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vast Qing dynasty's territories. Conversely, the continual seclusion policy of the Tokugawa shoguns also brought a peaceful era called Pax Tokugawa and experienced a flourishing of the arts as well as scientific knowledge and advancements, which were introduced to Japan through the Dutch port of Nagasaki. In Southeast Asia, the KonbaungAyutthaya Wars and the Ty Sn Wars broke out while the Dutch East India Company established increasing levels of control over the Makaram Sultanate. In Africa, the Ethiopian Empire underwent the Zemene Mesafin, a period when the country was ruled by a class of regional noblemen and the emperor was merely a figurehead. The Atlantic slave trade also saw the continued involvement of states such as the Oyo Empire. In Oceania, the European colonization of Australia and New Zealand began during the late half of the century. In the Americas, the United States declared its independence from Great Britain. In 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence. In 1789, George Washington was inaugurated as the first president, Benjamin Franklin traveled to Europe where he was hailed as an inventor. Examples of his inventions include the lightning rod and bifocal glasses. Tpac Amaru II led an uprising that sought to end Spanish colonial rule in Peru.For a chronological guide, see Timeline of the 18th century.See also: Georgian eraEurope at the beginning of the War of the Spanish Succession, 1700The Battle of Poltava in 1709 turned the Russian Empire into a European power.John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough17001721: Great Northern War between the Russian and Swedish Empires.1701: Kingdom of Prussia declared under King Frederick I.1701: The Battle of Feyiase marks the rise of the Ashanti Empire.17011714: The War of the Spanish Succession is fought, involving most of continental Europe.1721: Camisard rebellion in France.1703: Saint Petersburg is founded by Peter the Great; it is the Russian capital until 1918.17031711: The Rkzci uprising against the Habsburg monarchy.1704: End of Japan's Genroku period.1704: First Javanese War of Succession.[13]17061713: The War of the Spanish Succession: French troops defeated at the Battle of Ramillies and the Siege of Turin.1707: Death of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb leads to the fragmentation of the Mughal Empire.1707: The Act of Union is passed, merging the Scottish and English Parliaments, thus establishing the Kingdom of Great Britain.[14]1708: The Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies and English Company Trading to the East Indies merge to form the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.17081709: Famine kills one-third of East Prussia's population.1709: Foundation of the Hotak Empire.1709: The Great Frost of 1709 marks the coldest winter in 500 years, contributing to the defeat of Sweden at Poltava.1710: The world's first copyright legislation, Britain's Statute of Anne, takes effect.17101711: Ottoman Empire fights Russia in the Russo-Turkish War and regains Azov.1711: Bukhara Khanate dissolves as local beys seize power.17111715: Tuscarora War between British, Dutch, and German settlers and the Tuscarora people of North Carolina.1713: The Kangxi Emperor acknowledges the full recovery of the Chinese economy since its apex during the Ming.1714: In Amsterdam, Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit invents the mercury-in-glass thermometer, which remains the most reliable and accurate thermometer until the electronic era.1715: The first Jacobite rising breaks out; the British halt the Jacobite advance at the Battle of Sheriffmuir; Battle of Preston.1716: Establishment of the Sikh Confederacy along the present-day India-Pakistan border.17161718: Austro-Venetian-Turkish War.1718: The city of New Orleans is founded by the French in North America.17181720: War of the Quadruple Alliance with Spain versus France, Britain, Austria, and the Netherlands.17181730: Tulip period of the Ottoman Empire.1719: Second Javanese War of Succession.[15]1720: The South Sea Bubble.17201721: The Great Plague of Marseille.1720: Qing forces oust Dzungar invaders from Tibet.1721: The Treaty of Nystad is signed, ending the Great Northern War.1721: Sack of Shamakhi, massacre of its Shia population by Sunni Lezgins.1722: Siege of Isfahan results in the handover of Iran to the Hotaki Afghans.17221723: Russo-Persian War.17221725: Controversy over William Wood's halfpence leads to the Drapier's Letters and begins the Irish economic independence from England movement.Mughal emperor Muhammad Shah with the Persian invader Nader Shah.1723: Slavery is abolished in Russia; Peter the Great converts household slaves into house serfs.[16]17231730: The "Great Disaster", an invasion of Kazakh territories by the Dzungars.17231732: The Qing and the Dzungars fight a series of wars across Qinghai, Dzungaria, and Outer Mongolia, with inconclusive results.1724: Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit proposes the Fahrenheit temperature scale.1725: Austro-Spanish alliance revived. Russia joins in 1726.17271729: Anglo-Spanish War ends inconclusively.1730: Mahmud I takes over Ottoman Empire after the Patrona Halli revolt, ending the Tulip period.17301760: The First Great Awakening takes place in Great Britain and North America.17321734: Crimean Tatar raids into Russia.17117331738: War of the Polish Succession.Qianlong Empero17331739: Austro-Russo-Turkish War.17351799: The Qianlong Emperor of China oversees a huge expansion in territory.17381756: Famine across the Sahel; half the population of Timbuktu dies.[18]17371738: Hotak Empire ends after the siege of Kandahar by Nader Shah.1739: Great Britain and Spain fight the War of Jenkins' Ear in the Caribbean.1739: Nader Shah defeats a pan-Indian army of 300,000 at the Battle of Karnal. 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More than a hundred thousand Kalmyks migrate back to Qing Dzungaria.1772: Gustav III of Sweden stages a coup d'état, becoming almost an absolute monarch.Encyclopédie, ou dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers17721779: Maratha Empire fights Britain and Raghunathrao's forces during the First Anglo-Maratha War.17721795: The Partitions of Poland end the PolishLithuanian Commonwealth and erase Poland from the map for 123 years.17731775: Pugachev's Rebellion, the largest peasant revolt in Russian history.1773: East India Company starts operations in Bengal to smuggle opium into China.1775: Russia imposes a reduction in autonomy on the Zaporizhian Cossacks of Ukraine.17751782: First Anglo-Maratha War.17751783: American Revolutionary War.1776: Several kongsi republics are founded by Chinese settlers in the island of Borneo. They are some of the first democracies in Asia.17761777: A Spanish-Portuguese War occurs over land in the South American frontiers.1776: Illuminati founded by Adam Weishaupt.1776: The United States Declaration of Independence is adopted by the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia.1776: Adam Smith publishes The Wealth of Nations.1777: James Cook becomes the first European to land on the Hawaiian Islands.1778: Franco-American alliance signed.1778: Spain acquires its first permanent holding in Africa from the Portuguese, which is administered by the newly-established La Plata Viceroyalty.1778: Vietnam is reunified for the first time in 200 years by the Tay Son brothers. The Ty Sn dynasty has been established, terminating the L dynasty.17791879: Xhosa Wars between British and Boer settlers and the Xhosas in the South African Republic.17791783: Britain loses several islands and colonial outposts all over the world to the combined Franco-Spanish navy.1779: Iran enters yet another period of conflict and civil war after the prosperous reign of Karim Khan Zand.1780: Outbreak of the indigenous rebellion against Spanish colonization led by Tpac Amaru II in Peru.1781: The city of Los Angeles is founded by Spanish settlers.George Washington17811785: Serfdom is abolished in the Austrian monarchy (first step; second step in 1848).1782: The Thonburi Kingdom of Thailand is dissolved after a palace coup.1783: The Treaty of Paris formally ends the American Revolutionary War.1783: Russian annexation of Crimea.17851791: Imam Sheikh Mansur, a Chechen warrior and Muslim mystic, leads a coalition of Muslim Caucasian tribes from throughout the Caucasus in a holy war against Russian settlers and military bases in the Caucasus, as well as against local traditionalists, who followed the traditional customs and common law (Adat) rather than the theocratic Sharia.[24]17851795: The Northwest Indian War is fought between the United States and Native Americans.17851787: The Maratha-Mysore Wars concludes with an exchange of territories in the Deccan.17861787: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart premieres The Marriage of Figaro and Don Giovanni.1787: The Tuareg occupy Timbuktu until the 19th century.17871792: Russo-Turkish War.1788: First Fleet arrives in Australia.17881790: Russo-Swedish War (17881790).1788: Dutch Geert Adriaans Boomgaard (17881899) would become the first generally accepted validated case of a supercentenarian on record.[25][26]Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen17881799: A Qing attempt to reinstall an exiled Vietnamese king in northern Vietnam ends in disaster.1789: George Washington is elected the first President of the United States; he serves until 1797.1789: Quang Trung defeats the Qing army.17891799: French Revolution.1789: The Lige Revolution.1789: The Brabant Revolution.1789: The Inconfidência Mineira, an unsuccessful separatist movement in central Brazil led by Tiradentes1791: Suppression of the Lige Revolution by Austrian forces and re-establishment of the Prince-Bishopric of Lige.17911795: George Vancouver explores the world during the Vancouver Expedition.17911804: The Haitian Revolution.1791: Mozart premieres The Magic Flute.17921802: The French Revolutionary Wars lead into the Napoleonic Wars, which last from 18031815.1792: The New York Stock & Exchange Board is founded.1792: PolishRussian War of 1792.1792: Margaret Ann Neve (17921903) would become the first recorded female supercentenarian to reach the age of 110.[27][28]1793: Upper Canada bans slavery.1793: The largest yellow fever epidemic in American history kills as many as 5,000 people in Philadelphia, roughly 10% of the population.[29]17931796: Revolt in the Vende against the French Republic at the time of the Revolution.17941816: The Hawkesbury and Nepean Wars, which were a series of incidents between settlers and New South Wales Corps and the Aboriginal Australian clans of the Hawkesbury river in Sydney, Australia.1795: The Marseillaise is officially adopted as the French national anthem.Napoleon at the Bridge of the Arcrole1795: The Battle of Nuanetsi in the final days of the King Kamehameha I's wars to unify the Hawaiian Islands.17951796: Iran invades and devastates Georgia, prompting Russia to intervene and march on Tehran.1796: Edward Jenner administers the first smallpox vaccination; smallpox killed an estimated 400,000 Europeans each year during the 18th century, including five reigning monarchs.[30]1796: War of the First Coalition: The Battle of Montenotte marks Napoleon Bonaparte's first victory as an army commander.1796: The British eject the Dutch from Ceylon and South Africa.17961804: The White Lotus Rebellion against the Manchu dynasty in China.1797: John Adams is elected the second President of the United States; he serves until 1801.1798: The Irish Rebellion fails to overthrow British rule in Ireland.17981800: The Quasi-War is fought between the United States and France.1799: Dutch East India Company is dissolved.1799: Austro-Russian forces under Alexander Suvorov liberates much of Italy and Switzerland from French occupation.1799: Coup of 18 Brumaire - Napoleon's coup d'état brings the end of the French Revolution.1799: Death of the Qianlong Emperor after 60 years of rule over China. His favorite official, Heshen, is ordered to commit suicide.1800: On 1 January, the bankrupt VOC is formally dissolved and the nationalized Dutch East Indies are established.[31]Main articles: Timeline of historic inventions 18th century, and Timeline of scientific discoveries 18th centuryThe spinning jenny1709: The first piano was built by Bartolomeo Cristofoni1711: Tining fork was invented by John Shore1712: Steam engine invented by Thomas Newcomen1714: Mercury thermometer by Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit1717: Diving bell was successfully tested by Edmond Halley, sustainable to a depth of 55ftc. 1730: Octant navigational tool was developed by John Hadley in England, and Thomas Godfrey in America1733: The largest yellow fever epidemic in American history kills as many as 5,000 people in Philadelphia, roughly 10% of the population.[29]1736: Revolt in the Vende against the French Republic at the time of the Revolution.1739: Famine across the Sahel; half the population of Timbuktu dies.[18]17371738: Hotak Empire ends after the siege of Kandahar by Nader Shah.1739: Great Britain and Spain fight the War of Jenkins' Ear in the Caribbean.1739: Nader Shah defeats a pan-Indian army of 300,000 at the Battle of Karnal. 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