Feudal Levies in the Hundred Years' War



During the Hundred Years' War, the	of feudal levies played a p	oivotal
role in how armies were assembled and f	ought. Kings from both	and
England relied heavily on this system to	gather soldiers for their campaigns. A feudal le	evy
was essentially a	to arms, where nobles were required to prov	/ide a
certain number of	, based on the lands they held under the kir	ng's
patronage. These troops were often	, supported by foot soldie	rs and
archers, who came from the lower	of medieval society. The ki	nights,
owing their allegiance to their lords, wer	re well in combat and	wore
heavy armor, making them formidable o	pponents on the How	lever,
as the war progressed, the limitations o	f relying solely on feudal	
became apparent. The long duration and	vast scale of the conflict required more	
than the feuc	dal system could supply. Consequently, both nati	ions
started to mo	ercenaries to fill their ranks, marking a shift tow	vards
more professional standing	This transition was significantly	
influenced by the English longbowmen, w	pho demonstrated the	of
well-trained and equipped commoners in	battle. The decline of feudal levies also highligh	nted
the changing socio-economic	, as the need for a constant mili	tary
presence began to erode the traditional	feudal relationships between lords and their	
By the end o	f the war, the concept of feudal levies had large	ly
been replaced by the early forms of a m	nore modern military	,
setting the stage for the rise of national	al armies in Europe.	
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