

Feudalism

Kings and Queens

Britain in the time when people told stories about King Arthur had a system called Feudalism. Under Feudalism, a King or Queen is in charge. Nobody can challenge them, and their oldest child becomes the next king or queen.



Priests

People believed that the King or Queen was chosen by God. Bishops, priest, monks and nuns were very important. They ran schools and hospitals, churches and colleges. The Pope in Rome was the leader of the church. He was above all the kings and queens and could tell them what to do.



In Feudalism, people were divided into Nobles and Commoners.

Nobles

Nobles owned land, ruled over people and fought in wars. They were known as dukes, barons, princes and many other names. Knights would swear to serve barons, barons would swear to serve dukes, and dukes would swear to serve the king. So the king (or the queen) was the boss of all the nobles.

Commoners

Commoners had no rights or power. They had to do what their lord told them to do. Some worked in towns but most worked on farms in the countryside. Under feudalism, most people by far were commoners, and commoners did all the work.



Draw a picture or diagram to show how feudalism worked. Try a pyramid shape, with the most powerful on top and the least powerful on the bottom. List the job of each type of person beside their picture.