


POWER OF KINGS

 Are leaders accountable for their actions?

Key terms

bubonic, pneumonic, flagellant, pilgrimage, martyr, charter, siege, trebuchet, taxes, protest.
Own key terms to add:

Key dates

Becket become Archbishop - 1162
Becket murder - 1170
John becomes king - 1199
John signs Magna Carta - 1215
John sieges Rochester Castle - 1216
Black Death arrives - 1348
Peasants revolt - 1381

The Black Death

- The Black Death or plague as it was known arrived in Britain in 1348 on trade ships from China.
- The Black Death was a deadly combo of the bubonic and pneumonic plagues which had different symptoms.
- People blamed all sorts of reasons for the plague including god, bad air and movement of stars.
- Since people did not know the cause, this led to all sorts of weird treatments such as such as whipping yourself or drinking vinegar.

Did the Black Death affect different groups of people the same?

Thomas Becket

- Henry II and Thomas Becket were close friends but their disagreement on how to run the Church led to Becket's murder in Canterbury cathedral in 1170.
- Becket returned to England after time in France and sacked the priests who has helped Henry during his absence.
- Henry's knights murdered Becket when they heard him during a temper tantrum.
- Henry marched to Canterbury and apologised to the Church for how his actions and word led to Becket's harm.

Who was to blame for the death of Thomas Becket?

Richard and John

- Richard the Lionheart is known in history as a brave warrior king who fought on crusades for the Church.
- His younger brother John is remembered as one of the worst kings of England!
- John was often in conflict with the barons who owned land in England and was forced to sign Magna Carta, reducing the king's power as they were so fed up with him.
- John lost Rochester Castle to the barons when he refused to change his ways, this led to nearly two month siege to retrieve the castle.

What were John's biggest mistakes as King of England?

Peasants Revolt

- The peasants in England has grown tired of being taxed and mistreated by the lords who oversaw the land they worked on.
- Some of the peasants gathered to take their concerns to the boy king Richard II.
- Wat Tyler led the revolt in 1381 and met the king and some of his knights on two days at runnymede.
- The revolt ended when Wat Tyler was killed and the king told the peasants to go home and their demands of freedom would be met, this did not happen for some years.

*Were the peasants justified in their complaints?
Could they have responded differently to be more successful in 1381?*

The Journey through History at KS3 2021/22

