



Chapter 1

Overview: The ancient to the modern world (c. 650 CE–1750)



Collapse of the Roman Empire

Many factors contributed to the collapse of the Roman Empire:

- Internal political weakness and instability
- Civil war
- External military threats – Huns, Visigoths, Vandals
- Military reliance upon ‘Allies’ and growth of local rulers



Collapse of the Roman Empire (cont.)

- Disease and epidemics – malaria? Lead poisoning? Plague?
- Declining population
- Declining tax revenue
- Dilapidated infrastructure – roads, aqueducts, fortifications
- Religious change – Christianity?



The development of Christianity

- Persecutions during the second and third centuries encouraged conversions, becoming the dominant religion of the Empire by 300 CE.
- Patriarchs (Popes) are established in Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem.
- Catholicism in the West, Orthodoxy in the East.
- 313 CE – Emperor Constantine gives Christianity official recognition.



The development of Christianity (cont.)

- 391 CE – Emperor Theodosius makes Christianity the empire's only religion.
- Monasteries are founded throughout the region, becoming places of learning.
- After 476 CE, the Pope becomes increasingly politically important.
- Christian missionaries are sent throughout northern Europe and among the new European peoples, such as the Franks, Angles and Slavs.



Anglo-Saxon Britain

- England experienced a series of invasions by the Jutes, Angles and Saxons after the withdrawal of the Roman garrison around 400 CE.
- Britain was divided into small kingdoms:
 - Jutes – Kent
 - Angles – East Anglia, Mercia, Northumbria
 - Saxons – Essex, Sussex, Wessex
 - Celts – Cornwall, Wales, Ireland, Pictland, Strathclyde.



Anglo-Saxon Britain (cont.)

- St Augustine brings Christianity to the Anglo-Saxons





The Vikings

- The Vikings originated in Scandinavia and were motivated to go on raiding trips because of the poor farming conditions at home.
- Raids initially targeted wealthy undefended monasteries, such as at Lindisfarne and Iona.
- Viking settlements were established throughout northern Europe.
- Vikings explored the north Atlantic, founding settlements on Iceland, Greenland and North America.



The development of Islam

- c. 570 Mohammed born in Mecca
- 610 Receives his first message from Archangel Gabriel – these messages are later recorded in the Koran.
- 622 He and his followers flee to Yathrib (Medina) – Hegira.
- 630 Returns as conqueror of Mecca.
- 632 Dies and is taken up into Heaven from Jerusalem.
- 711 Muslim conquests stretch from the Pyrenees to the Indus Valley.



The 'Five Pillars' of Islam

- There is only one God and Mohammed is his prophet
- *Hajj* – going on pilgrimage at least once in a lifetime
- *Salat* – praying five times a day
- *Zakat* – giving donations
- Fasting – Ramadan

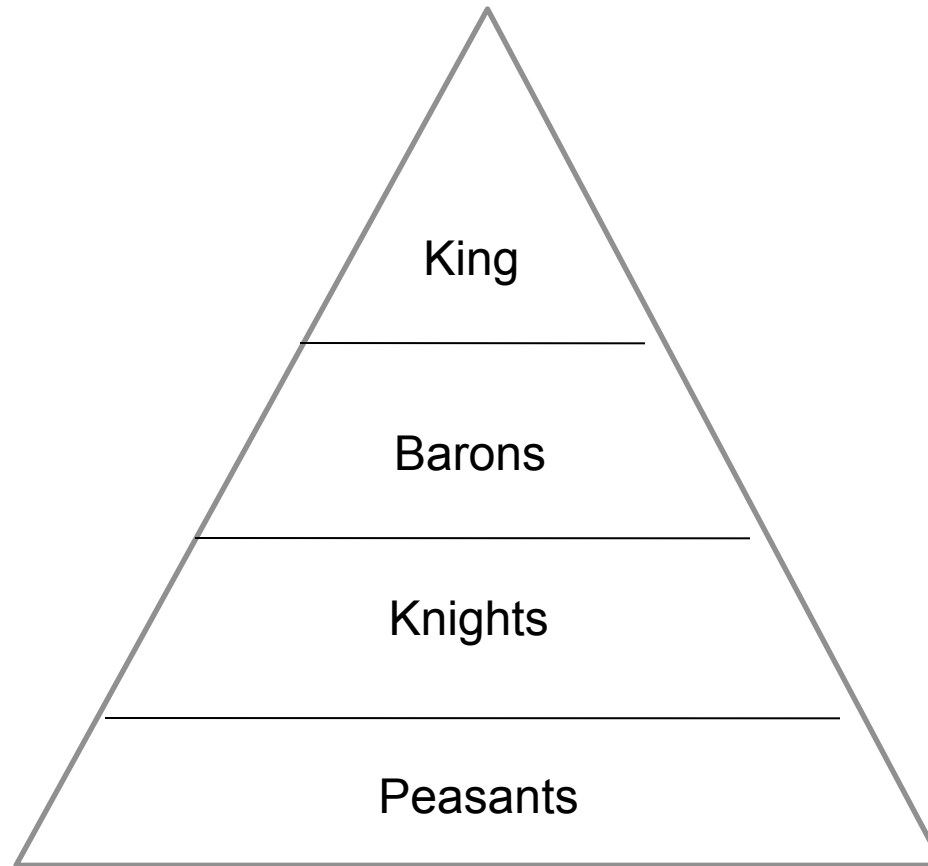


Feudalism

- Feudalism comes from the Latin word *feodum* for lands granted for military service.
- It refers to a form of government that is based on the exchange of land for military service and has a strict hierarchy of status.
- In countries like Norman England, the monarch technically owned all the land, which he distributed to barons in exchange for military service. Barons then distributed their land to others in exchange for military service and portions of their crops.



Hierarchy





The Crusades

Causes of the Crusades

- Seljuk' s victory at the Battle of Manzikert (1071) and the persecution of Christians
- Byzantine' s attempts to reclaim lost territory
- Pope Urban II' s attempts to redirect European knights towards a
conflict away from Europe
- Millenarianism – anticipating Jesus' second coming



The Crusades (cont.)

Course of the Crusades

- First Crusade (1096–99) created four Crusader states
- Third Crusade (1189–1192)
- Ultimately, Crusaders were unable to keep Holy Lands
- Nine Crusades in total

Consequences of the Crusades

- Spread of Middle Eastern ideas to Europe



The Mongols

- 1206 Temujin (Genghis Khan) founds the Mongol Empire on the Mongolian Steppe, to become the largest contiguous land empire in the world.
- 1215 –71 Mongol conquest of China
- 1241 Mongol forces ravage Hungary and Poland
- 1260 Empire divided into four Khanates
- 1271 Kublai Khan founds the Yuan Dynasty in China



The Mongols (cont.)

- 1368 Yuan Dynasty overthrown by the Ming
(c. 1336 –1405) rules much of Central Asia
- 1526 Babur founds the Mughal Dynasty in Northern India
- 1857 Final Mughal Sultan of Delhi overthrown by the British



The Renaissance

- Renaissance, ‘rebirth’, refers to the rediscovery of classical art, architecture and learning
- The Renaissance started in Florence, then spread to other Italian cities, then to European states further afield
- Some Renaissance thinkers:

Brunelleschi

Botticelli

da Vinci

Michelangelo

Galilei



The Reformation

Causes of the Reformation

- Religious factors: Priestly hypocrisy, simony, nepotism, indulgences, absenteeism
- Justification by work vs justification by faith
- Political factors: princely opposition to the Holy Roman Emperor and Papal authority
- Cultural factors: Humanism – critical of medieval church theology, printing press



The Reformation (cont.)

Course of The Reformation (*Five Solas*):

- Luther – *95 Theses*, translated Bible into German
- Calvin – *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Consequences of the Reformation:

- Decentralisation of church authority and theology
- Anglicanism – Henry VIII, Edward VI, Elizabeth I
- Counter-Reformation – Council of Trent, Jesuits
- French wars of religion and Thirty Years War



Trade and exploration

- During the second century CE, trade routes linking the Roman Empire, Persia, India and China had been established, benefiting from the relative political stability offered by these empires.
- The Middle East monopolised East–West trade.
- The Silk Road brought silk and spices overland from China, while spices and ceramics from China, Indonesia, India and Sri Lanka were shipped across the Indian Ocean.



Trade and exploration (cont.)

- The European desire to avoid the Middle Eastern intermediaries encouraged them to explore, such as Columbus's voyage west and Da Gama's voyage east.
- European trading posts, such as Macau and Goa, were also established.
- The desire for other goods drove exploration, such as Cabral's voyage to Brazil.
- These trends encouraged globalisation.



Contact, conquest and colonisation

- The desire to control the trade of particular commodities had brought a number of cultures into contact with other cultures.
- Contact brought the exchange of ideas, both good and bad – such as the ‘Columbian Exchange’.
- The desire to control trade sometimes led to conquest, as in the case of the Mongol, Ottoman and Spanish conquests.



Contact, conquest and colonisation (cont.)

- Conquest also encouraged colonisation, such as the Spanish settlements in the Americas. However, some colonies were founded for settlement reasons.
- Contact, conquest and colonisation all encouraged the development of hybrid societies around the world.



The Enlightenment

Principles of the *Philosophes*

- Reason: applied to maths, physics, law and society
- Laws of nature
- Happiness: optimism, pacifism and egalitarianism
- Progress
- Liberty

Prominent philosophers

- Locke, Voltaire, Rousseau, Diderot