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Retrieved 2009-05-07. 1898-09-03 view of Santiago (needs Flash)Retrieved from "3One hundred years, from 1701 to 1800For other uses, see 18th century (disambiguation).Millennia2ndmillenniumCenturies17thcentury18thcentury19thcenturyTimelines17thcentury18thcentury19thcenturyState leaders17thcentury18thcentury19thcenturyDecades1700s1710s1720s1730s1740s1750s1760s1770s1780s1790sCategories:BirthsDeathsEstablishmentsDisestablishmentsPolitical boundaries at the beginning of year 1700Storming of the Bastille, 14 July 1789, an iconic event of the French Revolution.Development of the Watt steam engine in the late 18th century was an important element in the Industrial Revolution in Europe.The American Revolutionary War took place in the late 18th century. The 18th century lasted from 1 January 1701 (represented by the Roman numerals MDCCI) to 31 December 1800 (MDCC). During the 18th century, elements of Enlightenment thinking culminated in the Atlantic Revolutions. Revolutions began to challenge the legitimacy of monarchial and aristocratic power structures. The Industrial Revolution began mid-century, leading to radical changes in human society and the environment. The European colonization of the Americas and other parts of the world intensified and associated mass migrations of people grew in size as part of the Age of Sail. During the century, slave trading expanded across the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, while declining in Russia[1] and China.[2]Western historians have occasionally defined the 18th century otherwise for the purposes of their work. For example, the "short" 18th century may be defined as 1715-1789, denoting the period of time between the death of Louis XIV of France and the start of the French Revolution, with an emphasis on directly interconnected events.[3][4] To historians who expand the century to include larger historical movements, the "long" 18th century[5] may run from the Glorious Revolution of 1688 to the Battle of Waterloo in 1815[6] or even later.[7] France was the sole world superpower from 1659, after it defeated Spain, until 1815, when it was defeated by Britain and its coalitions following the Napoleonic Wars.In Europe, philosophers ushered in the Age of Enlightenment. This period coincided with the French Revolution of 1789, and was later compromised by the excesses of the Reign of Terror. At first, many monarchies of Europe embraced Enlightenment ideals, but in the wake of the French Revolution, they feared loss of power and formed broad coalitions to oppose the French Republic in the French Revolutionary Wars. Various conflicts throughout the century, including the War of the Spanish Succession and the Seven Years' War, saw Great Britain triumph over its rivals to become the preeminent power in Europe. However, Britain's attempts to exert its authority over the Thirteen Colonies became a catalyst for the American Revolution. The 18th century also marked the end of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth as an independent state. Its semi-democratic government system was not robust enough to prevent partition by the neighboring states of Austria, Prussia, and Russia.In West Asia, Nader Shah led Persia in successful military campaigns. The Ottoman Empire experienced a period of peace, taking no part in European wars from 1740 to 1768. As a result, the empire was not exposed to Europe's military improvements during the Seven Years' War. The Ottoman military consequently lagged behind and suffered several defeats against Russia in the second half of the century.In South Asia, the death of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb was followed by the expansion of the Maratha Confederacy and an increasing level of European influence and control in the region. In 1739, Persian emperor Nader Shah invaded and plundered Delhi, the capital of the Mughal Empire. Later, his general Ahmad Shah Durrani scored another victory against the Marathas, the then dominant power in India, in the Third Battle of Panipat in 1761.[8] By the middle of the century, the British East India Company began to conquer eastern India,[9][8] and by the end of the century, the Anglo-Mysore Wars against Tipu Sultan and his father Hyder Ali, led to Company rule over the south.[10][11]In East Asia, the century was marked by the High Qing era, a period characterized by significant cultural and territorial expansion. This period also experienced relative peace and prosperity, allowing for societal growth, increasing literacy rates, flourishing trade, and consolidating imperial power across the vast Qing dynasty's territories. Conversely, the continual seclusion policy of the Tokugawa shogunate also brought a peaceful era called Pax Tokugawa and experienced a flourishing of the arts as well as scientific knowledge and advancements, which were introduced to Japan through the Dutch port of Nagasaki. In Southeast Asia, the Konbaung-Ayutthaya Wars and the Tigray Wars broke out while the Dutch East India Company established increasing levels of control over the Mataram Sultanate.In Africa, the Ethiopian Empire underwent the Zemene Mesafint, a period when the country was ruled by a class of regional noblemen and the empire was merely a figurehead. The Atlantic slave trade also saw the continued involvement of states such as the Oyo Empire. In Oceania, the European colonization of Australia and New Zealand began during the late half of the century. In the Americas, the United States declared its independence from Great Britain. In 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence. In 1789, George Washington was inaugurated as the first president. Benjamin Franklin traveled to Europe where he was hailed as an inventor. Examples of his inventions include the lightning rod and bifocal glasses. Tipu Sultan II led an uprising that sought to end Spanish colonial rule in Peru. For a chronological guide, see Timeline of the 18th century.See also: Georgian eraMain articles: 1700s, 1710s, 1720s, 1730s, and 1740sEurope at the beginning of the War of the Spanish Succession, 1700The Battle of Poltava in 1709 turned the Russian Empire into a European power.John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough 1701-1721: Great Northern War between the Russian and Swedish Empires.1701: Kingdom of Prussia declared under King Frederick I.1701: The Battle of Fehrbellin marks the rise of the Prussian Empire.1701-1714: The War of the Spanish Succession is fought, involving most of continental Europe.[12]1702-1715: Camisard rebellion in France.1703: Saint Petersburg is founded by Peter the Great; it is the Russian capital until 1918.1703-1711: The Rákóczi uprising against the Habsburg monarchy.1704: End of Japan's Genroku period.1704: First Javanese War of Succession.[13]1706-1713: The War of the Spanish Succession: French troops defeated at the Battle of Ramillies and the Siege of Turin.1707: Death of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb leads to the fragmentation of the Mughal Empire.1707: The Act of Union is passed, merging the Scottish and English Parliaments, thus establishing the Kingdom of Great Britain.[14]1708: The Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies and English Company Trading to the East Indies merge to form the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.1708-1709: Famine kills one-third of East Prussia's population.1709: Foundation of the Hotak Empire.1709: The Great Frost of 1709 marks the coldest winter in 500 years, contributing to the defeat of Sweden at Poltava.1710: The world's first copyright legislation, Britain's Statute of Anne, takes effect.1710-1711: Ottoman Empire fights Russia in the Russo-Turkish War and regains Azov.1711: Bukhara Khanate dissolves as local begs seize power.1711-1715: Tuscarora War between British, Dutch, and German settlers and the Tuscarora people of North Carolina.1713: The Kangxi Emperor acknowledges the full recovery of the Chinese economy since its apex during the Ming.1714: In Amsterdam, Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit invents the mercury-in-glass thermometer, which remains the most reliable and accurate thermometer until the electronic era.1715: The first Jacobite rising breaks out; the British halt the Jacobite advance at the Battle of Sheriffmuir; Battle of Preston.1716: Establishment of the Sindh Confederacy along the present-day India-Pakistan border.1716-1718: Austro-Venetian-Turkish War.1718: The city of New Orleans is founded by the French in North America.1718-1720: War of the Quadruple Alliance with Spain versus France, Britain, Austria, and the Netherlands.1718-1730: Tulip period of the Ottoman Empire.1719: Second Javanese War of Succession.15]1720: The South Sea Bubble.1720-1721: The Great Plague of Marseille.1720: Qing forces oust Dzungar invaders from Tibet.1721: The Treaty of Nystad is signed, ending the Great Northern War.1721: Sack of Shamakhi, massacre of its Shia population by Sunni Lezgins.1722: Siege of Isfahan results in the handover of Iran to the Hotaki Afghans.1722-1723: Russo-Persian War.1722-1725: Controversy over William Wood's halfpence leads to the Drapier's Letters and begins the Irish economic independence movement.Mughal emperor Muhammad Shah with the Persian invader Nader Shah.1723: Slavery is abolished in Russia; Peter the Great converts his household slaves into house serfs.[16]1723-1730: The "Great Disaster", an invasion of Kazakh territories by the Dzungars.1723-1732: The Qing and the Dzungars fight a series of wars across Qinghai, Dzungaria, and Outer Mongolia, with inconclusive results.1724: Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit proposes the Fahrenheit temperature scale.1725: Austro-Spanish alliance renews. Russia joins in 1726.1727-1729: Anglo-Spanish War ends inconclusively.1730: Mahmud I takes over Ottoman Empire after the Patrona Halil revolt, ending the Tulip period.1730-1760: The First Great Awakening takes place in Great Britain and North America.1732-1734: Crimean Tatar raids into Russia.1732-1738: War of the Polish Succession.Qianlong Emperor 1735-1799: Austro-Russo-Turkish War.1735-1799: The Qianlong Emperor of China oversees a huge expansion in territory.1738-1756: Famine across the Sahel; half the population of Timbuktu dies.[18]1737-1738: Hotak Empire ends after the siege of Kandahar by Nader Shah.1739: Great Britain and Spain fight the War of Jenkins' Ear in the Caribbean.1739: Nader Shah defeats a pan-Indian army of 300,000 at the Battle of Karnal. Taxation is stopped in Iran for three years.1739-1740: Nader Shah's Sindh expedition.1740: George Whitefield brings the First Great Awakening to New England.1740-1741: Famine in Ireland kills 20 percent of the population.1741-1743: Iran invades Uzbekistan, Khwarazm, Dagestan, and Oman.1741-1751: Maratha invasions of Bengal.1740-1748: War of the Austrian Succession.1742: Marvel's Mill, the first water-powered cotton mill, begins operation in England.[19]1742: Anders Celsius proposes an inverted form of the centigrade temperature, which is later renamed Celsius in his honor.1742: Premiere of George Frideric Handel's Messiah.1743-1746: Another Ottoman-Persian War involves 375,000 men but ultimately ends in a stalemate. The extinction of the Scottish clan system came with the defeat of the clansmen at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.[20]1744: The First Saudi State is founded by Mohammed Ibn Saud.1744: Battle of Toulon is fought off the coast of France.1744-1748: The First Carnatic War is fought between the British, the French, the Marathas, and Mysore in India.1745: Second Jacobite rising is begun by Charles Edward Stuart in Scotland.1747: The Durrani Empire is founded by Ahmad Shah Durrani.1748: The Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle ends the War of the Austrian Succession and First Carnatic War.1748-1754: The Second Carnatic War is fought between the British, the French, the Marathas, and Mysore in India.1750: Peak of the Little Ice Age.Main articles: 1750s, 1760s, 1770s, 1780s, 1790s, and 1800s1752: The British Empire adopts the Gregorian calendar, skipping 11 days from 3 September to 13 September. On the calendar, 2 September is followed directly by 14 September.1754: The Treaty of Pondicherry ends the Second Carnatic War and recognizes Muhammed Ali Khan Wallajah as Nawab of the Carnatic.1754: King's College is founded by a royal charter of George II of Great Britain.1754-1763: The French and Indian War, the North American chapter of the Seven Years' War, is fought in colonial North America, mostly by the French and their allies against the English and their allies.1755: The great Lisbon earthquake destroys most of Portugal's capital and kills up to 100,000.1755: The Dzungar genocide depopulates much of northern Xinjiang, allowing for Han, Uyghur, Khalkha Mongol, and Manchu colonization.1755-1763: The Great Upheaval forces transfer of the French Acadian population from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.1756-1763: The Seven Years' War is fought among European powers in various theaters around the world.1756-1763: The Third Carnatic War is fought between the British, the French, and Mysore in India.1757: British conquest of Bengal.Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia.1760: George III becomes King of Britain.1761: Maratha Empire defeated at Battle of Panipat.1762-1796: Reign of Catherine the Great of Russia.1763: The Treaty of Paris ends the Seven Years' War and Third Carnatic War.1764: Daohuay and the Oyo Empire defeat the Ashanti army at the Battle of Atakpam.1764: The Mughals are defeated at the Battle of Buxar.1765: The Stamp Act is introduced into the American colonies by the British Parliament.1765-1767: The Burmese invade Thailand and utterly destroy Ayutthaya.1765-1769: Burma under Hsinbyushin repels four invasions from Qing China, securing hegemony over the Shan states.1766: Christian VII becomes king of Denmark. He was king of Denmark to 1808.1766-1799: Anglo-Mysore Wars.1767: Taksin expels Burmese invaders and reunites Thailand under an authoritarian regime.1768-1772: War of the Bar Confederation.1768-1774: Russo-Turkish War.1769: Spanish missions establish the first of 21 missions in California.1769-1770: James Cook explores and maps New Zealand and Australia.1769-1773: The Bengal famine of 1770 kills one-third of the Bengal population.1769: The French East India Company dissolves, only to be revived in 1785.1769: French expeditions capture clove plantations in Ambon, ending the Dutch East India Company's (VOC) monopoly of the plant.[23]1770-1771: Famine in Czech lands kills hundreds of thousands.1771: The Plague Riot in Moscow.1771: The Kalmyk Khanate dissolves as the territory becomes colonized by Russians. More than a hundred thousand Kalmyks migrate back to Qing Dzungaria.1772: Gustav III of Sweden stages a coup d'état, becoming almost an absolute monarch.Encyclopédie, ou dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers1772-1779: Maratha Empire fights Britain and Raghunathrao's forces during the First Anglo-Maratha War.1772-1795: The Partitions of Poland end the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the Polish frontiers map for 23 years.1773-1775: Pugachev's Rebellion, the largest peasant revolt in Russian history.1773: East India Company starts operations in Bengal to smuggle opium into China.1775: Russia imposes a reduction in autonomy on the Zaporizhian Cossacks of Ukraine.1775-1783: First Anglo-Maratha War.1776: Several kongsi republics are