

*World History Biographies: Joan of Arc: The Teenager Who Saved Her Nation (National Geographic World History Biographies) [Philip Wilkinson] on calendrierdelascience.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Around , a baby girl was born in the village of Domrémy who would change France forever.*

During the five months before her arrival, the defenders had attempted only one offensive assault, which had ended in defeat. On 4 May, however, the Armagnacs attacked and captured the outlying fortress of Saint-Loup bastille de Saint-Loup , followed on 5 May by a march to a second fortress called Saint-Jean-le-Blanc , which was found deserted. When English troops came out to oppose the advance, a rapid cavalry charge drove them back into their fortresses, apparently without a fight. The Armagnacs then attacked and captured an English fortress built around a monastery called Les Augustins. That night, Armagnac troops maintained positions on the south bank of the river before attacking the main English stronghold, called "les Tourelles", on the morning of 7 May. She was wounded by an arrow between the neck and shoulder while holding her banner in the trench outside les Tourelles, but later returned to encourage a final assault that succeeded in taking the fortress. The lifting of the siege was interpreted by many people to be that sign, and it gained her the support of prominent clergy such as the Archbishop of Embrun and the theologian Jean Gerson , both of whom wrote supportive treatises immediately following this event. This was a bold proposal because Reims was roughly twice as far away as Paris and deep within enemy territory. The English army withdrew from the Loire Valley and headed north on 18 June, joining with an expected unit of reinforcements under the command of Sir John Fastolf. Joan urged the Armagnacs to pursue, and the two armies clashed southwest of the village of Patay. The battle at Patay might be compared to Agincourt in reverse. The French vanguard attacked a unit of English archers who had been placed to block the road. A rout ensued that decimated the main body of the English army and killed or captured most of its commanders. Fastolf escaped with a small band of soldiers and became the scapegoat for the humiliating English defeat. The French suffered minimal losses. Troyes , the site of the treaty that tried to disinherit Charles VII, was the only one to put up even brief opposition. The army was in short supply of food by the time it reached Troyes. But the army was in luck: The hungry army arrived as the beans ripened. The coronation took place the following morning. The duke violated the purpose of the agreement by using it as a stalling tactic to reinforce the defense of Paris. The French assault at Paris ensued on 8 September. Despite a wound to the leg from a crossbow bolt , Joan remained in the inner trench of Paris until she was carried back to safety by one of the commanders. On 23 March , she dictated a threatening letter to the Hussites , a dissident group which had broken with the Catholic Church on a number of doctrinal points and had defeated several previous crusades sent against them. The truce with England quickly came to an end. Burgundian troops surrounded the rear guard, and she was pulled off her horse by an archer. Historian Pierre Champion notes that the Armagnacs attempted to rescue her several times by launching military campaigns toward Rouen while she was held there. One campaign occurred during the winter of 1430, another in March , and one in late May shortly before her execution. These attempts were beaten back. Trial of Joan of Arc The keep of the castle of Rouen , surviving remnant of the fortress where Joan was imprisoned during her trial. It has since become known as the "Joan of Arc Tower". The trial for heresy was politically motivated. The tribunal was composed entirely of pro-English and Burgundian clerics, and overseen by English commanders including the Duke of Bedford and the Earl of Warwick. The low standard of evidence used in the trial also violated inquisitorial rules. Opening a trial anyway, the court also violated ecclesiastical law by denying Joan the right to a legal adviser. Upon the opening of the first public examination, Joan complained that those present were all partisans against her and asked for "ecclesiastics of the French side" to be invited in order to provide balance. This request was denied. If she had answered yes, then she would have been charged with heresy. If she had answered no, then she would have confessed her own guilt. The court notary Boisguillaume later testified that at the moment the court heard her reply, "Those who were interrogating her were stupefied. Under Inquisitorial guidelines, Joan should have been confined in an ecclesiastical prison under the supervision of female guards. Instead, the English kept her in a secular prison guarded by their own soldiers.

The court substituted a different abjuration in the official record. Joan agreed to wear feminine clothing when she abjured, which created a problem. According to the later descriptions of some of the tribunal members, she had previously been wearing male i. She was evidently afraid to give up this outfit even temporarily because it was likely to be confiscated by the judge and she would thereby be left without protection. A few days after her abjuration, when she was forced to wear a dress, she told a tribunal member that "a great English lord had entered her prison and tried to take her by force. Medieval Catholic doctrine held that cross-dressing should be evaluated based on context, as stated in the Summa Theologica by St. Thomas Aquinas , which says that necessity would be a permissible reason for cross-dressing. In terms of doctrine, she had been justified in disguising herself as a pageboy during her journey through enemy territory, and she was justified in wearing armor during battle and protective clothing in camp and then in prison. The Chronique de la Pucelle states that it deterred molestation while she was camped in the field. The Poitiers record no longer survives, but circumstances indicate the Poitiers clerics had approved her practice. Her supporters, such as the theologian Jean Gerson , defended her hairstyle for practical reasons, as did Inquisitor Brehal later during the appellate trial. An English soldier also constructed a small cross that she put in the front of her dress. After she died, the English raked back the coals to expose her charred body so that no one could claim she had escaped alive. They then burned the body twice more, to reduce it to ashes and prevent any collection of relics, and cast her remains into the Seine River. Before England could rebuild its military leadership and force of longbowmen lost in , the country lost its alliance with Burgundy when the Treaty of Arras was signed in His weak leadership was probably the most important factor in ending the conflict. Retrial of Joan of Arc Pope Callixtus III was instrumental in ordering the retrial of Joan of Arc in after receiving a petition from her family A posthumous retrial opened after the war ended. The purpose of the trial was to investigate whether the trial of condemnation and its verdict had been handled justly and according to canon law. A formal appeal followed in November The appellate process involved clergy from throughout Europe and observed standard court procedure. A panel of theologians analyzed testimony from witnesses. The technical reason for her execution had been a Biblical clothing law. The appellate court declared her innocent on 7 July Cultural depictions of Joan of Arc Joan of Arc became a semi-legendary figure for the four centuries after her death. The main sources of information about her were chronicles. Five original manuscripts of her condemnation trial surfaced in old archives during the 19th century. Soon, historians also located the complete records of her rehabilitation trial, which contained sworn testimony from witnesses, and the original French notes for the Latin condemnation trial transcript. Various contemporary letters also emerged, three of which carry the signature Jehanne in the unsteady hand of a person learning to write. The conflict had been a legalistic feud between two related royal families, but Joan transformed it along religious lines and gave meaning to appeals such as that of squire Jean de Metz when he asked, "Must the king be driven from the kingdom; and are we to be English? A engraving of Joan of Arc by Albert Lynch featured in the Figaro Illustre magazine The people who came after her in the five centuries since her death tried to make everything of her: She insisted, even when threatened with torture and faced with death by fire, that she was guided by voices from God. Voices or no voices, her achievements leave anyone who knows her story shaking his head in amazed wonder. Some of her most significant aid came from women. Finally, Anne of Burgundy , the duchess of Bedford and wife to the regent of England, declared Joan a virgin during pretrial inquiries. Late 19th century images such as this often had political undertones because of French territorial cessions to Germany in She identified Saint Margaret , Saint Catherine , and Saint Michael as the sources of her revelations , although there is some ambiguity as to which of several identically named saints she intended. She complained that a standard witness oath would conflict with an oath she had previously sworn to maintain confidentiality about meetings with her king. It remains unknown to what extent the surviving record may represent the fabrications of corrupt court officials or her own possible fabrications to protect state secrets. Potential diagnoses have included epilepsy , migraine , tuberculosis , and schizophrenia. Philip Mackowiak dismissed the possibility of schizophrenia and several other disorders Temporal Lobe Epilepsy and ergot poisoning in a chapter on Joan of Arc in his book Post-Mortem in It is difficult to draw final conclusions, but it would seem unlikely that widespread tuberculosis, a serious disease, was present in this "patient" whose life-style and activities would surely have

been impossible had such a serious disease been present. The citizens of Troyes hand over city keys to the Dauphin and Joan. He would have been familiar with the signs of madness because his own father, Charles VI, had suffered from it. The previous king had believed he was made of glass, a delusion no courtier had mistaken for a religious awakening. Fears that King Charles VII would manifest the same insanity may have factored into the attempt to disinherit him at Troyes. The court of Charles VII was shrewd and skeptical on the subject of mental health. She remained astute to the end of her life and the rehabilitation trial testimony frequently marvels at her astuteness: Often they [the judges] turned from one question to another, changing about, but, notwithstanding this, she answered prudently, and evinced a wonderful memory. They are now in the Museum of Art and History in Chinon. Carbon tests and various spectroscopic analyses were performed, and the results [] determined that the remains come from an Egyptian mummy.

## Chapter 2 : Biography Quiz: Joan of Arc

*About World History Biographies: Joan of Arc. Around 1412, a baby girl was born in the village of Domrémy who would change France forever. A farmer's daughter, she seemed destined for an unremarkable life.*

Rouen, France French heroine The French national heroine Joan of Arc led a troop of French soldiers and served as a temporary focus of French resistance to English occupation in the last phase of the Hundred Years War, a war with England which caused severe hardship in France. A restless France In the insanity of the French king, Charles VI, had begun the struggle between two factions rival groups to control the kingdom, the Burgundians and the Armagnacs. The leader of the Armagnacs, John the Fearless, Duke of Burgundy, finally assumed control, as both sides appealed for help to England. Henry V of England invaded France in 1415 and delivered a shattering defeat upon the French. The English and Burgundians entered Paris in 1418, and the murder of John the Fearless in 1419 strengthened Burgundian hatred for the Armagnac faction. Charles, lacking in men and money, could do nothing. By the spring of 1418 the city appeared about to fall and with it the hopes of Charles VII. I learned to sew and spin: I fear no woman in Rouen at sewing and spinning. Michael, who, with St. Margaret, "told me of the pitiful state of France, and told me that I must go to succor [assist] the King of France. However, Joan was both persistent and persuasive, and when she went to de Baudricourt a third time he granted her request. She set out in February 1412, arriving eleven days later at Chinon. Reproduced by permission of the Corbis Corporation. Joan of Arc was once described: Joan was at his side and occupied a visible place in the ceremonies following the coronation. From the spring of 1412 to the spring of 1413, Charles and his advisers were undecided on the course of the war. Joan favored taking the military offensive against English positions, particularly Paris. An attack upon Paris in September 1414 failed, and Charles VII entered into a treaty with Burgundy that committed him to virtual inaction. She was a valuable prize. The Burgundians turned Joan over to the English, who prepared to try her for heresy, or having opinions that conflict with the beliefs of the church. Charles VII could do nothing. Both were aided by a large number of theologians those that study religion and lawyers who sat as a kind of consulting and advising jury. The trial was both an ecclesiastical one and a political one. Joan was charged with witchcraft and fraud, or a willful cheating. She was tested by being asked complicated theological involving religious teachings questions, and finally condemned found guilty on the grounds of persisting in wearing male clothing, a technical offense against the authority of the Church. Apparently Joan and her accusers differed about the nature of her abjuration, and two days after she signed it, she recanted, or withdrew her previous belief. The third phase of her trial began on May 16 This time she was tried as a relapsed heretic, conviction of which meant "release" to the "secular arm," that is, she would be turned over to the English to be burned. Joan was convicted and she was burned at the stake in the marketplace of Rouen on May 30, 1419. The Joan of Arc legend, however, did not gather momentum until the seventeenth century. In spite of her legend, Joan was not canonized declared a saint until May 16, 1920. The Story of Joan of Arc. Saint Joan of Arc. Comment about this article, ask questions, or add new information about this topic:

*The French national heroine Joan of Arc led a troop of French soldiers and served as a temporary focus of French resistance to English occupation in the last phase of the Hundred Years War (), a war with England which caused severe hardship in France.*

These provide us with vivid eyewitness accounts from the people who knew her; correspondence from her commanders; the letters she herself dictated to scribes; and minuscule details such as the amount of oats bought for her horses and the names of many of the rank-and-file soldiers in her army. Her life is therefore reasonably well documented. This is a brief outline of that life; [click here](#) for a much longer version. Although at the time of her birth a truce was still in effect between France and England, an internal war had erupted between two factions of the French Royal family which would make it easier for the English to re-invade. One of his supporters, a pro-Burgundian clergyman and English advisor named Pierre Cauchon, would later arrange her conviction on their behalf. While the French remained divided into warring factions, diplomats failed to extend the truce with England. The English returned in , gradually conquering much of northern France and gaining the support in of the new Burgundian Duke, Philip III, who agreed to recognize Henry V as the legal heir to the French throne while rejecting the rival claim of the man whom Joan would consider the rightful successor, Charles of Ponthieu later known as Charles VII , the last heir of the Valois dynasty which had ruled France since Joan indicated that it was around , when she was twelve, that she began to experience visions which she described as both verbal communication as well as visible figures of saints and angels which she could see and touch. Her own testimony as well as a Royal document say that on at least two occasions specific other persons could see the same figures. She identified these visions as St. Catherine [of Alexandria], St. Margaret [of Antioch], the Archangel Michael, occasionally Gabriel, and large groups of angels on some occasions. Various authors have speculated on the significance of these personages. The only one with a definite relevance to the military situation would be the Archangel Michael, who had been chosen in as one of the patron saints of the French Royal army with Saint Denis and had long served as patron of the fortified island of Mont-Saint-Michel, which had withstood an ongoing siege or blockade since and would successfully resist continued English efforts until the truce of finally brought a respite. The rest of northern France was less successful. Charles gradually lost the allegiance of all the towns north of the Loire River except for Tournai in Flanders and Vaucouleurs, near Domremy. Since Paris had been controlled by the opposite faction since , his court was now located in the city of Bourges in central France, hemmed in by hostile forces on nearly every side: The city of Orleans on the Loire now became the primary focus. It was at this moment that an unexpected turn of events began to unfold. She said that during her childhood these visions had merely instructed her to "be good [or pious], to go to church regularly"; but over the next several years they had persistently called for her to go to the local commander at Vaucouleurs to obtain an escort to take her to the Royal Court. She embarked on the latter course in May of , not long before large English reinforcements landed in France for deployment in the Loire Valley. Joan arranged for a family relative, Durand Lassois, to take her to see Lord Robert de Baudricourt, who had remained loyal to the Armagnacs despite his status as a vassal of the pro-Burgundian Duke of Lorraine. Baudricourt refused to listen to her, and she returned home. Shortly after her return, in July of Domremy found itself in the path of a Burgundian army led by Lord Antoine de Vergy, forcing the villagers to take refuge in the nearby city of Neufchateau until the troops had passed. A few months later on October 12th, Orleans was placed under siege by an English army led by the Earl of Salisbury. The eyewitness accounts and other 15th century sources say that the situation for Charles was rather hopeless by that stage. His treasury at one point was down to less than "four ecus"; his armies were a motley collection of local contingents and foreign mercenaries; and he himself, according to the surviving accounts, was torn with doubt over the validity of his cause - since his own mother, cooperating with the English, had allegedly declared him illegitimate in order to deny his claim to the throne. Now Orleans, the last major city defending the heart of his territory, was in the grip of an English army. One account says that she convinced Baudricourt by accurately predicting an Armagnac defeat on 12 February near the village of



Rouvray-Saint-Denis several miles north of Orleans. In this latest disaster, an army under the Count of Clermont took heavy losses while unsuccessfully attempting to stop an English supply convoy bringing food to their troops at the siege. When Baudricourt received confirmation of the predicted defeat he promptly arranged for an armed escort to bring Joan through enemy territory to Chinon. Following the standard procedure, her escorts dressed her in male clothing, partly as a disguise in case the group was captured as a woman might be raped if her identity were discovered, and partly because such clothing had numerous cords with which the long boots and trousers could be tied to the tunic, which would offer an added measure of security. She would call herself "La Pucelle" the maiden or virgin, explaining that she had promised her saints to keep her virginity "for as long as it pleases God", and it is by this nickname that she is usually described in the 15th century documents. There are many eyewitness accounts of this event. Lord Raoul de Gaucourt, a Royal commander and bailiff of Orleans, recalled that "She is said to have related the details of this prayer and assured him that he was the legitimate claimant to the throne. However, Charles first wanted her to be examined by a group of theologians in order to test her orthodoxy, and for that purpose she was sent to the city of Poitiers about thirty miles to the south, where pro-Armagnac clergy from the University of Paris had fled after Paris and its university came under English control a decade earlier. They questioned her for three weeks before granting approval [[click here to see the official text of their conclusions](#)]. A letter written by a Venetian named Pancrazio Giustiniani comments that her ability to hold her own against the learned theologians earned her a reputation as "another Saint Catherine come down to earth", and this reputation began to spread. While still at Poitiers Joan told a clergyman named Jean Erault to record an ultimatum to the English commanders at Orleans around March 22 [[click here to read the full text](#)], the first of eleven surviving examples of the letters she dictated to scribes during the course of her military campaigns. This ultimatum begins with the "Jesus-Mary" slogan which would become her trademark, borrowed from the clergy known as "mendicants" - Dominicans, Franciscans, Carmelites, and Augustinians - who made up a large portion of the priests in her army. In place of a reply, the English would detain the two men who delivered the message. She would find that more forceful methods would be needed to convince the English to pull their troops out of the Loire Valley. The Army After providing her with a suit of armor "made exactly for her body" in the words of one eyewitness, and a banner with a picture of "Our Savior" holding the world "with two angels at the sides", on a white background covered with gold fleurs-de-lis, they brought her to the army at Blois, about 35 miles southwest of Orleans. It was here that she began to reform the troops by expelling the prostitutes from the camp sometimes at sword point, according to several eyewitnesses and requiring the soldiers to go to church and confession, give up swearing, and refrain from looting or harassing the civilian population. One astonished eyewitness reported that she succeeded in forcing a mercenary commander named Lord Etienne de Vignolles, known as "La Hire" meaning "anger" or "ire", a reflection of his inability to maintain an aristocratic calm to confess his sins to a priest. Her arrival had another valuable effect on the army: Orleans The army moved out from Blois around April 25th and arrived in stages at the besieged city between April 29th and May 4th. The rest of the army would arrive later by a different route, its numbers greatly reduced by discouraged men who decided to leave without the Maiden there to encourage them. On May 4th the rest of her troops made it into the city, and a few hours later an assault was launched against an English-held fortified church called Saint Loup, about a mile east of Orleans. The surviving accounts say that the position was carried after Joan rode up with her banner, encouraging the troops up and over the ramparts. The English casualties totaled dead and 40 captured. Her role in this engagement would become typical: On the following day she sent her final ultimatum to the English commanders at Orleans, this time having an archer deliver the note with an arrow rather than risk losing another messenger. The remaining English positions fell swiftly: Flanking these to the east was a fortified church called St-Jean-le-Blanc, near which the English had been bombarding the city with one of their largest cannons, called "le Passe-volant". The French troops were sent over a pontoon bridge around the hour of Tierce 9 a. The fortress was then stormed and overrun with few losses. This placed Les Tourelles within striking range: It seems she stayed behind the area of fighting for most of the day, but returned to the field near dusk in order to encourage the demoralized troops to one final effort which met with success. This proved to be decisive: Orleans was the English high-water mark: The

Loire Valley and Reims The unexpected lifting of the siege led to the support of a number of prominent figures. The Archbishop of Embrun wrote a treatise [June ] declaring Joan to be divinely inspired, and advised Charles to consult with her on matters concerning the war. The joy felt by Charles himself when he and Joan met again at Loches on the 11th was neatly summed up in an account by Eberhardt von Windecken: Then the young girl bowed her head before the King as much as she could, and the King immediately had her raise it again; and one would have thought that he would have kissed her from the joy that he experienced. This was no simple task, since Reims at that time lay deep within enemy-held territory; in order to open a way for a northward campaign, the Royal army first set about the job of clearing out the remaining English positions in the Loire Valley, with the Duke of Alencon being given command of the venture. Our Lord has condemned the English". Beaugency was taken on the 17th after the English garrison negotiated an agreement allowing them to withdraw. That evening the English troops at Meung, reinforced by an army under Sir John Fastolf, offered battle to the French but subsequently decided to fall back the next day, riding northward in an effort to make it back to more secure territory. The French pursued goaded on by Joan, saying in effect that they should use their "good spurs" to chase the enemy. The two armies clashed south of Patay, where a rapid cavalry charge led by La Hire and other nobles of the vanguard overran a unit of English archers who had been set up to delay the French as long as they could. Confusion among the main contingents of the English army completed the rout, and the French cavalry swept their opponents from the field. The English heralds announced their losses as 2, men, compared to only three casualties for the French - the reverse of so many other battles during that war.

The March to Reims When Charles met his commanders after this victory, the decision was made to press on northward to Reims. Gathering the army together at Gien on the Loire, both Charles and Joan began sending out letters requesting various cities and dignitaries to send representatives to the coronation. The Royal army finally moved out from Gien on the 29th, after a delay which caused Joan much distress. The Burgundian-held city of Auxerre was reached the next day, and an agreement with the city leaders was worked out after three days of negotiations: The next stop was Troyes, garrisoned by Burgundian troops. On July 4th, at St. Phal near Troyes, she sent a letter to the citizens of the latter city asking them to declare themselves for Charles, adding that "with the help of King Jesus", Charles will enter all of the towns within his inheritance regardless of their wishes. Troyes initially ignored the summons. Lord Dunois remembered that she then began ordering the placement of the troops, and did it so well that "two or three of the most famous and experienced soldiers" could not have done it better. Troyes surrendered the next day without a fight. The Royal army entered on the 10th; by the 14th it had reached Chalons-sur-Marne to the north, which opened its gates with greater promptitude than Troyes. Reims followed suit after Joan counseled Charles to "advance boldly"; and at last the Dauphin was poised to receive the crown which had been denied him years earlier. During the ceremony Joan of Arc stood near Charles, holding her banner. The memorable words of one 15th century source describes the scene: Pardon each other completely and willingly, as loyal Christians should do; and if it should please you to make war, go against the Saracens. Charles followed up this treaty by taking his army on a city-by-city tour of the Ile-de-France, accepting the loyalty of each in turn. The army of the Duke of Bedford was nearby, however - Bedford had recently sent off a challenge to Charles VII asking him to meet the English at "some place in the fields, convenient and reasonable" for a showdown. The place turned out to be the village of Montpilloy just southwest of Crepy, where the two armies clashed on August 14th and 15th, with Joan herself going so far as to lead a charge against the English fortified positions to try to draw them out; but only a prolonged series of skirmishes took place, and both armies withdrew on the night of the 15th. The French went back to Crepy, and then proceeded on to Compiegne to the northwest. At the same time negotiations with the Burgundians were getting underway, with the positions of the two parties oddly reversed: On the 21st a treaty was signed providing for a four-month truce designed to prevent the Royal army from continuing its offensive, coupled with the added provision that several towns should be handed over to the Duke of Burgundy. A peace conference was promised for the spring, although the documents show that the English were preparing to launch an offensive around the same time. Meanwhile, King Charles remained at Compiegne. On the 23rd Joan and the Duke of Alencon left on their own initiative with a body of troops and made their way to the region around Paris, arriving at St-Denis on the 25th and

sending out skirmishers "up to the gates of Paris" over the next several days. She was carried back against her will, all the while urging on another assault.



## Chapter 4 : Biography: Joan of Arc for Kids

*Joan of Arc has been embraced as both a martyred maiden saint and a secular icon of nationalism, heroism, and patriotism. During the struggle to achieve voting rights for women in the United States, the Maid of Orleans was beloved by the oft-reviled suffragette movement; and became an important symbol of feminism in America.*

May 30, Rouen, France Best known for: Where did Joan of Arc grow up? Joan of Arc grew up in a small town in France. Her father, Jacques, was a farmer who also worked as an official for the town. Joan worked on the farm and learned how to sew from her mother, Isabelle. Joan was also very religious. Visions from God When Joan was around twelve years old she had a vision. She saw Michael the Archangel. He told her that she was to lead the French in a battle against the English. After she drove the English out she was to take the king to be crowned at Rheims. Joan continued to have visions and hear voices over the next several years. She said they were beautiful and wonderful visions from God. When Joan turned sixteen she decided it was time to listen to her visions and take action. How was she going get an army to defeat the English? She decided she would ask King Charles of France for an army. She first went to the local town and asked the commander of the garrison, Count Baudricourt, to take her to see the king. He just laughed at her. However, Joan did not give up. She continued to ask for his help and gained the support of some local leaders. Soon he agreed to provide her with an escort to the royal court in the city of Chinon. Joan met with the king. At first the king was suspicious. Should he put this young girl in charge of his army? Was she a messenger from God or was she just crazy? Eventually, the king figured he had nothing to lose. He let Joan accompany a convoy of soldiers and supplies to the city of Orleans that was under siege from the English Army. While Joan waited on the king, she practiced for battle. She became a proficient fighter and an expert horse rider. She was ready when the king said she could fight. The French people began to hope that God was going to save them from the English. When Joan arrived the people greeted her with cheering and celebrations. Joan had to wait for the rest of the French army to arrive. Once they were there, she launched an attack against the English. Joan led the attack and during one of the battles was wounded by an arrow. She stayed with the troops inspiring them to fight even harder. Eventually Joan and the French Army repelled the English troops and caused them to retreat from Orleans. She had won a great victory and saved the French from the English. King Charles is Crowned After winning the Battle of Orleans, Joan had only achieved part of what the visions had told her to do. She also needed to lead Charles to the city of Rheims to be crowned king. Joan and her army cleared the way to Rheims, gaining followers as she went. Soon they had made it to Rheims and Charles was crowned King of France. Captured Joan heard that the city of Compiègne was under attack by the Burgundians. She took a small force to help defend the city. With her force under attack outside the city, the drawbridge was raised and she was trapped. Joan was captured and later sold to the English. Trial and Death The English held Joan as prisoner and gave her a trial to prove that she was a religious heretic. They questioned her over the course of several days trying to find something that she had done that deserved death. They said that was enough to deserve death and announced her guilty. Joan was burned alive at the stake. She asked for a cross before she died and an English soldier gave her a small wooden cross. Witnesses said she forgave her accusers and asked them to pray for her. She was only nineteen years old when she died. Joan, however, immediately approached the king and bowed to him. When Joan traveled she cut her hair and dressed to look like a man. King Charles of France, who Joan had helped to reclaim his throne, did nothing to help her once she was captured by the English. Her nickname was "The Maid of Orleans". It is said that Joan knew she would be wounded in the Battle of Orleans. She also predicted that something bad would happen at the city of Compiègne where she was captured. Activities Take a ten question quiz about this page. Listen to a recorded reading of this page: Your browser does not support the audio element.

**Chapter 5 : Joan Of Arc | HISTORY**

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Check new design of our homepage! They were farmers and her father supplemented his income by working as a minor village official. At the age of 12, Joan experienced her first vision. She said the St. When she was 16 years old, she asked Durand Lassois, a kinsman, to bring her to Vaucouleurs where she petitioned the garrison commander, Count Robert de Baudricourt, for permission to visit the royal French court at Chinon. He gave her a sarcastic reply. She came back the following year in January with the support of two men of standing: Jean de Metz and Bertrand de Poulengy. Then she got a second interview where she made an amazing prediction about a military reversal near Orleans. When this prediction was confirmed, Robert de Baudricourt granted Joan an escort to Chinon. She went disguised in male attire. He was suitably impressed by her, but ordered a background inquiry and a theological examination at Poitiers nevertheless. The Hundred Years War was in full swing at that point of time and the military and civil leadership of France were severely demoralized. When Joan of Arc asked to be equipped for war and placed at the head of his army, the Dauphin agreed. He perhaps saw that such a move might create a positive fervor among his troops, especially from a religious point of view. This did not deter her, however, and she attended the councils as and when she found out. Under her leadership, the army was roused again. So far the French army had tried only one aggressive assault during the siege of Orleans and had failed miserably in that attempt. On the 4th of May they attacked and captured Saint Loup and on the 5th of May they captured Saint Jean le Blanc in a bloodless battle as the fortress was deserted. Joan kept pushing at Orleans for another aggressive attack on the English. He tried to keep her from doing so by locking the gates of the city. Joan, however, could not be stopped. She summoned townsmen and soldiers and forced the mayor to unlock the gate. On the 7th of May, she attacked an English stronghold called Les Tourelles. Although wounded in the shoulder, she returned to the battle and the French won. This led to plans for more offensive action. What followed was a string of victories on the path to Reims. Joan was also injured in the battle of Jargeau when a cannonball hit her helmet. On the 18th of June, reinforcements of the English army arrived under the command of Sir John Fastolf. The battle of Patay became a source of English humiliation. The French army attacked them before they could even make their defensive preparations and routed them thoroughly. Auxerre surrendered conditionally on the 3rd of July. Troyes surrendered after a four day bloodless siege. All the other towns along the way began to surrender without a fight. Finally, Reims was taken on the 16th of July and the coronation of the Dauphin took place the following morning. But the Royal court wanted to negotiate a treaty with the Duke of Burgundy. The Duke of Burgundy used this as a stalling technique to reinforce his defenses of Paris. As the French army marched along to Paris, the towns along the way surrendered peacefully. The French army withdrew when Joan received a Royal order to withdraw. She had suffered a crossbow injury in her leg. On the 23rd of May, , she was captured by the Burgundians as the French army was again ordered to retreat. At the time, it was a customary practice that the family members of the prisoner of war ransom him or her. Finally, the English ransomed her. Saint Joan of Arc: The trial began on the 9th of January, at Rouen. It has now been proved that most of the proceedings of the trial were wrong and motivated by the politics of the time. The court lacked any evidence to prove any charges against Joan and they even denied her any legal council. Also, another fact to be noted was that Joan had been medically examined and it had been proved that she was a virgin. Therefore, it was difficult under the law of the day to accuse her of witchcraft. Joan managed to show immense courage and intelligence to surprise the clergy staff. When the trial opened, she remarked that all those present were against her and asked for ecclesiastic staff from the French side to be present. She surprised everyone with her answer: On the 30th of May , Joan of Arc was burned to death on a stake. After her death, her body was burned again to ensure that she had not escaped and that there would be nothing left of her but ashes. These were then cast into the Seine. Following an investigation in , a retrial was authorized by Pope Callixtus III, at the end of the war. On the 7th of July, , Joan of Arc was declared innocent. In she was beatified, and in she

was canonized as a Saint. Joan of Arc has been a political symbol for France. Several political and military leaders like Napoleon have invoked her name. The second Sunday of the month of May is a civic holiday in her honor in France.

**Chapter 6 : Joan of Arc - Wikipedia**

*'The appearance of Joan of Arc', in van Herwaarden (ed.), Joan of Arc: Reality and Myth, van Herwaarden, J. (ed.), Joan of Arc: Reality and Myth (Hilversum, ). Vauchez, A., 'Jeanne d'Arc et le prophétisme féminin des XIVe et XVe siècles', in Jeanne d'Arc: Une époque, un rayonnement,*

Enjoy the Famous Daily Insistent voices: But in this winter of they have been giving her a very specific instruction. Her voices reflect a shrewd political perception which no one but she, it seems, has appreciated. Thanks to a long tradition, much fostered in the previous century by Charles V , it is believed that each French king acquires a divine quality once he is anointed with the sacred oil from the Sainte Ampoule at Reims. One is Henry VI, the young king of England, whose forces - in alliance with the Burgundians - control the entire north of France, including Reims itself. The other is Charles VII, king by rightful descent but a weak figure, confined to the region round Bourges. Joan sees with the clarity of passionate faith that if Charles can fight his way to Reims to be consecrated, France will have a king again. This becomes her mission. But first she must reach Charles himself. It is two more days before her request to see Charles VII is granted. He is often still referred to as the dauphin at this stage; he has been crowned at Poitiers in , but Joan does not yet consider him a proper king. Charles conceals himself among his courtiers, as if to test her powers. She immediately identifies him, telling him that she wants to make war against the English so as to open his way to Reims. For three weeks Joan is examined by leading churchmen. They recommend to Charles that he use her services. He provides her with the household of a knight. She has her own squire and pages, her own painted standard and banner. She has armour and a sword, miraculously found - it is said - behind the altar in a church where she sends men to seek it. The city has been besieged for seven months by the English, holding various fortified positions around the town. One by one the English positions fall. They withdraw to three other towns on the Loire, where they await reinforcements. The French have driven the English from one of the three towns when reinforcements arrive in mid-June - men under the command of Sir John Fastolf. Summons to the forthcoming coronation are sent out on June 25, even though the entire country as far as Reims is still ostensibly in English or Burgundian hands. The attitude of the fortified towns on the route is uncertain. The gates of almost every town are freely opened to the coronation party. One notable exception is Troyes , where the treaty was signed in diverting the French crown into English hands; but when Joan in person leads an attack on the city, the inhabitants rapidly change their minds. Reims is reached on July The city opens its gates to Charles. Preparations are made for an immediate consecration in the cathedral the following day. As Charles is anointed with the holy oil, Joan stands nearby with her banner. Then she kneels before him, and for the first time calls him her king. Paris is her one failure, in September The capital city resists both her assaults on its walls and her passionate pleas to the defenders to surrender to their rightful king. Over the next few months her fate as a captive is hotly contested. The university of Paris, shamelessly partisan for the English cause, demands that she be handed over to the Inquisition for trial as a heretic. In March she is placed on trial. The most serious charge is one of presumption in claiming divine revelation and in placing more reliance on such supposed revelation than on the authority of the church; at a more frivolous level Joan is charged with immodesty in wearing male clothes and inaccuracy in suggesting that saints speak French rather than English. The charges, if proved, amount to heresy. But it is not essential that she dies. Several attempts are made to persuade her to recant. The records of her trial and interrogations survive, revealing the sturdy commonsense with which she maintains her position. In the face of this obstinacy, she is handed over for punishment by the civil powers - a sentence of death. Hearing this, she finally yields. Three days later she retracts, maintaining once again everything that she stands for. On 30 May she is burnt at the stake as a relapsed heretic. During that short spell the political face of France has been transformed. And the French king, Charles VII , whom Joan coaxes and chivies to seize his destiny, reigns with great success for thirty years after her death.

## Chapter 7 : Joan of Arc Biography - life, family, story, death, history, son, information, born, house, time

*Joan's own sword was brought to her from the church of St Catherine at Fierbois. John, duke of Bedford, younger brother of Henry V and regent of English France on behalf of his young nephew Henry VI, kneels before St George, the patron saint of England.*

Born in obscurity to a peasant family, she travelled to the uncrowned Dauphin of France, advising him to reclaim his French throne and defeat the English. Joan of Arc was sent alongside French troops to the siege of Orleans and rose to prominence after the siege was lifted after nine days. She was later captured and burned at the stake for heresy. However, as she predicted, seven years after her death, France was reunited with the English defeated and Charles crowned King. However, what is more certain is that her family were poor and her region had suffered from the long conflict between England and France. But to sacrifice what you are and to live without belief, that is a fate more terrible than dying. It is said by friends that: In these visions, she said she felt the voice of God commanding her to renew the French nation. At her later trial, Joan of Arc said she felt these visions were as real seeing another person. The visions were often accompanied by light and the presence of saints such as St Michael and St Catherine. She would frequently go to confession and, it is said that whenever she heard the bells for Mass she would immediately drop her work and run to church. Initially, Joan did not tell others about her visions and inner commandments but in May the divine messages urged her to seek an audience with Charles de Ponthieu currently an ineffective and relatively weak leader of the French. This famous victory over the French nobility left the country weak and divided. The main divisions were between the Dauphins and English supporting Burgundians. Under Charles de Ponthieu, the French were without direction and without a real leader. When Joan of Arc came to the court she made a strong impression on Charles with her passion and conviction. It is quite remarkable that this year-old peasant girl was, as a consequence, given control over an army and allowed to lead them into battle. Many other towns were also liberated from English control and it allowed a triumphal entry into Dauphin for the coronation of King Charles VII on 17 July For her exploits and leadership, Joan of Arc and her family were granted noble status. She has also won the hearts of the French soldiers who looked up to Joan as an almost mythical leader. However a year later Joan was captured by the Burgundian forces at Compiègne and sold to the English. Her trial is well documented and provides a revealing insight into her character and destiny. Joan of Arc interrogation The English and members of the French clergy decided to put her on trial for witchcraft. In many ways, it was a show trial with the result cleverly orchestrated. The leading church investigator was Pierre Cauchon – a staunch supporter of the British who hated Joan of Arc for her revival of French national pride. I do not know if you are! But I tell you that you must take good care not to judge me wrongly, because you will put yourself in great danger. I warn you, so that if God punishes you for it, I would have done my duty by telling you! Initially, the trial was held in public, but her responses were much sharper than her prosecutors expected. Her answers stood a challenge to the authority of the church; Joan of Arc stated how. For example, the prosecution tried very hard to get her to blaspheme. I should be the saddest in all the world if I knew that I were not in the grace of God. But if I were in a state of sin, do you think the Voice would come to me? It appears Joan was threatened with torture, though there is no evidence she was actually tortured. As expected, Joan was found guilty and condemned to death by burning at the stake. Faced with such an overwhelming ordeal Joan broke down and confessed. However a week later she regained her strength and recanted her confession. This meant the penalty of execution by fire would be re-implemented. Witnesses recount she faced her ordeal with dignity. It is said that over 10, people came to see her execution by burning. Afterwards, her ashes were scattered in the Seine. One legend tells how her heart remained unaffected by the fire. Twenty-six years later the English were finally driven from Rouen and in a later inquest she was declared to be officially innocent and was officially designated to be a martyr. She was canonised a saint in and remains the patron saint of France. Joan of Arc achieved a remarkable achievement in her short life of 19 years. In particular, she embodied religious devotion with great bravery and humility, her life helped change the course of French history. Last updated 11th March Women who changed the world – Famous women who changed the



world. Features female Prime Ministers, scientists, cultural figures, authors and royalty.

**Chapter 8 : Life History and Biography of Joan of Arc (Jeanne d'Arc)**

*Find great deals for National Geographic World History Biographies: Joan of Arc: The Teenager Who Saved Her Nation by National Geographic Kids Staff and Philip Wilkinson (, Paperback).*

Reims , the traditional place for the investiture of French kings, was well within the territory held by his enemies. As long as the Dauphin remained unconsecrated, the rightfulness of his claim to be king of France was open to challenge. The villagers had already had to abandon their homes before Burgundian threats. He did not take the year-old and her visions seriously, and she returned home. Joan went to Vaucouleurs again in January This time her quiet firmness and piety gained her the respect of the people, and the captain, persuaded that she was neither a witch nor feebleminded, allowed her to go to the Dauphin at Chinon. Crossing territory held by the enemy, and traveling for 11 days, she reached Chinon. Joan went at once to the castle of the dauphin Charles, who was initially uncertain whether to receive her. His counselors gave him conflicting advice; but two days later he granted her an audience. As a test Charles hid himself among his courtiers, but Joan quickly detected him; she told him that she wished to go to battle against the English and that she would have him crowned at Reims. These examinations, the record of which has not survived, were occasioned by the ever-present fear of heresy following the end of the Western Schism in Joan of Arc answering the questions of the prelates. She had her standard painted with an image of Christ in Judgment and a banner made bearing the name of Jesus. When the question of a sword was brought up, she declared that it would be found in the church of Sainte-Catherine-de-Fierbois, and one was in fact discovered there. The city, besieged since October 12, , was almost totally surrounded by a ring of English strongholds. When Joan and one of the French commanders, La Hire, entered with supplies on April 29, she was told that action must be deferred until further reinforcements could be brought in. On the evening of May 4, when Joan was resting, she suddenly sprang up, apparently inspired, and announced that she must go and attack the English. Arming herself, she hurried to an English fort east of the city, where she discovered an engagement was already taking place. Her arrival roused the French, and they took the fort. The next day Joan addressed another of her letters of defiance to the English. On the morning of May 6 she crossed to the south bank of the river and advanced toward another fort; the English immediately evacuated in order to defend a stronger position nearby, but Joan and La Hire attacked them and took it by storm. Very early on May 7 the French advanced against the fort of Les Tourelles. Joan was wounded but quickly returned to the fight, and it was thanks in part to her example that the French commanders maintained the attack until the English capitulated. Next day the English were seen retreating, but, because it was a Sunday, Joan refused to allow any pursuit. She urged him to make haste to Reims to be crowned. It was decided, however, first to clear the English out of the other towns along the Loire River. They next attacked Beaugency , whereupon the English retreated into the castle. After making him swear fidelity , she accepted his help, and shortly thereafter the castle of Beaugency was surrendered. The French and English armies came face to face at Patay on June 18, Joan promised success to the French, saying that Charles would win a greater victory that day than any he had won so far. The victory was indeed complete; the English army was routed and with it, finally, its reputation for invincibility. Again Joan urged upon Charles the need to go on swiftly to Reims for his coronation. He vacillated, however, and as he meandered through the towns along the Loire, Joan accompanied him and sought to vanquish his hesitancy and prevail over the counselors who advised delay. She was aware of the dangers and difficulties involved but declared them of no account, and finally she won Charles to her view. From Gien, where the army began to assemble, the Dauphin sent out the customary letters of summons to the coronation. Joan wrote two letters: She and the Dauphin set out on the march to Reims on June Before arriving at Troyes , Joan wrote to the inhabitants, promising them pardon if they would submit. They countered by sending a friar , the popular preacher Brother Richard, to take stock of her. Although he returned full of enthusiasm for the Maid and her mission, the townsfolk decided to remain loyal to the Anglo-Burgundian regime. On July 16 the royal army reached Reims, which opened its gates. The coronation took place on July 17, Joan was present at the consecration, standing with her banner not far from the altar. After the ceremony she knelt before Charles,

calling him her king for the first time. That same day she wrote to the duke of Burgundy, adjuring him to make peace with the king and to withdraw his garrisons from the royal fortresses. On August 2 the king decided on a retreat from Provins to the Loire, a move that implied abandoning any plan to attack Paris. In fact, on August 6, English troops prevented the royal army from crossing the Seine at Bray, much to the delight of Joan and the commanders, who hoped that Charles would attack Paris. Everywhere acclaimed, Joan was now, according to a 15th-century chronicler, the idol of the French. She herself felt that the purpose of her mission had been achieved. Near Senlis, on August 14, the French and English armies again confronted each other. Joan, however, was becoming more and more impatient; she thought it essential to take Paris. Wounded, she continued to encourage the soldiers until she had to abandon the attack. At Gien, which they reached on September 22, the army was disbanded. Joan went with the king to Bourges, where many years later she was to be remembered for her goodness and her generosity to the poor. The supplies arrived too late, and after a month they had to withdraw. Joan then rejoined the king, who was spending the winter in towns along the Loire. Late in December Charles issued letters patent ennobling Joan, her parents, and her brothers. Early in the duke of Burgundy began to threaten Brie and Champagne. She arrived at Melun in the middle of April, and it was no doubt her presence that prompted the citizens there to declare themselves for Charles VII. With them she went on to Soissons, where the townspeople refused them entry. The next afternoon, May 23, she led a sortie and twice repelled the Burgundians but was eventually outflanked by English reinforcements and compelled to retreat. Remaining until the last to protect the rear guard while they crossed the Oise River, she was unhorsed and could not remount. Charles, who was working toward a truce with the duke of Burgundy, made no attempts to save her. Joan of Arc c. Her desire to escape became so great that she jumped from the top of a tower, falling unconscious into the moat. She was not seriously hurt, and when she had recovered, she was taken to Arras, a town adhering to the duke of Burgundy. News of her capture had reached Paris on May 25. The next day the theology faculty of the University of Paris, which had taken the English side, requested the duke of Burgundy to turn her over for judgment either to the chief inquisitor or to the bishop of Beauvais, Pierre Cauchon, in whose diocese she had been seized. The university wrote also, to the same effect, to John of Luxembourg; and on July 14 the bishop of Beauvais presented himself before the duke of Burgundy asking, on his own behalf and in the name of the English king, that the Maid be handed over in return for a payment of 10,000 francs. The trial was fixed to take place at Rouen. Joan was moved to a tower in the castle of Bouvreuil, which was occupied by the earl of Warwick, the English commander at Rouen. Though her offenses against the Lancastrian monarchy were common knowledge, Joan was brought to trial before a church court because the theologians at the University of Paris, as arbiter in matters concerning the faith, insisted that she be tried as a heretic. Her beliefs were not strictly orthodox, according to the criteria for orthodoxy laid down by many theologians of the period. She was no friend of the church militant on earth which perceived itself as in spiritual combat with the forces of evil, and she threatened its hierarchy through her claim that she communicated directly with God by means of visions or voices. Further, her trial might serve to discredit Charles VII by demonstrating that he owed his coronation to a witch, or at least a heretic. Summoned to appear before her judges on February 21, Joan asked for permission to attend mass beforehand, but it was refused on account of the gravity of the crimes with which she was charged, including attempted suicide in having jumped into the moat. She was ordered to swear to tell the truth and did so swear, but she always refused to reveal the things she had said to Charles. Cauchon forbade her to leave her prison, but Joan insisted that she was morally free to attempt escape. Guards were then assigned to remain always inside the cell with her, and she was chained to a wooden block and sometimes put in irons. Between February 21 and March 24 she was interrogated nearly a dozen times. On every occasion she was required to swear anew to tell the truth, but she always made it clear that she would not necessarily divulge everything to her judges since, although nearly all of them were Frenchmen, they were enemies of King Charles. The report of this preliminary questioning was read to her on March 24, and apart from two points she admitted its accuracy. When the trial proper began a day or so later, it took two days for Joan to answer the 70 charges that had been drawn up against her. These were based mainly on the contention that her behaviour showed blasphemous presumption: Perhaps the most serious charge was of preferring what she believed to be the direct commands

of God to those of the church. On March 31 she was questioned again on several points about which she had been evasive, notably on the question of her submission to the church. In her position, obedience to the court that was trying her was inevitably made a test of such submission. She did her best to avoid this trap, saying she knew well that the church militant could not err, but it was to God and to her saints that she held herself answerable for her words and actions. The trial continued, and the 70 charges were reduced to 12, which were sent for consideration to many eminent theologians in both Rouen and Paris. Meanwhile, Joan fell sick in prison and was attended by two doctors. She received a visit on April 18 from Cauchon and his assistants, who exhorted her to submit to the church. Joan, who was seriously ill and thought she was dying, begged to be allowed to go to confession and receive Holy Communion and to be buried in consecrated ground. She answered that even if they tortured her to death she would not reply differently, adding that in any case she would afterward maintain that any statement she might make had been extorted from her by force. In light of this commonsense fortitude, her interrogators, by a majority of 10 to three, decided that torture would be useless. Joan was informed on May 23 of the decision of the University of Paris that if she persisted in her errors she would be turned over to the secular authorities; only they, and not the church, could carry out the death sentence of a condemned heretic. Abjuration, relapse, and execution. Apparently nothing further could be done. Joan was taken out of prison for the first time in four months on May 24 and conducted to the cemetery of the church of Saint-Ouen, where her sentence was to be read out. After the sermon was ended, she asked that all the evidence on her words and deeds be sent to Rome. Her judges ignored her appeal to the pope and began to read out the sentence abandoning her to the secular power.

### Chapter 9 : HISTORY OF JOAN OF ARC

*But as the dramatic narrative of this World History Biography reveals, Joan's life was anything but ordinary. By the age of 13, she knew her destinyâ€”to drive the English invaders from France. By the age of 13, she knew her destinyâ€”to drive the English invaders from France.*