

# FERNANDO VII



## **ABSOLUTISM (1814-1820) 6 YEARS**

Fernando VII returned from prison in France to be the King of Spain and Spanish people were happy because it was the end of the French rule. People in the upper class wanted the absolute power for the king, the absolutism again. In 1814, Fernando VII made the Constitution of 1812 illegal.

## **LIBERAL TRIENIUM (1820-1823) 3 YEARS**

During absolutism, liberals were oppressed and they were not happy with the changes of Fernando VII. One day, one liberal military leader, called **Rafael de Riego** made a rebellion in 1820. The rebellion was successful and Fernando VII made the Constitution of 1812 legal again.

## **OMINOUS DECADE (1823-1833) 10 YEARS**

Fernando VII considered that liberals were a problem so he decided to repress and persecute them. He made the Constitution of 1812 illegal again.

But Fernando VII had a problem. The law (Salic Law) only permitted the male members of the royal family to be the King. Fernando VII had no sons. He wanted his daughter Isabel to be the queen instead of his brother Carlos.

## **DEATH OF FERNANDO VII (1833)**

Fernando VII died in 1833, Isabel was only 3 years old and at the age of 13 she became the Queen of Spain: Isabel II.

Some people disagreed and wanted his brother Carlos to be the King of Spain. The people who supported Carlos were called 'Carlists' and they started a series of wars, called the 'Carlists Wars'.

## **QUESTIONS:**

1. During Absolutism, which people wanted the absolute power for the King?
2. Who was Rafael de Riego? What did he do?

3. What is the Salic Law?

4. Who were the Carlists?

5. What were the Carlists Wars?