

Law-Related Education



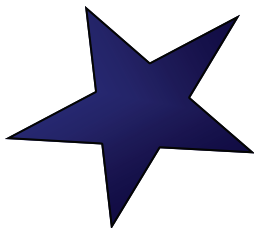
World History Bio Cards

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The LRE Times

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**Thomas
Aquinas**
(1225-1274)

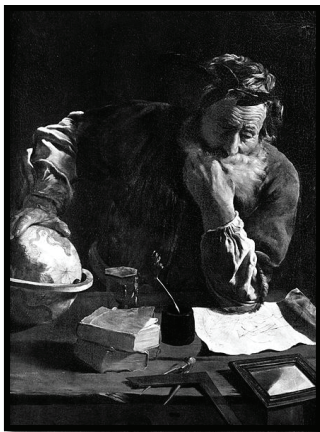
Born at the end of the Middle Ages, Thomas Aquinas was an Italian Dominican priest, professor and philosopher who influenced centuries of religious and academic thought. During his life, St Thomas and others began to use the texts of the ancient Greeks to explain the existence of God. St. Thomas published his ideas in a book titled *Summa Theologica*. In it he used the arguments of Aristotle to prove the most basic religious beliefs with logic and reason. However, he held that some religious truths could only be revealed to man by his faith and trust in God. This work was

used in the major universities of the day. St. Thomas and his fellow scholars continued to use and expand their knowledge of Aristotle and other Greek scientists and thinkers to debate issues of their time in what became known as the Scholastic Age. St. Thomas became the model for those studying to become priests. He was made a saint fifty years after his death. His influence on Western thought is considerable, as he has been characterized by the Roman Catholic Church as its greatest theologian and philosopher.

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Archimedes
(287 B.C.E.-212 B.C.E)

Archimedes was a Greek scientist born in 287 B.C.E. He is thought to be one of the greatest scientists of the Hellenistic Era. This era was a time of great learning occurring after Alexander the Great had built his empire, and the knowledge of the East had been blended with the knowledge of the Greeks. He studied at Alexandria, Egypt, which was the center of Hellenistic thought. His accomplishments included developing the principle of the lever and inventing a pulley that was able to lift heavy objects. He demonstrated the importance of the pulley by using several of them to pull a ship to shore that

had previously taken many men exerting great labor to pull from the water. In math, he accurately calculated the value of pi which is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. His other inventions included the Archimedes screw and a catapult or missile-throwing device later used by the Romans in their wars to build their empire.

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**William
Blackstone**
(1723-1780)

William Blackstone was born in England in 1723 and educated at Oxford where he studied law. Developing a great interest in common law, he began to lecture on the topic at the university after receiving his Doctorate of Civil Law in 1753. As he began to write, he incorporated Judeo-Christian principles into his work. At the heart of his work was a strong belief in the Ten Commandments and that God's law was to be man's law. These lectures became the first given on English law delivered at the university. His multivolume *Commentaries on the Laws of England* was the best known

description of the basic ideas in English law. The text became the basis of a legal education in England as well as law schools in both pre-revolutionary and post-revolutionary America. Blackstone was later elected as a member of Parliament. He served as Solicitor General to the Queen and a judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Today he and his work remain an important part of an American lawyer's education.

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Simon Bolivar
(1783– 1830)

Simon Bolivar was born in 1783 in Venezuela. He and Jose de San Martin played a critical role in leading South American nations in their struggle for independence from Spain. He is considered one of the most influential politicians in South American history. He is often compared to George Washington for his leadership in ending over 200 years of Spanish rule in the South American countries of Bolivia, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela. Called "El Libertador" (The Liberator), he was greatly influenced by the ideals of the American and French revolutions

and their attempts to rid themselves of autocratic governments. Additionally, he drew up the constitution for the country of Bolivia, which is named in his honor.

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**Napoleon
Bonaparte**
(1769-1821)

Napoleon Bonaparte was born in Corsica in 1769. He served in the French military during the French Revolution and then staged a coup d'état (military take-over) against the Directory. In 1802, he became First Consul and then was crowned Emperor in 1804. He waged war in an attempt to conquer Europe and establish a French Empire. This action unintentionally spread the ideals of the French Revolution of "liberty, equality, fraternity" to other areas of Europe and Latin America, resulting in their desire for independence. The U.S. also benefited as Napoleon sold the Louisiana Territory for \$15 million to finance his war efforts. Later he

invaded Russia but miscalculated the distance and weather and was forced to retreat. A combined force defeated him and sent him into exile. He escaped, returned, and had to be defeated a second time by a force led by the Duke of Wellington from England. This time he was sent to St. Helena where he died. Even though much of his rule was dominated by war, he made significant and lasting reforms in France. The code of laws called the Code Napoleon became the basis of most modern European countries' legal systems. The rigid social class system of the Old Regime was also destroyed by the Revolution and Napoleon.

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Robert Boyle
(1627-1691)

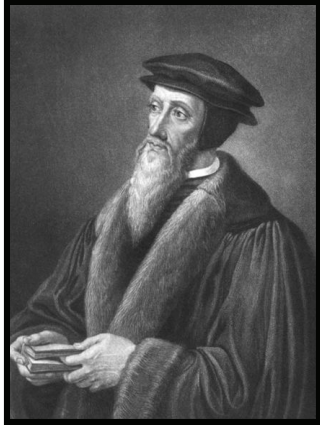
Robert Boyle was born to a wealthy English family in 1627, which enabled him to get one of the best educations of the day at Eton. He was also able to travel to the European continent, which allowed him to be exposed to the works of Descartes, Bacon, and Galileo. He went on to become a physicist and chemist who studied the nature of elements and compounds. His work became the basis of chemistry today, and thus Boyle can be called one of the "Fathers of Modern Chemistry." He was also the first prominent scientist to conduct experiments and publish his observations. His 1661

publication, *The Sceptical Chemist*, challenged established theories that Earth consisted of just four elements (air, earth, fire and water) or just three (salt, sulfur and mercury). For Boyle, elements were the simplest forms of matter found only through scientific experiment. In 1654, he and other prominent scientists began meeting in an organization that became known as the Royal Society. This organization still exists today as the oldest continuous scientific society in the world.

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John Calvin
(1509-1564)

John Calvin, born in 1509, became one of the most significant leaders of the Protestant Reformation. Originally a Catholic, Calvin was educated in France. In 1533 he experienced “a conversion” and began challenging the teachings of the Catholic Church. In 1536, he published his ideas in *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. He continued to add to this work, and its final version is often said to be the most complete and orderly account of the Reformation. In this work, he outlined the “doctrine of predestination” and the “doctrine of the elect.” Predestination

explained that God knew who would accept Christianity before the world was ever created. They were called the “elect.” Most of Calvin’s work was done in Switzerland, where he attempted to make Geneva the model Christian community with an elected city council and elders or lay ministers selected by that council. Many of his ideas about worship and local government were adopted by the Puritans in England and later found their way to the colony of Massachusetts. Calvin died in 1564, leaving a significant mark on Protestant theology.

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Chinese Student Protestors in Tiananmen Square

In April 1989 students protested the oppressive Communist Chinese government under Deng Xiaoping. Approximately 100,000 college students and youth met at Tiananmen Square to mourn the death of a pro-democracy official. Deng Xiaoping blamed the growing unrest on the influence of ideas coming from the West after the opening of relations and trade in the early 1970’s. As the protests began to increase, students began a hunger strike, calling for Deng Xiaoping to resign. The Chinese government responded by calling for martial law. Much of the crowd dispersed, but the

remaining 3000 students responded by erecting a 33-foot statue called the “Goddess of Democracy,” modeled after the Statue of Liberty. On June 4, 1989 armed soldiers with tanks advanced on the students, crushing their statue and shooting into the crowd of students. Hundreds were killed and thousands wounded throughout the city. The government stepped up its campaign to stop all protests. What was different this time was that the images of students standing up against the Chinese tanks had been broadcast across the world.

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**Winston
Churchill**
(1874-1965)

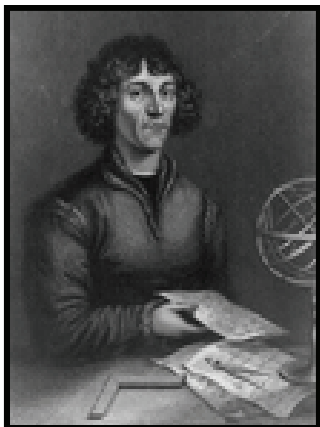
Winston Churchill was born in England in 1874. He was responsible for guiding the British through the majority of World War II as Prime Minister. Known for his bulldog tenacity and stirring speeches, Churchill was an inspiration to the British during the dark days of the war when England was the only one holding out against the Germans. He vowed to achieve, “victory at all costs...for without victory there is no survival.” Meeting with FDR and Stalin, the three plotted the strategy to defeat the Axis powers. During these conferences, he became fearful of Stalin’s plans after the war,

believing that he was also a threat to democracy. He predicted an “iron curtain” would separate the Communist countries in Eastern Europe from Western Europe. After World War II was over, Churchill lost the office of Prime Minister, only to return in 1951 for four years. Not only was he an outstanding politician, but he also was a prolific writer of history, biographies, and memoirs. One of these, *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples* won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1953. Churchill died in 1965.

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Copernicus
(1473-1543)

Copernicus was born in 1473 in Poland. He began to study astronomy and Earth’s solar system in 1496. At this time most astronomers believed the Ptolemaic theory that Earth was the center of the universe. Ptolemy was a Hellenistic scientist whose theory was supported by the Roman Catholic Church. Copernicus began to read other Greeks who had challenged Ptolemy’s ideas. After studying the planetary movements for 25 years, he concluded that those scientists were correct. He didn’t publish his findings until 1543 due to the fact that it contradicted other

scientists of his day and the religious views of the Catholic Church. During this time, the Church used the Inquisition to stamp out all heresy and challenges to its teachings. His heliocentric theory was finally published in a book entitled, *On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Bodies*, which was given to him on his deathbed. The basic ideas of his theory were later proved mathematically by Johannes Kepler and substantiated through the use of the telescope by Galileo in 1609.

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Marie Curie
(1867-1934)

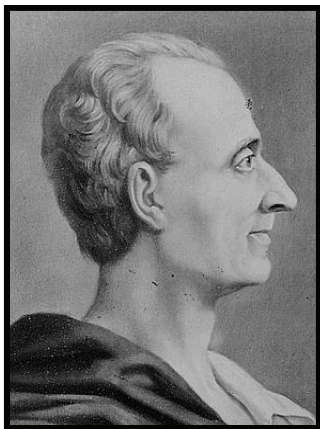
Marie Curie was born in Poland, November, 1867 and became one of the most celebrated scientists of the time. After receiving her master's degree in mathematics from the Sorbonne in Paris, she met her husband Pierre while attending the School of Industrial Physics and Chemistry. They worked together until Pierre died when he was accidentally struck by a carriage in 1906. Marie's work included the discovery of two new radioactive elements, polonium and radium. With her husband, she shared the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903. She thus became the first woman to win a Nobel in the sciences. She

was also the first woman to earn a doctorate and earn a position in physics on the faculty of the Sorbonne. In 1911 she won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry by herself, making her the first person ever to win Nobel prizes in two different fields. Her later work led her to explore the use of x-ray technology to treat the wounded and ill. As a result, the medical field of radiology developed. Sadly, Marie died in 1934 from complications caused by exposure to radiation.

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**Baron Charles
de Montesquieu**
(1689-1755)

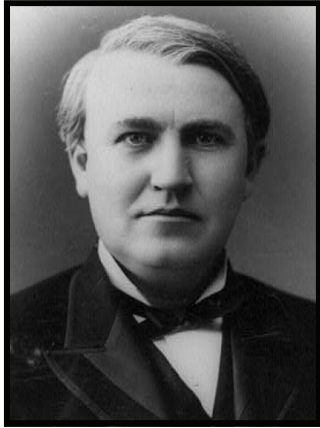
Baron Charles de Montesquieu was a famous French nobleman who lived from 1689 to 1755. His ideas about government and law were recorded in several books. The most influential of these was *The Spirit of the Laws* written in 1748. In this work, he proposed the idea of separating the powers of government so that power would not be concentrated in the hands of one person or one group of people. His ideas inspired James Madison and were echoed in *Federalist 47* in which Madison defended the division of power detailed in Articles I, II, and III of the Constitution. Madison went on in *Federalist 51*

to defend the checks and balances system as a way to further define the powers of the three. Montesquieu is thought to be the most quoted political philosopher at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787.

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**Thomas
Edison**
(1847-1931)

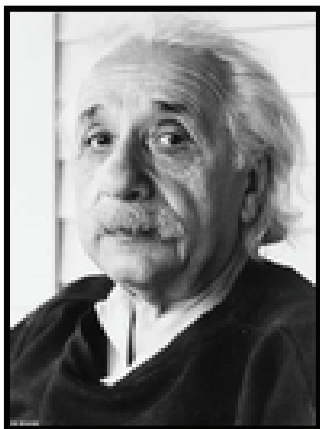
Thomas Edison was born in the United States in 1847. He became one of the most significant inventors of all time. During the Second Industrial Revolution, which began in the late 1800's, major achievements were made in the fields of transportation and communication. Many of Edison's inventions played a significant role in these successes. Working with electricity, he developed an automatic telegraph, a phonograph, a modernized telephone, and made improvements to the light bulb. In his lab in Menlo Park, New

Jersey he worked tirelessly and persistently on his inventions. His famous quote, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration" clearly described his work ethic. By the end of his life in 1931, he had obtained over 1000 patents for his work and made millions on his inventions. Few men had more impact on the technology of the modern world than did Edison.

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Albert Einstein
(1879-1955)

Albert Einstein was born in Germany in 1879 and became one of the most influential scientists in history. He challenged the long held beliefs of Isaac Newton concerning gravity and motion. In 1921 he won the Nobel Prize for Physics. Einstein came to the U.S. in 1933 to work at Princeton because, as a Jew, he felt unsafe in the growing atmosphere of prejudice in Germany. In 1940, he obtained his U.S. citizenship. Einstein's most notable contribution was the Theory of Relativity ($E=MC^2$ or energy equals mass times the speed of light squared). In 1939 at the beginning of World War II, he

co-authored a letter to President Roosevelt in which he stated an atomic bomb was a possibility using his theories. Thus, the race began between the U.S. and Germany to see who could develop the ultimate weapon first. Thanks to Einstein and others, the "Manhattan Project" allowed the U.S. rather than Germany to win the race and develop the bomb. However, after seeing the destruction the bomb caused, he favored nuclear disarmament and a world government with the goal of keeping the peace.

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Elizabeth I
(1533– 1603)

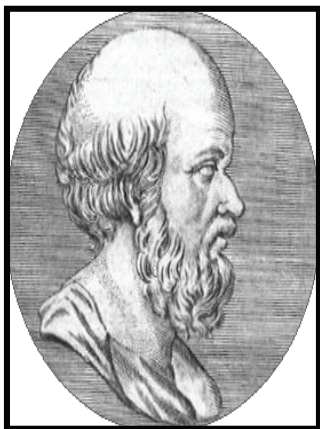
Elizabeth I was born to Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn, in 1533 and became one of the most celebrated monarchs in British history. Never marrying, she devoted her life to her country. This Tudor monarch endured the beheading of her mother by her father for being unfaithful, and as well as the religious turmoil between the Catholics and the Protestants and attempts to overthrow her. Nevertheless Elizabeth firmly established England as a power. By defeating the powerful Spanish Armada in 1588, England was able to expand its trade and influence overseas.

Soon after this victory, the first British colony in North America was established in 1607 at Jamestown. The colony was named Virginia, for the “Virgin Queen,” Elizabeth. Additionally, Elizabeth cemented England as a Protestant nation and subdued the bloody conflict between the Protestant and Catholic forces. During her reign, England also experienced a “Golden Age” of culture. This revival of poetry and drama was led by writers such as Shakespeare, Marlowe, and Spenser and is often called “The Elizabethan Age” due to her influence and support.

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Eratosthenes
(285-204 B.C.E)

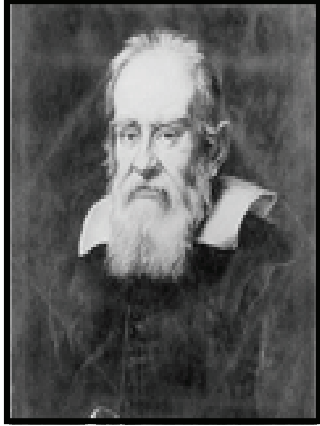
Eratosthenes was a Hellenistic Greek geographer who lived from 285 to 204 B.C.E. While he studied the humanities, philosophy and mathematics in Athens, he was most interested in studying the world around him. After becoming the chief librarian at Alexandria, the center of Hellenistic learning, he began to expand on his ideas. He was the first to use the term geography and describe Earth as a sphere. Using geometry, he computed the circumference of the earth, missing it by only one percent or 198 miles from modern calculations. He also believed that because the world was round,

one could sail west, arrive in the east, and eventually come back to where one started. His theory was not verified until 1498 when Vasco de Gama sailed west from Portugal around Africa to India in the East. His theory was fully proved when Magellan completed his circumnavigation of the earth in 1522.

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Galileo
(1564-1642)

Galileo was born in 1564 and became an Italian astronomer living during the Scientific Revolution of the 1600's. Earlier, scientists such as Copernicus and Kepler had challenged the theory of the Hellenistic astronomer, Ptolemy, who asserted that Earth was the center of the universe. Ptolemy's theory was supported by the Catholic Church. Using a high-powered telescope he invented, Galileo discovered mountains on the moon as well as the four moons that revolved around Jupiter. He went on to assert that the heavenly bodies were not orbs of light but actually composed of material substance just like Earth. He believed that the sun was motionless at the center with the

planets in orbit around it. After publishing his findings in *The Starry Messenger* and *Dialogue on the Two Chief World Systems*, he found himself in conflict with the Catholic Church. Called to defend himself before the Inquisition in Rome, Galileo was convicted of heresy and disobedience. In 1633, he was directed to recant or face harsh punishment. Legend has it that even though he recanted, he said under his breath as he left the courtroom, "And yet it (Earth) does move."

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**Mikhail
Gorbachev**
(1931-)

Mikhail Gorbachev was born in 1931. He was the leader of the Soviet Union from 1985 to 1991. By the end of the 1980's the Soviet Union's economy was in trouble due to corruption, the conflict in Afghanistan, and the arms race with the U.S. Gorbachev was the one in the Communist Party who felt that reform was needed. He called his economic and political reforms, *perestroika*, which meant restructuring. He began with limited free enterprise and some private ownership of property. Next, he instituted a new Soviet parliament whose members were to be elected. He allowed other

political parties to exist besides the Communist party. His *glasnost* policy of openness was designed to improve communication with foreign governments including the United Kingdom and the U.S. As the different nationalities in the satellite republics of the Soviet Union began to demand independence, the collapse of the Soviet Union was imminent. With the independence of the Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia in 1991, the Soviet Union ceased to exist. Gorbachev resigned his position in 1991.

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The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Indira Gandhi

(1917-1984)

Indira Gandhi was born in 1917 and became one of the most influential women of the 20th century while serving as the Prime Minister of India. She followed her father, Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister after independence from the British had been achieved in 1947. During her time as Prime Minister, she faced numerous problems. The most serious was the growing population of India. To combat the problem, Gandhi tried a strenuous modernization policy to support the growth in population. At this time, Mother Teresa was also working in Calcutta attempting to ease the

worsening poverty. Relations continued to be strained with Pakistan, which had been created from the northern part of India for the Indian Muslims. Finally, there was a conflict with the Sikhs, followers of both Hinduism and Islamic ideas, who were demanding their own independence in the province of Punjab. In 1984 Gandhi used military force to put down a Sikh rebellion, resulting in the death of over 450. Later that year, two Sikh members of her personal bodyguard assassinated Gandhi in revenge for her action.

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The LRE Times

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Mohandas Gandhi

(1869-1948)

Mohandas Gandhi, the spiritual and moral leader for the independence of India from Great Britain, was born in 1869. Educated in England as a lawyer, Gandhi first practiced in South Africa. There he developed his ideas on "passive resistance" or non-violence to make change happen. Returning to India, he began to use passive resistance and civil disobedience to protest laws and actions he felt were unjust. The British responded by cracking down, and Gandhi was arrested and sent to prison. When Gandhi was released, he continued to promote the use of civil disobedience. When Britain increased the salt tax and forbade the Indians from making their own,

Gandhi staged the "Salt March." He and thousands of Indians walked to the sea to symbolically get a grain of salt. Religious unrest continued to increase between the Hindus and the Muslims. Gandhi, a devout Hindu, was tolerant of other beliefs. In 1947, the British agreed to a partition creating an independent Hindu India and a Muslim Pakistan. Religious violence erupted across the continent. Gandhi was a victim of this violence when he was assassinated by a radical Hindu in 1948 because of his views on toleration.

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The LRE Times

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Hammurabi

(Birthdate unknown—died in 1750 B.C.E.)

Hammurabi was a Babylonian king ruling from 1792 to 1750 B.C.E. Hammurabi was able to build an empire in the often invaded Mesopotamian area. Mesopotamia was known for the numerous kings who had attempted to conquer the warring city-state governments in the area between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. As the king of Babylon (the present day site of Baghdad), he gained control of the area. To govern this empire he then developed the first written law code, comprised of 282 laws. This code illustrated the way of life in the Babylonian kingdom during ancient times. The

categories of the law dealt with civil matters, duties of public officials, consumer protection laws, family law, and criminal offenses. Punishment for breaking the laws was swift and harsh, based on the principle of responsibility and retribution or “an eye for an eye.”

Hammurabi made sure that the law was known by posting engraved pillars detailing the laws for public view.

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Adolf Hitler

(1889-1945)

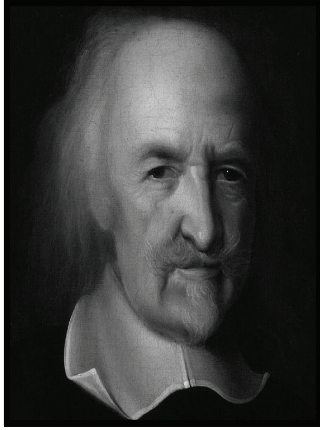
Adolf Hitler was born in Austria in 1889 and rose to become the Nazi Dictator of Germany during World War II. His actions led to the death of approximately 50 million people and the extermination of 6 million Jews in the Holocaust or “Final Solution.” Deeply upset at Germany’s loss in World War I and the economic depression, Hitler turned his anger toward the Jews, socialists, and liberal forces he said weakened Germany. He outlined these views in his book *Mein Kampf* (*My Struggle*) where he also planned Germany’s return to glory. Seizing power in 1933, he outlawed all other political parties. In 1934 he became the Fuhrer and began his plan to create a German Reich. He rearmed Germany in direct violation of the

Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I. He then moved to annex Austria. When he wasn’t stopped, he systematically moved throughout Europe. When France fell, England was the only European country left since he signed a non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union. After Pearl Harbor, he joined with Japan to declare war on the U.S. Confident, Hitler invaded the Soviet Union, bringing them into the war on the side of the Allies. After the 1944 D-Day invasion from the West, coupled with a Soviet advance from the East, Hitler was trapped. He committed suicide in a bunker in Berlin in 1945.

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**Thomas
Hobbes**
(1588-1679)

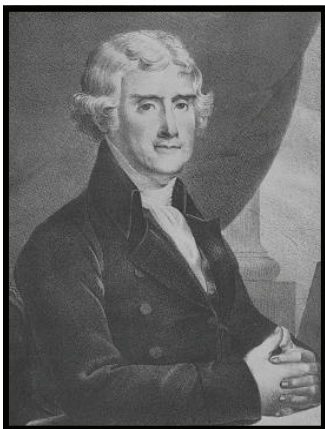
Thomas Hobbes was a political philosopher born in England in 1588. Alarmed by the political unrest since the Puritan Civil War and the beheading of Charles I, Hobbes became convinced that a strong monarchy was essential to deal with disorder. In his book, *Leviathan*, published in 1651, Hobbes asserted that life was “solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.” He believed that man was guided by the struggle for self-preservation. Therefore, Hobbes believed that in order to keep people from destroying each other, they needed to enter into a “social contract” with an absolute monarch. In this

contract the people would agree to form a state and give that state absolute power to preserve order. This was different from monarchies of the past where the power of the monarch was believed to be given by God under the “divine right theory.” Hobbes also disagreed with his contemporary John Locke on the right of the people to break the contract with the government. However, both men’s ideas were used in the development of the U.S. system of government. Hobbes died in England in 1679, after seeing the monarchy restored under the reign of Charles II.

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**Thomas
Jefferson**
(1743-1826)

Thomas Jefferson was born in Virginia in 1743. As a Virginia Planter, he was also a delegate to the House of Burgesses and to both Continental Congresses. He was selected to draft the Declaration of Independence and is considered the principle author of that document. He was strongly influenced by the British political philosopher, John Locke in this document. Later he served as a U.S. minister to France and wasn’t present at the 1787 Constitutional Convention. Jefferson was the first Secretary of State under George Washington and Vice-President under John Adams. As the leader

of the Democratic - Republican Party, he became the third President of the United States. This political party believed in states’ rights, a limited central government, individual rights as guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, and a strict interpretation of the Constitution. As President, he was responsible for the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 and the Embargo Act in 1807 in his attempt to avoid war with England and France. Jefferson died on July 4, 1826, ironically on the same day as John Adams, exactly fifty years after the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

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Justinian

(483-565)

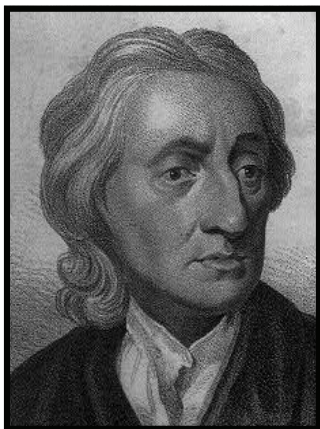
Born in 483, Justinian became emperor of the Byzantine Empire, ruling it until his death in 565. The Byzantine Empire was the eastern portion of the Roman Empire that remained after the western half fell in the barbarian invasions. Justinian is given credit for reorganizing the government. This reorganization allowed him not only to repel the barbarians, but also regain a significant portion of the Roman Empire situated around the Mediterranean. However, much of this was lost three years after he died. He completed great building projects in the capital city of Constantinople, the largest

city in Europe during the Middle Ages. Two famous buildings were most notable: the Hippodrome arena to hold the games for the people and the Hagia Sophia, one of the most magnificent churches in the world. However, Justinian's crowning achievement was the codification and preservation of Roman law into what is known as *The Body of Civil Law*. This code was used in the Byzantine Empire until its fall in 1453 to the Turks. One principle from this code still used today is the idea of "innocent until proved guilty."

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John Locke

(1632-1704)

John Locke lived from 1632 to 1704 and was an early English philosopher who lived during the time of the Glorious Revolution. He was a natural rights philosopher who believed in the protection of individual rights that included life, liberty and property. Rejecting the divine right theory of government, he became a social contract theorist who believed that if government was not protecting people's natural rights, they had the right to dissolve and change the government. His most famous works were *The First and Second Treatises on Civil Government*. This work inspired Thomas

Jefferson to write the Declaration of Independence, which incorporated many of Locke's ideas. One of the most significant ideas was a justification for revolting against the British government because it had failed to act in the people's best interests.

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Las Madrés e la Plaza de Mayo

Las Madrés e la Plaza de Mayo was a group created by Argentinean women trying to locate their kidnapped sons and daughters, who went missing during the 1976 to 1983 “Dirty War.” Most of these young people had been dissenters speaking out against the brutality and corruption of the military government. The children were abducted and then any records of their existence were erased. In 1977 mothers of this group met in the Plaza de Mayo to demand to know what happened to their children. Wearing white scarves, symbolizing the dove of peace, they began to attract attention

around the world. Finding that many of their children had been tortured and killed, the association began to dedicate their efforts to keeping their children’s memory and sacrifice alive. This was accomplished by creating a cultural center, a subsidized university, a bookstore, and a library promoting the ideals of their children. Today this unique organization is housed in Buenos Aires and continues to work to re-unite abducted children with their mothers as well as speak out against human rights violations.

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Nelson Mandela (1918– 2013)

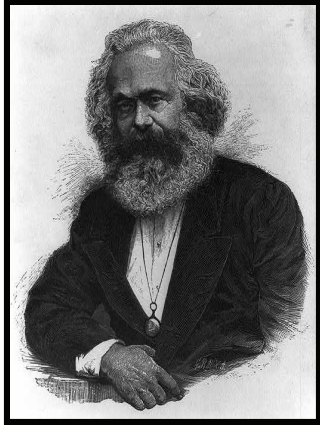
Nelson Mandela was born in South Africa in 1918. He led the fight to rid his country of the segregationist apartheid system and gain rights and self-government for the native people. At the time South Africa was controlled by the descendants of the Dutch settlers called Afrikaners. They imposed a strict system of segregation, which kept the natives oppressed as well as unable to have any say in their government. As the leader of the ANC (African National Congress), Mandela demonstrated against this oppression. These demonstrations were brutally suppressed, and Mandela was put

in prison for 27 years on a charge of treason. During this time he became a martyr and a symbol worldwide of resistance to oppression. After he was released by President de Klerk, he was elected as the first black President of South Africa. He and de Klerk shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990. By the time Mandela left the presidency in 1999, he was the most respected man in post-colonial Africa.

World History Bio Card-15

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Karl Marx
(1818-1883)

Karl Marx, born in Germany in 1818, is referred to as the founder of communism. After completing his Ph.D., he began his career as a journalist, where he used the newspaper to express his ideas. After he moved to Paris, he began to work with Friedrich Engels. Together they wrote *The Communist Manifesto* in 1848. The two asserted that all of history consisted of class struggles between the “haves” or the “bourgeoisie” who owned the means of production, and the “have nots” or the “proletariat workers” who were oppressed. They blamed capitalism for these conditions. They believed the proletariat should rebel and seize the means of production in order to establish a “dictatorship of the

proletariat.” This would abolish the economic differences between the classes. Never able to gain popularity with the people and unpopular with the government in Germany, Marx and his family lived in poverty in several European countries. In 1867, Marx published *Das Kapital*. This book was a critical analysis of capitalism. Marx died in 1883 and is buried in England where his tombstone is engraved with the following, “Workers of all Lands Unite.” While Marx believed his economic theory would work in the industrialized economies of the West, it found much more traction in Russia and China, both agrarian economies.

World History Bio Card-16

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Golda Meir
(1898-1978)

Golda Meir was born in 1898 in Russia and lived in the United States until 1921 when she immigrated to a kibbutz in Palestine. There she became involved in the Zionist movement which was dedicated to the creation of an independent Jewish state. When Israel achieved independence in 1948, she served as the Israeli ambassador to the Soviet Union. She then served in the Israeli Parliament before becoming the foreign minister for nine years. During that time, she was known for her fierce loyalty to Israel and its autonomy in the hostile Middle East. In 1969, she became the fourth Prime Minister

of Israel. In 1973 Arab forces led by Egypt and Syria launched an attack on Israel on the holiest of Jewish holidays, Yom Kippur. Israel was surprised and lost ground at the beginning. After 18 days, the UN negotiated a cease-fire. Israel never fully regained all of the lost territory, causing some to blame Meir. She resigned in 1974 and was succeeded by Yitzhak Rabin. Golda Meir died of cancer in 1978 after being one of the most influential individuals during the years following the creation of the state of Israel.

World History Bio Card-16

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



**Benito
Mussolini**
(1883-1945)

Benito Mussolini was born in Italy in 1883 and rose to power as the Fascist dictator of Italy during World War II. His nickname was Il Duce, which meant “the Leader.”

Mussolini’s goal to restore Italy to the glory of the past. To achieve this, Mussolini subscribed to Fascism which was characterized by strong nationalistic policies, militarism, and anti-communist sentiments.

Following World War I, he became the head of the Fascist movement and ordered the formation of squads called Black Shirts to harass and terrorize anarchists, socialists, and communists. Named Prime Minister in 1922 by the King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel, he dismantled Parliament and controlled the press

with propaganda. He established a strong Fascist state a full ten years before Hitler did so in Germany. In 1936 he invaded Ethiopia to get colonies like the other colonial empires of Europe, even though Ethiopia was not be colonized in accordance with a previous agreement. He joined Germany and Japan to form the Axis powers in World War II. When the war shifted in favor of the Allies in 1943, Italy was the first to fall. Mussolini was deposed and executed in 1945 by Italians. He was hung by a meat hook in Milan to discourage Italians from continuing to fight.

World History Bio Card-17

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Isaac Newton
(1643-1727)

Isaac Newton is often considered the greatest scientist of the 17th century Scientific Revolution. He was born in England in 1643. As a student at Cambridge, Newton developed a strong interest in mathematics and the laws of nature. After becoming a professor of mathematics at Cambridge, he published his most famous work, *Principia*. In this work, he adapted Galileo’s ideas, as well as defining his three laws of motion. One of these was the universal law of gravitation. He asserted that every object in the universe is attracted to every other object because of the force of gravity. By defining the laws

of gravity and planetary motion, co-founding calculus, and explaining the laws of light and color, he is often thought to be the “Father of Modern Science.” From this point on, scientists saw the universe as a machine that worked according to its natural laws. His ideas continued unchallenged until the 20th century when Albert Einstein originated the theory of relativity, thus further deepening our understanding of the universe.

World History Bio Card-17

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Louis Pasteur
(1822-1895)

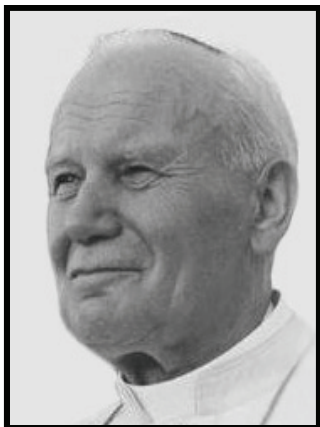
Louis Pasteur, a chemist and biologist, was born in France in 1822. He proposed a theory that disease was caused by germs. This important development was critical to the development of modern medical practices. He noticed that heat destroyed the bacteria responsible for spoiling liquids. His study of microscopic organisms in wine led to a new field of study called microbiology. Pasteur asserted that the growth of bacteria resulted from germs in the air and that by heating the liquid to 55 degrees Celsius (about 130 degrees Fahrenheit), the germs could be destroyed. This process

became known as “pasteurization.” Pasteurization is commonly used with milk and other liquids today to kill bacteria, thus making them last longer and safer to drink. Later, he tackled anthrax, a disease that affected both humans and animals. Finally, at the Pasteur Institute, he studied rabies and developed a vaccine to counter its effects before his death in 1895.

World History Bio Card-18

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Pope John Paul II
(1920-2005)

Pope John Paul II was born in Poland in 1920. He was the first non-Italian pope since the 16th century. Serving until his death in 2005, Pope John Paul was one of the most beloved popes of the Church. He was known for his strong voice for human rights and his conservative position on most social issues such as abortion. A strong opponent of communism, it is believed that he played a role in ending the Communist rule in his native Poland. During his time as pope, he traveled to over 100 countries in the world in an attempt to bridge the differences between cultures. Speaking twelve languages, he was able to

communicate with leaders and people around the world. He also survived an assassination attempt and was revered for his energy, charisma, and intellect. In the years since his death, he has moved to within one step of becoming a saint.

World History Bio Card-18

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Pythagoras
(580 B.C.E.)

Pythagoras was born in Greece in 580 B.C.E. He is best noted as a Greek philosopher and mathematician. His theories led him to deduce that all meaning could be reduced to numerical relationships and that all objects were composed of form, not material substance. His theories influenced both Plato and Aristotle and therefore can be found in the development of mathematics and Western philosophy. Pythagoras' most well known contribution is the Pythagorean Theorem, which is critical to the study of geometry. This theorem holds that the area of the square that forms the

hypotenuse of a right triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the shorter sides.

World History Bio Card-19

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Ronald Reagan
(1911-2004)

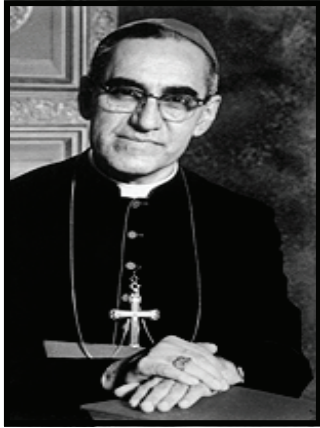
Before he became the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan had a notable career as an actor as well as serving as Governor of California. Born in 1911, he is given credit for playing a critical role in the fall of the Soviet Union and the ending of the Cold War. By building the largest peacetime military in U.S. history, which he defended as, "peace through strength," the Soviet economy was pushed to the brink trying to keep up. His conservative fiscal policy, called "Reaganomics," was based on supply-side economics with dual goals of rapid economic growth

and reduction of the federal deficit. Two results of his economic policy were the lowering of inflation and an increase in the national debt. Known for his charisma and communication skills, he was able to achieve success for many of his conservative policies. Reagan died in 2004 of complications from Alzheimer's disease.

World History Bio Card-19

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Oscar Romero
(1917-1980)

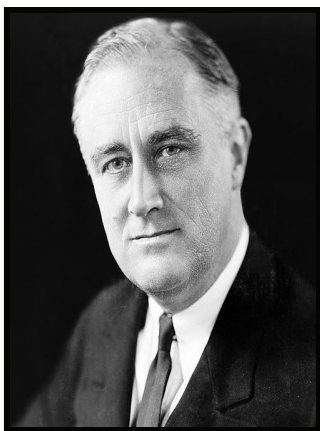
Oscar Romero was born in El Salvador and grew up to become the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church in San Salvador. Nicknamed “the Archbishop of the Poor,” he dedicated his life to speaking out against poverty, social injustice, assassinations, and the torture of citizens. At this time these conditions were all prevalent in his country. During the brutal civil war in El Salvador, Archbishop Romero was himself a casualty when he was assassinated on March 24, 1980. Violence broke out at his funeral when gunfire erupted and people were forced to flee for safety. Even though the bloody

civil war continued in El Salvador for several more years, Archbishop Romero’s assassination is thought to have been the turning point in the conflict. The Roman Catholic Church and other Christian denominations have honored Archbishop Romero as a great humanitarian and courageous martyr.

World History Bio Card-20

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Franklin D. Roosevelt
(1882-1945)

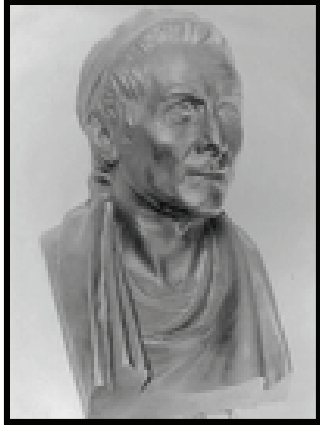
Franklin D. Roosevelt was born in 1882 to a privileged family. In 1921, he contracted the deadly disease of polio, and was crippled for the rest of his life. Roosevelt was elected President in 1932. At this time, the country was in the grips of the Great Depression with over 13 million unemployed. FDR proposed a sweeping economic reform package known as the New Deal to combat the depression. Elements of this program included Social Security, heavier taxes on the wealthy, new controls over banks and public utilities, and an enormous work relief program for the unemployed. Opposition to his growing executive authority resulted in several reversals of his programs

by the Supreme Court. Roosevelt responded by trying to increase the number of justices on the Court. This “Court Packing” plan was rejected. Re-elected to a second and a third term, his attentions was drawn to the growing international threat. With the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. entered World War II in 1941. Fearing a change in leadership during the war, Roosevelt was elected to a fourth term in 1944. However, the war had taken a huge toll on his health, and he died of a cerebral hemorrhage in 1945. He was succeeded by Vice President Harry Truman.

World History Bio Card-20

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



**Jean Jacques
Rousseau**
(1712-1778)

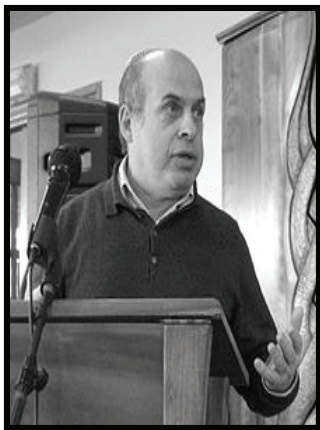
Jean Jacques Rousseau was born in Switzerland in 1712. He moved to France where he became acquainted with Voltaire and Diderot and the ideas of the Enlightenment. His political works contained ideas that helped inspire the later leaders of the American and French Revolutions. In an early work, *Discourse on the Origins of Inequality of Mankind*, he asserted that men were by nature good, but had agreed to laws and government to preserve their private property and wealth. As a result, they were no longer free but enslaved by the government. He questioned what man must do

to achieve his liberty again. In his most famous work, *The Social Contract*, published in 1762, he suggested that a state based on a genuine social contract would give men real freedom, and they in turn would obey self-imposed laws. Rousseau believed that liberty would only be achieved by following the general will because it would represent what is best for the entire community. In 1762, Rousseau was forced to flee to Switzerland where he became insane and died in 1778.

World History Bio Card-21

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



**Natan
Sharansky**
(1948--)

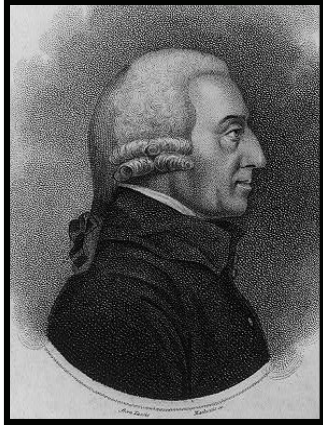
Sharansky was born a Russian Jew in the Ukraine. After studying mathematics in Moscow, he became involved in politics as an interpreter for the dissenter, Andrei Sakharov. It was then that he became deeply involved in the human rights movement, and spoke out against the persecution of Russian Jews. He was later accused of being a spy for the United States and convicted of treason. He was sentenced to prison where he was tortured and often placed in solitary confinement. During this time, he became a symbol for human rights, especially with regards to the plight of Soviet

Jews. His wife led an international campaign calling for Sharansky's release. Finally, he was released in February, 1986. He was given a Visa to Israel where his wife had moved. Once there, he was honored as a hero by the Israeli government. After many years of serving in various capacities in the Israeli government, he resigned in 2006 over a disagreement with policies of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. He continued to write and campaign for human rights issues. In 2006, he became only the fourth non-American recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.

World History Bio Card-21

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Adam Smith
(1723-1790)

Adam Smith was born in Scotland in 1723. He is known for his economic theory described in his book *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, published in 1776. This book is considered to have had an important role in bringing about the Industrial Revolution and became the basis of capitalism. Capitalism can be defined as an economic system where the ultimate goal is for individual investors to make a profit. He said if individuals and businesses were allowed to follow their own interests guided by what he called “the invisible hand,” then harmony and

prosperity would follow. In his view of a capitalistic economy, each producer tried to provide goods and services that were better and less expensive than those of competitors. Additionally, Smith stressed little to no government influence in the economy as the best way to encourage competition and create wealth.

World History Bio Card-22

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Joseph Stalin
(1879-1953)

Joseph Stalin was born in the Russian state of Georgia in 1879 to peasant parents. After being expelled from school, he became active in the Bolshevik party, and drew the attention of Lenin. He became one of Lenin’s top soldiers in the October, 1917 Bolshevik revolution. When Lenin suddenly died in 1924, Stalin battled Leon Trotsky for control. He eventually won and forced Trotsky into exile. In 1940, Trotsky was murdered, most likely under Stalin’s order. Stalin launched his Five Year Plans designed to change the Soviet Union from an agricultural economy to an industrial one. These plans resulted in gains but at a terrible cost to the people. Between 1932 and 1933,

over 10 million peasants died of starvation. He also purged the country of anyone who opposed him. It is estimated that before his death in 1953, over 25 million people died as a result of his policies. When World War II broke out, Stalin first signed a non-aggression pact with Hitler. However, when Hitler broke the pact and invaded the Soviet Union, Stalin joined the Allies. At the end of the war, Stalin demanded military security by establishing Communist states in the Eastern European countries. When this happened, Churchill declared that Europe was now divided into two hostile camps with one behind an “Iron Curtain.”

World History Bio Card-22

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Mother Teresa
(1910-1997)

Mother Teresa was born in 1910. The Roman Catholic nun became one of the most significant people of the 20th century. She was known around the world for her charitable work with the poverty stricken in Calcutta, India. Originally born to Albanian parents in the Ottoman Empire, she took vows as a nun in 1918 in Ireland before moving to a convent in India. Upon visiting Calcutta, India, she was shocked at the tremendous number of suffering people in the city. Believing it to be God's calling, she was determined to help these people. In 1948, the Vatican gave her permission to begin her work.

She and her followers established the Missionaries of Charity to help the sick and the poor. Over the years, her missionaries worked among the poor, abandoned, and dying in an attempt to ease suffering. Her work became the standard for charitable and humanitarian aid around the world. Mother Teresa received the Nobel Prize in 1979 and the Medal of Freedom from the United States in 1985. When she died in 1997, she was mourned around the world by millions.

World History Bio Card-23

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Margaret Thatcher
(1925-2013)

Margaret Thatcher was born in England in 1925, and is best known as the first female and longest serving English Prime Minister in the 20th century. Educated as a chemist, she turned her studies to law in 1950. By 1959, she had been elected to Parliament as a staunch conservative. During her political career, Thatcher's political views never changed. Nicknamed the "Iron Lady," she tried to limit social welfare, restrict the power of the unions, limit the number of labor strikes, and end inflation. All of these problems in her view were the cause of Britain's troubled economy. She led her

country to victory in the battle for the Falkland Islands against Argentina. This defeat of the Argentinean government is thought to have been the catalyst for change in that troubled country. After serving three terms as Prime Minister, she was forced to resign in 1990 mainly over her proposal of a flat-tax. Because of her conservative views, Margaret Thatcher is often compared to Ronald Reagan who was President of the U.S. during the eight years she was Prime Minister.

World History Bio Card-23

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Hideki Tojo
(1884-1948)

Hideki Tojo was born in Tokyo in 1884. He joined the military, and by 1933, he had become a major general of the Kwantung Army. His extreme right-wing views influenced him to support Hitler's Nazi Party in Germany and to oppose Joseph Stalin in the Soviet Union. In the late 1930's, he led Japan in joining the Axis Alliance with Germany and Italy. As tensions grew with the United States, he first backed negotiations, but later changed his mind. In July, 1941 he became the Prime Minister of Japan. It was in that position that he ordered the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941,

which caused the United States to enter World War II against Japan, Germany, and Italy. During the war, he served as both prime minister and Commander in Chief. After the fall of Saipan in 1944, he resigned. Disgraced, he attempted suicide, but recovered from a gunshot to his chest. In 1945, he was arrested and tried for war crimes by the International Military Tribunal. He was found guilty of multiple counts and was executed for his crimes. One of the major accusations was that under his authority as many as four million Chinese were believed to have been murdered.

World History Bio Card-24

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Queen Victoria
(1819-1901)

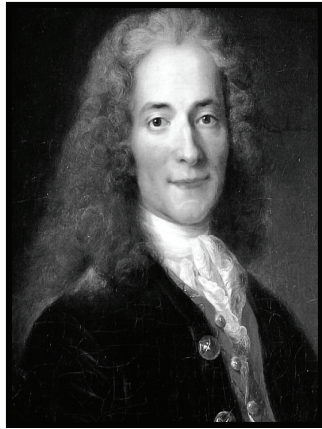
Queen Victoria was born in 1819 and died in 1901 after serving 64 years as the British monarch. It was one of the longest reigns in British history. The Victorian Age was characterized by industrial growth, artistic achievement, and the growth of the British empire. It was during her reign that the phrase, "the sun never set on the British flag," was used to describe an empire that stretched around the world. It illustrated that Victoria was the monarch for over 1/4 of the globe. Her marriage to Prince Albert produced nine children and 42 grandchildren. The nine children and 26 of her grandchildren were

married into royal families throughout Europe. Victoria was often called the "Grandmother of Europe." At the outbreak of World War I, the Kaiser of Germany and the opposing Czar of Russia were cousins descending from Victoria. When Albert died in 1861, Victoria retreated in grief to seclusion, never again seen in public unless in black. During this time, republicanism grew in the country, and the evolution of England into a constitutional monarchy continued.

World History Bio Card-24

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Voltaire
(1694-1778)

Francois Marie Arouet was born in Paris in 1694. He took the pen name, Voltaire. He made a name for himself among the refined patrons of the French salons. Salons were intellectual meetings held for discussion of the literary and philosophical movements of the day. He applied his wit to his writing and often incurred the wrath of the French government and the church for his biting satire of both. He was once imprisoned in the Bastille for 11 months for writing a scathing criticism of the autocratic French government. After insulting a French nobleman in 1726, he was given

the choice to go back to prison or leave the country. He chose to go to England where he was introduced to the writings of John Locke and Sir Isaac Newton. Upon returning to France, he wrote a book praising English customs and was forced to leave Paris again. Perhaps his most famous work was the novel *Candide*, published in 1759. In this book Voltaire again satirized the French government and aristocracy. He often wrote of the need for free speech and religious toleration, making him an early contributor in the struggle to guarantee these freedoms to society.

World History Bio Card-25

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Lech Walesa
(1943--)

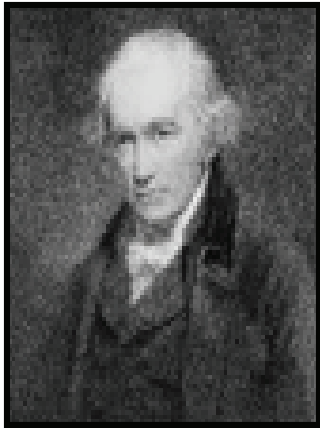
Lech Walesa was born in 1943 in Poland. After serving in the army, he became an electrician in the Gdansk shipyards. There he became involved with workers' rights. After leading a strike, officials of the company were forced to negotiate with the strikers. They had to give them the right to strike and to organize their own union. In September 1981 Walesa was elected Solidarity Chairman. Later that year, the Polish government instituted martial law and detained Walesa and several others from Solidarity because it feared a backlash from the Soviet government for the unrest. Martial law was eventually lifted

and Walesa was allowed to return to the shipyards. In 1983, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work. As political and economic conditions worsened in Poland, the government was forced to negotiate with Walesa. The Soviet Union was no longer in a position to intercede in the affairs of Poland, and the Poles were allowed to establish a non-communist government. In December, 1990 Walesa was elected President of the Republic of Poland. He served as president until he was defeated in the election of November, 1995.

World History Bio Card-25

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



James Watt
(1736-1819)

James Watt was born in Scotland in 1736. He is known for the development of the rotary steam engine which worked more efficiently and faster than previous models. This steam engine became the principal power source for the Industrial Revolution. His steam engines were used in transportation, textile industries, and coal mining. Most notable was their use in the advancement of spinning and weaving cotton. Using steam power, meant that the cotton mills no longer had to be placed near a source of running water. As a result, cotton mills began to spring up all over

England, and the demand for raw cotton increased. Two common terms used to measure power resulted from his experiments and work: horsepower and watts. Watt was able to retire comfortably due to the number of patents he had placed on his inventions. He died in 1819.

World History Bio Card-26

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



William Wilberforce
(1759-1833)

William Wilberforce was a deeply religious English member of Parliament and social reformer of the 18th century. After being elected to Parliament, he became an influential and outspoken critic of slavery. Along with others, he established a colony in Sierra Leone in 1787 where Africans could cultivate the land, carry on trade, and avoid being taken as slaves by the traders raiding the continent of Africa. Over his career, he worked tirelessly to bring about the end of the British slave trade, and finally succeeded when the trade was abolished in 1807. Even after leaving Parliament, he continued to speak

out for the total abolition of slavery in the British Empire. This campaign led to the Slavery Abolition Act in 1833 which was passed just before he died.

World History Bio Card-26

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



**Woodrow
Wilson**
(1856-1924)

Born in Virginia, Woodrow Wilson began his career by teaching political science before he entered politics as Governor of New Jersey. In 1912, the Democratic Party nominated him to run for president on a progressive platform. Because of the split in the Republican Party, he was elected. He was able to get several key pieces of legislation through Congress including: the Federal Reserve Act, the Clayton Antitrust Act, the Federal Trade Commission Act, and the Federal Farm Act. Later, he sponsored a child labor law and an 8-hour workday for rail workers. He was reelected in 1916 on the merits of the

legislation and keeping the U.S. out of World War I. However, in 1917, Wilson believed the U.S. could not be neutral and asked for a declaration of war against the Central Powers. This tipped the war in favor of the Allied Powers. As Wilson contemplated victory, he outlined his plan for peace, called the Fourteen Points. The most controversial part of this was the creation of a League of Nations. The Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles which included the League. The rejection took its toll on Wilson who suffered a stroke in 1919. The extent of the damage was kept from the public. He never fully recovered and died in 1924.

World History Bio Card-27

The LRE Times

Law Related Education



Mao Zedong
(1893-1976)

Mao Zedong, born a peasant in 1893, went on to lead the Communist Revolution in China and serve as the head of the People's Republic of China until his death in 1976. Serving in the army that overthrew the last emperor of the Qing dynasty, he went to school where he became a Marxist. Believing that the Chinese peasantry was the proletariat that would stage a revolution, he challenged Chiang Kai-shek for control of China. In 1949, he defeated the Nationalists and forced them to flee to Taiwan. In the next few years, Mao split from the Soviet Communists over his criticism of what he called, "the new bourgeois elements of Soviet society." Mao initiated the "Great Leap Forward"

program with massive building projects, redistribution of land, and nationalization of most industry and commerce. When this did not produce the food needed for the growing population, Mao organized the people into farming communes. It was a disaster, and millions died. To achieve his view of the classless society of communism, Mao began the Cultural Revolution. He outlined the only knowledge necessary to know in *The Little Red Book*. The Red Guards were established to further his policies. The repression of intellectual freedom by the Guards led many Chinese to become disillusioned with Mao.

World History Bio Card-27