

# CHAPTER 5: LIFE IN THE ENGLISH COLONIES

(1630–1770)

Section 1: Forms of Government

Section 2: The Growth of Trade

Section 3: The Colonies Economy

Section 4: The Great Awakening

Section 5: American Culture

## **Section 1: Forms of Government**

### Representative Government Develops in the Colonies

- Each government was given power by a charter.
- There were 3 types of charters:
  - proprietary
  - company
  - royal
- In the colonies the people also elected representatives to help make laws and set policies.
- Members of the House of Burgesses were elected by colonists to represent plantations and towns.

### Colonists Influence Colonial Rulings

Colonial courts allowed the colonists to:

- express their views
- control their affairs
- protect their individual freedom

### The Dominion of New England Effects New England Colonies

- The Dominion of New England took the place of the colonies' original charters.
- Colonist left the Dominion and formed new assemblies.

### The English Bill of Rights Effects on the Colonists

- The Glorious Revolution in England in 1688 (William and Mary take over throne of England from James II).
- The power of the English monarchy was reduced.
- Power shifted from the monarch to a representative government.

## **Section 2: The Growth of Trade**

The **Navigation Acts** met resistance from the colonists because they:

- limited free enterprise (vs. Mercantilism)
- led to an unfavorable balance of trade

Types of Colonial Trade in the 1700's

- smuggling.
- legal trade.
- triangular trade.

Why the Colonies Participated in the Slave Trade

- Tobacco and rice production in the colonies required mass slave labor.
- The slave trade also brought wealth to areas that used little slave labor such as the shipbuilding industry.

## **Section 3: The Colonies Economy**

Slaves Are the Main Workforce in the Southern Colonies

- Southern colonies depended on crops that required mass slave labor.
- Slaves began to replace indentured servants.

New England's Economic Activities Differ from Those of the Southern Colonies

The economy of the New England colonies depended on:

- fishing and shipbuilding
- the work of skilled craftspeople and not slaves

The Middle Colonies Economies

The middle colonies economies were a combination of the southern and New England colonies using slaves and indentured servants as the workforce.

## **Section 4: The Great Awakening**

### Message of the Great Awakening

- All people were born sinners and could only be saved by God.
- To be saved, a person must confess his sins and accept God's grace.

### The Great Awakening led to:

- divisions
  - "Old Lights" and "New Lights"
  - "Old Side" and "New Side"
- increased church membership
- traveling preachers who held revivals in small towns

### Effect of the Great Awakening on Colonial Society

- attracted people of different classes and races
- led to greater communication and exchange of ideas
- improved educational opportunities
- unified colonial regions
- had an effect on colonial politics

## **Section 5: American Culture**

### The Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment

- enabled people to better understand the laws that govern nature
- changed the way people viewed human action
- influenced colonial leaders and government

### Types of Colonial Education

- town and home schools
- elementary schools and universities

### Key Achievements of Benjamin Franklin

- scientist and thinker
- author of *Poor Richard's Almanack*
- inventor
- founded the American Philosophical Society

### Contributions to American Culture in the 1700's

- writing and poetry
- fine arts
- architecture and household furniture