

Image by Micheal  
Baccin on  
unsplash

Alva Perreten

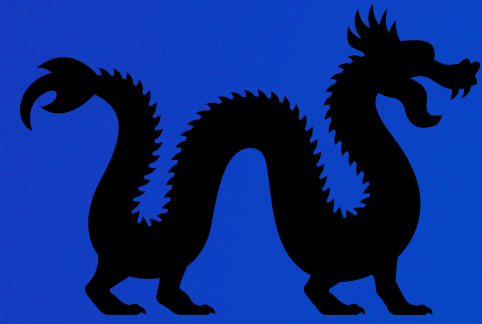
# The Middle Ages

**A terrible time to be alive**





# Introduction



## Why did the Middle Ages suck?

- I am so lucky I wasn't born in this era and here are a few reasons why:
- People feared invaders, wild animals, and imagined animals such as dragons and more
- The Church had power over everyone
- All the peasants would do what is work, and it was hard to get food
- Hygiene was terrible
- Torture was brutal
- One and 10 woman would die giving birth
- One and six children would die before turning one
- The average lifespan was 30 years of age
- The side streets were like open sewers filled with animal droppings

How did the power structure of the time period affect the different groups of people?

Peasants would have terrible lives just working but the king and the elites would be living their best privileged life's. the peasants would be ones that needed to pay taxes even though they had no money they would also need to pay taxes to the church and the church did not need to pay any taxes. Since the peasants had no power they would not have any land of their own so they would need to work all day and on top of that their life condition was terrible with diseases every were.



Image by Jens Auer on unsplash

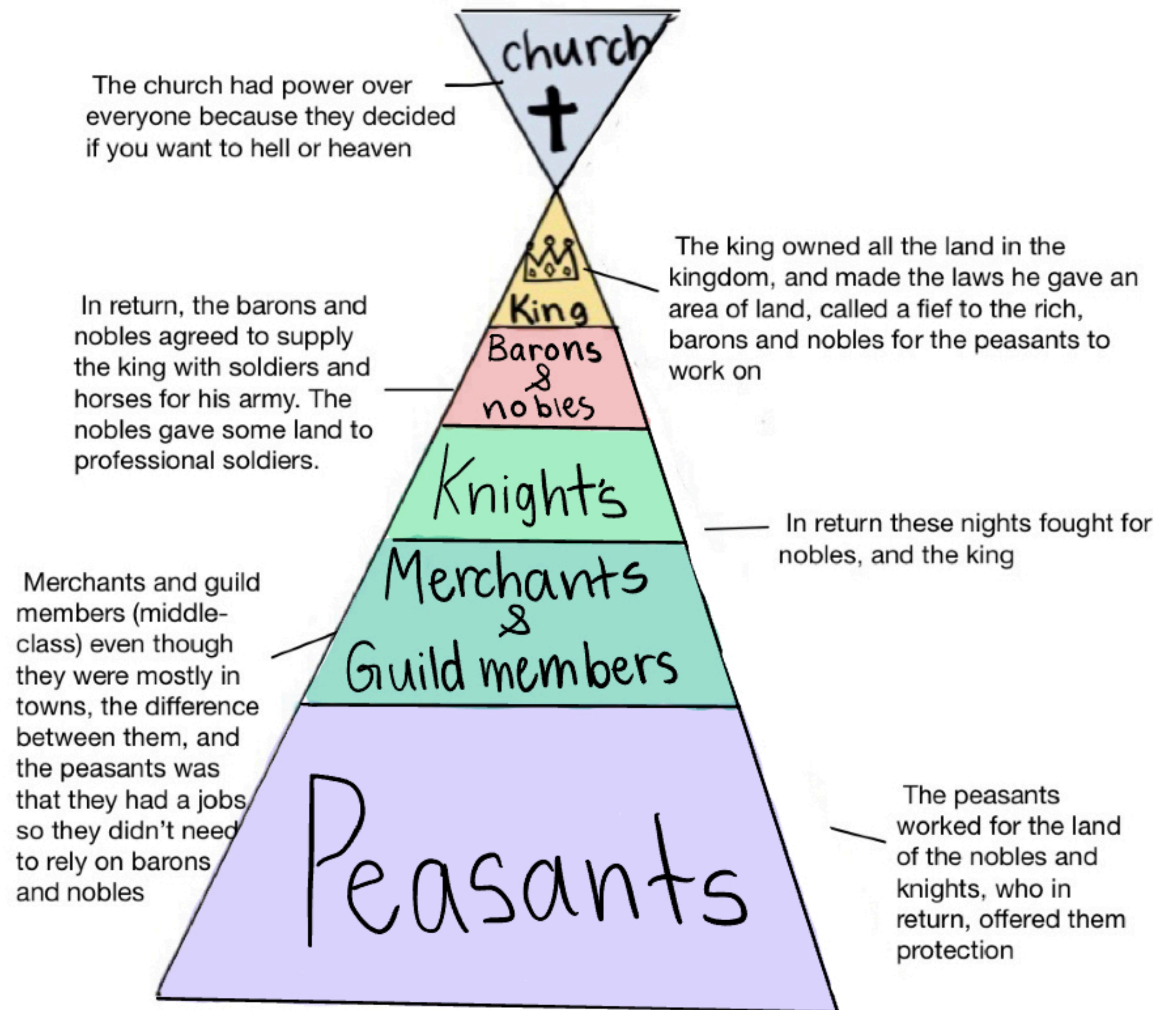


# The feudal system

## What was the feudal system?

- Feudalism is the term that came in to use in the 19th century to describe how society was in the middle ages. Feudalism was present between 1000 to 1300 A.D. early historians based on the feudal system of early exchange of land and services most land belong to the king and sometimes to the church.

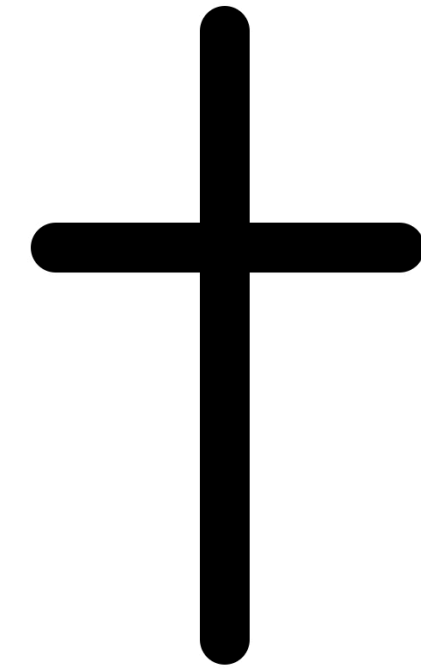
- Source-history club





# The pope

## Why was he so powerful?



- The pope was the most powerful because he was the leader of the Church and they believed that he was closest to God
- He did baptisms and other important traditions
- Christianity and Catholicism was very important
- Once the pope was elected he would serve until the day he died

Dieter K





# The Church

## Why was it so powerful?

- The Church had power over everyone, even the king. They had lots of power because you would pay the church for funerals, weddings and baptisms, and if you didn't do any of these, you would go to hell.
- The church can decide if you go to hell or not. You also need to pay the church taxes this was 10% of what you've earned called tithe, if you didn't pay you would go to hell.
- The church didn't need to pay any taxes, and the peasants worked for the church for free.
- The people that worked for the church like barons were some of the only few that could read and write.
- Knowledge passed down from that time would be from them.



Robin Spielmann



# The king

## What power did he have?

- The king had power over everyone except the church
- He owns all the land
- The whole kingdom works for him
- He must obey The rules of the church.
- And he must have people like him, or he could get executed
- Kings could collect taxes, usually collecting them directly from nobles and townships
- [source.ww.quora.com](https://www.quora.com).



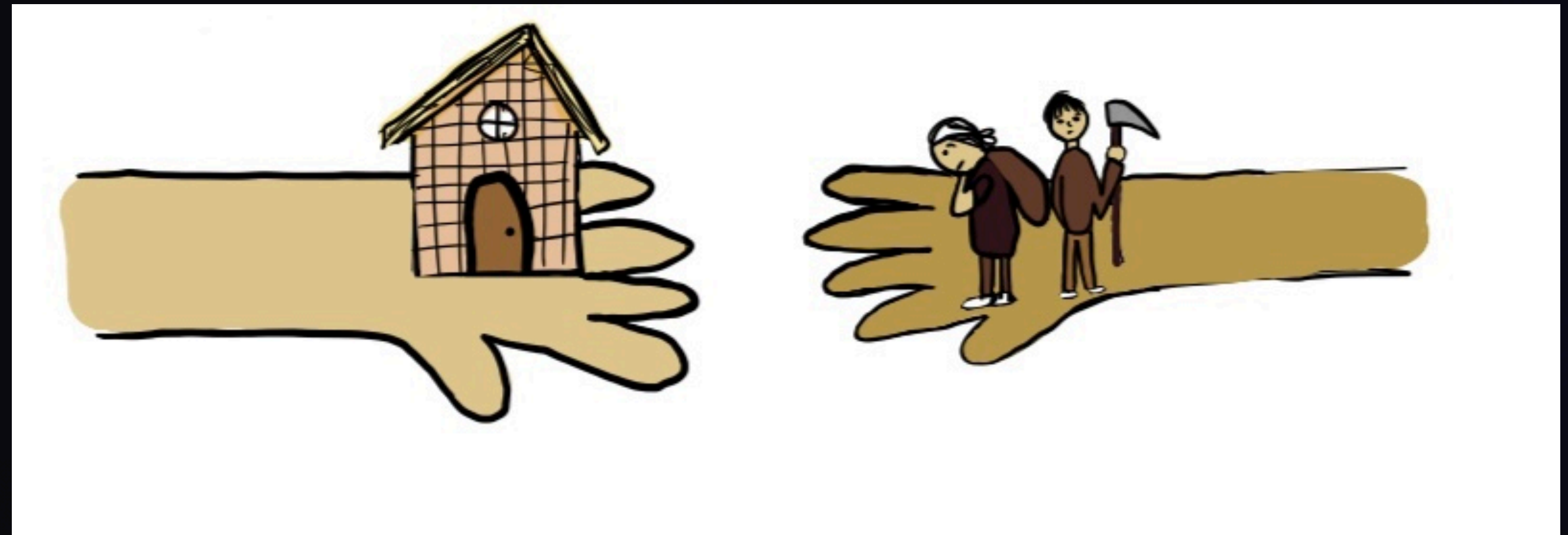
Markus Spike



# Barons and nobles

## What did they control?

- The Barons and high ranking nobles ruled large areas of land called fiefs. They reported directly to the king and were very powerful. They divided up their land among Lords who ran individual manors. Their job was to maintain an army that was at the king's service.
- The barons even had a bit of power over the king, barons could at any time meet and overrule the will of the king.
- They would give protection to the peasants in return for labor
- If nobles were accused of a crime they would often battle it out at a tournament



Marcus Spike



# Knights



## What did they do?

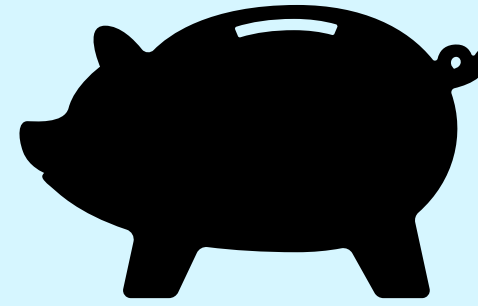
- Knights were elite soldiers in battles, wars, and crusades. They sometimes acted in law-enforcement officers of the law call Lourdes court, or if that the queen.
- They were important to keep the king safe
- Loyalty and protection



Nik Shuliahin



# Merchants and Guild members



**What is the difference between them and a peasant?**

- They were middle class they still don't have power, but they could make their own money so they didn't have to rely on the nobles and barons
- Merchants often traded items such as salt, iron and textiles. There were also rare items such as silk and spices.
- Some would have jobs like blacksmiths, beer makers, and tailors

Connor Hall





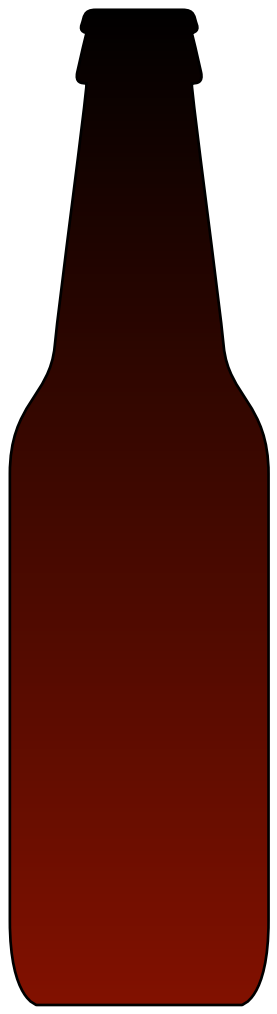
# Peasants

## What was their life like?

- 90% of the population were peasants
- Their life was often short and brutal
- They would work all day and on top of that they would need to work for free at the church for hours. They would often get sick
- They had no power
- And they were worth nothing
- If they were accused of something they would die either way, even if they were innocent



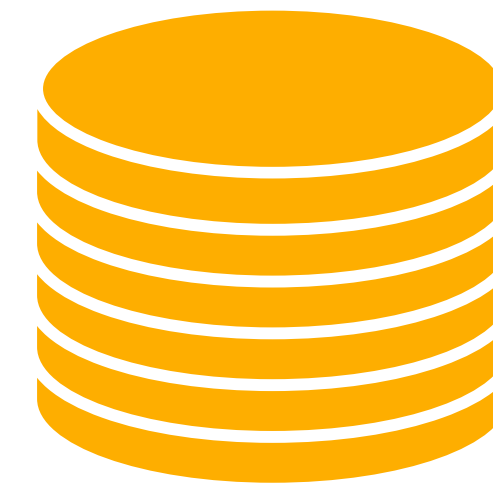
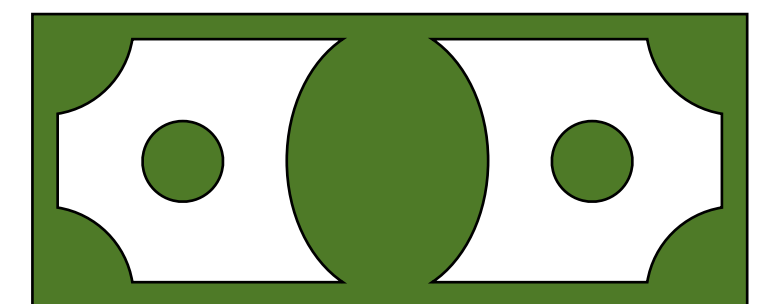
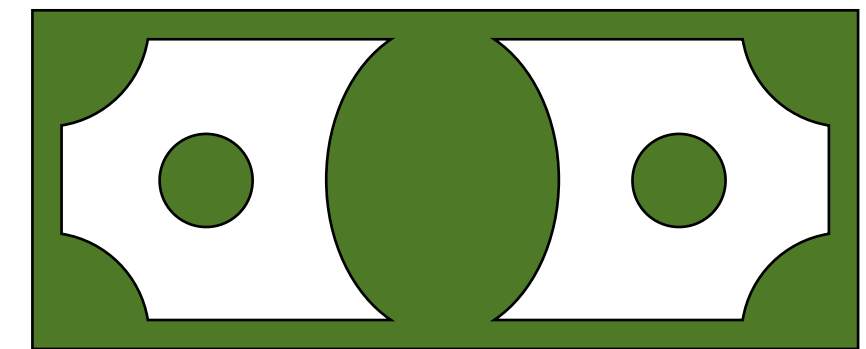
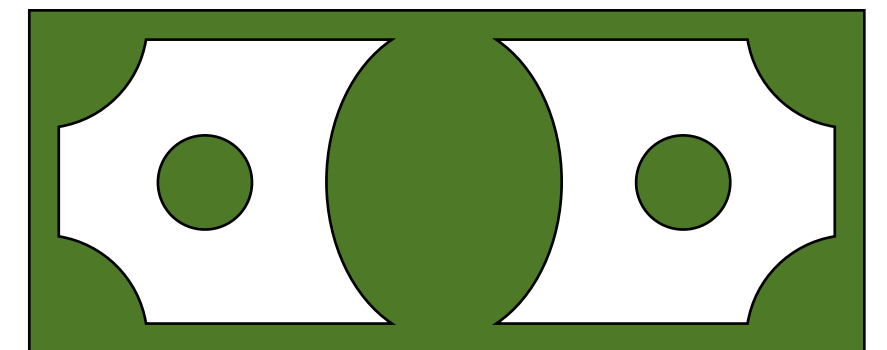
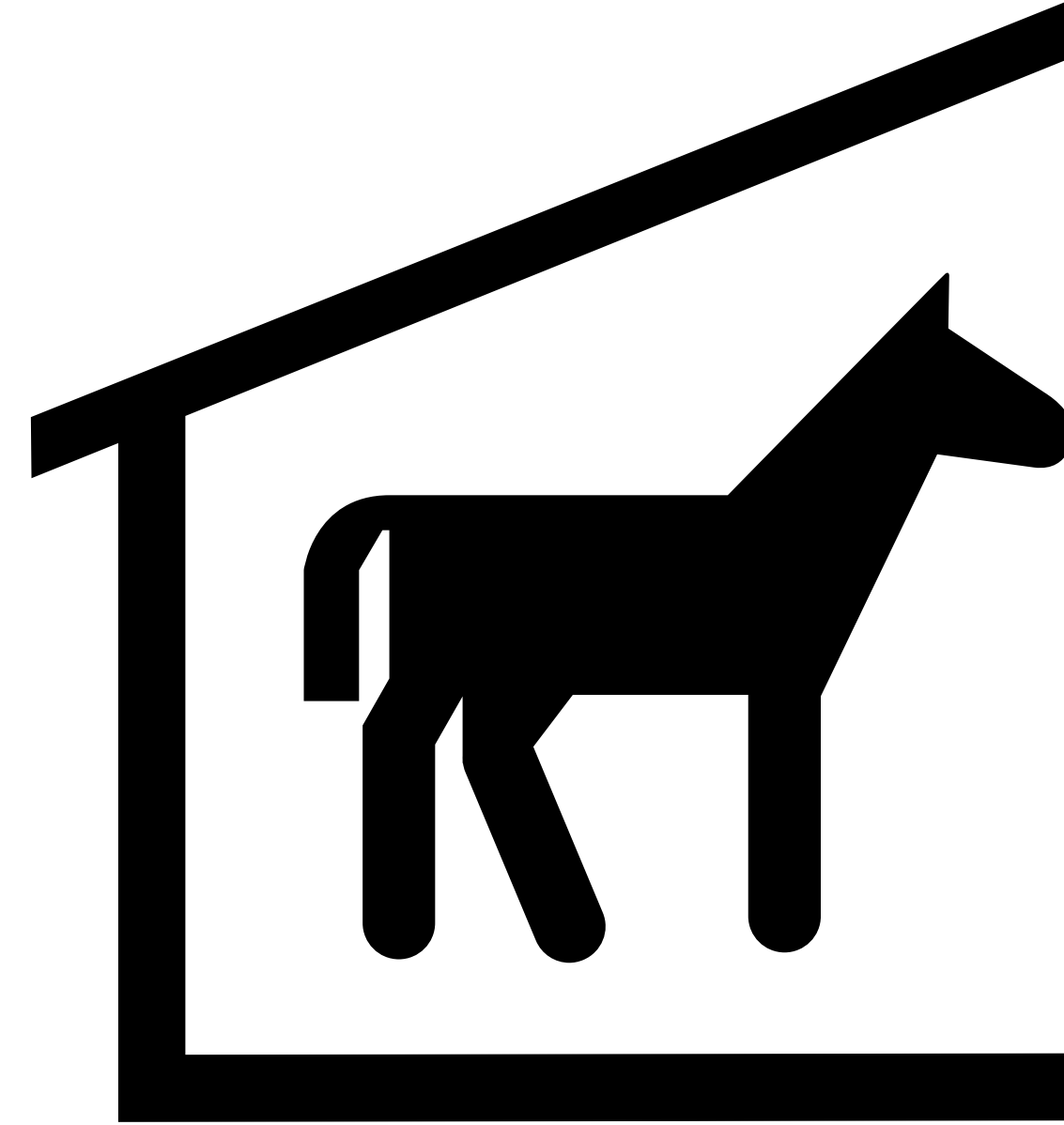
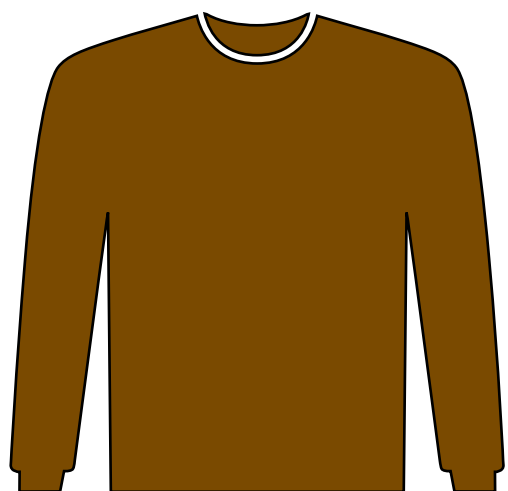
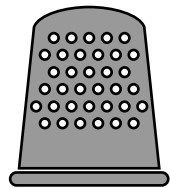
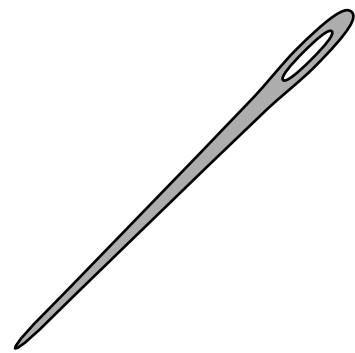
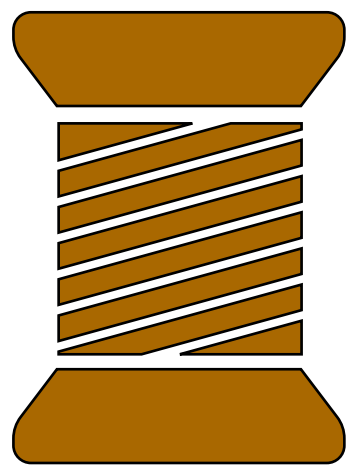




# A day in the life as a merchant

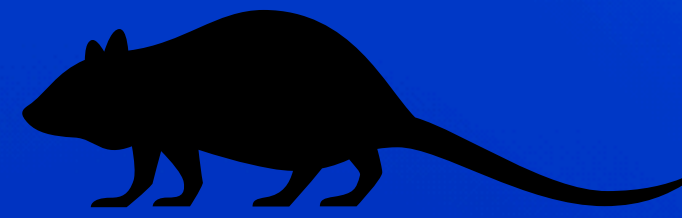
How was it like to be a merchant?

- Your typical day starts at 4am, you'll be preparing your goods to sell at the market which opens at six. There you will stand for the next nine hours hoping to get enough money to buy dinner
- There are many different jobs such as blacksmiths, tailors, wine makers, and don't forget the tax collector
- Time to round up at around three in the afternoon most retail businesses are shutting down for the day. By 8pm the city gates are closed.





# Plague



## What was the plague?

- The plague was caused by lack of sanitation because of the open sewers which attracted rats, they would usually get the plague after being bitten by a rodent that is carrying the plague
- Some thought that the plague was caused by dogs so they would go around, killing them for no reason
- Some thought that the plague was a consequence from God
- Some thought, the reason for the plague, was something to do with the stars, and how they lined up
- Of course none of this was true
- You would usually die 2 to 3 days after getting the plague you would get swollen limbs, headaches, chills, vomiting, and, fevers
- The plague was estimated to kill about 30 to 50% of the population
- It took estimated about 200 years for the world to get their population back to its normal rate



Svetozar Cenisev



Hubiimg



# Punishments and tortures



StarJumper

- The iron maiden
- This was a torture device that you would be put inside. There were large metal spikes that would slowly pierce you. Lastly, it would pierce your heart. They wanted you to have a slow and painful death. Sometimes they would roll the maiden down a hill often into a body of water causing you to drown.
- If you were a peasant and you were accused of a crime, they would often use a trial by water. They would tie your hands and legs behind your back and throw you into a body of water. If you sank you were innocent, and if you floated, you were guilty. They thought you were guilty if you floated because it meant you pronounce baptism and the devil is not letting you enter the body of water. Either way you will die though.
- The iron boot was a torture device used by a set of tightly fit wooden or iron boots problems. Begin, when wooden wedges are inserted between the bills and the victim skin mallets are then used to drive the wedges in causing aberrations lesions, and ultimately the breaking of bones.
- Sources midevil torture, techniques,





# Towns and manor

## What was the difference?

- **Manor**
  - If you were born a peasant, you would die as a peasant
  - No money
  - Land was everything
  - Slaves
  - There was no middle-class
  - The feudal system was important
  - Population around 60 to 100
- **Town**
  - You can make your own money
  - You have more freedom
  - You can go from a peasant to middle class
  - Population was around 1000 people
  - Women can make her own money
- **Similarities**
  - Sewers were dumped on the street, terrible hygiene, church, triangle of power



Flo P



Dimitry Anikin





# Thanks for watching!!

Tim Rebkavets