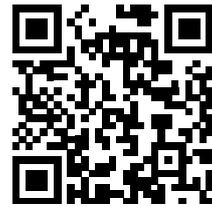


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# Discovering the War of the Roses



In the mid-15th century, England was engulfed in a series of civil wars known as the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Roses. These conflicts were primarily fought between two rival branches of the royal \_\_\_\_\_ family: the Lancasters and the Yorks. The name of the war derives from the symbols of the two houses; the red \_\_\_\_\_ represented the Lancasters, while the white rose symbolized the \_\_\_\_\_. The main cause of the war was the struggle for control over the English \_\_\_\_\_.

Henry VI, a Lancaster, was the king at the outbreak of the war. His reign was marked by mental instability and a lack of \_\_\_\_\_, which led to widespread discontent. Edward IV of the \_\_\_\_\_ faction eventually took the throne, showcasing the power struggle's intensity. This period was characterized by \_\_\_\_\_, political maneuvering, and brief periods of peace, which were generally followed by more conflict. The war had a profound impact on the English monarchy and \_\_\_\_\_, leading to the extinction of numerous noble lines. It also weakened the monarchy's \_\_\_\_\_, setting the stage for the rise of the Tudor dynasty. The conclusion of the War of the Roses came when Henry \_\_\_\_\_, a distant Lancaster relative, defeated Richard III, the last Yorkist king, at the Battle of \_\_\_\_\_ Field in 1485.

Henry VII's ascension to the throne marked the end of the Plantagenet line and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Tudor rule. His marriage to Elizabeth of York effectively unified the two houses, bringing an end to the \_\_\_\_\_. This union also symbolized the start of a new era for England, leading to significant changes in governance, the strengthening of the \_\_\_\_\_, and the establishment of a more centralized state.

- leadership
- Plantagenet
- conflicts
- beginning
- throne
- York
- Yorks
- monarchy
- battles
- power
- Bosworth
- nobility
- rose
- War
- Tudor