Unit III LEQ #5- Arman

**Question.** Describe and analyze the changes in the role of parliament in English politics between the succession of James I and the Glorious Revolution.

**Contextualization:** England in the 17th century experienced drastic political changes under the Stuart Monarchs. Under the rule of Elizabeth VI, England had established a strong monarchy with a respected queen, benefited from religious wars, and had a centralized Anglican Church. During the rule of the Stuart monarchs, England deteriorated politically eventually leading to a Constitutional or limited monarchy. **Thesis:** This change was orchestrated by the English parliament. Between James I and the Glorious Revolution, the role of parliament became increasingly significant. **Argument:** Parliament's role started as a political accessory that was neglected by monarchs, became more significant through open opposition, and finally changed to an established necessity by the end of the Glorious Revolution.

**Body 1:** Parliament was neglected by the Stuart monarchs and rarely had political significance.
- **Evidence:** James I placed impositions- taxes on imports.
- **Analysis:** James I did not consult Parliament, went to collect money without going through parliament. Parliament was angered but neglected. He asserted himself as an all-powerful entity.
- **Evidence:** Earl of Strafford under Charles I instituted thorough policy and went to war with Spain without finances from Parliament- quartered troops in homes, taxation, forced loans.
- **Analysis:** Thorough policy displayed the idea of divine right of Kings. His goal was to operate independently of Parliament. Like James I, methods angered Parliament.

**Body 2:** In addition, parliament drastically changed English politics by opposing kings
- **Evidence:** The Long Parliament- November 1640, House of Commons impeached the earl of Strafford and Archbishop Laud, dissolved Court of Star Chambers and High Commission
- **Analysis:** Parliament finally asserted themselves and opposed Charles I but was not unified, forced Charles I to recognize them.
- **Evidence:** English Civil War- Grand Remonstrance; Parliament builds army with Cromwell
- **Analysis:** Parliament no longer tolerated king's oppression, and decided to fight for what they believed. Cromwell's republic was flawed and failed but it was first form of representative government.

**Body 3:** Finally, parliament's role changed to full involvement within the politics of England through the Glorious Revolution.
- **Evidence:** Parliament invited William III of Orange into England and require that Parliament meets every 3 years
- **Analysis:** Parliament manifested its traditional liberties. They made a decision when James II first had a catholic son. This allowed them to become a recognized part of English gov.
- **Evidence:** parliament imposed a bill of rights
- **Analysis:** Parliament forced William and Mary to sign a Bill of Rights. This shows how parliament changed English politics to preserve the rights of the people. Started by Magna Carta and built on by parliament. No more possibility of absolute rule.

**Conclusion:** In summation, the role of parliament drastically changed between the succession of James I and the Glorious Revolution. It began as an accessory to English Government ignored by kings. Subsequently it created opposition forcing the Stuart monarchs to recognize them and their power. Finally, Parliament established itself as an integral part of English politics with the Glorious Revolution. **Synthesis:** The changes to the role of parliament in English parliament is similar to the role of Huguenots in the French Wars of Religion. The Huguenots were a group that was stifled and oppressed by the Catholic government. Eventually their influence grew and stemmed conflict leading to religious toleration under Henry IV. Similarly, Parliament started with little influence, but later became manifested into English politics.