

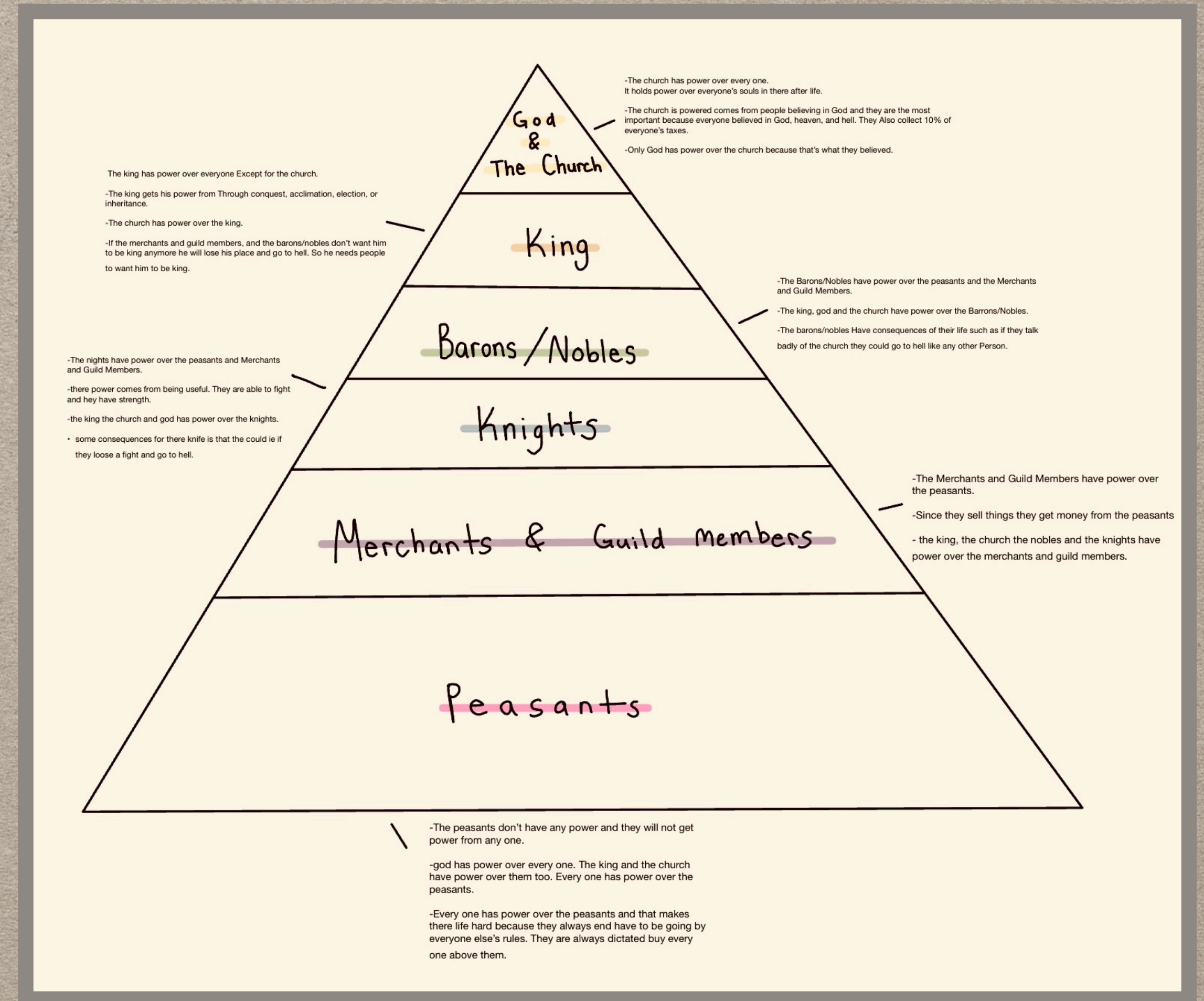


THE MIDDLE AGES/THE FEUDAL SYSTEM

BY: AIYA

THE FEUDAL SYSTEM

- How did the feudal system work?
- The feudal system categorized people from most important to the least important. It was formed in a pyramid shape so it's easier to understand. Starting at the top of the point and heading down.
- The feudal system is a system that came to be in the 10th century. This was to structure society. Under the feudal laws, most land belonged to the king and some to the church who were at the top of the pyramid. Slowly they gave some land to the baron/nobles in exchange for their military and political support. Then they started giving small amounts of land to the merchants and guild members.
- In the middle century, people were very religious and came to believe in God, heaven and hell.



WHY IS THE CHURCH SO IMPORTANT?

- The Church was very important in the Middle Ages. It controlled the whole town/city and everybody obeyed their rules. If they didn't, they would have major consequences and you could most likely die (go to hell). The church believed in God, Heaven and Hell and so did the king, the barons/nobles, the knights, merchants and guild members and the peasants. Also, everyone in the towns/cities had to give 10% of their wages to the Church. They had unlimited food and most of it rotted or the rats ate it and went to waste.



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WHAT WERE PEOPLES BELIEF'S AND RELIGIONS?

- The church became dominant in Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire. Peoples beliefs where all based on the Church's beliefs and what ever they thought the everyone else believed as well. The only religion people believed was Christianity and specifically Catholicism. Christianity dominated the lives of the peasants. You can probably guess that it was hard for the peasants to live. Everyone believed in God, heaven and hell and the only thing that the church wasn't in power of was god because God controlled everyone.



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WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO BE THE KING IN THE MIDDLE AGES?

- The king had power over everyone except for the church. He was expected to keep everyone in order and provide protections for their vassals. The king gets his power through conquest, acclimation, election, or inheritance. The only one that has power over the king is the church. If the merchants and guild members, and the barons/nobles don't want him to be king anymore he will lose his place and go to hell. So he needs people to want him to be king. (He needs to be popular.)



• Photo credit: Azzedine Rouichi

WHA WAS IT LIKE TO BE A BARON/NOBLE IN THE MIDDLE AGES?

- The Barons/Nobles have power over the peasants and the Merchants and Guild Members. The king, God and the Church have power over the Barons/Nobles. The barons/nobles have consequences of their life if they talk badly of the church and they could go to hell like any other Person. The barons/nobles have power over the king because if they didn't like the king, he would loose his power.



• Photo credit: Lucas K

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO BE A KNIGHT IN THE MIDDLE AGES?

- The knights have power over the peasants and merchants and guild members. Their power comes from being useful. They are able to fight and they have strength. The king, the Church and God have power over the knights. Some consequences for their knights' lives are, that they could die if they lose a fight and go to hell.



• Photo credit: Rolf Schmidbauer

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO BE A PEASANT IN THE MIDDLE AGES?

- The peasants had the hardest life of all in the Middle Ages. They were always dictated by every one above them. If they didn't obey someone, they would go to hell. The peasants don't have any power and they will not get power from any one. Their living style was also very hard. They lived in small and uncomfortable houses and they had to work very hard to get food too. Often times, they didn't get the nutrients they needed. The peasant also had to work very long and hard. An average work day for them was sixteen hours in the summer and eight hours in the winter.



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WHAT WERE PEOPLES DIET LIKE IN THE MIDDLE AGES?

- Medieval food was often plain due to the shortage of resources but people higher up in the feudal system often had decadent food.
- King- The average meal for the king in the middle ages was usually some sort of freshly killed meat and river fish, as well as fruits and vegetables cooked with valuable spices.
- Peasants- The peasants diet was often really bad. The average diet for a peasant in the middle ages consisted of lots of barley. They had coarse, dark bread or pancakes, porridge and soup and not much fruits or vegetables.



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WHAT WAS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEDIEVAL TOWNS AND THE FEUDAL SYSTEM?

- The basic government and society in the Middle Ages revolved around the feudal system. The feudal system was more popular around the earlier Middle Ages, before the medieval towns became more popular.
- The Main difference between medieval towns and the feudalism is that medieval towns have more opportunity for everyone and the peasants during the feudal times had a harder life.



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IN CONCLUSION....

- The Middle Ages covered a long period of time, from 500 AD to 1500 AD. That is about 1,000 years! It all started from the fall of the Roman Empire to the rise of the Ottoman Empire; this was a time of castles, guilds, cathedrals and crusades and last of all, peasants.
- From making this presentation I learned that the Middle Ages were a very hard time for most people and especially the peasants.



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THANK YOU!



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