

HISTORY NOTES FOR 7TH CLASS (FOR ISLAMABAD)

Unit-1

Middle Ages in Europe

1. Choose the Best Option:

i. **Marcus Aurelius reigned from:**

- a. 130 to 150 AD
- b. 161 to 180 AD
- c. 375 to 538 AD

ii. **Middle ages in Europe refers to:**

- a. Renaissance
- b. Feudalism
- c. Dark ages

iii. **Barbarians were mainly:**

- a. Germanic tribes
- b. Mongols
- c. French

iv. **The economy of Byzantine was based on:**

- a. mining b. War
- c. Trade & Agriculture

v. **The Mongols developed:**

- a. Communication network
- b. Domestic laws
- c. Both of the above

Answer:

- (i) (b) 161 to 180 AD
- (ii) (c) Dark ages
- (iii) (a) Germanic Tribe
- (iv) (b) Trade and agriculture
- (v) (a) Communication Network.

2. Define the following:

a. **Feudal system**

b. **Barbarians**

c. **Orthodox church**

Ans:

a. **Feudal system**

Feudalism is a political and economic system based on land ownership and personal loyalty. The feudal system was founded on the principle of rights and obligations in order to govern. The kingdom effectively. Social classes were well defined the system looked like a pyramid in which the king, church, lords and peasants were associated to each other according to their role, power and prestige in the society.

b. **Barbarians**

Barbarians was the term used by the romans to describe people who lived outside of the Empire, Goths, Visigoths, Vandals, Huns and other tribes resided in the empire. These barbarians tribes arrived in Rome from central Asia and settled themselves.

c. **Orthodox church**

Eastern Europe and Russia were introduced to Eastern orthodox Christianity by the Byzantine civilization. The Eastern Orthodox church is the second largest Christian church. Hagia Sophia was built in 537 AD. It is the former Greek orthodox Christian patriarchal cathedral in Constantinople. The church exerted significant influence and control over ordinary people.

3. **Answer the Question in 3-4 lines:**

(i) **Describe the reasons which resulted in 'the rise of' feudalism: in Middle ages?**

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In middle ages feudalism helped in the creation of order in western Europe. It was the need of the day to bring the politically fractured society back together. The rise of feudalism was the direct outcome of political disorder and continued warfare. It arose in Europe after the fall of Roman Empire.

(ii) **Compare the hierarchy of responsibilities between the knights and peasants in feudal system?**

Ans: The feudal system looks like a pyramid in which kings, church, lords and peasants were associated to each other according to their role, power and prestige in society. The comparison between the responsibilities of knights and peasants is as follows:

Responsibilities of knights	Responsibilities of Peasants
1. Knights fight for nobles & king.	1. Peasants worked the land for nobles and knights.
2. Safeguard the weak and poor.	2. They care for their lords animals and other jobs in return for shelter and food.
Mounted horsemen who promised to defend the land of their masters.	

(iii) **How was the Byzantine Empire linked with other parts of the world?**

Ans: The Byzantine empire also called the Eastern Roman Empire existed from 330 AD to 1453 AD. It was the continuation of the Roman Empire in its eastern provinces during the middle ages. Eastern Europe and Russia were introduced to Greco-Roman culture, Greek language and Eastern Orthodox Christianity by Byzantine Civilization. Byzantine empire was also linked with central Asia, Russia, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, Black Sea and Mediterranean sea. Even after the conquest of Arab lands, the empire traded with Persia, Syria, Palestine and Egypt.

(iv) **Differentiate between the authority and power of the Pope & king?**

Ans: The king and pope both enjoyed the supreme position.

King	Pope
1. King owned all the land in the country.	1. The Rome's priest become the most important "Pope" or "Bishop."
2. Made laws.	2. Also called as Church's leader.
3. Gave area of land called fief to lords and nobles.	3. They were incharge of schools, hospitals and tax collection.
4. King's commanded absolute power based on God's will	4. Have significant influence and control over ordinary people.

(v) **What was Justinian Code? In your opinion, why did Justinian feel**

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the necessity for a unified legal Code?

Ans: Justinian code is one of the most notable achievement of Byzantine empire. During the reign of Emperor Justinian I (527 AD-505 AD) The ancient Roman laws were collected and organised to form the Justinian code. The justindian code brought uniformity to the majority of the laws that comprise the modern world's justice system.

In my opinion Justirian felt the necessity for a unified legal code, mainly in order to strengthen the justice system. The scattered and unclear laws were replaced by clear and protected laws. Whatever an empire needed was included in those laws, that still make sense even today.

4. Answer the following Questions in Detail.

(i) Explain the positive and negative impacts of dark ages on Europe. Provide a judgment with your own understanding?

Ans: The term dark ages 500 AD-1000 AD is frequently used interchangeably with Middle Ages. It refers to the time between the fall of the Roman empire and the beginning of the Renaissance. The Dark ages were also characterized by frequent warfare between Barbasians and Mongols.

Significant impact of Dark Ages on Europe:

Despite the fact that there was little scientific and cultural progress during this time period some

significant impacts were well known such as;

(i) Catholic Christianity flourished in western Europe during this time period.

(ii) The Roman empire gradually disintegrated into many smaller political entities or empires. Feudalism remained the dominant political system in Western Europe.

(iii) The most wealthy and powerful members of society created cathedrals, churches, sculpture, painting, textiles, narmscripts, jewellery and ritual items.

(iv) The Byzantine Empire remained a powerful political entity in the East.

Judgment:

In my judgment the Dark Ages had roots in classical heritage of Rome. During this period there was disruption of trade and downfall of cities. Most of the population shifts and visible decline in learning. On the other hand Justinian code emerged. There was rise of Feudalism in Europe. The power of church grew rapidly. The term dark ages appears to imply cultural and economic backwardness after the classical civilization of Greece and Rome but indicates more an ignorance of the period.

(ii) What were the main characteristics of the feudal system?

Ans: Feudalism:

Feudalism is a political and economic system based on land ownership and personal loyalty. It was the need of the day to bring politically fractured society back together.

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Almost everyone lived in a small town and village.

Feudalism helped in the creation of order in western Europe. Feudalism arose in Western Europe after the fall of the Roman empire. The rise of European Feudalism was the direct outcome of political disorder and continued warfare.

Characteristics of Feudalisms:

Political: The king commanded absolute power based on God's will. The catholic church hold considerable power in government affairs. The king, church, lords, and peasants were associated to each other according to their role, power and prestige in the society. The king and pope enjoyed supreme positions.

Economic: People had specific jobs that they had to do for their entire lives. For example knights were mounted horsemen who promised to defend the lands of their masters in exchange for fiefs. Landless peasants worked in the fields. Although the roman church was one of the main unifying features in Medieval times. However due to the lack of knowledge about the laws of nature, many people were led to irrational beliefs.

Social: The feudal pyramid was a social structure of a hierarchical nature. Some individuals were more important than others. Social classes were well defined. The feudal system was founded on the principle of rights and obligations in order to govern the kingdom effectively. The king gave fief to lords and nobles and in return they agreed to supply the king with

soldiers and horses for his army. The nobles gave some land to professional soldiers called bright. In return these knights fought for robles and the king. Peasants worked the land for the nobles and brights who in turn offered them protection.

(iii) Analyse the effects of the fall or Roman Empire?

The Byzantine empire also called the Eastern Roman empire existed from 330 AD to 1453 AD. The Byzantine empire was the continuation of the Roman Empire in its eastern provinces during the middle ages. No single event brought the Roman empire to an end. Natural disasters and powerful enemies such as the Arabs, Seljuk Turks and Ottoman Turks, all contributed to the empire's demise. Most importantly the Byzantine empire's incessant civil wars destroyed a highly efficient military system, a sizable population, trade, network and economy. While the empire was declining, civil wars hastened its demise. With the fall of Constantinople, the Russian empire became the centre of eastern European society and orthodox Christianity. The fall of Constantinople in 1453 is considered to be the end of Byzantine empire. This war, the year when Ottoman sultan Mehmet Faith conquered the ancient city of Constantinople. The city was renamed as Istambul which became Istanbul in the later years.

"Dark Ages", is the time between the fall of Roman Empire and the beginning of the Renaissance. The dark ages were also characterized by

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frequent warfare between Barbarians and Mongols.

Significant Impact of Dark Ages:

Despite the fact that this was little scientific and cultural progress during this time period, some significant impacts were well known such as;

i) Catholic Christianity flourished in western Europe during this time period.

(ii) The Roman empire gradually disintegrated into many smaller political entities or empires. Feudalism remained the dominant political system in Western Europe.

(iii) The most wealthy and powerful members of society created cathedrals, churches, sculpture, painting, textiles, manuscripts, jewellery and ritual items.

(iv) The Byzantine empire remained a powerful political entity in the East.

(iv) Evaluate the impacts of Mongol invasion on Europe?

Ans: The Mongols were a monadic warring people from central Asia. The Mongol era is the best known for its overwhelming military power. Genghis Khan had conquered much of central Asia by 1127 AD. His grandson Halako Khan attacked Baghdad and destroyed the Abbassid caliphate.

The Mongols divided the regions into four groups known as khanates in 1260. This facilitated them to efficiently govern the vast territory of the empire. Until 1294, the Mongols ruled the world's largest unified empire.

Impacts of Mongols Invasions on Europe:

After establishing their rule, The Mongols allowed the people to retain their local institutions and cultures. The catholic church of Western Europe Maintained control of their territory. The Mongol network greatly facilitated travel and communication between Asia and Europe. During the Mongol ear, travellers such as Marco Polo brought back information about china and provided access to Chinese technologies such as coal for energy, money, printing and explosive powder, astronomy, medicine and mathematics. Also, sea explorers for instance, Christopher Columbus discovered India's riches. The tax system was established by the Mongols, Banking and Insurance practices spread from Eurasia to Europe, resulting in economic stability in these parts of the world. However, the faster inter-regional contact during the Mongol period created a serious problem. During this time, the Black Death or plague began in China and quickly spread to the Middle East and Europe. The plague killed one-quarter to one-third of the population of Western Europe and the Middle East.

According to the historical records, Mongol or khan dynasty ended in 1368. The Mongol empire ceased to expand and began to decline after the death of Kublai Khan. The succession issue, internal disputes, lack of leadership and widespread corruption, contributed to the downfall of Mongol Empire. In the end, the khanates were defeated by external

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enemies and disintegrated. None the less, the Mongol empire, particularly in terms of technology exchange, had continued to have an impact on the world.

(v) Why were knights so important for the feudal Kingdoms?

Ans: Knights were of great importance for the feudal kingdoms. Knights were mounted horsemen who promised to defend the land of their masters in exchange for fiefs.

By 11th century, western Europe had become a battleground of feuding nobility seeking for dominance. Feudal lords raised private armies of knights or cavalry to defend their lands. The code of chivalry, a complicated set of beliefs, required a knight to battle bravely in defence of his master. The weak and poor were likewise safeguarded by the gallant knight. The knights maintained the rule of law and made it safe to travel on roads.

Connect to Today:

Essay:

Society and Social structures of Pakistan Society is the total complex of human relationships in so far as they grow out of the action in terms of means-end relationship. Infact it is a collection of individuals united by certain relations or mode of behavior which mark them off from others, who do not enter into these relations or who differ from them in behavior. In a society, group of people lives and works together and shares something in common to meet their goals which includes self-maintenance and self realization which

means to follow rules and regulations and enjoy their rights to progress in their lives and become moral.

Social Structure is the ability for a group of humans living together and co-existing are all a part of the societal structure. We all wouldn't be able to operate if we didn't have some type of structure or norms to abide by. Social structure is simply a system of socio-economic satisfaction, institutions and social groups.

Pakistani society is largely multilingual and 96% Muslim, with high regard for traditional family values, although urban families have grown into a nuclear family system due to the socio-economic constraints imposed by the traditional joint family system. Recent decades have seen the emergence of a middle class in cities like Karachi, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Hyderabad, Faisalabad and Peshawar that wish to move in a more liberal direction, as opposed to the northwestern regions bordering Afghanistan that remain highly conservative and dominated by centuries old regional tribal customs. Some of the important elements of social structure in Pakistan are as follows:

- (i) Values
- (ii) Groups and institutions
- (iii) Organization
- (iv) Collectivities
- (v) Roles
- (vi) Norms

Societal values give the concept of what the ideal society itself would be like. Individuals are found to be emotionally committed to values.

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Social structure includes social groups like, family, economic institutions, political institutions and religious institutions. The total organized life of a locality is the most inclusive grouping in the social structure. There are also the enduring phenomena of social classes, the ethnic or racial in group and the temporary grouping of crowd.

The social structure of Pakistan has many challenging issues like poverty, employment, crime, low status of women, child marriage and gender inequality. They are, if solved, can make life more comfortable and society may become more productive in some manner. The foremost reason for this is the lack of political and economic stability in Pakistan and the culture social chaos that democracy as a culture and institution has failed to flourish and evolve in the country.

Glossary

- Roman law:** It is the legal system of ancient Rome and forms the basic framework/structure for civil law in the western world.
- Chipping away:** to break off into small parts
- Codify:** to organize, collate
- Patriarch:** the leader of the church in Constantinople was called patriarch
- Kublai Khan:** Born in Mongolia in 1215, Kublai Khan rose to power in 1260 and became ruler of the vast Mongolian Empire. His grandfather was Genghis

Khan.

Truce: an agreement between opponents to stop fighting for a certain time

Subjugate: make someone or something under control

Papacy: Authority or office of the Pope

Clergy: religious leaders whose job is to serve the needs of their religion and its members

Pope: The Bishop of Rome and the leader of the worldwide Catholic Church

Add more words and their meanings which you find difficult in this unit.

Words	Meaning
infringed	Violation of laws
bandits	Robber/raider
disintegrated	Breakdown/dissolution
