

“No proper police force existed before the 16th century. It was the responsibility of the victim and local community to find the criminal themselves. It was expected that communities would be responsible for policing and combatting crime.

They did this by:

- Raising the **hue and cry** - basically, calling on fellow villagers to chase the criminal. If villagers failed to join then the village could be fined.
- **Tithings** - adult men were put into groups of ten. If one member of the ten broke the law, it was the responsibility of the others to catch the culprit and take him to court.”

‘Enforcing Law and Order’ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/>



Illustration of a High Sheriff, a position appointed by the king and responsible for tax collection and law and order.

Source taken from <https://lordlieutenantofcornwall.org.uk/history-of-the-high-sheriff/>



Hundred Years War between France and England 1339-1453, from the Chronicles of England by Jean de Wavrin circa 1400-1500. Source taken from

<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/hundred-years-war-between-france-and-england-1339-1453-siege-of-ribodane>



Lancaster Rose



York Rose



Tudor Rose

shutterstock.com · 97975205

The Wars of the Roses was fought 1455-1487 and 107,000 people, from nobility to peasantry are believed to have died.

Image from

<https://www.shutterstock.com/search/lancashire-rose>



Unknown artist, 15th century painting, source from <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/>

All fruit and vegetables were cooked – it was believed that raw fruit and vegetables caused disease. Most people ate preserved foods that had been salted or pickled. The poor often kept pigs...and peasants tended to keep cows, so their diets consisted largely of dairy produce.

'The Medieval Diet' by Alixe Bovey, 2015, source from <https://www.bl.uk/the-middle-ages/articles/the-medieval-diet#authorBlock1>

Famines were regular occurrences in medieval Europe and the average life expectancy was around 30 years old in the 13th century.

The Great Famine, source from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Famine_of_1315%E2%80%931317

Course 1

- A quarter of stag which had been a night in salt.
- A stuffed chicken.
- A loin of veal.

Course 2

- Dishes covered in sauce, plums and pomegranate seeds.
- 2 enormous pies. Each pie contains: a whole roe deer, a gosling, 3 capons, 6 chickens, 10 pigeons,

1 rabbit; stuffing made from minced loin of veal, 2 pounds of fat, 26 hard boiled eggs covered with saffron and flavoured with cloves.

Course 3, 4 & 5

- A roe deer, a pig, a sturgeon cooked in parsley and vinegar and covered with powdered ginger.
- A kid goat, 2 goslings, 12 chickens, 2 herons, 4 chickens all covered with egg yolks and sprinkled with spice.

- A wild boar.
- Cream covered with fennel seeds and preserved in sugar.
- A white cream, cheese in slices and strawberries.
- Plums stewed in rose-water.

Course 6

- Wines in fashion at the time.
- Preserves consisting of fruits and sweet pastries.

Source from Twinkl <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources>



An image from the Shaftesbury Psalter, 12 century, showing a kneeling woman below Jesus Christ. Christ holds an open book and the orb of the world. Source from <https://www.bl.uk/collections-items>



An image from the Winchester Psalter, 12th century, showing hell. Paintings like this were very common during medieval times, both in religious books and in churches. Source from <https://www.bl.uk/collections-items>

“Going to church [then]... was a bit like going to a football match today- people came to watch as supporters, not to join in.”

Written on the website Re:quest, 2022
<https://request.org.uk/>

“The vicar was away for 6 weeks and made no arrangements for a substitute. The priest spends his time in taverns(pubs)... He cannot read or write and so cannot look after his parishioners souls.”

Evidence taken from parishioners (people who go to church) by the Bishop of Hereford, 1397.

The lives of the people...revolved around the Church. People, especially women, were known to attend church three to five times daily for prayer and at least once a week for services.

Written by Joshua Mark, 2017 on <https://www.worldhistory.org/Medieval>



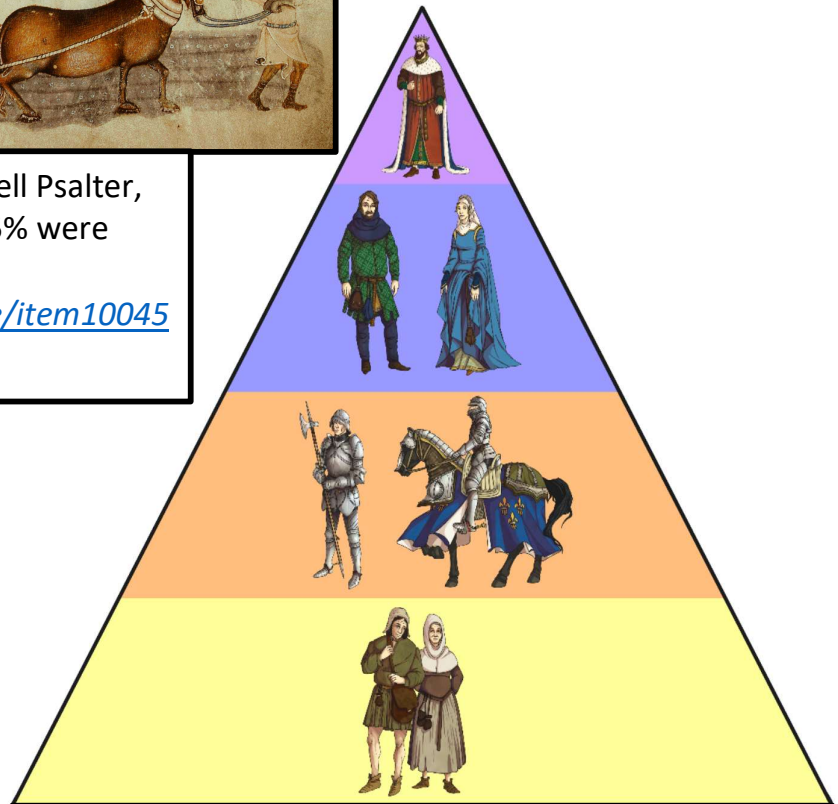
From the medieval manuscript Luttrell Psalter, showing a peasant and a knight. "85% were peasants." Source from

<https://www.bl.uk/learning/timeline/item100453.html>

"It is the custom in England, as with other countries, for the nobility to have great power over the common people, who are serfs. This means that they are bound by law and custom to plough the fields of their masters, harvest the corn, gather it into barns, and thresh and winnow the grain; they must also mow and narrow home the hay, cut and collect wood, and perform all manner of tasks of this kind."

Jean Froissart, 1395, source from

<https://historylearning.com/medieval-england/lives-of-medieval-peasants/>



A modern illustration of the medieval Feudal System, showing the most and least important people in society, source from Twinkl

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/the-feudal-system-display-poster-t2-h-5802>.



A 14th century illuminated manuscript showing a knight promising to be loyal to his king. Source from

<https://www.bl.uk/collections-items>

“so much dung and filth of the garbage and entrails [animal’s internal organs] be (are) cast and put into ditches, rivers, and other waters... that the air there is grown greatly corrupt and infected, and many maladies and other intolerable diseases do daily happen...”

Part of a law passed by parliament after the Black Death in England (1348-1350) which killed nearly 40% of the entire population.



Knight bathing after a fight, from the Manesse Codex, c. 1300. Source from <https://www.thevintagenews.com/2018/08/27/bathing-middle-ages/?chrome=1>



A 14th century engraving showing the Black Death (1348-1349). Source from <https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/The-Black-Death/>

“Public toilets were emptied into rivers which became breeding grounds for disease. People used water from rivers to cook and clean.”

‘Developments in Public Health and Welfare’
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z9924qt/revision/1>