



THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

WHO WROTE THE DECLARATION?

⊙ **Thomas Jefferson**

⊙ **John Adams**

⊙ **Benjamin Franklin**

⊙ **Robert Livingston**

⊙ **Roger Sherman**



WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE?

- ◉ To justify to the world the colonists decision to separate from England and create an independent country.



WHAT BELIEFS OR PRINCIPLES WERE INCLUDED IN THE DECLARATION?

- ◉ All men are created equal.
- ◉ Unalienable rights- rights given by God that cannot be taken away.
- ◉ Governments only exist if the people agree.
- ◉ People can revolt if the government takes away their rights.
- ◉ The United Colonies are free and independent states.



WHAT WERE THE 26 GRIEVANCES (COMPLAINTS) INCLUDED IN THE DECLARATION?

- ◉ Disbanded colonial legislatures
- ◉ Did not approve laws unless right of representation was relinquished
- ◉ Made legislative bodies meet in unusual, distant and uncomfortable places away from official records.
- ◉ Prevented immigration and naturalization
- ◉ Refused to pass laws to set up judiciary power
- ◉ Made judges dependent on him for their job and salary
- ◉ Built government offices with swarms of officers to harass our people



WHAT WERE THE 26 GRIEVANCES (COMPLAINTS) INCLUDED IN THE DECLARATION?

- ◉ Sent troops in peacetime
- ◉ Made the military independent of and superior to civil power
- ◉ Held us to laws against our Constitution.
- ◉ Quartered soldiers among us and holding mock trials for murders they committed.
- ◉ Cut off our trade
- ◉ Taxed us without our consent
- ◉ Deprived our people of trial by jury and took us across seas to be tried



WHAT WERE THE 26 GRIEVANCES (COMPLAINTS) INCLUDED IN THE DECLARATION?

- ◉ Abolished free English system of laws in neighboring province and introduced absolute rule
- ◉ Took away charters and altered our governments
- ◉ Waged war against us
- ◉ Plundered our seas, coast, towns and destroyed the lives of our people
- ◉ Transported large armies of foreign mercenaries
- ◉ Excited domestic insurrections leading to Native American attacks.

