NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 11th



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Class : 11th

Subject : History

Chapter : 6

Chapter Name : The Three Orders

Q1 Describe two features of early feudal society in France.

Answer. The two features of early feudal society in France were :

→ The agricultural production was based on the relationship between lords and peasants.

→ The peasants cultivated their own lands as well as the lands of the lords. They also performed labour services for the lords, who in exchange provided military protection.

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Q2 How did long-term changes in population levels affect economy and society in Europe?

Answer. Expansion in agriculture was accompanied by growth in three related areas : population, trade and towns. From roughly 42 million in 1000, Europe's population stood at 62 million around 1200 and 73 million in 1300. Better food meant a longer lifespan. Better food meant a longer lifespan.

As agriculture increased and became able to sustain higher levels, towns began to grow again. Peasants who had surplus food grains sold them in markets.

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Q3 Why did Knights become a distinct group, and when did they decline?

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Answer. There were frequent local wars in Europe in the ninth century. The amateur peasant-soldiers were not sufficient so good cavalry was needed. Thus led to the growing importance of a new section of people - the Knights. To keep up their skills Knights spent time each day fencing and practicing tactics with dummies.They started declining when the feudal order started declining.

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Q4 What was the function of medieval monasteries?

Answer. The functions of medieval monasteries were :

→ It taught people to give up luxuries and take up simple living and live isolated lives.

→ It taught them to spend time in prayer, study and manual labour like farming.

→ They contributed to the development of the arts.

→ Some monks chose to move from place to place preaching to the people and living on charity.

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Q5 Imagine and describe a day in the life of a craftsman in a medieval French town.

Answer. In France, by the twelfth century, commerce and crafts began to grow. Earlier, craftsmen used to travel from manor to manor ; now they found it easier to settle in one place where goods could be produced and traded for food.

Each craft or industry was organised into a guild, an association which controlled the quality of product, its price and its sale.

The 'guild-hall' was a feature of every town. It was a building for ceremonial functions and where the head of all guilds met formally.

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Q6 Compare the conditions of life for a French serf and a Roman slave.

Answer. Life of French Serf : Serfs cultivated plots of lands, but these belonged to the lords. Much of the produce from this had to be given to the lord. They also had to work on the land which belonged exclusively to the lord. They received no wages and could not leave the estate without the lord's permission. The lord claimed a number of monopolies at the expense of his serfs. Serfs could use only their lord's mill to grind their flour, his oven to bake their bread, and his wine-presses to distill their wine and beer. The lord could decide whom a serf should marry, or might give his blessing to the serf's choice, but on payment of a fee.

Life of a Roman Slave : They were bought and sold in the markets as commodities. They were treated as an investment. During the shortage of slaves, they were forced to bear more children so that they can be used as slaves in future. Slavery was deep rooted in Roman Empire.

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