

# Y7 Term 4 Knowledge Organiser – Changes in Medieval Society in Britain

*How different were the experiences of those living in Medieval Britain?*



## Enquiries

1. How far did Edward I strengthen the monarchy?
2. How far were women considered second-class citizens in Medieval societies?
3. How were Jewish people persecuted in Medieval Europe?
4. Why was the Black Death so devastating?
5. How far was the Peasants' Revolt a success for the peasants?

## Key Words

Term	Definition
<b>Alliance</b>	A relationship formed for mutual benefit
<b>Anti-Semitism</b>	Prejudice against and discrimination towards Jewish people
<b>Baron</b>	An important landowner and vassal to the King (a tenant)
<b>The Black Death</b>	A global epidemic in the 14 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Blood libel</b>	False stories that the Jewish religion allowed murder, usually of Christian children.
<b>Bubonic</b>	Causing swelling in the armpits and groin
<b>Confiscate</b>	To take someone's property with authority
<b>Constitution</b>	A set of rules, usually governing a state.
<b>Dowry</b>	Money and/or property that a wife or her family paid to her husband on marriage.
<b>Epidemic</b>	A widespread, infectious disease
<b>Excommunicate</b>	To officially exclude someone from participating in church services.
<b>Exile</b>	The state of being banished (sent away permanently) from one's country
<b>Expulsion</b>	Noun of 'expel'. Forcing someone to leave a country or an organisation.
<b>Fealty</b>	A vassal's sworn loyalty to a lord (eg. a knight's loyalty to a baron).
<b>Feudal System</b>	The social system whereby land was exchanged for service and loyalty.
<b>Flagellant</b>	A person who subjects themselves to flogging (whipping)
<b>Good Parliament, The</b>	The name given to the Parliament of 1376 due to the popularity of its demands
<b>Grievance</b>	Cause for complaint
<b>Heir</b>	A person entitled to inherit something.
<b>Homage</b>	The act of swearing fealty to a lord (or king) and becoming their vassal.
<b>House of Commons</b>	The lower House of Parliament. Elected MPs debate and agree to laws before passing them.
<b>House of Lords</b>	The upper House of Parliament. Lords are selected for their knowledge or experience.
<b>Illegitimate</b>	Not allowed by law.
<b>Interest</b>	Money charged for delaying the repayment of a loan or debt.
<b>Magna Carta</b>	A 'Great Charter' that aimed to limit the power of the king and extend the power of various groups in Feudal society. NOT 'The Magna Carta'.
<b>Merciless Parliament</b>	The Parliament of 1388 when many of Richard's favourites were convicted of treason

Term	Definition
<b>Middle Ages</b>	The Medieval Era c.1066-1485.
<b>Model Parliament, The</b>	1295. The first parliament that resembles our own today. It had representatives from the Church and the aristocracy, as well as those from the counties and boroughs (commoners); the first time knights and burgesses were included.
<b>MP</b>	Member of Parliament elected to the House of Commons.
<b>Nepotism</b>	When someone in power gives positions (jobs) to friends / relatives
<b>Oath</b>	A solemn promise.
<b>Outlaw</b>	A person who has broken the law and has yet to be caught
<b>Overlord</b>	A ruler
<b>Parliament</b>	The group of people who discuss and make laws in the UK.
<b>Peasant</b>	A person of low status, usually a farmer labourer (worker)
<b>Persecution</b>	When a group/person is treated with hostility.
<b>Plague</b>	A contagious disease
<b>Pneumonic</b>	Affecting the lungs
<b>Pogroms</b>	Attacks of Jewish people or businesses
<b>Poll Tax</b>	A tax which everyone is required to pay, regardless of their wealth
<b>Pope</b>	The head of the Catholic Church; lives in the Vatican City, Rome.
<b>Poverty</b>	Being very poor.
<b>Priest</b>	An ordained (official) minister of the Church.
<b>Princedom</b>	The area under the control of a prince
<b>Propaganda</b>	Material that encourages people to think a certain way, usually for a political purpose.
<b>Restrict</b>	To place a limit on something
<b>Statute</b>	Law
<b>Statute of Labourers, The</b>	A law created by English Parliament in 1351 to stop increases in wages for peasants
<b>Succession Crisis</b>	A crisis in which there is an unclear heir to the throne.
<b>Symptom</b>	A physical or mental feature of a disease
<b>Taxation</b>	Money that citizens and businesses pay to the government to be spent on the country
<b>Traitor</b>	A person who betrays someone
<b>Usury</b>	The action of lending money for profit. Interest would be charged on top of paying back the loan. The medieval Church believed that this was wrong.
<b>Vassal</b>	Someone who swore fealty and paid homage to a lord (or king); received land in return.
<b>Villein</b>	A peasant tied to the land in the Feudal System
<b>Wages</b>	A regular payment earned for work

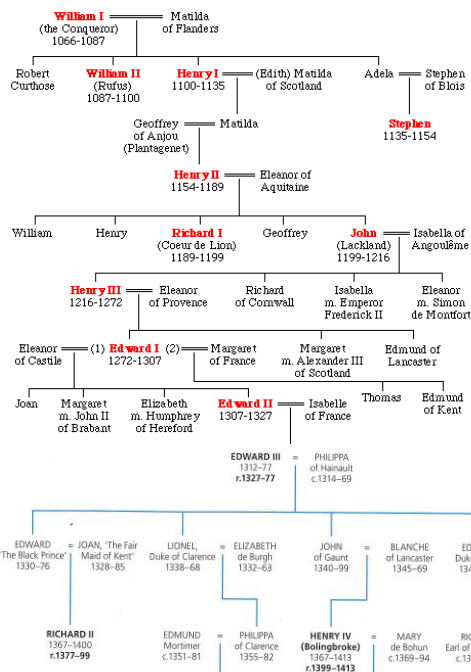
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## Key Individuals

Individual	Description
Edward I	King of England from 1272-1307
Llewelyn ap Gruffydd	Last Prince of Wales before the conquest of Edward I
Robert Bruce	King of the Scots from 1306-1329
John Balliol	King of the Scots from 1292-1296.
William Wallace	A Scottish knight and leader of the conflict against England
Edward II	King of England from 1307 until he was deposed in 1327.
Edward III	King of England from 1327-1377
Edward, the Black Prince	Son of Edward III and heir to the throne. Died in 1376 due to dysentery.
John of Gaunt	Son of Edward III, an influential figure during the reign of Richard II
Richard II	Son of the Black Prince, King of England from 1377-1399.
Wat Tyler	Leader of the Peasants' Revolt.
John Ball	An English priest who preached about equality.



## Timeline

Date	Event
1258	The Provisions of Oxford
1265	The First Parliament
1272	Edward I ascends to the throne
1274	Llewelyn refuses to pay homage to Edward III
1276	English invasion of Wales
1283	The annexation (take-over) of Wales
1290	The Edict of Expulsion
1295	The Model Parliament
1295	The Scots make an alliance with France
1296	English invasion of Scotland
1307	Edward I died preparing for another invasion of Scotland; Edward II ascends to the throne.
1314	The Battle of Bannockburn
1322	The Statute of York: a law stating that the king's subjects could not pass reforms that limited his power.
1327	The death of Edward II under suspicious circumstances.
1348	The Black Death arrives in Dorset, England, killing 40% of the English population and 1/3 of Europe's population.
1351	The Statute of Labourers: a law created by English Parliament in 1351 to stop increases in wages for peasants
1376	The Good Parliament.
1376	The death of the Black Prince (the heir to the throne) due to dysentery.
1377	Death of Edward III; Ascension of Richard II to the throne.
May-June 1381	The Peasants' Revolt; The King meets the Peasants' at Smithfield
1388	The Merciless Parliament
1397	Richard arrests three of the Lords Appellant and executes one.
February 1399	Richard seizes John of Gaunt's land
September 1399	Richard is deposed by Henry Bolingbroke, son of John of Gaunt. Henry becomes Henry IV