

Key Vocabulary	
Medieval	Time period of history roughly from the 6 th century to the end of the 15 th century.
Crown	Monarchy (king or queen) or the head of a state
Feudal system	Social system in medieval Europe. The nobles gained land from the crown in return for military service. Peasants were made to work the land and share their profits.
Barons	An important or powerful person. During the medieval period these were Lords with lots of land.
Knights	A man who served his sovereign or lord as a mounted soldier in armour.
Peasants	A poor agricultural labourer.
Domesday Book	Domesday Book is a detailed survey and valuation of landed property in England at the end of the 11th century. The survey was ordered by William the Conqueror at Christmas 1085 and undertaken the following year.
Crusade	A series of medieval military expeditions made by Europeans to recover the Holy Land from the Muslims in the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries.
Pilgrimage	A religious journey to a sacred/holy place.

Key Vocabulary	
Pilgrim	A person who journeys to a sacred place for religious reasons.
Archbishop	Religious leader of a certain area. The Archbishop of Canterbury is in charge of the Church of England.
Tithe	A Tax of 10%, which in Medieval times, went to the church.
Scutage	Money paid by a Lord instead of going to war for the king.
Excommunicate	Excluded from the Catholic church by the Pope (Leader of the Catholic church).
Plague	Contagious disease which caused buboes (large lumps) or damaged the lungs.

After William won the Battle of Hastings, he earned himself the title 'Conqueror'. He marched to London and was crowned King in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day 1066. In 1067, William started building the Tower of London.

He went on to control England using methods such as the Feudal system, the Domesday Book and Motte and Bailey castles.

Domesday Book: In 1086, William the Conqueror sent out surveyors to every part of England to list:

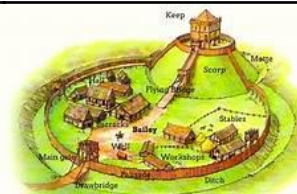
1. How much land there was.
2. Who had owned it in 1066, and who owned it in 1086.
3. What the land was like, and who lived there.
4. How much it was worth in 1066 and how much it was worth in 1086.

The results created what's known as the Domesday Book. This book ensured William knew exactly how much land and property each person had so he knew how much tax they should pay to the crown.



Picture This

Motte and Bailey castles – Built in wood for speed, used to defend large areas from attack/rebellion.



Al-Aqsa mosque – Located in Jerusalem and contains a dome covering a sacred rock



Dome of the Rock – Sacred religious site. Muslims believe Muhammad ascended to heaven from here

Canterbury Cathedral – Home of the Church of England and where Thomas Becket died.



Doom Paintings – Used to scare people and create a fear of hell for bad behaviour.







Magna Carta – Introduced in 1215, restricting the power of the monarch.



Did you know? The Black Death arrived in England in 1348 and couldn't be cured as nobody knew (at the time) exactly what caused it. It killed up to half the population.



Key individuals

Henry II		King of England from 1154 until 1189. Friends with Thomas Becket but fell out with him over how the church was run. Possibly responsible for Becket's death in 1170.
Thomas Becket		An English archbishop from 1162-1170, famously murdered by knights of Henry II at Canterbury Cathedral. After his death, his tomb and relics became a focus for pilgrimage.
Saladin		A famous Muslim hero. He was the Sultan, or King, of all the Muslim territories of Syria, Egypt and Palestine. He also was a great military commander. His greatest success was the capture of Jerusalem in 1187, during the Crusades. Before Saladin's victory, the city had been held for almost 90 years by the Crusaders.
King John		King of England from 1199 until his death in 1216. He lost most of his land in France and was later forced to sign the Magna Carta (1215).

The Crusades

The Crusades began in 1096 and lasted for the next few centuries. For Christians, Jews and Muslims Jerusalem was a sacred and holy place. Christians believed that Jerusalem was the place Jesus died and had visited there on pilgrimage for centuries. Around 1077 Muslim leaders took control of the area and made it difficult for Christians to visit. In 1095 the Pope stated that any knight willing to go to Jerusalem and reclaim the city for Christians would be forgiven for their sins. The following year over 10,000 knights joined the first Crusade.

Over the next few centuries the crusaders failed to keep any land in the Middle-East but there were many things gained from the area:

- Increased trade
- Better castle design
- Scientific knowledge
- Medicines
- Numbers to replace Roman numerals.

Consequences of the Crusades:

- Knights became rich and set down the foundations for modern banking.
- The Knights of John helped pilgrims with their travels and illness. This later became St John's Ambulance.
- Crusades were expensive and led to increase in tax.
- Many men left their homes for long periods/never returned and their land was neglected.

The Magna Carta

Causes

- The Barons were treated unfairly by King John (could be imprisoned without trial).
- John was raising taxes (scutage) to fund wars in France.
- John lost lots of land in France.
- John was excommunicated by the Pope after falling out over choosing a new Archbishop.

In May 1215, a group of Barons formed an army in the north of England and travelled south towards London. John had no choice but to offer them talks about changes to the way the country was ruled. He met with the barons at Runnymede, just outside London.

King John and the barons came to an agreement that would take some power away from the king and mean he would have to work more with the barons. This agreement was the Magna Carta, which means 'Great Charter' in Latin.

Consequences

- Back at war within 3 months!
- Some parts are still part of UK law today (right to a trial before a jury)
- Inspired the US constitution (no America is run)
- Reduced the King's power over time.

TASKS TO HELP YOU REVISE

1. State three ways William kept control of England.
2. State the three religions who claimed the holy land was theirs.
3. Explain why people went on Crusade.
4. Explain the consequences of the Crusades
5. What were the causes and consequences of the Magna Carta?

