



Middle Ages

500 - 1500

AKA

The Dark Ages, Medieval Times

The time between the fall of Rome and the Renaissance

Feudalism:

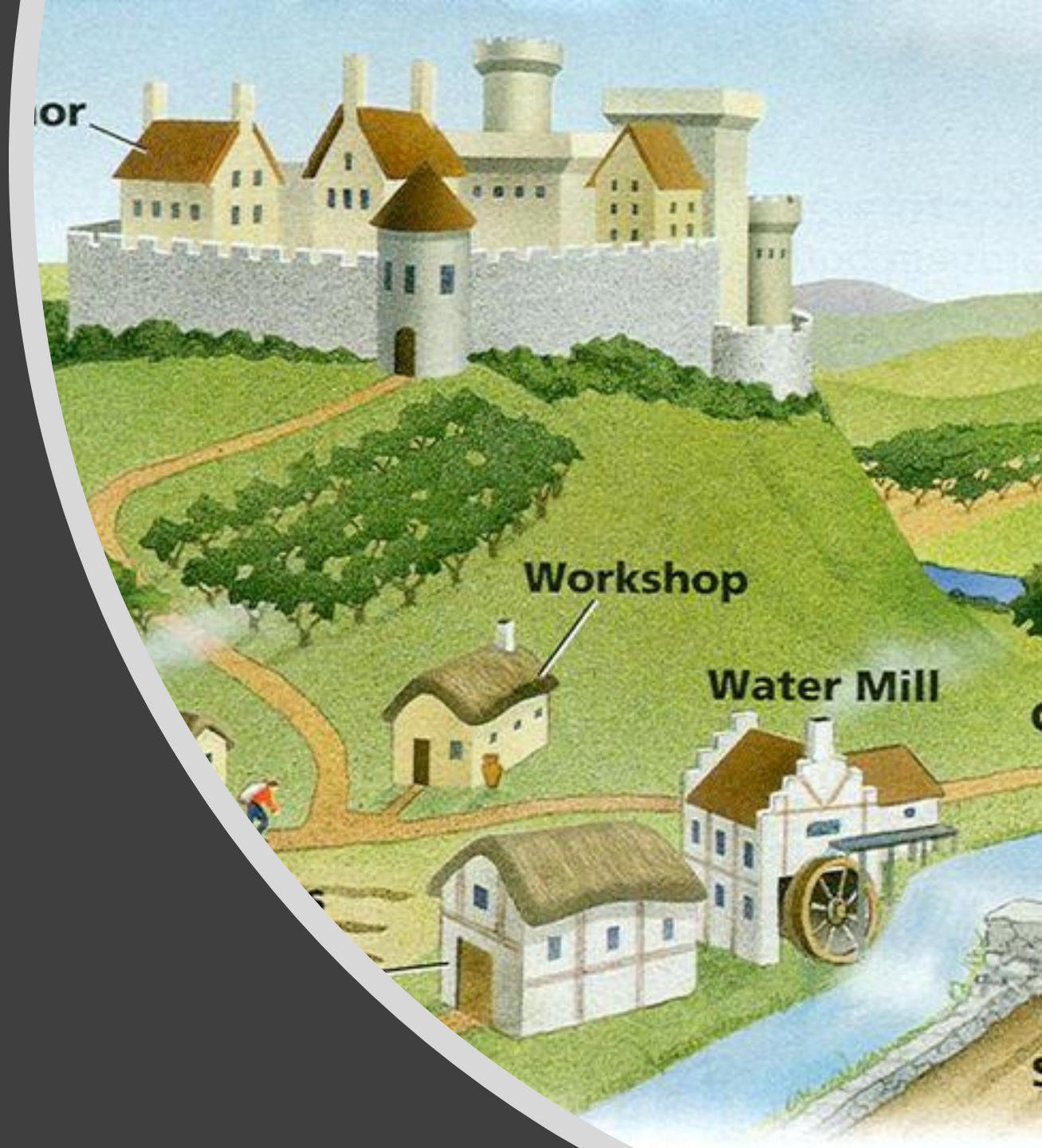
A political and military system based on relationships of loyalty and services

Loyalty:

Strong feelings of support / allegiance

Fief:

A large area of land



Feudal Hierarchy:

the ranking of importance in the feudal system

King:

one ruler with complete control

Nobles:

Lord: a person who gives land in return for loyalty and services

Vassal: a person who receives land to provide protection



Knights: professional soldiers

Stages of Knighthood:

Page: learned manners, reading, writing,

Squire: skills of the trade: horses, weapons, armor

Knight: dubbing ceremony

Chivalry:

a code of behavior knights follow

To be honest, loyal, respectful

To serve lord and church



Peasants:



Freeman:

craftsmen, paid taxes, could travel

Serfs:

bound to and worked the land

The whole society was based on their labor but they had no power

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