



ALL YOU NEED IS BRITAIN



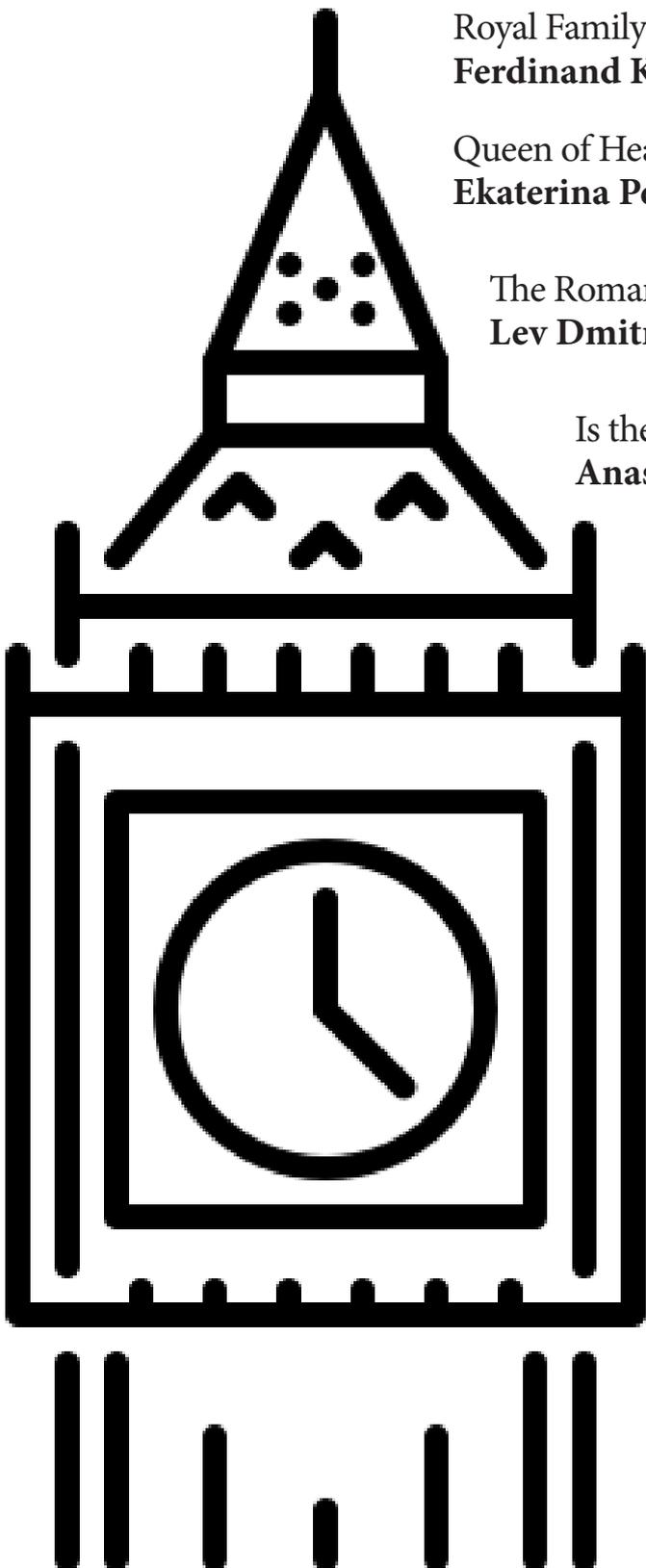
Royal Family's
Challenges in
the 20th Century

The Romanovs Jewels
in the British Royal
Collection

Queen of Hearts:
The Story of
Princess Diana



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FROM THE CHIEF EDITOR



Dear friends !

One of the greatest Russian writers Anton Chekhov once said: «As many languages you know – as many times you are a human», and it is impossible to oppose him. The ability of a human to master different languages is amazing and the more languages you know, the better it is. However, there is one language in the world that has remained one of the most popular and necessary for almost everyone, and it is English.

English is the language of many world-famous writers, politicians, scientists and many others. About 1 billion 132 million people speak English in the world, it is one of the official languages of the United Nations. What is more, English is the mother tongue of one of the oldest currently ruling royal dynasties in the world – the Windsors.

The British royal family and its head, Queen Elizabeth II, remain one of the main symbols of Great Britain, and it is impossible to imagine this country without them. Nowadays, a great number of people admire the royal family, someone even deifies them. The purpose of this issue is to show you, our readers, the royal family not only as the standard of restraint and aristocracy, but also to show that like all other families in the world, they face difficulties and adversities, and have to cope with them. We will tell you how the monarch, being limited in the duties, participates in the ruling

of the state in the modern conditions. You will also learn what the Commonwealth of Nations is and what its goals are. And, finally, you can read about the jewelry possessed by the British crown. Our issue will help you to learn more about the British Monarchy and do it with pleasure.

As the chairman of the English club of the Faculty of World Politics of Moscow State University, I would like to add that knowledge of the English language is extremely necessary not only for your professional career, but for your daily life as well. If you manage to master this language, you will be able to understand this nation, their traditions and customs, you will have a chance to learn more about aristocracy and monarchy, which is the key to heart of this nation.

I am incredibly grateful to all my colleagues and the editorial staff of the Non-Paper newspaper, who helped to implement our idea of an issue dedicated to the British royal family.

Sincerely yours,

**Chairman of the English Club of MSU FMP,
Ferdinand Khachatryan**



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Royal Family's Challenges in the 20th Century

"I respect the British a lot – their history, their past, their culture. I think it's beautiful, what they have with the monarchy" – claims Jean-Marc Vallee, a Canadian filmmaker and screenwriter. For the overwhelming majority of people, the monarchy is still something sacred, secret, inaccessible, and someone even honors their sovereign as God. In the modern world, there are not many monarchies, but one of the most famous and well-loved is the British one. The British Royal family is unquestionably a bastion of aristocracy, restraint, perseverance, and even imitation. However, like many other families, the royal family often have to face challenges and problems, but they don't break or collapse. On the contrary, they become stronger and ready for new and unpredictable turns of fate.

In the history of the British monarchy, there were many sad days full of hardship, but it managed to cope with these difficulties every time. One of them was the story of the sincere love between King Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson. They met in 1931, when Edward was Prince of Wales, but their romance began only in 1934. Their relationship was unpleasant to many, both in the British government and in the Royal family. But despite the opinion of people, the couple started dating and intended to get married. However, there was one obstacle to this – the throne. Since Edward was the heir to the throne, he became king after the death of his father, George V in 1936, which further aggravated the situation. Moreover, Edward as a British sovereign automatically became the head of the Anglican Church, that prohibits marriage with a divorced person, and Wallis Simpson was already divorced twice at that time. Then, Edward made a fateful decision not only for himself, but

for all subjects of the Great Britain, abdicating the throne in favor of his younger brother, George VI. The rejection of the throne put the Royal family in a very difficult position, due to the fact that George VI was not ready to become king, and the very decision of Edward, who placed the love of one woman above his duties as a monarch, was a shock. The primary task that George VI faced was to restore the shattered prestige of the monarchy. In order to maintain itself as an institution of supreme power, the monarchy had to conform to the rhythms of society's development. The monarchy was like a mirror reflecting the dynamics of a changing world. The coronation, scheduled for May 15, 1937, was a kind of public examination for the monarch. On the advice of the Archbishop of Canterbury, George VI agreed that the service, held in Westminster Abbey, should be broadcast on BBC radio to the British Empire and beyond. The solemn event was held in triumph. The monarch's speech



at the opening of Parliament on October 26, 1937, also showed the public that he and his brilliant wife were capable of performing their functions.

Another challenge faced by the Royal family was the Second World War. The terrible event of the first half of the 20th century left its mark on every family in the world and every family did everything possible to help bring this monstrous war to an early end. In the early years of the war, when Britain was in real danger of occupation and defeat, the King showed enough courage and wisdom, thereby confirming his reputation as a «people's monarch». During all the years of the war, he appeared in public in military uniform, thereby demonstrating to his subjects that he, as a soldier, was also in military service. The King, on the recommendation of the government, undertook a series of international trips to strengthen the friendship between the countries of the anti-German coalition. The English King and Queen visited countries of North America. As the press noted: «The royal visits to Canada and the United States are intended to strengthen the friendship between two countries, but in no way are of a political nature». After another raid, when the chapel of Windsor Castle was destroyed and the King was miraculously left untouched, his daughter Lilibeth (the future Queen Elizabeth II) said: «I'm happy, we were bombed! This will allow me to face my people». In addition to the activities of King George VI himself, Crown Princess Elizabeth did her best to help ordinary British citizens and in 1945 joined the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Corps (ATS). For six months of service, the future

queen mastered the profession of a driver-mechanic of ambulances and military trucks, and also received the military rank of lieutenant. 18-year-old Elizabeth, along with simple folk, drove and repaired ambulances.

Another shock for the British Royal family was the unfortunate story of the marriage of Prince Charles. It is no secret that his life with Lady Diana was far from the happiest. Charles was in love with Camilla Rosemary, who was unworthy to be his wife, according to his family. Camilla was older than Charles, and besides, she was from an untitled house, and in the opinion of Elizabeth II herself, she had a reputation of being amorous and frivolous. The Queen and Prince Consort strongly discouraged him from appearing in public with her, trying to find a more successful match for him. Such a party was the young and beautiful Diana Spencer. She almost immediately charmed the entire Royal court with her simplicity and openness, especially the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. The Royal family began to actively insist on her union with Charles, without taking into account the feelings of the Prince. The consequence of all this was the unhappy marriage of two young people. The couple officially divorced only in 1995, when they finally received the permission of Elizabeth II. The Queen tried every possible way to help Princess Diana preserve this marriage, in order to prevent the resolution of the authority of the monarchy's institution among the ordinary people. She sent Charles to the Royal Navy for 6 months to separate the two loving hearts, and also did not give permission for their



subsequent marriage for a long time.

While Camilla and Charles managed to go through all obstacles, Diana's fate was not so happy. Diana, Princess of Wales, died on 31 August 1997 in Paris. This was another tragedy for the Royal family and for the world as a whole. Everyone loved her, with only exception for her ex-husband. The news of her death was brought to the Queen while she was on a holiday at her Scottish residence in Balmore. She kept quiet about this event for a long time, staying in Scotland with her family. This caused indignation among the population of the country, however, such actions of the monarch were aimed at saving the grandchildren from the aggravating situation in the capital, where everything would remind them of the death of their mother. Subsequently, the Queen made a televised address to the nation about Lady Di's death: «This is a very big loss for the whole country. I stand before you as a Queen and as a grandmother. Diana was an exceptional person. She never lost her optimism, always laughing and smiling. She inspired others with her warmth and kindness.»

Protecting the reputation of the Royal family and overcoming all possible obstacles, Elizabeth II ranks first among the members of the Royal family, having 90% of the support from the population of the country. Today no one can imagine Great Britain without its Queen. She is the longest-reigning monarch in the history of the Great Britain, who

ascended the throne in 1952 and is not going to step down from her throne until her death: “I want to make one statement now. Very simple. I declare before all of you that my entire life, long or short, will be dedicated to serving you and the Great Empire to which we all belong.”

Ferdinand Khachatryan



Queen of Hearts: The Story of Princess Diana

This year, Diana, Princess of Wales would have celebrated her sixtieth birthday. Thanks to her kindness and compassion for others, she was loved by many people around the world, which is why she went down in history as the «Queen of people's hearts». Princess Diana faced a huge number of challenges in her life, but she always paid great attention to other people who needed help.

Diana Frances Spencer was born on July 1, 1961, in Norfolk, Great Britain. At the age of 16, Diana studied for a while in Switzerland, but soon returned back to England and began working as a nanny in a kindergarten. In 1977, Diana met Prince Charles for the first time, and in 1981 their wedding took place. After the wedding, Diana received the title of Princess of Wales. In this marriage, they had two sons: Prince William and Prince Harry. However, the marriage proved unhappy for both Prince Charles and Princess Diana, and they divorced in 1996. After the divorce, Diana lost her title and some privileges, but at the same time continued her charitable activities.

As a member of the Royal Family, Princess Diana performed a number of duties, some of which were related to charity. She was fully involved in helping people who needed help. Princess Diana is one of the first who started to support patients who are faced with such a diagnosis as AIDS. In 1987, she was invited to the opening of the first department

for AIDS patients in a hospital in the UK. Princess Diana freely communicated with the patients of this hospital shook their hands. She wanted to dispel a huge number of myths and speculations that were then around this disease.

Moreover, it is worth noting that the charity work was aimed not only at AIDS patients but also at people suffering from leprosy. She was a patron of the organization «The Leprosy Mission». Diana often visited countries with a high rate of this disease, such as India, Zimbabwe. She spent a lot of time with patients, and just as in the case of AIDS, helped to fight public opinion and myths about this disease.

Nor should we forget her struggle to abolish the use of anti-personnel mines. In 1997, Diana visited Angola, where at that time there were about 9 million such mines. It was on this trip that Diana gave one of her famous speeches and passed through a newly cleared field.



Thanks to her charity work, Princess Diana was able to visit Russia. In June 1995, Princess Diana visited Moscow for the first and only time. During her visit, she went to the Tushino Children's Hospital No. 7 (now the Z.A. Bashlyaeva Children's Hospital), to which she donated medical equipment. No wonder the hospital in Tushino was chosen for such an important visit, since it is not only one of the best clinics in Moscow, but also the largest one in Europe, treating up to 145,000 children each year. The princess visited several departments together with the hospital staff. She surprised everyone in the playroom, kneeling down in front of the babies and playing with them. The nannies and administration were horrified — there was a member of the royal family sitting on the floor! But Lady Di was having a great time and enjoyed playing with the children. Diana was particularly interested in trauma surgery and was deeply moved by children who had been seriously injured in a car accident. Princess Diana spoke to them at length and wished them a speedy recovery. She could not have known then that two years later the car accident would be the cause of her untimely death, which would be a real tragedy not only for England but for the whole world.

Princess Diana died in a car crash in Paris on August 31, 1997. Her death was met with universal mourning, and her funeral, held in Westminster Abbey on 6 September, attracted 3 million mourners and spectators in London, while 2.5 billion people around the world watched the television broadcast, which was shown in 200 countries and 44 languages.

However, the memory of her and her charitable work has been preserved. In September 1997 the Diana,

Princess of Wales Memorial Fund was created, based on donations and proceeds from the sale of memorabilia, including the single 'Candle in the Wind' dedicated to the princess. In March 1998 it was announced that the fund would give £1m to each of the six charities officially supported by Princess Diana (English National Ballet, Leprosy Mission, National AIDS Society, Centrepont, Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital and the Royal Marsden Hospital). The charity now supports hospices and palliative care units, the homeless, refugees and prisoners, and the Fund makes grants to hundreds of organisations worldwide. Princess Diana's sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, currently oversee the work of the Fund.

Princess Diana's life ended very early and quickly, but she remained forever in the hearts of many people. She was able to give so many people compassion, understanding, and help. Diana was truly a great person, a symbol of kindness and selflessness, which is why she will always be remembered as the "Queen of people's hearts" who cared about people. She will always be remembered as a person, who not only gave help, but gave hope.

**Ekaterina Petrova,
Elizaveta Bessonova**



The Romanovs Jewels in the British Royal Collection

The Russian revolution was a time of turmoil and instability. While a huge variety of novelties and advancements were brought to our country, some elements have been lost, be it traditions, elements of culture, or more material things, such as Romanovs' gargantuan amount of jewelry. Be it their famous tiaras, diadems or brooches. Bizarrely, some of them can now be found in possession of another illustrious dynasty of Windsor in the United Kingdom.

After the 1917 October Revolution, most of Romanov treasures were smuggled from the country. Be it officials, foreigners, or surviving members of the royal family, large quantities of jewellery were illegally transported to Europe. Various Tiaras, diadems and other exquisite jewelry instead found their way into Bolshevik hands, and when the state needed that money most, Soviet Union sold almost all of those precious artefacts, sometimes selling them by only approximating their weight. Despite that, 114 pieces of this precious collection can still be found in the Russian Diamond Fund in Moscow, exhibited to the general populace.

One way or another, most of Romanov's collection ended up in European Auction houses, where it was sold for a relatively low price, due to Bolsheviks wanting to get finances as fast as possible, and Romanov's and smugglers desire to get money as fast as they possibly could. Such priceless items as "The Pearl-drop tiara" and "Wheat Sheaf" were sold on auctions for only 310 and 240 pounds respectively, this was way less than their original value, as their real cost was indeed, much higher. Romanov's on the other hand preferred to sell directly to other royal families. This is why a large number of Romanov treasures became possessions of the British crown in the end.

One of the most famous pieces of Jewelry belonging to the Royal Family is, without a doubt, a sapphire brooch with a pearl pendant owned by Elizabeth II. This brooch had initially belonged to Maria Feodorovna, spouse of Russian emperor Alexander III. She was also the one responsible for setting the trend for Russian tiaras at the end of the 19th century. Maria Feodorovna, despite her old age, was alive and well during the Russian Revolution, and unlike her less-fortunate son, managed to flee Russia, to spend the rest of her life in Denmark, dying in 1928. In 1930 Maria's daughters, due to financial necessity, sold this brooch to Mary of Teck, who passed it on to her granddaughter, current holder of the piece, Elizabeth II. Mary was keenly interested in Russian jewellery, especially in sapphires,



which were favourite gemstones of Maria Feodorovna, so when Maria Feodorovna's daughter faced more and more financial problems in their lifespans, Mary bought from them all pieces, that were available for sale, including another sapphire brooch, adorned with 13 large diamonds.

The royal family had also acquired, through this time not through purchase, but, instead, as a gift, a grand diamond bracelet. This piece was gifted to Elizabeth II by the mother of her fiancé during her wedding to Philip Mountbatten in 1947. This tiara, in turn, was a present for Philip's mother's wedding in 1903, being presented to her by Nicholas II and his wife Alexandra. But the story of this tiara does not end here, as it was a hard time for post-war Britain, it was decided to split the tiara into various other pieces of jewelry. The largest diamonds in the tiara were made into engagement rings for a new married couple, while other stones were placed into a platinum bracelet, which Philip gifted to Elizabeth as a present. This bracelet is still worn a lot by Queen Elizabeth II, although she occasionally lends it to the wife of her grandson, William.

But one of the most expensive, and certainly one of the most well-recognized pieces of Romanov jewelry collection is indeed Russian tiaras or "les tiaras russes" as they are called in Europe, although some people still use their harder to pronounce name "kokoshniks". They were first introduced at the Russian court at the end of the 18th century as efficient interchangeable piece of jewelry that could be worn as tiaras or exquisite necklaces. In contrast to other Romanov's pieces, a low number of those had survived, due to the fact that tiaras were extremely hard to smuggle from Russia due to their immense size. And those tiaras, which stayed behind were torn apart by Bolsheviks and sold piece by piece, or, more appropriately, stone by stone.



The Vladimir Tiara, as it is known right now, is one of the most famous examples of such tiaras. It consists of 15 rings of diamonds, with a pearl in each one of them. This tiara was originally commissioned by the younger brother of Alexander III to his wife, but at the time of the Russian Revolution, it was in the hands of Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna, who managed to escape Russia with most of her jewelry intact. This would not have been possible without the assistance of Swedish and British diplomats, who helped her smuggle those priceless pieces to Europe. Tiara stayed in her hands until 1920 when it passed down to her daughter Elena, who sold it in 1921 to none other than Mary of Teck, an already mentioned connoisseur of Romanov's jewelry. It was passed down to Elizabeth, who still wears it today with various gemstones, besides original pearls.

A strange conclusion can be made that almost all of Romanov jewelry was bought up in a relatively short span of time by Mary of Teck. But who was that illustrious collector of Russian jewelry, so keenly interested in acquiring Russian jewelry? Mary came from a relatively poor branch of the royal family and most of her youth was spent in relative poverty. Her family eventually moved to Italy to escape their debts, where she first started developing a taste in art, architecture and, of course, jewelry. When she was married to King George V, her aspirations were backed by an immense wealth of the British royal family. She then decided to embark on a mission to bring all pieces, of Royal jewelry back to the English court. She was also a fierce collector of miniatures and jewelry. She developed a keen interest in Russian jewelry at the beginning of the 20th century and decided to enrich the British Royal collection with various pieces of Russian style and design. She even ordered new tiaras and diadems to be created for the royal family, which would emulate distinct Russian style. Of course, when Russian Revolution struck, and impoverished Romanov's and cheap Russian Jewelry flocked to Europe, she could not miss her chance and bought as many pieces as she could. And this is how the British crown came in possession of those priceless pieces of jewelry.

**Lev Dmitriev,
Nina Urzhumtseva**



Is the Monarch a Politician?

Monarchy has always been a vital part of European politics, especially in Great Britain. A monarch is a politician with an incredible source of power. We would like to briefly tell you about the role that a monarch plays in politics and to prove his political influence and participation.

Monarchy is the oldest form of government in Great Britain. The British kingdom was called a constitutional monarchy. This means that even if The Sovereign is the head of state, the right to adopt and order the law belongs to the elected parliament. Regardless of the political or executive activities, The Sovereign rules over the nations.

As head of state, The Monarch has his own constitutional and representative responsibilities. In connection with these state institutions, the Monarch is considered to be a formal figure such as «Head of Nation». Sovereign is the golden means of national identity, unity and pride; giving a sense of stability and priority; officially recognizing success and excellence, and maintaining the ideal of voluntary service.

Monarch has always been the central figure in international relations. The vast majority of British and not only monarchs had a huge impact on the course of historical events. Even the most negligible political tasks were always solved with the participation of the king or queen, the consultation on the

annexation of colonies or the conclusion of alliances was self-evident. The best evidence of the monarch's highly significant role in politics is history.

Elizabeth II is Queen of the United Kingdom and 15 other Commonwealth realms. She was born in Mayfair in 1926 and she was not expected to become a Monarch by her family. She was expected to live a normal life with her loving family; however everything changed when King Edward VIII abdicated leaving her father as King, and she turned out to be the next in line to the throne.

She has ruled for a long time and has become a respective figure all over the world. The Queen carries out various duties from visits to charities and schools to leading the nation. Her Majesty also sees public and voluntary service as one of the most essential aspects of her work. She supports hundreds of British charities.

Queen Victoria, in full Alexandrina Victoria, reigned from the year 1837 to 1901, is considered to be the most powerful and influential monarchs in



Great Britain's history. Her Majesty was the queen of the United Kingdom and Ireland (1837–1901) and empress of India (1876–1901). Queen Victoria's reign took on its modern ceremonial character and was a queen determined to retain political power. «She presided over the transformation of the sovereign's political role into a ceremonial one and thus preserved the British monarchy» (Britannica). Her views about politics, and especially about foreign affairs, were so strong, and expressed with such partisan sincerity, that it was nearly impossible to make her change her mind.

And unlike its European rivals, Britain managed to reform its political system without a revolution. In the course of Victoria's reign, the Reform Acts of 1867 and 1884 increased the number of adult men entitled to vote from about one-sixth to two-thirds. Her Majesty was concerned about her people and made her policy to meet the needs of her people.

Queen Victoria conducted foreign policy in such a way that England in the Victorian era became the richest country in the world and practically did not take part in wars — the so-called «brilliant isolation». However, England participated in the African race for colonies and this is the speech of Her Majesty's:

«My Lords, and Gentlemen, I continue to hold friendly and harmonious relations with all foreign Powers. Their declarations in every quarter are favourable to the maintenance of European peace.

In connection with the approaching evacuation of Uganda by the British East Africa Company, I have deemed it expedient to authorise a Commissioner of experience and ability to examine on the spot, with adequate provisions for his safety, into the best means of dealing with the country, and to report to my Government upon the subject.

In view of recent occurrences in Egypt, I have determined on making a slight augmentation in the number of British troops there stationed. This measure does not indicate any change of policy, or any modification of the assurances which my Government have given from time to time respecting the occupation of that country”.

As we see from this part of the speech, Queen Victoria determined the policy regarding the colonizations of African continent.

Even a prime-minister of Great Britain, Benjamin Disraeli, had to consult with the queen on the foreign policy of the Empire. Disraeli's expansionist foreign policy, which Victoria endorsed, led to conflicts such as the Anglo-Zulu War and the Second Anglo-Afghan War. «If we are to maintain our position as a first-rate Power», she wrote, «we must ... be Prepared for attacks and wars, somewhere or other, CONTINUALLY».

Victoria saw the expansion of the British Empire as civilising and benign, protecting native peoples from more aggressive powers or cruel rulers: «It is not in our custom to annex countries», she said, «unless



we are obliged & forced to do so».

Another monarch who showed himself as a fairly intelligent and consistent politician was King George V. George V, in full George Frederick Ernest Albert, reigned from 1910 to 1936. As the historians say, the king managed to save the monarchy in England. During his reign, four great empires were overthrown, including the most powerful royal families the Romanovs, the Hohenzollerns and the Hapsburgs. The monarch helped to avert that fate by welcoming the Labour party into power. «The constitutional struggle to curb the power of the House of Lords was unresolved, and the Liberal government secured an undertaking from the king that, should the lords not yield, he would create sufficient new peers to overcome the opposition» (Britannica).

Moreover, we should mention that a lot of influential politicians do not question the great importance of a monarch in politics. The political thinker Phillip Blond argues that the monarch has an important, continuing and foundational role in contemporary British politics. The people never choose to rule but they choose the person to reign. The monarch holds to a higher standard of politician and democratic politics. «The King or Queen seeking to stand for all members of the national commonwealth saves us from extremism and the righteous fundamentalism of those who believe only in their beliefs» (BBC, Phillip Bond).

In conclusion, we can say that the monarch of Great Britain accomplishes various duties: official, ceremonial, diplomatic, and representational. However, the monarch is quite limited to functions as the monarchy is constitutional. He has more formal executive authority, so this power can be used according to laws enacted in Parliament. As for the constitutional role of a monarch of Great Britain, he or she is the head of state which means that the monarch has the right to make legislation that resides with an elected Parliament.

**Anastasia Kholodnaya,
Ekaterina Bykova**



Whigs & Tories

The Whigs and Tories were the first two political parties of Great Britain, which were formed in the XVII century. The reason for the appearance of these parties was the «Exclusion Bill» which divided the highest circles of English society into two opposing camps.

Whigs - initially they were supporters of strengthening the role of parliament and limiting the executive power of the monarch. The «name» Whigs was given to the representatives of this party by their opponents and it came from the Scottish «Whigamore», which means cattle driver. The Whigs were in favor of the «Exclusion Bill» and strengthening of parliament, they wanted to exclude James II, the brother of King Charles II, from the succession line to the throne. The excuse for exclusion was that James was a Catholic, but the main goal of the Whigs was to prevent the restoration of Stuart absolutism in England and to strengthen parliamentary power. Tories - traditionally they were supporters of the royal power and also James II. The party has its roots in the Cavaliers movement (the Royalists of the time of the English Revolution). The Tories was opposed to the «Exclusion Bill», and until 1688 most of the party supported the English monarch. The word «Tory» itself comes from the Irish «tóraí», which means criminal.

In 1681, the «Exclusion Bill» was not adopted by Parliament and in 1685, James II became the King

of England. During this period, Tories achieved significant success, but it was short-term. Actions of James II turned against him a large part of the society of the kingdom, which prompted some Tories to accept the Whig ideas and support the revolution. Subsequently, the Glorious Revolution, and later the adoption of the «Bill of Rights», put an end to the rivalry of the Whigs and Tories in its original form. Contrary to popular belief, the antagonism of the Whigs and Tories did not develop as a confrontation between the commercial and industrial Bourgeoisie and the Landed Aristocracy (this aspect it began to take only after the Glorious Revolution during the reign of Anne Stuart). Initially the main and in many ways the only issue of the confrontation between the two parties was the relationship between the executive power of the monarch and the legislative power of the parliament, and not the struggle of different social classes for dominance.

After the Glorious Revolution, there was party parity in the British Parliament. Despite the leading role of the Whig party in the revolution, their anti-monarchist



orientation scared the Kings, and because of this the position of the Tories remained strong until 1715. After the death of Queen Anne, a representative of the Hanover house, George I, ascended to the throne. He appointed a new, fully

Whig government, which, combined with a Whig majority in parliament, marked the beginning of the half-century Whig era. Until 1760, Tory representatives were publicly discriminated against. This led to the fact that many Tories went not only to the parliamentary opposition to the Hanoverian dynasty, but also in many cases joined the Jacobite movements (supporters of the restoration the Stuarts-descendants of the King James II, to the English throne), turning to the military-political opposition, more than once supporting or organizing Jacobite revolts and conspiracies. In 1760 George III became King of Great Britain, after which the persecution of the Tories ended, but during his reign, the party identity of both Whigs and Tories washed out and in parliament and government, various political groups and associations began to form, which were easier to identify by the fact of its proximity to the king's circle of contacts or distance from it, than by their party affiliation.

By the middle of 1780s, two renewed parties were emerging from the chaos: the revival Whig and the new Tories. Although by this time, it is possible to say about the death of the classic Tories as a political force. From now on, the new Tories are the

conservative Whigs who do not seek to restore the absolutism of the monarchy and limit the power of parliament, but simply remain committed to the sentimentality and mannerisms of the old Tories. All these changes have led to the fact that the core of the confrontation between the two parties has changed. The Whigs are now a group of active reformers, while the Tories have become moderate traditionalists. Even at this time the trend towards a struggle between liberalism and conservatism becomes clear, which is more understandable for modern people. However, this transformation finally took place in the middle of the 19th century. In 1834, Robert Peel issued the Tamworth Manifesto, which laid the foundations of British Conservatism and began the transformation of the new Tories into the Conservative Party of Great Britain. And later in 1859, the Whig party was officially re-formed into the Liberal Party of Great Britain, which marked the transition of the revived Whigs from bourgeois reformists to Liberal Democrats.

Dmitry Samodelov



The Commonwealth of Nations: History, Goals and Prospects

The Commonwealth of Nations is a political association which consists of 54 members and most of them are former colonies of the British Empire. It is the 2nd biggest organisation in the world after the United Nations and the Commonwealth of nations makes up almost 1/3 of the global population. It includes 3 main intergovernmental organisations which help to make the work of the Commonwealth more productive and useful.

The first one is The Commonwealth Secretariat which is in charge of supporting member countries to achieve the goals written in the Commonwealth Charter. The second one is The Commonwealth Foundation which is responsible for encouragement human participation in the country's democracy and development. And finally, it is The Commonwealth of Learning which helps to promote affordable learning, as well as distance education for people in need.

History

First of all, we want to tell you the history of this compelling organisation. If you look at the official version of the history of the Commonwealth of Nations, presented on the organization's website, you will find out that for the first time this term in relation to the British Empire was used by Lord Rosebery (Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1894 to 1895) back in 1884 at time of his stay in Australia. The first mention of the «Commonwealth» by the head of the empire is not accidental, since the background of the organization is closely related to the history of the British Empire and Great Britain afterwards.

Historically, the Commonwealth of Nations was an evolutionary heir of the British Empire. The traditional British policy of granting self-governments in its colonies led to the existence of several dependent states by the beginning of the 19th century, which were mainly inhabited by Europeans, accustomed to forms of parliamentary government, and enjoyed a significant degree of sovereignty. By 1931, they were recognized as having a special status in the empire by the Westminster Statute, which specifically referred to the «British Commonwealth of Nations». The rapid rise of nationalism in other parts of the empire since the 1920s led to a long series of independence grants, starting with India. In 1947, India and Pakistan became members of the Commonwealth, the first with a predominantly non-European population. In 1948 Burma (now Myanmar) refused the membership of the organisation. In 1949, India announced its intention to become a republic, which would have required India's withdrawal from the Commonwealth in accordance with existing rules, but at the meeting of Commonwealth heads of government in London in April 1949, it was decided that India could continue to stay in a membership if it accepted the British crown only as a «symbol of free association» of the members



of the Commonwealth. This was the first time the adjective «British» was omitted from this statement, and since then the formal name of the organization has become the Commonwealth of Nations, or simply the Commonwealth.

Goals

Now let's move on to the goals of the Commonwealth of Nations. The original purpose of the creation of the Commonwealth of Nations was to maintain the stability of the international trade system built by the British Empire. A little later, it helped to ensure a smooth transition from colonial trade and economic relations to new capitalist ones. During the Cold War, the Commonwealth was used by Britain as an additional channel for countering communist movements in its former colonies in third world countries. Today, the Commonwealth is a kind of international forum in which highly developed economies (such as the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Singapore and New Zealand) and many of the world's poor countries seek to reach an agreement on the basis of consensus. At a meeting in 1971 in Singapore, the heads of state of the Commonwealth adopted a Declaration of Principles confirming the organization's commitment to international peace and order, the promotion of personal freedom, the strengthening of equality and countering discrimination; the fight against poverty, ignorance and disease; development of international trade and cooperation. Currently, the main tasks of the Commonwealth, as stated in the Azoroca Declaration of 2003, are the promotion of democracy, good governance, human rights, gender equality and more equitable distribution of the benefits of globalization.

Prospects

These days a lot of debates are going on about the future of the Commonwealth. Some people believe that the Commonwealth is an essential part of member countries and this organisation is indispensable in the modern world. Others claim that there is no use of this association in the 21st century and it has come to an end. We are going to tell you about both of the opinions.

The supporters of the Commonwealth say about beautiful aims written in the Commonwealth Charter, for example fighting for human rights and for gender equality, support international peace and security, expend tolerance, respect and understanding, protecting the environment and many others. These are not just words, for example, in 2018 the Commonwealth announced major funding plans including 61 million dollars to combat natural disasters and over 3.7 billion dollars to fight malaria. What's more, some experts say that Brexit would have a positive influence on the Commonwealth of nations as Britain is no longer dependent on the European Union, so it will be able to fully control its economic deals with countries including the members of the Commonwealth.

Another fact which experts point out is the cultural programme of the Commonwealth. It is a very important part of the organisation as it brings people together. The Commonwealth organises a lot of different festivals, tournaments, contests or the Commonwealth Games – a multi-sport event, which is held every four years.

But more and more people nowadays start questioning the need for the Commonwealth in the 21st century.



They are trying to figure out – does it just provide a helping hand for developing nations or could it be more powerful in the future?

To begin with, followers of this point of view say about the essential role of the Queen in the Commonwealth of Nations. For decades, Queen Elizabeth II has been the driving force behind the Commonwealth. Citizens from member countries adore the Queen and she plays the crucial role for all of them. However, Elisabeth II is 94 years old now. A lot of people are concerned that no one would be able to bring everyone together like she does. Former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull cited it as another reason for the country to sever its constitutional ties to the British monarchy. “After the end of the queen’s reign, that is the time for us to say: Ok, we’ve passed that watershed,” Turnbull told Australian Broadcasting Corp. “Do we really want to have whoever happens to be the head of state, the king or queen of the U.K., automatically our head of state?”

Also, some experts are worried that the countries are mainly united by former British rule which was established in the late 19th century. Is it still relevant and useful in the 21st century? People say that the governance needs to be changed, otherwise the Commonwealth of nations will disappear. What’s more, despite the fact that the Commonwealth of Nations is the second biggest organisation in the world, a lot of ordinary citizens are unaware of what it actually does, how much importance does it have today to all 53 nations. So, experts say if it dissolved, would anyone even notice?

Last but not least, it is the economical potential of the Commonwealth. So, the question is do developing countries gain more by being a part of the Commonwealth? Some people argue that the only country to really benefit is Britain itself as it has access to developing states key resources. The Commonwealth has been criticised for being an irrelevant institution having little influence in the current global climate issues and no say on international affairs while poorer nations get funding through the Commonwealth are richer countries using it to their advantage. What’s more, countries are rarely considered as an economic entity.

So, there are two different viewpoints regarding the future of the Commonwealth. Some people say about its development and prosperity, others assume that it’s going to disappear soon. It is important to keep all these arguments in mind and follow the news to see the fate of the organisation.

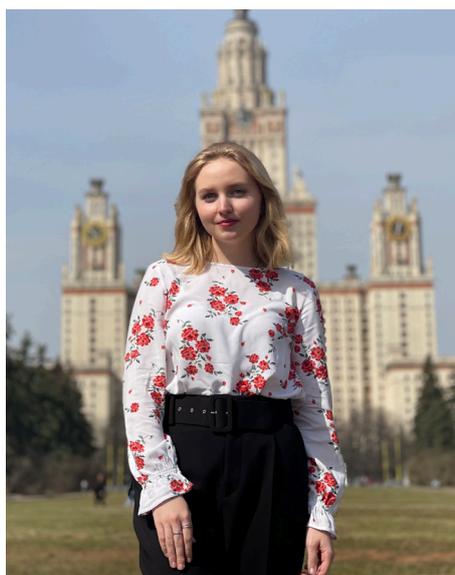
In conclusion, we would like to say that the Commonwealth of Nations is a remarkable organisation with the wide goals and controversial prospects which are happening to be the great arguments between a big variety of experts. The Commonwealth is a huge association which comprises diverse countries and brings them together. It deserves the attention of every politically active citizen.

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