

The Medieval World: An Overview

This presentation explores the Medieval period. We will cover roughly the 6th to 16th century CE. Key themes include Feudalism, the Rise of Islam, Trade, and Culture. This overview is based on Grade 7 History curriculum by Ratna Sagar Publications.

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Feudalism: A System of Governance

1 A Complex System

Feudalism was a political, economic, and social framework.

2 Land as Power

Land ownership determined power, with the King at the top.

3 Hierarchical Structure

Society was structured into Vassals, Lords, Knights, and Serfs.

4 Code of Chivalry

Knights adhered to a code of honor, loyalty, and bravery.

The Rise of Islam

1

Prophet Muhammad

Founder of Islam (570-632 CE).

2

The Quran

The holy book of Islam, guiding principles.

3

Vast Expansion

Islam spread across Arabia, North Africa, and Spain.

4

Key Achievements

Significant contributions in mathematics, medicine, and architecture.



The Delhi Sultanate

1

1206 CE

Establishment of the Delhi Sultanate.

2

Prominent Dynasties

Including Mamluk, Khalji, Tughlaq, Sayyid, Lodi.

3

Notable Rulers

Qutb-ud-din Aibak, Alauddin Khalji, Muhammad bin Tughlaq.

4

Cultural Impact

Contributions in administration, architecture, and culture.



The Mughal Empire



Babur's Foundation

Established in
1526 CE.



Empire Expansion

Under
Humayun,
Akbar,
Jahangir, Shah
Jahan,
Aurangzeb.



Mughal Administration

Mansabdari
system and
land revenue.



Artistic Synthesis

Rich art,
architecture,
and cultural
blend.



Trade and Commerce

The Silk Road

A vital East-West trade network.

Indian Ocean Trade

Exchanged spices, textiles, and precious stones.

Urban Growth

Rise of merchant guilds and city centers.

Global Impact

Fostered cultural exchange and economic growth.

Society and Culture



European society was layered, with the Church playing a central role. Vernacular languages developed. Art, literature, music, and architecture flourished. This era laid cultural groundwork.



Medieval Art and Architecture

European Styles

Romanesque and Gothic architecture.

Featured grand cathedrals and intricate stained glass.

Mughal Masterpieces

Including the Taj Mahal and Fatehpur Sikri.

Known for symmetry and detailed inlay work.

Islamic Artistry

Exquisite calligraphy and geometric patterns.

Decorated mosques and manuscripts beautifully.



Key Inventions and Discoveries

1

Gunpowder

Originated in China.

2

Printing Press

Gutenberg, mid-15th century.

3

Navigation Tools

Compass and Astrolabe.

These inventions profoundly impacted warfare, communication, and global exploration. They shaped future developments.

Legacy of the Medieval World

