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For legendary sovereigns, see List of legendary kings of Britain. For ancient monarchs, see King of the Britons. For the current British king, see Charles III. United Kingdom of GreatBritain and Northern IrelandRoyal coat of arms (common version on the left;
Scottish version on the right)[a] There have been 13 British monarchs since the political union of the Kingdom of Scotland on 1 May 1707. England and Scotland on 1 May 1707. England and Scotland on 1 May 1707. England and the Kingdom of Scotland on 1 May 1707. England and Scotland on 1 May 1707. On
1 January 1801, the Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland upon the secession of southern Ireland in the 1920s. Queen Anne became monarch of the Kingdom of Great Britain after the political
union of the Kingdom of England and the Kingdom of Scotland on 1 May 1707. She had ruled England, Scotland, and the Kingdom of Ireland since 8 March 1702. She continued as queen of Great Britain and I (r. 1603-1625), the
monarch of the Union of the Crowns, proclaimed himself "King of Great Britain", and used it on coinage, stamps and elsewhere, the Parliament of England had refused to use that style in statutory law or address.[2][3] All of Anne's children died young, so during her reign, Parliament settled the rules of succession in the Act of Settlement 1701, by
defining Sophia of Hanover (granddaughter of James VI and I) and her non-Catholic descendants as the future royal heirs. The Crown passed from Queen Anne to Sophia had already died. Queen Anne and King George I were second cousins, as both were great-grandchildren of James VI and I. For a family tree that
shows George I's relationship to Anne, see George I of Great Britain § Family tree. Name Portrait Arms Birth Marriage(s) Death Claim House of Stuart Anne[4]1 May 1707[b][c]-1 August 1714[b](7 years, 93 days)(Queen of England and Scotland from 8 March 1702)[d](12 years, 147 days) 6 February 1665[b]St James's PalaceDaughter of James VII and
IIand Anne Hyde George of DenmarkSt James's Palace28 July 1683[b]5 childrenuntil 28 October 1708 1 August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1689 House of Hanover George I[5]George Louis1 August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James's Palace28 July 1683[b]5 childrenuntil 28 October 1708 1 August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1689 House of Hanover George I[5]George Louis1 August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1689 House of Hanover George I[5]George Louis1 August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1680[b]LeineschlossSon of Ernest August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1680[b]LeineschlossSon of Ernest August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1680[b]LeineschlossSon of Ernest August 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of James VII and IIBill of Rights 1714[b]Kensington PalaceAged 49 Daughter of 
Elector of Hanover, and Sophia of the Palatinate Sophia Dorothea of Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle Castle 21 November 1682[b]2 childrendiv. 28 December 1707[f][g]-25 October 1760(33 years, 126 days) 30
October 1683[b]Herrenhausen PalaceSon of George Iand Sophia Dorothea of Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle Caroline of Brandenburg-AnsbachHerrenhausen Gardens22 August 1705[b]8 childrenuntil 20 November 1760[h]-29 January
1820(59 years, 97 days) Until 1801:1801-1816: From 1816: 24 May 1738[b]Norfolk HouseSon of Frederick, Prince of Wales, and Augusta of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg Charlotte of Mecklenburg-StrelitzSt James's Palace8 September 176115 childrenuntil 17 November 1818 29 January 1820Windsor CastleAged 81 Grandson of George II George IV[8]George
Augustus Frederick29 January 1820[i]—26 June 1830(10 years, 149 days) 12 August 1762St James's Palace8 April 17951 daughteruntil 7 August 1821 26 June 1830Windsor CastleAged 67 Son of George III William IV[9]William Henry26 June
1830[j]—20 June 1837(6 years, 360 days) 21 August 1765Buckingham PalaceSon of George III and Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz Adelaide of Saxe-MeiningenKew Palace13 July 18182 daughters 20 June 1837(k]—22 January 1901(63 years, 217 days) 24 May
1819Kensington PalaceDaughter of Edward, Duke of Kent and Strathearn, and Victoria of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Edward VII[11]Albert Edward22
 January 1901[1]—6 May 1910(9 years, 105 days) 9 November 1841Buckingham PalaceSon of Victoriaand Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Alexandra of DenmarkSt George's Chapel10 March 18636 children 6 May 1910[n]—20
January 1936(25 years, 260 days) 3 June 1865Marlborough HouseSon of Edward VIIand Alexandra of Denmark Mary of TeckSt James's Palace6 July 18936 children 20 January 1936Sandringham HouseAged 70 Son of Edward VIII[14]Edward Albert Christian George Andrew Patrick David20 January 1936[0]—11 December 1936 (abdicated)
(327 days) 23 June 1894White LodgeSon of George Vand Mary of Teck Wallis SimpsonChâteau de Candé3 June 1937 28 May 19724 route du Champ d'EntraînementAged 77 Son of George VI[15]Albert Frederick Arthur George11 December 1936[p]—6 February 1952(15 years, 58 days) 14 December 1895York CottageSon of George Vand
Mary of Teck Elizabeth Bowes-LyonWestminster Abbey26 April 19232 daughters 6 February 1952[q]—8 September 2022[17](70 years, 215 days) 21 April 192617 Bruton Street, MayfairDaughter of
George Vland Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon Philip of Greece and DenmarkWestminster Abbey20 November 19474 childrenuntil 9 April 2021 8 September 2022[17][r]—present(2 years, 261 days) 14 November 1948Buckingham PalaceSon of
Elizabeth IIand Philip of Greece and Denmark (1) Diana SpencerSt Paul's Cathedral29 July 19812 sonsdiv. 28 August 1996 (2) Camilla Parker BowlesWindsor Guildhall9 April 2005 LivingAge 76 Son of Elizabeth II United Kingdom portalRoyalty portal Family tree of the British royal family List of monarchs in Britain by length of reign Lists of monarchs
in the British Isles List of British royal consorts List of current British princes and princesses ^ There are two version is on the left, while the Scottish version is on the right. In the shield of the common version, England is represented in the first and fourth quarters,
Scotland is represented in the second quarter, and Northern Ireland is represented in the third quarter. In the shield of the Scottish version, the Royal Arms of England and the Royal Arms of English monarchs ^ George I was
crowned on 20 October 1714. ^ Date of start of reign given in Old Style calendar; date of death in New Style. (Duration of reign takes this into account.) ^ George II was crowned on 19 July 1821. ^ William IV was crowned on 8 September 1831.
^ Victoria was crowned on 28 June 1838. ^ Edward VII was crowned on 9 August 1902. ^ George V changed the name of the British royal house from Saxe-Coburg and Gotha to Windsor on 17 July 1917.[12] This change was made in response to anti-German sentiment in the British Empire during World War I. Descendants of Prince Philip, Duke of
Edinburgh and Queen Elizabeth II belong to the House of Windsor by Royal Command (9 April 1952 Declaration by Queen Elizabeth II to her Privy Council) although under the usual rules of genealogy they are, by paternal descent, also members of the Glücksburg branch of the House of Oldenburg (the ruling House of Denmark and of the former
Kingdom of Greece). Accordingly, King Charles III is the first monarch of the House of Windsor. Accordingly, King Charles III is the first monarch of the House of Windsor. George V was crowned on 22 June 1911.
^ Edward VIII was not crowned. ^ George VI was crowned on 12 May 1937. ^ Elizabeth II was crowned on 2 June 1953. ^ Charles III was crowned on 6 May 2011. ^ Croft, Pauline (2003), King James, Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan,
pp. 52-54, 61, ISBN 978-0-3336-1395-5 ^ Willson, David Harris (1963) [1956], King James VI & I, London: Jonathan Cape, pp. 249-253, ISBN 978-0-2246-0572-4 {{citation}}: ISBN 978-0-2246-0572-4 {{ci
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see crowned republic. Part of the Politics seriesMonarchy Central concepts MonarchMonarchy Central concepts Monarchy Dual Duchy Grand Dynastic union Elective Emirate Ethnarch Federal Hereditary Khanate
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Youwei Maurras Bainville Seca Evola Kuehnelt-Leddihn Bogdanor Scruton Hoppe Yarvin Works De Regno (1265-1266) Monarchia (1313) Les Six livres de la République (1576) Leviathan (1651) Patriarcha (1680) Considerations on France (1796) Democracy: The God That Failed (2001) Politicians Mazarin Pius VI Ruffo Consalvi Plessis Metternich
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republic with a ceremonial president a republic Parliamentary republic with an executive president and independent of the legislature. Presidential republic Executive president is independent of the legislature; head of government is
appointed by the president and is accountable to the legislature, but is not accountable to it. Semi-constitutional monarchy: Monarch holds significant executive or legislative power. Authoritarian systems: Theocratic republic: Supreme
Leader holds significant executive and legislative power. Absolute monarchy: Monarch has unlimited power. One-party state: Power is constitutionally linked to a single political party. Military junta: Committee of milit
basis: No constitutionally defined basis to current regime, i.e. provisional governments or Islamic theocracies. Dependent territories or places without governments Note: this chart represents the de jure systems of government, not the de facto degree of democracy. vte Constitutional monarchy, also known as limited monarchy, parliamentary
monarchy or democratic monarchy, is a form of monarchy in which the monarch exercises their authority in accordance with a constitution and is not alone in making decision-maker) in that they are bound to exercise powers and authorities
within limits prescribed by an established legal framework. A constitutional monarch in a parliamentary democracy is a hereditary symbolic head of state (who may be an emperor, king or queen, prince or grand duke) who mainly performs representative and civic roles but does not exercise executive or policy-making power.[4] Constitutional
monarchies range from countries such as Liechtenstein, Monaco, Morocco, Jordan, Kuwait, Bahrain and Bhutan, where the constitution grants substantial discretionary powers to the sovereign, to countries such as the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth realms, the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Lesotho, Malaysia,
Thailand, Cambodia, and Japan, where the monarch retains significantly less, if any, personal discretion in the exercise of their authority. On the surface level, this distinction may be hard to establish, with numerous liberal democracies restraining monarchic power in practice rather than written law, e.g., the constitution of the United Kingdom,
which affords the monarch substantial, if limited, legislative and executive powers. Constitutional monarchy may refer to a system in which the monarch substantial, if limited, legislative and executive powers. Constitutional monarchy may refer to a system in which the monarch substantial, if limited, legislative and executive powers. Constitutional monarchy may refer to a system in which the monarch substantial, if limited, legislative and executive powers. Constitutional monarchy may refer to a system in which the monarch substantial, if limited, legislative and executive powers.
operate in the monarch's name, in the form typical in Europe the monarch no longer personally sets public policy or chooses political leaders. Political scientist Vernon Bogdanor, paraphrasing Thomas Macaulay, has defined a constitutional monarch as "A sovereign who reigns but does not rule".[6] In addition to acting as a visible symbol of national
unity, a constitutional monarch may hold formal powers such as dissolving parliament or giving royal assent to legislation. However, such powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional principles or unwritten constitutional principles or unwritten constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional principles or unwritten constitutional principles or unwritten constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional principles or unwritten constitutional principles or unwritten constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised strictly in accordance with either written constitutional monarch may hold formal powers generally may only be exercised as a supplication of the su
The English Constitution, British political theorist Walter Bagehot identified three main political right to encourage, and the right to warn. Many constitutional monarchies still retain significant authorities or political influence, however, such as through certain
reserve powers, and may also play an important political role. The Commonwealth realms share the same person as hereditary monarchies - Malaysia and Cambodia - are elective monarchies, in which the ruler is periodically selected by a small electoral college.
Some use the concept of semi-constitutional monarch to identify constitutional monarchies where the monarch retains substantial powers, on a par with a presidential or semi-presidential or semi-pres
by writers H. G. Wells and Glenn Patmore [8][9] The oldest constitutional monarchy dating back to ancient times was that of the Hittites. They were an ancient Anatolian people that lived during the Bronze Age whose king had to share his authority with an assembly, called the Panku, which was the equivalent to a modern-day deliberative assembly or
a legislature. Members of the Panku came from scattered noble families who worked as representatives of their subjects in an adjutant or subaltern federal-type landscape. [10][better source needed][11] According to Herodotus, Demonax created a constitutional monarchy for King Battus III the Lame, of Cyrene, when Cyrenaica had become an
unstable state, in about 548 BC.[12] In the Kingdom of England, the Glorious Revolution of 1688 furthered the constitutional monarchy, restricted by laws such as the Bill of Rights 1689 and the Act of Settlement 1701, although the first form of constitution was enacted with Magna Carta of 1215. At the same time, in Scotland, the Convention of
Estates enacted the Claim of Right Act 1689, which placed similar limits on the Scottish monarchy. Queen Anne was the last monarch to veto an Act of Parliament when, on 11 March 1708, she blocked the Scottish Militia Bill. However Hanoverian monarchs continued to selectively dictate government policies. For instance King George III constantly
blocked Catholic Emancipation, eventually precipitating the resignation of William Pitt the Younger as prime minister in 1801.[13] The sovereign's influence on the choice of prime minister, when in 1834 he removed Lord Melbourne as a result of
Melbourne's choice of Lord John Russell as Leader of the House of Commons.[14][15] Queen Victoria was the last monarch to exercise real personal power, but this diminished over the course of her reign. In 1839, she became the last sovereign to keep a prime minister in power against the will of Parliament when the Bedchamber crisis resulted in
the retention of Lord Melbourne's administration.[16] By the end of her reign, however, she could do nothing to block the unacceptable (to her) premierships of William Gladstone's choice of Hugh Childers as War Secretary in favour of Sir
 possessed by the monarch.[19][20] No person may accept significant public office without swearing an oath of allegiance to the King.[21] With few exceptions, the monarch is bound by constitutional convention to act on the advice of the government. Poland developed the first constitution for a monarchy in continental Europe, with the Constitution of
3 May 1791; it was the second single-document constitution in the world just after the first monarch proclaiming himself as an
embodiment of the nation, rather than as a divinely appointed ruler; this interpretation of monarchy is germane to continental constitutional monarchies. German philosopher Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, in his work Elements of the Philosophy of Right (1820), gave the concept a philosophical justification that concurred with evolving contemporary
political theory and the Protestant Christian view of natural law.[22] Hegel's forecast of a constitutional monarch with very limited powers whose function is to embody the national continuity in times of emergency was reflected in the development of constitutional monarchies in Europe and Japan.[22] This section
needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources in this section. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. Find sources: "Constitutional monarchy" - news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (September 2024) (Learn how and when to remove this message) There exist at
least two different types of constitutional monarchies in the modern world - executive and ceremonial.[23] In executive monarchy under this system of government is a powerful political (and social) institution. By contrast, in
ceremonial monarchies, the monarch holds little or no actual power or direct political influence, though they frequently still have a great deal of social and cultural influence. Ceremonial and executive monarchy should not be confused with democratic and non-democratic and non-democratic monarchies, the monarch holds little or no actual power or direct political influence. Ceremonial and executive monarchy should not be confused with democratic and non-democratic and non-democratic monarchy should not be confused with democratic and non-democratic and non-democratic monarchy should not be confused with democratic and non-democratic monarchy should not be confused with democratic and non-democratic monarchy should not be confused with democratic and non-democratic monarchy should not be confused with democratic monarchy should not be confused with the should not be confused with th
monarchs wield significant executive power. However, while they are theoretically very powerful within their small states, they are not absolute monarchs and have very limited de facto power compared to the Islamic monarchs, which is why their countries are generally considered to be liberal democracies and not undemocratic. [23] For instance
when Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein threatened to veto a possible approval of a referendum to legalize abortion in 2011, it came as a surprise because the prince had not vetoed any law for over 30 years[24] (in the end, this was moot, as the proposal was not approved). As originally conceived, a constitutional monarch was head of the
executive branch and quite a powerful figure even though their power was limited by the constitution and the elected parliament. Some of the framers of the U.S. Constitution may have envisioned the president as an elected constitution and the elected parliament.
The present-day concept of a constitutional monarchy developed in the United Kingdom, where they democratically elected parliaments, and their leader, the monarchs having ceded power and remaining as a titular position. In many cases, the monarchs, while still at the very top of the political and social
hierarchy, were given the status of "servants of the people" to reflect the new, egalitarian position. In the course of France's July Monarchy, Louis-Philippe I was styled "King of the French" rather than "King of France's July Monarchy, Louis-Philippe I was styled "King of France". Following the unification of Germany, Otto von Bismarck rejected the British model. In the constitutional monarchy established
under the Constitution of the German Empire which Bismarck inspired, the Kaiser retained considerable actual executive power, while the Imperial mandate. However, this model of constitutional monarchy was discredited and abolished following Germany's
defeat in the First World War. Later, Fascist Italy could also be considered a constitution. This eventually discredited the Italian monarchy and led to its abolition in 1946. After the Second World War, surviving
European monarchies almost invariably adopted some variant of the constitutional monarchy model originally developed in Britain. Nowadays a parliamentary democracy that is a constitutional monarchy is considered to differ from one that is a republic only in detail rather than in substance. In both cases, the titular head of state - monarch or
president - serves the traditional role of embodying and representing the nation, while the government is carried on by a cabinet composed predominantly of elected Members of Parliament. However, three important factors distinguish monarchies such as the United Kingdom from systems where greater power might otherwise rest with Parliament
 These are: The royal prerogative, under which the monarch may do no wrong under the law because the responsible government is instead deemed accountable The immunity, under which the monarch may do no wrong under the law because the responsible government is instead deemed accountable The immunity of the monarch from some taxation or restrictions on property used.
Other privileges may be nominal or ceremonial (e.g., where the executive, judiciary, police or armed forces act on the authority of or owe allegiance to the Crown). Today slightly more than a quarter of constitutional monarchies are Western European countries, including the United Kingdom, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Denmark,
Luxembourg, Monaco, Liechtenstein and Sweden. However, the two most populous constitutional monarchies in the world are in Asia: Japan and Thailand. In these countries, the prime minister holds the day-to-day powers of governance, while the monarch retains residual (but not always insignificant) powers. The powers of the monarch difference in the world are in Asia: Japan and Thailand. In these countries, the prime minister holds the day-to-day powers of governance, while the monarch retains residual (but not always insignificant) powers. The powers of the monarch difference in the world are in Asia: Japan and Thailand. In these countries, the prime minister holds the day-to-day powers of governance, while the monarch retains residual (but not always insignificant) powers.
between countries. In Denmark and in Belgium, for example, the monarch formally appoints a representative to preside over the creation of a coalition government following a parliamentary election, while in Norway the King chairs special meetings of the cabinet. In nearly all cases, the monarch is still the nominal chief executive, but is bound by
convention to act on the advice of the Cabinet. However, a few monarchies (most notably Japan and Sweden) have amended their constitutions so that the monarchies under King Charles III, which are known as Commonwealth realms. [26] Unlike some of their
continental European counterparts, the Monarch and his Governors-General in the Commonwealth realms hold significant "reserve" or "prerogative" powers, to be wielded in times of extreme emergency or constitutional crises, usually to uphold parliamentary government. For example, during the 1975 Australian constitutional crisis, the Governors
General dismissed the Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam. The Australian Senate had threatened to block the Government's budget by refusing to pass the necessary appropriation bills. On 11 November 1975, Whitlam intended to call a half-Senate election to try to break the deadlock. When he sought the Governor-General's approval of the
election, the Governor-General instead dismissed him as Prime Minister. Shortly after that, he installed leader of the opposition Malcolm Fraser in his place. Acting quickly before all parliamentarians became aware of the opposition Malcolm Fraser in his place. Acting quickly before all parliamentarians became aware of the opposition Malcolm Fraser in his place.
Parliament for a double dissolution election. Fraser and his government were returned with a massive majority. This led to much speculation among Whitlam's supporters as to whether this use of the Government were returned with a massive majority. This led to much speculation among Whitlam's supporters as to whether this use of the Government were returned with a massive majority.
however, the event confirmed the monarchy's value as a source of checks and balances against elected politicians who might seek powers in excess of those conferred by the monarchy; the monarch is recognized as the Head of State, Head of the Armed
Forces, Upholder of the Buddhist Religion, and Defender of the Faith. The immediate former King, Bhumibol Adulyadej, was the longest-reigning monarch in the world and in all of Thailand's history, before passing away on 13 October 2016.[27] Bhumibol reigned through several political changes in the Thai government. He played an influential role
in each incident, often acting as mediator between disputing politics. It carries strict criminal penalties for violators. Generally, the Thai
people were reverent of Bhumibol. Much of his social influence arose from this reverence and from the socioeconomic improvement efforts undertaken by the royal family. In the United Kingdom, a frequent debate centres on when it is appropriate for a British monarch to act. When a monarch does act, political controversy can often ensue, partially
 because the neutrality of the crown is seen to be compromised in favour of a partisan goal, while some political scientists champion the idea of an "interventionist monarch" as a check against possible illegal action by politicians. For instance, the monarch of the United Kingdom can theoretically exercise an absolute veto over legislation by
withholding royal assent. However, no monarch has done so since 1708, and it is widely believed that this and many of the monarchies to current monarchies additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to
reliable sources in this section. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. Find sources: "Constitutional monarchy" - news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (December 2022) (Learn how and when to remove this message) There are currently 43 monarchies worldwide. Antigua and Barbuda[a] Australia[a] The Bahamas[a] Belgium
Belize[a] Cambodia Canada[a] Denmark Grenada[a] Indonesia[b] Special Region of Yogyakarta Jamaica[a] Japan Lesotho Luxembourg Malaysia Johor Kedah Kelantan Negeri Sembilan Pahang Perak Perlis Selangor Terengganu The Netherlands New Zealand[a] Norway Papua New Guinea[a] Saint Kitts and Nevis[a] Saint Lucia[a] Saint Vincent and the
Grenadines[a] Solomon Islands[a] South Africa[c] KwaZulu-Natal[28] Spain Sweden Thailand Tuvalu[a] United Kingdom[a] ^ a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o Commonwealth realms, which share the same person as their monarch. ^ Indonesia, a presidential republic, has a province with a monarch as its ceremonial head. ^ South Africa, a parliamentary
republic with an executive president, has a province with a monarch as its ceremonial head. Bahrain Bhutan Jordan Kuwait Liechtenstein Monaco Morocco Qatar Tonga United Arab Emirates, and is de jure elected by
the Supreme Council; the prime minister is de jure appointed and is the head of government. The president and prime minister are de facto the rulers of the absolute monarchies of Abu Dhabi and Dubai, respectively. This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may
be challenged and removed. (December 2015) (Learn how and when to remove this message) The Kingdom of Afghanistan was a constitutional monarchy until 1958 when King Faisal II was deposed in a military coup. The Anglo-Corsican
Kingdom was a brief period in the history of Corsica (1794-1796) when the island broke with Revolutionary France and sought military protection from Great Britain. Corsica became an independent kingdom under George III of the United Kingdom, but with its own elected parliament and a written constitution guaranteeing local autonomy and
democratic rights. Barbados from gaining its independence in 1966 until 2021, was a constitutional monarchy of Barbados. After an extensive history of republican movements, a republic was declared on 30 November 2021. Brazil from 1822, with the proclamation
of independence and rise of the Empire of Brazil by Pedro I of Brazil to 1889, when Pedro II was deposed by a military coup. Tsardom of Bulgaria until 1946 when Tsar Simeon was deposed by the communist assembly. Many republics in the Commonwealth of Nations were constitutional monarchies for some period after their independence, including
South Africa (1910-1961), Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) (1948-1972), Fiji (1970-1987), Gambia (1965-1970), Gambia (1966-1970), Gambia
a responsible khedival ministry developing in the 1860s and 1870s. The constitutional system continued through the Khedivate period and developed during the Egyptian Constitution of 1923. This system persisted until the
declaration of a republic after the Free Officers Movement coup in 1952. For most of this period, however, Egypt was occupied by the United Kingdom, and overall political control was in the hands of British colonial officials nominally accredited as diplomats to the Egyptian royal court but actually able to overrule any decision of the monarch or
elected government. The Grand Duchy of Finland was a constitutional monarchy though its ruler, Alexander I, was simultaneously an autocrat and absolute ruler in Russia. France, several times from 1789 through the 19th century. The transformation of the Estates General of 1789 into the National Assembly initiated an ad-hoc transition from the
absolute monarchy of the Ancien Régime to a new constitutional system. France formally became an executive constitutional monarchy with the promulgation of the French Constitutional monarchy with the promulgation of the French Constitutional monarchy and
establishment of the French First Republic after the Insurrection of 10 August 1792. Several years later, in 1804, Napoleon Bonaparte proclaimed himself Emperor of the French in what was ostensibly a constitutional monarchy, though modern historians often call his reign as an absolute monarchy, [citation needed] The Bourbon Restoration (under
Louis XVIII and Charles X), the July Monarchy (under Louis-Philippe), and the Second Empire (under Napoleon III) were also constitutional monarchies within them. The German Empire from 1871 to 1918, (as well as earlier confederations, and the monarchies it
consisted of) was also a constitutional monarchy—see Constitution of the German Empire. Greece until 1973 when Constantine II was deposed by the military government. The decision was formalized by a plebiscite 8 December 1974. Hawaii, which was an absolute monarchy from its founding in 1810, transitioned to a constitutional monarchy in
1840 when King Kamehameha III promulgated the kingdom's first constitution. This constitution. This constitution of Hungary. In 1848–1849 and 1867–1918 as part of Austria-Hungary. In the interwar period (1920–1944) Hungary remained a constitutional monarchy
 without a reigning monarch. Iceland. The Act of Union, a 1 December 1918 agreement with Denmark, established Iceland as a sovereign kingdom united with Denmark under a common king. Iceland abolished the monarchy and became a republic on 17 June 1944 after the Icelandic constitutional referendum, 24 May 1944. India was a constitutional
monarchy, with George VI as head of state and the Earl Mountbatten as governor-general, for a brief period between gaining its independence from the British on 15 August 1947 and becoming a republic when it adopted its constitution on 26 January 1950, henceforth celebrated as Republic Day. Pahlavi was
a constitutional monarchy, which had been originally established during the Persian Constitutional Revolution in 1906. Italy until 2 June 1946, when a referendum proclaimed the end of the Kingdom and the beginning of the Republic. The Kingdom of Laos was a constitutional monarchy until 1975, when Sisavang Vatthana was forced to abdicate by
the communist Pathet Lao. Malta was a constitutional monarchy with Elizabeth II as Queen of Malta, represented by a Governor-General appointed by her, for the first ten years of independence from 21 September 1964 to the declaration of the Republic of Malta on 13 December 1974. Mexico was twice an Empire. The First Mexican Empire lasted
from 19 May 1822 to 19 March 1823, with Agustin I elected as emperor. Then, the Mexican monarchists and Conservatives, with the help of the Austria as Emperor of Mexico. This constitutional monarchy lasted three years, from 1864 to 1867. Montenegro until 1918
when it merged with Serbia and other areas to form Yugoslavia. Nepal until 28 May 2008, when King Gyanendra was deposed, and the Federal Democratic Republic in 1963. It's only monarch was Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of
Nigeria. Ottoman Empire from 1876 until 1878 and again from 1908 until the dissolution of the empire in 1922. Pakistan was a constitution of the empire in 1922. Pakistan was a constitution of the empire in 1924 and becoming a republic when it adopted the first Constitution of Pakistan on 23 March 1956. The Dominion of
Pakistan had a total of two monarchs (George VI and Elizabeth II) and four Governor-Generals (Muhammad Ali Jinnah being the first). Republic Day (or Pakistan Day) is celebrated every year on 23 March to commemorate the adoption of its Constitution and the transition of the Dominion of Pakistan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The Polish-
Lithuanian Commonwealth, formed after the Union of Lublin in 1569 and lasting until the final partition of the establishment of the Constitution of 3 May 1791, which historian Norman Davies calls "the first constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of 3 May 1791, which historian Norman Davies calls "the first constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the state in 1795, operated much like many modern European constitution of the 1795 much like many modern European constitution of the 1795 much like many modern European constitution of the 1795 much like many modern European constitution of the 1795 much like m
its kind in Europe").[29] The legislators of the unified state truly did not see it as a monarchy at all, but as a republic under the presidency of the King . Poland-Lithuania also followed the principle of Rex regnat et non gubernat, had a bicameral parliament, and a collection of entrenched legal documents amounting to a constitution along the lines of
the modern United Kingdom. The King was elected and had the duty of maintaining the people's rights. Portugal was a monarchy since 1139 and a constitutional monarchy from 1825 it was part of the United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil
and the Algarves which was a constitutional monarchy for the years 1820-23. Kingdom of Romania from its establishment in 1881 until 1947 when Michael I was forced to abdicate by the communists. Kingdom of Serbia from 1882 until 1947 when Michael I was forced to abdicate by the communists. Kingdom of Serbia from 1882 until 1947 when Michael I was forced to abdicate by the communists.
by the Serbian Karadjordjevic dynasty. Trinidad and Tobago was a constitutional monarchy with Elizabeth II as Queen of Trinidad and Tobago on 1 August 1976. Republic
Day is celebrated every year on 24 September. Yugoslavia from 1918 (as Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes) until 1929 and from 1931 (as Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes) until 1945 when the communist government abolished the monarchy under Peter II. Vietnam was a semi-constitutional monarchy from 1949 to 1955, Bảo Đai was its emperor but he
was called the Head of State (Quốc trưởng), political power was also in the hands of the government and the National Advisory Council. Vietnam under Bảo Đại planned to organize parliamentary elections and promulgate a constitution, but not in time due to the progress of the war. This section needs additional citations for verification. Please helpful to the progress of the war.
improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources in this section. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (May 2025) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Andorra is a diarchy, being headed by two co-princes: the bishop of Urgell and the president of France. Andorra, Monaco and Liechtenstein are the only countries
with reigning princes. Belgium is the only remaining explicit popular monarchy: the Belgians rather than King of the Belgians rather
of 1830 to monarch of the July Monarchy. Japan is the only country remaining with an emperor. [30] Luxembourg is the only country remaining with an elective monarchy: the King of Malaysia (Yang di-Pertuan Agong) is selected from among nine state rulers who are also constitutional monarchs
themselves. Papua New Guinea. Unlike in most other Commonwealth realms, sovereignty is constitution states "that all power belongs to the people—acting through their duly elected representatives". The monarch has been, according to section 82 of the
constitution, "requested by the people of Papua New Guinea, through their Constituent Assembly, to become [monarch] and Head of State of Papua New Guinea, through their Constitution does not recognize the Spanish Monarch as the sovereign, but as the head of state [Section 56(1)]. It states "National
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Shapiro, Ian (ed.), Two Treatises of Government and A Letter Concerning Toleration (with essays by John Dunn, Ruth W. Grant and Ian Shapiro ed.), New Haven: Yale University Press, ISBN 0-300-10017-5 Retrieved from "HomeTop 10 Greatest British Monarchs But our Monarchs But our Monarchs have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills throughout the ages
These skills have often been shown in times of war, for example when the Spanish Armada was bearing down on Britain in 1588 (when Elizabeth I delivered her famous Tilbury address) or during the Second World War (when the stammering George VI gave the nation strength). But our sovereigns also provide solidity and inspiration during changing
times, and when politicians fail. Good examples include Oueen Victoria, who ruled at the height of empire, and Oueen Elizabeth II, who has held a nation searching for a new post-empire identity together for the past seven decades. Read on for our selection of Britain's top 10 monarchs. Albert and his mother were close. After her death, his education
was neglected. He didn't learn to read until he was twelve. Alfred's father died in AD 858 and his brothers, Ethelbald, Ethelberht, and Ethelred was betrothed to and married Ealswith, a Mercian woman. In AD 871, Ethelred
was killed at the battle at Basing and Alfred became king. He attacked the Vikings at Wilton and paid them a ransom, exchange of hostages, and a sworn agreement, but Guthrum reneged. He attacked Alfred while he was celebrating
Christmas holiday festivities. Alfred escaped and found refuge in Athelny. He led a successful charge at Edington and chased Guthrum to his camp at Chippenham. After two weeks, Guthrum accepted and Alfred named him Ethelstan. Alfred had a few years of
peace to implement some of his plans: restructure the army, build defensive walls in selective cities, and set up public schools. Alfred died in c. 899. He commissioned the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles which is a source of information for the history of the English language. In the sixth century, Alfred was given the epithet "The Greatest". At age fifteen,
Richard was named Duke of Aquitaine and Count of Poitiers and helped rule these regions with his mother. He was highly cultured and learned to compose poetry and songs. Richard's father wanted to divide his kingdom among his sons. Henry the Young King, Richard's father wanted to divide his kingdom among his sons.
him independently of his father. He convinced Richard to join him in a revolt against their father. He was aided by Louis VII, a French king. The revolt was unsuccessful. His father imprisoned his mother as he believed she was a co-conspirator. Initially, Richard refused to accept his father imprisoned his mother as he believed she was a co-conspirator.
own army and Richard protected his father's kingdom. Richard led a relentless two-month siege of Castillon-sur-Agen and was victorious. He acquired the name 'the Lionheart' for his brave leadership. King Henry II died in 1189 and Richard became king. He went on the Third Crusade and took possession of Cyprus for England. Richard made a three
year peace treaty with Saladin, a Muslim leader, that allowed Christian pilgrims to traveled separately on the return trip to England. Richard was shipwrecked. As he traveled over a dangerous land route, he was captured,
imprisoned, and a ransom placed on his head. His mother raised money for his freedom. He was recrowned in 1194 to nullify the shame of his imprisonment. Richard's wife never saw him again until his death. Richard died in 1199 in Chalus, and the
rest of his body at the feet of his father at Fontevraud Abbey in Anjou. Richard is respected for his triumphs at the Third Crusade. He also introduced the heraldic design - Royal Arms of England (three lions), the national symbol of England. At age fifteen, his father arranged a politically expedient marriage to thirteen-year-old Eleanor of Castile to
affirm English sovereignty over Gascony. Edward's early adulthood was traumatic. His father had a penchant for war and in 1264, at the Battle of Lewes, he was taken hostage to ensure that his father would abide by the terms of peace. In 1265 Simon de Monfort, a rebel leader, initiated the Great Parliament so that representatives from the cities and
burghs could meet and vote on financial issues, particularly taxation. Edward escaped and battled the rebels. Montfort was killed and in 1271, Edward landed in Acre during the Ninth Crusade. He made a truce with the Baibars. In 1272, while on the Crusade, Edward's father died. Edward arrived in England in 1274 and
was crowned king. Edward wanted to rule England, Wales, and Scotland. The establishment of Parliament was now a permanent feature of English political life. A House of Commons had been created which was made up of wealthy 'untitled' members. In 1277, Edward invaded Wales and defeated Welsh leader Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, killing him in
1282 at the Battle of Orewin Bridge. In 1298, Edward fought the Battle of Falkirk. In 1304, Robert the Bruce led a Scottish rebellion. Edward died at Burgh on Sands in 1307. Written on his marble tomb are the words "Hammer of the Scots. Keep the Faith". At the age of ten, Henry was given the title, Duke of Cornwall, New Prince of Wales, and Earl
of Chester. In 1509, Henry became king. He had initially rejected Catherine of Aragon, his deceased brother's widow, but he agreed to marry her. They had a daughter, Mary, but after two decades, he was exasperated because Catherine didn't give him a son. He sought a divorce. The Pope denied it. In 1534, after receiving the backing of the
Parliament and clergy, he declared himself Supreme Head of the Church of England, initiating three statues: Act of Succession, and Act of Supremacy. Over the next decade, Henry married five times: Anne Boleyn (1533), Jane Seymour, (1536), Anne of Cleves (1540), Catherine Howard (1540), and Catherine Parr (1543). He had a
daughter, Elizabeth, with Boleyn and a son, Edward, with Seymour. Boleyn and Howard were accused of adultery and beheaded, and he annulled his marriage of a few days to Cleves. He remained with Parr until his death in 1547. He was interned in a vault next to Jane Seymour in St. Georges Chapel at Windsor Castle. Her elder brother, Edward
Seymour, 1st Earl of Hertford had been designated by Henry to be Lord Protector of the Realm as his son, Edward, was only nine years old. Elizabeth's mother was beheaded when she was two. She was placed in the care of a governess, Catherine Ashley, who taught her French, Dutch, Italian, and Spanish. After her father died, her half brother
Edward VI became king. Before he died, he ignored the Act of Succession and Lady Jane Grey, the granddaughter of Henry VIII's daughter by Catherine of Aragon, became Queen. Her reign was contested and lasted nine days. Later, Mary, Henry VIII's daughter by Catherine of Aragon, became Queen. She reigned three years. She was Catholic and distrusted
Elizabeth and had her imprisoned. Mary died in 1558 and Elizabeth became Queen. She had been imprisoned for three months. She faced several problems. England was divided between the Protestants and the Catholics. England was divided between the Protestants and the Catholics. England was also under threat of invasion from Spain, France, and Scotland. In 1559, the first thing on Elizabeth's agenda was
the passage of the Act of Supremacy which re-established the Church of England and the Act of Uniformity which created a common prayer book. She also devised a compromise between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism with the Thirty-Nine Articles of 1563. Elizabeth's reign was termed the 'Elizabethan Era' and writers, such as William
Shakespeare, flourished. However, in 1560, the country suffered from severe economic depression. To improve the situation and perhaps make a quick profit, Elizabeth made a decision that would have grave consequences. Slavery wasn't legal in Britain, but it wasn't 'exactly' illegal, which persuaded her to enter into an agreement with John
Hawkyns, a slave trader. Elizabeth tried to keep England at peace. The country's navy had become the mightiest in the world led by Sir Francis Drake. When Spain attacked with its "Spanish Armada" in 1588, it was defeated. It was one of the greatest military victories in English history. Elizabeth died in 1603. She never married and cultivated the
image as the Virgin Queen who was wedded to her kingdom. She was interred in Westminster Abbey with her half-sister, Mary. Charles's early life was hectic. In 1640, when his father was defeated at the Battle of
Preston. He was captured and brought back to England and beheaded in 1649. In 1649, the Scottish Parliament proclaimed Charles II king. Charles engaged in a conflict with Oliver Cromwell, leader of the New Army, and was defeated at the Battle of Worcester in 1651. He fled to mainland Europe and spent nine years exiled in France, the Dutch
Republic, and the Spanish Netherlands. Meanwhile, Cromwell became a dictator of England, Scotland, and Ireland. When he died in 1658, the monarchy was restored. Charles was invited to return. Charles assumed the throne in 1660. The new parliament, called the Cavalier Parliament, passed several laws which prompted social change and
lessened the Puritan momentum. These laws were called the Clarendon Code. In 1662, Charles married Catherine of Braganza. Her dowry of Tangier and the Seven Islands of Bombay were a major influence in the development of the British Empire in India. Two ceremonies were held, a Catholic one in private and an Anglican service in public.
Charles was involved in numerous conflicts with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French, ultimately signing treaties with both, The Treaty of Breda with the Dutch and the French with the Dutch with the
1679. The new parliament was hostile and suspicious of Charles's intentions. Charles's wife had not had successful pregnancies and Charles had no heir. He planned to have his brother, James, Duke of York, as his heir. This was objectionable to the parliament because James was a Catholic. A bill termed the Exclusion Bill was introduced, but it was
blocked by Charles. He retaliated by dissolving the parliament. During his last year, he ruled without a parliament. In 1685, Charles died. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. William became Prince of Orange at birth, as his father had died eight days earlier. He received his education from several sources: Dutch governesses and a Calvinist
preacher. At age nine, he entered the University of Leiden for his formal education. Although he wasn't officially enrolled, he spent seven years there. After his mother's death in 1660 of smallpox, her will appointed William's grandfather, King Charles I, as William's grandfather, King Charles II, as William's grandfather, King Charles I
the improvement of his grandson's condition. Johan de Witt, Grand Pensionary took over William found that becoming a Stadtholder was complicated. First, it was marred by the Act of Seclusion which forbade Holland from appointing a member of the
House of Orange as Stadtholder. Next, in 1667, the Perpetual Edict denied the office of Stadtholder and Captain General. In 1670, William was appointed Captain General of the Dutch States Army to deal with an impending Anglo-French attack. After refusing the position for a single campaign, he received a permanent position in 1672. After allying
with Spain and Brandenburg, William was victorious and was appointed Stadtholder of several Netherland Provinces. William wanted to improve his position with France and decided to marry Mary, his first cousin, who was the daughter of the Duke of York, later King James II. In 1677, at age fifteen, as the result of political expediency, Mary married
William III Prince of Orange. She immediately became pregnant, but she miscarried. Other medical problems hampered her ability to carry a child full-term and she and William never had children. Unlike her husband, who was regarded as aloof, she had a pleasing personality and the people loved her. Mary's father, King James II of England, was
Catholic and he was unpopular with the Protestants. Influential political and religious leaders encouraged William to take over. In 1688, what became known as the Glorious Revolution, William invaded England. He landed at Brixham. The king was deposed and fled the country. Mary was next in line to govern England, but she did not want to govern
alone. In 1689, under the Declaration of Rights, the Parliament offered joint sovereignty. Later, the Bill of Rights was passed which marginalized sovereign powers. A month later, they accepted the Scottish crown. Much of William's early reign (1688-1697) was occupied with the Nine Years War. Mary had not had any training in history, geography, or
law, but she ruled the country alone during his absence. Mary died in 1694. Much of her influence can be seen in English pottery, landscape gardening, and interior decorating. William did his best to contain France and keep it from imposing its will across Europe. He died in 1702. He was buried in Westminster Abbey with his wife. Since he had no
heirs, his sister-in-law Anne, became Queen. At age eleven, she was drilled on Scripture, catechism, English, history, Latin, and arithmetic. She was officially crowned in 1838. In 1840. Victoria
married her first cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha. She immediately became pregnant and over the course of seventeen years, she gave birth to nine children. Early in her reign, Afghanistan, China, and a potato famine were among her problems, the latter. in 1846, killed millions of people in Ireland. The Crimean War and an Indian
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rebellion in British India followed. Victoria died in 1901. She was interred beside Prince Albert, who had died in 1851, in the Royal Mausoleum, Frogmore at Windsor Great Park. Albert was naturally left-handed, but his tutors forced him to write with his right hand. In 1909, Albert graduated from the Royal Navy. In 1916, as a midshipman, he served on the HMS Collingwood during the Battle of Jutland. Later, in 1919, he joined the Royal Air Force and received certification as a pilot. In 1920, he was made the Duke of York. He had proposed marriage to Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon several times. She finally consented and they were married in 1923. They had two children, Elizabeth in 1926 and Margaret in 1930. Albert's public duties required speech therapist living

in London, succeeded in helping Albert conquer his problem. In 1936, Albert's father died and his brother, Edward, succeeded him. Edward was in love with Wallis Simpson, a twice-divorced American. He wanted to marry her, but it was against the law. Rather than give her up, he abdicated the throne later that year, explaining to the nation: "I have found it impossible to carry on the heavy burden of responsibility and to discharge the duties of king, as I would wish to do, without the help and support of the woman I love." Albert was crowned in 1937. He decided to take the name George VI to emphasize continuity with his farther than deal that was a fail to the war. In the continuity with his fall that he was not a toll that the was not a toll on his health. He had been that the was not a toll on his health. His penchant for smoking didn't help and evailed in lung cancer and subsequent lung removal. In 1 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis, He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred he was interred in 1952, he died of coronary thrombosis. He was interred he wa