



The Magna Carta

One of the most important documents in history. It guaranteed the people certain rights, and bound the king to certain laws.





King John so far...



- King John (1199-1216) has been called the worst king of England.
- His brother Richard the Lionheart was popular and successful; John was unpopular and unsuccessful.
- John lost Normandy to the French and charged high taxes to pay for the wars to get it back.
- John fell out with the Pope about who should be Archbishop of Canterbury.
- The Pope banned John from the Church and all English churches were closed down.

The Magna Carta

MAGNA CARTA

I, King John have to rule according to the law. I agree...

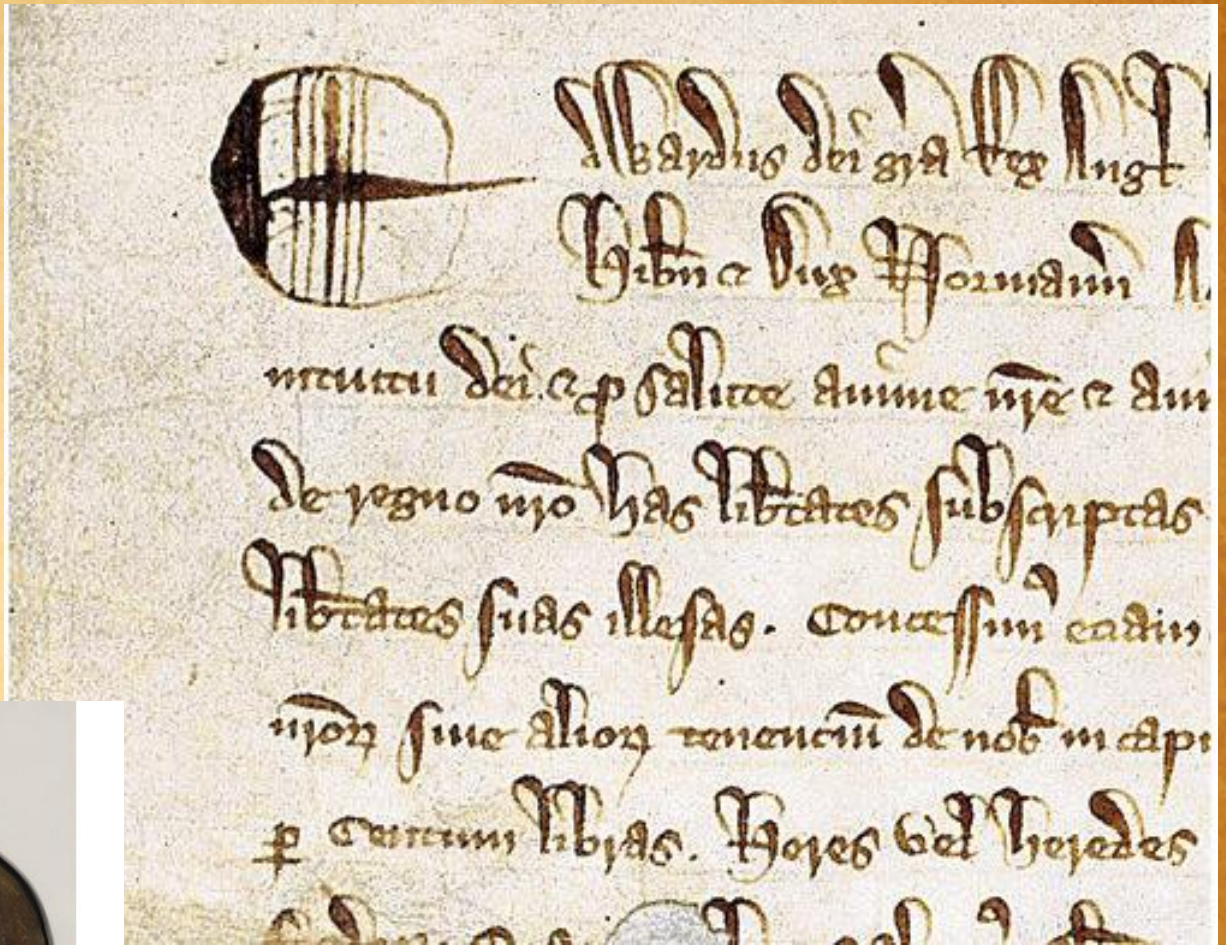
1. Not to imprison barons without a trial
2. To hold trials in court, not in secret.
3. To have fair taxes for the barons.
4. To let freemen travel where they like.
5. Not to interfere with the Church
6. Not to seize crops without paying.



Photos.com

King John's acceptance of Magna Carta has been illustrated and painted many times. He is often, as he is here, incorrectly shown signing his name with a pen. In fact, he stamped his royal seal on the document to show his agreement.

- ❖ Angry nobles forced a meeting with King John in a meadow called Runnymede, beside the River Thames, outside of London.
- ❖ They insisted that John put his seal on a document called Magna Carta, which means “Great Charter” in Latin.



This is a picture of part of the original writing for the Magna Carta



The Magna Carta

An agreement between the nobles and the monarch:

- ❖ The nobles agreed that the monarch could continue to rule.
- ❖ King John agreed to observe common law and the traditional rights of the nobles and the Church.



Why was it important?

- In many ways, Magna Carta only protected the rights and privileges of nobles.
- Limited the power of the king & ended the idea of rule by divine right.
- As time passed, the English came to regard it as the beginning of people's rights and liberties that would lead to democracy. Democracy: rule by the people.

Review

Pair-Share responses

Whose rights were protected by the Magna Carta?

- Only the rights and privileges of the nobles were protected by the Magna Carta.

Summary

- The Magna Carta established the idea of rights and liberties that even a monarch cannot violate.
- It also affirmed that monarchs should rule with the advice of the people.
- Today, the ideas of rights and liberties are continued in our own Constitution and Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Why was the Magna Carta Significant?

- a) It gave the monarch unlimited power to tax the nobles.
- b) It restricted the power of Church over government.
- c) It began the idea that monarchs should rule with the consent of the people.
- d) It gave the serfs their freedom.

Why was the Magna Carta Significant?

- C. It began the idea that monarchs should rule with the consent of the people.

Your Task



- Read page 67 in your textbook
- Complete questions #4 and 5