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**IDX G9 HISTORY H STUDY GUIDE ISSUE 6**

**By Ava and Lola**

**THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE**

**Justinian (527 – 565)**

* Nika Rebellion – 532
  + Nearly burned Constantinople – rebuilt in aftermath
  + Greens and Blues unite in revolt against heavy taxation
  + Sieged palace and killed hundreds, burned 1/3 of Constantinople
  + Crowned a new emperor in Hippodrome
* Justinian Code
* Reconquered most of Mediterranean
* Empress Theodora – Justinian’s wife
  + Together with Justinian, built a strong economy based on taxes from peasants
  + Highly influential
  + Scandalous origins
* Plague of Justinian (541 – 549)
  + Yersinia Pestis – same bacterium responsible for the Black Death
  + 1/5 of population of Constantinople killed
  + Brought by infected rats in grain shipments from Egypt
  + Callous response by Justinian – no letup on taxes
* Military Exploits
  + From Persians, Germans, etc.
  + Taxes used to fund massive military
  + After Justinian, empire faced many diverse enemies
  + Slowly lost territory for centuries

**Politics**

* Emperors 🡪 head and center of elaborate court rituals
* Sophisticated, highly educated bureaucracy, open to all classes
* Bureaucracy helped organize empire politically, socially and economically
* Provincial governors appointed
* Controlled economy via regulation of food prices, trade, silk production

**Culture**

* Creativity in architecture – richly colored religious mosaics
* Iconic paintings
* Blend of Hellenistic and orthodoxy
* Heavily influenced Eastern Europe
* Missionaries and conquest
  + Cyril and Methodius
* New alphabet

**Religious Tension**

* Byzantine emperors traditionally appointed the Patriarch, highest church official in Constantinople
* Significant differences in clergy culture, rights
* Disagreements with Pope
* 1054, the Great Schism

**THE BLACK DEATH**

**Early Problems in the 14th Century**

* The Great Famine (1315 – 1317)

**The Hundred Year’s War**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Edwardian Phase (1337-1360) | English Success |
| War of the Breton Succession | French Response |
| Caroline Phase (1369 – 1389) | Major English Success |
| Lancastrian Phase (1415-1453) | French Response and Victory |

* Causes
  + 1328 Charles IV of France died with no heirs or brothers – closest male relative was King Edward III of English
  + Pressure from the great famine
  + French and English royal family tension
  + Intermittent conflict with multiple phases
* Effect
  + Nascent nationalism, national heroes
    - Edward the Black Prince, Joan of Arc
  + End of English land claims in France
  + Revival of chivalry
  + Beginning of gunpowder in European warfare
  + Beginning of standing/professionalized militaries
  + Diplomacy and intelligence

**The Black Death**

* Most devasting plague in European History (first epidemic since the 6th century)
* Spread by merchants on trade routes – fleas on rats
* Up to 50% of all Europeans died
* Population went from 75 million 🡪35 million
* Mass graves instead of individual coffins
* Treatment (to balance the four humors – yellow and black bile, blood and phlem)
  + Self-flagellation 🡪 whip yourself
  + Drink the pus of launched buboes
  + Grind an emerald, drink in wine
  + Mix Armenian clay, precious metals, aloe, myrrh, saffron
  + Roast shells of fresh eggs, grind them, add marigolds and treacle, drink in warm beer
  + Place hen in swellings, drink urine twice a day
* Other (mildly) Effective Treatment
  + Quarantine
  + Isolation/plague hospitals
  + Bathe with vinegar and rosewater
  + Drink mixture of vinegar, cider, spices, rosemary and wormwood
* Plague Impacts
  + Persecution 🡪 Jews, foreigners, poor, pilgrims were all blamed for the plague
  + De-urbanization 🡪 cities declined
  + Rapid depopulation 🡪 inflation, lack of food, supplies
  + Loss of faith, god/church were blamed, hope lost
  + Breakdown of societal structure
    - End of lord-vassal systems and feudalism
  + Lawlessness and panic
  + Increase in medicine and medical practices
  + Opportunity for wealth gain and better working conditions
    - Led o revolts (1381 Peasant’s revolt)
  + “correction” of overpopulation?
  + Technology and the birth of realism.

**THE RENAISSANCE**

People in Italy between 1350 - 1550 saw themselves as rebirth of Classical antiquity, calling the period "Renaissance" (French for “rebirth”).

**The Intellectual Renaissance:**

* Emergence of Humanism and Secularism
* Renaissance humanism ---> intellectual movement; Humanists studied liberal arts based on Greek and Roman authors, emphasizing rhetoric, poetry, moral philosophy...
* Petrarch (1304 - 1374):
  + ”father of Italian Renaissance”
  + Humanism
  + promoted Latin and had interest in Classical Greece
* Florence:
  + humanists focused on leading an active life
  + city council members believed intellectual life was for citizens.
* Women:
  + participation in the Renaissance varied
  + some upper - class women got education and contributed to intellectual life.

**The Artistic Renaissance:**

* Masaccio:
  + Masaccio's Tribute Money in the Brancacci Chapel is considered the first great work of Early Renaissance art.
  + introduced a realistic art style with rational perspective
* -Architectural Innovations:
  + Renaissance architects:
  + inspired by Roman architectual models
  + interiors with Classical columns, rounded arches, and coffered ceilings that balanced proportion and did not overwhelm worshippers.
* Leonardo da Vinci :
  + The Last Supper:
  + represents the High Renaissance concern for idealizing nature.
  + Used gesture and movement to depict character and inner nature
  + experimental technique caused the fresco to deteriorate.
* Raphael:
  + School of Athens:
  + painted in 1510 - 1511 in the Vatican
  + depicts an imaginary gathering of ancient philosophers, with Plato and Aristotle at the center
* Michelangelo:
  + dedicated to art.
  + dissected bodies to understand human anatomy for his art, aiming for perfection in design.
  + the Sistine Chapel ceiling with its muscular figures.
  + Influenced by Neoplatonism, believed beautiful forms were reflections of divine beauty.
  + David statue
* Europe's Political Landscape in the 15th Century
  + State - Building Efforts
  + second half of the fifteenth century:
  + monarchies in France, Spain, and England were building modern states.
  + reduced church and nobles' power, enhanced tax - levying ability, and established effective bureaucracies.

**Italian States**

* Five major powers emerged: Milan (a duchy), Florence (a republic), Venice (a republic), the Papal States, and the Kingdom of Naples.
* Milan, Florence, and Venice were skilled at building alliances and had political influence.
* Naples became a centralized territorial state.
* **• Political Boundaries and Conflict**
* - The political boundaries in Europe at this time help explain the frequent wars between France and the Holy Roman Empire.
* - bordering territories + competing interests likely contributed to the conflict.
* -Maritime republic of Venice had stable political entity governed by merchant oligarchy.
* -Cosimo de' Medici (1389 - 1464) took control of Florence's merchant oligarchy in 1434.
* -Through patronage and political alliances, his family dominated Florence and were at the center of the cultural Renaissance.
* -Despite becoming wealthy, Italian states were not strong:
* -From 1494, Italy was a battlefield in the power struggle between French and Spanish monarchies, leading to Spanish domination in the 16th century.
* Niccolò Machiavelli (1469 - 1527):
  + wrote The Prince (1513), an influential work on political power.
  + His major concerns in it were the acquisition, maintenance, and expansion of political power.

**Western Europe:**

* The Hundred Years' War left **France** prosperous but with a sense of national feeling.
* King Louis XI (1461 - 1483) :
* strengthened the monarchy by subduing great lords and creating a strong financial base through taxation.
* - **England:**
  + **-**the Hundred Years' War caused financial strain and losses.
  + -A civil war, the War of the Roses, erupted over the monarchy.
  + - Henry Tudor established a new dynasty in 1485.
  + -Henry VII (1485 - 1509) worked to establish a strong monarchical government, built private armies, and managed finances well.
* **Spain:**
  + - Experienced growth of a strong national monarchy by the end of the 15th century.
  + marriage of Isabella of Castile (1474 - 1504) and Ferdinand of Aragon (1479 - 1516) in 1469
  + - filled the royal council with middle - class officials, reorganized the administration of government, and the military.
  + -By the 16th century, the new Spanish army was among the best in Europe.
* - **Central and Eastern Europe:**
  + -the Holy Roman Empire failed to develop strong monarchical authority.
  + -Germany became a land of hundreds of virtually independent states.
  + - The Habsburg Dynasty gradually acquired possessions along the Danube.
* -
  + The house of Habsburg became an important political power, and Austria played a role in European affairs.
* **◦ In Eastern Europe:**
  + - rulers struggled to achieve centralization of the territory, often facing challenges from different religious groups like Catholics, Eastern Orthodox Christians, etc.