Joan of Arc

Joan of Arc was able to bring back the unity of France as she set forth to drive England from power and give King Charles VII reign again. Her desire, "visions" and will carried her through a yearlong crusade over the English.

Joan was born Jan. 6, 1412 in the village of Domremy, France to Jacques and Isabelle d'Arc. Her parents brought her up in the Catholic Church and her mother taught her the skills of sewing and spinning. She was a devout Christian and loved helping the poor whenever she could.

When Joan was 13 and one half she started having "visions" about what she should do to help regain France from England. As the years went on the "visions" became more and more vivid. She said that she heard and even saw persons giving her instructions. Finally, she decided to follow or "give in" to her "visions."

As an 18-year-old girl, Sir Robert de Baudricourt was not inclined to give Joan control and leadership of an army. Joan persisted through the ranks until she convinced Dauphin (King Charles) to grant her his army. After winning battles the country grew to respect and honor Joan, even as highly as a queen. Her goal to get King Charles VII in power of France had been reached. Word came that England was going to be attacking so Joan went off to fight again. This time Joan was captured and taken to England where she was tried and later burnt at the stake.

Joan of Arc is a champion of resistance in many ways. She united a country and brought them out if bondage. She stood up for the poor to give them a better life and she set a precedence for women all over the world and all through time to stand up and achieve what they want.