

**How to build students' global perspectives through
junior secondary History curriculum (2):
Ancient and Medieval Europe (New)**

Introduction to Medieval European History

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- **Main Reference:**
- **Hollister, C. Warren. *Medieval Europe.***
- **Russell, Jeffrey B. *A History of Medieval Christianity.***
- **(Barracclough, Geoffrey. *Medieval Papacy.*)**

- **“Medieval Western History”**
- **What?**
- **The Middle Ages in Europe**
- **= between the Age of Antiquity (Greco-Roman)**
- **& the Modern Age**
- **= The Age of Faith (Christianity)**
- **in contrast to the later Age of Reason**

- **BUT, definitely NOT the “Dark Ages”!**
- ***Hollister, *Medieval Europe***
- ***Strayer, Joseph. *On the Medieval Origins of the Modern State***
- ***Magna Carta* in England, 1215 ---
Parliament --- constitutional monarchy**
- **The rise of University: Paris, Oxford,
Cambridge, etc.**
- **[Baldwin, John W. *The Scholastic Culture of the Middle Ages, 1000-1300*]**

- **Where?**
- **Europe**
- **When?**
- **From the Fall of the Western Roman Empire (476, politically [Edward Gibbon]; or 8th century, socially, economically, & culturally [Henri Pirenne])**
- **(Gibbon, *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* 6 volumes)**
- **(Pirenne, *The Pirenne Thesis*)**
- **to the Renaissance (14th century)**
- **or the Discovery of the New World (1492/1500)**

- **According to Gibbon, the causes for the decline and fall of the Roman Empire were:**
- **too big, too old;**
- **barbarian invasion;**
- **most strikingly, the rise of Christianity!!!**

- **passive doctrines:**
- **“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you spitefully.” (Luke, 6:20-29)**
- **“When a man hit you on the cheek, offer him the other cheek, too. When a man takes your coat, let him have your shirt as well”**
- **Refute: BUT, there are positive aspects of Christianity, too!**
- **“Treat others as you would like them to treat you.”**
- **“Love thy (your) neighbor as thyself (yourself).”**
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- **Love, forgiveness, and charity**
- **: appealing to the distressed, down-trodden, disinherited, despairing, and**
- **the poor (majority)!**
- **“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever who**
- **humbles himself will be exalted. Blessed are the sorrowful, for they shall**
- **find consolation. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”**
- **(Luke 14:8-11)**
- **All in all, there are “Hope” and “Promises”!**

- **Waste of intellectuals**
- **St. Jerome (c. 340-420) translated the Bible into Latin**
- **Retreat to the mountains (---- later, medieval monasticism)**
- **[Lawrence, C.H. *Medieval Monasticism: Forms of Religious Life in Western Europe in the Middle Ages; The Friars: The Impact of the Early Mendicant Movement on Western Society*]**

- **(c) St. Augustine of Hippo (c. 354-430), *City of God***
- **Refute: religion can be a unifying political force (Christianity in Norman England, and Buddhism & Taoism in T'ang China), and a charitable social force**

- **St. Augustine (“Faith”) baptized Plato (by contemplating, by thinking, etc.)**
- **(Plato, pure mathematics, philosophy [the love of wisdom], metaphysics; “the unmoved mover, the uncaused cause --- the prime mover”)**
- **From St. Augustine (to Thomas Aquinas) : “Faith” (over Reason)**
- **(on the contrary, Aristotle [by experiment] famous for zoology, science)**
- **Thomas Aquinas: “faith and reason” (“to prove the existence of God”)**

- **Feudalism**
- **Ganshof, F. L. *Feudalism***
- **Stephenson, Carl. *Medieval Feudalism***
- **Coulborn, Rushton. *Feudalism in History***
- ***(anything but systematic, unlike Chinese)**
- **Bloch, Marc. *Feudal Society* (:a “stratified pyramid”)**
- **Cause of consequence of “decentralization/anarchy”?**
- **Hollister: a “constructive response”**

- **Charlemagne, the “Holy Roman Emperor”,**
- **a typical medieval warrior feudal king**
- **The age of Charlemagne (8th century) witnessed the synthesis of Classical (Greco-Roman), Christian, and Germanic culture**
- **Lopez, Robert. *The Birth of Europe***
- **Pope Leo III**
- **“The Coronation” (Christmas, 800)**
- **(cf. 1804: Emperor Napoleon (I) of France)**

- **Empire versus papacy**
- **1046, Holy Roman Emperor Henry III deposed 3 popes until**
- **Pope Leo IX (1049-54)**
- **1056, Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV (6 years old), r. 1056-1106**
- **Meanwhile, reforms in the papacy**
- **1059 Papal Election Decree**
- **since then, popes have been elected by Cardinals (freed of secular interference)**
- **Pope Gregory VII (1073-85)**
- **(Berman, Harold J. *Law and Revolution: The Formation of the Western Tradition*)**

- ***1075, *Dictatus Papae* (The Theory of Papal Supremacy)**
- **banning “lay investiture” (lay control of ecclesiastical appointments)**
- **lay = secular**
- **ecclesiastical = church**
- **traditionally, a newly chosen bishop was invested by a lay lord with a ring and pastoral staff, symbolic of his marriage to the Church and his duty to be a good shepherd to his Christian flock**
- **1076, “Archbishop of Milan”**
- **Pope Gregory VII excommunicated & deposed Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV**

- **Pope Urban II (1088-99)**
- **First Crusade (1094/95-99)**
- **Pope Innocent III (1198-1216)**
- **Most “powerful” medieval pope**
- **“Two Swords Theory”**
- **climax**
- **Pope Boniface VIII (1294-1303)**
- **1302, *Unam Sanctam* (“One Sword Theory”)**
- **anti-climax**
- **King Philip the Fair of France, r. 1285-1314**

- **The Crusades (Expansion of External and “Internal” Frontiers)**
- **Works of Aristotle were translated back from the Arabian world to Europe**
- **“science”**
- **“reason”**
- **Albertus Magnus (Albert the Great), Dominican**
- **Thomas Aquinas (faith and “reason”)**
- **The “mendicant” priests:**
- **St. Dominic and the Dominicans**
- **St. Francis of Assisi and the Franciscans**
- **Lawrence, C.H.**
- ***The Friars: The Impact of the Early Mendicant Movement on Western Society***