

1: Lecture In the Wake of the Black Death

Nobility is a social class in aristocracy, normally ranked immediately under royalty, that possesses more acknowledged privileges and higher social status than most other classes in a society and with membership thereof typically being hereditary.

Bring fact-checked results to the top of your browser search. Nobles and gentlemen Between persistent poverty and the prevailing aristocratic spirit several connections can be made. The strong appeal of noble status and values was a force working generally against the pursuit of wealth and the investment that was to lead, precociously and exceptionally in Britain, to the Industrial Revolution. The typical relationship between landed gentleman and peasant producer was still feudal; whether represented by a range of rights and dues or by the more rigorous form of serfdom, it encouraged acceptance of the status quo in agriculture. Every state in Europe, except some Swiss cantons, recognized some form of nobility whose privileges were protected by law. Possession of land was a characteristic mark and aspiration of the elites. The use of the two terms nobleman and gentleman indicates the difficulty of definition. The terms were loosely used to mark the essential distinction between members of an upper class and the rest. In France, above knights and esquires without distinctive title, ranged barons, viscounts, counts, and marquises, until the summit was reached with dukes and princes of the blood. In Britain, by contrast, only peers of the realm, whether entitled duke, marquess, earl, or baron, had corporate status: The gentry, however, with assured social position, knighthoods, armorial bearings, and estates, were the equivalent of Continental nobles. With the nobility, they owned more than three-quarters of the land: In northern and eastern Europe, where the social structure was generally simpler than in the west, nobles—dvoriane in Russia, szlachta in Poland and Hungary—were numerous. Such differences apart, there were rights and privileges that most Continental nobles possessed and values to which most subscribed. The right to wear a sword, to bear a crested coat of arms, to retain a special pew in church, to enjoy such precedence on formal occasions as rank prescribed, and to have if necessary a privileged form of trial would all seem to the noble inherent and natural. As landowner he enjoyed rights over peasants, not least as judge in his own court. In France, parts of Germany, Italy, and Spain, even if he did not own the land, he could as lord still benefit from feudal dues. He could hope for special favours from his sovereign or other patron in the form of a pension or office. There were vital exemptions, as from billeting soldiers and—most valuable— from taxation. The effectiveness of governments can be measured by the extent to which they breached this principle: Generally they could expect favourable treatment: They could assume that a sovereign, while encroaching on their rights, would yet share their values. A noble himself, Richelieu sought to promote the interests of his class while directing it toward royal service and clipping the wings of the over-powerful. Frederick II the Great of Prussia was not concerned about faction. Such admiration for noble virtues did not usually extend to the political role. The decline of Continental estates and diets, with the growth of bureaucracies, largely recruited from commoners, did not mean, however, even in the west, that nobility was in retreat before the rise of the bourgeoisie. Through social preeminence, nobles maintained—and in the 18th century even tightened—their hold on the commanding heights in church and state. Within all countries there was a distinction between higher and lower levels within the caste: In Britain, the principle of primogeniture ensured succession to the eldest son promoting social mobility as younger sons made their way in professions or trades. Peter I the Great of Russia legislated for the entail, but without success: However, mayorazgo in Castile and fideicommissum in parts of Italy kept vast estates together. The szlachta of Hungary also cherished privileges as descendants of warriors and liberators. In Russia, where wealth was measured in serfs, Prince Cherkanski was reckoned in to have 9, peasant households. Status increasingly signified economic circumstances. In France, where subtle nuances escaped the outsider, one trend is revealing. The class was open to new creations, usually through purchase of an office conferring nobility. When, in a regulation of, the year was made a test of antiquity, fewer than 1, families were eligible. The tendency was toward the formation of a plutocracy. Nobles came to dominate the church and the army, even to penetrate government, from which it had been the policy of the early Bourbons to exclude them. The

noble order numbered about , families by In Russia , at the height of the conservative reaction that had already secured the abolition of the service obligation imposed by Peter I, Catherine II the Great was forced to abandon liberal reforms. The Pugachov rising 1774 alerted landowners to the dangers of serfdom, but it was reckoned that three-fifths of all landowners owned fewer than 20 serfs. The census of 1797 showed that there were half a million nobles in Spain. It took courage for a sovereign to tackle the entrenched power of nobility in diets, as did the Habsburg queen Maria Theresa 1780 in her Austrian and Bohemian lands. Nowhere in Europe did nobles take themselves more seriously, but they were the readier to accept curtailment of their political rights because they enjoyed a healthy economic position. Nobles played a decorative role in the most ceremonious court in 18th-century Europe. Charles VI 1740 had provided 40, posts for noble clients. Maria Theresa, concerned about expense, reduced the number of chamberlains to 1, It was left to her son Joseph II to attack noble privileges at every point, right up to the abolition of serfdom. There was a correlation between the advance of government and the curtailment of noble privilege. Inevitably it was an uneven process, depending much on the resolution of a ruler. In Sweden it was to the poor gentlemen, a high proportion of its 10, nobles, that Charles XI had appealed in his successful promotion of absolutist reforms in the 17th century. After the same conservative force militated against royal government. So the Swedish upper class arrived at the position of their British counterparts and obtained that power, not divorced from responsibility, which was envied and extolled by the philosophes who regretted its absence from France and sought consolation in the works of Montesquieu. In exchange for the loss of political rights, Junkers had been confirmed in their social and fiscal privileges: Under the pressure of war and following his own taste for aristocratic manners, Frederick II taught them to regard the army or civil service as a career. But Frederick disappointed the philosophes who expected him to protect the peasantry. The nobles meanwhile acquired a pride in militarism that was to be potent in the creation of the 19th-century German state. The class became more numerous but remained relatively poor: Junkers often had to sell land to supplement meagre pay. The price paid indicates the difficulties inherent in any attempt to reconcile the interests of the dominant class to the needs of society. Nobility also had a civilizing role. Europe would be immeasurably poorer without the music, literature, and architecture of the age of aristocracy. The virtues of classical taste were to some extent those of aristocracy: There was much that was absurd in the pretensions of some patrons ; illusions of grandeur are rarely the best basis for the conceiving of great art. Civilizing trends were prominent, as in England , where there was a free intellectual life. New money, as lavished by the duke of Chandos, builder of the great house of Canons and patron of the composer George Frideric Handel , could be fruitful. Also important was the fusion of aristocratic style with ecclesiastical patronage, as could occur where noblemen enjoyed the best preferment and abbots lived like nobles: Visitors to Spain were startled by the ignorance of the men and the passivity of the women. Life in Poland, Hungary, and Ireland resolved itself for many of the gentry into a simple round of hunting and carousing. The urban aspect of noble culture needs stress, which is not surprising when its Classical inspiration is recalled. Even in England, where educated men favoured country life and did not despise the country town, society would have been poorer without the intense activity of London. All the greater was the importance of the capital cities—Warsaw, St. Petersburg , Budapest, and Dublin—in countries that might not otherwise have generated fine art or architecture. The aristocratic spirit transcended frontiers. For the nobleman Europe was the homeland. Italian plasterers and painters, German musicians, and French cabinetmakers traveled for high commissions. There were variations reflecting local traditions: But high style reveals certain underlying principles and convictions. The same is true of the intellectual life of Europe, reflecting as it did two main sources, French and English. It was especially to France that the two most powerful rulers of eastern Europe, Frederick II and Catherine II, looked for mentors in thought and style. The French language , deliberately purified from the time of Richelieu and the foundation of the Academy, was well adapted to the clear expression of ideas. The salons stimulated the discussion of ideas and engendered a distinctive style. Feminine insights there contributed to a rational culture that was also responsive to the claims of sensibility.

2: Aztec Farming and Agriculture

The nobility of agriculture [microform]: delivered at the Ontario School of Agriculture, Guelph, Monday, 14th October, Item Preview.

Aztec Warfare Aztec Farming Like every civilisation in history, agriculture was one of the most important sources of sustenance for the Aztecs. However, they had to develop unique methods for Aztec farming and agriculture since their city-state, Tenochtitlan, was founded on the swampy grounds of Lake Texcoco. However, the Aztecs did succeed in developing these methods very successfully and the Spaniards who arrived in the Americas in were surprised at the ingenuity of these Aztec agriculture and farming methods.

Aztec Farming and Agriculture: Chinampas System A special kind of artificial method of farming was used among the Aztecs which was known as Chinampa. With this method, Aztec farming and agriculture flourished on lands which could otherwise not be farmed because of their swampy nature. As per this method of farming, the Aztecs used small, rectangular areas of land to grow crops on the shallow lake beds in the Mexico Valley. The advantage that these artificial islands enjoyed was that water was present in abundance and the climate was also suitable for farming. A special kind of artificial method of farming was used among the Aztecs which was known as Chinampa.

Chinampas Construction Chinampas were created by building up extensions of soil into bodies of water. According to Codex Vergara, the size of these artificial lands for Aztec farming and agriculture was usually 30 meters by 2. However, there were chinampas of larger sizes as well and in Tenochtitlan some of them were as large as 91 meters by 4. The shallow lake bed was staked out and the rectangular land was fenced with wattle. Mud, lake sediment, and decaying vegetation was also used to bring the land to the level of the lake.

Farm Land Ownership Rules The Aztecs had developed a sophisticated and hierarchical land ownership system. The emperor, in addition to having personal and royal property, had dominion over the newly conquered lands which he could distribute to the nobility, calpulli, and the warriors. However, mostly the owners of the newly conquered lands could retain their possessions but had to pay part of the profit as a tribute. Nobles were given large tracts of lands as service for the emperors with certain conditions. Common people could not possess land on individual basis but could have access to land through their calpulli.

Farm Crops Grown Aztecs grew a variety of crops and grains. Some of the most important crops grown through Aztec farming and agriculture were maize, beans, and squash. Maize was in particular the most important grain in Aztec society and the essential part of their diet. Other than these, Aztecs also grew chilies, tomatoes, and peanuts etc. In addition to these, Aztecs used chinampas to grow a variety of flowers. They also collected algae from the surface of Lake Texcoco and used high-protein algae to make breads and cheese type foods.

Aztec Farmers There were two main types of farmers for Aztec farming and agriculture. The first types were the labourers who were similar to the serfs in Europe at the time. These people tilled and harvested the land of their masters and could be sold to new masters along with the land. They were given a small part of the produce as an income for their services. The other types were the experts of Aztec farming and agriculture. They managed the kind of seeds which were to be sown and supervised the working of the crop rotation. Maize was a popular food produce by the Aztec Farming, Maize flourished on lands which could otherwise not be farmed.

Farming Tools Aztecs used relatively primitive tools for Aztec farming and agriculture. They did not have advanced tools for the time such as plows. The most important tool for Aztec farming and agriculture was the classic wooden digging stick. This stick was called Uictli in the Nahuatl language. There were multiple types of these digging sticks and other than farming, it was often also used for other purposes such as construction and repair work. Additionally, they also developed ingenious irrigation methods for the water supply.

Farm Animals Aztec farming and agriculture did not use any animals since they did not have plows and wheels. Thus the absence of animals used for farming made then entire process quite cumbersome since they had to use small pointed sticks for farming and this took a lot of time. They did have dogs but no other animals were used in farming. However, on their farms, Aztecs did raise a variety of domestic animals such as geese, ducks, dogs, turkey, tapir, and rabbits etc.

Making Food from Grains Aztecs used a variety of methods to make food from the grains and vegetables that they grew. The most important product of Aztec

farming and agriculture was, of course, maize. Other than being eaten as it was, maize was also ground into flour and eaten with other foods. Another important crop of Aztec farming and agriculture was squash which was grown in several varieties. Other kinds of foods included pumpkin which was valued because of its protein content and the bottle gourd which was grown because it could be used as a water container after being eaten. Finally, beans were grown in abundance and were an important part of Aztec diet. Aztec Farming and Agriculture Remnants Aztec farming and agriculture methods were highly impressive not just for their own time but also for later times. Thus remnants of Aztec farming and agriculture methods exist even today, in particular the chinampa system, in the southern portion of the greater Mexico City. But with access to modern farming methods and tools, these methods are being abandoned. Aztec Farming and Agriculture Summary Agriculture was a very important part of the Aztec Empire and the primary source of food for its inhabitants. Thus various unique and innovative methods were used for Aztec farming and agriculture in order to make the swampy ground of Lake Texcoco arable. The most innovative way was the creation of artificial lands which could be used to grow crops. These were small, rectangular pieces of land called chinamps. In the empire, the nobility was often awarded land by the emperor although the nobility of the conquered city-states usually retained its land after paying a certain amount of tribute. Common people could not own land on individual basis but could have access to it through their city-council or calpulli.

3: Approximate Distribution and Amounts of Russian Agricultural Land Expressed in desiatiny

The economics of English agriculture in the Middle Ages is the economic history of English agriculture from the Norman invasion in 1066, to the death of Henry VII in 1509. England's economy was fundamentally agricultural throughout the period, though even before the invasion the market economy was important to producers.

History[edit] The Papal States under the temporal jurisdiction of the Pope had a territorial nobility, allied and intermarried with the nobility of other Italian states. During this period, throughout Italy, various influential families came to positions of power through the election to the papacy of a family member or were elevated into the ranks of nobility through ecclesiastic promotion. These families freely intermarried with aristocratic nobility. Like other noble families, those with both papal power and money were able to purchase comunes or other tracts of land and elevate family patriarchs and other relatives to noble titles. Hereditary patriarchs were appointed Duke, Marquis and even Prince of various 16th- and 17th-century principalities. Under Innocent X , there existed for a considerable time, as it were, two great factions, or associations of families. The Orsini , Cesarini , Borghese , Aldobrandini , Ludovisi , and Giustiniani were with the Pamphili ; while opposed to them, was the house of Colonna and the Barberini. Popes also elevated their own family members – especially nephews – to the special position of cardinal-nephew. Prominent families could purchase curial offices for their sons and regularly did, hoping that the son would rise through Church ranks to become a bishop or a cardinal, from which position they could dispense further titles and positions of authority to other family members. Families that had previously been limited to agricultural or mercantile ventures found themselves, sometimes within only one or two generations, elevated to the Roman nobility when a relative was elected to the papal throne. After the Kingdom of Italy annexed the Papal States and captured Rome in 1870 , the pope remained a self-described " prisoner in the Vatican ", supported by the " black nobility " of families who remained loyal to the papacy rather than the Italian monarchy. The Lateran Treaty ended the dispute and made the Papal nobility a part of the Italian nobility until the abolition of the Italian monarchy. As most of the Papal States were annexed by the Kingdom of Italy in 1870 , the new kingdom recognized the existing nobility in its new territory. With Paul VI , declaring in 1963 that the papal nobility would no longer be a constituent body in the papal court , the custom of conferring noble titles such as Count, Marquis, Duke or Prince essentially disappeared. Pope John Paul II did grant several noble titles to Polish compatriots at the beginning of his pontificate, but quietly and without their being published in the Acts of The Apostolic See. The popes continue to award knighthoods and medals of merit on a regular basis, which do not confer titled-nobility status with the exception of Count of the Sacred Palace of Lateran. The comital title, which can be for life or hereditary, has been awarded in various forms by popes and Holy Roman Emperors since the Middle Ages, infrequently before the 14th century, and the pope continued to grant the comital and other noble titles even after 1870 , when the Papal States were taken from the pope. Pontifical noble titles, like entry *motu proprio* into Pontifical Equestrian Orders of Chivalry, are in the personal gift of the pope, and the grant of these titles is not recorded in the Acts of The Holy See. Additionally, the honour was collectively granted to the Spanish chapters of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre , the only purely noble chapters of the order. Their members enjoy several heraldic privileges in addition to the right to use the Comital title. This tradition can be traced back to the Reconquista , in which the Order played an important role. According to heraldic expert Lord Manuel de Mata, the Spanish Members of the Order are allowed to use both the full title of Count of the Sacred Palace of Lateran as well as just the title of Count before their names.

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Aztec Farming and Agriculture: Farm Land Ownership Rules The Aztecs had developed a sophisticated and hierarchical land ownership system. The emperor, in addition to having personal and royal property, had dominion over the newly conquered lands which he could distribute to the nobility, *calpulli*, and the warriors.

The Sun Chariot, Denmark, confirms consumption of luxury goods. For this reason, it is called a bronze aristocracy. Norwegian: Bronze is essential in this regard. By importing bronze, which they also established a monopoly on, leading persons and their families would not only express their power but even strengthen and increase it. Bronze was also militarily important. It enabled a limited number of possessors to make weapons stronger than those of stone, and unlike the latter, broken bronze weapons could be melted and reshaped. Common people continued to use tools and weapons of stone during the whole age. Through trade and cultural exchange, the bronze aristocracy was part of the contemporary civilisation in Europe, despite being placed in the geographical outskirts of it. Also religious and ancestral factors are important when explaining how certain persons or families managed to maintain authority for generations. The bronze aristocracy is known primarily through burial mounds, for example a mound c. Other mounds were filled with bronze weapons and bronze artefacts, for example rings, necklaces, and decorative daggers. The biggest mounds could be up to 8–9 metres in height and 40 metres in diameter. Unlike bronze, which remained an aristocratically controlled metal through the whole age, iron was found in rich amounts in the nature, especially in bogs, and was thus owned and used by broader layers of the population. Archaeological examination of graves of the Early Iron Age c. AD has revealed three distinct social strata. Ordinary farmers were cremated and buried in simple, flat graves. Whilst this sort of burial had existed in the Bronze Age, too, the cremation part was a recently imported custom from Continental Europe and not imposed on ordinary farmers in particular. Grand farmers and aristocrats were buried together with grave goods, while chieftains were buried in mounds. In this age, the aristocracy had begun to enslave humans. The use of forced labor in agricultural production made the aristocracy able to spend more resources on military activities, increasing their capacity to control their tax-paying subjects, to defend their territory, and even to expand it. However, thralls were not an aristocratic privilege. In principle, all free men could hold thralls. A thrall was the rightless property of his or her owner. Furthermore, the aristocracy sacrificed humans to be placed in graves of deceased aristocrats. Also this custom was related to religion, i. Contemporary sources as well as archaeological remains document this custom. For example, Arab traveller Ahmad ibn Fadlan fl. At the beginning of the Late Iron Age c. Burial customs in several regions were drastically simplified: Also grave goods appear to have been lesser in amount than before. Some historians have interpreted these changes negatively. The hird was divided into three classes, of which the first had three ranks. The first class was hirdmann with lendmann as the 1st rank, skutilsvein as the 2nd rank, and ordinary hirdmann as the 3rd rank. Below them were the classes gjest and kjertesvein. They normally also held the highest offices in the state. The foundation for their rights was the military duty which their title imposed. Kjertesveins were young men of good family who served as pages at the court, and gjests constituted a guard and police corps. In addition, there was a fourth group known as housecarls, but it remains uncertain whether they were considered a part of or rather served the hird. The system of hirdmen regional and local representatives for the King was stronger and lasted longer in the tributary lands Shetland, Orkney, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands, and also in Jemtland, [13] originally an independent farmer republic which Norwegian kings used much time and efforts to gain control over. During the second half of the 13th century continental European court culture began to gain influence in Norway. In the King introduced continental titles in the hird: Both were then styled Herr English: It is difficult to determinate exactly how many knights and squires there were in the 14th and the early 15th century. When King Haakon V signed a peace treaty with the Danish king in , it was sealed by 29 Norwegian knights and squires. King Haakon promised that additional knights and squires would give their written recognition. This were perhaps the approximate number of knights and squires at this time. In addition to the loss of their own members, about two thirds of the population were killed by the plague, and the reduction in available manpower for agriculture

caused an economic crisis. The aristocracy was reduced from about families or 3, people before to about families or 1, people in Mountainous Norway has never been conducive to large land estates of continental size. As a consequence of the tremendous reduction in land-related income following the plague, it became even more necessary than before to enter royal service. Militarily, the Black Death was a catastrophe. As lower and local noblemen were killed by the plague, the recruitment of officers and troop leaders was equally reduced. Having lost their economic base reduced income of taxes etc. The system of royally controlled fiefs was established in , replacing the originally more independent lendmen. There were two types of medieval fiefs: To the first belonged castle fiefs Norwegian: In the 15th century, there were approximately fifty fiefs in Norway. In the late 16th century and the early 17th century, there were four permanent castle fiefs and approximately thirty small. Thereafter, the amount of petty fiefs was reduced in favour of bigger and more stable main fiefs. Lords of castle fief resided in the biggest cities, where the royal farms or the castles were located. The fortresses Bohus and Akershus in Eastern Norway were established approximately at the same time. An earlier fortress was Bergenhus in Western Norway. There would usually be one or more fiefs attached to each fortress. During the 14th century members of the hird continued in various directions. The lower parts of the hird lost importance and disappeared. The upper parts, especially the former lendmen , became the nucleus of the nobility of the High Medieval Age: They stood close to the King, and as such they received seats in the Council of the Kingdom as well as fiefs , and some had even family connections to the royal house. There was a significant social distance between the Knighthood and ordinary noblemen. At its height it had the power to choose or to recognise pretenders to the Throne, and it demanded an electoral charter from each new king. Sometimes it even chose its own leaders as regents Norwegian: Although kings were formal heads of state, the Council was powerful. Their power and active rulership, especially as regents, have caused historians characterise this state as de facto a republic of the nobility Norwegian: This aristocratic power lasted until the Reformation , when the King in illegally abolished the Council. Following the abolition of the Norwegian Council of the Kingdom in , which de facto ceased to exist in , the nobility in Norway lost most of its formal political foundation. The Danish Council of the Kingdom took over the governing of Norway. Having defeated the aristocratic and besides Roman Catholic resistance in Norway, the King in Copenhagen sought to secure and consolidate his control in the Kingdom. Strategical actions would further weaken the nobility in Norway. First of all, the King sent Danish noblemen to Norway in order to administer the country and to fill civilian and military offices. Norwegian noblemen were deliberately under-represented when new high officials were appointed. The educational sector was considerably better developed in Sleswick and Holsatia , plus in Germany , so only nobles who sent their children to foreign universities could hope to keep or obtain high offices. A few Norwegian noblemen were given such fiefs, for example Knight Trond Torleivsson Benkestok , Lord to Bergenhus Fortress , but over time these would find themselves possessed almost exclusively by immigrants. Nevertheless, during the 17th century fiefs were transformed into high offices. Also they were considered too risky for the King. Thirdly, in the King instituted a national army of soldiers recruited directly from the estate of farmers. At the same time technical development made traditional military methods outdated. As a result, the nobility was defunctionalised in this aspect. The nobility was forced to surrender. In the following days, Denmark was transformed from an elective monarchy into an hereditary. In Denmark, the Council of the Kingdom faced the same destiny as the Norwegian Council had done in The noble monarchy Norwegian: However, also Norway was affected by absolutism. On 7 August in Christiania , representatives of the Norwegian nobility signed the Sovereignty Act. The native aristocracy was extensively reduced during the last part of the Late Medieval Age. Several factors may explain this. An important factor is that families did not produce a sufficient amount of male descendants. A reason is that noblemen as warriors were exposed to greater risks than the population in general and therefore died in a young age and without issue. Another factor is that the Norwegian nobility to a large extent married persons of the estate of commoners. So-called unequal marriages, of which there came to be many especially in lower parts of nobility, led after and to the loss of noble status, noble estates, and similar. It is also a factor that noble status not automatically was inherited.

5: Feudal Japan | History | Articles

Because Russian nobility was concerned with potential social competition from bureaucrats and businessmen, they prevented the emergence of a substantial merchant class. The intensification of estate agriculture and serf labor pursued by the nobility led to.

Eisenhower 3 49 9 The first farmer was the first man. All historic nobility rests on the possession and use of land. George Washington 6 42 14 There seem to be but three ways for a nation to acquire wealth. The first is by war, as the Romans did, in plundering their conquered neighbors. The second by commerce, which is generally cheating. The third by agriculture, the only honest way, wherein man receives a real increase of the seed thrown into the ground, in a kind of continual miracle, wrought by the hand of God in his favor, as a reward for his innocent life and his virtuous industry. Benjamin Franklin 7 Sowing is not as difficult as reaping. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe 8 26 8 When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers, therefore, are the founders of human civilization. Daniel Webster 9 27 10 A good farmer is nothing more nor less than a handy man with a sense of humor. White 10 19 4 It is thus with farming, if you do one thing late, you will be late in all your work. Cato the Elder 11 31 16 Farmers only worry during the growing season, but townspeople worry all the time. Edgar Watson Howe 12 18 6 I see upon their noble brows the seal of the Lord, for they were born kings of the earth far more truly than those who possess it only from having bought it. Pliny the Elder 14 18 9 Farmers are respectable and interesting to me in proportion as they are poor. Henry David Thoreau 15 14 11 Whenever there are in any country uncultivated lands and unemployed poor, it is clear that the laws of property have been so far extended as to violate natural right. The earth is given as a common stock for man to labor and live on. The small landowners are the most precious part of a state. No cheating spouse, no teen with a wrecked family car, no mayor of Washington, D. George Sand 19 8 11 By avarice and selfishness, and a groveling habit, from which none of us is free, of regarding the soil as property, or the means of acquiring property chiefly, the landscape is deformed, husbandry is degraded with us, and the farmer leads the meanest of lives. He knows Nature but as a robber. Henry David Thoreau 20 8 12 With the introduction of agriculture mankind entered upon a long period of meanness, misery, and madness, from which they are only now being freed by the beneficent operation of the machine. Bertrand Russell 21 No one hates his job so heartily as a farmer.

6: Papal nobility - Wikipedia

The new and modern Japanese nobility was created in , creating 2 classes: Baron T. YAMAMOTO, Minister of Agriculture and Forests () New Nobility Of Japan.

The noble class made up roughly twelve percent of the population with peasants making up the rest. Emperor and Shogun The Emperor and the Shogun were the highest ranking nobles. As the Shogun was a military leader his sword, or Nihonto in Japanese katana came later in the Mid-Muromachi period , was an important part of his attire. Daimyo Daimyo were powerful warlords and the most powerful rulers under the Shogun from the 10th century to the early 19th century. Within their province the Daimyo had complete military and economic power. Daimyo had vast hereditary land holdings and armies to protect the land and its workers. The most powerful warlords sometimes achieved the status of Shogun. Samurai The Daimyo armies were made up of Samurai warriors. Samurai worked under Daimyo, but they had additional privileges and held a higher social status than common people. These privileges included being able to have a surname, a family crest, and carry two swords. People with Samurai family names are still treated with great respect in Japan today. Although most samurai were not well educated, they had a strict code of honor or the "way of the warrior", known as bushido in Japanese. Women were allowed to serve as samurai but always served under a male leader. Peasants Peasants were divided into several sub-classes. The highest ranking of the peasants were farmers. Farmers who owned their own land ranked higher than farmers who did not. Craftsmen, or artisans, were the second highest ranking after the farmers. They worked with wood and metal and some became well-known as expert Samura sword makers. However, in later times when Japan began to use money more as currency merchants became more wealthy. Minamoto referred to his new government as bakufu, which translates to "tent government". The Emperor gave the military title of Seii Tai-shogun to Minamoto and in Western literature his government is often referred to as the shogunate. The bakufu had two main divisions, one to oversee the samurai, and one to judge legal suits. The shogun often had complete power over the emperor and imperial court. Later in the Kamakura period the Hojo clan installed a regent for the shogun. During the Hojo regency the shogun was reduced to a powerless figurehead much like the emperor. Women Women who belonged to the aristocracy were allowed to take part in politics. Women could also become samurai warriors but this was not allowed if they were in the aristocratic class. Although women were allowed to become samurai, a male samurai of equal rank could give orders to a female samurai. Female samurai were able to give orders to men of lower social classes like farmers and craftsmen. In the beginning of the Kamakura period women were also allowed to inherit land estates. However, this changed later as the amount of available land decreased towards the middle of Kamakura period. Gokenin Vassals of the shogunate during the Kamakura and Muromachi periods were called gokenin. Gokenin exchanged loyalty to the shogunate for protection and the right to attain higher positions in government. Through this system the gokenin provided the shogun with the military force needed to control the country. The gokenin were allowed to own land their children were allowed to inherit the land estates. This led to a weakening of the shogunate. During the Muromachi period the gokenin class were replaced by Daimyo. Agriculture and Manufacturing Agricultural methods improved during the Kamakura and farmers were learning how to increase yields by raising two crops a year. Cows and horses were being used to help plow the land and water wheels were implemented for irrigating crops and grinding grain. People who worked on farms often had side jobs of making silk, paper, and pottery. Many of these people quit working on the farm once they realized they could make a living by producing and selling their own goods. Mongols Attack The shogunate had little interest in foreign relations and even ignored communications sent from China. In a new Mongol leader came to power, Kublai Khan, and demanded that Japan pay tribute to his nation. Japan ignored the demands and began to prepare for a potential Mongol invasion. In the first Mongol invasion took place with a combined force of 23, Chinese, Mongol, and Korean troops. They arrived on ships and brought catapults, crude missiles, and archers. The Mongol invaders landed at northern Kyushu at Hakata where they fought with the local Japanese troops. After only one day of fighting a Typhoon wiped out the Mongol forces. Kublai Khan realized that his forces had been defeated by a

nature and not superior military force. He decided to attack again 7 years later in . Again the forces landed in northern Kyushu and fought with the Japanese for 7 weeks. Again a typhoon wiped out the Mongol fleet. Shinto priests said that a kamikaze, or divine wind, protected Japan. The victories were a great source of pride and also helped legitimize the shogunate system of government. He tried to restore imperial authority and give back power to the court nobility. Eventually, after almost 60 years of war, Go Daigo was driven from Kyoto and the shogunate system was re-established. The term Nanboku-cho, Northern and Southern Court in Japanese, is used to describe the early years of the Muromachi from Ashikaga Takauji governed from Kyoto while Emperor Go-Daigo, who had escaped confinement, established his own headquarters in nearby Nara city. The Muromachi period is named after the district in Kyoto from where the third shogun, Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, built his headquarters. The government in China saw it as Japan paying tribute to the Chinese empire while Japan viewed the arrangement as a profitable trade agreement. The trade industry rapidly grew and import taxes on goods from China were an important source of income for the Ashikaga bakufu. Wars were common between regional families who fought to control trade routes. Shintoism The apparent role of kamikaze, or "divine wind", in defeating the Mongol invasions of and helped renew interest in the Shinto religion. From the Nara period Buddhism and Shinto had coexisted with Shinto practices slowly being incorporated into Buddhism. The heavenly progenitor founded it, and the sun goddess bequeathed it to her descendants to rule eternally. Only in our country is this true; there are no similar examples in other countries. This is why our country is called the divine land. Onin War The Ashikaga shogunate maintained order early on but slowly lost power to regional Daimyo which resulted in the Onin War from . The bakufu system of government ended and the nation fell into anarchy as provinces went to war against each other for control of the country. As central control disappeared samurai rose against their overlords and peasants against their landlords. Nobles of the Imperial Court were dispossessed and aristocratic society became very military in character. The provincial wars lasted years until Japan was united under one rule by Oda Nobunaga, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, and Tokugawa Ieyasu in the late 16th century. Western Influence and Christianity The Portuguese arrived in southern Kyushu in and were soon making regular visits to Japan. Other nations also tried to establish trade with the Spanish arriving in and the Dutch in . Japan traded precious metals for European guns, tobacco, fabrics, clocks, and other Western technology. Spanish missionaries, led by Saint Francis Xavier, were successful in converting as many as , Japanese to Christianity by . Tolerance for Christianity was short-lived and outright persecutions began in . During the later Tokugawa period the exclusion and suppression of Christianity would become national policy. It was built close enough to Kyoto to enable sentries to see any approaching armies, but far enough way to provide protection from lesser conflicts which were not uncommon in the capital. It was actually built as a place for Toyotomi to retire and has a famous tea ceremony room with walls covered in gold leaf. All that is left today of the original castles are their stone bases. Yoshiaki was only a puppet shogun and was eventually driven from Kyoto in by Oda Nobunaga. Oda Nobunaga had a reputation as a brutal warlord and unyielding enemy. In Toyotomi Hideyoshi, a close ally, requested military assistance from Oda Nobunaga. On his way, Oda Nobunaga stopped in Kyoto and was forced to commit seppuku, ritual suicide, by one of his own discontented generals, Akechi Mitsuhide. There are conflicting rumors regarding the fate of Akechi Mitsuhide. One says that he was killed by a peasant with a bamboo spear, and another says he was not killed but began a new life as a priest. Eventually, , Toyotomi Hideyoshi was able to reach an advantageous stalemate with Tokugawa Ieyasu at the Battle of Komaki and Nagakute and take control of Kyoto and the former Oda domains. By Toyotomi Hideyoshi had established an army , strong who defeated rival daimyo in Shikoku, Kyushu, and eastern Honshu. Toyotomi Hideyoshi instituted measures to secure his position in Kyoto. He sent the rival Tokugawa family to the Kanto region so they would be far from the capital. He took the wives and heirs of rival daimyo as hostages and kept them at nearby Osaka. People of different classes were required to live in separate areas of town. In order to avoid peasants uprising against samurai, peasants were not allowed to carry weapons. Samurai were required to live in castle towns and were not allowed to farm. The campaigns to disarm peasants, as well as enemy forces, were called katanagari, or sword hunts. Within the first three months the Japanese army had occupied Seoul and Pyongyang. The Chinese intervened which resulted in Japan eventually withdrawing its forces in , a

month after the death of Toyotomi Hideyoshi. The Joseon and Ming navies engaged the withdrawing Japanese forces inflicting heavy damage.

7: Farming And Farmers Quotes | Best Famous Quotations About Farming And Farmers

Agriculture is the noblest of all alchemy; for it turns earth, and even manure, into gold, conferring upon its cultivator the additional reward of health. Paul Chatfield For of all gainful professions, nothing is better, nothing more pleasing, nothing more delightful, nothing better becomes a well-bred man than agriculture.

Royal and noble ranks Nobility might be either inherited or conferred by a fons honorum. It is usually an acknowledged preeminence that is hereditary, i. In this respect, the nobility as a class has always been much more extensive than the primogeniture -based titled nobility , which included peerages in France and in the United Kingdom , grandezas in Portugal and Spain, and some noble titles in Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, Prussia and Scandinavia. In Russia, Scandinavia and non-Prussian Germany, titles usually descended to all male-line descendants of the original titleholder, including females. In Spain, noble titles are now equally heritable by females and males. Noble estates, on the other hand, gradually came to descend by primogeniture in much of western Europe aside from Germany. In Eastern Europe, by contrast, with the exception of a few Hungarian estates, they usually descended to all sons or even all children [8] In France, some wealthy bourgeois , most particularly the members of the various parlements , were ennobled by the king, constituting the noblesse de robe. Engraving from the so-called Mantegna Tarocchi , about This illustrates the traditional link in many countries between heraldry and nobility; in those countries where heraldry is used, nobles have almost always been armigerous , and have used heraldry to demonstrate their ancestry and family history. However, heraldry has never been restricted to the noble classes in most countries, and being armigerous does not necessarily demonstrate nobility. Scotland , however, is an exception. In some nations, hereditary titles , as distinct from noble rank, were not always recognised in law, e. European ranks of nobility lower than baron or its equivalent, are commonly referred to as the petty nobility , although baronets of the British Isles are deemed titled gentry. Most nations traditionally had an untitled lower nobility in addition to titled nobles. An example is the landed gentry of the British Isles. In Scandinavia, the Benelux nations and Spain there are still untitled as well as titled families recognised in law as noble. In Hungary members of the nobility always theoretically enjoyed the same rights. Untitled nobles were not infrequently wealthier than titled families, while considerable differences in wealth were also to be found within the titled nobility. The custom of granting titles was introduced to Hungary in the 16th century by the House of Habsburg. Historically, once nobility was granted, if a nobleman served the monarch well he might obtain the title of baron, and might later be elevated to the rank of count. As in other countries of post-medieval central Europe, hereditary titles were not attached to a particular land or estate but to the noble family itself, so that all patrilineal descendants shared a title of baron or count cf. Neither nobility nor titles could be transmitted through women. This may be illegal, depending on local law. They are more often illegal in countries that actually have nobilities, such as European monarchies. In the United States, such commerce may constitute actionable fraud rather than criminal usurpation of an exclusive right to use of any given title by an established class. Other terms[edit] "Aristocrat" and aristocracy , in modern usage, refer colloquially and broadly to persons who inherit elevated social status, whether due to membership in the formerly official nobility or the monied upper class. Blue blood is an English idiom recorded since for noble birth or descent; it is also known as a translation of the Spanish phrase sangre azul, which described the Spanish royal family and other high nobility who claimed to be of Visigothic descent, [15] in contrast to the Moors. The idiom originates from ancient and medieval societies of Europe and distinguishes an upper class whose superficial veins appeared blue through their untanned skin from a working class of the time. The latter consisted mainly of agricultural peasants who spent most of their time working outdoors and thus had tanned skin, through which superficial veins appear less prominently. Robert Lacey explains the genesis of the blue blood concept: The Spanish nobility started taking shape around the ninth century in classic military fashion, occupying land as warriors on horseback. They were to continue the process for more than five hundred years, clawing back sections of the peninsula from its Moorish occupiers, and a nobleman demonstrated his pedigree by holding up his sword arm to display the filigree of blue-blooded veins beneath his pale skinâ€”proof that his birth had not been contaminated by the

dark-skinned enemy. During the period known as the Military Revolution, nobles gradually lost their role in raising and commanding private armies, as many nations created cohesive national armies. The Battle of Tewkesbury in 1471 saw large numbers of English nobility perished in the Wars of the Roses. This was coupled with a loss of the socio-economic power of the nobility, owing to the economic changes of the Renaissance and the growing economic importance of the merchant classes, which increased still further during the Industrial Revolution. In countries where the nobility was the dominant class, the bourgeoisie gradually grew in power; a rich city merchant came to be more influential than a nobleman, and the latter sometimes sought inter-marriage with families of the former to maintain their noble lifestyles. However, in many countries at this time, the nobility retained substantial political importance and social influence: Thereafter the powers of the nobility were progressively reduced by legislation. However, until 1928, all hereditary peers were entitled to sit and vote in the House of Lords. Since then, only 92 of them have this entitlement, of whom 90 are elected by the hereditary peers as a whole to represent the peerage. In Sweden there were between 10, and 15, nobles, which was 0. In Korea, royalty and yangban aristocrats were carried in litters called gama. A Korean gama, circa 1800. An aristocratic family in Lhasa, Tibet in 1900. Emperor Farrukhsiyar Bestows a Jewel on a Nobleman Many peoples and nations have had noble or aristocratic classes of various kinds: For the historical hierarchy of the Indian subcontinent, see princely state. China[edit] In East Asia the system was often modelled on imperial China, the leading culture. Emperors conferred titles of nobility. Imperial descendants formed the highest class of ancient Chinese nobility, their status based upon the rank of the empress or concubine from which they descend maternally as emperors were polygamous. Numerous titles such as Taizi crown prince, and equivalents of "prince" were accorded, and due to complexities in dynastic rules, rules were introduced for Imperial descendants. It was a custom in China for the new dynasty to ennoble and enfeoff a member of the dynasty which they overthrew with a title of nobility and a fief of land so that they could offer sacrifices to their ancestors, in addition to members of other preceding dynasties. China had a feudal system in the Shang and Zhou dynasties, which gradually gave way to a more bureaucratic one beginning in the Qin dynasty BC. This continued through the Song dynasty, and by its peak power shifted from nobility to bureaucrats. This development was gradual and generally only completed in full by the Song dynasty. This process was further deepened during the Three Kingdoms period with the introduction of the Nine-rank system. By the Sui dynasty, however, the institution of the Imperial examination system marked the transformation of a power shift towards a full bureaucracy, though the process would not be truly completed until the Song dynasty. Titles of nobility became symbolic along with a stipend while governance of the country shifted to scholar officials. In the Qing dynasty titles of nobility were still granted by the emperor, but served merely as honorifics based on a loose system of favors to the Qing emperor. For male citizens, advancement in status was possible via garnering the top three positions in imperial examinations. The oldest held continuous noble title in Chinese history was that held by the descendants of Confucius, as Duke Yansheng, which was renamed as the Sacrificial Official to Confucius in by the Republic of China. The title is held by Kung Tsui-chang. Islamic world[edit] In some Islamic countries, there are no definite noble titles titles of hereditary rulers being distinct from those of hereditary intermediaries between monarchs and commoners. Persons who can trace legitimate descent from Muhammad or the clans of Quraysh, as can members of several present or formerly reigning dynasties, are widely regarded as belonging to the ancient, hereditary Islamic nobility. In some Islamic countries they inherit through mother or father hereditary titles, although without any other associated privilege, e. Regarded as more religious than the general population, many people turn to them for clarification or guidance in religious matters. In Iran, historical titles of the nobility including Mirza, Khan, ed-Dowleh and Shahzada "Son of a Shah", are now no longer recognised. An aristocratic family is now recognised by their family name, often derived from the post held by their ancestors, considering the fact that family names in Iran only appeared in the beginning of the 20th century. Sultans have been an integral part of Islamic history. During the Ottoman Empire in the Imperial Court and the provinces there were many Ottoman titles and appellations forming a somewhat unusual and complex system in comparison with the other Islamic countries. The bestowal of noble and aristocratic titles was widespread across the empire even after its fall by independent monarchs. Japan[edit] Japanese samurai,

Medieval Japan developed a feudal system similar to the European system, where land was held in exchange for military service. As in Europe, they commanded private armies made up of samurai , an elite warrior class ; for long periods, these held the real power without a real central government , and often plunged the country into a state of civil war. Philippines[edit] Left to right: Images from the Boxer Codex illustrating ancient Filipino nobility wearing the distinctive colours of their social status: Like other Southeast Asian countries, many regions in the Philippines have indigenous nobility, partially influenced by Hindu, Chinese, and Islamic custom. Since ancient times, Datu was the common title of a chief or monarch of the many pre-colonial principalities and sovereign dominions throughout the isles; in some areas the term Apo was also used. These titles are the rough equivalents of European titles, albeit dependent on the actual wealth and prestige of the bearer. In a law signed 11 June , [23] King Philip II of Spain ordered that the indigenous rulers continue to receive the same honours and privileges accorded them prior their conversion to Catholicism. The Laws of the Indies and other pertinent Royal Decrees were enforced in the Philippines and benefited many indigenous nobles. At the Real Academia de la Historia, there is a substantial number of records providing reference to the Philippine Islands, and while most parts correspond to the history of these islands, the Academia did not exclude among its documents the presence of many genealogical records. The archives of the Academia and its royal stamp recognized the appointments of hundreds of natives of the Philippines who, by virtue of their social position, occupied posts in the administration of the territories and were classified as "nobles". This aspect of Spanish rule in the Philippines appears much more strongly implemented than in the Americas. Hence in the Philippines, the local nobility, by reason of charge accorded to their social class, acquired greater importance than in the Indies of the New World. Other honors and high regard were also accorded to the Christianized Datus by the Spanish Empire. For example, the Gobernadorcillos elected leader of the Cabez de Barangay or the Christianized Datus and Filipino officials of justice received the greatest consideration from the Spanish Crown officials. The colonial officials were under obligation to show them the honor corresponding to their respective duties. They were allowed to sit in the houses of the Spanish Provincial Governors, and in any other places. They were not left to remain standing. It was not permitted for Spanish Parish Priests to treat these Filipino nobles with less consideration. They were Port Captains in coastal towns. They also had the rights and powers to elect assistants and several lieutenants and alguaciles , proportionate in number to the inhabitants of the town. A pre-colonial Tagalog couple belonging to the Datu class or nobility as depicted in the Boxer Codex of the 16th century. Many of them accepted the Catholic religion and were his allies from the very beginning. He only demanded from these local rulers vassalage to the Spanish Crown, [35] replacing the similar overlordship , which previously existed in a few cases, e. Other independent polities which were not vassals to other States, e. Besides, as stated in the above-mentioned Royal Decree of Charles II, the ancient nobility of the Filipino Principales "is still retained and acknowledged". Lakan of the island of Luzon Africa[edit] Africa has a plethora of ancient lineages in its various constituent nations. Some, such as the numerous sharifian families of North Africa, the Keita dynasty of Mali , the Solomonic dynasty of Ethiopia and the Sherbro Tucker clan of Sierra Leone , claim descent from notables from outside of the continent. Most, such as those composed of the descendants of Shaka and Moshoeshoe of Southern Africa , belong to peoples that have been resident in the continent for millennia.

8: Russia - The reign of Catherine II (the Great; 1762-1796) | www.enganchecubano.com

A list of the best farming and farmers quotes and sayings, including the names of each speaker or author when available. This list is sorted by popularity, so only the most famous farming and farmers quotes are at the top.

Bring fact-checked results to the top of your browser search. Peter III made himself personally unpopular with St. Petersburg society; in addition, he allowed his entourage mainly his Holstein relatives and German officers to take control of the government. As a result, the emperor lost all support in society. It was easy for Catherine, with the help of the senators, high officials, and officers of the guard regiments led by her lover Grigory Orlov and his brothers, to overthrow Peter on June 28 July 9, New Style. She matured in an atmosphere of intrigue and struggle for power. She developed her mind by reading contemporary literature, especially the works of the French Encyclopaedists and of German jurists and cameralists. When she seized power at age 33, she was intellectually and experientially prepared, as the more than 30 years of her reign were to show. Even before she seized power, Catherine wrote that the task of good government was to promote the general welfare of the nation by providing for the security of person and property; to that end, government should operate in a legal and orderly fashion, furthering the interests of individual subjects and giving groups and classes as much autonomy in the pursuit of their normal activities as possible. All the same, Catherine believed that the autocratic state had important functions; she had no intention of relinquishing or limiting her authority, even though she was willing to withdraw from those areas of national life that could be safely administered by an educated elite. This permitted the adequate protection of Russian agricultural settlements in the south and southeast and the establishment of trade routes through the Black Sea and up the Danube. On the other hand, these gains involved Russia more and more in the political and military struggle over the crumbling Ottoman Empire in the Balkans. He promoted large-scale foreign colonization and peasant resettlement in the south—with only mediocre success so far as agricultural settlements went but with great success in the foundation and rapid growth of such towns and ports as Odessa, Kherson, Nikolayev, Taganrog, and Mariupol Pavlovsk. Local society was transformed on the Russian pattern: Thus serfdom, along with elements of the plantation system, was extended to still more people and over whole new provinces. If this expansion benefited the state and a small and already wealthy part of the Russian nobility, it increased the misery and exploitation of the Ukrainian and Russian peasantries. The traditional military democracies of the Cossack hosts on the Dnieper, Don, Ural, Kuban, and Volga rivers lost their autonomy and special privileges; the wealthier officers became Russian service nobles, receiving the right to own and settle serfs on their own lands, while the rank-and-file Cossacks sank to the level of state peasants with special military obligations. Reproduced by courtesy of the trustees of the British Museum; photograph, J. Integration of the new territories required the absorption of a large number of non-Russian, non-Christian nomadic peoples. The approach that prevailed until the late 19th century was based on the idea, taken from Enlightenment writings, that there is a natural progress of society from primitive hunting and fishing groups through the stage of nomadism to settled agriculture, trade, and urbanization. Inevitably, however, its effort to change the ways of the nomads affected their culture and religion and, through these, their social equilibrium and sense of national identity. These nationalistic sentiments clashed with the outlook and practices of officials accustomed to thinking in universal categories. The policy thus defeated its own aims: In the course of the Russo-Turkish War of 1768-74, considerations of balance of power led Frederick II of Prussia to suggest that Russia, Austria, and Prussia find territorial compensation at the expense of Poland rather than squabble over the spoils of the Ottoman Empire. After much diplomatic and political maneuvering, Russia, Prussia, and Austria compelled Poland to cede large chunks of its territory in the First Partition 1772; see Partitions of Poland, the major beneficiaries of which were Russia which obtained the Belarusian lands and Austria Prussia obtained less actual territory, but what it acquired was of great economic value. The prospect of social and political progress within the framework of a stable government did not suit the partitioning powers, so that the Second Partition was forced on the Poles in 1795. Russia became politically tied to Prussia and had to shoulder an increased military burden to defend its new boundaries as well as to maintain law and order among a people

restive under foreign occupation. It also proved difficult to co-opt the Polish elites into the imperial establishment, as had been the case with the Ukrainians, the Baltic Germans, and non-Slavic natives. In addition, the empire acquired for the first time a large Jewish population, which created numerous unforeseen problems. It may also be argued that controlling the obstreperous nation resulted in a regime of harsh police supervision and oppressive censorship throughout the empire. Government administration under Catherine

The reforms of local government carried out by Catherine also contained contradictions. The successors of Peter I had not solved the problem of local administration. Petersburg relied on appointed officials, too few in number and much given to abuse and corruption, and on the informal control exercised by individual landowners and village communes. However, a great peasant rebellion led by Yemelyan Ivanovich Pugachov in 1774 demonstrated the inadequacy of this system. Taking up suggestions of various officials and mindful of the information and complaints offered by the deputies to the Legislative Commission in 1768, Catherine shaped the local administration into a structure that remained in force until the middle of the 19th century and also served as a foundation for the zemstvos local elected councils, established in 1864. The basic pattern was established by the statute on the provinces of 1775 and complemented by the organization of corporate self-administration contained in the Charters to the Nobility and the Towns. Each of these units guberniya was put under the supervision and responsibility of a governor or governor-general acting in the name of the ruler, with the right of direct communication with him. The regular provincial administration was assisted by officials who were elected from among the nobility for the countryside and from the higher ranks of townspeople for the cities; these elected officials took care of routine police matters in their jurisdictions, helped to enforce orders received from the central authorities, and assisted in the maintenance of law and the collection of taxes. Other elected personalities marshals of the nobility and heads of city councils protected the interests of their respective classes and helped to settle minor conflicts without recourse to regular tribunals. This delegation of some administrative functions to the local level multiplied the number of state agents on the local level but also fostered a sense of responsibility among the active and cultured members of the local upper classes. On the other hand, the serfs and the lower classes in the towns found themselves without anyone to protect their interests. Catherine made no fundamental changes in the administration of the central government. The system of colleges was retained, but the authority of the presidents increased at the expense of the boards, initiating an evolution that culminated in the establishment of monocratic ministries in 1791. The Senate supervised all branches of administration, regulating the orderly flow of business. The Senate was also involved, albeit indirectly, in coordination, mainly because its procurator general, Prince Aleksandr A. Vyazemsky, held the office for a quarter of a century with the full trust of the empress. At the same time, the judicial functions of the Senate as a high court of appeal and administrative review were widened. The major institutional weakness of the Petrine system remained, namely, the lack of a body to coordinate the jurisdictions and resolve the conflicts of the colleges and to plan policies and control their implementation. A ruler as energetic, hardworking, and intelligent as Catherine could perform these tasks almost single-handedly, as had Peter I; but with the growing complexity of administration even Catherine felt the need for such a body, if only to reduce her involvement in every small detail or contested matter and to provide a wider scope for government by permanent laws and uniform regulations. A major need of the empire was an up-to-date code of laws. Peter and his successors had recognized this need by appointing commissions to prepare a new code; none of the several efforts having reached a successful conclusion, Catherine tried to tackle the job again, but in a different manner. In 1787 she convoked a commission of representatives elected by all classes except private serfs. For their guidance she drafted an instruction largely inspired by Western political thinkers, but, far from providing a blueprint for a liberal code, it emphasized the need for autocracy. Although not implemented by the commission which was adjourned indefinitely in 1791, the instruction stimulated the modernization of Russian political and legal thought in the early 19th century. In her social policy Catherine aimed at steering the nobility toward cultural interests and economic activity so as to reduce their dependence on state service. They had already been freed from compulsory service by Peter III in 1762. The nobles also obtained a monopoly of ownership of inhabited estates, which in fact restricted ownership of agricultural serfs to the noble class. Catherine hoped to stimulate agricultural expansion and modernization by providing easy credit and by

disseminating the latest techniques and achievements of Western agriculture through the Free Economic Society, founded in 1765. The Charter to the Nobility gave the corps of nobility in every province the status of a legal entity. The corporate life of the nobility did not develop as well as expected, however, and the nobility never became the class it was in Prussia or England, but the charter did foster a sense of class consciousness and afforded legal security to the members and their property. The periodic electoral meetings stimulated social intercourse, led to a livelier cultural life in the provinces, and helped to involve the nobility in local concerns. Interested in obtaining greater income, they not only intensified the exploitation of serf labour but also interfered in the traditional routine of the village by attempting to introduce new agricultural techniques. In most cases, this meant increased regimentation of the serfs. The secularization of the lands estates of monasteries and episcopal sees had brought a considerable amount of land into the possession of the state. To reward her favourites and to encourage the nobility to economic activity, Catherine gave away large tracts with many peasants, who now had to work for ambitious and capricious masters. There were also the specific grievances of the Cossacks, whose traditional liberties had been sharply curtailed and their social organization undermined, as well as the discontent of the nomadic peoples forced to accept a new way of life. Peasant misery erupted in rebellion, led by the Cossack Yemelyan Pugachov, that engulfed all of eastern European Russia in 1773. The peasant forces captured a number of towns and cities before they were finally defeated by government armies. The revolt demonstrated the inadequacy of local controls and was thus partly responsible for the reform of provincial administration mentioned above. It also brought the educated elite to a new awareness of the profound alienation of the peasantry from the culture of St. The reign of Catherine II was a period of active town planning and building. The number and size of the urban centres grew slowly but steadily. Along with new cities in the south, many old towns were rebuilt and developed. The renaissance of the old provincial centres was in part due to the administrative reforms of 1775, which brought an influx of officials and nobles. Along with them came craftsmen, artisans, and merchants. An act of Peter III that permitted peasants to trade in neighbouring towns without passports or controls at the gates gave impetus to the emergence of a class of small merchants from among the peasantry. This trend received support from the administrative reorganization of the towns and the limited degree of corporate self-administration granted by the Charter to the Towns of 1775. Education and social change in the 18th century. Secular education had been actively propagated by Peter I. At first it focused on technical subjects—those directly related to the prosecution of war, the building of a navy, and the running of the government. This was also the original emphasis of the Academy of Sciences and the school connected with it. But, as education became the prerequisite for advancement in service and as Western ways of life spread among the upper classes, the focus of education gradually broadened. There developed a class of nobles who were interested in culture for the sake of their own development, as well as for cutting a good figure in society. Beginning in the 1750s, the demand for western European artistic and cultural works grew increasingly in the salons of St. By the 1780s the major classics of European literature had become easily available in translation to any educated person. Private boarding and day schools proliferated, as did the tutors hired by wealthy nobles for their children and for less fortunate neighbours and relatives. The Academy of Sciences took its place among the major academies of Europe. Moscow State University and the chief schools of the military, naval, and civil services had become regular institutions. There were also ecclesiastical schools. The seminaries and theological academies not only trained future members of the episcopate and officials of the Holy Synod but also staffed government bureaus on the middle and higher levels and produced the first native Russian academics, scholars, and scientists. They brought with them French and German philosophy: The critique was at first directed against the moral inadequacies of individuals, but it soon broadened into the view that the educated man had an obligation to help others improve themselves. In the Russian context the class most obviously in need of improvement was the peasantry. Moral progress, it was quickly realized, was not possible without material progress, and this led quite naturally to an advocacy of practical philanthropy and social action. Imported German professionals furthered the dissemination of German Pietism, with its emphasis on spiritual progress and on the need to serve man and the community. Similar tendencies underlay the most influential branch of Freemasonry; the Freemasons devoted themselves to disseminating knowledge, relieving hunger, and caring for orphans and

other destitutes. The publisher Nikolay Novikov carried the Pietist and Masonic messages to the public in his satiric journals and periodicals for women and children. A similar approach was noticeable in education, which stressed the development of moral feeling in the conviction that a good heart would guide the well-filled head in the proper direction. All these intellectual currents combined to awaken among educated Russians a sense of national pride and a feeling that, thanks to the impetus given by Peter I, Russia had managed to lift itself to the cultural and political level of a great European state. The response of the empress and her entourage to these intellectual developments was ambivalent.

9: Nobility | Definition of Nobility by Merriam-Webster

A) new types of stone tools. B) agriculture and animal husbandry as primary ways of life. C) use of bronze weapons. ***
D) the appearance of towns.

Ploughmen at work with oxen. Agriculture formed the bulk of the English economy at the time of the Norman invasion. The pre-Norman landscape had seen a trend away from isolated hamlets and towards larger villages engaged in arable cultivation in a band running north-south across England. The biggest change in the years after the invasion was the rapid reduction in the number of slaves being held in England. Thorkill of Arden, who held seventy-one manors in Warwickshire, and Coleswain, who had forty-four manors. The population of England rose from around one and a half million in to around four or five million in , stimulating increased agricultural outputs and the export of raw materials to Europe. Except for the years of the Anarchy , most military conflicts either had only localised economic impact or proved only temporarily disruptive. English economic thinking remained conservative, seeing the economy as consisting of three groups: Agriculture remained by far the most important part of the English economy during the 12th and 13th centuries. The Normans retained and reinforced the manorial system with its division between demesne and peasant lands paid for in agricultural labour. In some regions and under some landowners investment and innovation increased yields significantly through improved ploughing and fertilisers, particularly in Norfolk where yields eventually equalled later 18th century levels. The Church in England was a major landowner throughout the medieval period and played an important part in the development of agriculture and rural trade in the first two centuries of Norman rule. The Cistercian order first arrived in England in , establishing around eighty new monastic houses over the next few years; the wealthy Augustinians also established themselves and expanded to occupy around houses, all supported by agricultural estates, many of them in the north of England. The Great Famine of 1315 [edit] Main article: Great Famine of 1315 The Great Famine of began a number of acute crises in the English agrarian economy. The famine centred on a sequence of harvest failures in 1315, 1316, and 1317, combined with an outbreak of the murrain sickness amongst sheep and oxen between 1317 and 1318 and the fatal ergotism fungi amongst the remaining stocks of wheat. Economic growth had already begun to slow significantly in the years prior to the crisis and the English rural population was increasingly under economic stress, with around half the peasantry estimated to possess insufficient land to provide them with a secure livelihood. The commencement of war with France in 1329 only added to the economic difficulties. Black Death The Black Death epidemic first arrived in England in 1347, re-occurring in waves during 1361-2, 1369-70, and more sporadically thereafter. In the decades after the disaster, the economic and social issues arising from the Black Death combined with the costs of the Hundred Years War to produce the Peasants Revolt of 1381. The agricultural sector of the English economy, still by far the largest, was transformed by the Black Death. With the shortage of manpower after the Black Death, wages for agricultural labourers rapidly increased and continued to then grow steadily throughout the 15th century. The position of the larger landowners became increasingly difficult. They began to invest significantly less in agriculture and land was increasingly taken out of production altogether. Initially livestock and land were rented out together under "stock and lease" contracts, but this was found to be increasingly impractical and contracts for farms became centred purely on land.

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