

# **GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE PRAYAGRAJ**

**Worksheet No -2**

**Session 2020-2021**

**Class – 7A,B,C,D,E,F**

**Subject – History**

**NOTE** - Parents please ensure that your ward must read the subject matter carefully and answer the following questions. Students can also take reference from a book or the internet for detail information if possible.

## **Topic – Spread of Christianity**

The spread of Christianity was a major development during the medieval period. It was a religious faith based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. The Bible is the holy book of the Christians. It has two parts: The Old Testament and The New Testament. After Jesus died, his teachings were spread by his followers, notably St. John and St. Paul. It was St. Paul who played an active role in spreading Christianity in the Roman Empire. He was the first to encourage non-Jews to become Christians.

### **Emperor Constantine –**

The persecution of Christians ended in around 4<sup>th</sup> century CE, when Emperor Constantine became the first Roman ruler to embrace Christianity. He took several steps to help spread Christianity – 1- He granted Christians the freedom of worship. 2- Gave important jobs to the Christians. 3- He declared Sunday public holiday so that people could attend Church. 4- He also built many churches.



■ Emperor Constantine legalized Christianity in Rome.

### **Shift Of The Capital-**

In 330 CE, Emperor Constantine shifted the capital from Rome to the ancient city of Byzantium. This was because he believed that the Roman Empire had become too big to be administered efficiently. The new capital

was named Constantinople. It became a major commercial centers. Constantinople would later become the capital of Eastern Roman Empire which would be known as Byzantine Empire. In 391 CE, one of the Constantine's successors, Emperor Theodosius, made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.

### **Medieval Europe-**

The Medieval period in Europe witness a number of events such as: 1- The decline of the ancient Roman Empire 2- The rise of Feudalism 3- The rise of the Church as the most important institution 4- The rise of Islam 5- The crusades and so on.

### **Decline Of The Ancient Roman Empire-**

In around 200 CE the Roman Empire begin to decline. There were many causes for the decline of the Empire, such as corrupt rulers, frequent outbreak of civil wars, in fighting among soldiers and so on. However, the chief cause for the decline was the attack by Germanic tribes such as the Visigoths, Ostrogoths, Vandals and the Franks. The Romans called them barbarians. The final blow came in 476 CE when a Visigoth chief called Odoacer made himself the king of Italy.

### **Impact Of The Barbarian Invasions-**

The Barbarian invasions left Rome a city of ruins. 1- The invasion weakened the authority of Roman rulers because they failed to challenge the Invaders. 2- Trade declined due to violent political conditions. 3- The most important impact of these invasions force the rise and spread of feudalism which lasted in various forms across Europe for hundreds of years.

### **Rise Of Feudalism-**

After the fall of the Roman Empire in the 5th century CE, there were very few Kings in Europe who could afford to maintain a standing army. So, the

kings granted portion of land to nobles, and in return the nobles promised loyalty and protection to the kings. The kings became the Lord's and the nobles became the vassals. The nobles gave land to knights in return for fighting battles. The nobles thus became Lords to to the knights. The peasants farmed on the land of the knights and the nobles in return gave protection against enemy attacks. The Serfs occupied the lowest rung among the peasants. This system of granting land on condition of service was called Feudalism.

### **The Byzantine Empire –**

In about 395 CE, the Roman Empire was split into two- The Western Roman Empire and the Eastern Roman Empire. The Western Roman Empire declined in the face of repeated Barbarian invasions. The Eastern Roman Empire known as Byzantine, survived for another thousand years. Its capital was Constantinople. The Byzantine Empire enjoyed a strategic location which enabled rulers to exploit the trade routes between Asia and Europe. Under able rulers such as Justinian 1, the Byzantine Empire became one of the wealthiest in the world. Justinian1 not only introduced a new system of laws, he also built many churches, including the famous Hagia Sophia. Ottoman Turks captured Constantinople in 1453 and made Constantinople their capital.

### **The Crusades-**

In the 11th century, the Turks captured Jerusalem. They threatened the Christian visitors, and later banned them from entering Jerusalem. Moreover, the victory of the Turks over the Byzantine Empire led many Christians to believe that their religion was under threat. It was against the background that in 1095 CE, Pope Urban 2 urged Christians to go on a holy

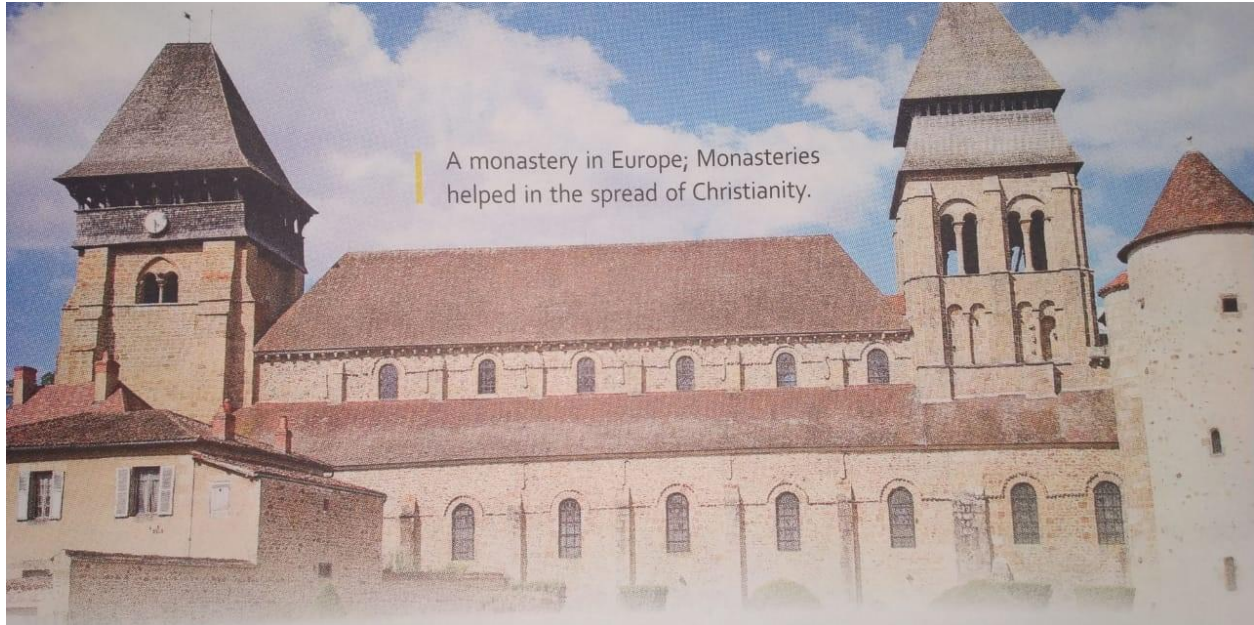
war or a crusade and recapture Jerusalem. Thus between 1096 CE and 1291 CE, eight crusades were fought. However, the crusaders were unable to recapture Jerusalem.

### **Impact Of Crusades-**

The crusades left the lasting impact on Europe. 1- The crusades increased the Pope's authority among Christians. People looked upon the Pope as their guide and leader. 2- The crusaders were exposed to the cultural and scientific progress of the Greeks and Turks. This laid the foundation for a revival of interest in classical knowledge. The Crusaders learnt about magnetic compass and gunpowder from the Turks. The use of gunpowder greatly undermine the role of knights and contributed to the decline of Feudalism. 3- The Crusades paved the way for increase trade contacts between Asia and Europe. Thus, an increased interest in learning, travel and the spread of new ideas paved the way for The Renaissance in Europe.

### **Monasteries And Their Impacts –**

As Christianity spread in Europe, many monasteries were built. These became the residence of monks. The monks and nuns led simple life, they stressed purity, resistance to material temptation, pursuit of goodness and self-sacrifice. The monasteries played a very important role in medieval Europe : 1- Monasteries were centers from which Christianity spread to other regions. Monks travelled far and wide to spread the message of Jesus Christ. 2- Monasteries were centers of learning. Monasteries served as centers of religious as well as secular learning. 3- Monasteries served people. The Monks grew herbs in the monastery gardens and used them to treat



people who were sick. Their zeal to serve people by tending the sick and giving food and shelter to tired travellers was widely appreciated. This helped to spread Christianity further.

### **Answer The Following-**

#### **i) Fill in the blanks :-**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ helped in spreading Christianity in the Roman Empire.
- b. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the holy book of Christians.
- c. Emperor \_\_\_\_\_ became the first Roman ruler to embrace Christianity.
- d. The barbarian invasions left \_\_\_\_\_ a city of ruins.
- e. Under able ruler such as the \_\_\_\_\_, Byzantine Empire became one of the wealthiest in the world.
- f. The \_\_\_\_\_ played a very important role in medieval Europe.
- g. \_\_\_\_\_ was a system of granting land on condition of service.

- h. \_\_\_\_\_ were holy wars that were fought between Christians and Turks.
- i. Monks lived in \_\_\_\_\_.
- j. Constantinople was captured by the \_\_\_\_\_.

**ii) True and False :-**

- a. The Ottomans made Constantinople their capital.
- b. In 1454 CE Constantinople fell in the hands of Ottoman Turks.
- c. The crusaders were unable to recapture Jerusalem.
- d. In 385 CE, the Roman empire was split into Western and Eastern Roman Empire.
- e. In 391 CE, Emperor Theodosius made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.

**iii) Match the following :-**

| (A)                            |  | (B)  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| a. Justinian 1                 |  | Turks captured Jerusalem.                  |
| b. 11 <sup>th</sup> century CE |  | Hagia Sophia                               |
| c. 5 <sup>th</sup> century CE  |  | Odoacer made himself the<br>king of Italy. |
| d. 4 <sup>th</sup> century CE  |  | Fall of the Roman Empire.                  |

e. In 476 CE | Persecution of Christians ended.

**iv) Answer the following questions in short :-**

Q1) What is Feudalism?

Q2) Write a short note on crusade.

Q3) What paved the way for the Renaissance in Europe?

Q4) When did the Roman Empire split and into how many Empires? Name them.

Q5) Name the social classes created by the rise of Feudalism?

**v) Answer the following questions in detail :-**

Q1) What steps did Emperor Constantine take to spread Christianity?

Q2) What was the impact of the barbarian invasion on the Roman Empire?

Q3) "The crusades left a lasting impact on Europe". List points to explain this statement.

Q4) Write three points to show that the monasteries played an important role in medieval Europe.

Q5) What were the causes for the decline of Roman Empire?

**END**

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