

Chapter 13 Section 2 Notes

I. New Invasions Trouble Western Europe

A. Vikings

1. Sailed from Scandinavia
2. Also called Northmen or Norsemen
3. Great sailors long ships carried 300 soldiers
4. Leif Ericson reached North America around 1000
5. Worshiped warlike gods

B. Magyars

1. From the Balkans or Eastern Europe
2. Captured people to sell as slaves
3. Invaded Europe around 800

C. Muslims

1. From North Africa and the Middle East
2. Attacked Spain and islands in the Mediterranean Sea in the 6 and 700s
3. By the 800 and 900s their goal was plunder

II. Feudalism Structures Society

A. In 911 Rollo head of the Vikings signs a peace treaty with Charles the Simple, King of France

1. The Vikings would receive the land in the north called Normandy if they would accept Christianity

B. A New Social Order

1. Feudalism

- a. A system of government based on land ownership and personal service

2. Lords:

- a. Owned the land
- b. Provided basic needs
 1. Food
 2. Protection
 3. Shelter
- c. Land granted to someone by a lord was called a fief
- d. People that received the land were called vassals

3. The Feudal Pyramid

- a. King
- b. Nobles
- c. Church Officials
- d. Knights
 1. Mounted warriors
 2. Followed the code of Chivalry
- e. Peasants
- f. Serfs
 1. People bound to the land

III. Manors: The Economic Side of Feudalism

A. Manorialism

1. The economic system of the Middle Ages
2. Arrangement between the lords and the peasants

B. Self-Contained World

1. Peasants rarely traveled 25 miles from the manor
2. The manor was only a few square miles
3. Generally 15 to 30 families lived on a manor

C. Harshness of Manor life

1. Peasants paid tax on most everything
2. Weddings could only take place with the lord's consent
3. Lived in one room homes with their animals
4. Dirt floors
5. Paid a tithe or tax to the Church
6. William Langland writes the book *Piers Plowman* in 1362 about the harsh life of peasants