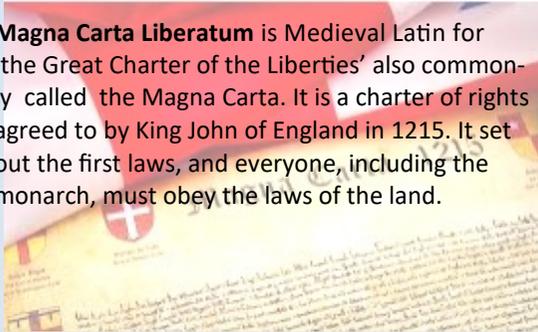


Key Vocabulary

Magna Carta	The Great Charter (book of Laws)
Charter	An official document setting out the rights and duties of a group.
Baron	A member of the lowest order of the British nobility, usually referred to as a Lord.
Crusade	A series of medieval military expeditions.
Scroll	A roll of parchment or paper for writing on.
Feudal System	The feudal system was a way of organising society into different groups based on their roles. It had the king at the top (with all of the control), and the peasants at the bottom doing all of the work.
Taxes	An amount of money that you have to pay to the government so that you can pay for public services.
Democracy	A form of government in which the common people hold power and can rule either directly or through chosen people.
Rule of Law	No person or government is above the law . No government or its officials can enforce laws that are unfair or unjust.
British Values	Being British means having freedom in the country, but respecting democratic laws. Also to have tolerance with everyone and treating them with equality.
Tyrant	A ruler who shows absolute power.
Medieval Times	The Middle Ages, or Medieval Times, in Europe was a long period of history from 500AD to 1500AD. That's 1000 years!

Key Information

Magna Carta Liberatum is Medieval Latin for 'the Great Charter of the Liberties' also commonly called the Magna Carta. It is a charter of rights agreed to by King John of England in 1215. It set out the first laws, and everyone, including the monarch, must obey the laws of the land.



Key Places

King John of England put his seal on the Magna Carta at **Runnymede**, near Windsor, on **15th June 1215**.



Key People

Richard the Lion-Heart
 King John
 25 barons
 (One of whom was William Malet of Curry Mallet.)



Key Knowledge

Causes:
 King John was unpopular due to high taxes and losses in his war with France. He was a poor soldier in comparison to the previous King, his brother Richard.
 King John tried to control the Church, which angered people. This led to the Pope closing all churches in England for seven years.
 The barons were angry at being forced to pay **scutage**—a high tax and for having to give King John their best fighting men.

Events:
 In 1215, gave the king a choice: change the way the country was run or face a fight against the barons' armies. They came up with 63 rights they thought all barons should have. This list of rights became the Magna Carta. When King John refused to listen, they raised an army and captured London. King John had to listen then.
 Key promises included: The King could not demand taxes without the barons' permission; not interfering with the church; fair trials for all freeman; no inheritance tax and a reduction in fines for crimes.

Impact:
 The King's power was limited and he could not back out of the agreement without a war.
 The law covered everyone in society (e.g. fair taxes).
 It was the start of the idea of parliament—we still have this today.
 Countries like America have also based their constitution on the Magna Carta.
 It involved ordinary people in the running of England (e.g. barons, bishops and knights.)

Key Dates

1199	1203	1203-04	1207	1208	1209	1214	1215
King John becomes King. He has no money as it has been spent by the previous King—Richard the Lionheart—on the Crusades.	Arthur, King John's nephew and rival for the throne is murdered. He is only 16.	King John is defeated in war with France. He loses most of his French lands.	King John falls out with the Pope. He doesn't like the man the Pope has chosen for Archbishop of Canterbury.	The Pope bans all church services.	The Pope excommunicates King John. King John steals Church land and money.	King John tries to win back lands in France. He loses and short of money, he tries to make the barons pay more.	The barons rebel against King John. They force him to sign the Magna Carta. His power is then limited.