

Europe 200-1500

The Fall of the Roman Empire (Early Civilization)

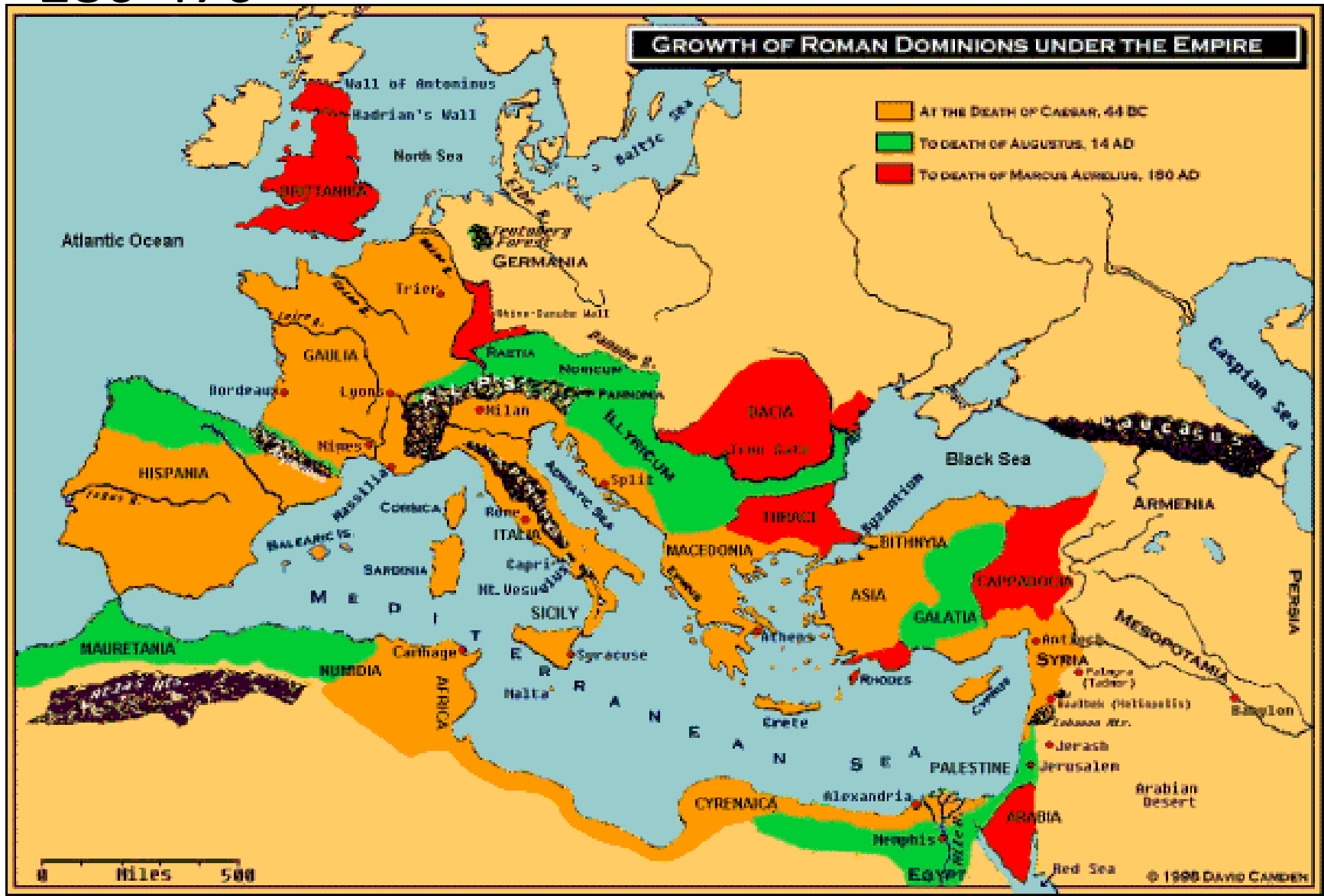
The Middle Ages

The Renaissance (Modern Civilization)



The Roman Empire

- 286-476



Rome

- Expanded and took over all of Europe, North Africa, and some of the Middle East
- Peaceful
- Christianity is adopted by Rome (Constantine)
- Edict of Milan: Official tolerance of Christianity
- Theodosius the Great (378-395) adopted Christianity as official religion of Roman Empire



Decline of the Roman Empire

- **The decline of the Roman Empire** refers to both the gradual disintegration of the economy of Rome and the barbarian invasions that were its final doom.
- This slow decline occurred over an estimated period of 320 years which many historians believe finally culminated in 476AD when Romulus Augustus, the last Emperor of the Western Roman Empire was deposed by Odoacer, a Germanic chieftain.

Some other notable dates (and possible reasons for the decline of the Roman Empire) are:

The Battle of Adrianople in 378

The death of Theodosius I in 395 (the last time the Roman Empire was politically unified)

The crossing of the Rhine in 406 by Germanic tribes after the withdrawal of the troops in order to defend Italy against Alaric I (such invasions had occurred many times previously but this time it was successful), followed by the disintegration of the western army

The Sack of Rome (410), the first time in almost 800 years that the city of Rome had fallen to a foreign enemy

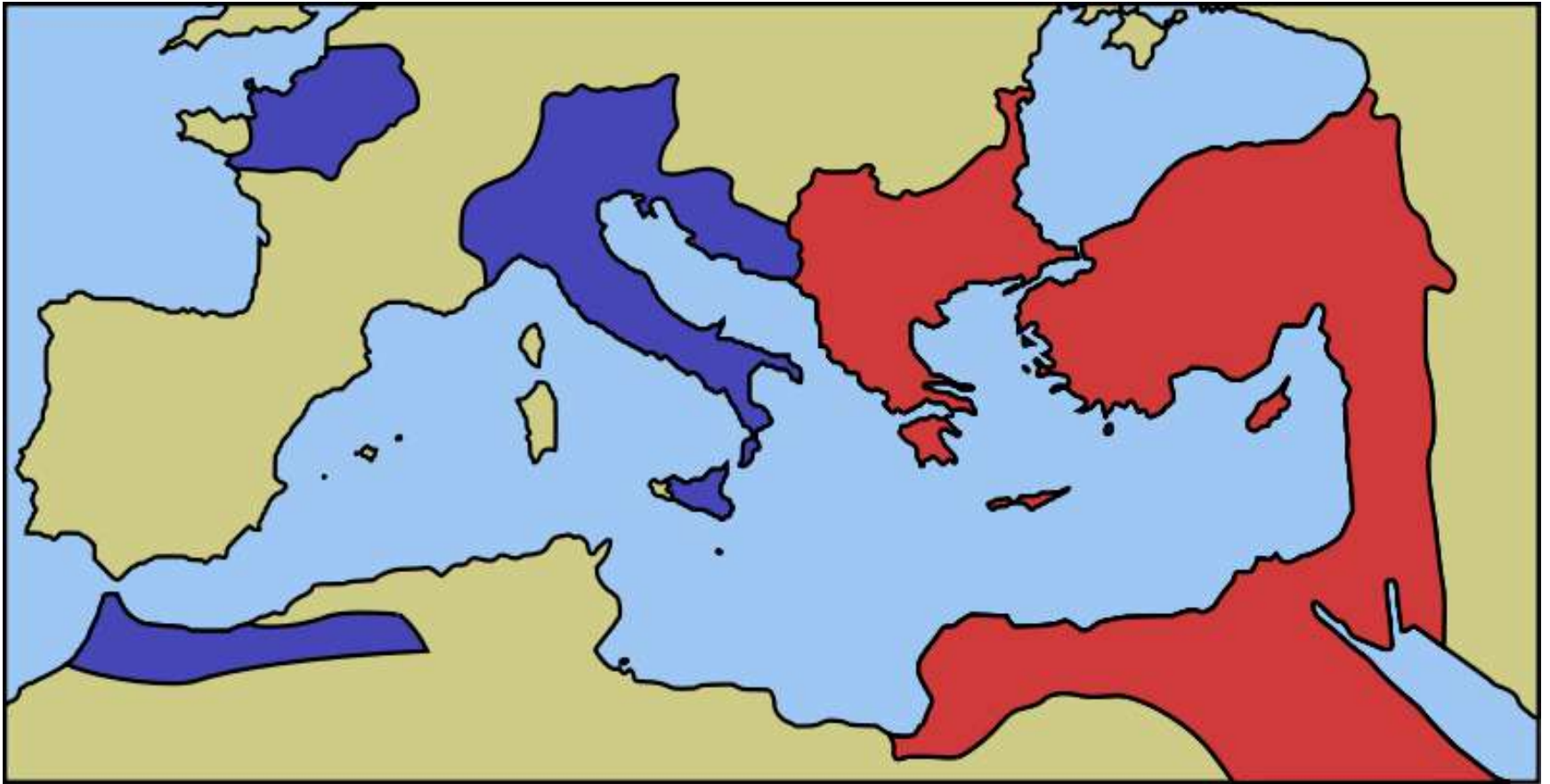
The death of Justinian I, the last Roman Emperor who tried to re-conquer the west, in 565, and the coming of Islam after 632

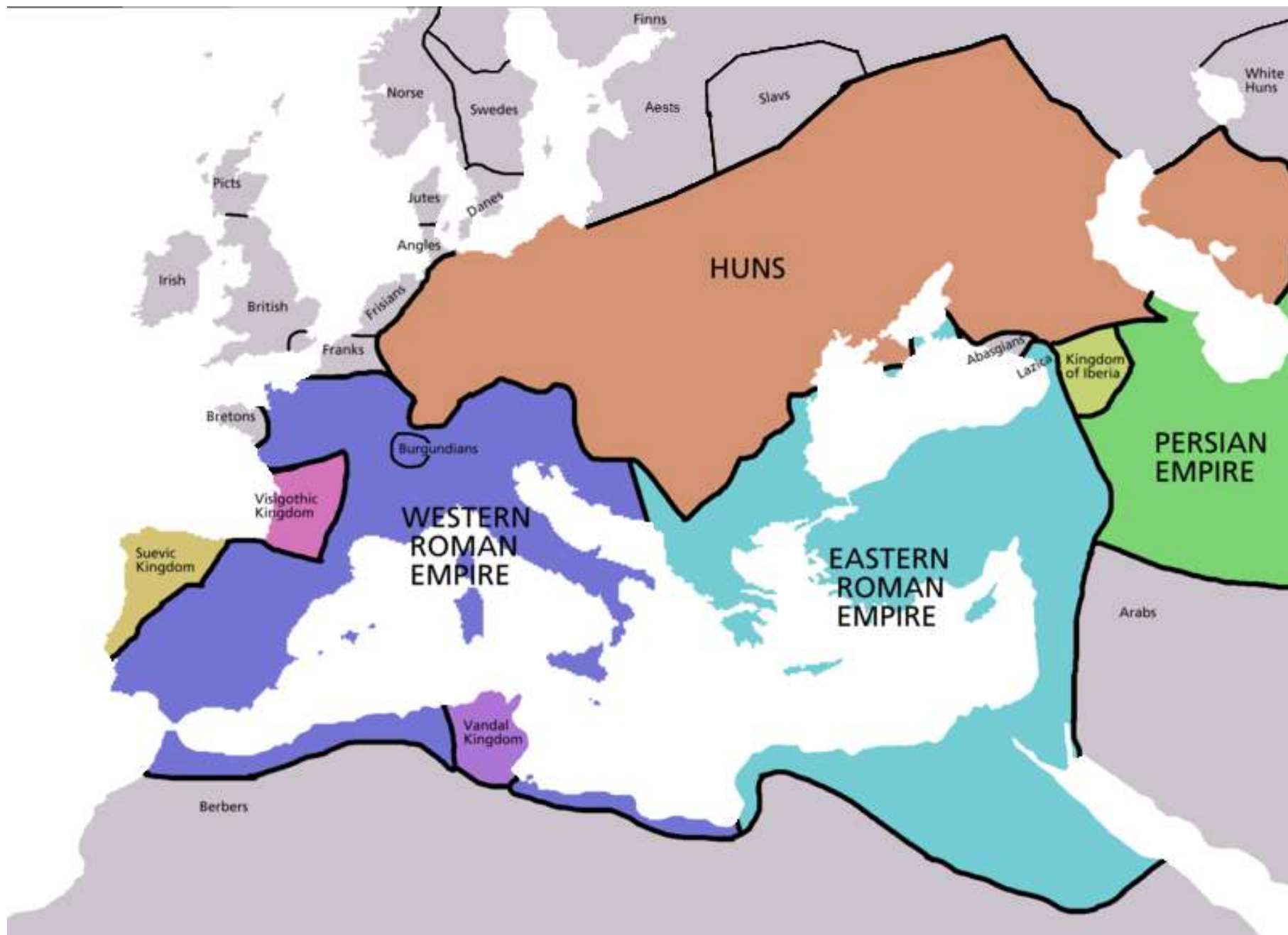
Many scholars maintain that rather than a "fall", the changes can more accurately be described as a **complex transformation**. Over time many theories have been proposed on why the Empire fell, or whether indeed it fell at all.

476AD

Blue=Roman Empire

Red=Byzantine Empire





End of the Roman Empire...Middle Ages

- The decline of the Roman Empire is one of the events traditionally marking the end of Classical Antiquity and the beginning of the European Middle Ages.
- The Western Roman Empire - not the Eastern Empire - fell because the West, including Italy and the city of Rome itself, had been demoted to the periphery. The East had been promoted to the **core of the Empire**. This occurred on May 11, 330, with the transfer of the capital of the Roman Empire from Rome to Constantinople, by Constantine I.
- This happened because *Greek-speaking Christians* - after decades of persecution - took over the Roman Empire.

Middle Ages
476-1350

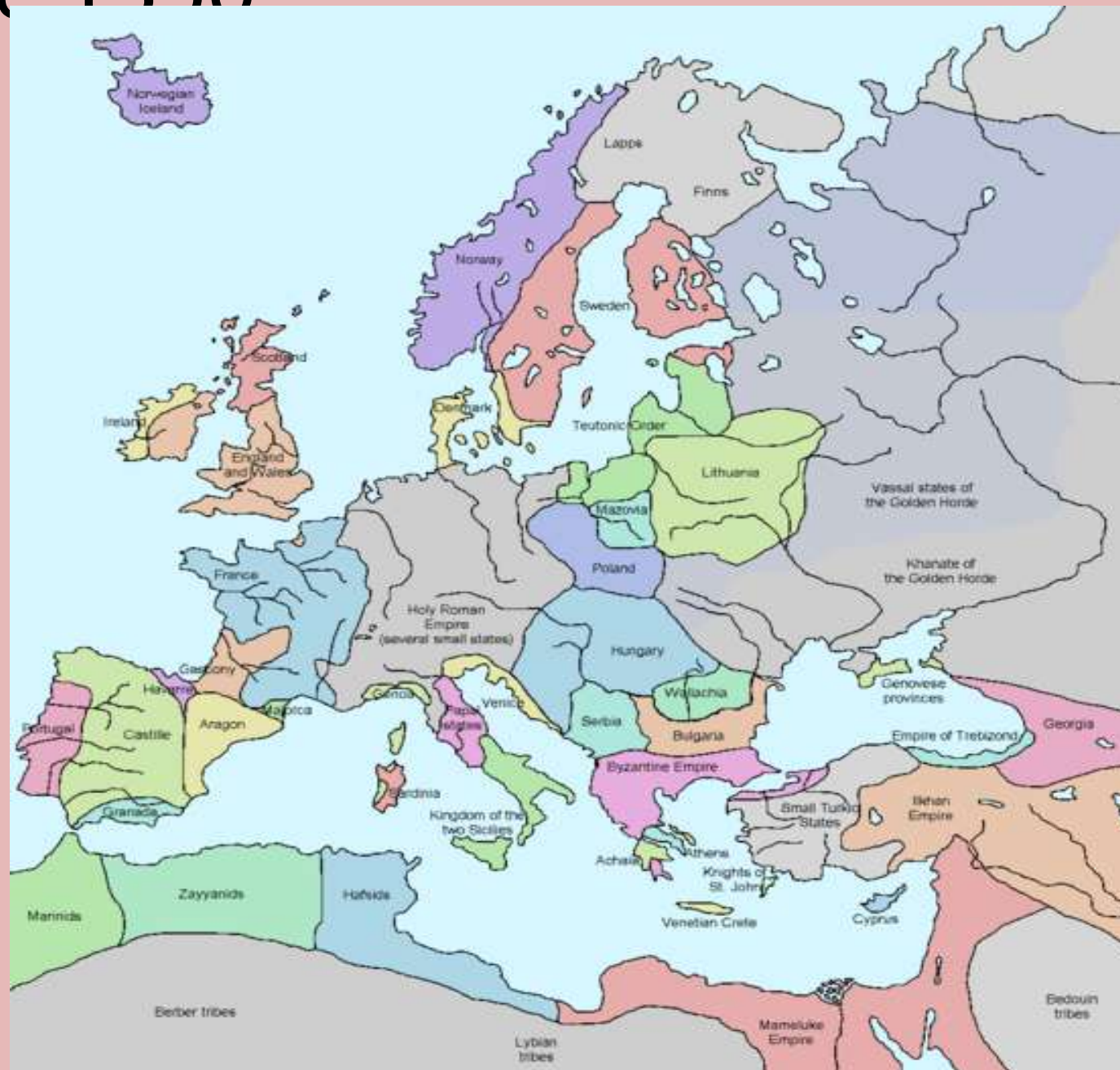


The Middle Ages are so called as the middle period **BETWEEN** the decline of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance.

The early Middle Ages are often referred to as the Dark Ages or Medieval era.



Europe 1350



Middle Ages

The Middle Ages was the middle period in a schematic division of European history into three 'ages': Classical civilization, the Middle Ages, and Modern Civilization.

It is commonly considered as having lasted from the end of the Western Roman Empire (5th century) until:

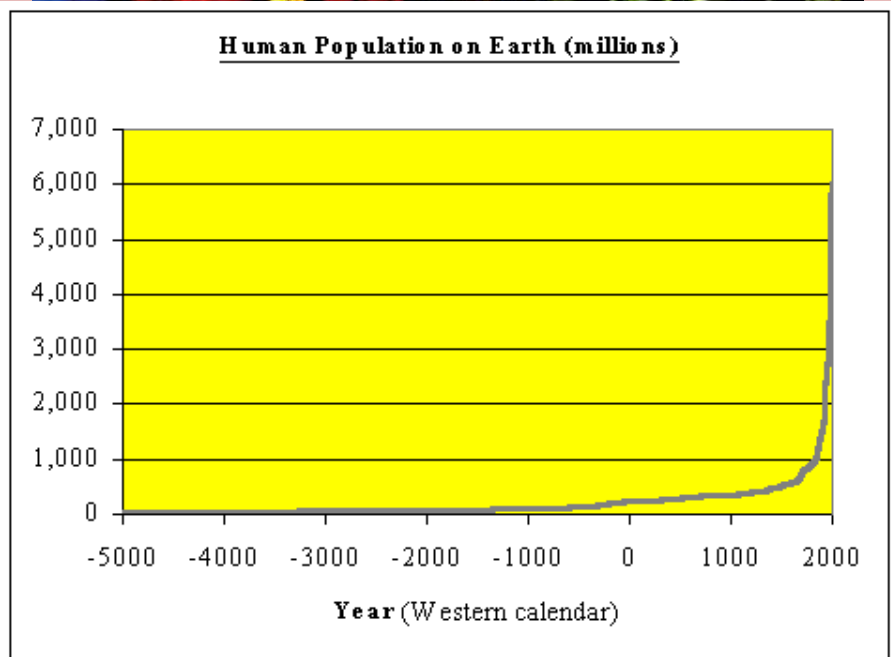
- *the rise of national monarchies,
- *the beginnings of demographic and economic renewal after the Black Death,
- *European overseas exploration , AND
- *the cultural revival known as the Renaissance around the **15th century**

High Middle Ages

Characterized by the urbanization of Europe, military expansion, and intellectual revival

This revival was aided by the conversion of the raiding Scandinavians and Magyars to Christianity

The High Middle Ages saw an explosion in population.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Rise of the Catholic Church
- Monasteries, Missionaries
- Crusades
- Feudalism and the Feudal contract
- Charlemagne, Holy Roman Empire
- Knights, Lords, Manor, Vassals, Chivalry
- The Great Schism
- Norman Conquest
- Magna Carta
- Pope (Domination of the Catholic Church)
- 100 Years War/Joan of Arc
- The Black Death/Bubonic Plague
- The Inquisition (heresy)



King



Appointed for protection and to handle territory.

Lords



Appointed to protect both the lord and king

Knights



Appointed to work the land

Serfs

Renaissance

- Renaissance marks “modern” civilization
- Rebirth of classical ideas (back to BEFORE Middle Ages)
- Renaissance that began in Italy (city-states of Venice, Milan, Florence) and spread to the rest of Europe
- The historical development of early civilization and the Middle Ages LED to the Renaissance...

