

Summary of the reign of Louis XIV – The “Sun King”



Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Held absolute power ▪ Expanded bureaucracy, and appointed officials to carry out his policies ▪ Never convened Estates-General
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Practices mercantilism ▪ Promoted trade, imposed high tariffs on imports ▪ Encouraged industry ▪ Encouraged overseas colonies
Wars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Massive army ▪ Set goal to expand French borders and dominate Europe, with some early success
Religious Persecution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Persecuted Huguenots ▪ Revoked Edict of Nantes
Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sponsored musical entertainment and commissioned plays ▪ French artistic style became model for all Europe
Palace of Versailles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Immense palace ▪ Symbol of his wealth and power ▪ Ceremonies surrounded everyday life

