

A Concise History of France

This book provides a clear and well-informed guide to French history from the early Middle Ages to the present – from Charlemagne to Chirac. It offers the most up-to-date and comprehensive study of French history available. Among the book's central themes are the relationship between state and society, the impact of war and such crucial questions as who possessed political power and how this power was used. It takes account of the great figures in French history, among them Philip Augustus, Henri IV, Louis XIV, Robespierre, Napoleon, de Gaulle, and also the findings of social historians concerned with ordinary people, social structures, beliefs, and economic activity. This second edition, substantially re-written to take account of recent research, includes a new chapter on contemporary France – a society and political system in crisis as a result of globalisation, international terrorism, racial tension, and a loss of confidence in political leaders.

ROGER PRICE is Professor of History at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. He has written extensively on French history; his latest publications include *The French Second Empire: an anatomy of political power* (2001) and *People and politics in France*, 1848–1870 (2004).



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SECOND EDITION

ROGER PRICE





> CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

> > CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
> > The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521606561

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First published 1993

Reprinted 1993, 1994, 1995, 1999, 2001, 2004 Second edition 2005

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeset in Sabon 10/13 pt. System Advent 3B2 8.07f [PND]

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN-13 978-0-521-84480-2 hardback ISBN-10 0-521-84480-0 hardback ISBN-13 978-0-521-60656-1 paperback ISBN-10 0-521-60656-x paperback

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author of a general work of this kind owes a great deal to many people, including the students taking my courses at the University of East Anglia between 1968 and 1993 and subsequently at Aberystwyth, colleagues past and present, and the library staff at both institutions, as well as those at the National Library of Wales. I am especially grateful to William Davies of Cambridge University Press for setting me the challenge in the first place and subsequently for encouraging other projects. Isabelle Dambricourt provided valuable assistance in the preparation of this second edition. The following friends read and commented on the original manuscript – Malcolm Crook, Colin Heywood, Oliver Logan, and the greatly missed Peter Morris. Heather Price has made an enormous contribution to both editions. Richard Johnson at the University of East Anglia drew some of the maps and Mary Richards and Jean Field, copy-editors for the Press, made extremely helpful suggestions.

For their constructive criticism, their patience, their love, and for laughter, I remain profoundly grateful to Richard, Luisa and Luca, Siân, Andy and Molly, Emily and Dafydd, to Hannah, and to my dearest Heather.