

MYTHS ABOUT THE MIDDLE AGES

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There are many myths about human life in the Middle Ages. Most of them were invented during the Enlightenment and were driven by a desire to justify a break with the traditions of Europe in the past. Today we represent people of that time dark and backward, who are subject to the Catholic Church, but many of these information are still myths.

Nowadays, the most common myth is the myth of burning women as witches and supporting this with the Catholic church. In fact, even in the early Middle Ages it was forbidden to treat carelessly to wiggle. Thus, in the period from the 7th to the 10th century, a collection of Longboards' laws arises that prohibits the killing of women accused of witches. And already in 1080, Pope Gregory 7 protested against the barbarian custom of Denmark to burn women who, in the opinion of the people, are witches. It should also be noted that it was the Catholic Church that always opposed the witch hunt.

The next myth also applies to women, about their injustice. But he has no grounds. Legally, women of that time were much more protected than women of the present day. The husband had to take care of his wife, so that she had everything for life. Also, a woman had the right to own property and business, which was protected from the encroachments of her husband. In case of mistreatment by her husband, she was able to sue him, and according to documents, judges were more often on the side of a woman.

Another myth relates to the Catholic Church and Science. The church supposedly inhibited the development of science, but in reality it is not true. On the contrary, it preserved various philosophical and medical treatises of antiquity, historical chronicles and liturgical books, because it was in the monasteries that they were kept and rewritten. Also, the church's people made a major contribution to science. For example, N. Copernicus was a Polish priest, and the first who scientifically substantiate the heliocentric system. The case of Giordano Bruno and Galileo Galileo is only about internal scholars and treason.

Also, the myth of mysterious knight orders, which in fact is only a fabrication, is quite well-known. Knight and monastic orders are church institutions. All chivalrous procedures, rituals and symbols were all exposed externally. Knight orders originate only in the beginning of the 12th century, and, given that the Middle Ages ends at the end of the 15th century, about 300 years remain for such orders. Therefore, this is just one of the attributes of that era.

You can often hear the myth of a low average life expectancy. But, in fact, people of the Middle Ages survived to 60-70 years. And the myth appeared due to the information on the high infant mortality that prevailed in those days. Therefore, the scientists, counting the average life expectancy, took into account this factor, as well as various pandemics and wars, came to the conclusion that people lived about 25-28 years, which is not entirely true.

There is a myth about the ignorance of people in the Middle Ages. Supposedly, only monks were educated people. Yes, in fact, with many monasteries there were schools, from which excellent scientists came out. Episcopal schools played an important role in the cathedrals. For example, one of the most famous is the 12th Century School of Chartres. In higher society, educated people were also not uncommon. When in the 11th century the cities of Europe began to rise, big schools began to emerge, which later grew into universities. In the 9th century there was a well-known medical school in Salerno, where were many respected female professors. And at the medical school, Montpellier was allowed to teach Muslims and Jews.

