

The Magna Carta - 1215

- Also known as the Great Charter
- King was forced to sign it by his Barons
- Limited his powers
 - He couldn't make new taxes without talking to the nobles first
 - Nobles form a Great Council to advise the King this would become Parliament
 - King couldn't arrest anyone unless he could charge them with a crime (Habeas Corpus)
 - Couldn't take away property without a reason (Right to a warrant)
 - If accused of a crime you were guaranteed a trial by jury

The British Parliament -

* 1236

- The Great Council created the Magna Carta
 - The British legislature is known as Parliament
- Two parts or two houses
 - Members of the House of Lords were noblemen
 - Members of the House of Commons were elected
- Greatest Power must approve all taxes proposed

The Enlightenment – 1650 - 1815

- Age of Reason
- European politics, philosophy, science and communications were radically changed
- A group of "thinkers" began to focus human reasoning on understanding the laws that governed the natural world around them.
- Started to question the divine right of the king.