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# Medieval Society and the Peasants' Revolt



In the 14th century, \_\_\_\_\_ was a land of feudal hierarchies and immense social disparities. The majority of the population were \_\_\_\_\_, tied to the land and the will of their lords. Life for them was hard, with long \_\_\_\_\_ of labor required to sustain both their families and the opulence of the \_\_\_\_\_. In 1381, the tension reached a boiling point, leading to the historic Peasants' Revolt.

The \_\_\_\_\_ was sparked by a series of taxes imposed by the government, aimed at financing military campaigns abroad. These \_\_\_\_\_ were especially burdensome for the lower classes, who already struggled under the heavy yoke of feudal dues. The \_\_\_\_\_, a flat tax levied on every adult, was the final straw. It ignited widespread \_\_\_\_\_ across various strata of society, uniting many under a common cause.

Leaders like Wat Tyler and \_\_\_\_\_ emerged, rallying the peasants with speeches that called for social justice and the end of serfdom. They led a march to \_\_\_\_\_, demanding to speak with the king, Richard II, and present their grievances.

Their demands were radical for the \_\_\_\_\_: the abolition of serfdom, fair rents, and a limit to compulsory labor. Although the rebellion was eventually crushed, and its \_\_\_\_\_ executed, the Peasants' Revolt had a lasting impact on the medieval social structure. It exposed the deep \_\_\_\_\_ within English society and highlighted the unsustainable nature of feudalism.

The revolt did not immediately end \_\_\_\_\_, but it set in motion changes that would gradually transform English society. The use of forced \_\_\_\_\_ became less common, and the feudal system began to show signs of weakening. The Peasants' Revolt remains a \_\_\_\_\_ of the struggle for justice and equality, a testament to the power of collective action against \_\_\_\_\_.

fissures

labor

London

oppression

poll tax

nobility

John Ball

revolt

symbol

England

time

leaders

taxes

serfdom

anger

peasants

hours