

SSICSIM 2022

THE DEATH OF ELIZABETH I

BACKGROUND GUIDE

DIRECTOR

Jess Prentice

MODERATOR

Sarahi Giles

CRISIS MANAGER

Wilson Wang

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- Sexism
- War
- Classism
- Colonialism

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- Email our Director-General of Equity Affairs, Aidan Thompson, with a brief explanation of why you would like to switch committees if you are NOT a part of a group delegation.



DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EQUITY AFFAIRS

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hello Delegates!

Welcome to SSICsim 2022 and the Death of Elizabeth I committee. The dias is thrilled that you are joining us and we hope you are as excited as we are. This committee will cover the drama and intrigue of the Elizabethian era and will put you all at the helm of one of the most fascinating and influential periods in English history. England is in dire need of a successor to take the English throne but has no official heir.

On top of exploring England's succession crisis, this committee will also get to dive into domestic and foreign policy as the acting English government. The beginning of the 17th century was known for its thriving arts, music, and culture, with Shakespeare at his peak during this era. Scientific discovery and academia were also thriving during this time and will be another avenue for this committee to explore.

Delegates will represent possible heirs, members of Elizabeth's cabinet, or other powerful nobility who have a vested interest in playing a role in this new government. Through the committee's mechanics, committee members will get to influence who becomes the next monarch of England. I encourage you to think deeply about your individual goals for the committee and where you'd like your character to focus their efforts.

To give you a little bit about myself, I am a fourth-year student studying Criminology and Equity Studies at the University of Toronto and this will be my fourth year at SSICsim. I have participated in multiple roles at SSICsim and am involved with crisis at a couple other Model UN clubs at UofT!

If you have any questions or want to chat about the background guide or committee, please feel free to reach out to me!

Warm Regards,



JESS PRENTICE (THEY/THEM)
DIRECTOR FOR DEATH OF ELIZABETH I

INTRODUCTION

For *The Death of Elizabeth I*

This committee will begin in November of 1601 with news that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth I and her closest advisor, Sir Robert Cecil, have died en route to deliver a speech to Elizabeth's Privy Council. The poor winter weather conditions unfortunately caused the carriage to veer off course and crash, leading to the deaths of Queen Elizabeth and Sir Robert, as well as two servants and three horses. Those witness to the accident assure the emergency council that this is not being considered a suspicious incident.

The sudden death of their beloved queen has plunged England into mourning, coupled with uncertainty about what is next for the monarchy. A strong monarchy is especially important now as England currently has a very delicate relationship with a number of other European countries. To ensure that no other countries take advantage of this loss with a bid for power, it will be vital for this committee to choose their new monarch as soon as possible. While there is a risk here, it will also be a great opportunity for England to build some new, stronger relations with other countries.

This committee will also have the opportunity to explore the vivid arts and culture scene developing in England at the turn of the 17th century. The royal court is one of the most influential places for arts, music, and fashion, and delegates will be directly responsible for influencing trends and culture. Those who may be interested in science and technology will be thrilled to learn that this is also an important period for scientific development. This committee will be able to influence the direction that the scientific community will go in for the future.

This committee combines historical concepts in a partially fictitious way. Elizabeth I did not actually die in 1601 – she passed away from an illness in 1603 and James VI of Scotland

took over the English throne as he was named her successor. Elizabeth I did share who she would name as her heir until shortly before her death, meaning that as of 1601, there was no official publicly known heir to the English throne.

The only person who was rumored to know who Elizabeth intended to make her heir was Sir Robert Cecil, Elizabeth's closest advisor. Seeing as Cecil is also dead, there is no one who canonically knows who the next monarch of England would be. Although James VI is the canonical heir to the English throne and was expected to be named heir, this does not mean James will be in any better position to take the throne than any other possible successor. This means that for the purposes of the committee, you can operate with the knowledge that Elizabeth I and Sir Robert Cecil are dead and there is no clear heir to the throne.

As an additional point of clarification, this committee is based on the fictional death of Queen Elizabeth I, NOT the death of Queen Elizabeth II, the late English queen who passed away in September 2022.

DEFINITIONS

For *The Death of Elizabeth I*

This list is not extensive, but includes terms we think could be unfamiliar or are used differently in this context than they are today. If there are any unfamiliar concepts or words throughout this guide, they should all be easily found online but please feel free to contact your Director in case you would like any further clarification!

Court

In this context, court is the palace where a monarch lives and carries out ceremonial or administrative duties. There is a strong set of norms and expectations of those who are a part of court.

Peerage

Body of peers or titled nobility in England. In descending order, these titles would be duke, marquess, earl, viscount, and baron. These titles are often hereditary and are granted for life.

Principle of Primogeniture

A principle of inheritance in which the firstborn child receives all of their parents' most significant and valuable property upon their death – in the case of royal succession, this would mean the oldest child of a monarch would inherit the throne (and all assets associated with the throne).

House

In this context, a house is a family that includes ancestors, descendants, and kindred. These families are usually quite well known and powerful.

HISTORY/CONTEXT

Important Houses

The following houses will be important to understanding the history of this committee. Note that this is a very concise description of these houses, simply to understand who is involved. Many of these houses ruled for decades, if not centuries, so additional research may be useful to fully understand any house that is particularly important to your character.

Tudor (1485 - 1601)

Founded in 1485, the House of Tudor included many important figures in the history of this committee, including Henry VII, Henry VIII, Mary I, and Elizabeth I. The House of Tudor held power over England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland during their reign. The House was formed when the rival houses of Lancaster and York joined under the marriage of Henry VII and Elizabeth of York. The Tudor dynasty came to an end with the sudden death of Queen Elizabeth I.

Plantagenets (1154 - 1485)

Edward I combined Wales with England, naming his eldest son the first English Prince of Wales. Years later under Edward III's, the Hundred Years War broke out between England and France. Plantagenet rule came to a close under Richard II with the War of the Roses.

York (1385- around 1485, with its joining of the Tudor House)

The House of York was a short-lived house involved in the War of the Roses. This house joined under the House of Tudor with the marriage of Elizabeth of York, daughter of Edward IV, to Henry VII. Significant Yorkists include Richard III, Edward IV, and Edward V.

Lancaster (1267 - around 1471)

The House of Lancaster was another short-lived house involved in the War of the Roses.

Significant Lancastrians include Richard II, Henry IV, Henry V, and Henry VI.

Stuart/Stewart (1603 - 1714)

The Stuart line (also spelled Stewart in some places) does not start until after this committee takes place, but is the line of succession that canonically takes place after the death of Elizabeth I. This dynasty reigned from 1603 to 1714 and was characterized by both an intense and turbulent rule. Their rule began in Scotland and grew to include England after James VI inherited the throne.

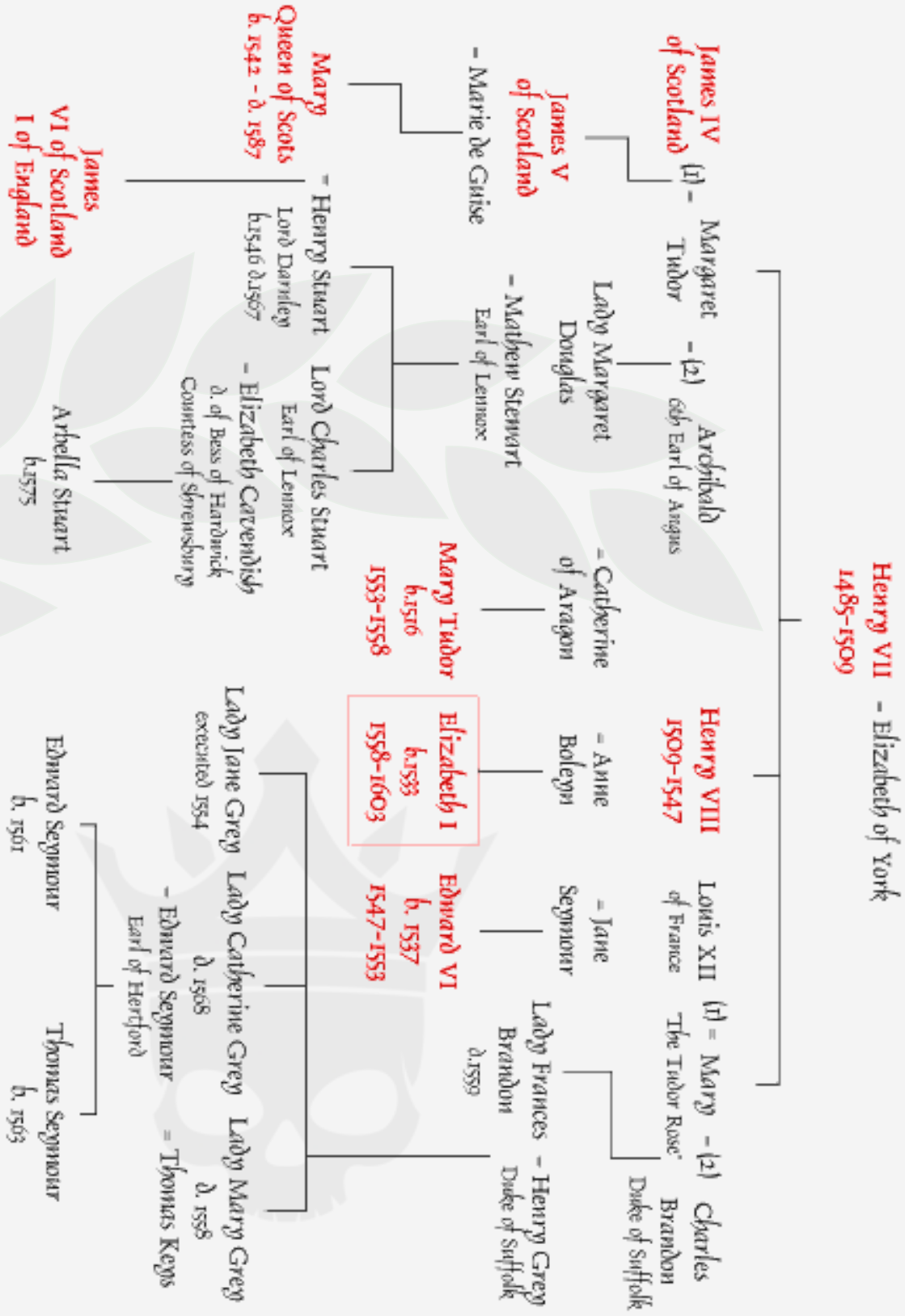
Bourbon (1272 - present)

The House of Bourbon was an incredibly important and influential ruling family in Europe for centuries. As of 1601, the Bourbon family is the ruling family in France. King Henry IV of France and Queen Marie de' Medici are the French monarchs as of this committee, combining the powerful Bourbons with the also powerful Medici family. The Medici family were an incredibly wealthy Italian family whose members held high-powered royal and religious positions. The current head of the House of Bourbon is Louis Alphonse de Bourbon, but he is not a monarch.

Habsburg/Hapsburg (11th century - around 1918)

The Habsburgs were an incredibly important family who ruled over multiple European countries during the centuries in which they held power. Habsburg family members ruled over the Holy Roman Empire, Bohemia, Hungary, Croatia, Spain, Portugal, Galicia-Lodomeria, Italy, Austria, and Austria-Hungary. The Habsburgs also held power in multiple other countries throughout history. Various Habsburg lines were created through marriages but the monarchy came to an end in 1918.

Here is a family tree (On next page) that may help make sense of the connections within the Tudor family tree which have led us to the current line of succession. This may be a useful reference as you read through the history section and beyond:



War of the Roses

The War of the Roses began between the Lancastrian house and the Yorkist House in 1455. When King Henry VI fell ill, tensions rose between the two houses, who had long had hostility simmering beneath the surface. The Lancastrians, led at the time by the Queen, Margaret of Anjou, were opposed by the leader of the Yorkists, Richard of York. Richard, Duke of York, held a claim to the throne as he was a descendent of King Edward III. The Lancasters were represented by a red rose and the Yorkists were represented by a white rose, hence the title of The War of the Roses.

This war lasted for decades and was known for its terrible bloodshed with power changing between the sides many times. The war finally came to an end in 1485 with the Battle of Bosworth where the leader of the Yorkists, King Richard III, was killed. His defeat made Henry Tudor, heir to the Lancastrian side, the new ruler of England. Named King Henry VII, he married Elizabeth of York, uniting the two households and creating the Tudor dynasty.

King Henry VII

After Henry's ascension to the English throne, he married Elizabeth of York, uniting the two families and producing four children. The first two, Arthur and Henry, would help to solidify the beginning of the Tudor dynasty as it assured two heirs for the Tudor line to be continued. Henry and Elizabeth would have two daughters as well, whose descendants would later have claims to the throne. Margaret, the elder of the two sisters, would go on to marry James IV, king of Scotland. Margaret would later go on to marry Archibald, Earl of Angus, and have a daughter, Lady Margaret Douglas.

Both of these marriages would later lead to the Stuart claim to the English throne. Mary, the younger sister, would also marry twice, and her descendants would later form the Suffolk claim to the throne. Henry VII was known for being frugal with England's pursestrings and for creating a financially stable England which benefited many. By his death in 1509, Henry left a full treasury and relatively stable country to his son.

King Henry VIII

Despite his notoriety today coming mainly for his many wives, King Henry VIII's influence on England was vast and long-lasting. Henry was the second son of King Henry VII and as a young man, was known for his athleticism and intelligence. Needing a wife to help carry on the Tudor dynasty, Henry turned to someone who had already joined the royal family - his late brother's wife, Catherine of Aragon. At this time, the fact that this was his sister-in-law did not really matter.

What mattered in this situation was marrying someone of nobility and who would provide England with a strong tie to another world power (Spain).

Henry and Catharine's union was initially a happy one, but broke down over the years due to Henry's desperation for a male heir. At the time, women were not able to serve as a monarch without a king - this would open up England to be ruled by a woman, her husband would have taken over as king, meaning power could be transferred outside of the current ruling family.

After decades with no son, Henry and Catharine's relationship began to strain. After becoming infatuated with the beautiful Anne Boleyn who had promised him a son should Henry marry her, Henry quickly became determined to annul his marriage with Catharine. As both Catharine and the Pope had refused this annulment, Henry decided to break England from the Catholic Church. Creating the Church of England with himself as the head, Henry divorced Catharine and married Anne.

Notable during Henry's reign was how parliament's power came to rival the Church's, depreciating the power of religious leaders in return. Henry was formally excommunicated by the Pope after his divorce from Catherine of Aragon, severing his once strong ties with the Catholic Church. In 1534, an act was signed naming the King as the head of both the country and of the Church. Monasteries across the country were dissolved and most of the land and possessions once held by them were sold.

Towards the end of his life, England engaged in an expensive and overall failure of a war with France. This war was funded by some of the money gained from the sale of the

monasteries, but required more. This led to forced loans and currency depreciation to pay for the war, contributing to increased inflation.

Henry passed away in 1547 due to a number of health conditions. He had quite the turbulent life and left the country with significant debts and great social tensions.

Mary I

The reign of Queen Mary I was notorious for many reasons. Mary was the first and only living child of King Henry VIII and his first wife, Catharine of Aragon. She was also the first regent queen of England, setting a precedent of women as leaders.

Although Henry did eventually have a son who would become king after his death, the boy remained ill throughout his life. Edward, Henry VIII's only legitimate son, would die only a few years after the death of Henry VIII. Through manipulation by those close to Edward, both Mary and Elizabeth were written out of the line of succession, with Edward instead choosing Jane Grey as his successor. Lady Jane Grey, who had a claim to the throne through being the granddaughter of Henry VIII's younger sister, was famously queen for only nine days before being overthrown by Mary and her loyal followers.

After gathering public and noble support, Mary rode to London and successfully declared herself as queen. Both Jane and her husband were arrested shortly after and put to death.

The English people also loved Mary's sister Elizabeth. By the time Mary ascended to the throne, she was 37 years old, unmarried, and had no children. Given her age and marriage status, the people of England were cautious of Mary's ability to not only rule England, but secure the Tudor dynasty. Despite her initial popularity, public opinion flipped when Mary, a Roman Catholic, began to sentence Protestants with treason, solely for their religious differences. As a result, numerous Protestants were killed during her reign.

In addition, Mary married Phillip of Spain (who would later become King of Spain), in a deeply unpopular union. This marriage would produce no children and dragged England into the war between Spain and France at the time.

Mary and Elizabeth's relationship was quite tense throughout their lives. When Henry VIII divorced Catharine of Aragon, Mary was declared an illegitimate child and therefore lost her royal privileges. At Elizabeth's birth, Mary was assigned to be one of her caretakers, a sign to Mary that Henry truly did not see her as his daughter anymore. This tension continued into their adulthoods, with Elizabeth being imprisoned multiple times throughout Mary's reign. Due to Elizabeth's popularity and the general dislike of Mary, there was a serious risk of Mary being overthrown and Elizabeth being installed as Queen. This stress would remain until Mary's death.

France and Spain

England's relationship with surrounding countries will likely revolve around France and Spain for this committee. There will of course be opportunities to engage with other countries, but France and Spain will have the most direct connection with the possible heirs.

Throughout the Tudor reign, England and France were continuously engaged in some sort of war or conflict. This rivalry can be traced back to the Norman period where the English Dukes of Normandy were in conflict with the French King. Throughout Henry VIII's rule, Calais bounced back and forth between French and English authority. France would go on to aid Scotland in their various conflicts with England, having agreed to lend military support should a war break out. Mary, Queen of Scots would also grow up in France and later become engaged to the Dauphin, strengthening this pact.

France and Spain often feuded, especially around the time of Mary's reign, when her marriage to Philip dragged England into it. England had an unstable relationship with Spain through the years as well. Philip and Elizabeth's relationship after Mary's death was cordial but certainly not close, especially since most of their communication was done through ambassadors. This lack of communication led to miscommunications that led Elizabeth to believe Philip was planning to overthrow her and to believe that at some point Spain and France may align themselves.

This alliance would be incredibly detrimental to England, as the combination of their militaries could decimate England. A number of ambassadors on both sides were quite

poor, with one English ambassador even insulting the Pope right to King Philip's face once (the Pope and the Spanish king were very close). The Pope's excommunication of Elizabeth also certainly did not help the situation. When considering relations between England and other nations, this history will be important to take into account.

Religious Conflict

Understanding the religious conflict throughout this time period is important as it has influenced how succession has occurred throughout the Tudor dynasty. To omit this aspect would make it quite difficult to understand how alliances have historically been built. That being said, delegates should not make decisions for succession based on the religion of the heir.

Although this plays a role in how succession has occurred thus far, the way succession will be chosen within this committee will be based on house loyalty and the qualifications of the heir. For example, if delegates do not have a claim to the throne themselves, they will probably choose to support possible heirs that they have familial or otherwise close connections to. The ability of an heir to be a good ruler for England will also play a role in decisions.

There was extreme mistreatment of those who did not follow the religion of the current monarch throughout Tudor England. I want to be as clear as possible here - no matter who takes on the role of monarch for the committee, insults against others' religion and discussion about which religion England should follow will be a hard boundary for this committee.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Elizabeth I's Succession and Early Reign

Considering how turbulent the royal family had been for the past few decades, England was looking for a monarch who could provide them with stability and peace. Before Mary I's death, she reluctantly named the young princess Elizabeth as her heir. Elizabeth had to take on a divided, poor, indebted country after decades of turbulent monarchs. The English people were very hopeful when Elizabeth took the throne.

Despite being the daughter of Anne Boleyn, a very disliked queen, her youth and intelligence gave many hope for the future of England. She also had no husband, which was the cause for much gossip at court. Many wanted to know who the young queen would marry, especially after the late Queen Mary faced much disapproval about her marriage. This question of who Elizabeth would marry never was answered - Elizabeth chose to never take a husband and subsequently passed away with no partner or child to take the English throne. Elizabeth assembled a small but experienced group as her Privy Council within the first few weeks of her reign. This allowed for a more efficient council that could make changes that Elizabeth wanted to bring to England. This Privy Council was often led by a senior advisor that was very close to Elizabeth.

One constant source of stress for Elizabeth throughout her reign was the threat of a possible usurpation. Elizabeth's cousin, Mary Stuart, was considered a possible heir for Queen Mary I as Stuart was a Catholic. Plots like the Throckmorton and Babington Plots planned to assassinate Queen Elizabeth and install Mary Stuart as Queen of England. Mary Stuart was imprisoned for years in order to prevent further plotting on Mary's part. After a plot was discovered in which Mary Stuart directly ordered the assassination of Queen Elizabeth, Mary was tried and executed for treason.

Rules of Succession

In centuries prior, one of the most important factors to succession was that an heir was male. Clearly after being under the rule of a Queen for decades, this is no longer as important of a factor and will not be necessary as this committee chooses an heir. This means that gender will not be a factor in determining an heir for this committee. The people of England are in need of a strong leader, no matter what their gender is.

Typically, succession typically begins with the closest living relative to the deceased monarch, usually being a child. Once going through each child (or if there are no children), succession moves onto the siblings of the monarch. In this committee, Elizabeth had no children and no living siblings at the time of her passing. The line of succession also becomes blurry since it would bounce back to Henry VIII's siblings, all of whom had long passed away by the beginning of this committee.

The line of succession thus would have to work its way through the living relatives of Henry's siblings, many of whom were great-grandchildren of each respective sibling. This also raises the question of how to navigate through all these great-grandchildren. There was no firm decision left by Elizabeth, meaning it's unknown whom Elizabeth would prefer on the throne.

While religion has been used to justify a certain heir taking the throne in the past, this will not be used in this committee to justify any certain successor. The English people desire peace first and foremost, and are in need of a monarch who can bring people together, not create more divide.

Claims to the English Throne

Because of the royal family's massive and far reaching family tree, there are a number of people who have viable claims to the English throne. This section will go over each of the claims that may come up in the committee. Following Henry VIII's death, the line of succession included eight people, all of whom have passed away as of 1601. Those people included Edward VI, Mary I, Elizabeth I, Mary Stuart, Jane Grey, Catherine Grey, Mary Grey,

and Margaret Clifford.

As a side note, the strength of a person's claim to the English throne may not be the most important factor when it comes to deciding an heir. Those with weak claims may not be at a disadvantage if they are able to make their case to the committee.

Stuart Claim

This claim can certainly be seen as the strongest claim and would be the most historically accurate (the committee does not have to follow this if they choose not to). This claim comes from Margaret, the sister of Henry VIII and the daughter of Henry VII. Seeing as Margaret would have been next in line for the throne after Henry VIII and his descendants, this claim sees the descendants of Margaret as the next in line. In this case, these would be the two surviving Stuart great-grandchildren - James VI of Scotland and Arbella Stuart.

Lancastrian Claim

A weaker but still present claim is the claim from the Lancaster family through John of Gaunt. During the reign of Richard II (who was defeated by Henry VII in the War of the Roses), it was thought that the heir to the throne would be Richard's uncle, John of Gaunt. This succession would mean that succession would no longer follow the principle of primogeniture. This was brought up again in discussions for a succession for Elizabeth since she had no children. Although the Lancasters were no longer in power following Richard II's abdication, some believed that Henry VII's ascension to the throne was illegitimate. If you were to then follow the Lancastrian line of succession, Isabella Clara Eugenia, a descendant of John of Gaunt.

Seymour Claim

The Seymour claim comes from Mary, the youngest sister of Henry VIII. Her direct great-grandchild, Edward Seymour, would have one of the weaker but still existent claims to the English throne. Seeing as Mary would have been third in line to the throne after both Henry and Margaret and all their descendants, historically it would be slightly weaker than others. However, Lady Jane Grey would have been the aunt of Edward Seymour. If you were to look at her as a legitimate reigning queen, this does bolster the claim. The Seymours are

also a very powerful family within England, meaning Edward Seymour would have quite a bit of room for alliances.

Scientific Discovery

Elizabethan era science operated under very different principles than science operates under today, but it is clear that this was a significant period for English scientific development. Science was still heavily tied to religion for many and God was frequently tied back to the scientific principles at the time. Ideas from Greek scientists and philosophers were also heavily used during this period, with Aristotle's ideas being a foundation for many modern scientists' work. Science focused on astronomy, physics, medicine, and technology primarily. Science at this time was seen as more of a philosophical subject and was referred to as "natural philosophy".

Experimentation and observation being used began to open questions for conceptions of reality and high power. A variety of algebraic concepts were created, a number of astronomical discoveries were made, and human anatomy research began to pick up speed during the 16th century and into the 17th century. Scientists and academics often made up a significant part of court life and plenty of scientific research was conducted from the funds granted by the monarchy.

Science in the 17th century is a quickly growing field and the way that the committee is able to foster its development will heavily influence the ways in which it is able to flourish. The late 17th century was an incredibly important time for the field of science, so a government that can set up the structures for science to flourish later on is vital.

This period also saw the shift of astronomy from accepting the geocentric theory (all planets and the sun revolve around the earth) of the universe in favour of the heliocentric theory (all planets revolve around the sun). Although this is merely speculation at this point, many up and coming scientists are working towards proving this theory. This would certainly be a huge step for science if this is true as it would change a significant amount of what is known at this time about space. The practices of astronomy were also closely linked with those of astrology at this time and the heliocentric model would mean quite a change

for astrological knowledge as well.

Medical knowledge during this period was quite different from the medical knowledge we have today. Elizabethan doctors tended to believe that illness was something that needed to be drawn from the body – for example, leeches and blood drawing were quite common. Drinking various medications was also common, some of which included liquid gold and syrup of violets. Access to medical care depended greatly on your class. Those in the upper classes tended to have access to doctors who had some of the stronger medical licenses and knowledge.

Those who were poorer often turned to local practitioners who did not have a license, but had a larger knowledge base about medical practices. Astrology was important to medical practitioners when prescribing medications and was used to diagnose illness. When it came to more physical ailments like a broken bone or something that required surgery, you would instead be sent to the barber surgeon. Barber surgeons were skilled in surgery and any physical injuries or treatments. As their name suggests, they were also skilled in haircuts and shaves, allowing them to be quite the jack-of-all-trades.

Arts, Music, and Culture

Between Shakespeare, a bustling music scene, and a variety of emerging forms of media, the Elizabethan era was truly revolutionary for the English arts and culture scene.

The Tudor era and royal family was a massive source of inspiration for Shakespeare, with one of his plays literally documenting the life of Henry VIII. Elizabeth I was actually in attendance for the first performance of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ by Shakespeare. Elizabeth was queen for the entirety of Shakespeare’s life up until this point, so any royal themes were likely influenced by Elizabeth. Shakespeare is currently in his prime at the beginning of this committee, and may be good to pay attention to as you follow the arts.

A number of composers including William Byrd and Thomas Tallis were members of Elizabeth's court. There is plenty of room for this committee to explore and encourage the growth of the arts industry in England. Music was a large part of court, especially when

celebrating holidays and special events. Seasonal feasts and fairs, usually dedicated to saints, were a place for musicians to share their talents with large crowds. Secular music became much more common in this era and as opposed to centuries prior where music was more sacred.

A common way of promoting the arts is by inviting artists and musicians to court. Performers at court are able to share their art with an enthusiastic audience and share their work with other artists in order to improve their craft. This can also create a brighter atmosphere at court by having music and art in such an accessible way. English art was also heavily influenced by surrounding countries like France and Italy.

Fashion was also a way to support artists while communicating status and social capital at court. Elizabeth for example was known to invest in expensive clothing and jewelry that she would often wear during her visits to the public. Wearing multiple layers of luxurious fabrics in a variety of colours would draw more attention at court. This attention could make them more successful as they try to climb the ranks. Image can be very important when not only communicating to the general public, but to send messages to other court members.

Economics

The final years of Elizabeth's reign were known for their strong economic and financial policies. Throughout the 1500s, high food prices and a struggling working class frequently led to periods of famine. To try to prevent this, the Poor Laws of 1598 and 1601 were introduced, which had local parishes give cash or food to those who could not afford to eat. This was a direct policy intervention, making it illegal to let anyone starve. Parishes were also required to have a continuous relief fund as well, funded in part by land owners through a proportional tax on their land. The system's transparency prevented loopholes for the rich while promoting a culture of charity throughout England. This also supported the move towards urbanization in England as it provided people struggling in urban centres with welfare support.

Quite a bit of the English economy did come from international trade, given that England is in a fantastic place for trade ships. When looking into economic trade, we suggest trading

carefully here. England's colonialism was heavily connected with their role in international trade. When discussing trade, it is most likely a good idea to stick to building up England's industries at this time. This may include looking at taxes and domestic policy, funding industries, and investing in new technology. Not only is England's economy needing a boost, this will hopefully steer the conversation away from engaging in colonialism. This is absolutely not to deny England's colonialism, as England certainly did engage in this – it is simply to prevent the committee from going into inappropriate territory. There is a section going into how colonialism will be handled in this committee at the end of this section, but if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Responsibilities of a Monarch

Once this committee has selected its monarch, each person in the committee will have their own role to play in terms of running the country. Once a monarch has been chosen, the committee will continue to act as an advisory body. Committee members will have to work cohesively as a monarch cannot run a country alone. Each member has their own set of skills, experience, and education that will be useful in some way to this committee.

Following the choosing of a monarch, this committee will effectively be running England. The transition from Elizabeth to the new monarch will need to explore policies which can be changed or improved.

Domestically, some of the most important topics include the economic state of England, making improvements to the system of government, and making sure to provide for the English people into the future. A number of other European countries will also be represented within this committee, allowing for England to possibly rebuild some of the fractured relationships it holds. Multiple heirs have connections to other countries as well, so installing them on the throne may help to mend the issues. The committee may also consider creating a standing army for England in order to defend England during this time.

The monarchy often serves as trendsetters in everything from fashion and the arts to beliefs and ideas. Society tends to model itself after the interests of the monarch, so what this committee chooses to promote and invest in will be very important. Sectors like the arts and science also gain a lot of their money from government funding, so where committee

members choose to invest England's money will play a heavy role in the future.

The Monarch is also the figurehead of Parliament. When summoned, Members of Parliament would meet to discuss current issues and solve problems within government administration. For example, the parliament session beginning in October of 1601, topics such as the Kingdom's lack of funds after its war with Ireland and preventing a new war with Spain were some of the most important subjects at hand. In order to tackle smaller subjects, committees may be set up in order to allow for more concentrated discussions. For example, committees at the time include topics like slanderous works and practices, examination of notable court cases, looking at smaller conflicts popping up within the kingdom, and public safety.

Colonialism

To be clear, delegates will not be engaging in any type of colonial "exploration" or conquest. While colonialism was certainly occurring during this time, this will not play a role in any crisis arc. The British Empire was an incredibly brutal colonial state and Elizabeth I was not exempt from this. She oversaw multiple colonial expeditions and directly granted permission to "explorers" to colonize multiple countries. Although delegates will have no involvement with any form of expedition, it is important to acknowledge all parts of history, regardless of how dark.

While Elizabeth I was well liked by many of her English subjects, this could never make up for the damage her reign caused around the world. Delegates will not be asked to talk about this within the committee in any capacity. With the death of Queen Elizabeth II, there has rightfully been a renewed attention to the remaining effects of colonization across the globe. I assure you that there will be no denial of the horrors that Queen Elizabeth I committed, and delegates are encouraged to speak to me if there is anything I can do to make sure you are comfortable within this committee. Again, colonialism and effects will not be up for debate, but if there is anything I can do to make anyone more comfortable within the committee, I am more than happy to do so. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our DSG Equity, Aidan Thompson (equity@ssicsim.ca).

STATE OF AFFAIRS

While sorting through some of the papers within Elizabeth's office, a paper was discovered listing those who Elizabeth wanted to consult before choosing a new heir – on this list, it includes the names of each person in this committee. The late Queen left no explanation as to why she wanted to consult each of you, but we can only assume that each of you have something valuable to offer when choosing the direction in which England will go.

The first task of this committee will be to respond directly to the death of Queen Elizabeth as the country begins its mourning period. A state funeral and mourning process will have to be established to give the late Queen a proper sendoff while also making a good impression on the English public who have just lost their beloved monarch. The mourning of a late monarch is an incredibly important social tradition that will be especially important seeing how prolific of a life this event will be honoring.

The next task of the committee will be to select a new monarch for England. This is bound to be an extremely complicated task as there is plenty to consider when choosing a suitable heir. As discussed throughout this guide, there are a number of legitimate claims to the English throne with no clear line of succession. Committee members will have to establish the qualities that will be important for their future monarch, and explore all candidates thoroughly before coming to a decision on who will be the future leader of England. Each possible heir has their own skillset to offer.

Once a new monarch is chosen and a new cabinet has been established, the committee will have to work together to address the current issues and challenges facing England. The queen's coffers are quite low because of the war in Ireland that must be replenished, with Sir Robert Cecil declaring that £300,000 will have to be raised by Easter. How this will be accomplished while keeping in mind those who do not have any more money to be

contributing to taxes and how the Poor Laws will affect any new economic legislation.

England currently sits in a very precarious position within Europe and their relations with surrounding countries. In addition to the recent war in Ireland, tensions with Spain have been rising and could possibly lead to all out war. The brand new government immediately getting into a war could create some distrust with both the English people and surrounding governments. All of Europe will have their eyes on England as a new heir and cabinet is chosen, with each country having their own thoughts on which person should be given the honour.

The monarchy serves as important trendsetters for England, so committee members should also address what they would like to convey to the court and English public. These may be artistic trends such as the fashions they wear, the music they listen to, the types of art that are hung around the palace. The committee does not need to get into the nitty-gritty with trends, but have a general idea of what values they would like their artisans to represent while at court. They should also consider how much money they are putting towards art and fashion. Does this court want to cut down on expenses to save money? Or do they want to portray England as strong, wealthy, and powerful through their art?

Scientific knowledge is expanding quickly and will likely look to this committee for support in their explorations. The committee members' connections and funds will be important to supporting scientific exploration into the future. Where the committee chooses to support will determine which areas of science are able to progress further. This period is shaping up to be incredibly influential and each decision delegates make will certainly shape England and the world for centuries to come.

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