

Late Middle Ages Vocabulary



Key Terms:

Nation-state: an independent geopolitical unit of people having a common culture and identity

Common Law: Law based upon customs and judges' decisions rather than on written codes

Magna Carta: English document that made the law the supreme power and limited the monarchy's power

Hundred Years War: War between England and France over land and hereditary rights. France wins and England is expelled from France

War of the Roses: Civil war between the Yorks (white roses) and Lancasters (red roses) over the English throne. Lancasters win.

Crusades: A series of wars fought between the Muslims and Christians over the Holy Land (Jerusalem)

Bubonic Plague: Disease spread by fleas from infected rats; also called The Black Death

Spanish Inquisition: Special courts set up to seek out heretics

Reconquista: Reconquest of Spain from the Muslims

Important People:

William the Conqueror: Won the Battle of Hastings and gains control of land in England and France

Henry II: Married Eleanor of Aquitaine and ruled over England and half of France

King John: Weak English king who was forced to sign the Magna Carta

Hugh Capet: Established the Capetian Dynasty in France; weak king chosen by French nobles

Richard I: English king who fought in the Crusades; known as Richard the Lionheart

Edward I: King of England who strengthens the monarchy and creates the Model Parliament

Philip II of France: French king who strengthened the monarchy through the use of bailiffs

Bailiffs: royal officials who collected taxes

Louis IX: Known as Saint Louis; He was a pious, popular, and just leader who created the Parliament of Paris

Philip IV: French king who creates the Estates General

Joan of Arc: French girl who leads the French troops to victory at the Battle of Orleans. She is captured by the English and burned at the stake as a heretic. Later made a saint.

Extra Credit: Create flashcards for ALL vocabulary words – 10 pts

Charles VII: French king who ascends the throne with the help of Joan of Arc. Creates France's first permanent army, a Royal Council, and taxed land and salt to generate revenue.

Louis XI: Known as the "spider king;" French king who used trickery, bribery, and a spy network. Expanded France to include Burgundy

Moors: Muslims living in Spain

Ferdinand and Isabella: Spanish monarchs whose marriage united Spain

Philip II of Spain: Spanish king who expanded the Spanish kingdom by annexing Portugal

Ivan I: Russian prince who served the Mongols and enlarged the Kingdom of Moscow

Ivan III: Known as "The Great;" Frees Russia from the Mongols; becomes the first czar of Russia

Ivan IV: Known as "The Terrible;" Codifies the laws of Russia; used secret police and killed thousands

Pope Urban: Pope who gave a speech that launched the 1st Crusade

Saladin: Muslim leader during the Crusades

Henry Tudor: English king who appoints many advisors from the middle class, uses local governments, taxes land to gain revenue, avoids war, and creates the Star Chamber. England prospers under his reign.