

Feudal Relationships

Overlord provided Vassals with:

- ◆ Landed estates [FIEF]
- ◆ Armed forces.
- ◆ Roads, bridges, dams.
- ◆ Justice in disputes among vassals [TRIAL BY COMBAT]

Vassals Provide Overlord with:

- ◆ Allegiance [HOMAGE, FEALTY]
- ◆ Tributary money or goods.
- ◆ Military service and fighting men when summoned.
- ◆ Ceremonial duty.
- ◆ Three feudal dues; ransom, dowry, knighthood.
- ◆ Hospitality and entertainment on visits.

Overlord / Vassals Provide Serfs with:

- ◆ Land to support peasant's and/or serf's livelihood.
- ◆ Military protection against invasion.
- ◆ Economic security against invasion.

Serfs Provide Overlord / Vassal with:

- ◆ Payments in kind for use of arable land.
- ◆ Labor to the lord for tasks such as building roads, bridges and dams.
- ◆ Help in defending the castle in case of attack.
- ◆ Labor on the land farmed for the lord's household [LORD'S DEMESNE, property]