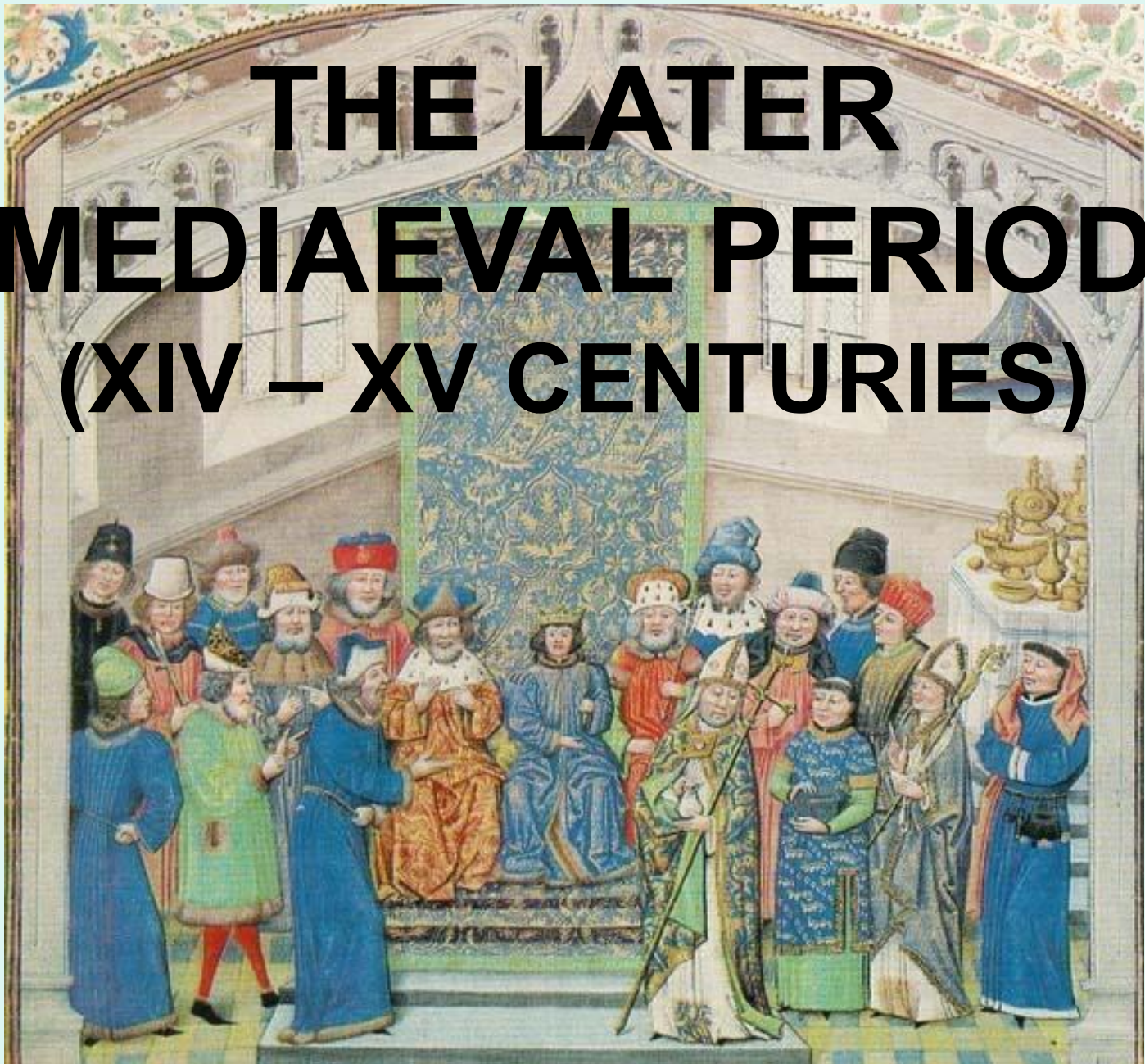
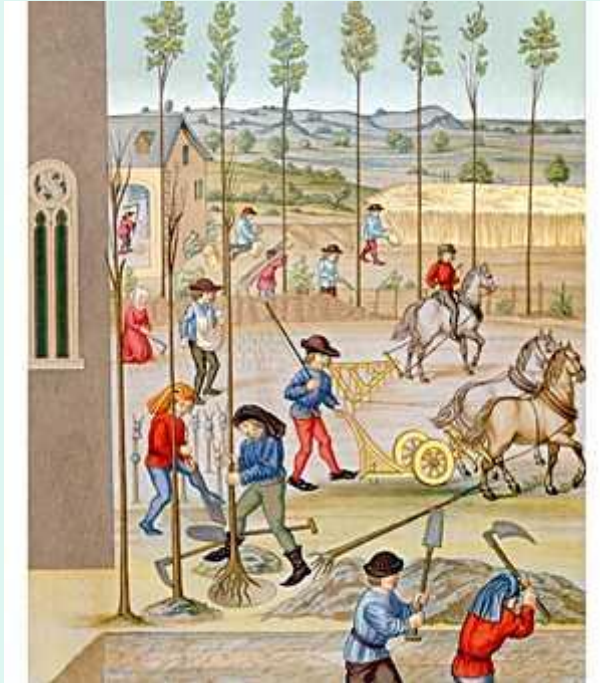


THE LATER MEDIAEVAL PERIOD (XIV – XV CENTURIES)

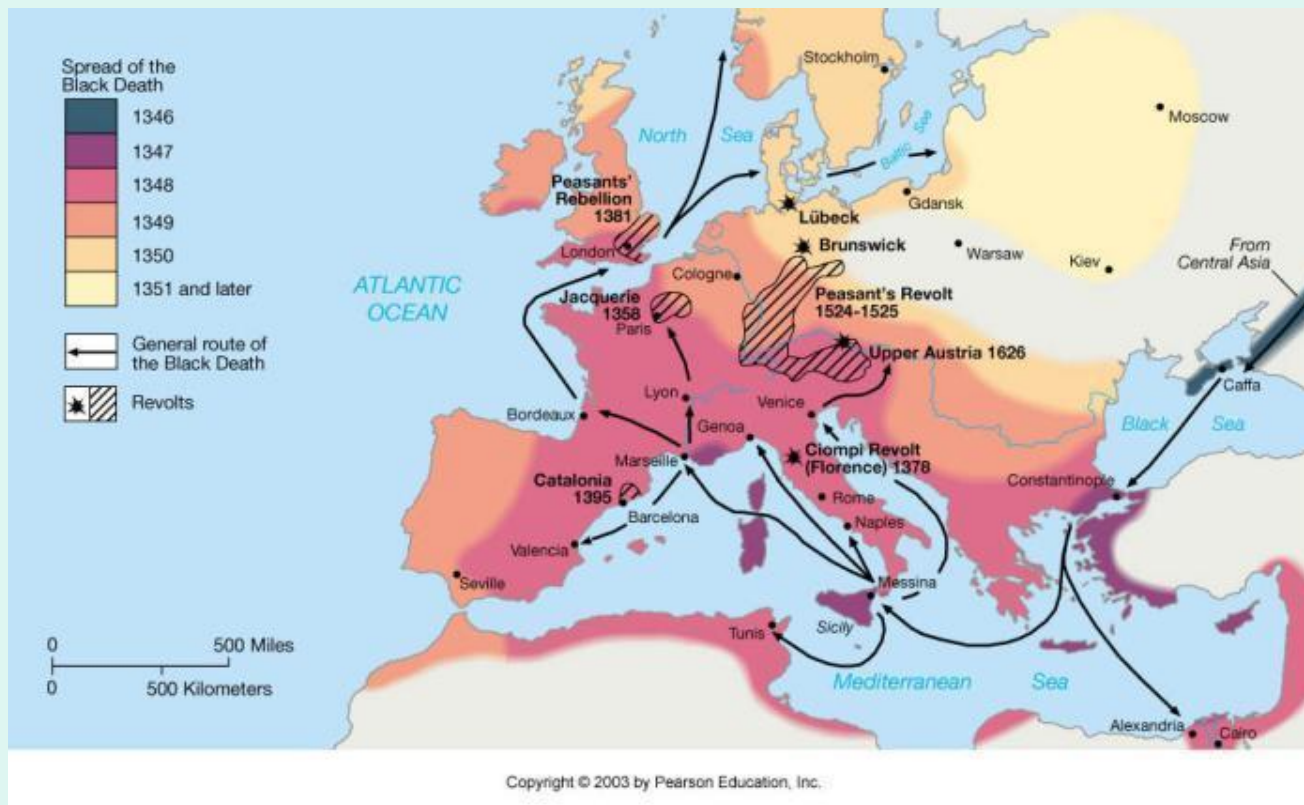


The 14th century in England is the period of the highest flowering of the feudalism, and at the same time the beginning of its **decline**. This can be felt through the **changes of the governmental system**, numerous **peasants' revolts** against their landlords and the growing **opposition to the Catholic church**.



The Black Death in Europe

In 1348, a plague called **the Black Death** came from the Continent. More than 1/3 of the British population died.



Changes in agriculture



Because of the shortage of field workers great changes took place in agriculture. Many peasants came to an arrangement with their lords **to pay money** instead of services. Some became free farmers, or **yeomen**, owning their own land.

Wool production in England

Towns grew as centres of trade.
Wool became the most important object of production and trading.



The Hundred Years' War



Edward III

The longest military campaign of the period was the **Hundred Years' War** (1337 – 1453 /1472).

It began when king Edward III claimed the French throne.

The Hundred Years' War



The early period of the war was quite successful for the English. It was then that Edward's son, the Prince of Wales, known as the **Black Prince** for the color of his armour, gained popularity as a national hero.

Edward
the Black
Prince



The Hundred Years' War



King **Henry V** conquered large territories in France and was officially recognized as heir to the French throne. But after his death the French led by Joan of Arc **defeated the English** and soon made them leave the country.

Henry V



The Wars of the Roses (1455 – 1485)



As soon as the war in France was over, the **Wars of the Roses** broke out in England. It was a struggle between two most powerful feudal families, **the Lancasters** and **the Yorks**, for the English throne. The war considerably weakened the economy of the country and nearly wracked the whole nation.



The Tudors

In 1485 **Henry Tudor** stopped the bloody conflict and became the founder of a new royal dynasty of **the Tudors**.



Henry VII Tudor



Elizabeth of York

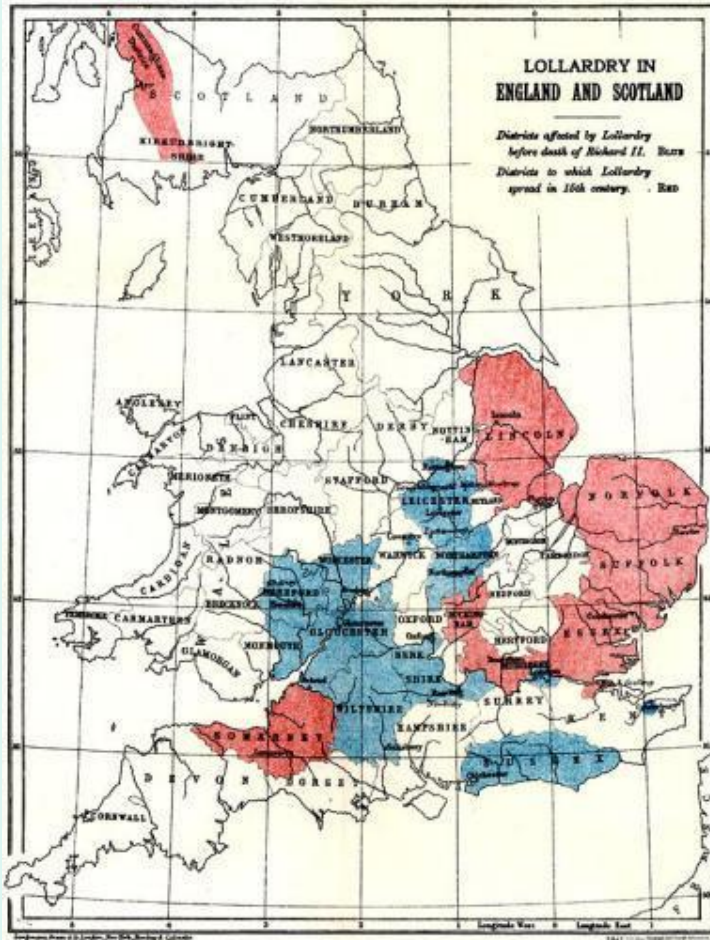
Religion and church

The power of the Catholic church was gradually declining. An Oxford professor and preacher **John Wycliff** (1324 – 1384) criticized the wealth and laziness of the clergymen and attacked many Catholic dogmas. He **translated the Bible into English** so that it could be read and understood by people who knew no Latin.



John Wycliffe reading his translation of the Bible to John Gaunt and his family

Lollardy in England



John Wycliff had many followers, who went preaching all over England and were known as **the Lollards**.

Blue – districts affected by Lollardy in the XIV century.

Red – districts to which Lollardy spread in the XV century.

Lollardry in England

A Lollard priest **John Ball** became one of the leaders of the greatest peasants' revolt (1381).

A phrase from one of his sermons: “**When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then the gentleman?**”, became a popular motto of the revolt.



Wat Tyler Revolt



This peasants' revolt happened in **1381**. It started after a new tax (**poll tax**) was introduced in England. The angry peasants, led by **Wat Tyler**, marched to London and seized the capital. They demanded the abolition of serfdom and all feudal dues, the division of Church property among the poor.

Wat Tyler Revolt



During the meeting with the king Wat Tyler was treacherously killed and **the rebellion was crushed**. But the lesson was taught, the lords were frightened, and soon serfdom practically disappeared in England.

The Middle English Language



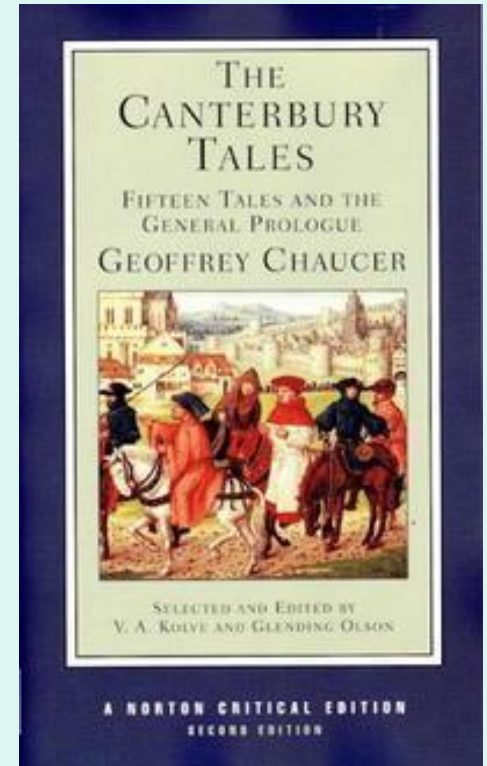
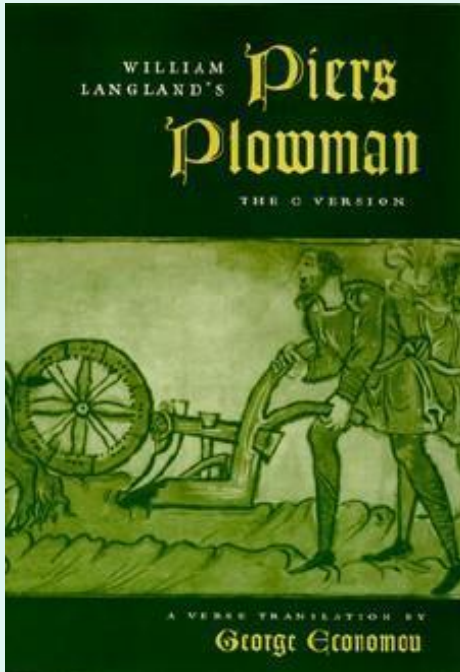
By the end of the 14th century a standard form of written English had come into being. It was based on London dialect. It was **Anglo-Saxon** in its origin, but adopted a considerable number of **Norman French** and **Latin** elements.

The Middle English Language

...And whanne Moises hadde stretchid forth the hond on the see, the Lord took it awai, the while a greet wynde and brennyng blew in al the nigth, and turnede in to drynesse; and the watir was deparrid. And the sones of Israel entriden by myddis of the drye see; for the watir was as a wal at the right side and left side of hem. And Egipcians pursueden, and entriden aftir hem, al the ridyng of Farao, hise charis, and knygtis, bi the myddis of the see. And the waking of the morewrtid cam thane, and lo! The Lord bihelde on the castels of Egipcians, by a piler of fier, and of cloude, and killide the oost of hem; and he destriede the wheelis of charis, and tho weren borun in to the depthe...

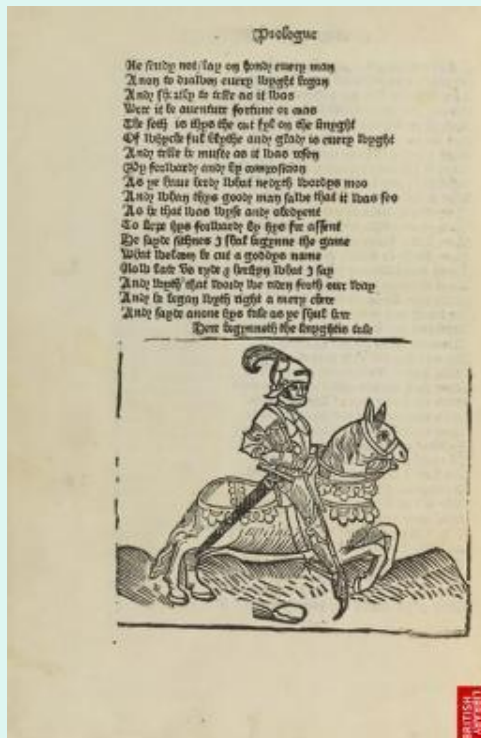
Literature

Of the works of literature the most outstanding were *Piers Plowman* by **William Langland** and *The Canterbury Tales* by **Geoffrey Chaucer**



Printing

In 1476, **William Caxton** brought a new process of **printing** to Britain (the invention of Gutenberg, Germany). Printing spread science and culture more quickly; it made books cost cheaper and increased a demand for books.



Public Schools

Many new schools were founded. They were called **public schools**.

The first was **Winchester** in 1382, followed by **Eton** in 1440.



Eton



The Renaissance in England (XVI century)

Henry VII Tudor (1457 / 1485 – 1509)



Henry VII

Henry VII established firm and effective government, backed by strong financial and legal systems. It was the beginning of the period of **absolute monarchy** in England.



Elizabeth of York

English Reformation



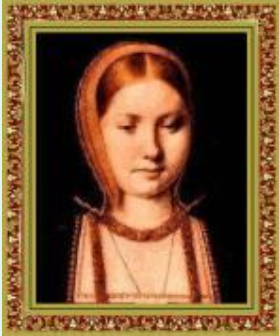
King Henry VIII



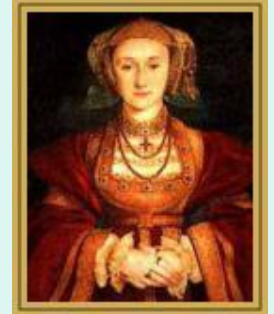
Catherine of Aragon

His son **Henry VIII** became the reformer of the church. After the Pope refused to divorce him, Henry VIII declared himself the Supreme Head of the Church of England. The new **Anglican Church** was independent of Rome, and became one of the protestant denominations.

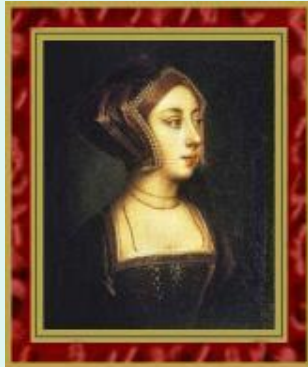
King Henry VIII and his wives



Catherine
of Aragon



Anne of
Cleves



Anne
Boleyn



Catherine
Howard



Jane
Seymour



Henry VIII
(1491 / 1509 –
1547)



Catherine
Parr



The children of Henry VIII

Edward VI

(1537 / 1547 – 1553)



Mary I

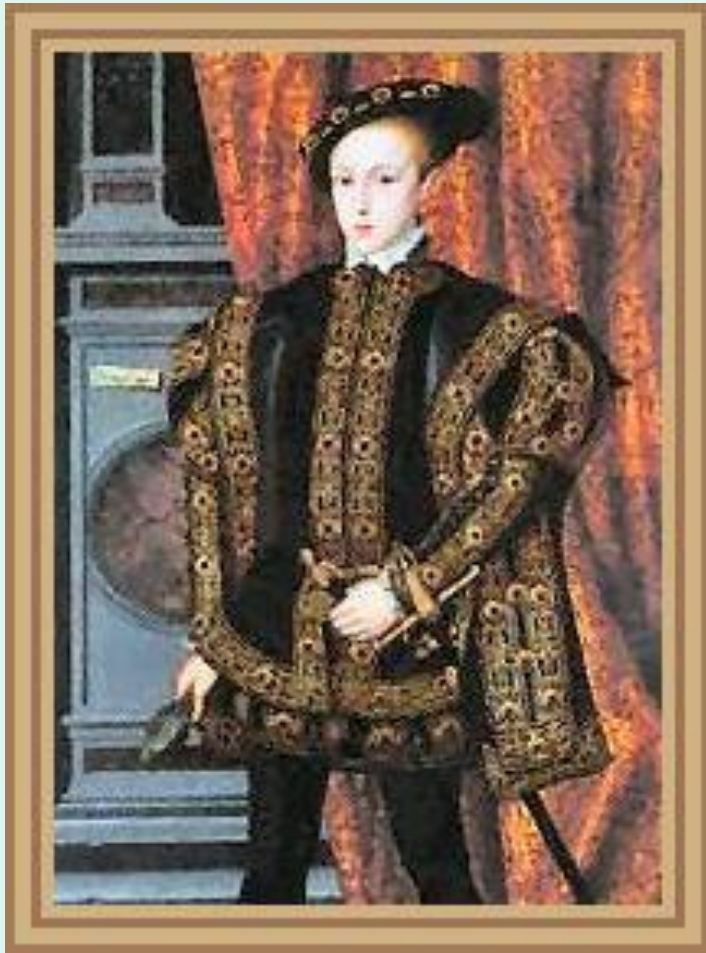
(1516 / 1553 – 1558)



Elizabeth I

(1533 / 1558 –
1603)





Edward VI was a sickly boy and died at the age of 16.



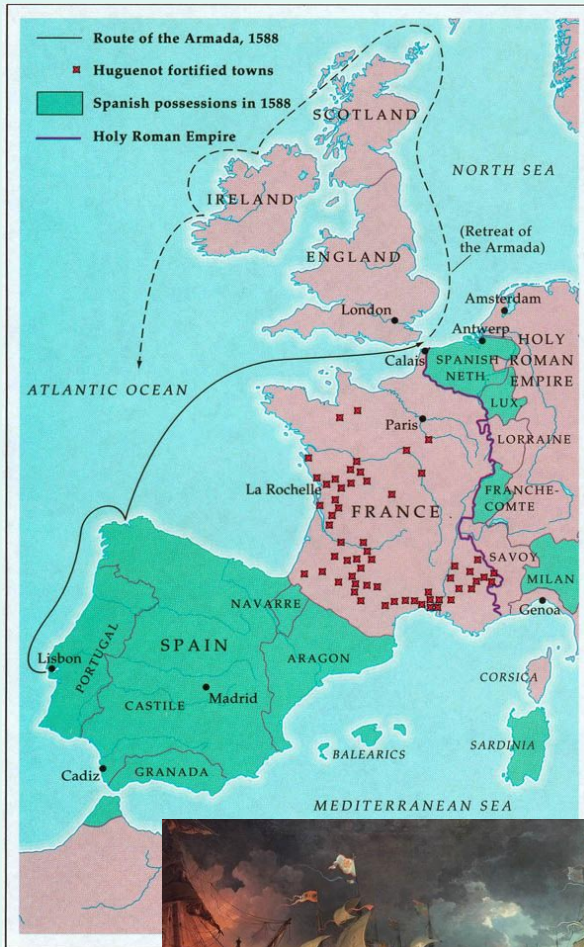
Mary Tudor was known as “Bloody Mary”, for she hoped to restore England to **Catholicism** and started a fierce company, burning heretics.



Elizabeth I reigned for 44 years. The Elizabethan era is considered to be **the golden age** in English history. It was a period of political stability, economic prosperity, flowering of arts and literature.

Defeat of the Invincible Armada

In **1588** Spain, the most active rival of England, sent the so-called **Invincible Armada** against England. It comprised around 150 large and modern ships. But the English won thanks to excellent maneuvering and the weather. England became **the leading sea-power in Europe**.



Elizabeth I and Mary Stuart

An irritating and persistent problem that Elizabeth had to face was the relationship with Scotland and **Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots**. The Scottish didn't like Mary who was a Catholic. When a Protestant army was raised against her she had to seek refuge in England with her relative Queen Elizabeth. Elizabeth promptly imprisoned and later executed her.



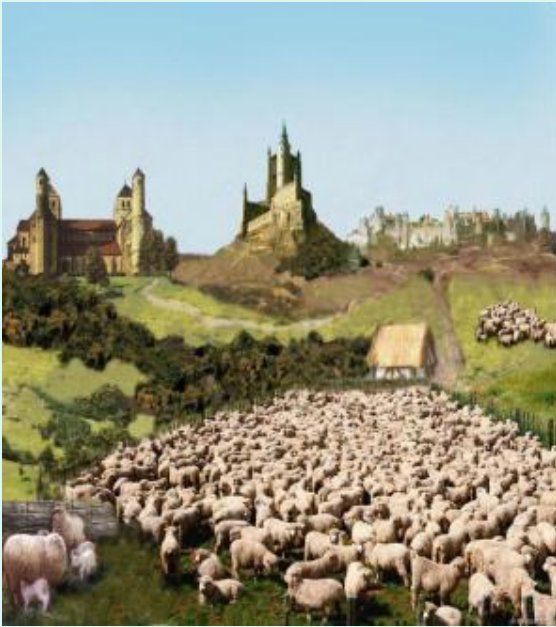
**Mary Stuart,
Queen of Scots**

James I Stuart (1566 / 1603 – 1625)



But on her death-bed the unmarried and childless Elizabeth made Mary's son James, king of Scotland, her successor as the King of England. In **1603**, he became **James I Stuart**, king of both England and Scotland, though the official union of the two countries followed only a century later, in **1707**.

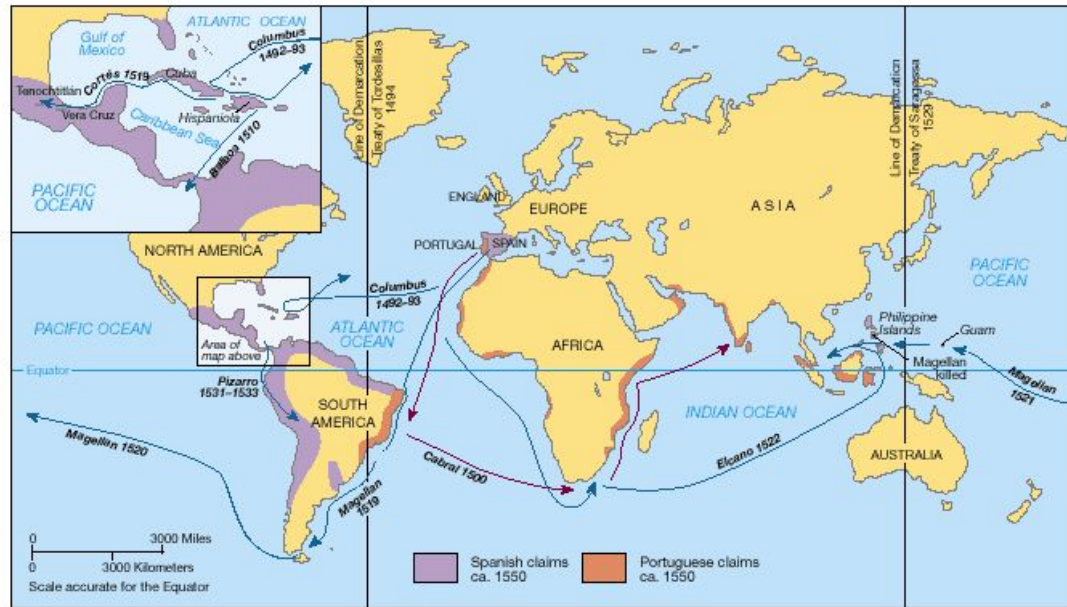
Economic development




Changes were observed in economy. As **wool** became the most popular product of trading, **sheep breeding** turned to be the most profitable branch of agriculture. The landowners took their peasants' fields for pastures. **The enclosures of land** made peasants move to towns and become hired workers at manufactures. It was the beginning of **capitalistic development** in economy.

Geographical discoveries

The Renaissance epoch in Europe was the time of numerous **geographical discoveries**. English sailors also contributed to them.



 Voyages of discovery and the claims of Spain and Portugal to overseas empires. Pope Alexander VI divided the New World between the two Iberian powers.

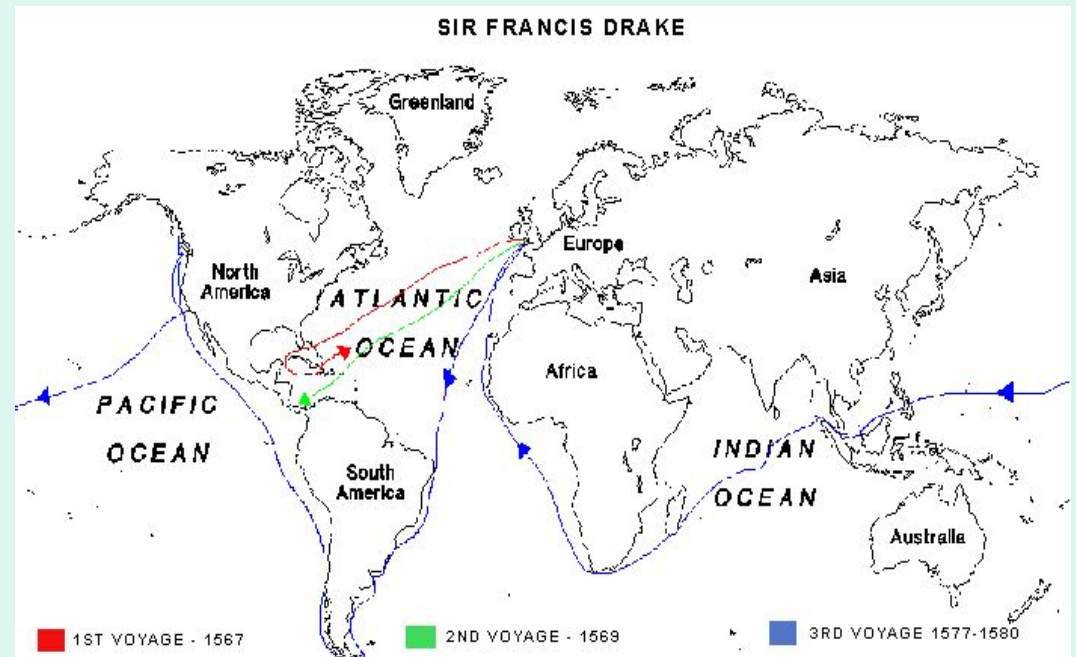


John Cabot
discovered
Newfoundland in
1497.





Francis Drake's search for treasures led to his sailing round the globe (1577-80).





Sir Walter Raleigh led an expedition to America and in 1585 founded the first English colony there, named **Virginia** after Elizabeth (the Virgin Queen). It was Raleigh who introduced **potatoes** and **tobacco** into Britain, having brought them from America.

Painting



Self-portrait by
Hans Holbein



Erasmus of Rotterdam

The Renaissance period is marked by flourishing of national culture. Great European artists, such as **Hans Holbein**, painted portraits for the English aristocracy.



Henry VIII



Jane Seymour

Tudor architecture



A new architectural style, imitating classical Italian architecture, became to be known later as the **Tudor style**.



Humanism



The term Renaissance originally indicated a revival of **classical** (Greek and Roman) arts and sciences. **Humanism** became the new philosophy. **The humanists** held their chief interest not in ecclesiastical knowledge, but in man, his environment and doings.

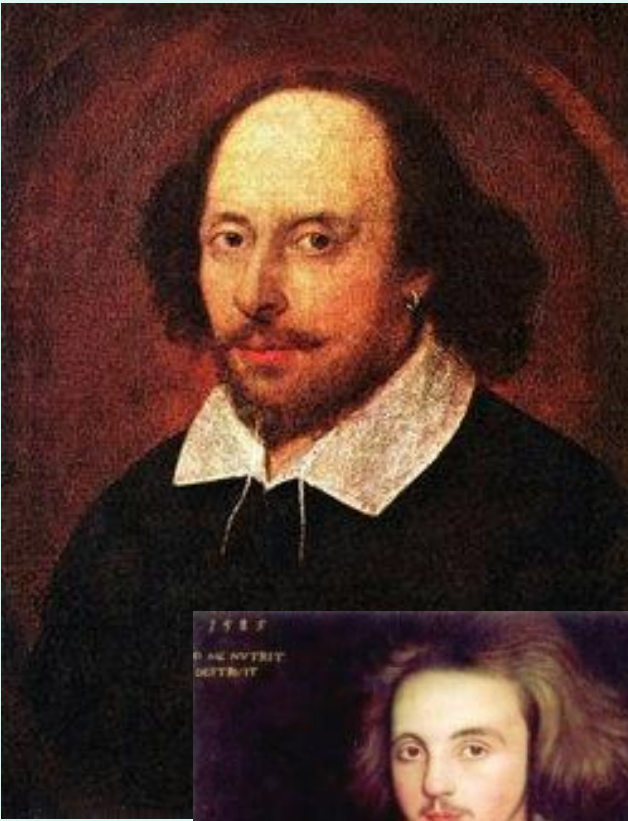
Sir Thomas More



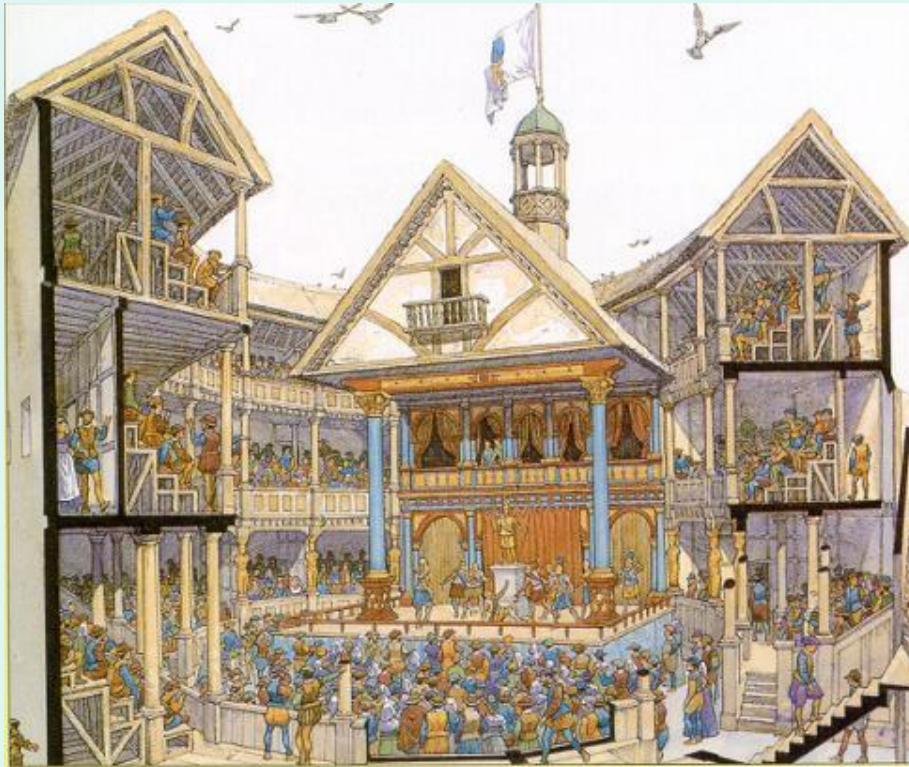
At the beginning of the 16th century the outstanding humanist **Thomas More** (1478 – 1535) wrote his most famous book *Utopia* in which he described an ideal state.

Poetry

In poetry and drama it was the age of **William Shakespeare**, Christopher Marlowe, Walter Raleigh, Philip Sydney, Edmund Spenser.



The Renaissance theatre



In the 16th century the first **theatres** were built. They were roofless wooden structures. The rich people occupied the boxes while common people stood in the pit. All actors were men.

The Globe Theatre

One of the most famous London theatres was *the Globe* for which Willam Shakespeare wrote his famous plays.

