

Chapter 14.2 – Changes in Medieval Society

1. Setting the Stage

- a. Between 1000 and 1300, agriculture, trade, and finance made significant advances
- b. Population growth led to growing towns and cities
- c. Cultural interaction from the Muslim and Byzantine empires led to an increase in learning

2. A growth of Food Supply – 1st major change

- a. Between 800 and 1200 Europe had a _____ which helped people _____ land that was once _____, this produced more food and helped support the increase in population

b. Switch to Horsepower

- i. For hundreds of years, peasants had depended on _____ to pull their plows
 1. _____ were cheaper to keep but didn't move as fast
- ii. Sometime before 900, European farmers started using a _____ that fitted across the _____, enabling it to _____
 1. _____ could plow a field 3 times faster and they soon replaced _____

c. The Three-field System

- i. Around 800, some villagers started to organize their lands into _____ rather than _____
 1. _____ – farmers could grow crops on _____ while _____ (resting) for the year
 - a. This increased _____, people had more food to eat, especially children who could resist disease better
 - b. These factors helped the European population to grow dramatically

How did farmers take advantage of the warming climate during the Middle Ages?

3. The Guilds – 2nd major change

- a. Guild – an organization of individuals in the same _____ working to improve the _____ conditions of its members
 - i. _____ banded together to control the number of goods being trading to keep prices high and to provide security in trading and reduce losses
 - ii. Skilled artisans (wheelwrights, glassmakers, winemakers, tailors, and druggists) began to craft guilds
 1. These guilds set up standards for size and weight and also created plans for supervising training for labor

2. Guilds became _____ and their _____ helped them established influence over _____ and the _____ of towns and cities

4. The Commercial Revolution – 3rd major change

- a. Commercial Revolution – an _____ due to an increased availability of _____ and new ways of doing _____

b. Fairs and Trade

- i. Most trade took place in towns as peasants from nearby manors would come with their goods to trade of fair day

1. Local people could buy all the needs of daily life _____
_____ not needed

- ii. More foreign goods became available

1. _____ stretched from Europe to Asia due to the _____

c. Business and Banking

- i. As traders moved from fair to fair, they needed large amounts of cash or credits and ways to exchange many types of currencies

1. _____ were set up between different coinage systems

2. _____ – a letter issued by bank allowing the bearer to withdraw a certain amount of money from its bank or a branch

- a. This helped to eliminate the need to carry large amounts of cash

- ii. As merchants looked for new markets and opportunities to make profit they had to first purchase goods from afar

1. To do so merchants had to borrow money but the Church forbid Christians from lending money at interest, a sin called _____

- a. This led to many Jews opening banks to lend money to merchants

2. Over time the Church relaxed its rule of usury and Christians entered the banking world and it became an important business, especially in Italy

d. Social Changes

- i. The changes brought about by the Commercial Revolution had a major effect on the lives of Europeans

1. The 2 most important changes involved were 1. what people did to _____
and 2. where _____ and as towns attracted workers,

Why do you think trade fairs were held in towns?

5. Urban Life Flourishes – 4th major change

a. Between 1000 and 1050 the population of western Europe rose from around 30 million to 42 million

b. Trade and Towns Grow Together

i. As trade increased, new towns sprung up at ports and crossroads, on hilltops and along rivers – these towns began to grow throughout Europe

1. These crowded towns were very dirty as there were no sewers so people just dumped their garbage on the street

2. Even with all the filth people came to the towns and cities because of _____ opportunities they offered

ii. More and more people illegally left their _____ to find a new life in a _____

1. Serfs could become free if they living in a town for a year and a day

c. Merchant Class Shifts the Social Order

i. Merchants and craftspeople did not fit the traditional medieval social order of noble, clergy, and peasants

ii. At first, towns came under the authority of feudal lords who used their power to levy fees, taxes, rents

1. Burghers – _____ resented this interference in their trade and commerce

a. demanded certain privileges like freedom from certain kinds of tolls and the right to govern the town

b. over time they fought against their landlords and won these rights by force

In what ways were towns such an important force for change?

6. The Revival of Learning – 5th major change

a. During the Crusades, European contact with _____ brought about a new interest in _____ – works of _____ philosophy

i. Muslim and Byzantine libraries housed copies of works that were lost following the fall of Rome and the invasion of western Europe

b. The Muslim Connection

i. In the 1100s, Christian scholars started to visit _____ in Spain

1. All at once, Europeans acquired a _____ – science, philosophy, law, mathematics, and other fields

2. Crusaders also brought back superior _____ in ships, navigation, and weapons

c. Scholars and the University

- i. _____ – a new institute at the center of growth of learning in Europe
 1. Originally the word meant a group of scholars meeting not buildings
 2. Most students were sons of burghers or well-to-do artists whose main goal was a job in government or the Church
- ii. New _____ of expression began to flow out of universities
 1. During a time when most serious scholars and writers used Latin, a group of gifted poets began using a lively _____
 - a. _____ – everyday language of their homeland
 - b. Famous works that are still popular today
 - i. Dante Alighieri – *The Divine Comedy* – Italian
 - ii. Geoffrey Chaucer – *The Canterbury Tales* – English
 - iii. Christine de Pisan – *The Book of The City of Ladies* – French
 - c. Because most people couldn't read Latin the vernacular brought literature to many people

d. Aquinas and Medieval Philosophy

- i. Christian Scholars were excited by the ideas of Greek philosophies but wondered if they could use Aristotle's logical approach to truth and keep faith with the Bible
- ii. Thomas Aquinas – mid-1200s he argued that the most _____ could be proven by _____
 1. Between 1267 and 1273 he wrote _____
 - a. Influenced by Aristotle, he combined _____ with the _____ of his time
 - b. _____ – the name for Aquinas and his fellow scholars who met at the great universities