

## Government and Economy of the Middle Ages

### I. Feudalism

- a. due to lack of centralized government powerful landowners created a system of service and protection on their land.
- b. A political system in which powerful lord divided their land among lesser lords. In exchange, the lesser lords pledged service and loyalty to the greater lord

### II. The Manor

- a. The lord's estate included one or more villages, the surrounding lands, and peasants who lived there.
- b. Each major was its own economy because there was no centralized government or money system.

### III. Knights and Nobles

A. Warfare was a way of life, as nobles battled for power. Noblewomen supervised the estates. Knights practiced chivalry, protecting the weak.