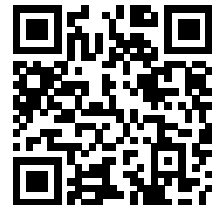


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The Importance of Tithe in Medieval Times



During the medieval period in England, the _____ was a central institution not only in religious but also in social and economic _____. Everyone, from peasants to the nobility, was required to pay a _____, which was a form of tax. Typically, this tithe was ten percent of a person's produce or _____ and was meant to support the local clergy and maintain the church buildings.

Most of the _____ were paid in kind, meaning in goods rather than money. A farmer might give a portion of his wheat, while a _____ could offer some of his flock. This system ensured that the clergy were supplied with food and other _____. The collection of tithes was organized by the parish, a local church community that played a significant role in the _____ lives.

The importance of the tithe can be seen in how it helped build _____. Churches funded by tithes became centers not only for worship but also for _____ and social gatherings. However, not everyone was pleased with the tithe system. Many _____ felt the burden was too heavy, especially in years of poor harvests.

In addition to _____ the clergy, tithes were also used for charitable purposes. They helped provide care for the _____, the sick, and the elderly within the community. Some of the funds even supported _____ that were often attached to the church, offering basic education primarily to boys.

Despite its _____, the tithe system sometimes led to conflict. Disputes over the exact amount owed or the quality of _____ given were common. Over time, these conflicts and the heavy burden of tithes would fuel broader _____ movements within the church.

The tithe system highlights how religion and _____ were intertwined in medieval England, influencing daily life and the structure of medieval society.

church necessities tithes shepherd poor economy communities life
villagers schools peasants supporting tithe goods benefits meetings
reform earnings