

Democracy in America

The Beginnings of Democratic Government in Colonial America



The Magna Carta, 1215, signed by the English King, John

- How did the Magna Carta help create democratic governments in America?

–The Magna Carta
limited the power
of the king or queen. It
said even the king had to
obey the law!



The English Bill of Rights, 1689

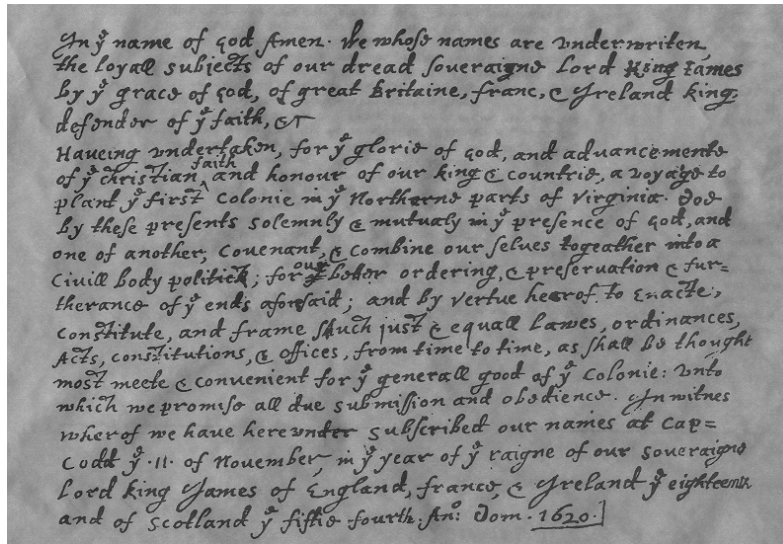
- How did the English Bill of Rights help create democratic government in America?
 - The English Bill of Rights gave parliament the power to write laws and create taxes.
 - Colonial Assemblies wanted the same right.



The Mayflower Compact, 1620

Signed by Pilgrims as they approached
Massachusetts.

How did the Mayflower help
Create democratic government
In America?



In y^e name of god Amen. We whose names are underwritten,
the loyall subjects of our dread soueraigne Lord King James
by y^e graces of god, of great Britaine, France, & Ireland King,
defendor of y^e faith, &c
Haueing undertaken, for y^e glorie of god, and aduancements
of y^e christian^{faith} and honour of our king & countrie, a voyaige to
plant y^e first Colonie in y^e Northern parts of Virginia. Doe
by these presents solemnly & mutually in y^e presence of god, and
one of another, Couenant, & combine our selues together into a
Ciuill body politicke; for y^e better ordering, & preseruation & fur-
theraunce of y^e ends aforesaid; and by vertue hereof to enacte,
constitute, and frame such iust & equall Lawes, ordinances,
Acts, constitutions, & offices, from time to time, as shall be thought
most meete & conuenient for y^e generall good of y^e Colonie: vnto
which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness
whereof we haue here vnder subscribed our names at Cap-
codd y^e 11. of Nouember, in y^e year of y^e raigne of our soueraigne
Lord King James of England, France, & Ireland y^e eighteenth
and of Scotland y^e fifth fourth An: Dom. 1620.]

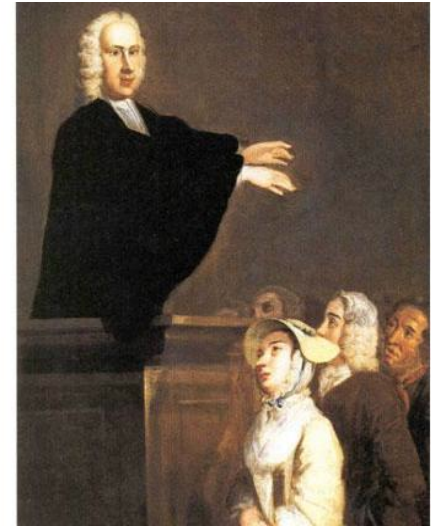
•The Mayflower Compact
was the first written form
of self-government in
America. It said Colonists
will create “just and equal
laws.”

The Great Awakening, 1730s

- The Great Awakening was a religious movement that swept across the Colonies in the 1730s and 1740s.

- It made people believe that **everyone was equal in the eyes of God.**

- It encouraged ideas of **equality and resistance to authority**, which helped Americans revolt against England.



On the back of your map:

In chronological order create a flow chart showing how each of the following helped establish ideas of self-government for the 13 English Colonies:

Magna Carta

Parliament

English Bill of Rights

Mayflower Compact