

The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of small white stars. Overlaid on this are several faint, light blue technical diagrams. In the top right, there is a large circular diagram with concentric rings and a scale from 0 to 210 degrees. In the bottom right, there is a smaller circular diagram with concentric rings and arrows. In the bottom left, there is another circular diagram with concentric rings and arrows. The word "WELCOME" is centered in a white, bold, serif font.

WELCOME

The background features a dark blue gradient with faint, light-colored circular patterns and a scale. The scale is a large arc on the left side, with numerical markings from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Several smaller circles and arcs are scattered across the background, some with arrows indicating direction. The overall aesthetic is technical and modern.

WORLD HISTORY-2

TOPIC- FEUDALISM

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Features of Feudalism

- ❖ **Feudal system was based on Serfs.**
- ❖ **They produced surplus.**
- ❖ **Mode Of Production is the backbone of Serfdom.**
- ❖ **Feudal system characterized by Serfdom.**
- ❖ **Majority of the Serfs were landless.**
- ❖ **The Serfs were required to perform various types of farms and household labor for their masters.**

- ❖ Feudal system characterized by Serfdom.
- ❖ Arose from the absence of a strong central government.
- ❖ Wealthy nobles let less wealthy people use their land in return for support (military, politics, etc..)
- ❖ The lord has land, the vassal gets to use the land, and the land itself is called fief.
- ❖ Fiefs are hereditary and lords could own more than one.
- ❖ Both the King and the Church had Fiefdoms- The king's real power lay in how many fiefs he controlled.

- ❖ Essentially a government and military system.
- ❖ After the collapse of the Roman Empire no single ruler was able to provide Europe with Central Authority (no power, no money, or military strength.)
- ❖ The solution was Feudalism
- ❖ Lords and Monarchs (lieges) award (infeudated) land to loyal followers (Vassals).
- ❖ Feudal relationship extremely honorable relationship between legal equals.

- ❖ Feudalism is the name given to the system of government William 1 introduced to England after he defeated Harold at the Battle of Hastings.
- ❖ Feudalism became a way of life in Medieval England and remained so for many centuries.
- ❖ Feudalism mainly denoted : Kings, Lords, Knights, Peasants, Serfs
- ❖ Kings = most important
- ❖ Lords = lend lands to knights
- ❖ Knights = helped lords in battle
- ❖ Serfs = not very important to Feudal society.

Feudal Pyramid Of Power

KING

NOBLES

KNIGHTS

PEASANTS

- ❖ The King owned all the land in the country and made the laws – he gave an area of land called a Fife to rich Lords and Nobles.
- ❖ The Nobles gave some land to professional soldiers.
- ❖ In return these Knights fought for Nobles and the King.
- ❖ Peasants worked the land for the Nobles and Knights who in turn offered them protection.

- ❖ Feudalism developed as a political system based on small local units controlled by lords bound by an oath of loyalty to a monarch.
- ❖ The lowest ranking people in the Feudal hierarchy was the serfs or peasants.
- ❖ Feudalism is based on land ownership .
- ❖ Feudalism was the dominant system in Europe.
- ❖ Feudalism saw the beginning of it's decline during the late middle ages.
- ❖ As a system based on land Feudalism declined due to the inherent weakness.
- ❖ During the 12th and 13th Centuries, the use of money, rather than goods, as a means of exchange led to a revival of commerce.

- ❖ Feudal economy was a natural economy i.e. a subsistence economy.
- ❖ Karl Marx used the term feudalism “ whole social order whose principal feature was domination of the rest society.
- ❖ Vassals = a holder of land by Feudal tenure on conditions of homage and allegiance. A person or country in a subordinate to another.
- ❖ Vassals in Feudal society one invested with a fief in return for services to an overlord.

- ❖ Is a system where different groups of people have different roles and responsibilities.
- ❖ Loss of political power by the kings (feudal monarchies).
- ❖ Agrarian economy.
- ❖ Society based on relationships of interdependence.
- ❖ Enormous influence of the church.(the geocentric society.)
- ❖ Poor culture and scarce artistic achievements.

- In Europe the church was the dominant political and ideological institution.
- Controlled by the labor of the peasants.
- Form of government that stresses the ties of mutual aid between kings and nobles.
- Public power in private hands.

Nobility

- ❖ Nobility is a social class.
- ❖ Social class normally ranked immediately below royalty and found in some societies that have a formal aristocracy.
- ❖ Inherited their titles and got their wealth from the land.
- ❖ Most enjoyed both privileges and wealth.
- ❖ Paid no tax.

- ❑ Enjoyed privileged status.
- ❑ Absolute control over property.
- ❑ Noble families even had the right to wage private wars with one another and duels were widespread to settle disagreements and family feuds.
- ❑ Nobility is one of the very few elements of a *longue duree* perspective on European history from the middle age.
- ❑ *long duree* : a term that literally means long duration. Introduced by the French historian Fernand Braudel.

- In almost all European societies there existed a group.
- Nobility otherwise known as “*Aristocracy*”.
- these groups usually claimed a leading role only in one specific area.
- Nobility and Nobles has become mostly one of an individual fact-not of a social ideal.
- The nobility possessed a central role in the social processes.
- They had control over lands, which was the result of old custom known as “*Vassalage*”.
- The nobles of kings were big land holders and they used to be vassal of the king whereas the peasants were vassals to the land owners.

Serfdom

- **Two types of serfdom = system that emerged directly from slavery.**
system that emerged from tenancy.
- **Both involved the individual being tied to the land could not move freely the land. Majority of Serfs.**
- **Made legally free of their landlords.**
- **Serfs were not racially different from the rest of the population in Russia.**
- **The status of Serfdom was hereditary.**
- **overworked.**

- Legally landowners had to take care of serfs.
- Serfs needed their masters permission to leave or to get educated.
- The status of serfdom was hereditary.
- Serfs is tied to the land on which they live and work.
- It was a tenant farmer.
- Serfdom as a social institution in space and time.
- Feudal labourer.
- Status of many peasants under the feudalism.

Dynamics of Change in Feudal Europe : Technology, Demography

- ❖ **Before beginning to analyze technology that developed during the middle ages.**
- ❖ **The period saw major technological advances.**
- ❖ **Including the adoption of gunpowder, the invention of vertical windmills, etc....**
- ❖ **The increase in the wealth of merchants.**

- ❖ In the history of Europe, the Middle Ages or Medieval Period lasted from the 5th to the late 15th Century.
- ❖ It began with the fall of the Western Roman Empire and merged in to the Renaissance and the Age of Discovery.
- ❖ Middle Ages for great leaps forward in science and invention in Europe.
- ❖ Far from period of little to no technological progress.
- ❖ Middle Ages had its fair share of new inventions, like any other period of history.

- ❖ Developed sawmills both for timber and stone.
- ❖ Water power was also widely used in mining for raising ore from shafts ,crushing ore, and even powering bellows.
- ❖ European technical advancements were either built on long established techniques in medieval Europe.
- ❖ At the turn to Renaissance.

- ❖ Medieval Demography is the study of human demography in Europe and the Mediterranean.
- ❖ Demography is considered a crucial element of historical change throughout the Middle ages.
- ❖ The population of Europe remained at a low level in the Early Middle Ages

- ❖ The establishment of these towns was crucial importance because it was from them that eventually were to come the bourgeois class to found capitalism.
- ❖ Most technologies have been developed with little scientific input.
- ❖ Technology has flourished in societies.
- ❖ New technology was making it easier and quicker to travel.

- ❖ The medieval period on the other hand was one that was fairly rich in technological innovation.
- ❖ More farming improvements in the Middle ages.
- ❖ Watermills were widely used in the 11th Century.
- ❖ Improved roads and vehicles of transportation provide for increasingly far-flung urban markets.

- ❖ These 18 medieval inventions and how they made it to Europe are prime examples.
- ❖ The Printing Press may well be the most important invention of the Medieval era.
- ❖ It would eventually wrench control of information distribution from the State and the Church and lay the ground work for protestant Reformation and the Enlightenment.

- ❖ Although Johannes Guttenberg's famous press was developed in the 15th Century.
- ❖ The widespread introduction of the heavy plow around the 9th Century revolutionized farming Europe.
- ❖ Earlier plows, commonly called the ard or scratch-plow, was suited for the sandy soils and climate of the Mediterranean but was unsuitable for the heavy soils found in most northern Europe.
- ❖ As a result, north European settlement before the middle ages was limited areas with lighter soils.

- ❖ Heavy plows, in contrast, introduced an asymmetric plowshare, to cut the soil horizontally, a Colter, to cut the soil vertically, and a mouldboard, to turn the cut sods aside to create a deep furrow.
- ❖ The invention of the heavy plow made it possible to plow areas with clay soil.
- ❖ Which was more fertile than the lighter soil types.
- ❖ This increased crop yields tremendously and led to economic growth and the rapid growth cities and trade-especially in northern side.

- ❖ The Black Death beginning was certainly a far greater demographic catastrophe.
- ❖ This and successor plagues into the 15th Century, may have wiped out over 40% of Western Europe's population.
- ❖ Indeed the death toll from even the first visitation may have been up to 60%.
- ❖ Plague returned in the 1360s, 1390s, 1420-30s, each time with lower death tolls
- ❖ Affecting more the very young and very old.

