



Why did Britain become a republic?

The period 1647-53 was a very significant time in British history. Charles I was finally defeated. In 1649 he was put to death, leaving the country a republic, without a monarch to lead it.

This document is one of many that give us clues about those times. A document like this would have left most people speechless. Have a closer look at it and the other original sources.



Find out more from the original sources:

[Case study 1: Death of Charles I](#)

[Case study 2: New government](#)

Background

[Key people & events](#)

Your challenge

Imagine you were living through these extraordinary years. How would you explain such changes and events to people who hadn't lived in England in a while?

[Start the activity](#)