

Year 7 Black Death & Peasants' Revolt Knowledge Organiser

The Black Death killed over $\frac{1}{3}$ of England's population within two years of its arrival in 1348. There were two types of plague. The **bubonic plague** would start with **buboes** spreading across the victim's body, followed by blue or black patches of skin and vomiting before (most of the time) killing the victim. The **pneumonic plague** was spread by breath and attacked the lungs.

What did medieval people think caused the Black Death? Today we know the bubonic plague was spread by fleas living on rats that were moving throughout Europe on merchants' ships. Most medieval people thought **God** had sent the Black Death as a punishment for their sins. Others believed the alignment of the stars could explain it. Some people believed '**miasma**' (bad air) was causing the disease.

Medieval Treatments

As there was no real understanding of the cause, treatments were equally as far-fetched, e.g. drinking vinegar, bleeding, 'sweating it out'. Some doctors put frogs on the buboes to absorb the poison. Some doctors realised that draining the buboes could help cure a victim too.

Key Dates

1347 - Black Death hits Venice (Italy)

June 1348 - Black Death arrived in England (Dorset).

1351 - Edward III introduces the

Statute of Labourers

1381 - The Peasants' Revolt.

15 June 1381 - Richard II meets the rebels.

Key Terms

Black Death - A plague that devastated Europe in the fourteenth century.

Buboes - Onion shaped swellings that were usually the first symptom of the Black Death.

Miasma - Theory that disease was caused by a poisonous cloud of 'bad air'.

Bubonic plague - the most common type of plague, named after the buboes.

Pneumonic plague - a more deadly type of plague that attacked the lungs.

Flagellant - a religious sect that punished themselves for sins by whipping their bodies.

Peasants' Revolt - major uprising across England in 1381.

Yeomen - a new class in medieval England; commoners who farmed their own land.

Poll Tax - everyone (rich and poor) paid the same amount.

The Peasants' Revolt

Having lost such a large section of the population during the Black Death, landowners found it very difficult to find enough peasants to work their land. Peasants knew they were in demand and began to demand higher wages. King Edward III tried to stop this with the **Statute of Labourers** (a law) which fixed peasant wages at the pre-Black death rate.

In 1381, **Richard II** (14 years old) was King of England but left most of the government to his uncle, **John of Gaunt** (an unpopular nobleman who didn't care much about peasants). Gaunt raised a **Poll Tax** to help pay for war with France - it was deeply unpopular and when a royal official tried to collect the tax in Essex (May 1381) English peasants refused to pay and killed his clerks! Wat Tyler (a yeoman from Kent) organised 4000 rebels from Kent who joined with the peasants in Essex to march to London and demand that the king change his mind. The rebels burned John of Gaunt's Savoy Palace and executed Simon Sudbury (Archbishop of Canterbury).

Richard II met with the rebels at Smithfield (15 June 1381); Wat Tyler was killed. The king promised to meet the peasants' demands if they returned home. He later went back on his promises and had the leaders tracked down and hanged. The Peasants' Revolt failed but feudal England had been challenged!

Suggested Tasks

1. Create your own timeline of key events - can you add further detail to it?
2. Cover your knowledge organiser and create a spider diagram of everything you can remember, include key dates, people and events. Check it against the knowledge organiser - where are the gaps in your knowledge?
3. Make your own flashcards - put the date on one side and the event on the other.

Year 7 Tudors Knowledge Organiser

Who were the Tudors? Henry Tudor was a member of the House of Lancaster, he had lived in France and was greatly helped in his bid for the English throne by his mother, Margaret Beaufort. Henry Tudor defeated King Richard III (Yorkist) in Aug 1485 at the Battle of Bosworth Field; he became King Henry VII of England and ended the Wars of the Roses.

The Reformation in Europe By 1500, the Catholic Church had developed a reputation for corruption and were criticised for being too wealthy and taking advantage of Christians. Protestants believed that each Christian should have a personal relationship with God and should have access to the Bible in their own language (instead of Latin, which only priests could read). Protestants began giving sermons which attacked the Catholic Church and used the newly invented printing press to spread their ideas.

Henry VIII's 'Great Matter' By 1525, **Catherine of Aragon** (Henry VIII's first wife) was 40 years old, she had give him one daughter (Mary) but it was unlikely now that she would provide a male heir. Henry VIII needed a male heir to secure the throne and had also fallen in love with one of Catherine's ladies-in waiting, **Anne Boleyn**. In order to marry Anne, Henry needed to divorce Catherine, but this was not allowed by the Catholic Church. Henry claimed that the **Book of Leviticus** in the Bible showed that God did not approve of his marriage to Catherine as it stated that if a man married his brother's widow, they would remain childless - Henry VIII argued this meant God was punishing him by not giving him a son. Henry's chief minister, **Thomas Wolsey** tried and failed to convince the Pope to grant a divorce. Anne Boleyn was a keen reader of **Martin Luther's** ideas and despite the fact that Henry didn't like them, he used them to change religion in England forever, In Nov 1534 Parliament passed the **Act of Supremacy**; it confirmed England's **break with Rome** (the Pope), created a new Church of England and made King Henry VIII **Supreme Head of the Church of England** instead of the Pope. This left Henry VIII free to grant himself the divorce from Catherine. Henry VIII had secretly married Anne Boleyn in Jan 1533.

Key Terms

Dynasty - a succession of powerful people from the same family, e.g. Tudor family

Lancastrian - supporter of King Henry VI and his family during the Wars of the Roses

Yorkist - supporter of the Duke of York and later his sons, during the Wars of the Roses.

Tudors - royal dynasty that ruled England between 1485 and 1603.

Reformation - a movement to reform the Catholic Church started by Martin Luther in Germany.

Protestantism - a form of Christianity that emerged during the 1500s in protest against Catholicism.

Break with Rome - England's decision to leave the Catholic Church in 1534.

Act of Supremacy - a law passed by Parliament which lead to the creation of the Church of England.

Key Dates

21 Aug 1485 - Henry Tudor wins the Battle of Bosworth Field; becomes King of England

1509-1547 - Henry VIII is King of England

1517 - Luther nails his 95 Theses to the Church door in Wittenberg, starting the Reformation.

Jan 1533 - Henry VIII secretly marries Anne Boleyn.

Nov 1534 - Act of Supremacy

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Year 7 Tudors Knowledge Organiser

Henry VIII's Religious Changes To ensure full support for the Act of Supremacy, all public figures and churchmen were ordered to swear the **Oath of Supremacy** - anyone who refused was tried for treason and executed.

The **Dissolution of the Monasteries** - the monasteries had provided, education, prayer and charity to the people of England for 1000 years but were also accused of being wealthy and corrupt. Henry was in need of money to fight wars. In 1536, he sent his men to strip the monasteries of their wealth and land and took it for himself; the monasteries were left to crumble. The **Pilgrimage of Grace** was a Catholic uprising against the Henry's religious changes. Henry promised they would be forgiven if they went home but later broke that promise and had 200 of those involved, executed.

Key Terms

Oath of Supremacy - an oath of allegiance to the monarch as Supreme Head of the Church of England.

Dissolution of the Monasteries - the closure of all religious houses in England by Henry VIII.

Pilgrimage of Grace - a Catholic uprising against the King and his religious changes, especially the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

Counter-reformation - Catholic fight back against the spread of Protestantism in Europe.

Burning at the stake - a slow and painful execution by fire, usually reserved for heretics,

Elizabethan Religious Settlement - a compromise returning England to Protestantism while allowing Catholics to worship in secret,

Key Dates

1536 -

Dissolution of the Monasteries

Oct 1536 -

Pilgrimage of Grace

1587 - Elizabeth

executed Mary, Queen of Scots.

1588 - Spanish Armada

Aug 1588 -

Battle of Gravelines

Edward VI's (1547-1553) Religious Changes - Edward was a far stronger believer in the Reformation than Henry VIII. As he was young, he was also influenced by his uncle, the Duke of Somerset and the Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer. He passed further Protestant reforms. For example, priests were allowed to marry; the Catholic **Mass** was abolished; church services in English became compulsory; he authorised the first prayer book in English, Thomas Cranmer's **Book of Common Prayer**. Any remaining Catholic features were ripped out of English Churches and Catholic rituals and ceremonies were banned.

Mary I (1553-1558) - Edward VI tried to prevent his **Catholic** half-sister Mary from becoming queen by placing his Protestant cousin, **Lady Jane Grey** on the throne. However, an army of around 20,000 men gathered to support Mary, who they felt was the rightful heir to the throne. Mary became queen in 1553, married the Catholic Philip II of Spain and embarked on a **counter-reformation** which reversed all of Edward VI's Protestant reforms (listed above). Mary I came to be known as '**Bloody Mary**' because she used **burning at the stake** to punish Protestants; she executed 283 Protestants including 56 women using this method, in just five years. Mary never had any children and so was succeeded by her Protestant half-sister, Elizabeth in 1558.

Elizabeth I (1558-1603) - When Elizabeth came to the throne, England was torn between those Protestants who wanted to see the Reformation taken further and those who had a deep affection for Catholic ceremonies and rituals. The **Elizabethan Religious Settlement** created a compromise; England's official religion was Protestantism but Catholics could worship in secret. Elizabeth chose not to marry against the wishes of her advisors as she was determined to bring stability to England. Elizabeth's Catholic cousin, **Mary Queen of Scots** was expelled from Scotland. She was implicated in a plot to kill Elizabeth and was executed in 1587. In retaliation and because this meant England would remain Protestant, Philip II of Spain launched a naval invasion of England (**Spanish Armada**) in 1588, however, English tactics and difficult weather conditions ensured the Spanish ships never made it to England.