

Life From Beginning to End: Biographies of British Royalty



King Richard III: A Life from Beginning to End (Biographies of British Royalty) by Hourly History

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
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The Tudor Dynasty

The Tudor dynasty was one of the most important periods in British history. It began with the accession of Henry VII to the throne in 1485 and ended with the death of Elizabeth I in 1603. During this time, England experienced a period of great political, economic, and social change.



Henry VII was a strong and capable king who restored stability to England after the Wars of the Roses. He married Elizabeth of York, the daughter of Edward IV, and they had two sons, Arthur and Henry. Arthur was the heir to the throne, but he died in 1502, and Henry became heir apparent.

Henry VIII, who succeeded his father to the throne in 1509, was one of the most famous and controversial monarchs in British history. He was a strong

advocate of the Reformation, and he broke with the Catholic Church in 1534. He married six times, and his wives included Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, and Catherine Parr.



Henry VIII, King of England from 1509 to 1547

Henry VIII's reign was marked by political and religious turmoil. He dissolved the monasteries and abbeys in England, and he established the Church of England. He also had six wives executed, and he was excommunicated from the Catholic Church.

Edward VI, who succeeded his father to the throne in 1547, was a Protestant. He died in 1553 at the age of 15, and was succeeded by his half-sister, Mary I.

Mary I was a Catholic, and she reversed many of the reforms of her father. She burned several hundred Protestants at the stake, and she is known as "Bloody Mary". She died in 1558, and was succeeded by her half-sister, Elizabeth I.

Elizabeth I was one of the most successful monarchs in British history. She was a Protestant, and she restored the Church of England. She also defeated the Spanish Armada in 1588, and she reigned for 45 years.

The Tudor dynasty ended with the death of Elizabeth I in 1603. She was succeeded by James VI of Scotland, who became James I of England.

The Stuart Dynasty

The Stuart dynasty began with the accession of James I to the throne in 1603. The Stuarts were a Scottish family, and they ruled England and Scotland for over 100 years.



James I was a learned and cultured king, but he was also a weak and indecisive ruler. He was constantly in conflict with Parliament, and he failed to resolve the religious and political tensions in England.

Charles I, who succeeded his father to the throne in 1625, was even more unpopular than his father. He was a devout Anglican, and he tried to

impose his religious beliefs on his subjects. He also tried to rule without Parliament, and he was eventually overthrown in the English Civil War.

Charles I was executed in 1649, and England became a republic. The republic was led by Oliver Cromwell, who was a Puritan. Cromwell was a successful military leader, but he was also a harsh and intolerant ruler.

After Cromwell's death in 1658, England was restored to the monarchy. Charles II, the son of Charles I, was crowned king in 1660. Charles II was a popular and charismatic king. He was a patron of the arts, and he encouraged the development of science and technology.

However, Charles II also had a number of mistresses, and he fathered several illegitimate children. He died in 1685, and was succeeded by his brother, James II.

James II was a Catholic, and he tried to restore Catholicism to England. He was unpopular with his Protestant subjects, and he was overthrown in the Glorious Revolution of 1688.

James II was succeeded by his daughter, Mary II, and her husband, William of Orange. Mary and William ruled jointly until Mary's death in 1694. William continued to rule alone until his death in 1702.

The Stuart dynasty ended with the death of William III.

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