

Anglo-Saxon and Norman England c1060: A Comprehensive Exploration of a Transformative Era

The period of Anglo-Saxon and Norman England c1060 was a time of significant change and upheaval. The Anglo-Saxons, who had ruled England for centuries, were conquered by the Normans in 1066. This event marked the beginning of a new era, as the Normans brought with them their own culture, language, and customs.

In this article, we will explore the Anglo-Saxon and Norman periods in more detail. We will discuss the major events that took place during this time, the changes that occurred in society, and the lasting impact that this era had on England.



Hodder GCSE History for Edexcel: Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88: Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, C1060-88 by Katie Winters

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The Anglo-Saxon Period

The Anglo-Saxon period began in the 5th century, when Germanic tribes from what is now Germany and Denmark invaded Britain. These tribes eventually established a number of kingdoms, which were often at war with each other. In the 9th century, the Anglo-Saxons were united under the rule of King Alfred the Great. Alfred was a wise and just ruler, and he helped to establish a period of peace and prosperity.

During the Anglo-Saxon period, England was a predominantly rural society. The majority of the population lived in small villages and worked in agriculture. The Anglo-Saxons were also skilled craftsmen, and they produced a wide range of goods, including jewelry, weapons, and pottery.

The Anglo-Saxons were also a devoutly Christian people. They built many churches and monasteries, and they supported a number of religious orders. The Church played an important role in Anglo-Saxon society, and it helped to shape the culture and values of the people.

The Norman Conquest

In 1066, the Normans, a group of Vikings who had settled in Normandy (now part of France), invaded England. The Normans were led by William, Duke of Normandy. They defeated the Anglo-Saxons at the Battle of Hastings, and William became the first Norman king of England.

The Norman Conquest was a major turning point in English history. The Normans brought with them a new culture, language, and customs. They also introduced a new system of government, which was based on the feudal system.

The feudal system was a hierarchical system of government, in which the king was at the top. Below the king were the nobles, who held land from the king in exchange for military service. The peasants were at the bottom of the feudal hierarchy, and they worked the land for the nobles.

The Norman Conquest had a profound impact on English society. The Normans introduced a new aristocracy, which replaced the Anglo-Saxon aristocracy. The Normans also introduced a new language, French, which became the language of the court and the upper classes.

The Norman Conquest also had a significant impact on the Church. The Normans replaced the Anglo-Saxon bishops and abbots with Norman bishops and abbots. They also introduced a new system of church government, which was based on the Roman Catholic Church.

The Norman Period

The Norman period lasted from 1066 to 1154. During this time, the Normans consolidated their power in England. They built castles and fortifications, and they introduced a new system of law and order. The Normans also founded a number of new towns and cities.

The Norman period was a time of great change and upheaval. The Normans brought with them a new culture, language, and customs. They also introduced a new system of government, which was based on the feudal system. These changes had a profound impact on English society, and they helped to shape the course of English history.

The Legacy of Anglo-Saxon and Norman England

The Anglo-Saxon and Norman periods were a time of great change and upheaval. The Normans brought with them a new culture, language, and customs. They also introduced a new system of government, which was based on the feudal system. These changes had a profound impact on English society, and they helped to shape the course of English history.

The Anglo-Saxon and Norman periods also left a lasting legacy on England. The English language is a mixture of Anglo-Saxon and Norman French. The English legal system is based on the Norman legal system. And the English system of government is based on the feudal system that was introduced by the Normans.

The Anglo-Saxon and Norman periods were a time of great change and upheaval. They were also a time of great creativity and innovation. The Anglo-Saxons and Normans left a lasting legacy on England, and their influence can still be seen today.

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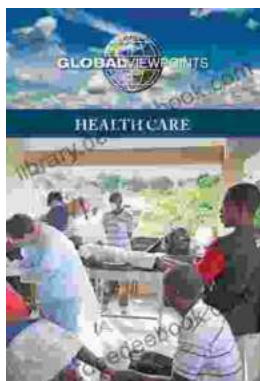
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