Europe in the Postclassical Era

I. The Byzantine Empire**: Eastern Europe

The Byzantine Empire in 814. By the ninth century, the Empire had lost all its territories but Asia Minor, Greece, the boot of Italy, and the islands of Sardinia and Sicily.

Byzantine Hallmarks

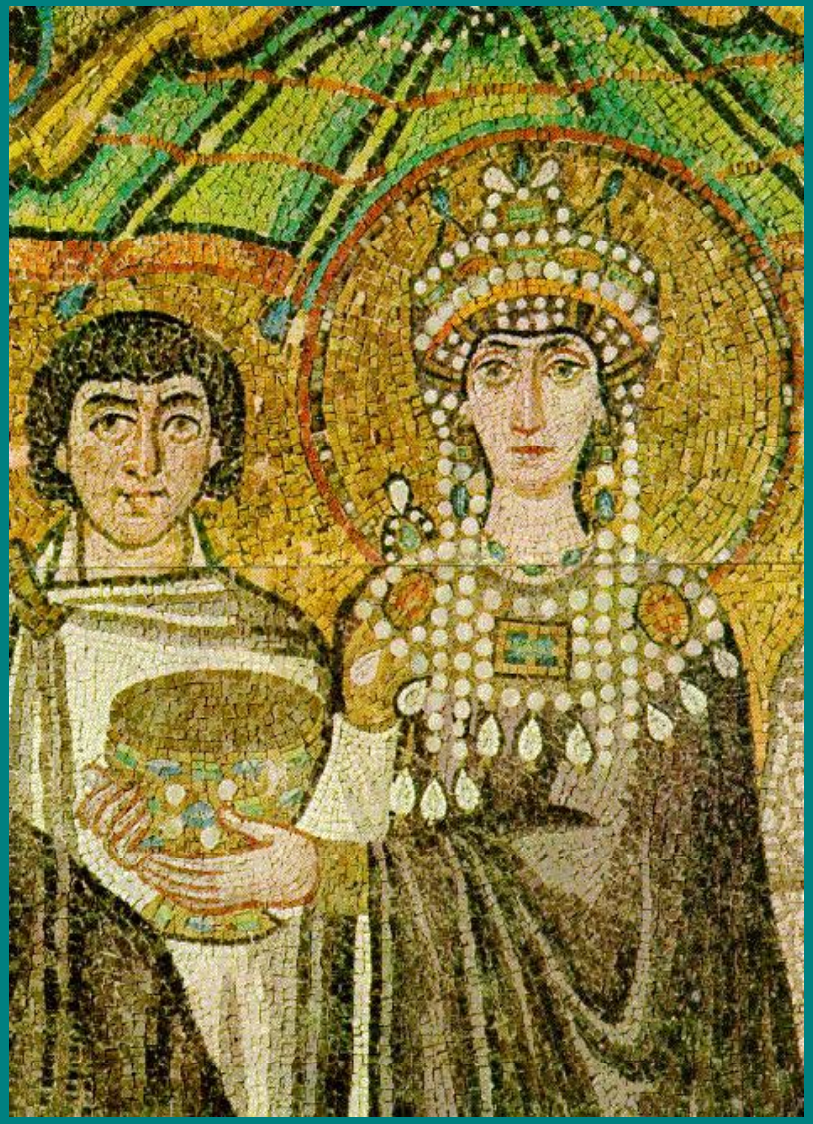
- *Caesaropapism***:
  - Began with Constantine
  - Emperor involved in religious affairs
  - Council of Nicaea (325)
  - Highly centralized & *byzantine* bureaucracy

East vs. West: Religious split

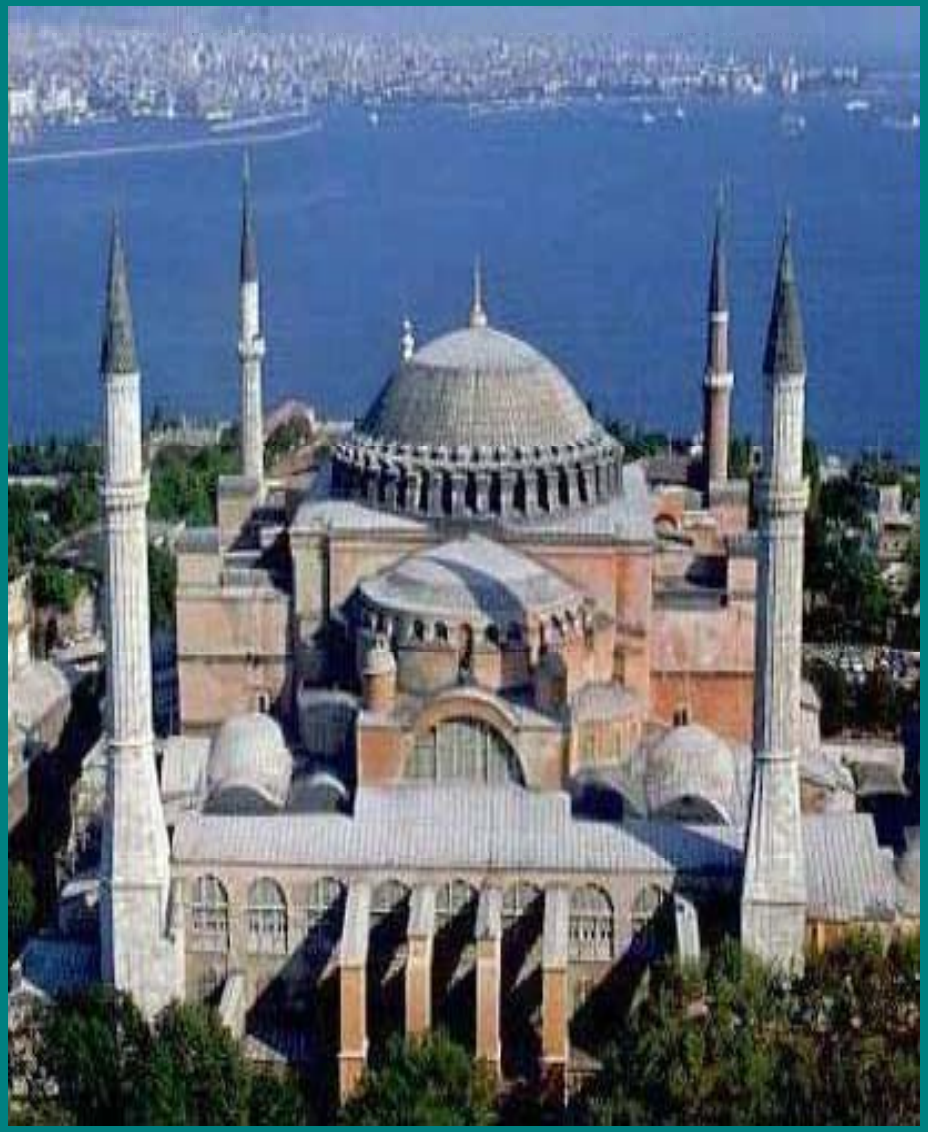
- Roman Catholic Church**:
  - Latin language
  - Reject secular interference
  - Religious images encouraged
  - Celibate priesthood
- Greek Orthodox Church**:
  - Greek language
  - Emperors as superior
  - Iconoclasm
  - Married priesthood

Mutual Excommunication in 1054CE

Justinian** and Roman Law

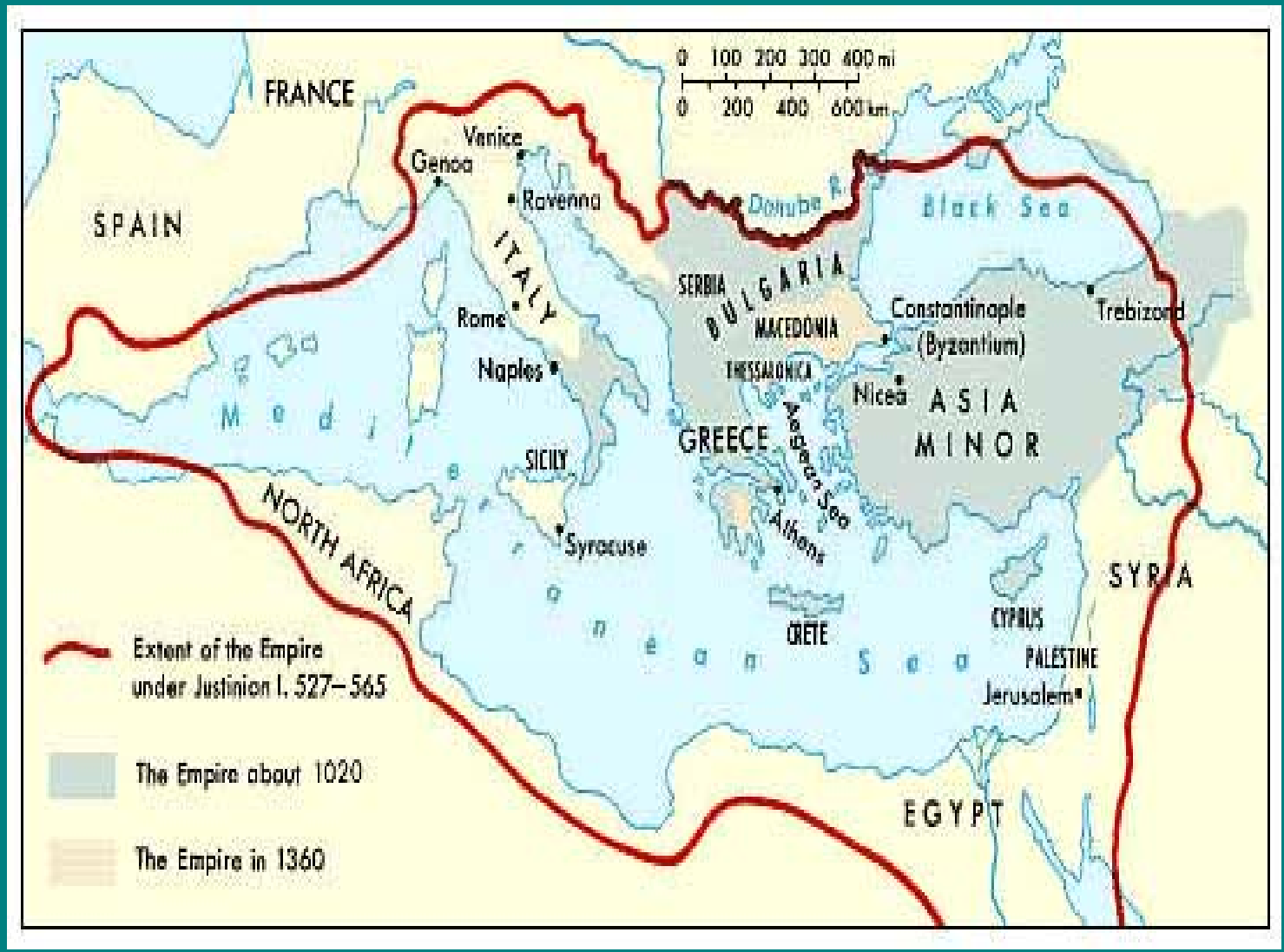


Justinian and Theodora



The Hagia Sophia**

Byzantium and Eastern Europe

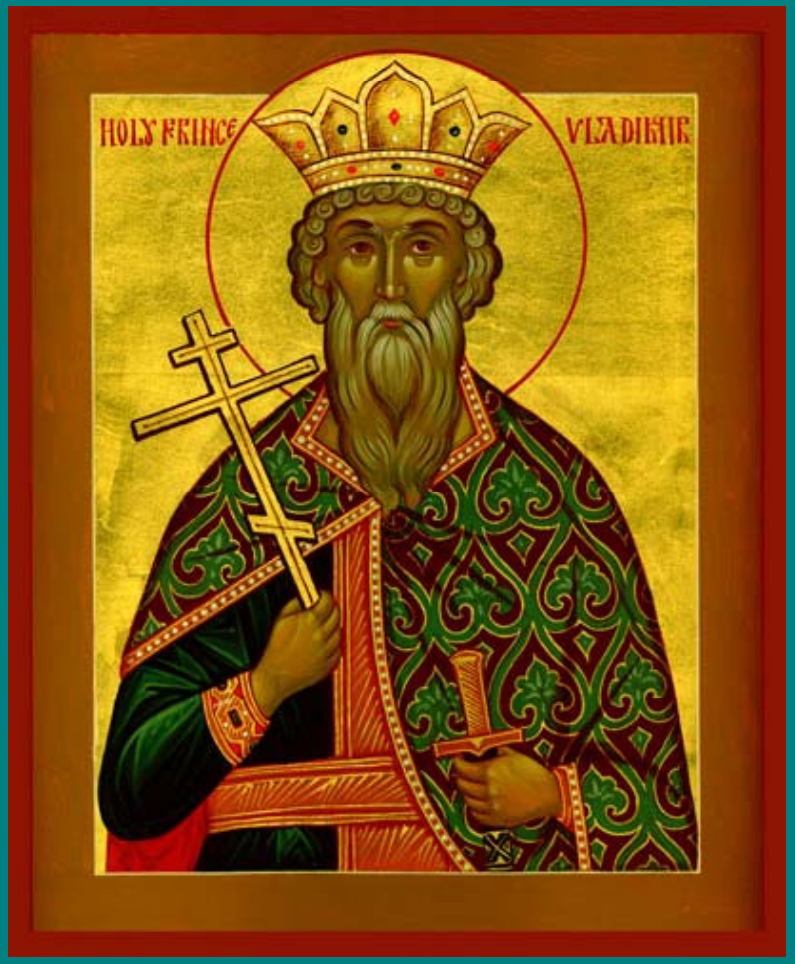


Byzantine Missionary Efforts

- Conversion to Orthodox Christianity by Slavs
- Cyrillic** alphabet

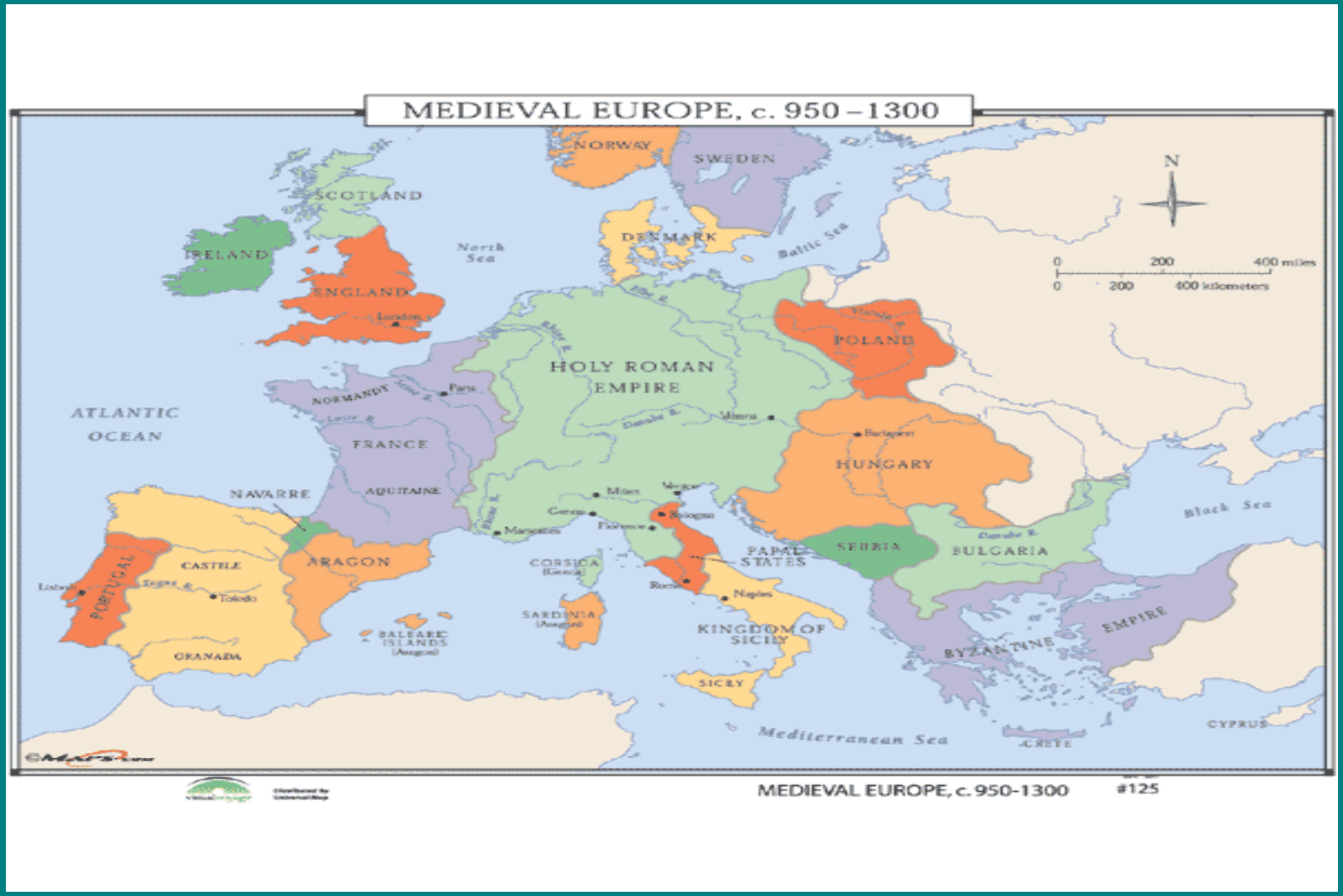
Saints Cyril and Methodius

Russia: Kingdom of Kiev**

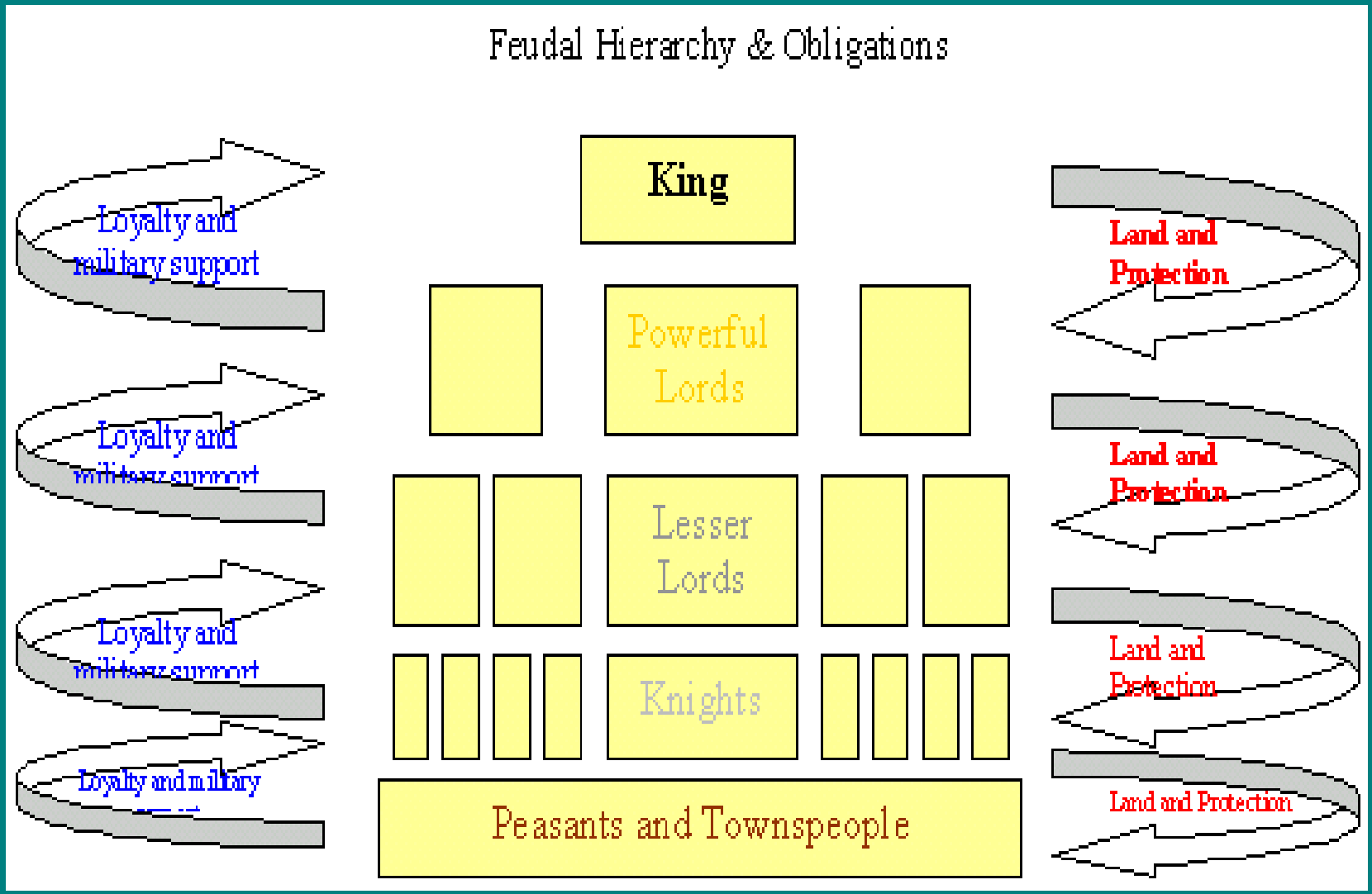


Prince Vladimir

II. Western Europe: the Middle Ages



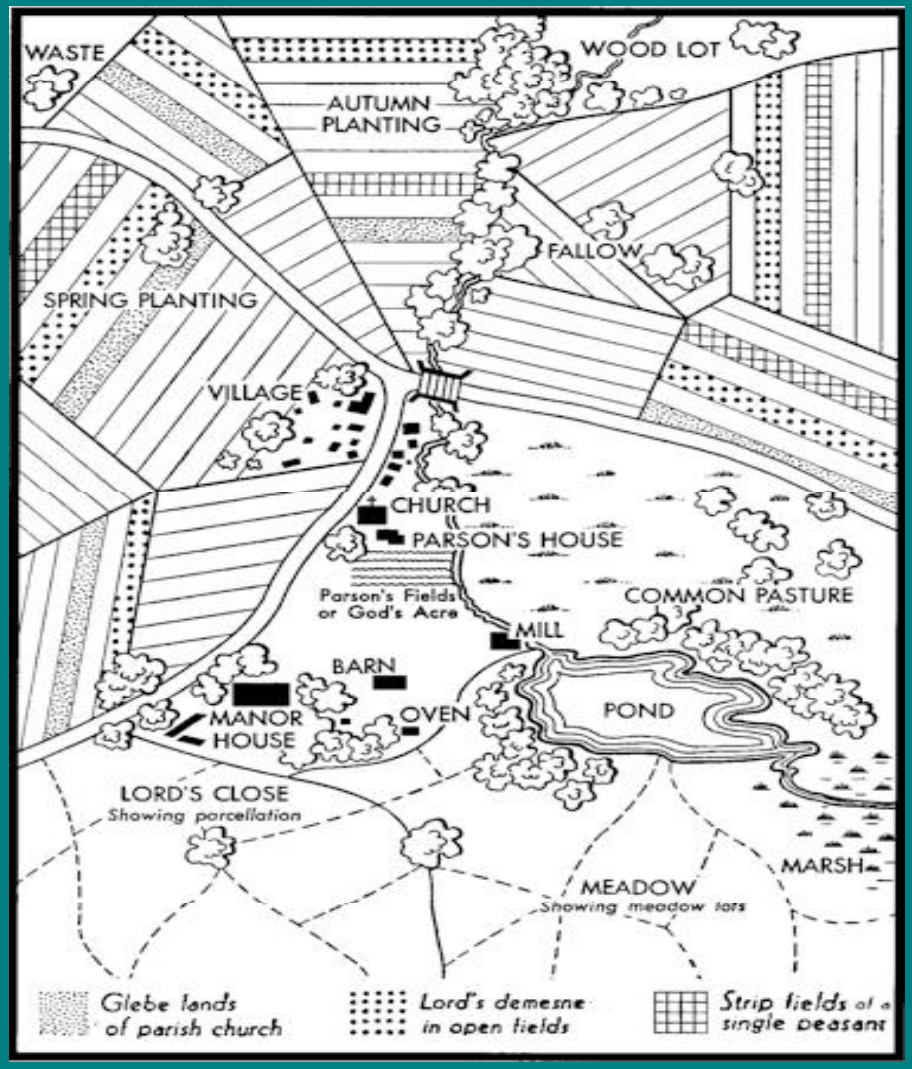
Feudalism**


Feudal Hierarchy & Obligations
King
Powerful Lords
Lesser Lords
Knights
Peasants and Townspeople
Loyalty and military support
Loyalty and military support
Loyalty and military support
Loyalty and military
Land and Protection
Land and Protection
Land and Protection
Land and Protection

Feudalism (cont.)

- In absence of central authority
- Local military and political relationships
- Lords and “retainers”/vassals supported by surplus agriculture of serfs who get security

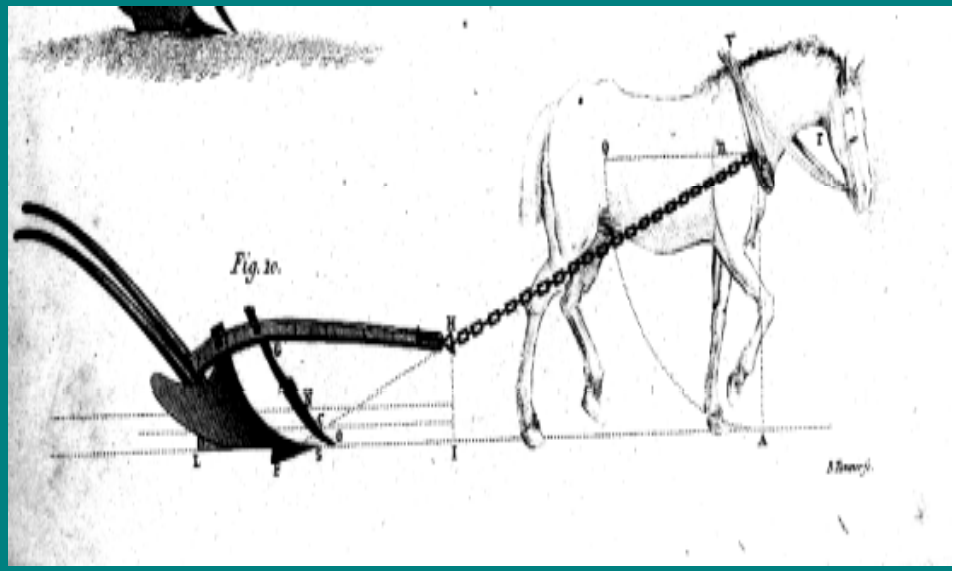
Manorialism**



- With decline of towns and trade
- Subsistence agriculture
- Subdivision of a fief
- Worked by serfs
- Lord of manor provides security, government, justice

The High Middle Ages (c.1000-1300CE)

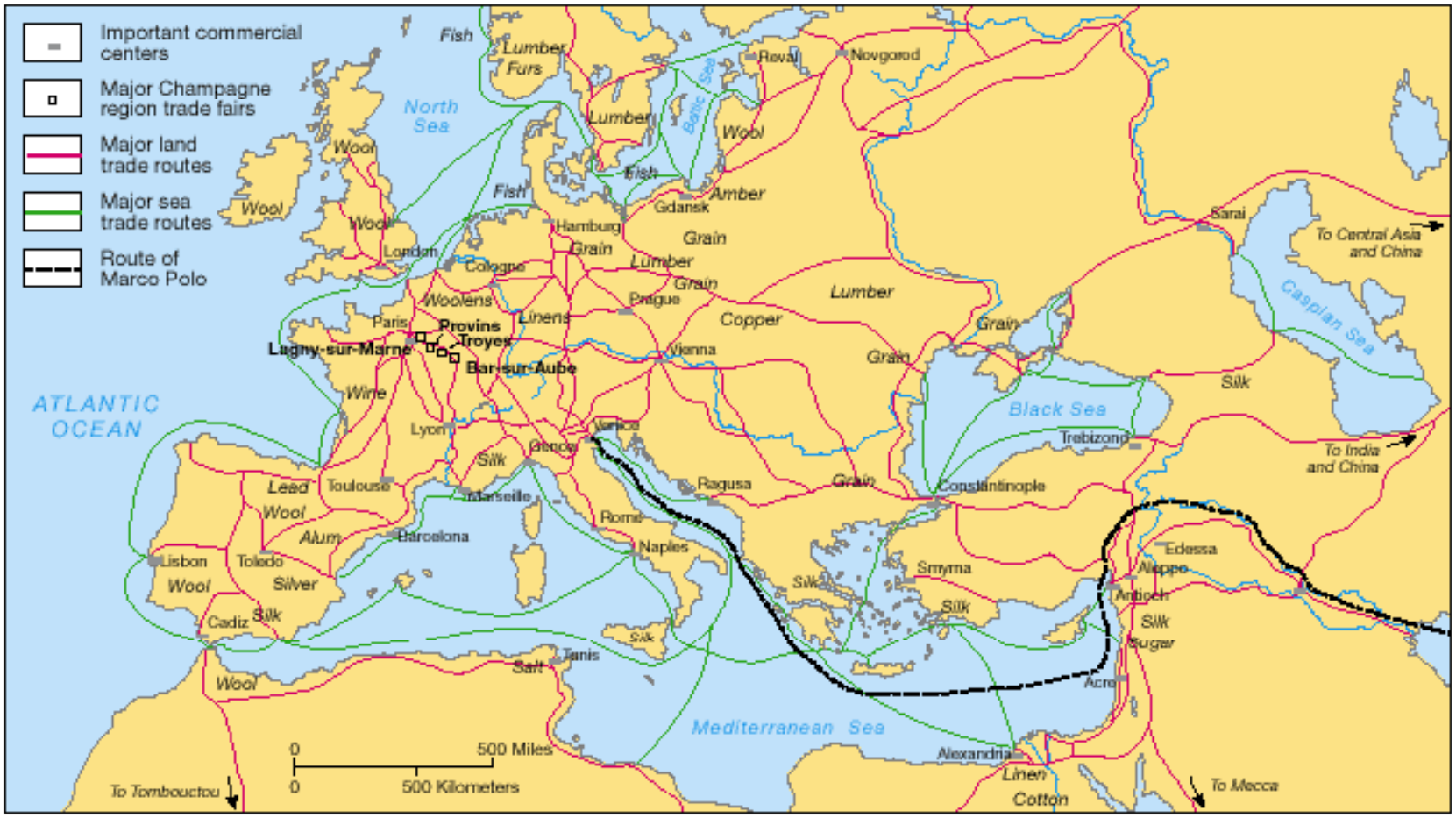
- Boom in agriculture via crops and technology
- Variation in diet
- Rapid population growth: from 29m in 800 to 79m by 1300
- Revival of towns and trade



High Middle Ages: towns and trade

- Supported by food surplus
- Artisans, merchants, professionals
- Centers of trade linked to Mediterranean and beyond . . .

Medieval Trade

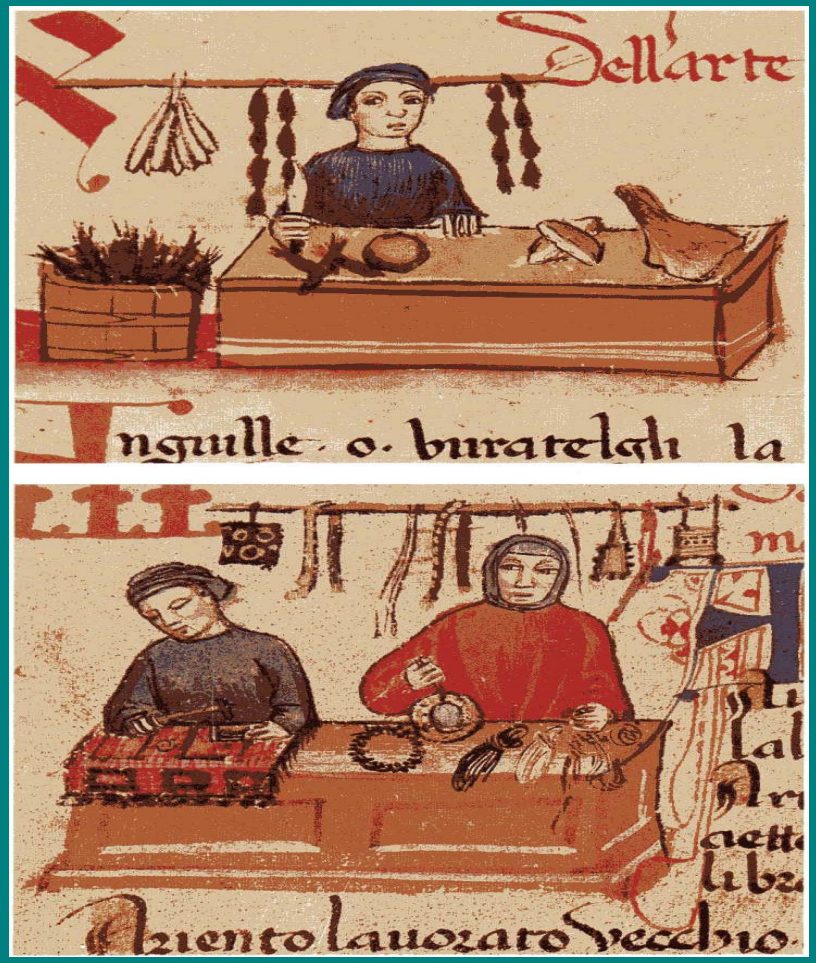


Medieval Trade Networks. Italian, Flemish, and German merchants tied northern and southern Europe to the eastern Mediterranean and beyond through networks of trade routes and markets that crossed religious, cultural, and political boundaries.

The Hanseatic League**

The Hanseatic League

The Guild System**



- Form of self-governance
- Goals??
- Is it capitalism??

Women in late Middle Ages

Christine de Pisan**

The Roman Catholic Church & Political Power : The Franks

Baptism of Clovis

Coronation of Charlemagne**

Charlemagne's Empire

Charlemagne's Empire

T-37

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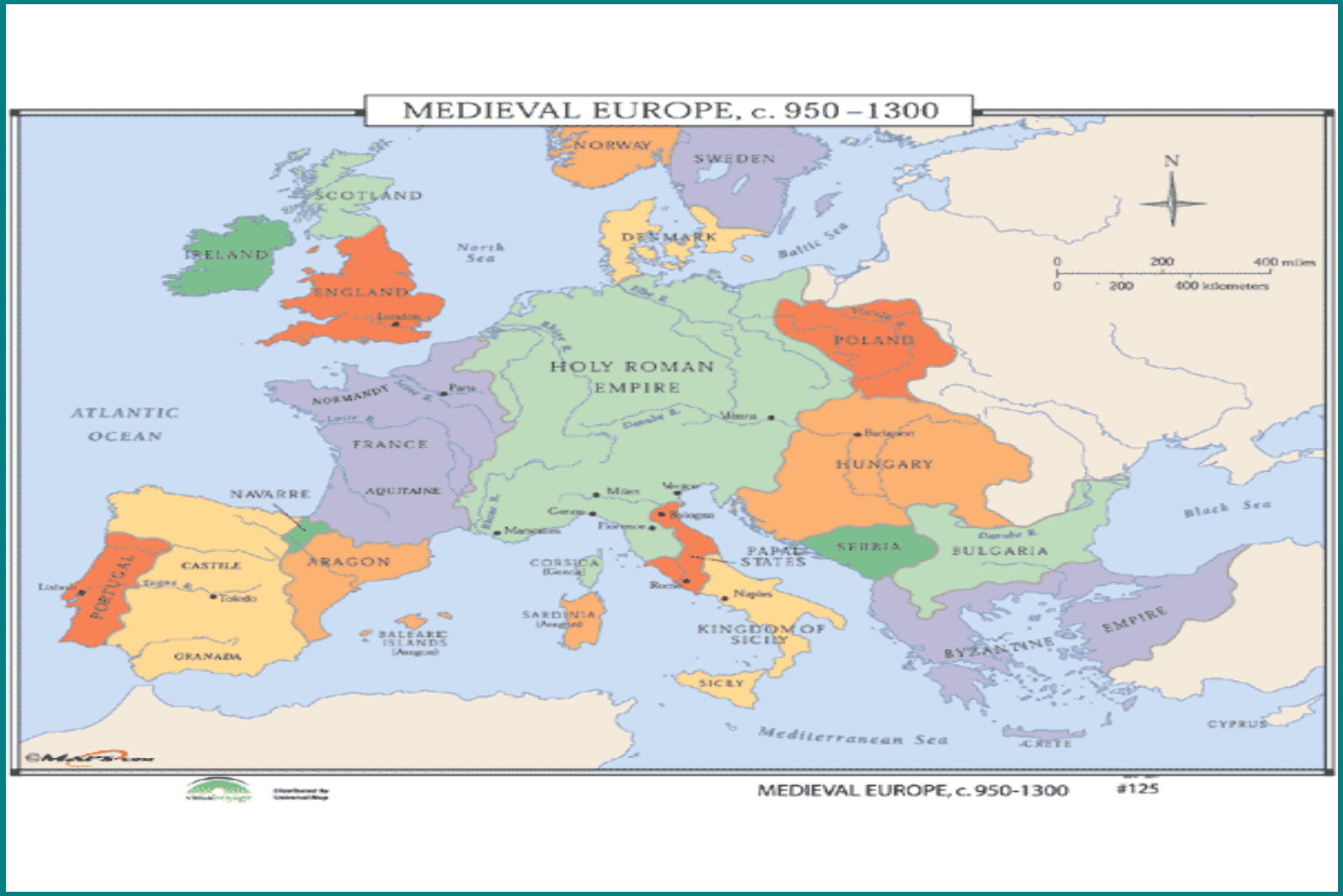
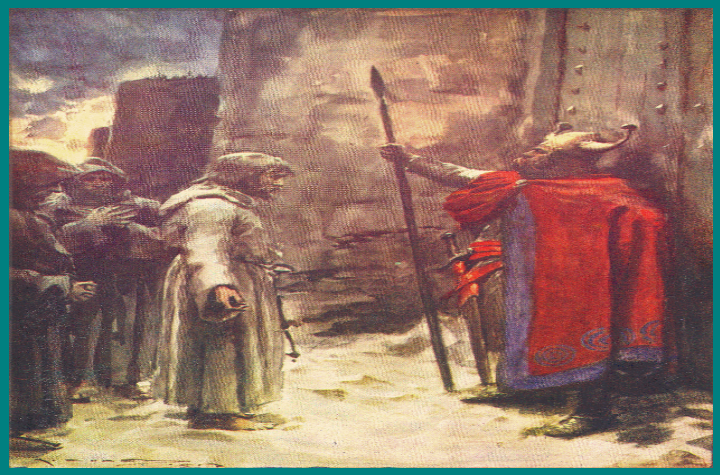
The Church and Power: the Holy Roman Empire**



Church and HRE (cont.)



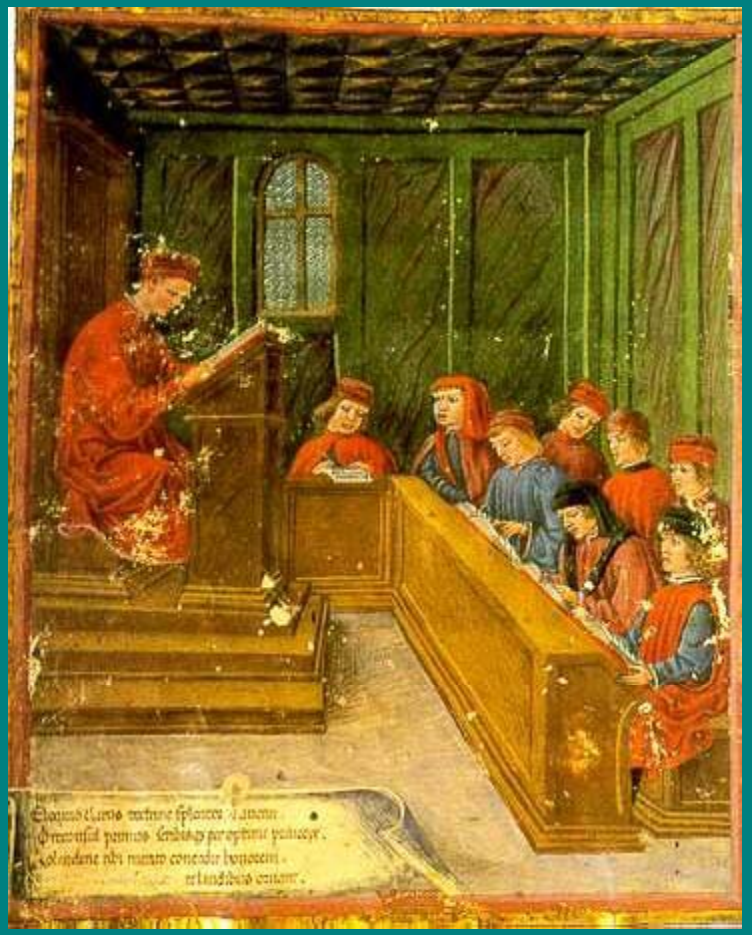
- Pope Gregory VII** and “lay investiture”
- Showdown with Emperor Henry IV**

Monasticism**

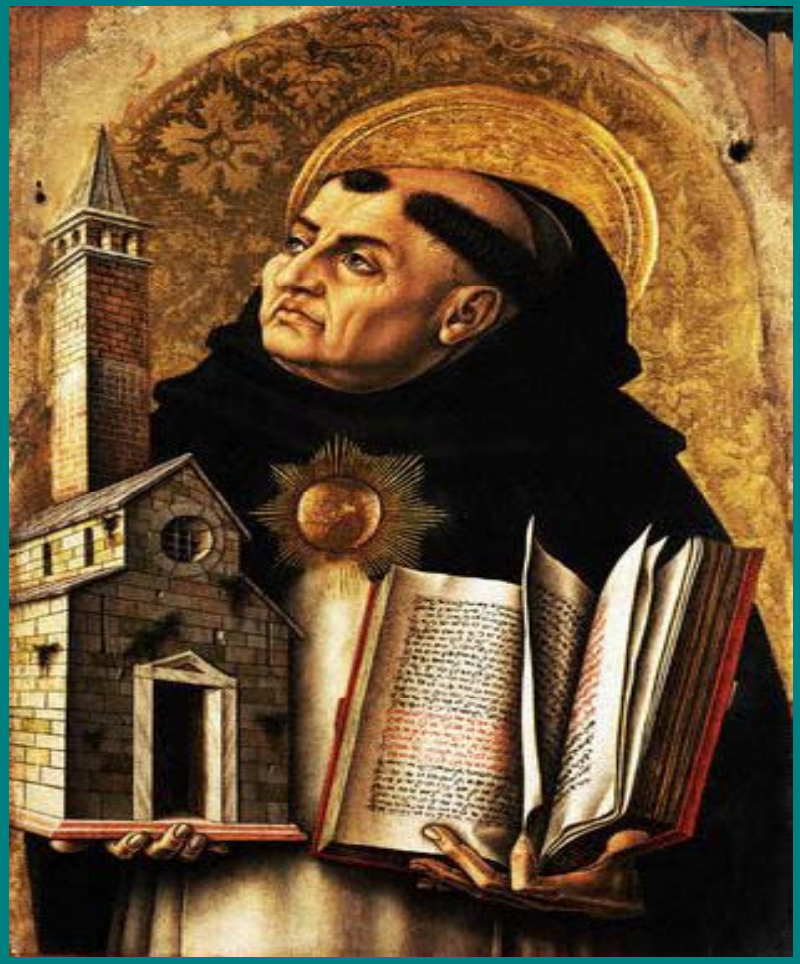
- Origins in Egypt
- Rule of St. Benedict (6th Century)
- Celibacy, poverty, obedience to abbot
- Monasteries as central to social and cultural life

The Church and Education

- Demand for educated individuals
- Cathedral schools
- Academic guilds
- The first universities: Bologna, Paris, Salamanca, Oxford, etc.



The Church and Aristotle



Thomas Aquinas**

Anselm of Canterbury**

The Crusades**

- Goal of recapturing Palestine and Jerusalem
- Only the 2nd is successful
- Cultural and commercial consequences

The Crusades T-34

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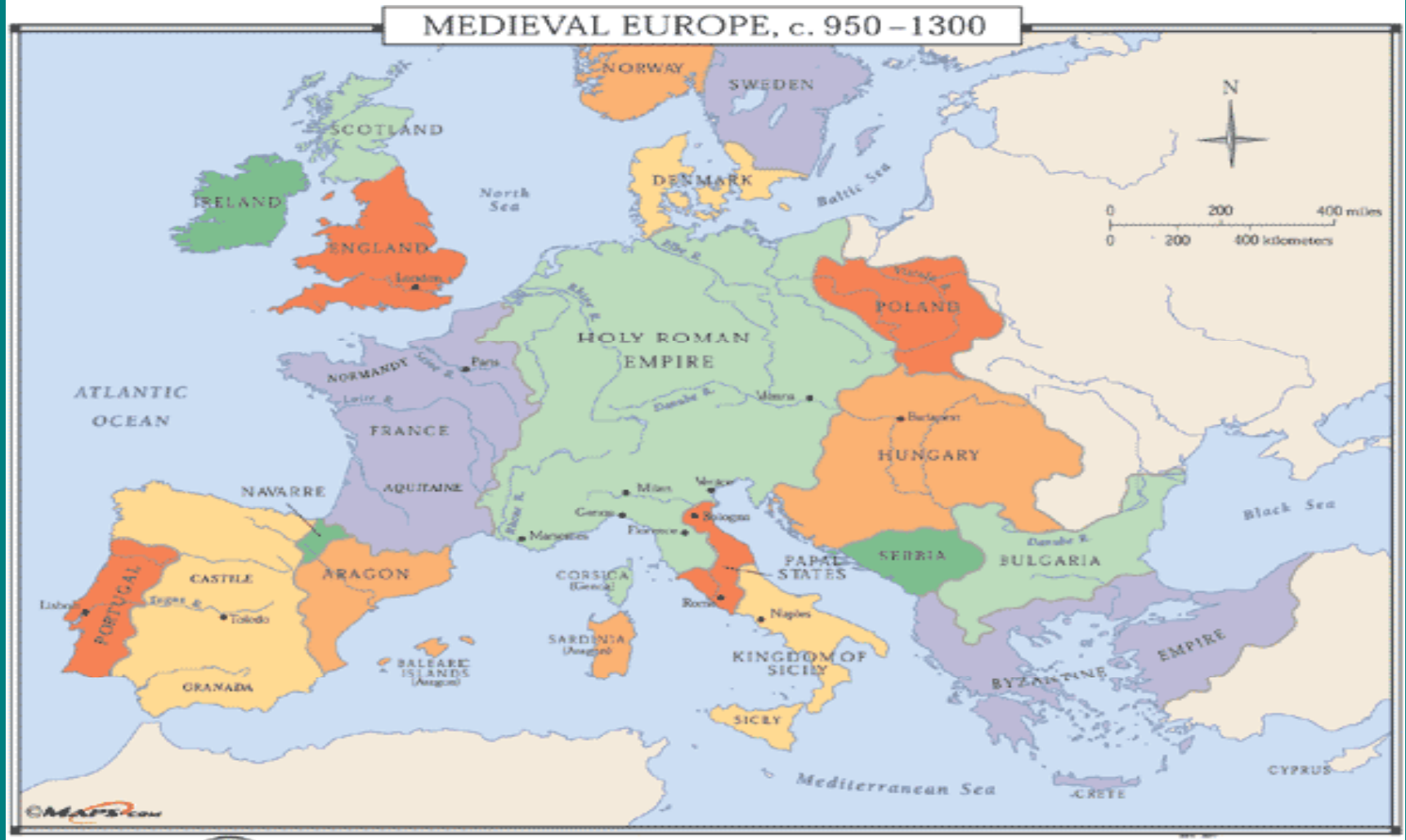
The Black Death** (Bubonic plague)

- From SW China and along trade routes
- Appears in Europe during “little ice age”
- Population decline
- Social/economic effects



MEDIEVAL EUROPE, c. 950-1300 #125

Europe in Postclassical: key terms & concepts

- Byzantine Empire
- Caesaropapism
- Roman Catholic vs. Greek Orthodox Church
- Justinian
- Hagia Sophia
- Cyrillic
- Kingdom of Kiev
- Feudalism
- Manorialism
- Hanseatic League
- Guild
- Christine de Pizan
- Charlemagne
- Holy Roman Empire
- Pope Gregory VII & Emperor Henry IV

Key terms (cont.)

- Thomas Aquinas
- Anselm of Canterbury
- Crusades
- Black Death