

# SOCIAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF BRITAIN: HISTORY OF TUDORS AND STUARTS

## MODULE-1

### Relation With Scotland And Ireland in Tudor period

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# Relation With Scotland And Ireland in Tudor period

- ▶ Relation with Scotland:–
- ▶ Independent kingdoms of Scotland and Ireland were often at war with each other– Unification of the two is the ambition of many English kings–Henry VII tried to make Scotland an ally of it by giving his daughter Margaret in marriage to James IV of Scotland–did not bring good relations during Tudor period.
- ▶ During the reign of Henry VIII, Scotland attacked England twice . The first ended with the defeat and death of his brother–in–law, the Stuart King James IV of Scotland at **Flodden field in 1513**. He was succeeded by his son James V –remained friendly to France and loyal to Rome ”. No love lost between uncle and son.



# Stuart Period:–

- ▶ James led an expedition against England but failed at **Sloway Moss in 1542** and the disgraced king died soon after, leaving his daughter Mary as the only heir . Henry VIII desired to unite both kingdom by the marriage of his son with Mary Stuart . But he could not realise it due to the opposition of Scotland.
- ▶ War with Scotland continued.



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- ▶ The Duke of Somerset, the Protector of the Boy King Edward VI tried to effect the marriage between Mary Stuart and Edward VI. Scotland never like to make alliance with the English. It led to a battle at **Pinke in 1547**. English got victory, but the Scots sent their fair little bride to Paris where she was later wedded to the **Dauphin in 1558**, led to fresh Franco–Scottish alliance.
- ▶ In the absence of Mary, her mother Mary of Guise managed Scottish affairs.



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- ▶ Elizabeth was in English throne now. She want to strengthen Scottish protestants to counteract the claims of Mary Stuart to the English throne. The Scottish Reformation led by **John Knox**. It gave chance to Elizabeth. Religious feuds in Scotland– Catholics under Regent Mary of Guise got French help . Protestants sought English help. She sent force to help them. French were forced to leave Scotland. In 1560 the Regent died. Protestants cut all relation with Rome.



# Mary Stuart

- ▶ Mary Stuart returned from France in 1561 after her husband's death. 19 year old Mary Stuart wanted Elizabeth to acknowledge her as the next heir to the English throne
- ▶ Elizabeth did not want any relation with Mary Stuart.
- ▶ Mary married her cousin Lord Darnley who was another claimant to English throne in 1565. But in six months she became tired of her husband who was intolerant & empty-headed. The young Lord joined with protestants against Mary. But Darnley was soon murdered by the Earl of Bothwell.



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- ▶ Mary married the murderer of her husband. People rose in revolt. Mary was dethroned. Her infant son by Darnley, James, was placed on Scottish throne. Mary Stuart was defeated at Langside and had to flee to England seeking refuge in the court of her rival in 1568.
- ▶ Mary's presence in England encouraged the Catholics to hatch several plans against Elizabeth.
- ▶ For her security, Elizabeth kept close watch on her fair cousin. By seeing danger, Parliament demanded the execution of Mary Stuart. In 1587 Mary was charged with high treason, executed.



## Relation with Ireland:-

- ▶ Henry VIII intended for the unification of Ireland with England.
- ▶ In 1535 the independent Irish Nobles including Fitzgeralds were crushed.
- ▶ The Irish plt recognised Henry as King of Ireland . He became the Head of Irish church also. The rich monasteries were dissolved– their lands were confiscated and divided among Nobles to get their support . His attempt to Anglicise Ireland were not completely successful. By an Act of Union, Wales( a part of Ireland) was annexed to England in 1536.





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- ▶ Ireland had always been independent of English control.
- ▶ England was busy with home affairs, war with France and Spain– No time to tackle Irish problem
- ▶ English law enforced in ‘The Pale’– reduced to a narrow district around Dublin. Even the English nobles who conquered Ireland become more Irish than the Irish themselves.eg. Butlers, Fitzgeralds.
- ▶ The O’ Neils and O’Donnells were the chief Irish noble families– they had complete freedom in their districts.



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- ▶ During Elizabeth's reign – several rebellions– Catholic country–all revolts were suppressed–Hundreds were killed– thousands were died of starvation . Devastated areas were replanted with English colonists.
- ▶ Caretakers like Edmund Spenser were entrusted with the task of introducing English settlers– several expedition led to subdue the Irish – After the failure of the Earl of Essex Lord Mountjoy was sent to Ireland– conquered Ireland–Irish regarded as Savage Nation–English brutalities in Ireland–Irish retaliated with vengeance– Ireland remained Predominantly Irish and Catholic– Union of England & Ireland was impossible.





**THANK YOU**

