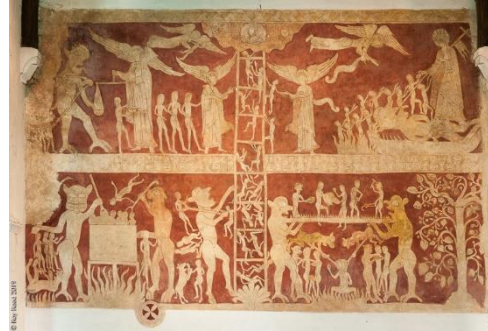


What was life like for people in Medieval England?

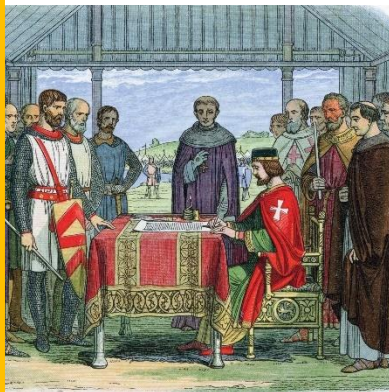
Most people in Medieval England lived in villages and worked as peasants on farms. Village life followed the farming year, with jobs such as ploughing, sowing, harvesting, and caring for animals. Peasants lived in small houses made from wood, mud, and straw, with very basic furniture and poor sanitation. Life was hard, food was limited, and disease was common. Villages were controlled by the lord of the manor, and peasants had to pay rent and work for him.

Medieval towns were smaller than modern towns but much busier than villages. Towns had markets where people bought and sold goods, and many people worked as craftsmen such as blacksmiths, bakers, and weavers. People in towns had more freedom than peasants and could earn money, but towns were crowded, dirty, and dangerous. Fires and disease spread easily.



Why was the Magna Carta signed and did it change power in England?

The Magna Carta was signed in 1215 after King John lost wars, raised taxes, and ruled unfairly. Angry barons forced him to agree to the Magna Carta, which limited the king's power and protected the rights of the barons. It stated that the king must obey the law and could not raise taxes without agreement. Although it did not help ordinary people at the time, it was important because it established the idea that the king was not above the law.



Religion in Medieval England

The Church was central to everyday life in Medieval England. People believed God controlled everything, including illness, weather, and success or failure. The Church taught people how to live their lives and explained what would happen after death. Churches were at the centre of communities, and people attended services regularly. The Church also provided education, helped the poor and sick, and recorded important events such as births, marriages, and deaths. People paid a tithe, which was one-tenth of their income, to support the Church.

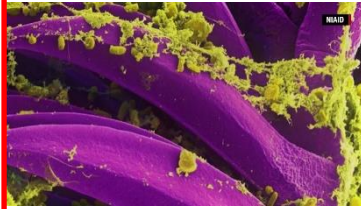
Doom paintings were large wall paintings found inside Medieval churches, usually above the main door. They showed Judgement Day, with Jesus deciding who would go to Heaven and who would go to Hell. Heaven was often shown as peaceful, while Hell was shown as frightening and full of punishment. Doom paintings were important because most people could not read, so the images taught religious messages. They reminded people to obey the Church, follow God's rules, and fear punishment in the afterlife if they sinned.

Why did Henry II and Thomas Becket clash and what was the significance of Becket's death?

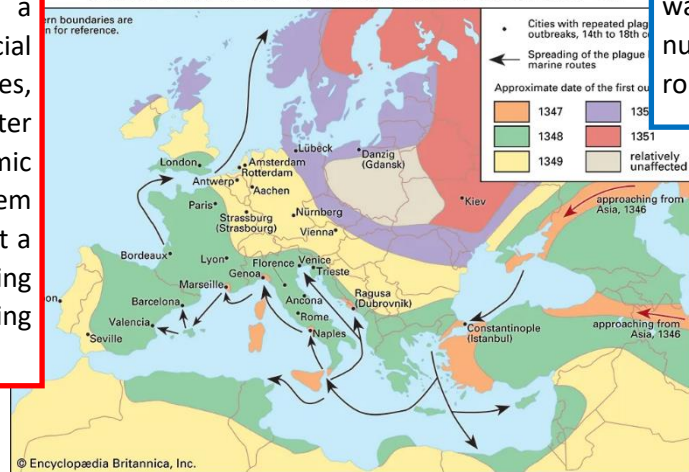
Henry II and Thomas Becket clashed because they disagreed over who should have power over the Church. Henry wanted priests who broke the law to be punished in royal courts, while Becket believed they should be judged by Church courts. Their disagreement grew worse after Becket became Archbishop of Canterbury. In 1170, four knights murdered Becket in Canterbury Cathedral, shocking the country. Becket became a martyr, and his death weakened Henry's authority and strengthened the power and influence of the Church.

The Black Death

The Black Death, a devastating pandemic in England from 1348 to 1350, was caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. It's believed to have started in Asia and spreading through trade routes. Overpopulation and dirty conditions helped the rapid spread. The impact was catastrophic, with estimates suggesting a significant reduction in the population. Social structures crumbled, leading to labour shortages, allowing the surviving peasants to demand better wages, and working conditions. Economic upheaval followed, and the feudal system weakened. The trauma of the Black Death left a lasting mark on medieval England, influencing societal norms, economic structures, and leading in overwhelming cultural changes.



SECOND PANDEMIC OF THE BLACK DEATH IN EUROPE (1347-51)



What was life like for women in Medieval England?

Women's lives in Medieval England were controlled by men and the Church. Most women worked in the home, caring for children, cooking, cleaning, and making clothes, but they also helped with farming, especially at harvest time. Wealthy women managed households and servants but still had little independence. Women were expected to obey their fathers and husbands and had very few legal rights. Marriage was important, and many women married young. Some women became nuns, which allowed them education, independence, and an important role in religious life.

Why did the Peasants' Revolt happen in 1381 and how did the monarchy regain control?

The Peasants' Revolt of 1381 was caused by high taxes, low wages, and anger at unfair laws after the Black Death. Many peasants were especially angry about the poll tax. Led by Wat Tyler, thousands marched to London demanding change. King Richard II met the rebels and promised reforms, but once the revolt ended he broke these promises and punished the leaders, allowing the monarchy to regain control.

Where did Medieval understanding of medicine and the body come from? Who carried out surgery?

Medieval medicine was based on ancient ideas from Greek and Roman doctors such as Galen and Hippocrates. People believed the body was controlled by the Four Humours and that illness was caused by an imbalance or by God's punishment. Treatments included prayer, herbal remedies, bloodletting, and purging. Surgery was risky and painful and was usually carried out by barber-surgeons, who also cut hair and performed minor medical tasks.

Troubles at the end of the Medieval Period – War of the Roses and the Princes in the Tower

The War of the Roses was a civil war between the House of York and the House of Lancaster over the English throne. It lasted for many years and caused instability and violence. The conflict ended when Henry Tudor defeated Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. The Princes in the Tower were the sons of Edward IV who disappeared in 1483 while in the care of their uncle, Richard III. Their fate is unknown, and historians still debate who was responsible.

Y7- Medieval People and Society (Key words)

Medieval Village and Town Life	
Key words	Definition
Medieval	The historical period in Europe from about 1000 to 1500.
Village	Small rural community where most people worked on farms and lived under the lord of the manor.
Town	Larger area with markets, trade, and skilled craftsmen, offering more opportunities than villages.
Peasant	Worker who farmed the land, often paying rent and working for the lord.
Open field system	Farming method where villagers shared large fields divided into strips.
Market	Place where goods and food were bought, sold, and traded.

Women in Medieval England	
Key words	Definition
Patriarchy	Society where men held the main power in law, property, and decision-making.
Marriage	Legally or socially arranged union, often used to form alliances or secure property.
Dowry	Property, money, or goods a bride brought to her husband at marriage.
Nun	Woman who joined a convent, living a religious life with education and some independence.
Scolds Bridle	An instrument used by men to silence their wife.
Obedience	Expected behaviour of women to obey fathers, husbands, or Church rules.

The Church in Everyday Life	
Key words	Definition
Church	Organisation of Christian worship, providing spiritual guidance, education, and social support.
Priest	Church official who led religious services, taught, and advised the community.
Tithe	One-tenth of income or produce paid to support the Church and clergy.
Pilgrimage	Religious journey to a holy place to show faith or seek forgiveness.
Doom painting	Church wall painting showing Judgement Day, showing Heaven, Hell, and moral lessons.
Afterlife	Belief in life after death, including Heaven for the faithful and Hell for sinners.

Henry II and Thomas Becket	
Key words	Definition
Henry II	King of England who wanted to extend royal authority over the Church.
Thomas Becket	Archbishop of Canterbury who opposed Henry II on Church rights and law.
Archbishop	Senior church leader responsible for overseeing dioceses and clergy.
Church courts	Courts run by the Church to judge clergy and religious matters.
Royal courts	Courts controlled by the king to enforce secular law.
Martyr	Person killed for defending their beliefs, often revered after death.

Magna Carta	
Key words	Definition
Magna Carta	1215 agreement limiting the king's power and protecting baron rights.
King John	English king forced by barons to agree to the Magna Carta.

Medieval Medicine	
Key words	Definition
Four Humours	Theory that health depended on the balance of blood, phlegm, black bile, and yellow bile.
Galen	Ancient Greek doctor whose medical ideas influenced Medieval medicine.

Baron	Wealthy noble with land who could challenge the king's authority.
Tax	Money paid to the king, often leading to unrest if excessive.
Law	Rules made to govern society that the king was required to follow.
Rights	Protections or privileges guaranteed to individuals or groups under the law.

Hippocrates	Greek physician known as the 'Father of Medicine', inspiring later medical practice.
Bloodletting	Common treatment believed to restore humour balance by removing blood.
Herbal remedy	Medicine made from plants to treat illness and symptoms.
Barber-surgeon	Person performing minor surgery, bloodletting, and sometimes cutting hair.

The Black Death	
Key words	Definition
Black Death	Deadly plague that arrived in England in 1348, killing a large portion of the population.
Plague	Highly infectious disease causing widespread death.
Buboes	Painful, swollen lymph nodes characteristic of the plague.
Epidemic	Rapid spread of disease affecting many people.
Quarantine	Isolation of people or places to prevent disease spread.
Mortality	The rate or number of deaths caused by a disease or event.

Impact of the Black Death	
Key words	Definition
Labour shortage	Fewer workers available due to high death rates, increasing worker bargaining power.
Wages	Money paid to workers, often demanded to increase after the plague.
Statute of Labourers	Law attempting to limit wages and control worker movement after the Black Death.
Social change	Shifts in society, including new opportunities for peasants.
Opportunity	New possibilities for workers to improve status or pay.
Challenge	Difficulties to authority and traditional social structures.

Peasants' Revolt 1381	
Key words	Definition
Peasants' Revolt	Uprising against taxes and social unfairness in 1381.
Poll tax	Fixed tax on all adults, triggering anger among peasants.
Wat Tyler	Leader of the peasants during the revolt.
Richard II	Young king who negotiated and later suppressed the revolt.
Rebellion	Organised resistance or defiance against authority.
Authority	Power or control exercised by the king or ruling class.

End of the Medieval Period	
Key words	Definition
War of the Roses	Civil war between York and Lancaster families over the throne.
House of York	Rival faction in the civil war.
House of Lancaster	Rival faction in the civil war.
Henry Tudor	Defeated Richard III and became king (Henry VII).
Richard III	Last Yorkist king, died at Bosworth.
Princes in the Tower	Two young princes who disappeared mysteriously in 1483.