**The Feudal System**

King John of England

Joh

King



Duke of Somerset

Duke of Cornwall

Count of Anjou

Archbishop

Lord

Lord

Lord

Lord

Lord

Lord

Knight

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How many lords hold fiefs from the Count of Anjou? \_\_\_\_\_

How many lords hold fiefs from the Duke of Somerset?\_\_\_\_\_

How many lords hold fiefs from the Duke of Cornwall?\_\_\_\_\_

How many lords and knights are vassals to the Archbishop?\_\_\_\_\_

There are 6 major lords. Yet there are 7 vassalages from Dukes, Counts, or Archbishops. How is this possible?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Note the empty squares. Who, other than God, could the king be a vassal to?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If King John was a vassal, what was possibly the name of his fief?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Role of the Christian Church in the Middle Ages

Economic Role

Collect tithes or taxes to pay for Church projects (charity, defense, building)

Engage in trade of goods produced on Church lands

Establish market centers in Cathedral towns

Employ people to build churches and Cathedrals

Maintain monasteries and convents for the religious lifestyle

Social Role

Lead worship;

Preach beliefs

Aid the poor and others in need

Offer a contemplative lifestyle for priests, monks and nuns

Build Hospitals and worship spaces

Provide hospitality to travelers

Preserve learning and offer education

Administer sacraments

Political Role

Owned land (which

provided a pathway to power for nobles not inheriting land)

Sanction the rule

of kings; crown them

Establish Church courts & Inquisition Courts

Enforce interdict or excommunication to protect interests

Support the Pope with troops if needed

Raise armies or troops to protect lands

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