

Study Guide Causes of the American Revolution

**Parliament** -made the laws for the British colonies.

British king also made laws

had to approve the laws made by the colonies

could make laws for the colonies without the colonies agreeing to the laws

**Colonists** :could not elect **lawmakers** to Parliament

no one to represent or speak for the colonists

wanted **self-government** (make own laws)

**Democracy**, the people elect representatives to make laws

**Legislature** worked like a mini parliament set up militia, made laws for colony had to be approved by Parliament

**Legislators** wealthy men who owned property

**Governor** chosen by king, made laws, enforced laws, overrule the legislature

**French and Indian War** English, Colonies and Iroquois against French, French colonist and Hurons, 1753 to 1763, won the Ohio River Valley (Appalachians to Mississippi River)

**Proclamation of 1763**- King tells colonist not to go west of Appalachians, lands west saved "hunting grounds" Native Americans, no soldiers to protect colonists Ohio River Valley, taxed colonies for French and Indian War, increase power governors

**Sugar Act of 1764** tax all **imported products** (sugar, molasses, paper, glass, lead, paint and tea)

Colonists who supported the British government were called **Loyalists** or **Tories**

**Stamp Act** 1764 tax had on newspapers, playing cards, and legal documents passed by Parliament

**Congress** is a meeting of representatives authority to make decisions.

### **Stamp Act Congress 1765 New York City,**

the representatives discussed the problems the new tax laws

9 colonies sent representatives

refuse to buy stamped goods **boycott**

Parliament heard about the Stamp Act Congress, the boycott, and how angry the colonists were, it **repealed**, or ended the **Stamp Act Law**.

Then in 1767, Parliament trade laws the **Townshend Acts**

Parliament sent more soldiers Benjamin Franklin warned Parliament 1770 9,000 British soldiers in the 13 colonies

The colonists were angry at British soldiers they called the soldiers "**redcoats**," "**bloody backs**," and "**lobster backs**."

Soldiers destroyed colonist's property and acted disrespectful by riding horses through churches public buildings and fights

March 5, 1770 **Boston Massacre**

**Massacre** is the killing of people who cannot defend themselves

Crowd gathered near several British soldiers crowd was shouting **names** at the soldiers

Colonists threw rocks and **snowballs**, moved forward, the soldiers panicked and opened fire, five Americans died and seven wounded

One dead colonist **Crispus Attucks** a runaway slave

**Samuel Adams**  of **Massachusetts** set up **Committee of Correspondence** in **Boston**

Committee wrote letters from one colony to another explain British Laws  
Then riders on horseback delivered the letters to spread news quickly

In **1773**, **Parliament British East India Tea Company** sell tea at a very low price with a tax


**Colonial merchants** had to sell expensive teas

Colonies **boycotted** the British tea **Pennsylvania** and **New York**, colonists did not allow British tea ships to enter the large city **ports**

**Boston Tea Party** Sons of Liberty disguised themselves as **Mohawk Indians** boarded the ships in the harbor and broke open all the wooden chests of tea dumped the **tea** into **Boston Harbor**

### **Intolerable Acts**

**King George** angry and punish the **Massachusetts colony**

Parliament passed a **new law** saying that no ship carrying colonial goods could enter or leave Boston Harbor until the **Massachusetts Colony**  paid for all the tea that was destroyed.

Parliament ordered the Royal Navy to **blockade Boston Harbor**.

**blockade** prevented supplies from entering the harbor

**Quarter Act British soldiers** the colonists had to either pay for food and housing for the British soldiers, or give them food and a place to sleep. King George also made

**General Thomas Gage** the new Governor of Massachusetts head of the British army in North America.