

# British History: Lime Class – Rule of Britain

## Who were the early law makers?

### Key Vocabulary

<b>Magna Carta</b>	The Great Charter (book of Laws)
<b>Charter</b>	an official document setting out the rights and duties of a group.
<b>Baron</b>	a member of the lowest order of the British nobility, usually referred to as a Lord.
<b>Crusade</b>	a series of medieval military expeditions.
<b>Scroll</b>	a roll of parchment or paper for writing on.
<b>Feudal system</b>	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.
<b>Taxes</b>	an amount of money that you have to pay to the government so that it can pay for public services.
<b>Democracy-</b>	is a form of government in which the common people hold power and can rule either directly or through chosen people
<b>Rule of Law-</b>	no person or government is above the <b>law</b> . No government or its officials can enforce <b>laws</b> that are unfair or unjust.
<b>British Values-</b>	Being <b>British means</b> having freedom in the country, but respecting democratic laws. Also to have tolerance with everyone and treating them with equality,
<b>Tyrant</b>	a ruler who shows absolute power
<b>Medieval Times-</b>	The <b>Middle Ages</b> , or <b>Medieval Times</b> , in Europe was a long <b>period</b> of history from 500 AD to 1500 AD. That's 1000 years!



### Key People

King John  
 Richard The Lion-Heart  
 The Barons

### Key Places

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



### Key Dates

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

# Magna Carta and King John - 1215

## 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 angered people by trying to control the Church. This led to the Pope closing all Churches in England for 7 years.

The barons were angry at paying scutage—a high tax and giving John their best fighting men.

### Events:

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

### Impact:

It limited the King's power and John could not back out of the agreement without a war.

The laws 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 based their constitution on the Magna Carta.

## Key Knowledge

### **Magna Carta Libertatum**

is Medieval Latin for "the Great Charter of the Liberties", commonly called the

**Magna Carta** (also **Magna Charta**; "Great Charter").

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 law of the land.



BC (Before Christ)	AD (Anno Domini)																				
	0					500 AD	1000 AD					Magna Carta 1215	1500 AD	2000 AD							
Century	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st
Periods in British History	Romans in Britain 55BC – 410AD				Saxon and Viking Britain 410AD – 1066AD						Medieval Britain 1066AD – 1485AD				Tudor Britain 1485AD – 1603AD	Stuart Britain 1603AD – 1714AD	Georgian Britain 1714AD – 1837AD	Victorian Britain 1837AD – 1901AD	Living history		