**CHY4U Evidence of Louis XIV’s Absolutism as seen in:**

**Economy**

Using the economic system of mercantilism, Louis the XIV attempted to unify his kingdom by creating a flourishing national economy.

**Armed Forces**

Louis XIV created a national army thus enhancing the absolutist characteristic of developing the state as an entity. Previously, the nobles had their own armies.

**Religion**

With religion, Louis XIV wanted conformity and stressed the importance of the French national Catholic Church. He also revoked the Edict of Nantes in 1685, which had given some religious freedom to the Huguenots (French Protestants) to obtain his goal.

**Intendants**

Louis XIV hired civil servants to collect taxes and work for the government. They were dedicated to him, bringing in more money.

**Versailles**

Louis built a grand palace based on classic Roman architecture (perfection, symmetry etc.). The sheer volume of resources consumed to build such a massive palace cost France quite a bit of money. This represented how Louis XIV believed he was at the centre of the world and reflected that in the palace itself.

**Social System**

Louis XIV wanted complete control over his kingdom like Roman emperors. In order to do so he replaced feudalism with centralized absolutism by stripping the nobility of their political power meaning they lost control of their army, local government and public service. However, he allowed the social hierarchy to remain intact by not taking away their social and economic privileges.