got their own theater, and Elizabeth I became their patron. Retired in Stratford in 1612, after writing 37 plays and many poems. Some people (called "anti-Stratfordians") believe that Shakespeare's plays were written by someone else. They believe that such a common man, about whom so little is known, could not so well understand human nature, history, law, politics, music, science, the military, mythology, sailing and navigation, sports, hunting, the *Bible*, and courtly life, and write in a verse language this beautiful and rich. Popular theories are that the plays were actually written by Edward de Vere, the 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, or Sir Francis Bacon, or the playwright Christopher Marlowe.
- b. Shakespeare Play:** It may be surprising how well students can understand what is happening in a Shakespearean play, despite the language. It is said that if you do not understand what is being said, the actor is not doing his job. Acting is not merely the recitation of words; it is presenting the feelings and character of the person and how they act and react to situations in life.
- c. Shakespeare Sonnet/Performance:** This is intended to be fun and creative. It can be very effective to be dramatic with a Shakespeare sonnet, as if one is acting it.
- d. Globe Theatre:** Many of Shakespeare's plays were performed here. It was round in shape, and partially open to the sky. Plays were performed in the daytime to take advantage of the light.

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Sometimes Shakespeare makes reference in his plays to the “globe,” meaning the world, but perhaps also referring to the whole drama of life which was presented in this theater. The stage was roofed, and the section directly below and in front of the stage was called the “pit.” The pit was where the lower classes stood to watch the plays, subject to the weather coming in from above. Those in the pit made use of their freedom to boo, hiss or cheer on the action and characters, even throwing rotting vegetables if they did not like what was going on. Women’s roles were played by young boys, which was sometimes cause for laughter. The upper classes were installed in boxes, called the “gallery,” lining the inside walls of the theater, which were protected overhead. The whole structure was made of wood, and eventually burned down, although it has recently been rebuilt. London was a play-going city, with theaters throughout which were often subject to similar fires; the Globe was just one of them.

### 2. Monarchs:

#### a. Life of a Monarch:

**Henry IV of France:** Also known as Henry of Navarre. He was a Protestant noble during a time of many bloody clashes in France between Catholics and Protestants (who were known as the Huguenots). In 1572, during Henry of Navarre’s wedding, the Catholics took the opportunity of so many Huguenots being assembled to kill almost 10,000 of them. This was called the St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre. In 1589, Henry of Navarre inherited the throne and tried to restore peace. He converted to Catholicism, because uniting France was more important to him than how he practiced his religion. He was the first of the Bourbons to rule, and became well-loved. He issued the Edict of Nantes which gave the Huguenots equal protection under the law, freedom of faith, and the right to hold public office; reduced waste and corruption in the government, setting up many programs to help people prosper; and improved trade by building better ports and roads. He was murdered by a religious fanatic in 1610.



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**Charles V of Spain:** The grandson of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, he was born in 1500 as a member of the powerful Hapsburg family of Austria. He inherited the Netherlands, was crowned King of Spain in 1515, and had inherited much of Austria, Hungary and Bohemia by the age of twenty. He was named the Holy Roman Emperor. He funded the Spanish conquest of Central and South America, bringing great wealth to Spain, but had trouble ruling such a large empire. The Lutheran princes in Germany would not accept his title of Holy Roman Emperor, and the French fought off his attempts to take over Italy. Muslim Turks invaded Europe in the 1500's, and it took almost 100 years for the Hapsburgs to fend them off. Charles V gave up his throne in 1556 and retired to a monastery, giving the Hapsburg lands to his brother, Ferdinand I, and giving Spain, Italy, and the American holdings to his son, Philip II.

**Peter the Great of Russia:** He ruled from 1682 to 1725, making Russia a European power for the first time. While Czar, he disguised himself as a peasant to visit Western Europe and there saw the need for Russia to become more western if it wanted to compete with other countries. He began the Great Northern War with Sweden in 1700 to try to gain control of ports in the Baltic Sea so that Russia could trade more easily with the west, and eventually won. He set up efficient, provincial governments, and started government-funded industries, requiring all people to participate in the government in some way. Peasants were not well treated under his reign. He started western-style schools for the nobility, and forced everyone to adopt western clothing. He also simplified the alphabet, adopted the western calendar, and built the capitol of St. Petersburg near the Baltic Sea.

**Frederich William I of Prussia:** He became King in 1713. He despised the lavishness of Louis XIV and the French, and did away with the luxury his father, Frederich I, had enjoyed. Made the army twice as large, and ran the whole country like the military, including his children, whom he treated harshly. He had the habit of kidnapping tall men into a unit of his army called the Potsdam Guards, all of whom were like giants. He encouraged the civil service, trade and industry, and required all children to go to school.



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**Catherine Howard:** A cousin of Anne Boleyn, she was executed in 1542, on charges of adultery, after eighteen months of marriage to Henry.

**Catherine Parr:** She was a beautiful, intelligent widow who married Henry when she was 26. She survived him, after nursing him through his last years. It is said that he finally found peace with her.

**d. Monarchy Dress:** Your student will need to look at paintings, particularly portraits, of the rulers of the time. Some examples of clothing and hairstyles:

**Elizabeth I:** Often portrayed without a wig, her red hair dyed and her face carefully made up with a very pale foundation. Hair tightly curled; decorated with pearls, feathers, and jewels. A stiff, round lace collar around the neck. Her dresses were heavy and full, often of silk or velvet, with a bodice and an overskirt (which opened widely in the front) decorated with bows, ribbons, jewels and pearls. The sleeves and underskirt were usually a lighter, lacier, fabric, and were heavily embroidered and imbedded with pearls. The waist was very narrow, with the skirt coming out widely at the hips, so much so that narrower doors had to be entered sideways.

**Henry VIII:** Often painted with a round, flat, widely brimmed hat, decorated with jewels, pearls, and a feather on one side. No wig, but beard and hair were carefully groomed. A long vest-like robe, with very wide shoulders and short sleeves closing on the upper arms, was worn on top. This was made of a heavy fabric, with embroidery. Underneath was a long-sleeved tunic, heavily decorated with pearls, jewels and embroidery. Underneath the tunic was a similarly decorated pair of short, puffy breeches, and the legs were covered with hosiery.

**Louis XIV:** Wig was brown or black, very curly, high at the top, and then falling down over his shoulders. Hosiery on his legs, with high-heeled shoes sporting very wide bows. Over this there sometimes was a pair of decorated, short, puffy breeches, or alternatively, a pair of knickers that came to the knee before opening with a very full, lacy trim that fell down below the knee.





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# The Mughal Empire

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1. **Geography:** A good atlas is needed. Your student is to locate various places in India on a map.
2. **Taj Mahal:** Although the Taj Mahal is a tomb or monument, it has similarities to the best-known type of Muslim building, the mosque. Mosques are always built around a central dome, sometimes with an almost onion shape. A tall, narrow tower called a *minaret* is built on one side, from which the daily calls to come and pray are made. This is also capped with a rounded roof. Some mosques are quite simple, of stone and clay. Others are very elaborate. Inside, there are usually many arched columns to hold up the ceiling, sometimes so many that it can seem like a forest of trees. Sometimes the arches are painted with stripes. Decorations never include icons, as this is considered unholy. They are usually geometric, sometimes floral, very elaborate, and colorful. Tile work and mosaics dominate.

### 3. Mogul Empire Topics:

#### a. Religion:

**Hinduism:** Roots are in prehistoric times, made dominant in India by the Aryans who came to India from the north. Teaches that all people are reborn after they die, and that the soul remains constant. Those who lead good lives are reborn in a higher caste, and those who live bad lives are reborn in a lower caste. Eventually the soul reaches perfection, no longer needing to come back to earth to live in a body. Many gods are worshipped, including Brahma (the creator), Vishnu (the preserver), and Shiva (the destroyer). The main goddesses are Kali (goddess of destruction), Lakshmi (goddess of wealth), and Saraswati (goddess of knowledge). All Hindu gods are born from Brahma. Most Hindus are vegetarian, believing cows are sacred. Some of the important

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sacred writings are the *Vedas*, or sacred hymns. One of these divides people into different groups called castes. The four major castes include the Brahmans (which is the highest); the Vaishayas, or traders and merchants; the Shudras who are farmers, laborers and servants; and the very lowest caste are the “untouchables,” who are very poor and do the most menial labor. There are many sub-castes within each caste, with strict rules about interaction among the castes. Although the caste system has been legally abolished, it still exists in varying degrees, remaining more firmly in place in rural areas than in the cities.

**Islam:** One of the three Semitic religions, along with Judaism and Christianity. Muslims believe in one God called Allah, and believe that Muhammad is Allah’s messenger. Muhammad preached that people must stop worshipping idols, and that the other two Semitic religions were distortions of the original revelations from God, or Allah. The *Koran*, a book of Muhammad’s teachings, is the main book of faith. In it there are six articles of faith in which Muslims believe: 1) God is the creator of all, is loving, compassionate, and has absolute control over the universe, 2) Belief in angels, 3) Belief in the *Koran* as the word of God, 4) Belief in the prophets of early Judaism, the last of which is Muhammad, 5) Belief in Judgment Day, when two recording angels who keep track of good and bad deeds weigh them to see if people go to Paradise or not, and 6) that human life is the wish of God, who has it all under control. The five religious duties (or Pillars of Islam) are: 1) Accept and repeatedly state “There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his Prophet.” 2) Face the holy city of Mecca five times a day to pray. 3) Be generous to the poor. 4) Fast during the holy month of Ramadan. 5) make a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once during your life. There are no priests, and all Muslims are considered equal. There is a special concern for widows, orphans, the homeless and others in need.



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**e. Indian Music:** Deeply intertwined with religious life. It sounds very different from Western music. Indian music is made up of many different microtones, which are sounds in between the notes we use in Western music. In Western music there are major scales and minor scales, and the notes are the same when going both up and down the scale. However, in Indian music there can be one set of notes going up and a different set coming down. The musician chooses which tonal scales, or ragas are to be used. A raga is a choice of any twelve and a half tones played in a particular scale sequence. Each tone has its own special character. There must be at least five and no more than seven different tones. There are an immense number of possibilities of scales and melodies that can be made. In addition to the raga, many complex rhythms are used. Because they are so complex, many musicians have a stock of only about 18 or 20 ragas that they play regularly. Indian music is not written down. The musicians improvise and are free to create within the rules of the raga they are playing. There are different ragas for each time of day and different ragas for each season. While Western music usually portrays a range of emotions, a raga focuses on just one, elaborating on it in great detail. Music is considered to be sacred in India, and is thought to be a kind of spiritual discipline that can create inner peacefulness. Some music is not religious, but rather quite romantic, although some musicians sing only for God. When Indian music is played, it consists of three sections. During the first section the soloist is improvising and getting into the mood of playing. This is called the alap. The second section has a new rhythm, and the accompanying instruments join the soloist. The last section is fast and brilliant. It is during the playing of this section that the musician shows off his real talent. Except when recording the music, pieces have no time restrictions, and they can last for hours. A typical Indian musician may devote twenty years of his life or more to his instrument before he feels competent. His life is deeply intertwined with his teacher's, and even after he is a professional musician, he will often return to his teacher for further work. An important Indian instrument which has been made famous in recent years by the Indian musician Ravi Shankar, is the sitar. A sitar has seven

