

UNIT 5 Europe in the Middle Ages

418 to 1580

400
418 Visigoths start a kingdom in Spain.
432 St. Patrick introduces Christianity to Ireland.

600
711-1492 Moors rule Spain.

800
789 Vikings' first raid strikes Portland, England.
800 Charlemagne is crowned "Emperor of the West."

Early Kingdoms of Medieval Europe

During the **Middle Ages** or **medieval era**, many Europeans were poor, uneducated, and violent.

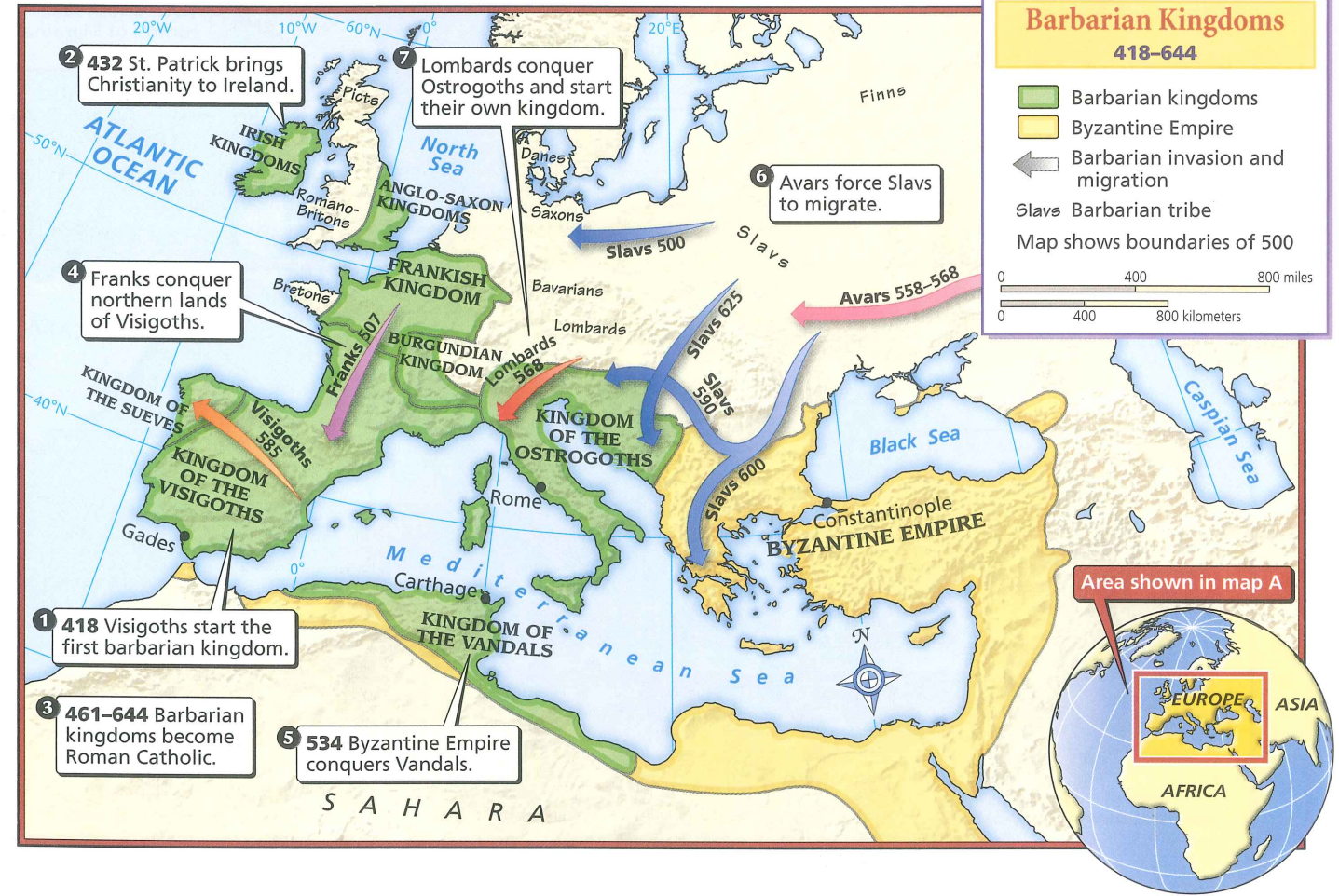
- Early in the Middle Ages, barbarian tribes settled in Western Europe and established their own kingdoms.
- Barbarian kings, wanting to be as civilized as the Romans, became Roman Catholic.
- One Frankish king, Charlemagne, conquered much of Western Europe.

Barbarians in Our Language

barbarian —a brutal or uncultured person	From bar bar , an imitation of how barbarians talked.
frank —straightforward	From the Franks , who thought violence was more direct than laws or diplomacy.
slave —person held as property of another	From the Slavs , a tribe that lost many people to slavery in the Roman Empire.
vandalism —deliberate destruction of property	From the Vandals , the tribe that looted Rome in 455.

B The table above shows some modern-day words, definitions, and histories.

A Compare the barbarian invasions on page 41 with the kingdoms on this map.



1066 Normans take control of England.
1095 First Crusade is called by Pope Urban II.
1347 Plague-infected rats arrive in Sicily.
1498 Vasco da Gama reaches the Indies.
1519-1522 Magellan's crew circles the earth.

1000
936 Otto I creates what will be the Holy Roman Empire.

1200
1215 Magna Carta gives rights to free men in England.

1400
1337-1453 Hundred Years' War fought between England and France.

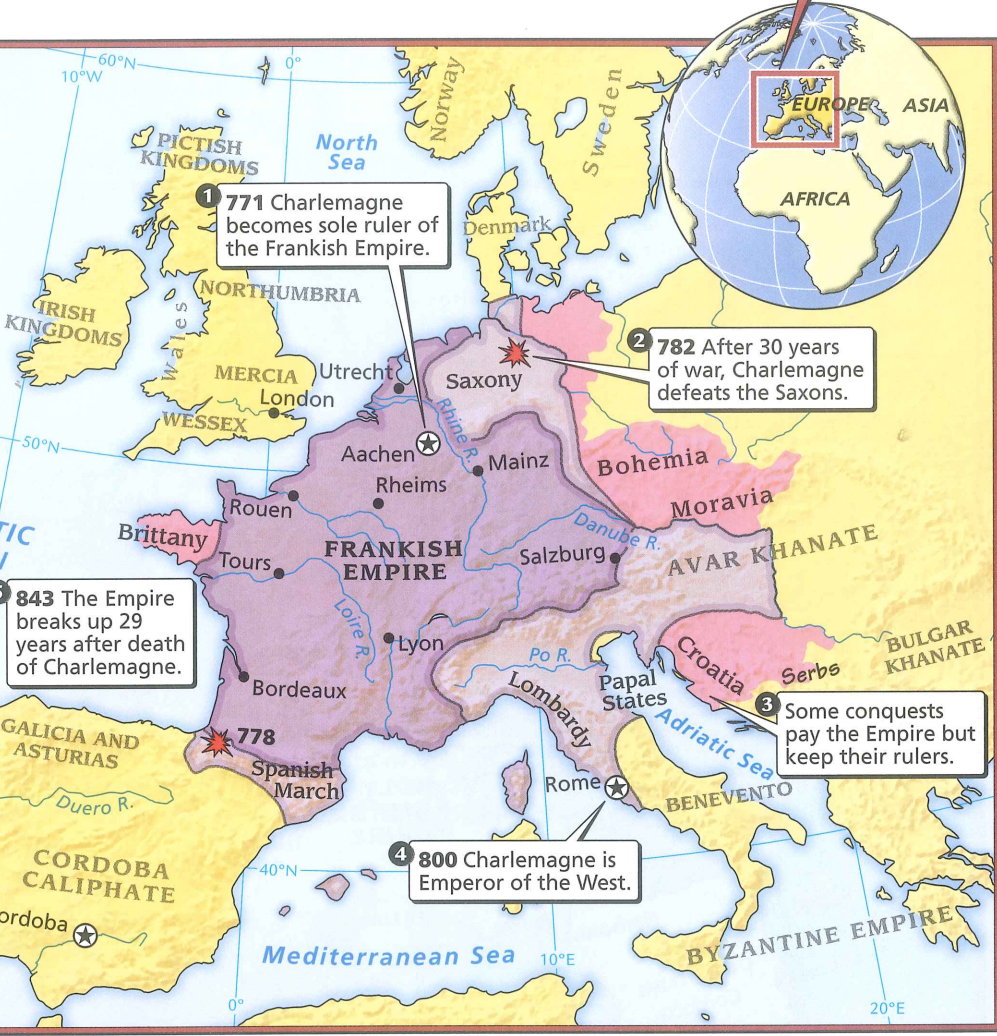
1600

Charlemagne's Frankish Empire 771-814

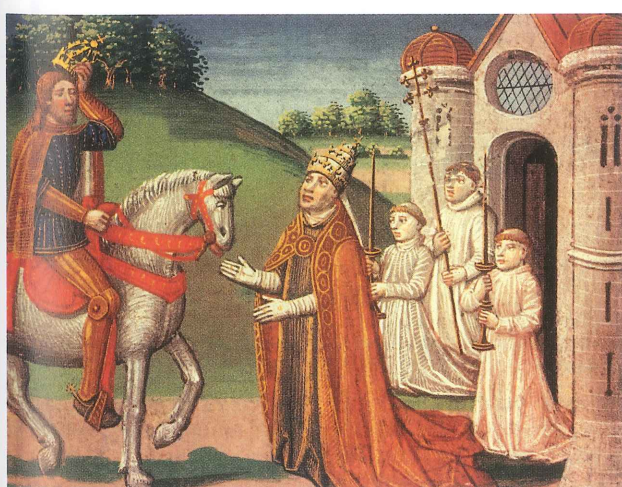
Expansion Under Charlemagne

- Dark purple: Frankish Empire, 771
- Light purple: Additions to the Frankish Empire by 814
- Pink: Defeated but not taken over
- Star: Battle
- Circle with star: Capital

0 200 400 miles
0 200 400 kilometers



C Charlemagne's empire extended beyond what is now France into lands that are now Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands. His empire spread Christianity into new areas.



D The pope (center) crowned Charlemagne "Emperor of the West." Western Europeans hoped Charlemagne's rule would end centuries of chaos.

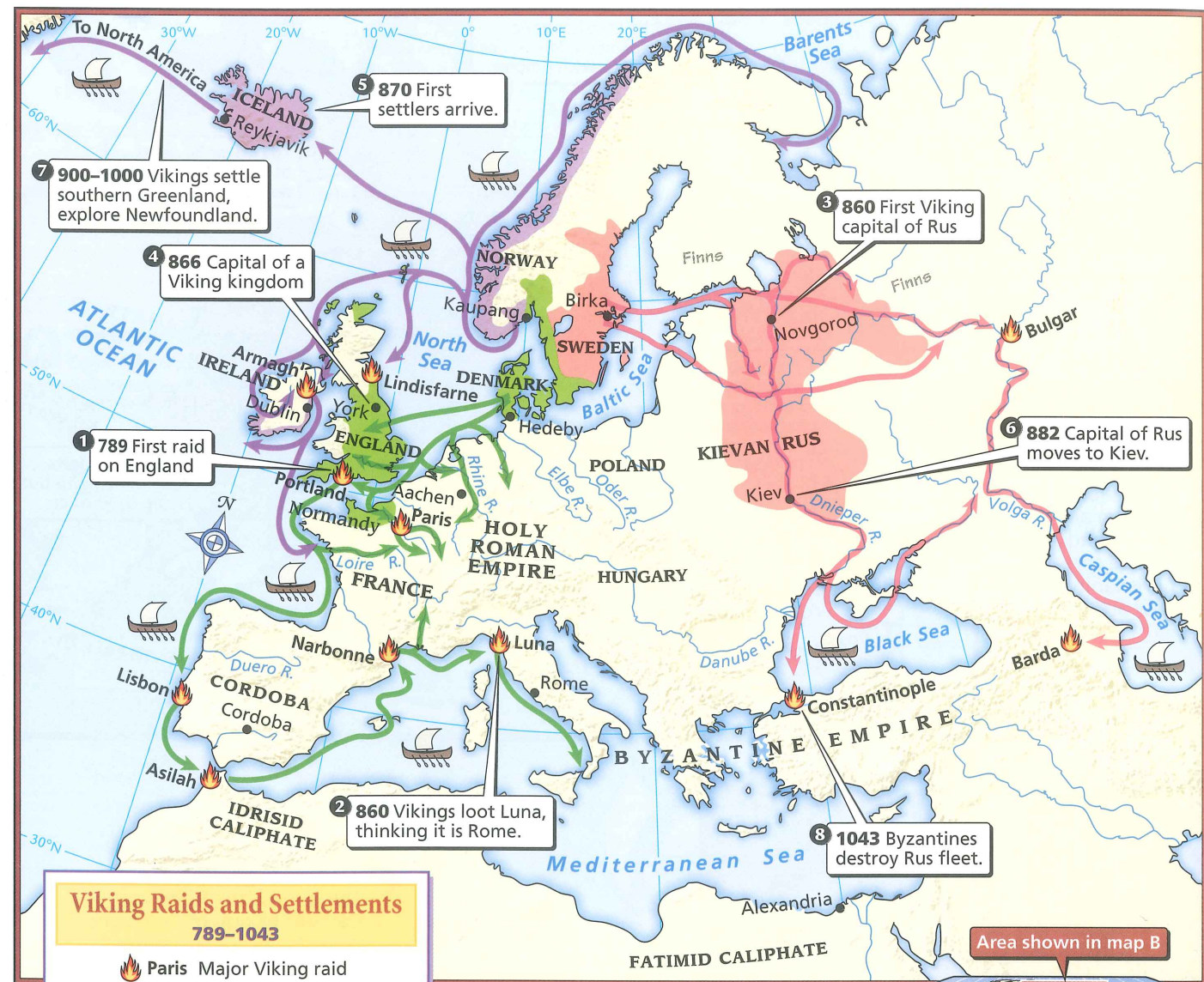
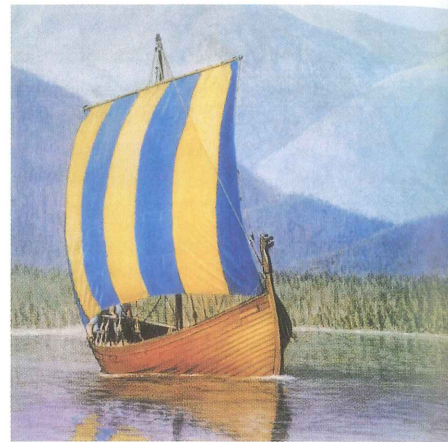
Who is the pope?
The pope is the Roman Catholic bishop of Rome and is the leader of the entire church. In the Middle Ages, the Catholic Church was very powerful in Western Europe. Today the pope leads over a billion Catholics worldwide.

Viking Impact on Europe

Vikings came from Scandinavia—Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. They were fierce warriors and superb sailors.

- Vikings terrorized towns along the coasts and rivers of Europe. They murdered villagers and looted and burned their towns.
- Vikings also built settlements in Europe as well as in Iceland and Greenland.
- One group of Vikings, called Normans, later conquered and ruled England.

A Viking ships used sails and oars to cross open water and move up rivers. Vikings landed quickly and left before defenders could gather.



Viking Raids and Settlements 789-1043

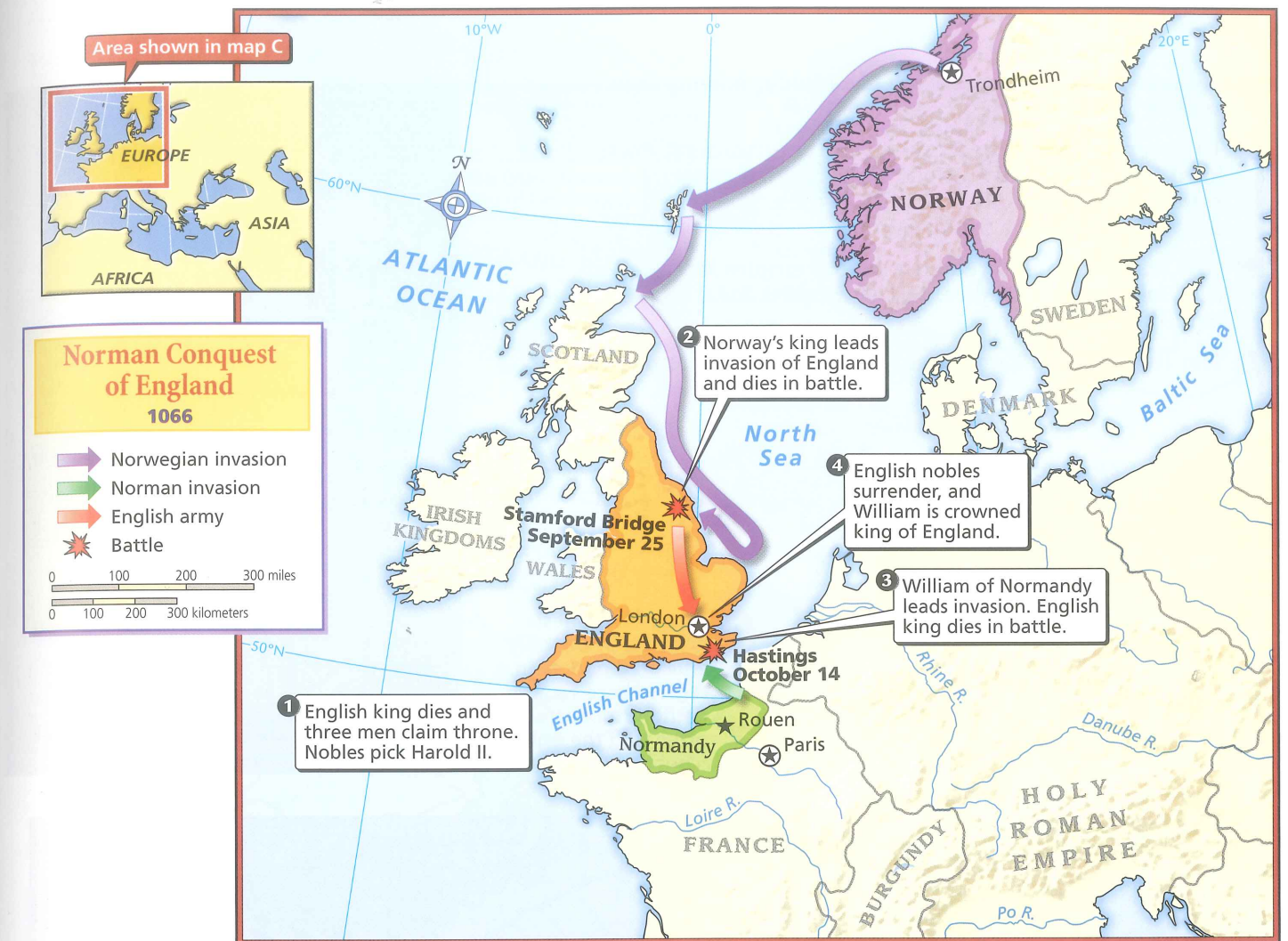
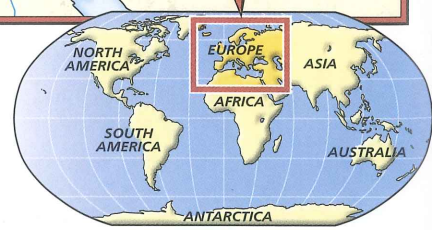
🔥 Paris Major Viking raid

Homelands, Settlements, and Routes

- ➡ Danish Vikings
- ➡ Norwegian Vikings
- ➡ Swedish Vikings

0 250 500 miles
0 250 500 kilometers

B Vikings usually raided and settled near water routes. Which Vikings established settlements farthest east? Farthest west?

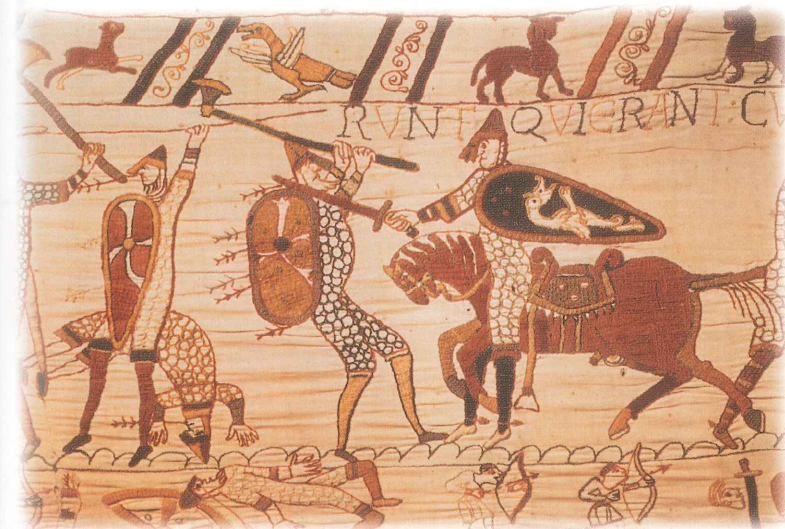


Norman Conquest of England 1066

- ➡ Norwegian invasion
- ➡ Norman invasion
- ➡ English army
- 🔥 Battle

0 100 200 300 miles
0 100 200 300 kilometers

C In 1066 England was invaded by two groups of Vikings, one from Norway and the other from Normandy. The Normans were victorious, and their leader became known as William the Conqueror.



D During the Norman Conquest, Norman horsemen defeated Anglo-Saxon foot soldiers. Norman women embroidered a 230-foot long cloth, the Bayeux Tapestry, depicting the conquest. One section is shown here.

Norman who?
The French king allowed Vikings to settle along his country's northwest coast. A Viking settler was called a Norman, short for Norseman or Northman. The region came to be known as Normandy.

Feudalism and the Holy Roman Empire

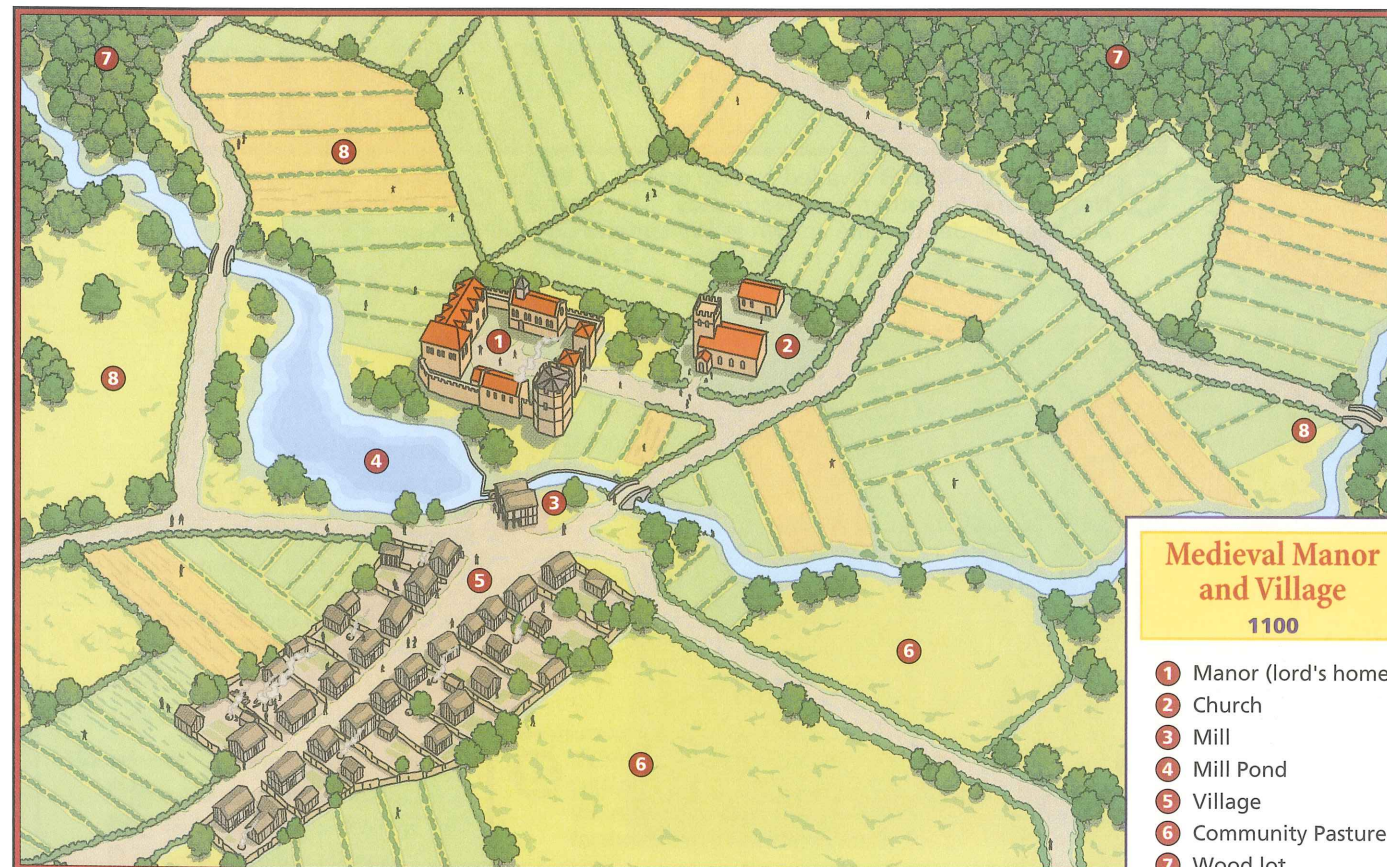
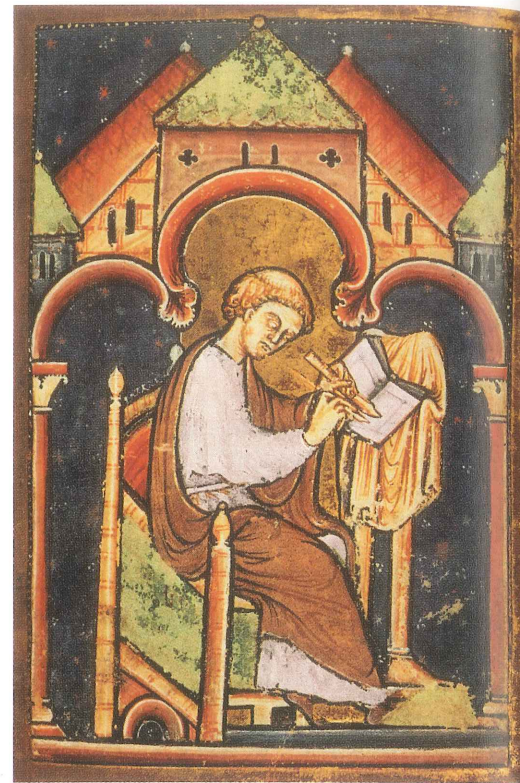
Although there were kings during the Middle Ages, power was held by local leaders.

- To govern his land and protect it from invaders, each local leader—usually a noble—needed his own soldiers, supplies, and fortified castles. The result was a system known as **feudalism**.
- One leader, Otto I, created a feudal empire later called the Holy Roman Empire. In the Empire, local leaders held the real power.
- The Holy Roman Empire survived over 800 years.

Who were the nobles?

During the Middle Ages, all the people born into certain families were **nobles**. In theory, they owned land and provided the king with military service. But some nobles lost their lands, and others fought against the king.

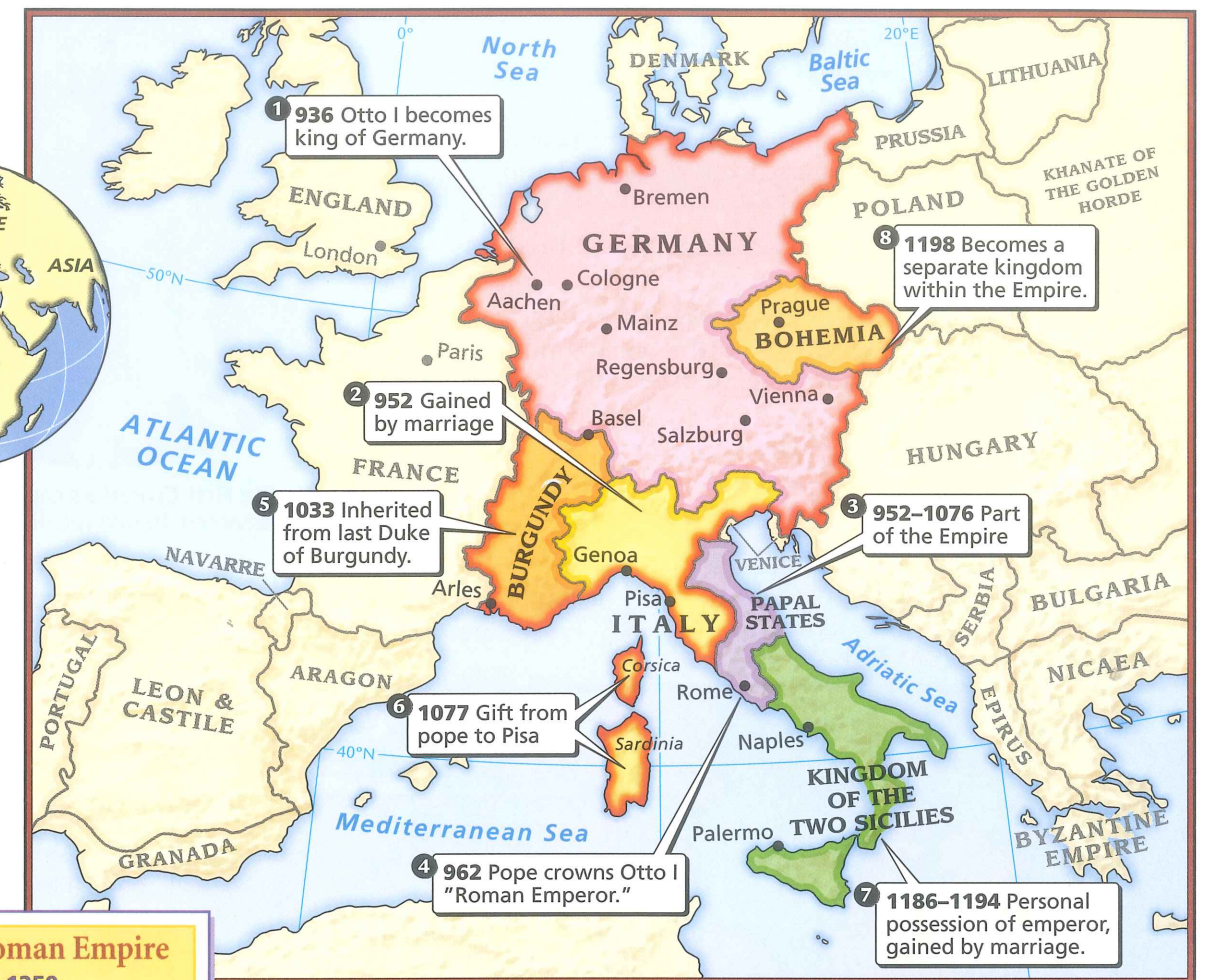
A Monks and priests were often the only educated people in a region, because Roman Catholic monasteries often had the only schools and libraries.



Medieval Manor and Village
1100

- 1 Manor (lord's home)
- 2 Church
- 3 Mill
- 4 Mill Pond
- 5 Village
- 6 Community Pasture
- 7 Wood lot
- 8 Lands for lord's personal use

B In much of Europe, lords owned manors like this one. Peasants who were the property of their lords were called **serfs**. Serfs farmed land both for their lords, who were usually nobles, and for themselves.



The Holy Roman Empire
936-1250

— Boundary of the Empire, 1250

0 200 400 miles
0 200 400 kilometers

C The Holy Roman Empire grew through conquest, marriage, and inheritance. But its emperors did not have firm control over the Empire, and each region had its own laws.

Holy? Roman? Empire?

Otto I united northern Europe with the Roman Catholic Church. Later emperors named this territory the Holy Roman Empire, but like Otto, they were violent, German, and did not have much real power. Someone once joked that the Holy Roman Empire was neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire.



How Big Was the Holy Roman Empire?

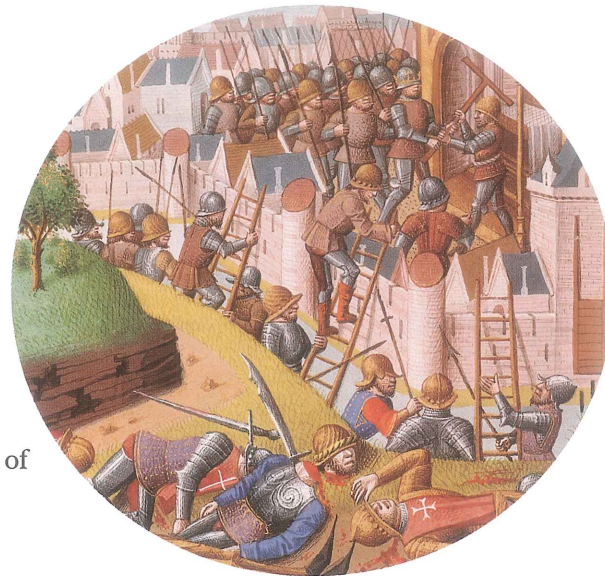
■ Holy Roman Empire

D The Holy Roman Empire included almost all of central Europe. Compare this empire with Charlemagne's empire on page 57.

Crusades to the Holy Land

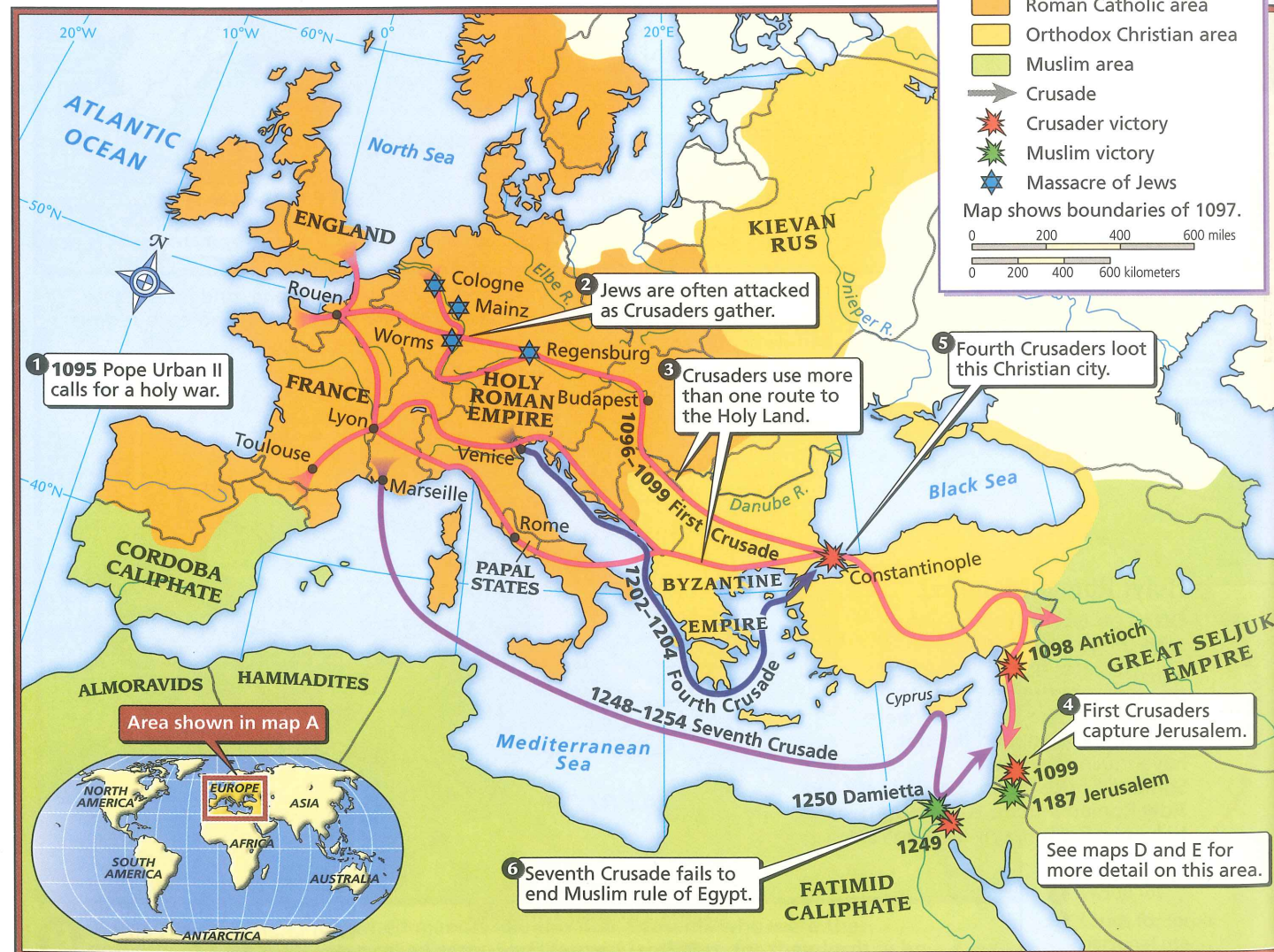
In 1095 the Byzantine emperor asked the pope for help in defending his empire from Muslim attacks. The pope agreed and called on European Catholics to join in a crusade against the Muslims.

- It was the first of eight crusades in which Europe sent huge armies to drive Muslims from the Holy Land, especially from Jerusalem.
- Thousands of Muslims, Jews, pagans, and Christians died in the brutal fighting.
- The crusades failed to win permanent Christian control over the Holy Land. But they had the accidental benefit of increasing trade and knowledge of other cultures.

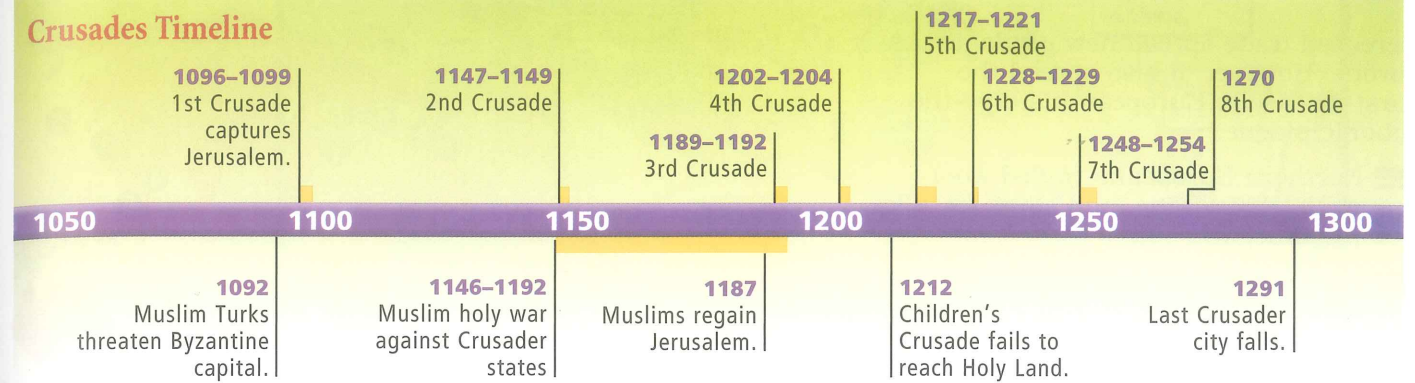


A Disease, hunger, and war along the way killed as many Crusaders as battles with Muslims did. Three of the eight crusades are shown below.

B When the First Crusaders captured Jerusalem, they massacred 40,000 Muslims and Jews.



Crusades Timeline



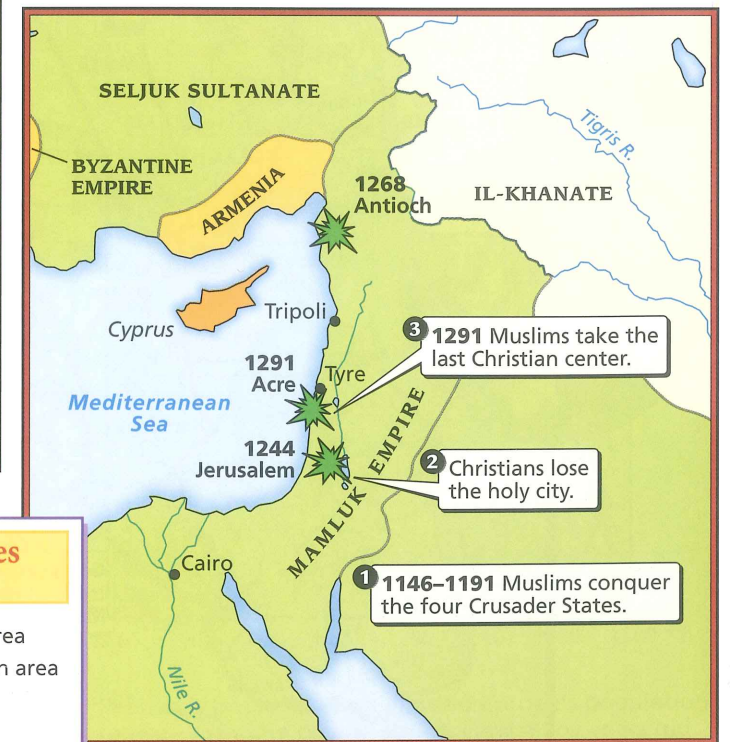
C Over a span of two centuries, Crusaders left for the Holy Land eight times. Which crusade was the longest?

D The First Crusaders divided the land they captured in the Middle East into four states. They also built castles to protect these states.



E After the eight crusades, who controlled the Middle East—Christians or Muslims? Compare this map with map A.

Muslim Victories 1146-1291



Pilgrimage or crusade?

Before the Crusades, journeys to holy sites—pilgrimages—were a way for people to show their faith. A crusade was seen as an armed pilgrimage, a war for a religious cause. For Christians, the word “crusade” came to mean a struggle for an important cause.

Trade Routes and Plague

Increased trade spread new goods across Europe. However, it also spread the worst disease in European history—the bubonic plague.

- Northern Europeans traded wool cloth, grain, wine, and silver for silk, perfume, and spices from Asia.
- Goods from Asia passed through the Mediterranean, and so did the bubonic plague. Rats, fleas, and people spread the plague along trade routes.
- In five years the bubonic plague killed a quarter of the people in Europe.



Top 10 Cities, 1200

Rank	City (Modern Country)	Population
1	Hangzhou (China)	255,000
2	Fez (Morocco)	200,000
3	Cairo (Egypt)	200,000
4	Pagan (Myanmar [Burma])	180,000
5	Kamakura (Japan)	175,000
6	Angkor (Cambodia)	150,000
7	Constantinople (Turkey)	150,000
8	Palermo (Italy)	150,000
9	Marrakech (Morocco)	150,000
10	Seville (Spain)	150,000

A In 1200 most of the largest cities were in Asia and Africa. In what region were the largest European cities?

European Trade
1200–1360

Main Trade Routes

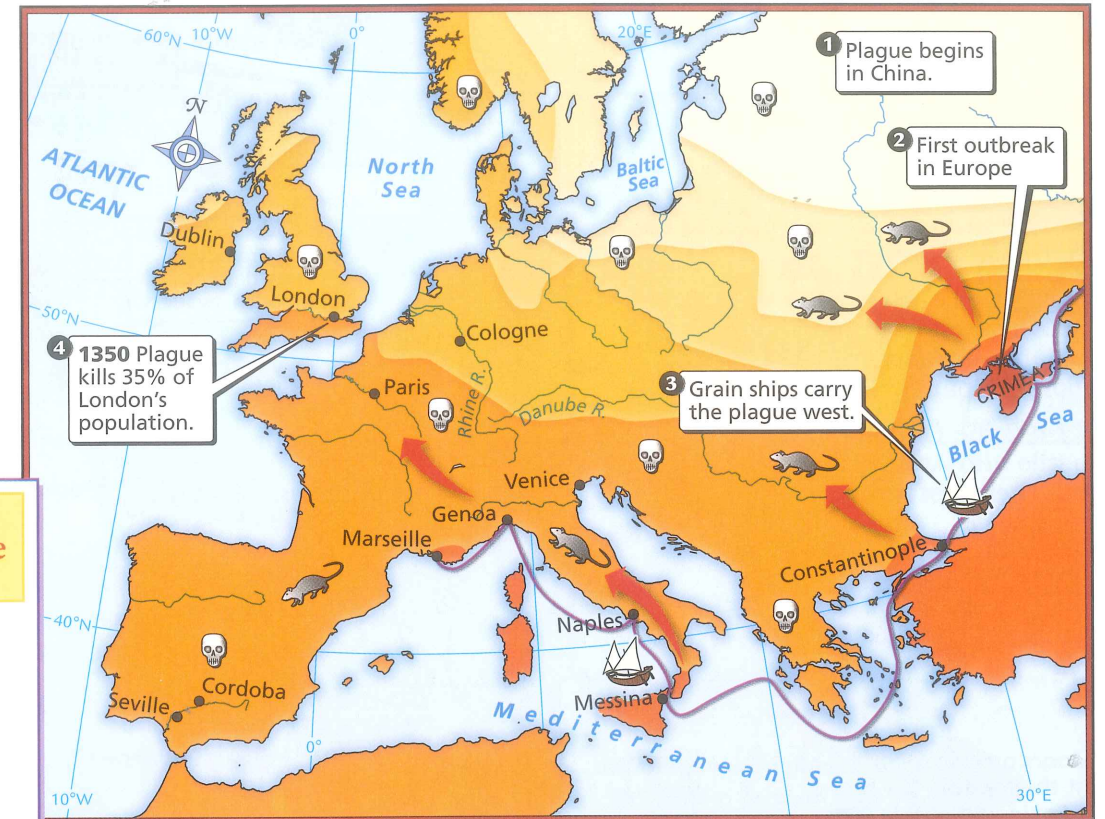
- By land and river
- By sea

- City in Hanseatic League
- Other city

Map shows boundaries of 1360.

0 250 500 miles
0 250 500 kilometers

B As trade increased, European cities grew. To protect their trade routes, a number of northern cities formed an alliance called the Hanseatic League.



Spread of Bubonic Plague
1346–1352

- 1346
- 1347
- 1348
- 1349
- 1350
- 1351
- 1352
- Trade route

C A shipment of grain from Asia brought plague-infected rats to Europe. To see how the plague spread, compare the trade routes north from Italy on map B with this map.

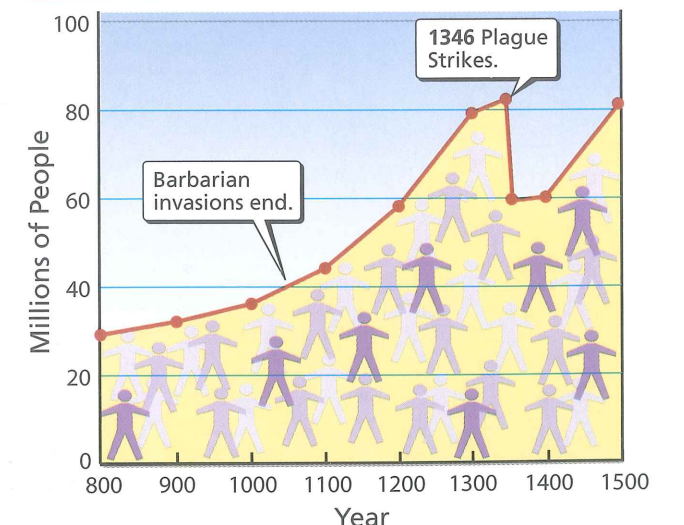
How did the plague change Europe?

A disease as deadly as the bubonic plague can alter a society. After the plague years, surviving European peasants demanded higher wages and lower taxes. Nobles had to accept their demands because so few workers were left.



D Trade from the eastern Mediterranean made Venice rich. But trade also added plague to its overcrowding and poor sanitation, devastating the city.

Population of Europe 800–1500



E Relatively peaceful times allowed Europe's population to rise—until the plague struck. How many years did it take for the population of Europe to recover?

Moorish Spain

For almost 800 years, Muslims and Christians fought for Spain and Portugal.

- In 711 the Moors, Muslims from northwest Africa, invaded Spain. Moorish armies pushed north to what is now France.
- Over the centuries, Christians from northern Spain, France, and England struggled to “reconquer” Moorish Spain.
- In 1492 the Christian kingdoms of Castile and Aragon drove the Moors from their last stronghold.

A

The Moors quickly fought their way across Spain and Portugal. Christian forces retreated and held out in Asturias.

Moorish Conquest

- Moorish army invasion
- Moorish control, 710
- Moorish gains, 711–719
- Christian control, 719
- ★ Moorish victory
- ★ Christian victory

0 100 200 300 miles
0 100 200 300 kilometers



B

Although this map shows only a few major battles, nearly continuous war slowly pushed the Moors back to North Africa.

Christian Reconquest

- Christian control, 850
- Christian gains by 1040
- Christian gains by 1150
- Christian gains by 1264
- Muslim control, 1264
- Christian armies
- ★ Christian victory

Map shows boundaries of 1230.

The Hundred Years' War

After the Norman Conquest, England controlled much of France and claimed the rest. English and French kings fought for control of France in what is known as the Hundred Years' War.

- The war began in 1337 when the king of England, son of a French princess, claimed to be the ruler of France too.
- Some French nobles supported the English. At one point, an English king was chosen to be the next king of France.
- In 1453 the war finally ended with the defeat of the English.

C

England and its ally Burgundy won major battles in the first part of the war. By 1420 they seemed to be the victors.



D

Joan of Arc was a French peasant girl. She became the leader of a French army that repeatedly defeated the English until she was captured and killed.

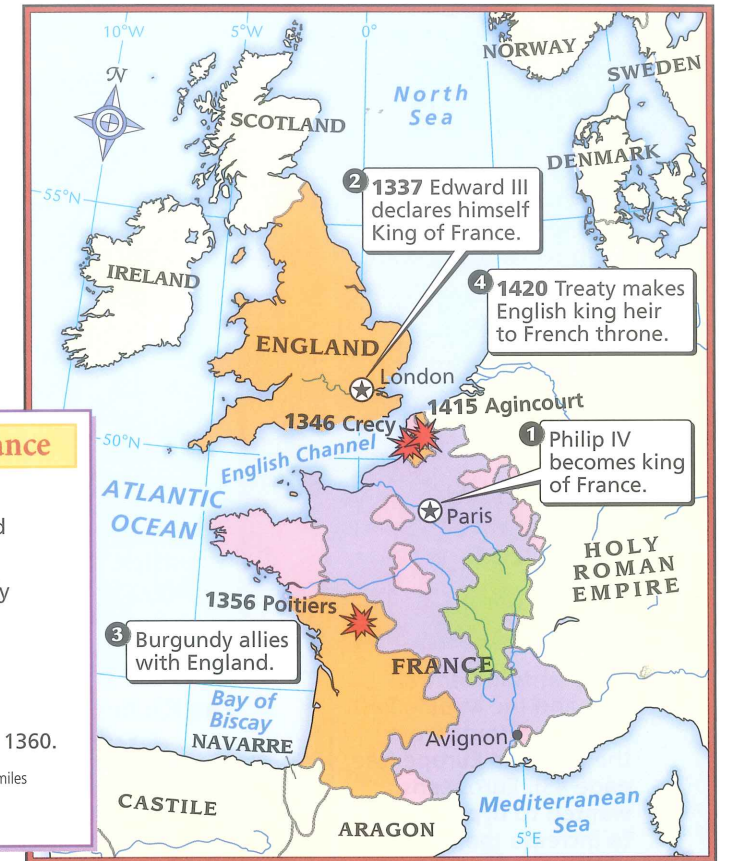
England Claims France

Control of Land

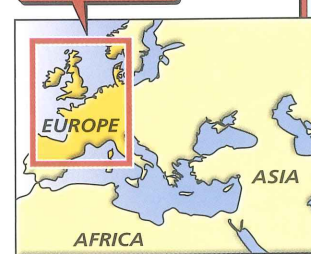
- King of England
- King of France
- Burgundy family
- Others
- ★ English victory
- ★ French victory

Map shows boundaries of 1360.

0 100 200 300 miles
0 100 200 300 kilometers

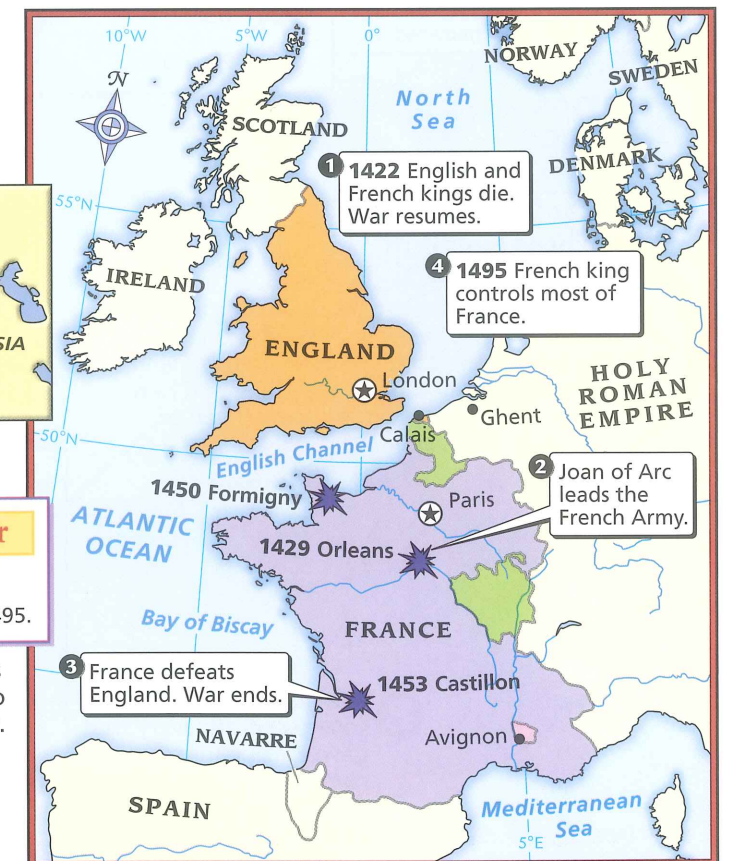


Area shown in maps C and E



France Wins the War

See legend at map C.
Map shows boundaries of 1495.



E

Joan of Arc's victories inspired the French to go on to win the war. Afterwards the king gained control over the French nobles.

Age of European Exploration

Exotic trade goods from Southeast Asia—the **Indies**—and from East Asia were highly desired by Western Europeans. These goods were extremely expensive.

- Competing European powers developed new technologies in shipbuilding and navigation that allowed them to explore new routes to the Indies.
- Europeans encountered American, African, and Asian cultures they had never known before.
- Often the European power that first explored an area later returned to conquer it.



A Merchants in Central Asia and the Middle East controlled trade from the Indies to Europe (see page 43). Europeans wanted to bypass them to increase their own profits.

The Riches of the Indies 1400–1500

Gold	Perfume
Silver	Spices
Precious stones	Cotton
Ivory	Silk
Porcelain	Trade route

Whose land is it?

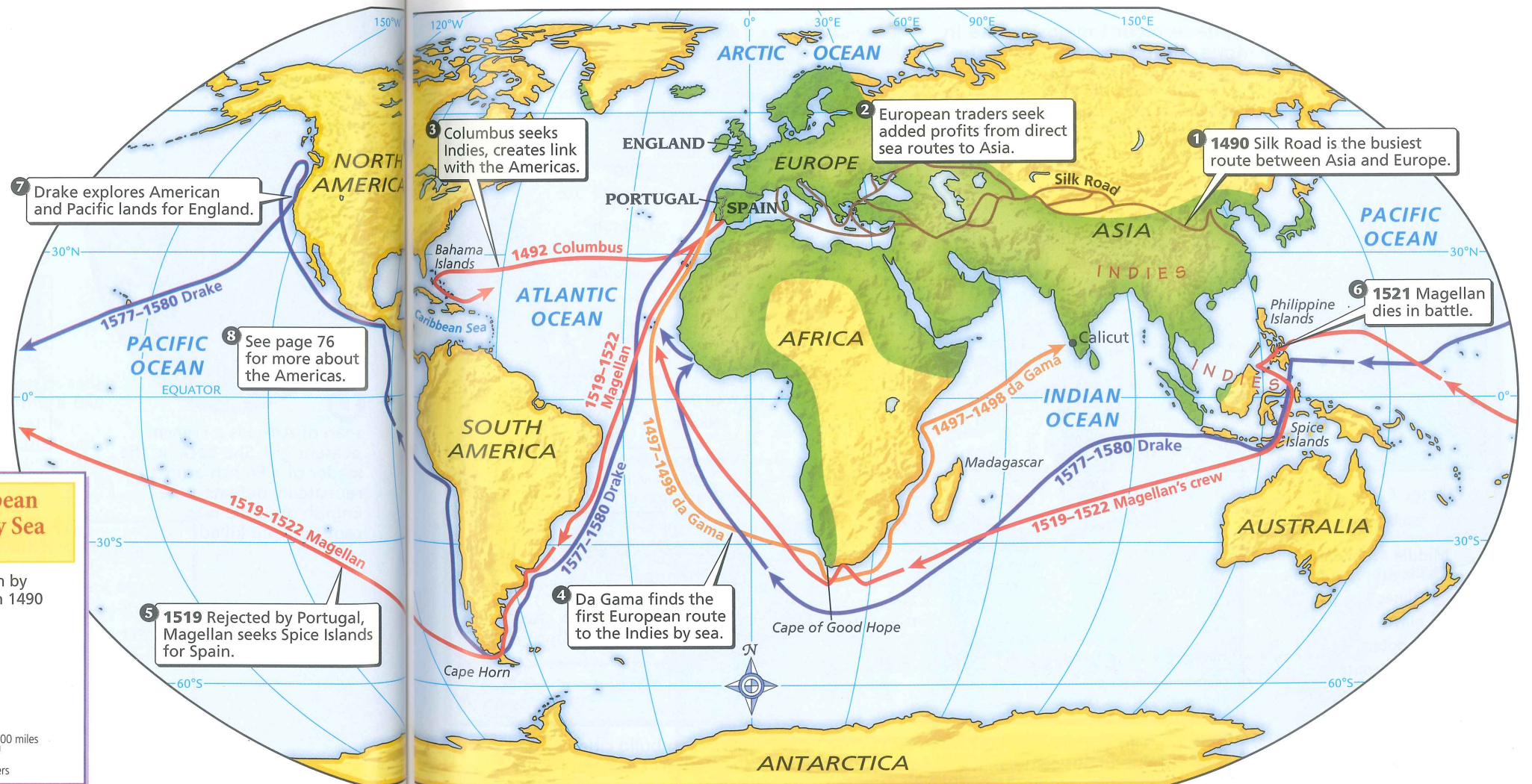
When European explorers arrived in an area, they claimed it for their country. For years most claims were just lines on European maps. The people already living in those areas didn't realize they had new rulers until European soldiers arrived to enforce their paper claims.

B The map shows the key voyages of discovery that gave Europeans more complete knowledge of geography than ever before. Which countries explored which areas?

Western European Explorations by Sea 1490–1580

- Lands known by Europeans in 1490
- for Portugal
- for Spain
- for England
- Trade route

Scale at the Equator
 0 1000 2000 miles
 0 1000 2000 kilometers



C Spices from the Indies, such as cloves, cinnamon, and pepper, were worth as much as gold to Western Europeans. Kings sponsored explorations to win control of the spice trade.



D Francis Drake of England meets with a sultan in the Indies to discuss trade. His voyage provided new knowledge about the western coast of North America and the Pacific.

