

# 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 - 1265

- The Great Council – created the Magna Carta
  - The British legislature is known as Parliament
- **Two parts or two houses – 1400s**
  - Members of the House of Lords were noblemen
  - Members of the House of Commons were elected
- Gave guidance
- Greatest Power – must approve all taxes proposed



# The Glorious Revolution - 1688

- Also known as Bloodless Revolution & English Civil War
- Parliament actually went to war with the King
- Parliament removed the King and replaced him with his daughter and Dutch husband, William of Orange (William and Mary)
- Parliament's power was



# The English Bill of Rights - 1689

- After forcing the King out they made his daughter Mary (and her husband) sign the Bill of Rights before she could have the throne.
- Summary of the Bill of Rights
  - A frequently summoned Parliament and free elections. The king could not interfere.
  - Members should have freedom of speech in Parliament and what they said couldn't be held against them.
  - No armies should be raised in peacetime and Parliament had to approve
  - No taxes could be levied, without the authority of

# House of Burgesses - 1619

- Put in place as Jamestown started to prosper
- Virginia developed the first representative government in the colonies
- Voters in the colony were able to elect the people who made the laws and set the taxes to follow.
- 1619 – First time it met
- Shared power with the governor and made laws and acts

