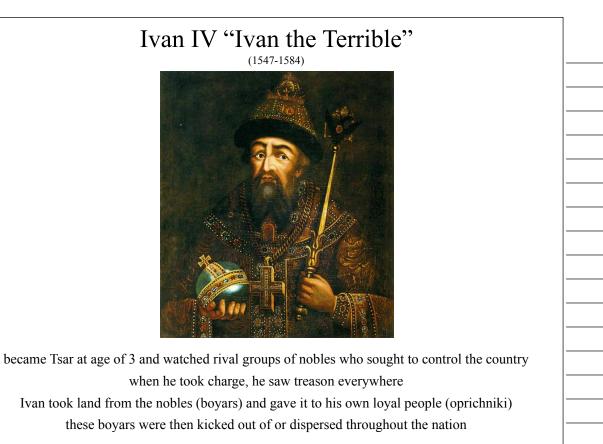
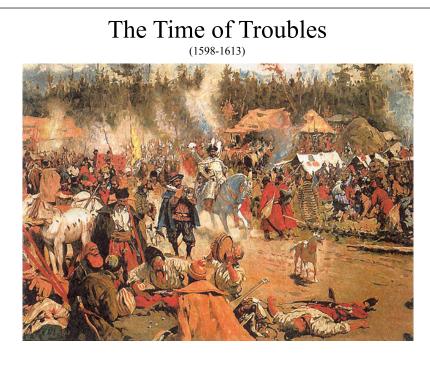
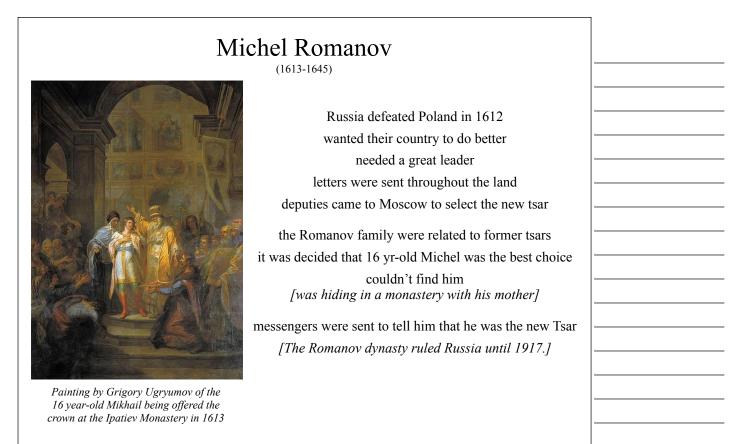
Eastern European and Russian Absolutism







a time of noble feuds over the throne, peasant revolts, and foreign invasions Russia suffered a famine from 1601–1603 that killed 1/3rd of the population



Peter the Great



The Early Years Tsar Alexis I died in 1676

his son, the weak and sickly Feodor III took his place

he died in 1682, leaving no heir

a dispute arose over who should inherit the throne

Ivan V, was next in line for the throne [was chronically ill and of "infirm mind"]

the Boyar Duma (Russian nobles council) met

they chose Alexis' 10 yr-old son Peter to become Tsar [with his mother as regent]

his half-sister Sophia was very opposed she and others insisted that Peter and Ivan be joint Tsars Sophia acted as regent and exercised all power she ruled as an autocrat for seven years



Peter the Great/Peter I As Acting Regent (1682-1725) forced Russian nobles to adopt Western European ways sent Russians abroad to learn, esp. shipbuilding, naval warfare, foreign languages, and mathematics built new capital in St. Petersburg on the Baltic Sea coast it would be more accessible to the West expanded borders: took control of Siberia, Alaska, and the eastern end of Baltic region changed the Russian government: created central bureaucracy under his control brought Eastern Orthodox Church under his authority, ruled by a Holy Synod Fun Fact: Peter the Great was GREAT very tall (nearly 7 ft)

Peter the Great/Peter I

Results of his Reign (1682-1725)



Peter the Great on his death bed, 1725, by Nikitin

economic changes instituted by Peter

created the dvorianie, a new class of feudalistic nobles given land and control of the serfs on the land promised to work for the government until death they didn't pay taxes - the peasants did

gave incentives to increase production in areas such as mining and metalworking

workers tied to their trade like serfs were to the land

overall effects of his reign" divided those who wanted to continue old Russian ways and those who adopted Western culture brought Russia into mainstream European culture

"Catherine the Great"/Catherine II

(1762-1796)



after Peter's death in 1725, Russia was ruled by a series of weak rulers

Catherine seized the throne from her weak husband, Peter III

originally thought of freeing serfs

she changed her mind when they revolted against her

freed nobles from their required government service, allowing them to treat their serfs as they wished

when they tried to revolt, she crushed them mercilessly

defeated Ottoman Turks to secure warm-water port of Black Sea and took territory from Poland

was the most renowned and the longest-ruling female leader of Russia reigned from July 1762 until her death in 1796 at the age of sixty-seven her reign was called Russia's Golden Age

Maria Theresa

(1740-1780)



Hapsburgs built a strong Austrian monarchy repelled Ottoman attack in 1683 regained Balkan Peninsula territory received Italian and Dutch lands as a result of the War of Spanish Succession

in 1718, Austrian ruler Charles VI convinced European rulers to accept a pragmatic sanction

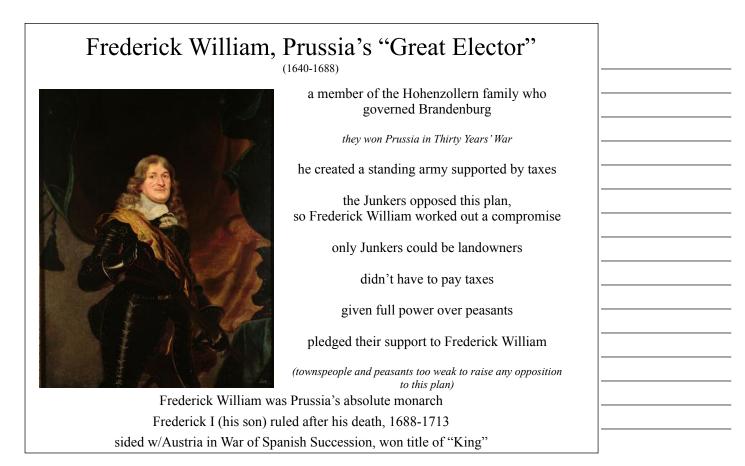
agreed to accept his daughter, Maria Theresa, as the next ruler of Austria

in 1740, at 23-yrs-old, Maria Theresa inherited throne from her father, HRE Charles VI she became the only female ruler of the Habsburg dominions

was the sovereign of Austria, Hungary, Croatia, Bohemia, Mantua, Milan, Lodomeria and Galicia, the Austrian Netherlands, and Parma

she reorganized the bureaucracy, improved tax collection, and furthered the building of roads

used government funds to boost production of textiles and glass



Frederick William I, the "Royal Drill Sergeant"

(1713-1740)



powerful leader

centralized Prussian gov't into one bureaucracy completely controlled by him

supported production and trade and made lots of money for Prussia

devoted his life to army, making it the most efficient fighting force in Europe

royal agents recruited men from rural areas of Germany

specifically recruited tall men and trained the "regiment of giants" himself



Frederick II "Frederick the Great"

(1740–1786)

War of the Austrian Succession

(1740-1748) Frederick II, rejecting the pragmatic sanction attacked Austrian province of Silesia w/backing of Spain and France Great Britain and Dutch Netherlands backed Austria

Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle

Frederick allowed to keep Silesia Maria Theresa retained control of rest of Austria, Hungary, and Bohemia she gained support of Russia (Russian Empress Elizabeth enemies w/Frederick II)

Seven Years' War (1756-1763)

Austria, Russia, France, and others v. Prussia and Great Britain Great Britain and France fought overseas in America (French and Indian War) and in India

Treaty of Paris

(1763) ended war between France and Great Britain Great Britain won lands in French Canada and east of the Mississippi River from France Great Britain now strongest colonial power in the world