



# Age of Exchange and Encounter (Part 2)

500-1500

# European Middle Ages

**Middle Ages**- era of European history after the fall of the Roman Empire

- New culture emerges with roots in:
  - Classical heritage of Rome
  - Beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church
  - Customs of various Germanic tribes



## Economic System: Manors

Lord's estate

Set of rights and obligations  
between serfs and lords

Self-sufficient community  
producing a variety of goods

## Code of Behavior: Chivalry

Displays of courage and valor in  
combat

Respect toward women

Devotion to feudal lord and  
heavenly lord

### Medieval Society

## Belief System: The Church

Power over people's everyday lives

Unifying force of Christian faith

Involvement in political affairs

## Political System: Feudalism

Form of government based on  
landholding

Alliances between lords and vassals

Oaths of loyalty in exchange for land  
and military service

Ranking of power and authority

# Charlemagne

Built an empire  
greater than any  
known since ancient  
Rome

Defeated Muslims in  
Spain

Spread Christianity

Crowned emperor  
by the Pope





# Holy Roman Empire

- Founded by Otto the Great
- Remained the strongest state in Europe until 1100



# Europe in the Middle Ages

## Economics:

- Better farming methods increased food production
- Trade expanded
- Guilds formed for both merchants and artisans

## Politics/Government:

- England and France developed strong central governments
- **Parliament** and the **Estates-General** bring representation to commoners
  - **Parliament**- Legislative group in England
    - **Magna Carta**- Guarantees basic political rights
  - **Estates-General**- Meeting of the three estates in France, helped increase royal power against nobility
- The Hundred Years' War further weakened feudal power



# Europe in the Middle Ages

## Religion:

- Kings and popes engaged in power struggles
- **The Great Schism** weakened the Church
  - Split in the Catholic Church- 2 Popes
- The First Crusade captured Jerusalem
- Later Crusades accomplished little

## Society:

- Population increases in the Middle Ages
- The bubonic plague killed millions and weakened the manorial economy
- Europe's first universities developed

# Societies and Empires in Africa

Society/Empire	Organization and Time Period	Important Facts
Ghana	West African empire from 700s- 1076	Grew wealthy and powerful by controlling gold-salt trade
Mali	West African empire from 1235-1400s	Mansa Musa's hajj (pilgrimage) made Mali's wealth famous
Songhai	West African empire from 1400s- 1500s	Conquered Mali and gained control of trade routes



# Major Trade Networks

Route	Trading Partners	Trade Goods	Method of Transportation
Trans-Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sassanid Empire</li><li>• Arabia</li><li>• Byzantine Empire</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• East Asia: silk, gems, dyes, cotton cloth</li><li>• Arabia: Incense, spices</li><li>• Southwest Asia: Wool, gold, silver</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Camel Caravans</li></ul>
Silk Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• China</li><li>• India</li><li>• Persia and Central Asia</li><li>• Europe</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asia: Silk, porcelain, spices, precious woods, gems</li><li>• Europe: Wool cloth, gold, silver</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Caravans of camels and other pack animals</li></ul>

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Mediterranean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Europe</li><li>• North Africa</li><li>• Southwest Asia</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Europe: Wool and linen cloth, wine, metal</li><li>• North Africa: Wool</li><li>• Asia: spices, fruit, cloth</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sea: Galleys with numerous rowers</li><li>• Land: Caravans of pack animals</li></ul>
Trans-Sahara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Africa</li><li>• West Africa</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Africa: Cloth, salt, horses, guns</li><li>• West Africa: Gold, dyed cloth, leather goods, slaves</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Camel caravans</li></ul>



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Indian Ocean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• China</li><li>• India</li><li>• Arabia</li><li>• East Africa</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asia: Porcelain, silk, jewelry, cotton</li><li>• East Africa: Ivory, gold, tortoiseshell, leopard skins, slaves</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arab dhows</li><li>• Chinese junks</li></ul>