## Middle Ages

WHAT WERE THE CULTURAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL STRUCTURES OF MEDIEVAL EUROPE?

## Invasions of Western Europe

- Germanic invasions overran the western half of the Roman Empire
- As a result Europe experienced:
  - 1. Disruption of trade
  - 2. Downfall of cities
  - 3. Population shifts from cities to countryside
  - 4. Decline of learning
  - 5. Loss of common language

Germanic Kingdoms

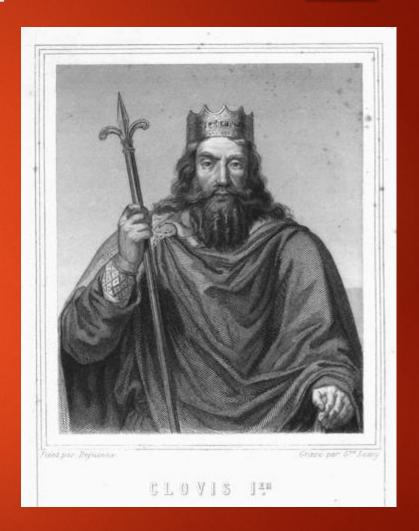
### Emerge

- Concept of government changes
  - Family ties and personal loyalty
    - Made it impossible to establish governments to rule over large areas
  - Germanic chiefs led bands of warriors



### Clovis (A Leader)

- Clovis rules the Franks
  - Brought Christianity to the region
  - By 511, Clovis had united the Franks into one kingdom



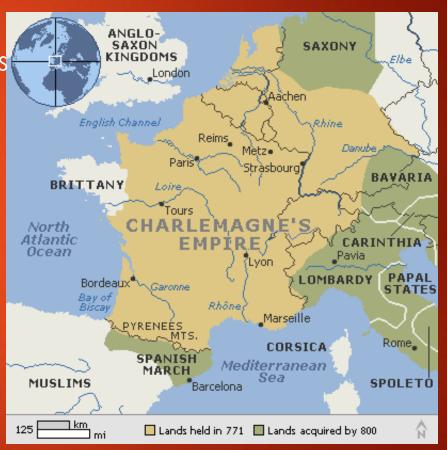
## Germans adopt Christianity

- ► The Church converted many Germanic peoples.
- ▶ The Church built monasteries.
  - Educated communities
- Papal power expands under Gregory I
  - ▶ In 590, Gregory I became pope.
  - Expanded his power beyond its spiritual role
  - Gregory used church money to raise armies, repair roads, and help the poor; also negotiated peace treaties with invaders

### Charlemagne becomes Emperor

► In 800, Pope Leo II crowned him emperor.

- Charlemagne increased his royal power.
  - ► He limited the authority of the nobles.
  - ► To govern his empire, he sent out royal agents.
  - ► He spread Christianity.
  - ► Encouraged learning.
  - reunited western Europe for the first time since the Roman Empire
  - https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=aiCZHbNHZ04



# Invaders attack Western Empire

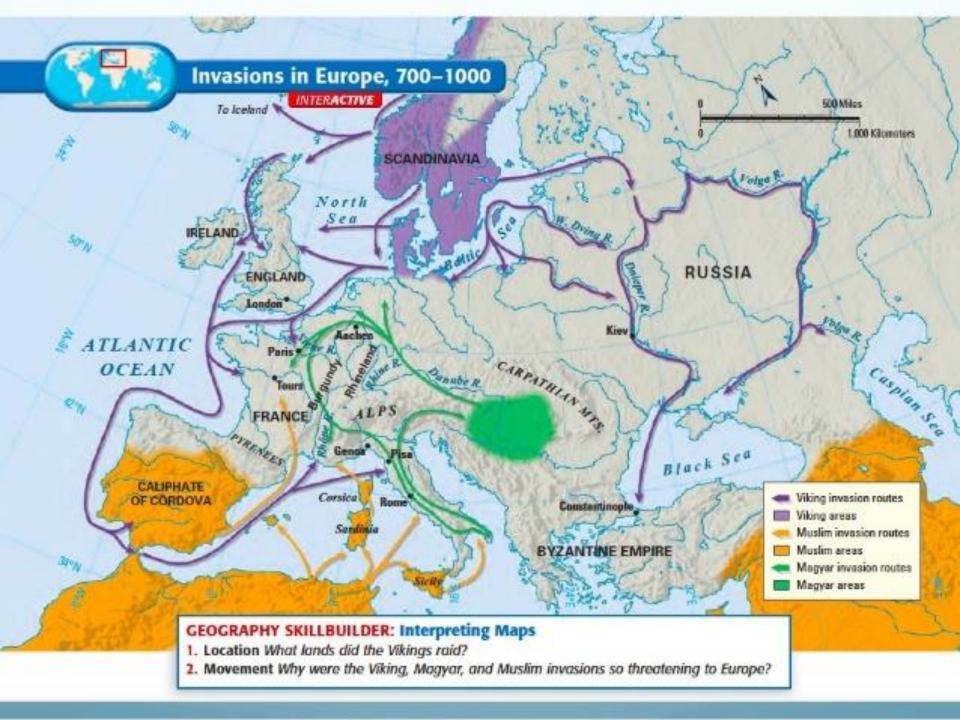


Invaders attack Western Europe

- Vikings
  - Germanic people.
  - warlike gods
  - raided with terrifying speed.
  - also traders, farmers, and explorers.
    - ▶ Leif Ericson reached North America around 1000, almost 500 years before Columbus.
- Vikings gradually accepted Christianity.

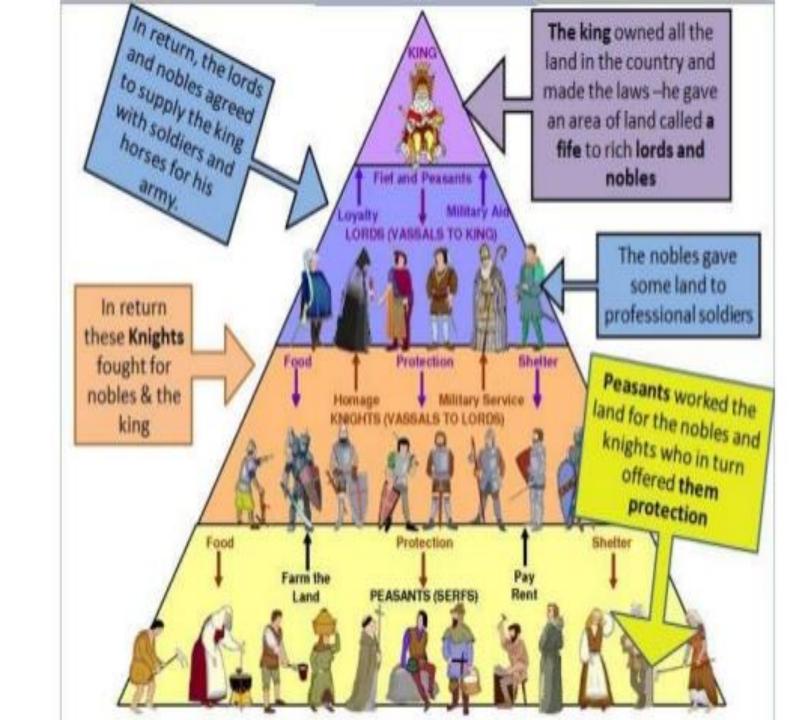
#### Invasions

- Magyars (from north)
- Muslims (from south)
- ▶ The invasions caused:
  - ▶ 1. Widespread disorder
  - ▶ 2. Suffering.
- Most western Europeans lived in constant danger.
- Kings could not effectively defend their lands from invasions.



### Feudalism in Europe

Political system in which nobles are granted the use of lands that legally belong to their king, in exchange for their loyalty, military service, and protection of the people who live on the land.



### Social Structure of Feudalism

Explain the mutual obligations of the feudal system.	In exchange for military and other services; a lord (landowner) granted land to a vassal.
Describe feudal social classes.	There were three groups – those who fought, those who prayed, and those who worked. Social class was usually inherited.

## Economic Structure of Feudalism

Explain the mutual obligations between lord and serfs under the manor system.

In exchange for housing, land, and protection, serfs had to perform tasks to maintain the estate and to pay several different kinds of taxes.

Explain why the serfs accepted their economic hardships.

Acceptance was part of Church teachings; they believed that God decided people's social position.

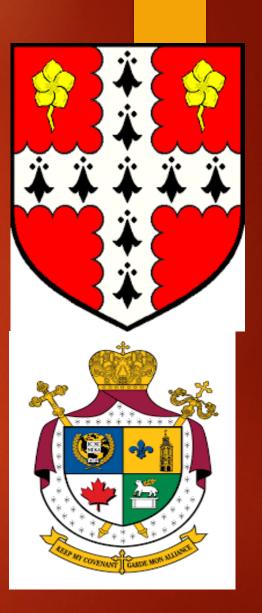


#### Coat of Arms









### The Age of Chivalry

- ▶ By the 1100s a code of chivalry began
  - ► High ideals guided warriors' actions and glorified their roles.
- ► Technology of warfare changed.
  - ▶ Leather saddles and stirrups
- ▶ In exchange for military service, feudal lords used their most abundant resource – land

### Code of Chivalry

- ▶ By 1100s a complex set of ideals demanded that a knight fight bravely in defense of three masters:
  - earthly feudal lord
  - his heavenly Lord
  - ▶ his chosen lady
- Knight's training
  - Sons of nobles began training for knighthood at the age of 7 as a page
  - At the age of 14 he became a squire and would act as servant to the knight
  - At the age of 21, the squire became a fullfledged knight

## Create Your Own Medieval Coat of Arms!!!

- Create your own COAT of ARMS based on your hobbies, personality, character and your family.
- Read through the list of colors, animals, and symbols shown and decide which best represents you.

#### DUE FRIDAY, NOV. 17TH

- Include:
  - a symbol/ picture to represent an important place
  - a symbol/ picture to represent a hobby/activity
  - An animal that represents you
  - Any other symbol or picture that represents you
  - Include a person motto (words or phrase that represents you) at the top
  - ▶ Total of 3 symbols or pictures, an animal and a motto

### Women's Role - inferior to men

Noble Women	Peasant Women
<ul> <li>Inherit an estate from her husband</li> <li>Upon her lord's request, she could send his knights to war</li> <li>Act as a military commander and a warrior</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Worked around the house</li> <li>Gave birth</li> <li>Cared for family</li> <li>Young peasant girls learned practical skills from their mothers at an early age</li> <li>Their work was essential to the survival of the peasant household.</li> </ul>

#### Power of the Church

- Church had influence in both spiritual and political matters
- Structure of church was similar to the structure of feudalism
  - Pope (Head of the Church)
  - ► Clergy (Bishops and Priests)
    - Local priests served as the main contact with the Church
- ▶ Canon Law
  - Church law, in matters such as marriage and religious practices

#### Power of the Church

- Religion was a unifying force
- Church and the Holy Roman Empire
  - Otto the Great formed a close alliance with the church
  - Invaded Italy and was crowned emperor
    - Created German-Italian Empire, later became the Holy Roman Empire