

Enduring Issues Check In: Feudal Europe

Directions: Carefully read and **annotate** each document with a focus on context and potential enduring issues. Complete the enduring issues “Quick Assessment” as you read and complete the analysis task for each of the documents.

ACTIVITY TASK:

In your response:

- Identify and define an enduring issue raised by this set of documents
- Using your knowledge of social studies and evidence from the documents, complete the graphic organizer analyzing an enduring issue in global history evident in the documents.

Be sure to:

- **Identify** the issue based on a historically accurate interpretation of the documents
- **Define** the issue
- **Argue** that this is a significant issue that has endured by showing (on the graphic organizer)
 - o How the issue has affected people or been affected by people
 - o How the issue has continued to be an issue or changed over time

Document 1

SOURCE: Giovanni Boccaccio, Introduction of *The Decameron*, (Florence, Italy), 1348.

Note:

Italian writer Giovanni Boccaccio lived through the plague as it ravaged the city of Florence in 1348

"The symptoms were not the same as in the East, where a gush of blood from the nose was the plain sign of inevitable death; but it began both in men and women with certain swellings in the groin or under the armpit. They grew to the size of a small apple or an egg, more or less, and were vulgarly called tumours. In a short space of time these tumours spread from the two parts named all over the body. Soon after this the symptoms changed and black or purple spots appeared on the arms or thighs or any other part of the body, sometimes a few large ones, sometimes many little ones. These spots were a certain sign of death, just as the original tumour had been and still remained."

Directions: Check all that apply and/or add enduring issues you found in the document.

Impact of Trade

Cultural Diffusion

Population Growth

Power

Impact of Urbanization

Lack of Access

Analysis Questions

Directions: Respond to the prompts/questions below with thorough responses. These questions are designed to aid your comprehension of the documents AND assist you in forming arguments/claims.

Based on the reading, **Explain ONE significant** impact of the Black Death on Europe.

"Making an Inference" – **Explain ONE effect** of **ONE** of the enduring issues you identified above on the people of Feudal Europe.

Document 2

SOURCE: **Unknown Eyewitness Account published before 1101 CE** included in Cox, George, W, *The Crusades* (1886); Laffan, R.G.D (ed. and trans.), *Select Documents of European History 800 - 1492*, (1929)

One of our knights, Letholdus by name, climbed on to the wall of the city. When he reached the top, all the defenders of the city quickly fled along the walls and through the city. Our men followed and pursued them, killing and hacking, as far as the temple of Solomon, and there there was such a slaughter that our men were up to their ankles in the enemy's blood. . . .

The emir who commanded the tower of David surrendered to the Count [of St. Gilles] and opened the gate where pilgrims used to pay tribute. Entering the city, our pilgrims pursued and killed the Saracens up to the temple of Solomon. There the Saracens assembled and resisted fiercely all day, so that the whole temple flowed with their blood. At last the pagans were overcome and our men seized many men and women in the temple, killing them or keeping them alive as they saw fit. On the roof of the temple there was a great crowd of pagans of both sexes, to whom Tancred and Gaston de Beert gave their banners [to provide them with protection] . Then the crusaders scattered throughout the city, seizing gold and silver, horses and mules, and houses full of all sorts of goods. Afterwards our men went rejoicing and weeping for joy to adore the sepulchre of our Saviour Jesus and there discharged their debt to Him. . . .

On the eighth day after the capture of the city they elected Duke Godfrey prince of the city, to fight the pagans and protect the Christians. Also, on the day of St. Peter in chains, they elected as Patriarch a most wise and honourable man, named Arnulf. The city was captured by the Christians on Friday, July 15."

Directions: Check all that apply and/or add enduring issues you found in the document.

Conflict

Religious Intolerance

Political Oppression

Political Division

Ethnocentrism

Human Rights violations

Analysis Questions

Directions: Respond to the prompts/questions below with thorough responses. These questions are designed to aid your comprehension of the documents AND assist you in forming arguments/claims.

Explain how this eyewitness account shows **ONE** enduring issue of **significance to human history**.

“Analyzing Documents” – Explain how the **Point of View** of the author makes this a more reliable source.

Document 3

SOURCE: “Feudal Oath of Fidelity” An Anglo Saxon Form of Commendation [from Schmidt: Gesetze der Angelsachsen, p. 404]

Thus shall one take the oath of fidelity:

By the Lord before whom this sanctuary is holy, I will to N. be true and faithful, and love all which he loves and shun all which he shuns, according to the laws of God and the order of the world. Nor will I ever with will or action, through word or deed, do anything which is displeasing to him, on condition that he will hold to me as I shall deserve it, and that he will perform everything as it was in our agreement when I submitted myself to him and chose his will.

Possible Enduring Issues

Directions: Check all that apply and/or add enduring issues you found in the document.

- Conflict
- Social Hierarchy
- Political Oppression
- Human Rights Violation
- Power
- Authoritarian Rule
- _____
- _____

Analysis Questions

Directions: Respond to the prompts/questions below with thorough responses. These questions are designed to aid your comprehension of the documents AND assist you in forming arguments/claims.

Based on the information provided in the document, **explain ONE** way that feudalism created inequality in European society.

Based on the document above, **discuss ONE** way *people* (individuals, groups, governments) attempted to effect **ONE** of the enduring issues you chose above:

Name _____

Date _____

Directions: Complete the graphic organizer below by explaining ONE enduring issue based on your analysis of the documents above.

