

The Tudor Dynasty – from *Moving Ideas* by F. Salerno

The Tudor period is the beginning of the modern age, in fact there is a series of social, spiritual and material changes: the emancipation of the peasants; the spread of commercial activities; the growth of the middle class; the national pride for the victories during the Hundred Years' War; the press, thanks to which clergymen no longer were the only men of learning; the use of the English language; the Renaissance, with the new analyses and new possible points of view on religious and universal matters; the opportunities of new commercial sea routes and the discovery of the New World.

The separation between England and continental Europe was becoming deeper: France and Spain were allied with the Catholic Roman Church, and were stronger; in England the Tudor dynasty was allied with its Parliament and they certainly didn't want to be weaker.