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Navigation Acts and the Stuart Period



The Navigation Acts were a series of laws passed by the English		during the	
Stuart period, which was a time marked	by significant political and ec	onomic changes. These	
were designed	to tighten government contr	ol over trade between England, its	
colonies, and the	of the world. The main pur	pose of the Navigation Acts was to	
promote English shipping and	the import an	the import and export of goods to and from the	
colonies.			
Under the Navigation Acts, only English	n, or	, or ships built in the English colonies,	
could carry goods to and from the Engl	ish ·	. This was meant to boost the domestic	
shipping industry, which was considered	vital for the	's military security.	
Additionally, certain valuable goods, suc	ch as sugar and	, were required to pass	
through England before being sold elsewhere, ensuring taxes and		benefited the	
English economy.			
These trade regulations led to increased tensions between		and its colonies,	
particularly in North America. The colo	nists were often frustrated b	y the on	
who they could trade with and the extra	costs they had to bear. Despi	te these tensions, the	
Acts helped En	ngland to develop a powerful n	nerchant fleet that became a key	
tool in establishing its dominance on th	ne		
The economic policies under the Stuart	kings also reflected the broad	der conflicts of the period, such as	
the between the	between the monarchy and Parliament. The Navigation Acts, specifically,		
were a reflection of the mercantilist _	that fo	ovored national power over individual	
wealth or freedom.			
As a of these l	of these laws, England was able to assert its strength over rivals like		
, which had pre	viously dominated maritime c	ommerce. The English naval power,	
bolstered by the Navigation	, played a crucia	l role in the wars against the Dutch	
and later in maintaining over colonial ·		trade routes. This period laid the	
groundwork for the vast British	that emerg	ed in the following centuries.	
rest England tobacco control	profits limitations En	mpire Parliament nation seas	
Navigation struggle Holland p	oolicies result ships lo	aws territories control Acts	