

The Late Middle Ages: Europe in Crisis

Disease

- The Black Death
 - o Named the Bubonic Plague
 - o In 5 years it killed 1/3 of Europe
 - About 25 million people (worldwide 100 million)
 - o Originated in Mongolia or China
 - o Spread to Europe along trade routes 1347
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 - Carried by Fleas that lived on the backs of rats
- Symptoms
 - o Fever
 - o Swelling of lymph gland (Near armpits, groin, or neck usually)
 - o Vomiting
 - o Red Rash that turned Black
 - o Internal Bleeding
 - o Death could come in matter of hours or days (50% chance of survival)
- Believed Causes for the Plague
 - o God's Vengeance
 - God punishing Europe for evil doings
 - Led to radical "cures" Flagellants
 - o Jewish Plot
 - Poisoned the wells
- Dealing with the Plague
 - o Many barricaded selves inside homes
 - Led to Social Decay
 - o Plague Doctors
 - o Mass burials
 - "Bring out your dead"
- Impacts
 - o Labor Shortages
 - Workers demanded higher wages and rioted
 - Wages drastically went up spurring economic development
 - o Plague lasted on and off till 17th century
 - o People questioned church's effectiveness



Religious Upheaval

- Church unable to support people during plague
 - o People question church's authority
 - John Wycliffe
 - Jan Hus
- Avignon Papacy

- Papacy forced to submit to French
- Clement V moves papacy to Avignon
- Power shift to Political supremacy
- Led to disputed between Italians and French
- Began selling of Indulgences
 - Also developed idea of purgatory
 - Indulgences bought forgiveness for un-repentant sins
- Great Schism
 - 1378 C.E.
 - Re-establishment of Papacy in Rome leads to another Schism
 - Pope Urban VI – Italian
 - Backed by English, HRE, Hungary, Bohemia, Poland
 - Clement VII – French
 - Backed by France and its allies
 - Naples, Scotland, Aragon, Castile
 - End of Babylonian Captivity
 - Avignon Papacy
 - Council of Pisa
 - 1409-1410
 - Both popes deposed
 - Alexander V chosen as next pope
 - Neither accept decision
 - Council of Constance
 - All contending popes either resigned or deposed
 - Martin V Elected Pope
- Inquisition
 - Started mid-13th Century
 - Continued into 16th Century
 - Charged with rooting out heretics
 - Used torture
 - Life imprisonment for repenting heretical beliefs, death for others
 - Confiscated property

War

- Scottish War of Independence
 - 1297
 - Scottish resentment over English rule turns into rebellion
 - Led by William Wallace
 - Many major victories
 - Sterling Bridge
 - Eventually captured and killed for treason
- The Hundred Years War
 - 1337 – 1453 C.E.
 - Started as a dispute of succession
 - Death of Charles IV
 - Edward III (Grandson of Phillip(Charles' Dad))
 - French lands still technically belonged to France
 - Philip VI (First cousin of Charles)
 - England looking to keep France weak
 - Fight over Flanders
 - English scared of France

- Wealthier
 - Bigger
 - Pop and size
- France weakened
 - Too Feudalistic
 - Not Centralized “Modern” state
 - Borrowing heavily
 - Kings relying on Estates General
 - Townspeople, Nobles, Clergy
 - English better army
- France looking to extend power and push England across English Channel
 - France allied with Scottish
- Both wanted control of regional Trade
 - Through Flanders
- Early English victories
 - Crecy 1346
 - Seized Calais
 - Poitiers 1356
 - Take French King John II Captive
 - Political disorder in France
 - Power handed to Estates General
 - Agincourt 1415
 - Henry V
 - French 30,000
 - English 5,000
 - Massive victory for English
 - Were able to win using mix of dismounted man-at-arms and longbow men
- Joan of Arc
 - In 1429 French king Charles VII gives command of army to peasant girl named Joan
 - Turned tide of war in favor of French
 - Retook city of Orleans
 - Rise of Charles VII
 - Captured by Burgundians
 - Sold to English
 - Tried as a witch
 - Sanctified 1920
- Impacts
 - Introduction of Cannon
 - Destroys vassal system (castles useless)
 - French Nationalism rises
 - French King’s power increases
 - English Parliament Gains power
 - Kings loose “Power of the Purse