Splendour and tyranny – England's Henry VIII



500 years after his accession, Henry VIII is remembered for being one of England's most notorious and influential monarchs

THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII - Henry's desire for male heirs to secure his dynasty led him through six successive marriages



Catherine of Aragon Married 1509-33

Bore six children -

all stillborn or died in

infancy except Mary. Divorced by Henry

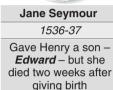




1533-36 Bore one daughter -

Elizabeth - and two

stillborn sons. Henry had her beheaded



Anne of Cleves Jan-Jul 1540

Arranged marriage not consummated. Divorced by Henry after six months



Catherine Howard 1540-42



1543-47

Thirty years younger than Henry, she failed to conceive and was beheaded for adultery 1534: Henry

Bore no children but cared for ageing King. She survived Henry and died in 1548

1547

Death of

Henry.

1491: Birth of 1509: Henry 1502 Henry, son of Arthur becomes King Henry VII and dies on death of Elizabeth of York his father

1499: Prince Arthur. 1503 Henry's older brother, Catherine betrothed to Henry

1510-15: Henry begins to expand navy, resulting in England becoming great power

1517: Start

of **Protestant**

Reformation

in Germany

1525-33: Quest for heir leads Henry to seek divorce.

refused by Pope 1533: Henry annuls marriage and is

excommunicated by

Catholic Church

Anglican Church aged 55

splits with Rome

and establishes

1536 Henry begins Dissolution of the Monasteries - seizure of Church properties

Source: Encyclopedia Britannica

marries Catherine

of Aragon

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