

CHAPTER - FOUR

Medieval Europe and development of early capitalism

4.1 medieval Europe

- Medieval period covers Dark Age /500 – 1000 A.D/.
- From the fall of Roman Empire and the rise of feudalism to the rise of capitalism.

THE DARK AGE

- Dark Age was the early part of the medieval period.
- It is called the Dark Age because civilization in Western Europe declined during this period.
- Western Roman Empire was destroyed both by internal and external problems.
- Internally, the empire suffered internal divisions and decay.
- Externally, it was invaded in the fifth century A.D by the Anglo – Saxons and Franks from the Germanic tribes.
- Huns and the Magyars tribe from Asia.

The outcomes of Europeans Invasion

- The Roman civilization destroyed
- City and town development sharply declined.
- Feudal system emerged in West Europe.
- Bishop and Monks kept old records and learning.
- Churches castles and palaces were built.
- Chivalry was practiced by the knights.
- Two large empires were formed in western.
- They were the Carolingian Empire /Holy Roman Empire and the Byzantine Empire.

The Holy Roman Empire /962-1806

- Centered in the present day France.

Carolingian Empire 481-882 AD.

- Not covered all parts of Europe.
- Founded by the German Emperor Otto the Great (912-973 AD) made up of Italo-German territories.
- ★ The only unifying institution in Western Europe was the Roman Catholic Church.
- Roman Catholic Church also owned lands.
- The higher clergy belong to the ruling class.
- The church was responsible for all activities of the society.
- People simply accepted the teachings of the church without any comment.

THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE

- Also known as Eastern Roman Empire.
- Constantinople was its capital city since 330 A.D.
- Western Roman Empire fall in 476, Eastern Roman Empire continued to exist for another 1000 years.
- Byzantine derived from Byzantium, the old name of Constantinople.
- Byzantine remained a centre of Greco-Roman and Christian's civilization.
- In 1054 Roman Catholic Church separated from Byzantine Orthodox Church officially.
- Byzantine civilization was Greco-Roman and Christian in its nature.
- Latin language was replaced by Greek.
- They used domes and coloured glasses for construction.

- St. Sophia in Constantinople is a good example of their architecture.
- At that time St. Sophia was also the centre of pleasure and commerce.
- The Emperor of Byzantine was supported by the Orthodox Church.
- There were strong rivalries for leadership plots and Murders of Emperors were common.
- Their economy was depended on Agriculture craft and trade.
- Royal court, clergy and nobility owned the land and peasants worked on it.
- Byzantine was able to survive from repeated foreign attacks.
- In 8thC it defended itself from Muslim Arabs.
- In 7th and 8thC. from the attacks of the Slavic people (Bulgars and Serbs).1071
- Byzantine Empire was attacked by Normans and the Seljuk jerks.
- They asked Western Europe for military assistance for defences.
- The Western Europe support Byzantine in the form of the Crusades.
- Crusade is the holy war of Christian

1.1 The Rise and Expansion of Islam

- In 7thC.AD. Middle East became radically transformed in political, religious and social structures.

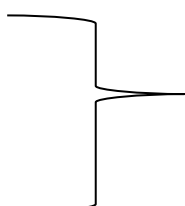
- With a new force, Arabs arose their civilization.
- Their religion and influence expanded rapidly in middle east and other part

Basic Features of Islam and Its Achievements

- Before Islam Arabs and Semitic speaking peoples were nomads.
- Politiclaly disunited as the result of harsh environment.
- Arabs were simply organized with clan.
- The clan was represented by a titular head called **sheikh**
- Mostly chosen from one of the leading families by council of elders
- Following domestication of camel, Arabs began to take part in the caravan trade.
- The early Arabs were polytheists worshipping many gods.
- Arabs had mainly symbolized goddesses by sacred stone.
- Prophet Mohammed (570 - 632) found the teaching of Islam
- He was from Qurayish tribe around 570 A.D in Mecca
- In 610 AD, he began preaching about Islam.
- Islam means in Arabic language 'surrender' or 'submission' to the will of God called Allah.
- The follower of Islam called Muslims - 'One who surrenders to God Allah'
- The centre of its teaching is there is only one God/Allah and Mohammed is Allah messenger or prophet.

- o All Muslims are equal before Allah
- o All Muslims belong to one community /called Umma/
- Holy book is known as Quran.
- At the age of 40 Mohammed began experiencing Islam.
- Initially to a small group of relatives and friends to public
- In his teaching Mohammed attacked the idolatory
- His teaching met with sever and hostile opposition from the Qurayish people.
- More people accepted him, his enemies became more aggressive
- In 622 AD he immigrated to Yathrib /Medina/ the city of prophet; this flight is called Hejira (Means immigration).

- 622 AD was used for the beginning of Muslim calendar.
- At Medina they organized an Islamic society.
- In 630 AD prophet Mohammed captured Mecca with his large force
- He destroyed the idols except the black stone (Kaaba)
- ✓ Prophet Mohammed could teach or preach freely.
- ✓ Prophet Mohammed died in 632 AD. successors/caliphs/ by



Abu Baker (632 - 34) = for two years

Omar (634 - 44) = for ten years

30years

Othman (644 - 56)= for twelve years

Ali (656 - 61) = for five years

- These caliphs united Arabia and spread Islam far.
- Making raids against one's enemies (religiously) is called Jihad (Holy Islamic war)
- In 636 AD Arabs defeated the Byzantine army after Syria
- In 650 AD Arabs conquer Persian Empire.
- In 642 AD Arabs controlled Egypt and other North countries.
- At the beginning of 8thC they controled and converted Berbers to Islam
- About Mid 8thC they crossed strait of Gibraltar and occupied Spain/Andelus/.
- Later on in 732 Arabs were defeated at Tours/France
- They controlled Byzantine Empire capital Constantinople (And changed its name to Istanbul)
- After the death of Prophet Mohammed; within hundred years Arabia changed to Arabian Empire.
- Including - Middle East, North Africa, south west Europe and Far East
- Under the rulers of Muslim dynasties. Caliphates, Umayyads, Abbasid and Ottomans.
- Muslim Arab civilization is not purely Arabian in all aspects.
- In 8th and 9thC many Greek, Syrian and Persian scientific works and philosophic works were translated in to Arabic
- Islamic scholars contribute to logic, Sciences, Mathematics, chemistry, Medicine, ethics Metaphysics, politics, Astronomy and others
- Architectures construct many big monuments, Mosques, palaces in Mecca, Medina, Damascus, Baghdad, Cairo and others
- Extensive trade activity with chained Byzantine, India and South Asia
- With this trade they formed the city of Damascus, Baghdad and Cairo
- Arabic language became international language.
- It was against the Muslim Seljuk Turks; covers 200 years of war, with seven major confronts. (From 1096 - 1300's).
- The most important were the first and the third.

Outcomes of Crusader

- The crusaders failed to crush Muslim power.
- They saved the Byzantine Empire from Muslims up to 1453.
- They introduced new products to Western Europe (i.e. Sugar, rice, apricots and others).
- Crusaders encouraged commerce and weakened the power of the nobility, while they helped strength the Catholic Church.

European states and the Ottoman Turkish Empire

A-The Seljuk Turks came to power in Asia Minor Palestine and Arabia before the ottoman Turks.

- They were nomads who came from Turkestan desert.
- They began their expansion by occupying Muslim territories since 1040 AD.
- ✓ They took control of Persia in 1040.
- ✓ Asia Minor and Syria in 1071.
- ✓ Seljuk Turks accepted Islam and became strong Muslims.

B-Ottoman Turks were other Turkish tribe that appeared in Arabia Palestine and Asia Minor; in the end of the 10thC.

- ✓ They replaced Seljuk Turkish since 1299.
- ✓ Turks began to build an empire, during the first half of 14thC.
- ✓ Their centre is located in the present day Turkey

- ✓ They seized the Anatolian city of Bursa.
- ✓ In 14thC began a war to conquest the Balkan peninsula
- ✓ In 1356 conquer Adrianople
- ✓ In 1384 Salonika.
- In the beginning of 15thC they totally conquered Balkan Peninsula including Greece.
- In 1543 Mohammed II led 150,000 troops and captured Constantinople and Turks called the city as Istanbul.
- The Byzantine Empire came to an end.
- In 1516 they conquered Syria. And in 1517 Egypt.
- Suleiman I/'The Magnificent'/ ruled the Empire from 1520 - 1566
- In 1526 his army conquered Hungary.
- His empire covers from Yemen to Hungary and from Morocco to Persia.
- European defended Vienna the capital of Austria from Turkish attack in 1529.
- In 1571 European fleets defeated the Turkish navy at the Battle of Lepanto near Greece.
- This event marked the ends of Turkish expansion.
- In the 16 and 17thC. Ottoman Empire was one of most powerful empire in the world.
- The Ottoman ruled Arabs, Armenians, Greeks, Serbs, and Bulgarians Rumanians and Hungarians.

The Outcomes of Turkish expansion

- ✓ They spread Islam.
- ✓ The sultans had both political and religious power.
- ✓ Ottomans formed highly trained soldiers called Janissaries.
- ✓ Most members of the empire were farmers.
- ✓ They controlled the trade routes from Europe to Asia.
- ✓ They prevented European merchants from going to the Far East.

4.2 Development of Early capitalism

- Early, capitalism took place the period between 1500 and 1700 AD.
- The transition from feudal middle age to early capitalism in Europe was slow.
- Long distance trade, early capitalists' relation, exploration, discoveries, Reformation and Renaissance gave rise to early capitalism.

A. Exploration and Discoveries

- During the middle ages the geographical knowledge of Europeans was limited to Europe, North Africa and to West Asia.
- In 15th they discovered new regions in Africa, the Far East and the Americans.
- European interest in long distance trade and their taste for luxury good of Far East encouraged them to explorations and discoveries.
- After Ottoman blockage of the old routes to the Far East.
- Europeans began to look for a new sea route.
- They were also interested in geographical knowledge.
- New inventions like compass, better ship and maps made difficult voyages possible.
- Prince Henry the Navigator (1394 - 1460) of Portugal. And Queen Isabella (1415-1504) of Spain supported the voyages of explorers.
- In the 15th and 16thC Spain and Portugal were the leaders in the voyages of explorations and discoveries.
- Portuguese-Vasco da Gama explored to India and Far East in 1498.
- Portuguese explore- Ferdinand Magellan circumnavigated the world from 1519 to 1522.
- Spanish servant Italian explorer Christopher Columbus discovered America/ New world/.
- This New land came to be known as America from the name of an Italian Map Maker Amerigo Vespucci.



Figure 1 MAGELLAN'S VOYAGE



Figure 2 VASCO DA GAMA'S VOYAGE

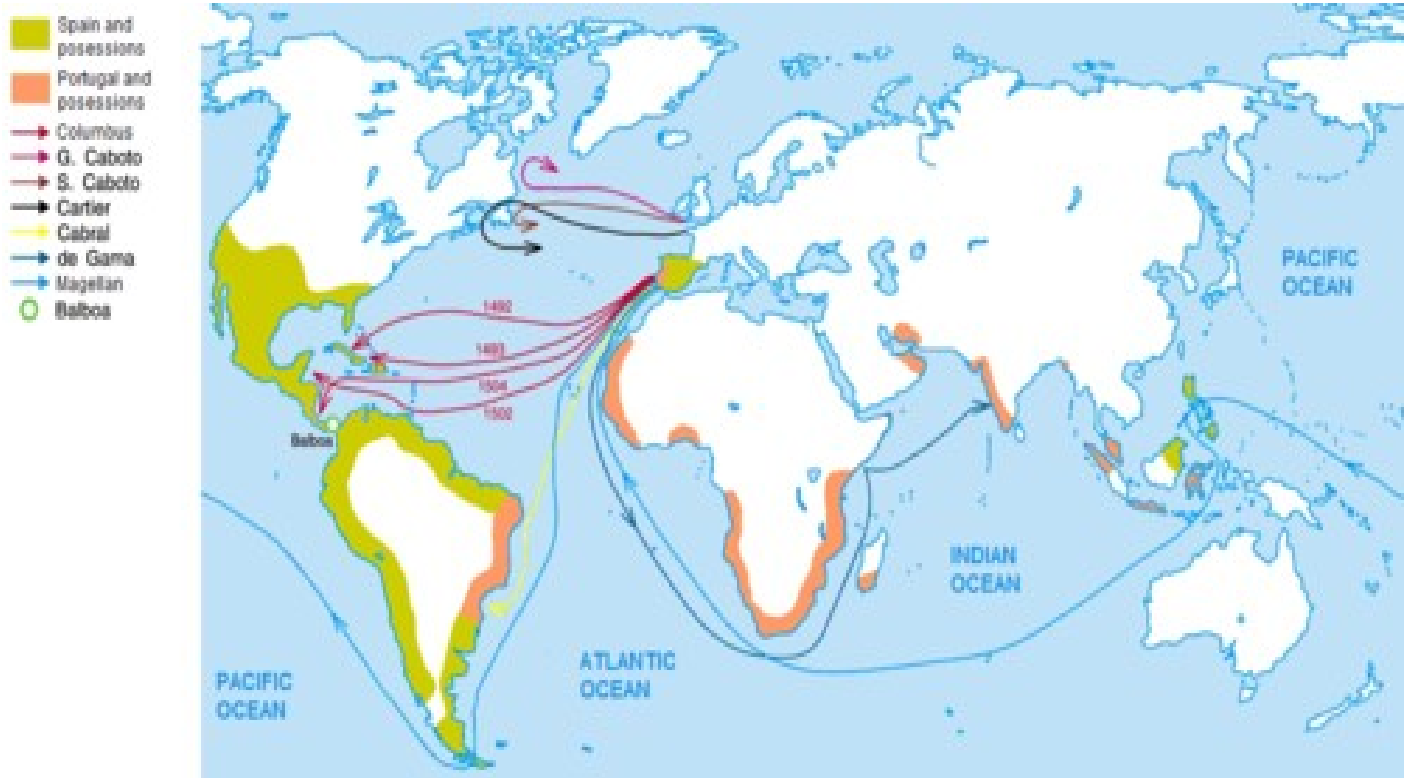


Figure 1 VOYAGES OF THE 17TH AND 18TH

- This New world became the colonies of Spain and Portugal.
- Then followed by Holland, Britain and by France.
- In 18thC Britain and France became dominant powers.
- In the 16thC Spain and Portugal destroyed the old American-Indian empires in America.
- Spain took Mexico, Peru and other states.
- Portugal took Brazil, and other territories in Asia.
- Holland established a small trading colony at New Amsterdam, on Manhattan Island, In North East America.
- In 1664, Britain took the colony from Holland.
- In 17thC in North America Britain established small fun trading colony at Hudson Bay.
- In 1607. Britain formed the colony of Jamestown in Virginia.
- After 1608 France established colonies along St. Lawrence River, the Gulf of Mexico and Mississippi.
- Seven years war (1756-1763) between France and Britain to colonial rivalries in North America.
- In 1637 Russia occupied Alaska; later Russia sold it to USA with 7,200,000 \$ in 1867.
- But USA later found gold and more recently oil in Alaska.



Figure 2 LONG DISTANCE TRADE ROUTES

B. Long Distance Trade

- During the crusades; merchants of Italian city states, who hired their vessels to crusaders, succeeded to control trade in eastern Mediterranean coasts.
- The region was linked in long distance trade with Western Europe and this gave new life to the declining urban centre of the middle ages.
- Urban centres had various economic activities.
- They provided markets for sale of goods.
- The merchants of Europe were made the long trip for luxury goods of Far East.
- They brought silk, spice and other commodities from china and India to Europe.
- The development of the long distance trade marked the beginning of the new capitalist economic relation by 1500 AD.

C. The Beginnings of Early Capitalist Relations.

- In 1500 A.D. Early capitalism replaced feudalism.
- Urbanization and Long distance trade were the element of capitalist economic relation.
- In 16thC trading centres transformed into bigger capitalist business centres.
- Genoa, Florence, Venice, Milan Barcelona, Paris and London were centres of Long – distance trade.
- In 15thC St. George Bank in Genoa and Municipal Bank of Barcelona were founded.
- Small craft workshops that worked by hand produced textiles and metals; these factories were located in the cities.
- The factory owners and the merchants formed the Bourgeoisies class.
- The bourgeois were town and city – dwellers.
- Manufactures employed wage labourers who were originally peasants from the country side.
- In 17thC urban population had greatly increased.
- Pairs, Florence and Genoa had population about 100,000 each.
- The use of money manufacturing and banking transformed in to a new system.
- The bourgeoisie provided the monarchs with money and increased the income of the state.

D. The Renaissance

- Renaissance Means 'rebirth' intellectual movement of learning Roman achievement.
- It covers from 14thC up to 17thC.
- It started from Italy and spread to England, France, Germany, Spain and Holland.

Characteristics of Renaissances

- Support of freedom of thought and questioning mind.
- The use of the vernacular of national languages such as Italian or English rather than Latin since 1454.

Achievements of Renaissance

In Literature

- Divine comedy- written by the Italian Dante Alighieri.
- Utopia-the Englishman, Thomas more.
- Don Quixote by Spaniard Cervantes.
- Bible was translated in to German by Martin Luther.
- Othello, Makbez, the trader of Venus, Romeo & Juliet, and other great plays were written by the English man William Shakespeare.

In Art and Painting

- Mona Lisa
 - Last Supper
 - The creation of Adam, Statues of David Moses and the virgin & the dead Christ by Michelangelo another Italian pain
- Painted by Italian painter
Leonardo da Vinci

- The statues of 'Equestrian monuments of Cattamelata and Mary Magdalene made by Donatello'

★ St. Peter's cathedral in Rome was a magnificent architectural work of the time.

In science

- The Belgian, Vesalius studied the human anatomy.
- The polish Nicholas Copernicus declared that the earth revolved around the sun.
- Italian scientist Galileo Galilee was an influential scientist about gravitational force and other principles of physics.



Figure 3 GALILEO GALILEE



Figure 4 WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

E. The Reformation

- Reformation was a religious movement that led to the separation of Protestants from the Catholic Church at the beginning of 16thC.

- The protestant broke away from the Catholic Church after they accused the church officials of corruption and immorality.

- They were also against the authority of the pope.
- Mainly they opposed the practice of pardons of sins in return for money by the Catholic Church.

- Protestant supported some principles of capitalism.
- They thought any person should pray directly to God without priestly intermediaries.
- They encouraged the saving of money and hard work.
- Protestant opposition to the pope got wider acceptance from the kings of Europe.
- And they opposed the German prices that were against the power of the pope in their lands.

- The peasants support this movement to get land.
- In 1517, Reformation started in Germany by Martin Luther King.
- He established Lutheran protestant church.
- Peasants of Germany fought against Catholics from 1524 to 1525.
- Jean Calvin was French reformer who lived in Geneva, Switzerland; he established Calvinist church in 1541.

- Calvinism spread in Switzerland, Holland and Northern Europe.
- Calvin's follower in France known as Huguenots.
- John Knox was Scotland reformer.
- He established Presbyterian Church in 1560 in England.
- King Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I separated English protestant church from Roman Catholic Church.

- English Protestants established Anglican Church.
- The protestant reformation led to a catholic counter reformation.
- Counter Reformation was a religious movement of Catholics, as a response to Protestantism.

- Anti Catholics were attacked and even put to death in Catholics countries of Spain, Portugal and France.

- In 1534 Ignatius Loyola formed missionary organization known as the Society of Jesus.
- The members known as Jesuits; they were active in Americas, Asia and in Africa.



Figure 3 MARTIN LUTERN KING
HENNERY VIII



Figure 4 JHON CALVIN



Figure 5 JOHN KNOX



Figure 6