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Henry II's Legal Innovations



Henry II, crowned in 1154, was a _____ who significantly shaped the legal landscape of England. His reign marked the beginning of a new _____ in English governance, with the establishment of the Common Law. Unlike the _____ that varied from place to place, Common Law created a unified legal _____ across England. One of his key contributions was the introduction of the _____ system, which replaced the previous methods of trial by ordeal or battle. This system involved local people in the administration of _____, making the process more democratic and reliable.

Henry also reformed the royal _____, making them more accessible to the subjects. He sent his judges on circuits around the _____ to hear cases, ensuring that justice was delivered uniformly. This also helped in the standardization of _____ and practices. The Assizes of Clarendon in 1166 was another _____, establishing procedures for dealing with criminals and defining the roles of _____ and other officials.

Furthermore, Henry II's reforms extended to the _____ system, clarifying the legal rights and obligations of the lords and their _____. This helped in reducing conflicts and establishing a more orderly society. The _____ writings from Henry's era, including the treatises on laws and _____, laid the foundation for future legal scholars and the development of English law.

Henry's _____ in establishing a centralized system of justice not only consolidated his power but also played a crucial role in the _____ of a government that was more responsive to the needs of its _____. The changes he implemented had a lasting impact, influencing the evolution of the _____ and governmental systems not only in England but also in many other parts of the world.

jury legal legal justice laws customs courts country laws development
sheriffs vassals efforts system milestone monarch era citizens feudal