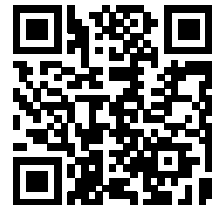


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Medieval England and the Plague



During the High Middle Ages, _____ was a flourishing realm with a growing population and expanding _____. But in 1348, a catastrophe hit that would change the course of history. The Black _____, a deadly plague, arrived on English shores, decimating the population. Originating from Asia, it spread through Europe, carried by _____ that lived on black rats. The disease was terrifyingly efficient, killing its victims within days of infection. Symptoms included fever, _____, and painful swellings called buboes. The mortality rate was astonishing, with estimates suggesting that up to half of England's _____ perished.

The societal impact of the Black Death was profound. With so many dead, the _____ force was greatly reduced, leading to significant economic changes.

Peasants, finding themselves in high demand, began to demand higher _____.

This shift weakened the feudal system, where peasants had been tied to the land and their lords.

Some historians argue that these _____ laid the groundwork for the modern world, as laborers sought better conditions and more _____.

The psychological effect on the population was also notable. Many saw the plague as a punishment from _____, leading to an increase in religious devotion and sometimes to persecution of minority groups, blamed for the _____. In art and literature, themes of death and the fleeting nature of life became more prevalent, reflecting the collective _____ of the era.

Despite the devastation, the Black Death also led to some positive _____. The decrease in population resulted in a surplus of goods for the survivors and less competition for _____. This, coupled with the changes in the labor market, eventually improved living conditions for many. The _____, thus, played a crucial role in ending the feudal system in England and shaping the transition towards the _____ and the modern age.

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| plague | population | freedom | wages | changes | labor | trauma | God | outcomes |
| fleas | disaster | resources | Death | Renaissance | chills | England | towns | |