

## Chapter 5, 1A The Medieval World

- Mainly about Asia & Europe in 600 AD — 1500 AD medieval period
- In 500 AD West Roman Empire → invading barbarians, Western Europe was divided into number of small kingdoms.
- Gupta Rule was in India, invaded by Huns in start of 7<sup>th</sup> century. Prophet Mohd founded Islam and Arab civilization became most advanced in the medieval world.
- Beside political change, many social and economic changes happened. Unlike slavery in Greece in Rome feudalism developed in W. Europe. Economic life - predominantly rural. Stakeholder - peasants & land lords.

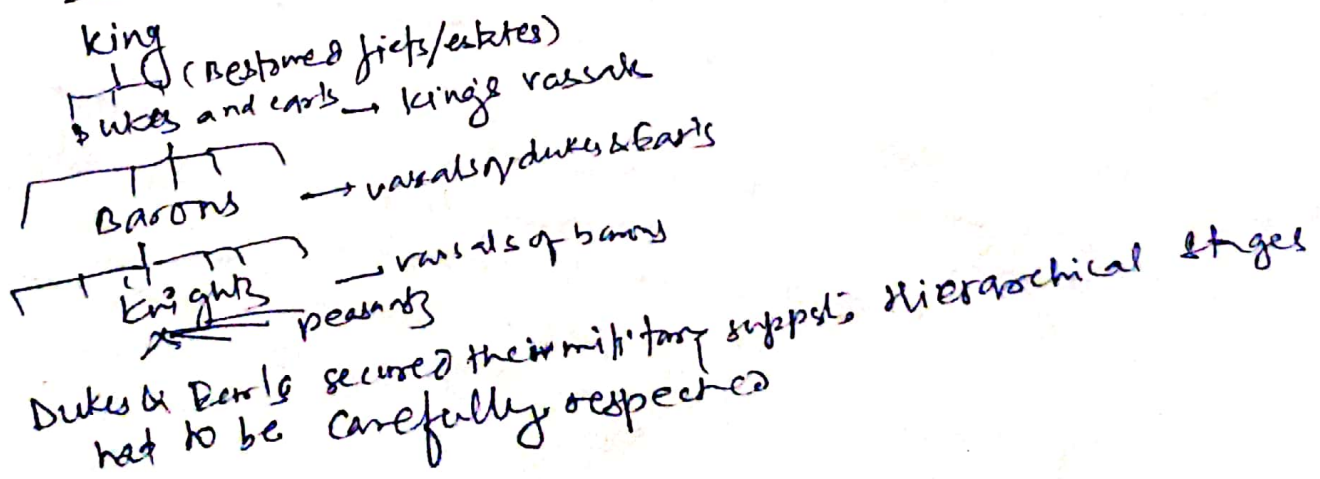
### Medieval Europe

- Roman Emperor Constantine established Byzantine for E. Roman Empire. Now known as Constantinople famous for St. Sophia Church. Emperor followed Eastern Greek Orthodox Christianity. Turks conquered Byzantine territories in 1453.
- Down fall of E. Europe leads to development of small states of W. Europe.

### Federal System in Europe

- New social & economic system arose "federal system", in which peasants had to give part of produce to the lords in form of rent/taxes/labour for the lord without any payment. Absence of central authority leads to the emergence of political institutions ← major feature of European feudalism.

### Federal classes and loyalties



## Feudal Lords

- Feudal lords were <sup>all</sup> powerful within their fief. Due to little political unity central power couldn't develop, they could ignore king sometime. ~~so~~ soon this system became hereditary and rigid.

## Peasants

- freeholders; Received land from lord and paid tax.
- villeins; Received land and paid part of produce + work for fixed no. of days in lord's fields.
- serfs; had their lands for ~~had to work~~ <sup>also</sup> entirely for lords in lands. paid part of produce ~~also~~, forced labour (free service anytime asked). Could not change land masters only if land change hand. If pleased.
- free men.

## Life on a Feudal Manor

Manor house, peasants' huts, fields, cattle organized.  
2 field system → 3 field system, ~~then~~ tenants lived very frugally.

## Wars and chivalry

- Battle were fought on horse-back, both man and horse fitted with armour. heavy shields, lances, heavy sword and battle-axe. Bow & arrows.
- Fighting was only occupation of nobility.
- King could make son of a nobleman knight. They could use 'sic' to misname.
- Knights respected women.
- Feudalism brings orderliness, safety and security, on the other side developed dependence, a rigid class system.
- Economic stagnation.
- Desire for new lands leads to 'holy wars' among lords & leaders of the church. In 7th century Arabs conquered Palestine. Arabs influenced European civilization. luxury & knowledge exchanged.
- early middle age - dark age because of miserable life of people, uncommon edu, arbitrary rule of king & barons, absence of national unity.



## Trade & Commerce in Medieval Europe

- rise in feudalism → ↓ trade and towns. People met their need within villages or at medieval fairs.
- from 11th century trade & towns became imp. demand from luxury goods from east.

## Medieval Cities of Europe

- Towns emerged as crafts & trade centres. many opted for trade. Italy (cities) Genoa, Florence, Venice became distribution point for trading coming from east.
- All commercial towns <sup>were</sup> near seaports or in route.
- Town were walled with towers to guard against armed brigade and enemy feudal lords. scribbles was poor.
- In 14th 1/3 of English population ripes by bubonic plague.
- Standard system called guilds among craftsmen & merchants.
- Revival of trade → undermine feudal system.

## Church in Medieval Europe

\* Catholic Church = power feudalism in WE. Pope was head. accepted as vicar of Christ. They became more powerful with time. Roman barbarian chief accepted Christianity.

## Christian monks and monasteries

- Christianity believed in a life of spirit of life after death. St. Francis, St. Benedict, St. Augustine, many changes to monks & nuns & and lived in monasteries & nunneries.
- rigid rules for monks & nuns → no marry, no property, no dis-obedience.
- Gradually monasteries acquired land and amassed wealth. → church became the biggest landowners.
- ⇒ during middle age churches were only centres of education.
- For a long time monks and priests were the only literate men in Europe. church followed narrow type learning with grammar, logic, arithmetic, rhetoric suitable for monk & priest. Lang → Latin (as is Churchman can understand), Domination of Faith, appeal against dogmas → punishment. (magic & superstition ↑); Belief in witches and the punishment → burn them alive.
- At Salerno, Bologna in Italy, Paris (France), Oxford, Cambridge (England) started with theology & philosophy.

## The ARAB CIVILIZATION

- People of Arabia were divided in tribes with dependent mainly on breeding of livestock. In 7th century Islam arose (finest civilization of that times). It united warring tribes.

### Rise of Islam

- Mohammed, the prophet of Islam born in Mecca in Arabia 571 AD travelled all over Arabia as a trader. At 40 he had "vision of truth" and became a prophet.
- Arabia <sup>was</sup> land of superstition & ignorance of Mecca - Centre of Commercial region
- He recited what he heard from god's angel. Forbad idol worship. He had to leave Mecca and welcomed in Medina in 622 AD. → Year of Hijra & migration. 1st year of muslim calendar.
- Belief in one powerful god Allah. Life after death & everyone as brother and equals.
- 5 principles - ① Unity of god, ② offer prayers 5 times and on Friday in mosque, ③ give alms to poor, ④ fast dawn to dusk throughout Ramadan ⑤ go to Mecca. Observation - Post X, lend money without interest, rules regarding marriage and divorce.
- Successors known as Caliphs / Khalifa, both political & religious authority. As Islam united Arab people & spread very fast.
- Quran - 30 suras (chapter)
- Sunna, Hadithes (practice & sayings of prophet)

### Arab Empire

- Arabia accepted Islam fast. He died in 632. The Arabs spread religion with strong zeal, economic & social causes. People were attracted by simplicity.
- As Khalifa moved then Turks took Constantinople dominated Islamic world. In 1453, Turks took Constantinople & ended the Byzantine empire in 1453.



## Arab Contribution

- Arabs made all knowledge of their own and developed it further. Borrowed knowledge of medicine from Greece and India. Science knowledge was advanced. Their system of medicine is called "Yunani" which means Greek.
- Arab produced great physicians.
- Spread mathematics. Omar Khayyam developed calendar more accurate than Gregorian calendar used today.
- In chemistry  $\text{NaCO}_3$ , Silver  $\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$
- Philosophy from Greece. Famous work: *Raynizat* - Omar Khayyam, *Shahnameh* - Al-Firdausi, *Arabian Nights* - 1001 Nights.
- Calligraphy, architecture designs.
- Carpets, silks, metal work, etc.
- Mines & explosives of period.

## Arab Society

- Khalifa was all powerful.
- Slaves sold in open market.
- Women confined in homes. They do house work.

## Political Developments

- Gupta, Pratihara, etc. Bakhtiyar Khalji, Rajput, Pratihara, Chola.
- Delhi Sultanate, Akbar, Aurangzeb, etc.

## Social and Economic Life

- Zamindari system in India.
- Trade & revival of trade and commerce in medieval India.
- Caste system emerged & sati practice, Purdah.

## Cultural Life

- Buddhism & Jainism, Hinduism ↑. Shankaracharya was leading philosopher. worship of Vishnu and Shiva also started in form of Kali, Durga & other goddesses.
- Advaita & Nayanar saints played role in popularizing Bhakti in South.
- Advent of Islam. When Turks ruled Islam became 2nd most popular religion in India.
- Bhakti and Sufi movement against formalism in religion and emphasized love and devotion to God and human brotherhood. Sikhism ↑.
- 7-12th century period of great achievement in Art & Culture. Bronze sculpture of Cholas.

- Insularity among Indians.

## China and Japan Medieval Times

Trade, lodestone, ~~for~~ fire drugs, paper currency, mechanical clocks, astronomical observations, smelting of iron & steel, printing.

Buddhism was main religion until Confucianism.

## Japan

Japan was able to escape from European Imperialist domination. TOOK path of modern industrial development. Samurai, Shintoism, zen. Buddhism.