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Lecture 2: Europe in the World of 1450

No hard & fast diff between Renaissance & Ref.

- ↳ Renaissance - secular, but also deeply religious
- ↳ reformation - religious, but also deeply political

Beginnings of the Early Modern Era proper:

- ↳ How does the modern world get born?
- ↳ Pop. barely starting to recover in 1400
- ↳ Italian city states, Low countries, Paris, Spain, etc.
- ↳ Areas of settlement → NOT URBAN!

Paris, Naples, Constantinople - only cities > 200,000

People divided by 3 estates

↳ Clergy - priests, bishops, monks

↳ Nobility

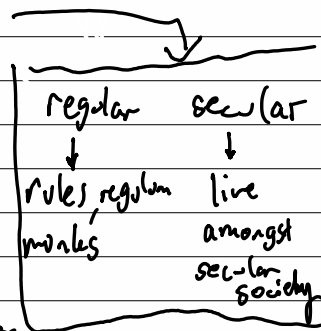
↳ Everyone else (those who work)

Those who pray, those who fight, those who work

↳ Title, not wealth

- rich merchants are on the bottom

- poor friars on top



Religion dominates daily life in 1400s Europe

Liturgical year makes up calendar, ceremony/church in center
↳ Sacraments rule life

Focused on local community, little national tying
↳ No common Italian, local dialects - Sicilian ≠ Roman Italian

I. Science and Technology

↳ Printing

- Arguably most important technology
- Changes relationship between people & knowledge
- Based on Asian technology
 - Paper, block type

↳ Gunpowder Weapons

- other crucial technology
- upends political & economics in Europe

↳ Interconnectedness is incredibly important

Hundred Years War

- French victory due to early adoption of gunpowder

Fall of Constantinople

- Ottoman cannons take down Byzantine walls

↳ created by Hungarian weaponsmiths

Origins of Modern Science

↳ Logical - late medieval scholastic logical tradition

↳ Experimental - mix art, endeavor + engineering

↳ Mathematical - organize complex results

Navigation technology

↳ Compass, lunar sail, etc.

II. Economic & Social Effects

- ↳ 15th century - recovery from 14th century, $\frac{1}{3}$ population
- ↳ Prices fall - Demand \downarrow \rightarrow Profit \downarrow
- ↳ Rise in wages - Demand \downarrow \rightarrow Wage $\uparrow\uparrow$
 - Peasants negotiate
- ↳ "Peasant Golden Age"
- ↳ End of serfdom, representative institutions
- ↳ 15th century crisis

III. Economic Expansion & Rise of early Capitalism

- ↳ \approx 1500 - growth in industry
 - Mining, textiles
 - Voyages of discovery - global scale, robbery
- ↳ Breakers - Merchants, Fuggers
- ↳ 14th century \rightarrow upward movement \rightarrow middle class
- ↳ Merchants