

generally had only a few small windows. This resulted in very dark interiors. Romanesque churches had relief sculpture on both the inside and the outside. Frescoes also adorned the walls.

During the mid-1100s, master builders in western Europe modified elements of Romanesque architecture to develop a different style of church architecture. Critics ridiculed this new style because it did not conform to the standards of classical architecture. These critics called the new style Gothic, after the barbarian Goths. Despite the origin of the name, Gothic has come to be considered one of the most beautiful styles of architecture ever developed.

In contrast to the low, heavy Romanesque churches, the spires of Gothic churches soared delicately above the roofs of the surrounding town. Outside the walls, builders used rows of supporting ribbed vaults, called flying buttresses, which they connected to the church with arches. Because the buttress carried part of the weight of the roof, the walls could be high and thin, with large windows. Everything in Gothic churches—pointed arches, tall spires, and high walls—reached toward heaven.

The inside of the Gothic church also differed from that of the Romanesque church. Statues of the holy family, saints, and rulers lined the interior, sculpture in relief adorned the walls, and stained-glass windows let in shafts of sunlight.

In many ways the Gothic church exemplified the changing world of the late Middle Ages. The tall structure rose above the growing town around and below it. Marketplaces in the shadows of its walls teemed with traders. Religious pageants and miracle plays were performed both within the church and outside its carved doors. All the skills of the medieval world went into the building of this monument to God.

Section 4 Review

1. **Define** vernacular languages, troubadours, scholasticism
2. **Identify** Dante, Chaucer, Abelard, Aquinas
3. **Summarizing Ideas** Briefly describe the major works of Dante and Chaucer.
4. **Analyzing Ideas** How do Abelard and Aquinas exemplify scholastic thought?
5. **Evaluating Ideas** "The design of the Gothic cathedrals drew people's attention upward to God." Use information from this section to support this statement.

Section 5

Wars and the Growth of Nations

Focus Questions

- What was the Hundred Years' War?
- What factors strengthened the monarchies of England, France, and Spain?
- During the 1300s and 1400s, what was happening to the Holy Roman Empire?

Under feudalism in the early Middle Ages, the people of a country did not look to a central government for defense or help; neither did they feel any loyalty toward the country as a whole. Instead, the loyalty of the people of a country lay with a local feudal lord, a manor village, or a town.

Gradually, however, with the decline of feudalism, states began to form. Kings began to build their kingdoms into organized nations. The development of a nation usually coincided with the growth of patriotism among its people. **Patriotism**, the feeling of loyalty to a country as a whole, gives the feeling of belonging to a large society rather than to only a small community.

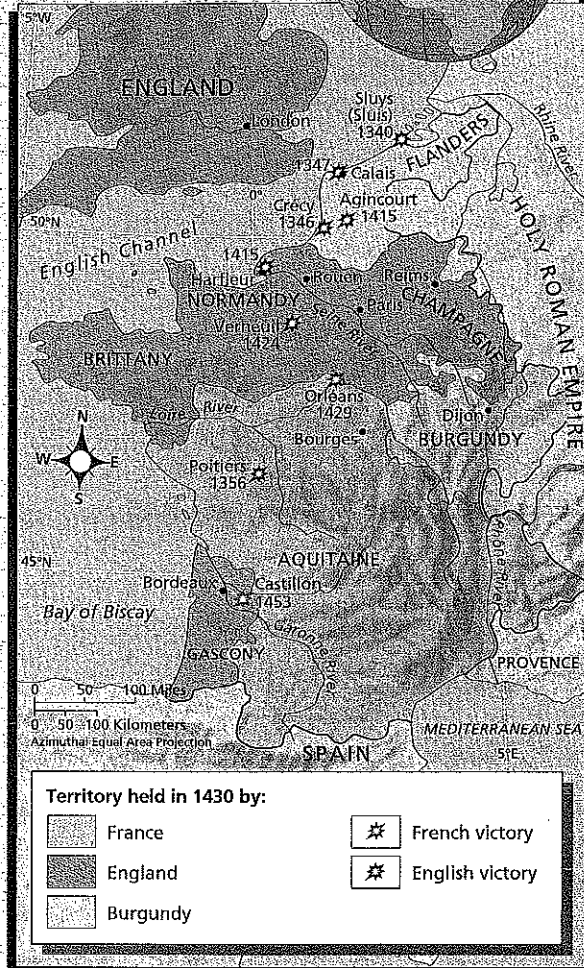
England

The authority of the English king, although partially restricted by Parliament, increased in various ways. These included the development of a single system of law and courts and an increase in revenue as the country grew more prosperous. Moreover, the military strength of a professional army and the support of the townspeople strengthened the king's position against the feudal lords.

Therefore, as a result of the authority of the English King increasing, the power of feudal lords decreased. The number of serfs declined. Increasingly, villages and farms of free peasants dotted the English countryside.

The Hundred Years' War. English prosperity and the development of a strong national government suffered a setback during a long war with France. The Hundred Years' War, the collective name for a series of conflicts lasting from 1337 until 1453, had several causes. The English king Edward III held the provinces of Aquitaine and Gascony in France. This made him a vassal of the French king. However, when the last male member of

France and the Hundred Years' War, 1337–1453



Learning from Maps The English defeated the French at the Battle of Crécy.

Movement What battle in 1429 marked a turning point in the war, resulting in a French victory?

the Capetian dynasty died, Edward laid claim to the French throne. The French assembly chose Philip VI instead. In 1337 Edward renewed his claim and brought an army to Flanders, a commercially rich area that England and France had competed for control of for some time. The conflict had begun.

The Hundred Years' War brought death and destruction to both England and France. It also led to two key developments.

The use of new weapons. The use of new weapons—particularly the longbow, gunpowder, and the cannon—weakened feudalism. The English longbow was five or six feet long, with an effective range of 200 yards. English foot soldiers armed with longbows soundly defeated a French feudal cavalry at Agincourt (AJ-uhm-kohrt) in 1415. Knights on horseback were no match for foot soldiers with longbows.

Both French and English troops began to use gunpowder and cannons during the Hundred Years' War. At first cannons were only crude tubes of wood and metal out of which exploding gunpowder hurled stones or chunks of metal. They were difficult to aim properly. More effective cannons and smaller, hand-held guns developed from these rather simple weapons. As a result, castles no longer provided strong protection for the feudal lord and his soldiers because one powerful blast from a cannon could break through a castle's thick walls.

The growing power of the English Parliament. Parliament, especially the House of Commons, gained more power over the king. To finance the war, the English king needed tax revenue, and to collect these taxes, the king needed the consent of Parliament. In April 1376, members of the House of Commons, angry at the course of the war and concerned about problems at home, first met separately from the lords and then confronted them with their demands. Among the concessions they gained were a special council to advise the king and the right to consider tax legislation before it was discussed by the lords. By the end of the 1300s, Parliament's consent was required for all extraordinary taxation.

Despite many English victories, when the Hundred Years' War ended in 1453, England had lost all its lands in France except Calais. (See map on this page.) Almost exactly 100 years later, this too was relinquished.

The Wars of the Roses. A struggle for the throne between the York and Lancaster families began in 1455 and delayed the emergence of a strong centralized government in England. In this civil strife—the Wars of the Roses—the Yorkists used a white rose as their badge, and the Lancastrians used a red rose. Small bands of nobles and their private armies did most of the fighting.

In 1485 Henry Tudor, a member of the House of Lancaster, ended the wars by defeating the Yorkist king Richard III. Henry seized the throne of England, married a daughter of the House of York, and became

Henry VII, founder of the Tudor dynasty. The English people, tired of war and disorder, willingly accepted the strong government that Henry VII established.

France

Many of the same factors at work in England during the 1300s and 1400s were also at work in France. The Capetian kings had developed a strong monarchy, although the Hundred Years' War with England caused French kings to lose some of their power. France suffered more than England during that war because the fighting took place on French soil. Bands of pillaging English soldiers devastated the French countryside. Even during the periods of relative peace, starvation plagued the citizens. The following excerpt describes the misery of the people in 1421.

“And in truth when good weather came, in April, those who in the winter had made their beverages from apples and sloe plums emptied the residue of their apples and their plums into the street with the intention that the pigs of St. Antoine would eat them. But the pigs did not get to them in time, for as soon as they were thrown out, they were seized by poor folk, women and children, who ate them with great relish, which was a great pity, each for himself; for they ate what the pigs scorned to eat, they ate the cores of cabbages without bread or without cooking, grasses of the fields without bread or salt.”

Joan of Arc. During the Hundred Years' War, rivalry broke out between branches of the royal family—Burgundy and Orléans—making it difficult for the French to fight the English. Defeat followed defeat. However, French fortunes in the war were revived by a 16-year-old peasant girl, Joan of Arc. Joan said she had heard the voices of three saints—Michael, Catherine, and Margaret—telling her to leave her small village and help defend the city of Orléans, which was under English attack. She persuaded the French authorities to allow her into the city. In 1429, inspired to greater efforts by Joan's presence, the weary French troops rallied and saved the city. That same year Joan helped the heir to the French throne take the crown as Charles VII.

Burgundian forces, who were allied with England, captured Joan in May 1430. She was turned over to the church to be tried as a heretic. Convicted, she was burned at the stake in 1431.

Joan of Arc's courage as well as her martyrdom created strong patriotic feeling among the French. By 1453 they had driven the English out of France

except for the port of Calais. As in England, a stronger monarchy had also been reestablished.

The Estates General. In 1302 Philip IV (the Fair) established the Estates General, a representative assembly resembling the English Parliament. It took its name from the groups that attended the meetings: members of the clergy (First Estate), nobles (Second Estate), and common people (Third Estate). During the Hundred Years' War, when France lacked a strong king, the Estates General controlled finances and passed laws. After the war, however, with a stronger monarchy, it became clear that the Estates General was too unwieldy a body to govern the country. It never gained the right to approve taxes, which was so important for the English Parliament. In France the king could levy taxes on his own authority.

Louis XI. Louis XI further strengthened the French monarchy during his reign, from 1461 to 1483. Louis avoided war except as a last resort, preferring to use diplomacy, at which he was a master. In fact, his opponents called him the Universal Spider because of his skills at conspiracy and intrigue. Domestically, his rule was characterized by a harsh but efficient administration and high taxes.

Louis XI used diplomacy to build an alliance against the powerful Duke of Burgundy, Charles the Bold. He did so by persuading the leaders of Switzerland, an independent nation, that a strong Burgundy would threaten Swiss freedom. The Swiss then did Louis's fighting for him. In 1477 the Duke of Burgundy was killed in battle, and Louis seized much of the territory of Burgundy.

The French king continued to solidify his power, recovering French fiefs that had been part of the Burgundian state. He gained Brittany by marriage. France gradually became unified under the monarchy.

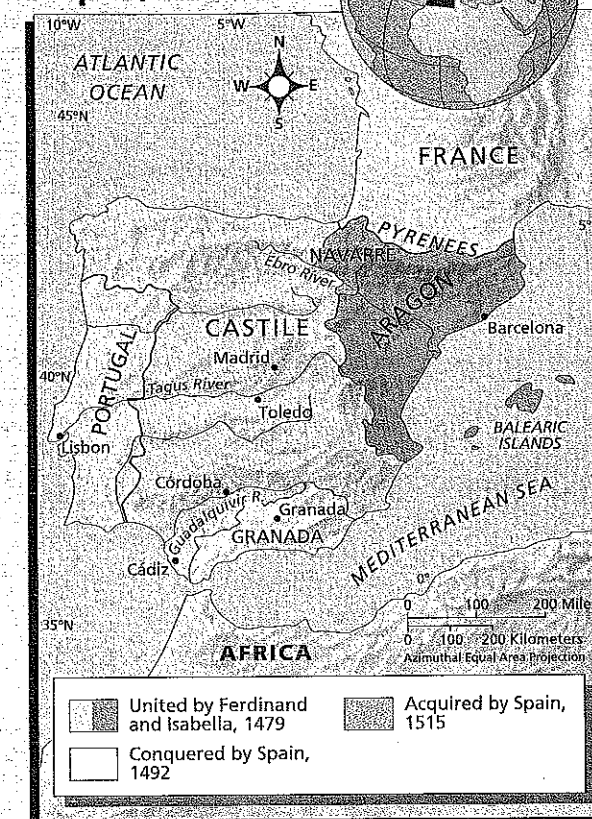
As the power of French kings increased, the power of French feudal lords declined. However, French nobles had many privileges and remained rich and influential until the mid-1700s.

As feudalism declined, French peasants did not gain as much personal freedom as the English did. Also unlike the English, they still had to pay many dues and owed services to the manor and its lord.

Spain

By 1400 four principal Christian kingdoms—Portugal, Castile, Navarre, and Aragon—had emerged on the Iberian Peninsula. (See map on page 270.) Granada also shared the peninsula.

The Unification of Spain, 1479–1515



Learning from Maps The marriage between Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile eventually united these two Spanish kingdoms.

Region What area did Spain acquire in 1492?

The first real step toward unification of the peninsula came in 1469, when Isabella of Castile married Ferdinand of Aragon. The two kingdoms remained separate, but their rulers joined forces in a war against the Moors in 1492, capturing Granada. Granada had been the last stronghold of the Moors in Spain. In the late 1400s and early 1500s, Ferdinand and Isabella united Castile and Aragon to form the new nation of Spain and added the kingdom of Navarre to its territories.

Ferdinand and Isabella made Spain a strong monarchy, taking powers away from the church courts and the nobles. Ardent Catholics, they looked with displeasure at the non-Christians in their kingdoms. Moors had been in the southern part of Spain since

the 700s. Jews had been there from the time of the Roman Empire.

In 1492 Ferdinand and Isabella ordered all Jews within their two kingdoms to become Christians or leave. Several years later, they required the Moors to make the same choice. Most people in both groups chose to leave. This policy acted to weaken Spain because both the Moors and the Jews had been valuable leaders in industrial and commercial activity.

The Holy Roman Empire

England, France, and Spain had each formed powerful nations after 1100. However, Germany and Italy—the regions that made up the Holy Roman Empire—did not become unified nations until the 1800s. The Holy Roman emperor lacked the power he needed to exercise complete control.

In the early days, the rulers of many German states elected the Holy Roman emperor. Gradually, the number who could vote for emperor decreased. Finally, by a decree issued in 1356, Emperor Charles IV ruled that only seven electors would choose the emperor.

The electors feared giving too much power to one of their own group or to any other powerful prince. As a result, for many years they elected only princes who had little land or power. The Holy Roman emperor had no real authority, but he did have prestige. For this reason, the election became an occasion for bribery and the trading of political favors.

In 1273 a member of the Habsburg family, which ruled a small state in what is now Switzerland, was elected emperor. The Habsburgs, although weak princes with little land, used the prestige of the title Holy Roman emperor to arrange marriages with powerful families. In this way, the Habsburg family gained control of the duchy of Austria and nearby lands. Many other well-planned marriages eventually gave them control of vast amounts of territory in the empire. (See map on page 271.)

After 1437 the Habsburgs maneuvered cleverly enough to ensure that the Holy Roman emperor was nearly always a Habsburg. Although they became the most powerful family in Europe, they could not unify the Holy Roman Empire, or even the regions within it. For example, Germany, though dominated by the Habsburgs, was ruled primarily by territorial princes. Nor was Italy unified. A major barrier to its unification lay in the fact that the country was divided, as by a belt across the middle, by the Papal States ruled by the pope.