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# Peasants' Revolt Beginnings



In the 14th century, England was a \_\_\_\_\_ of great turmoil and strife. The Black Death had decimated the population, leading to a severe shortage of \_\_\_\_\_. As a result, the remaining peasants found themselves in a position of increased \_\_\_\_\_, giving them leverage to ask for higher wages. However, the \_\_\_\_\_ and the wealthy landowners were not willing to meet these demands. Instead, they imposed harsh \_\_\_\_\_ to keep wages low and restrict the movement of workers. This situation led to widespread \_\_\_\_\_ among the peasants, who felt exploited and oppressed.

In 1381, the situation reached a \_\_\_\_\_ when a new poll tax was introduced, which was the third in a series of taxes aimed at paying for the ongoing war with \_\_\_\_\_. The tax was deeply unpopular because it was a flat rate, meaning it hit the poorest the hardest. Resistance to this \_\_\_\_\_ marked the beginning of the Peasants' Revolt.

The rebellion started in \_\_\_\_\_ and quickly spread to other parts of England. The peasants, led by figures like Wat Tyler and \_\_\_\_\_, demanded the end of serfdom, lower taxes, and a fairer system of justice. They marched on \_\_\_\_\_, presenting their demands directly to King Richard II.

The king initially pretended to agree to their \_\_\_\_\_, leading to a temporary cessation of hostilities. However, once the peasants began to disperse, the king reneged on his \_\_\_\_\_. The leaders of the revolt were captured and executed, and the rebellion was brutally suppressed.

Despite its \_\_\_\_\_ to achieve immediate goals, the Peasants' Revolt had a lasting impact on English society. It demonstrated the \_\_\_\_\_ of collective action and planted the seeds for future reforms. The uprising forced the \_\_\_\_\_ to acknowledge the peasants' grievances, leading to gradual changes in labor laws and the eventual decline of \_\_\_\_\_ in England.

boiling point

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promises

demands

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laborers

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