Your notes

GCSE History: revision notes

# The reigns of King Richard I and King John, 1189–1216

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## Richard I and the Third Crusade, 1189–99

- Richard I became king in 1189 and left on the Third **Crusade** (1189–92) with Philip II of France. He captured Acre (1191) and won at Arsuf (1191), but did not take Jerusalem; he made a truce with Saladin (1192).
- On the way home he was captured by Leopold of Austria and handed to Emperor Henry VI. England paid a huge **ransom** of 150,000 marks, and he was freed in 1194.
- Richard spent most of his reign fighting in France and died in 1199 from a crossbow wound at Châlus.

## John and the loss of Normandy, 1199–1206

- John became king in 1199. His nephew, Arthur of Brittany, disappeared in 1203, probably murdered on John's orders.
- Philip II of France took Normandy in 1204, including Château Gaillard, Richard's great castle. John raised heavy taxes, such as **scutage**, to try to win it back.

## John, the Pope and Magna Carta, 1205–16

- John quarrelled with Pope Innocent III over the choice of Stephen Langton as Archbishop of Canterbury. The Pope placed England under an **Interdict** (1208–14) and excommunicated John (1209).
- After defeat at the Battle of Bouvines (1214), rebel barons forced John to agree to **Magna Carta** at Runnymede (June 1215). He soon broke it, civil war followed, and John died in 1216.

## Key terms

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| **Crusade** | A religious war to take Jerusalem and the Holy Land. |

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| **Ransom** | Money paid to free a prisoner. |
| **Scutage** | Money paid instead of military service. |
| **Interdict** | A ban by the Pope on church services in a country. |
| **Excommunication** | Being thrown out of the Church. |
| **Magna Carta** | The 1215 charter limiting the king's power. |

## Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. Which crusade did Richard I lead?
2. Which city did Richard capture in 1191?
3. Who captured Richard on his way home?
4. How much was Richard's ransom?
5. How did Richard I die?
6. What did John lose to Philip II in 1204?
7. Why did the Pope place England under an Interdict (1208)?
8. Which defeat in 1214 weakened John?

### Answers

1. The Third Crusade
2. Acre
3. Leopold of Austria
4. 150,000 marks
5. From a crossbow wound at Châlus in 1199
6. Normandy
7. John refused to accept Stephen Langton as Archbishop of Canterbury
8. The Battle of Bouvines

## What to do next

**Practise 10 questions on this topic**

**Try 3 exam questions, with mark schemes**

**Read the lesson, one step at a time**

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