

Chapter 1 : Henry IV of France - Wikipedia

"Henry IV and the Towns is well researched and clearly written. It is a welcome addition for historians and graduate students interested in Henry IV's reign, urban history, and the evolution of French absolutism."

Since Henry of Navarre was a Huguenot, the issue was not considered settled in many quarters of the country, and France was plunged into a phase of the Wars of Religion known as the War of the Three Henri's. The third was Henry I, Duke of Guise, who pushed for complete suppression of the Huguenots and had much support among Catholic loyalists. Political disagreements among the parties set off a series of campaigns and counter-campaigns that culminated in the Battle of Coutras. Instead, however, the populace were horrified and rose against him. In several cities, the title of the king was no longer recognized. His power was limited to Blois, Tours, and the surrounding districts. In the general chaos, the king relied on King Henry of Navarre and his Huguenots. The two kings were united by a common interest—to win France from the Catholic League. With this combined force, the two kings marched to Paris. The morale of the city was low, and even the Spanish ambassador believed the city could not hold out longer than a fortnight. The Catholic League, however, strengthened by support from outside the country—especially from Spain—was strong enough to prevent a universal recognition of his new title. The Pope excommunicated Henry and declared him devoid of any right to inherit the crown. He set about winning his kingdom by military conquest, aided by English money and German troops. In case of such opposition, Philip indicated that princes of the House of Lorraine would be acceptable to him: The Spanish ambassadors selected the Duke of Guise, to the joy of the League. But at that moment of seeming victory, the envy of the Duke of Mayenne was aroused, and he blocked the proposed election of a king. They argued that if the French accepted natural hereditary succession, as proposed by the Spaniards, and accepted a woman as their queen, then the ancient claims of the English kings would be confirmed, and the monarchy of centuries past would be nothing but an illegality. Mayenne was angered that he had not been consulted prior, but yielded, since their aim was not contrary to his present views. Despite these setbacks for the League, Henry remained unable to take control of Paris. He was said to have declared that Paris vaut bien une messe "Paris is well worth a mass", [21] [22] [23] although there is some doubt whether he said this, or whether the statement was attributed to him by his contemporaries. Since Reims, the traditional location for the coronation of French kings, was still occupied by the Catholic League, Henry was crowned King of France at the Cathedral of Chartres on 27 February. In he issued the Edict of Nantes, which granted circumscribed toleration to the Huguenots. Henry and Margaret separated even before Henry acceded to the throne in August. After Henry became king of France, it was of the utmost importance that he provide an heir to the crown to avoid the problem of a disputed succession. Bronze, circa AD. From France, probably Paris. He and Sully protected forests from further devastation, built a system of tree-lined highways, and constructed bridges and canals. He used one construction project to attract attention to his power. When building the Pont-Neuf, a bridge in Paris, he placed a statue of himself in the middle. More than metres long and thirty-five metres wide, this huge addition was built along the bank of the Seine River. At the time it was the longest edifice of its kind in the world. This tradition continued for another two hundred years, until Emperor Napoleon I banned it. The art and architecture of his reign have become known as the "Henry IV style" since that time. France lay claim to New France now Canada. Under the Duke of Parma, an army from the Spanish Netherlands intervened in against Henry and foiled his siege of Paris. Another Spanish army helped the nobles opposing Henry to win the Battle of Craon against his troops in. This enabled him to turn his attention to Savoy, with which he also had been fighting. Their conflicts were settled in the Treaty of Lyon of, which mandated territorial exchanges between France and the Duchy of Savoy. It was widely believed that in Henry was preparing to go to war against the Holy Roman Empire. It granted numerous advantages to France in the Ottoman Empire. France-Asia relations During the reign of Henry IV, various enterprises were set up to develop trade with faraway lands. No ships were sent, however, until. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. Henry is said to have originated the oft-repeated phrase "a chicken in every pot". If God keeps me, I will make sure that no peasant

in my realm will lack the means to have a chicken in the pot on Sunday! This statement epitomises the peace and relative prosperity which Henry brought to France after decades of religious war, and demonstrates how well he understood the plight of the French worker and peasant farmer. This real concern for the living conditions of the "lowly" population—who in the final analysis provided the economic basis for the power of the king and the great nobles—was perhaps without parallel among the kings of France. Following his death Henry would be remembered fondly by most of the population. He was also a great philanderer, fathering many children by a number of mistresses. Henry was buried at the Saint Denis Basilica. A statue was erected in his honour at the Pont Neuf in 1619, four years after his death. Although this statue—as well as those of all the other French kings—was torn down during the French Revolution, it was the first to be rebuilt, in 1818, and it stands today on the Pont Neuf. In addition, when Princess Caroline of Naples and Sicily a descendant of his gave birth to a male heir to the throne of France seven months after the assassination of her husband Charles Ferdinand, Duke of Berry, by a Republican fanatic, the boy was conspicuously named Henri in reference to his forefather Henry IV. That custom had been abandoned by later Bourbon kings. An English edition was derived from this, which was published at London in 1727.

Chapter 2 : Henry IV of England - Wikipedia

Description. This book is the first serious study of Henry IV's relationship with the towns of France. Rejected by a majority of his subjects because of his Protestant faith, Henry spent the early years of his reign conquering his kingdom through the use of force, persuasion, bribery, and conciliation.

The country had tottered on the brink of disintegration for three decades. Henry, through his father, was in the sole legitimate line of descent from the Capetian kings of France. From to he lived with his second cousins, the children of the king of France, among whom was his future wife Margaret. The religious crisis between Roman Catholic and Protestant Huguenot forces was then coming to a head, leading to a long period of civil war. Antoine de Bourbon temporarily allied himself with the Protestants but changed sides and was mortally wounded in battle against them. At a crucial age in his intellectual development, he was brought up in the strict principles of Protestantism. About the same time, he began his military education. In the autumn of , he served as nominal head of a punitive expedition launched against the rebellious Roman Catholic gentry of lower Navarre, which ended in an easy victory. Henry distinguished himself at the Battle of Arnay-le-Duc on June 26, , when he led the first charge of the Huguenot cavalry. The long campaign through the ravaged provinces, extending from Poitou to the heart of Burgundy, forged in him the soldierly spirit that he would retain throughout his life and made him reflect on the disaster that had befallen the kingdom. Peace was concluded in August , and a very liberal edict was granted the Protestants. In order to strengthen the peace, a marriage was arranged between Prince Henry and Margaret of Valois of the French royal house. His conversion to Roman Catholicism was obviously of dubious sincerity, and he was therefore held for three-and-a-half years at the courts of Charles IX and then Henry III. Careful to restrain his impatience, he hid his forceful personality from his detainers. In February , however, he at last succeeded in escaping from the French court, whereupon he recanted and joined the combined forces of Protestants and Catholic rebels against Henry III. Once free, he displayed his sharp intellect and political acumen in his role as protector of the Protestant churches. His common sense—“one of his outstanding traits, except in love affairs”—manifested itself when civil war broke out anew at the end of . The Huguenots fared badly, and Henry, evaluating the situation, was able to persuade his coreligionists to give up the struggle and accept the Treaty of Bergerac on Sept. Heir presumptive to the throne. He was irrevocably opposed, however, by the militant Roman Catholics of the Holy League , who were unwilling to accept a Protestant king, and by the pope , who excommunicated him and declared him devoid of any right to inherit the crown. Headed by Henri, Duke de Guise , and his brothers, the League claimed to be the defender of the ancestral faith of France, but its increasing reliance on Spanish support rapidly became a serious threat to French independence. Though too prone in peace to neglect public affairs for private pleasure, he was an unrivaled leader in times of peril. Quick to grasp the significance of every situation, he was equally prompt to act, and victory was invariably the reward of his bold swiftness. He was not a brilliant strategist but had the ability to inspire his men to action. Four centuries later, his notes and speeches still have the impact and clarity of a clarion call. The outcome of the war hinged on the encounter between Henry and the army of Henry III, who had come increasingly under the influence of the League; and at the Battle of Coutras Oct. He died the next day, after staunchly proclaiming Henry of Navarre, the head of the house of Bourbon , as his successor to the French crown. Henry IV was now king of France, but it would take him nine years of struggle against the Holy League to secure his kingdom. Many of the Roman Catholic gentry who had remained loyal to Henry III deserted him, and his army was growing exhausted. Henry won victories at Arques in and Ivry in and mounted unsuccessful sieges of Paris in and of Rouen in . He was able to capture Chartres and Noyon from the League, but the war dragged on interminably, and the king realized that it had to be ended at any cost. After long hesitation, he undertook a final conversion back to Roman Catholicism in July . On March 22, , Paris finally gave in to him. On April 13, , Henry signed the Edict of Nantes , which confirmed Roman Catholicism as the state church but granted a large measure of religious freedom to Protestants, who were also given the right to hold public office and who retained their fortresses in certain cities. The Edict of Nantes ended nearly 40 years of religious strife and civil

war that had left France tottering on the brink of disintegration. The achievements of the reign. Henry IV had united the kingdom and achieved peace at home and abroad. He now proceeded to bring order and prosperity back to France. The rapidity with which he restored order surprised his contemporaries, and the effect of his personal policy in that achievement cannot be ignored. This policy stemmed from the wide experience that he had acquired during the conquest of the kingdom; acquainted with all the social classes of France, he knew what each one needed he is traditionally credited with having desired for every labourer la poule au pot, a chicken to eat, every Sunday ; and he used his geniality and his persuasive manner to win obedience. To revive the economy he undertook projects to develop agriculture, planting colonies of Dutch and Flemish settlers to drain the marshes of Saintonge. He introduced the silk industry to France and encouraged the manufacture of cloth, glassware, and tapestries, luxury items that had formerly been imported from Holland or Italy. Under the direction of Sully, new highways and canals were constructed to aid the flow of commerce. New treaties were concluded with the Ottoman sultan Ahmed I , and commercial treaties were signed with England and with Spain and Holland. The French army was reorganized, its pay was raised and assured, a school of cadets formed, the artillery service was reconstituted, and strongholds on the frontier were fortified. Although he was himself a convert, Henry managed to reassure the Protestants and to grant them privileges in the state while at the same time promoting the Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation, protecting the monastic orders, and improving the recruitment of the Roman Catholic clergy in France. The new queen gave birth on Sept. He also concluded alliances with the German Protestant princes, with Lorraine, and with the Swiss. Though he was not a great strategist, his courage and gallantry made him a great military leader. And though he was never an efficient administrator, his political insight, his willingness to enlist the cooperation of well-chosen ministers, and his understanding of his people made him an efficient ruler. Henry IV died a victim of the fanaticism he wanted to eradicate. They soon bestowed on him the appellation Henry the Great. Henry is one of the most popular figures in French history for his amorous propensities as well as his political achievements.

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Europe, to They greatly worried that their precarious freedom to worship might be taken away from them. Henry IV also dreaded the notion of fighting the Huguenots, even though Catholic pressure grew upon him to restrict their rights in order to prove his sincerity as a Catholic. The situation called for decisive action by the king lest a new religious war break out, especially as negotiations to end the war with Spain moved ahead, culminating in the Treaty of Vervins in May. In a bold move to avert this crisis, Henry IV reached a historic settlement with the Huguenots on 13 April in the Edict of Nantes. This famous accord has been seen as an important step forward for the idea of religious toleration as well as a victory for the notion that politics takes precedence over religion. Upon closer examination, however, neither of these interpretations can be sustained. In the meantime, the king wished to ensure religious coexistence of the two confessions so that this process of reunion could go forward. The Edict of Nantes therefore affirmed the age-old French heritage of "one king, one faith, one law" rather than looking forward to modern ideas about toleration and secularism. It testified more to the growing authority of the crown than any willingness to accept religious differences on a permanent basis. A closer look at the edict shows how he hoped to achieve these contrasting goals. Four separate documents actually made up the Edict of Nantes. The first one consisted of ninety-two general articles, while the second one had fifty-six "secret articles" that granted exemptions from the general articles to particular towns and persons. The last two documents were royal writs known as brevets. The reason for all this complexity in the edict stemmed from the political circumstances that Henry IV faced. The first two sets of articles had to be registered in the Parlement of Paris, which was the chief judicial court in France, in order to receive the force of law. Royal brevets, by contrast, did not need to be registered because they ended once the king who originally issued them had died. They were thus provisional in nature. Henry IV put the most controversial concessions to the Huguenots in the royal brevets because he knew that the Parlement of Paris, which was controlled by the Catholics, would never register them. In fact, it took nearly a year for the parlement to accept the first two sets of articles. How long the Edict of Nantes would last was therefore, from a legalistic point of view, an open question right from the outset. The provisions making up the Edict of Nantes did not break new ground but rather returned quite explicitly to earlier edicts of pacification, such as the Peace of Bergerac and Peace of Fleix, sometimes word for word. First, the king consigned all events since to oblivion, making it a crime to stir up the memories of past grievances. It also guaranteed the right of Huguenots to hold political office and established special new courts with both Huguenot and Catholic judges to enforce the provisions of the edict. At the same time, the Edict of Nantes also addressed Catholic concerns. It reaffirmed, for example, the Catholic character of both the crown and the kingdom. While Huguenots could only worship in specially designated areas, Catholics could practice their faith anywhere in France. All of these general principles in the first set of articles became decidedly less firm when considering all the exceptions to them contained in the second set of "secret articles. These measures thus provided financial and military security to the Huguenots, but only while Henry IV was king. Louis XIII stripped the Huguenots of their former military independence and subsidies in the Grace of Alais, though he recognized their right to worship in places already established. He did so because he mistakenly believed that most of the Huguenots had returned to the Catholic Church. The resulting persecution forced the French Calvinist Church to go underground, while many Huguenots emigrated to Germany, England, and North America. French Calvinists only enjoyed the right to worship publicly later on, in, just prior to the French Revolution. The Edict of Nantes: Five Essays and a New Translation. A new translation of the edict and five essays assessing its general significance. One King, One Faith: The Huguenot Struggle for Recognition. New Haven, The definitive work on the political and military dimensions of the Huguenot efforts to secure a place in late-sixteenth-century French society. Michael Wolfe Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography. Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World. Retrieved November 02, from Encyclopedia. Then, copy and paste the text into your

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This book is the first serious study of Henry IV's relationship with the towns of France. Rejected by a majority of his subjects because of his Protestant faith, Henry spent the early years of his reign conquering his kingdom through the use of force, persuasion, bribery, and conciliation. By.

He was the first of the Bourbon kings, and his family ruled until the French Revolution of and again during the Restoration. Her public embrace of Calvinism in soon introduced her young son and her daughter, Catherine, to the faith. He also frequented the royal court, which schooled him in the ways of intrigue and gallantry. Although not intellectually inclined, Henry matured to become a keen judge of character and prone to decisive, frequently impulsive acts of will to overcome the many obstacles that he faced during his eventful life. These qualities served him well as the country slipped into the chaos of the Wars of Religion. The wedding, which was held in Paris, instead led to the St. Henry escaped death by renouncing his Calvinist faith and becoming a prisoner at the Valois court until his escape in February. After recanting his forced conversion, Henry consolidated his leadership of the Huguenots during the course of the three wars that broke out over the next eight years. Militant Catholics rallied to the Holy League revived in by Henry of Lorraine, duke of Guise, especially after Pope Sixtus V ruled excommunicated Navarre the next year. The inability of Henry III ruled to maintain order following his humiliating expulsion from Paris on the Day of the Barricades 12 May culminated in his calamitous decision on 24 December to order the murders of Henry, duke of Guise, and his brother, Louis, the cardinal of Guise. The regicide brought Henry of Navarre to the throne as Henry IV, though it was five years before he was able to command the obedience of his rebellious Catholic subjects. Cloud 4 August to consider in the near future a possible Catholic conversion, coupled with decisive military victories at Arques 21 September and Ivry 14 March, shored up public support for him. The grueling siege of Paris summer demonstrated that Catholic League resistance could not be overcome by sheer force, however. Three years later, while an Estates-General met in Leauger Paris to contemplate the election of a new French ruler, Henry IV finally decided to convert to Catholicism amidst much fanfare on 25 July at St. Over the next three years, Henry IV gradually pacified the kingdom more by kindness than by force, winning the allegiance of former Catholic Leaguers through generous peace accords and allaying Huguenot fears in with the royal guarantees enshrined in the celebrated Edict of Nantes. Against the better judgment of his advisors, Henry IV actively pursued the possibility of making Gabrielle his queen after the pope annulled his marriage to Marguerite of Valois in February. Gabrielle had borne the king three children, all of whom he had legitimized by acts of the parliament. By, Sully estimated that the royal treasury had accumulated reserves totaling. Henry IV also introduced a ministerial style of government that restricted the judicial prerogatives claimed by the parlements and provincial privileges claimed by local representative assemblies. In, Henry IV regularized the heritable nature of venal offices by the payment of a special fee known as the Paulette. He also cultivated close relations with the old nobility by showering them with pensions and titles; those aristocrats who conspired against him felt his full wrath, however, as demonstrated by the execution of Charles, duke of Biron. Henry IV also encouraged the beginnings of Catholic reform among both churchmen and the lay public, working hard at the same time to uphold the protections recently granted to the Huguenots. During his reign, the eclecticism of the late French Renaissance gradually gave way to the more grandiose, royally inspired movement known as Classicism. As France became more unified and strengthened under his leadership, Henry thought it increasingly necessary to challenge Habsburg hegemony in Europe. On the eve of his planned invasion, 14 May, however, the king was struck down in the streets of Paris by the blade of a fanatical Roman Catholic assassin. He died a martyr in the eyes of his subjects and of later writers, such as Voltaire and Jules Michelet, who came to identify Henry IV as the very embodiment of what was best about the French. London and Boston, Henry IV and the Towns: France in the Age of Henri IV: The Struggle for Stability. London and New York, The Conscience of Henry IV, Montreal and Ithaca, N. A sensitive study that argues Henry IV remained a lifelong Calvinist even after The Conversion of Henri IV: Michael Wolfe Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography. Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World.

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