



September 5, 1698

▲ Tsar Peter the Great of Russia imposed a tax on beards as part of a effort to modernise Russian society following western European models

1638: Louis XIV of France, the “Sun King” who build the Palace of Versailles, was born

2006: Conservative candidate Felipe Calderon was declared the winner of Mexico’s presidential election

2008: Quentin Bryce was sworn in as the first female Governor-General of Australia

2010: Spain’s Basque nationalist group ETA announced a ceasefire in its struggle for independence