

Ruler

Constantinople was the capital of the **Byzantine Empire**.

It was founded by Emperor Constantine.

It was built in 330 AD.

It was ruled by **Empress Zoe**.



Constantinople

The city was the link between **East and West**.

Boats brought goods from the West.

Merchants travelled along the **silk roads** from the East.

Merchants traded goods in the markets.

It was the **richest** city in the world.

Trade

Religion

Constantinople was a **Christian** city.

Constantine had converted to Christianity and made it legal in the Roman Empire.

The city was the **heart of Christianity** in Europe.

It had never been conquered before.

Rivals fought to control the Byzantine Empire and take Zoe's place before.

The biggest threat to Constantinople was from the **Islamic Empire**.

Muslim warriors were gradually taking over land from the Roman Empire.

Defence

Key Vocabulary

Silk Road

Network of trade routes from East to West

Empire

Group of countries ruled by another

Trade

Buy or sell goods

Merchant

Someone who trades

Byzantine Empire

Eastern Roman Empire

Abbasid Dynasty

Family who ruled the Islamic Empire

Caliph

Muslim leader

Astronomy

Study of stars and planets

Astrolabe

Invention that uses the stars to find position

House of Wisdom

Place in Baghdad where scholars studied

Scholar

Student

Madrassa

Muslim university

Baghdad



Baghdad was the **capital** of the **Islamic Empire**.

The **Abbasid dynasty** ruled the Islamic Empire.

Al-Mansur was the caliph of Baghdad.

By 1000 AD, 1 million people lived in Baghdad.



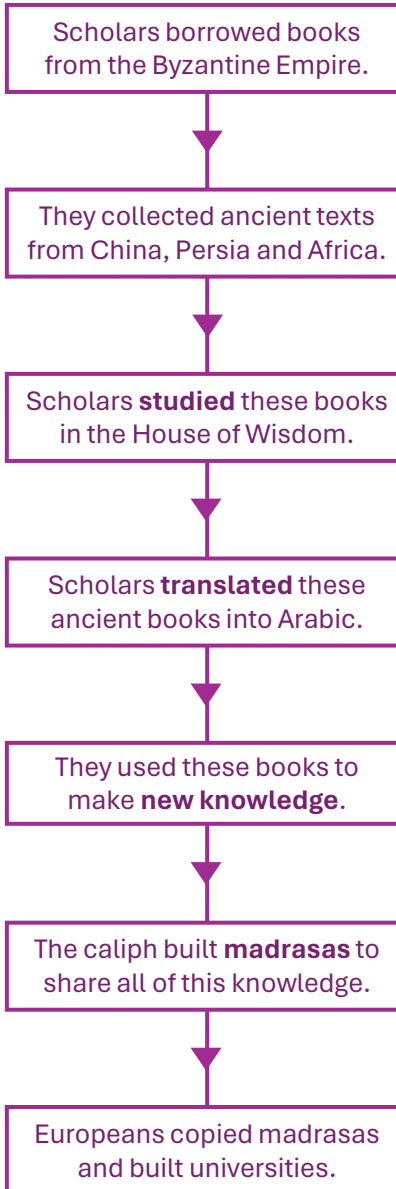
Baghdad was built between the **River Tigris** and the **River Euphrates**.

Merchants travelled along the rivers and **silk roads** to trade in Baghdad.

People traded silks, spices, jewels and slaves in Baghdad.

Baghdad was a **Muslim** city.

A City of Learning



Maths

Scholars combined ideas from Greeks, Hindus, Persians and Arabs. They used maths to measure land, make prices and design buildings.

Arab scholars created algebra.



Astronomy

They built observatories to watch the stars.

They used the stars to find the direction of Mecca for their prayers and work out their religious calendar.

They used astronomy to invent the astrolabe and make maps.



Medicine

Al-Razi wrote 200 medical books bringing knowledge together from around the world.

They built hospitals and created new surgical methods.

They knew....



House of Wisdom

January 1066

King **Edward the Confessor** died.
The king had no heirs, so this caused a **succession crisis**.
Three men believed they should rule England:



January 1066

The **Witan** chose **Harold Godwinson** to be king.
Harold knew the others would try to **invade** and seize the crown.
He sent one army North to guard against Hardrada's army.
He sent another army South to guard against William's army.
In September, he was forced to send his armies home.

September 1066

Harald Hardrada and the Vikings invaded in the North.
They won the Battle of Gate Fulford and took Saxons hostage.
Harold Godwinson surprised the Vikings at **Stamford Bridge**.

The Saxons outnumbered the Vikings

The Saxons' shield wall was unbreakable

The Vikings fled when their leaders were killed

Why did the Saxons win the Battle of Stamford Bridge?

The Vikings had left their armour/weapons behind

Key Vocabulary

Monarch	King or Queen
Heir	Next in line to the throne
Succession Crisis	When there is no clear heir to the throne
Witan	People who advised the king
Danelaw	Area in the North where the Vikings lived
Conquest	When an army takes control of a country
Feigned Retreat	Norman tactic of pretending to run away
Rebellion	When people disagree and fight back
Motte & Bailey	First Norman castles (made of wood)
Feudal System	Organisation of people and land
Domesday Book	Record of everyone's property in England

October 1066

The **Battle of Hastings**
William and the Normans invaded
Harold Godwinson was killed



Norman Tactics

- William build special ships to bring his horses to the battle
- The Normans had foot soldiers, archers and knights (cavalry)
- The Normans attacked land to draw Harold to him
- The feigned retreat made Saxons leave the shield wall



Saxon Mistakes

- Most Saxon soldiers were untrained peasants (fyrd)
- The Saxons created a strong shield wall but broke it
- The Saxons kept on falling for the feigned retreat
- The Saxons were weak when Harold was killed



Luck/Chance

- The weather allowed the Normans to cross the Channel while the Saxons were at Stamford Bridge
- The 400-mile journey South from Stamford Bridge made the Saxons very tired
- Some of Harold's best men died at Stamford Bridge

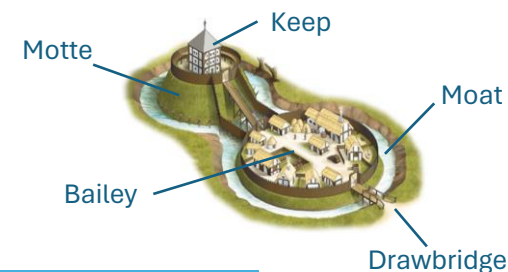
25th December 1066 William was crowned King of England
He became **William the Conqueror**

Harrying of the North (1069)

- Saxons rebelled against William many times between 1066 and 1071
- In 1069, Saxons joined with the Vikings and killed hundreds of Normans in York
- William ordered his men to kill all rebels
- The Normans destroyed all land and crops in the North
- They ploughed salt into the earth
- Thousands of people starved to death
- William regretted his harshness later

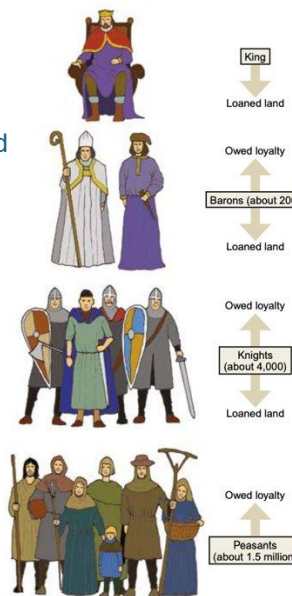
Motte & Bailey Castles

- Normans built over 500 castles in England
- They were built to intimidate the Saxons
- They helped to control and stop rebellions
- Saxon homes were destroyed and people were forced to build them



How did the Normans keep control?

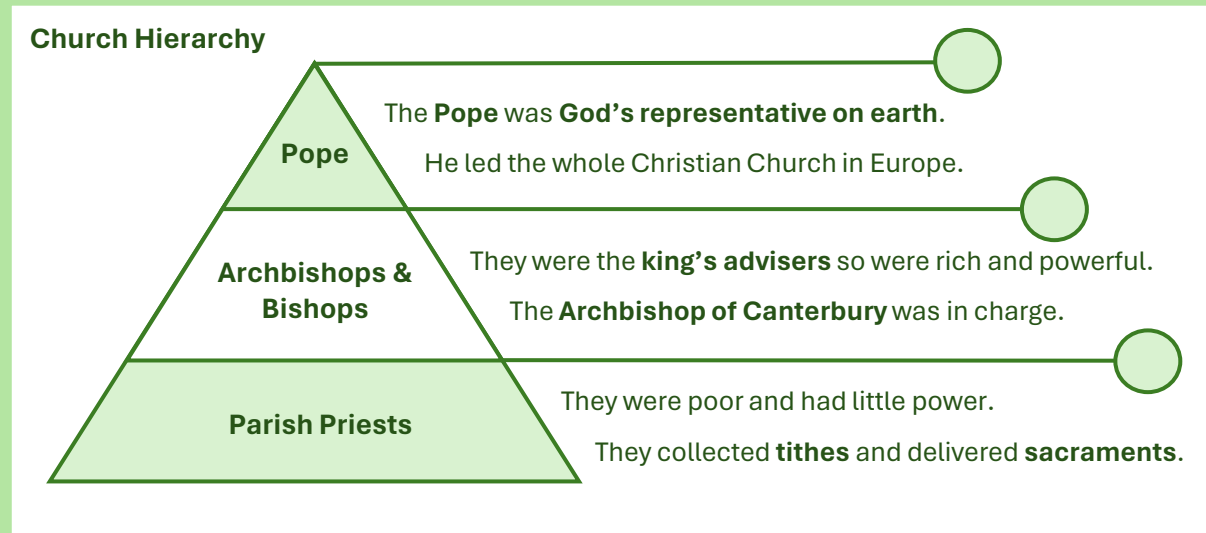
- William needed to reward his loyal followers
- He said all the land belonged to him
- He gave land to people who supported him
- He took land away from people who rejected him
- William got lots of money & power



Feudal System

- William sent royal commissioners all over England to conduct a survey
- They found out how much land people owned and how much it was worth
- This helped William know how much tax to collect
- The Saxons hated the Domesday Book and compared it to being judged by God at the end of the world
- This was the biggest ever survey of England at the time

Domesday Book (1085)



Key Vocabulary

Excommunication	When someone is banned from the Church
Clergy	Someone who works in a church
Laity	Someone who does not work in a church
Sacrament	Religious ceremonies (weddings/funerals)
Pilgrimage	Religious journey to a holy place
Indulgence	People paid money to erase their sins
Tithe	Tax paid to the Church (10% of their income)
Monasticism	Devoting whole life to God (monks/nuns)
Holy Land	Jerusalem
Crusades	Religious wars to gain control of Jerusalem
Chivalry	Knights' code – acting with honour/bravery
Salvation	When someone's sins are wiped away

Legal

Church courts dealt with **moral crimes** like adultery, gambling or getting drunk.

Special trials took place so that God could decide if someone was innocent or guilty.

Medical

Monasteries grew plants to make medicines.

Monks and nuns cared for sick, old and poor people in monasteries.

They also helped travellers.

Church Influence

Community

Priests taught Latin to wealthy boys.

The church bells told everyone the time.

Important **sacraments** took place in church.

Parties, feasts and fairs happened in church.

Economic

Villagers living on Church land had to pay rent to the parish priest.

The Church provided jobs on its land for hundreds of peasants.

Everyone paid a **tithe** to the Church.

People believed in the **Afterlife**:



Heaven: Where those that had paid for their sins would join God, Jesus and the saints.



Purgatory: Where most people went to be punished for their sins before going to heaven.



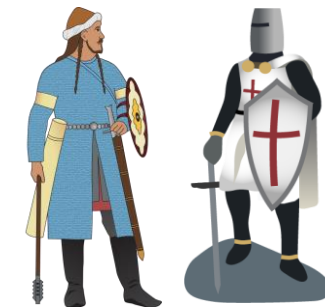
Hell: Where people would go if their sins were so terrible they could not be forgiven.

They did whatever they could to spend less time in purgatory: go on pilgrimage, build chapels, pray.

Monks	Nuns
Lived in monasteries	Lived in convents
Prayed every 3 hours	Had to pay to be a nun
Could read and write	Could read and write
Copied/preserved the work of ancient writers	Didn't really work with books
Had a haircut called a tonsure	Farmed, cooked, prayed and cared for the sick
Both	
Made vows of obedience, poverty and celibacy	
Gave up all possessions to dedicate their lives to God	

The Crusades

- **1079** Muslim forces (**Seljuk Turks**) took control of Jerusalem. They attacked Christian pilgrims entering Jerusalem. Christians feared they were no longer welcome.
- **1095** The Pope made a speech urging Christians to fight for Jerusalem. The First Crusade began.



People fought for several reasons:

Religious Reasons



Some felt it was their Christian duty to protect Jerusalem.

The Pope guaranteed entry to heaven for all crusaders.

All crusaders received an indulgence.

Christians were frightened of going to hell if they didn't obey the Pope.

Other Reasons



Some crusaders wanted to seize land or luxuries (gold/spices/perfume) for themselves.

Knights could practise chivalry/be a hero.

It was an adventure to see the world.

Criminals could avoid being punished.

Crusaders paid no taxes while they were away.

Intellectual Consequences

- Crusaders discovered weapons like gunpowder.
- Crusaders discovered new farming methods.
- Europeans discovered new lands like China.
- Europeans learnt numbers from the Muslims.
- Muslim doctors taught new ideas and drugs.

Economic Consequences

- New trade links were made between Europe and the Middle East.
- Cotton, silk and slippers were brought to Europe.
- New food like apricots, olive oil, dates and cinnamon were brought to Europe.
- Europeans sold timber to the Muslim leader.

Social Consequences

- Many crusaders stayed in the East.
- 200 new settlements were built for Christians.

King Henry II & Thomas Becket

Religious Challenge



Henry II made **Thomas Becket** the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Becket asked the Pope to make the Church independent.

Henry tried to put Becket on trial for disobeying the king.

Henry II had his son crowned as a '**Junior King**'.

Becket **excommunicated** the bishops that crowned him.

Henry lost his temper.

1170 Four knights went to Canterbury Cathedral to **murder** Becket.

1173 People rebelled against Henry II and he lost land.

1173 Henry walked barefoot to Canterbury to be **whipped**.

Key Vocabulary

Monarch	King or Queen
Heir	Next in line to the throne
Dynasty	Rulers from the same family
Civil War	War between people in the same country
The Anarchy	Matilda and Stephen's civil war
Excommunicate	Banish from the Church
Regent	Someone who rules on the monarch's behalf
Barons	Medieval nobles/lords
Magna Carta	63 demands that limited the king's power
Tyrant	Cruel ruler
Parliament	A group of people who help run the country
Buboes	Boils under the armpits and on the groin

Dynastic Challenge

King Henry II & Eleanor of Aquitaine



Eleanor was powerful because:

- She inherited Aquitaine.
- She fought in the Crusades.
- She acted as regent for Henry II.
- She was Queen of France & England.

1173 Eleanor supported her son's plot to overthrow Henry II. They failed.

1189 Richard became king and Eleanor helped rule.

King John & Magna Carta

Political Challenge



Political Problems	Economic Problems
John married a French lady who was supposed to marry someone else.	The barons had to pay more tax to John than any other monarch.
John murdered his nephew to stop him from taking his throne.	John spent these taxes on fighting wars and living a luxury lifestyle.
John ignored the barons' advice.	
Religious Problems	Military Problems
John refused to accept the new Archbishop of Canterbury.	The King of France fought John twice.
The Pope banned church services and excommunicated John.	John lost almost all of his land in France.

1215 The barons met John at Runnymede.

They forced him to sign Magna Carta.

- The king couldn't interfere in the Church.
- The king couldn't collect taxes unless the barons agreed.
- All freemen were entitled to a trial by jury.
- The Great Council could punish the king if he broke rules.



Consequences of the Magna Carta

Parliament meant monarchs' power was reduced.	Three clauses are still in English law today.	It inspired the Declaration of Human Rights.
---	---	--



Political Challenge

King Henry III & Parliament

Complains about King Henry III

Henry increased taxes and spent the money on luxuries.	Henry ignored the barons and only took advice from his wife.	Henry lost wars and land in France.
--	--	-------------------------------------

1258

The barons forced Henry to meet them.

They forced him to sign the Provisions of Oxford.



- The king couldn't make any decisions without the Great Council's agreement.
- The Great Council chose the king's advisers.
- Parliament had to meet 3 times a year.

1258

Henry fought the barons but lost.

1265

Simon de Montfort called the **first Parliament**.

This consisted of:

- The Great Council
- Two wealthy people from each town
- Two knights from each county

Over time, parliament became very **powerful** as the barons made deals with the king.



Medical Challenge

King Edward III & The Black Death

1348 The Black Death reached England.
It killed at least half of England's population.



Bubonic Plague	Pneumonic Plague
Caused by a germ that lived in the blood of black rats.	This disease was airbourne.
Fleas bit the rats and passed on the germ by biting humans.	It was passed on through coughing and sneezing.
Victims developed buboes, fever, vomiting, diarrhoea and parts of their body turned black.	Victims coughed up blood.
About 7/10 people would die.	They also developed a fever, headaches and breathlessness.
	Most victims died within a week.

Consequences of the Black Death		
Social	Economic	Religious
Crops rotted, animals died and villages were left to ruin.	Peasants demanded higher wages due to a shortage of workers.	Some churches couldn't open due to a shortage of priests.
The feudal system was weakened as people could move up or down.	Some landowners sold their land to peasants who became richer.	People believed that God was punishing them by causing the Black Death.

75 million people worldwide and **25 million** Europeans died of the Black Death.



Popular Challenge

King Richard II & The Peasants' Revolt

Causes of the Peasants' Revolt

Even though wages increased after 1348, some peasants still had to work for free on the lord's land.	The Statute of Labourers was passed in 1351 . Wages went down and peasants weren't allowed to leave their lord.	The Sumptuary Laws were passed in 1363 . Peasants were banned from wearing anything except plain clothes.
John Ball (a priest) made speeches saying that peasants and lords should be treated equally.	Taxes kept increasing. Peasants originally had to pay 4 pence but this tripled to 12 pence.	A new Poll Tax was introduced in 1381 . Everyone (rich and poor) had to pay the same amount.

May 1381 Royal officials tried to collect the Poll Tax in **Essex**. Peasants refused to pay and killed an official.

June 1381 60,000 peasants marched to London led by **Wat Tyler**. They burned houses and freed John Ball from prison. They demanded higher wages and freedom to move. The king agreed to the demands, but Wat Tyler was killed. Richard II broke his promises and executed the leaders.



Later, peasants did become more independent:

They could work for the best wages they could find.	Some peasants bought their own land so didn't have to do work service.
---	--