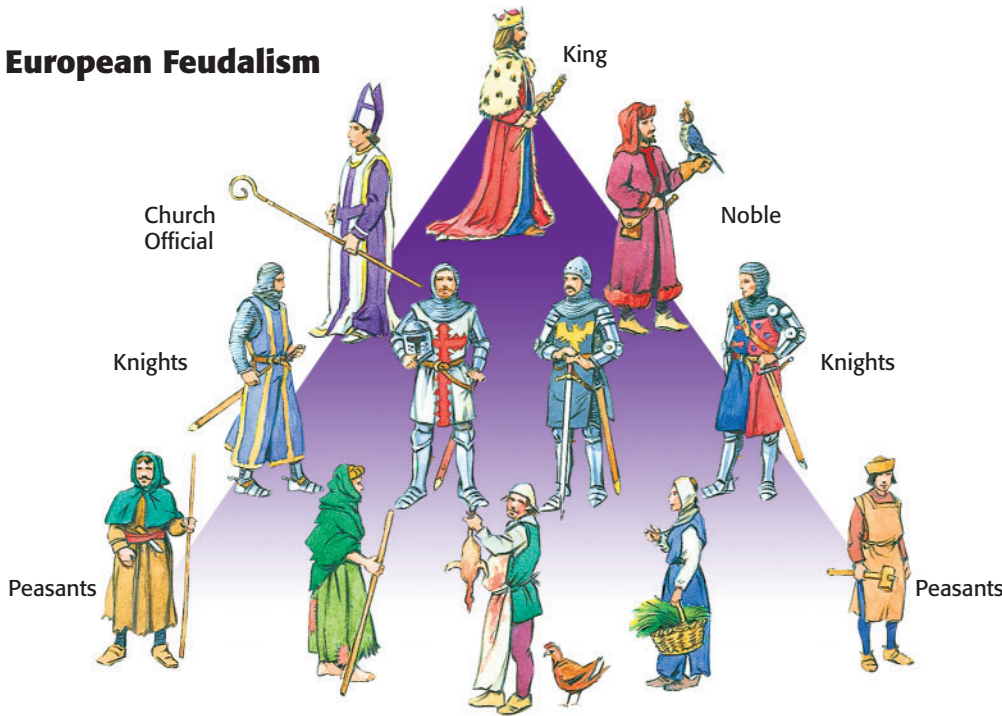


## > Analyzing Key Concepts

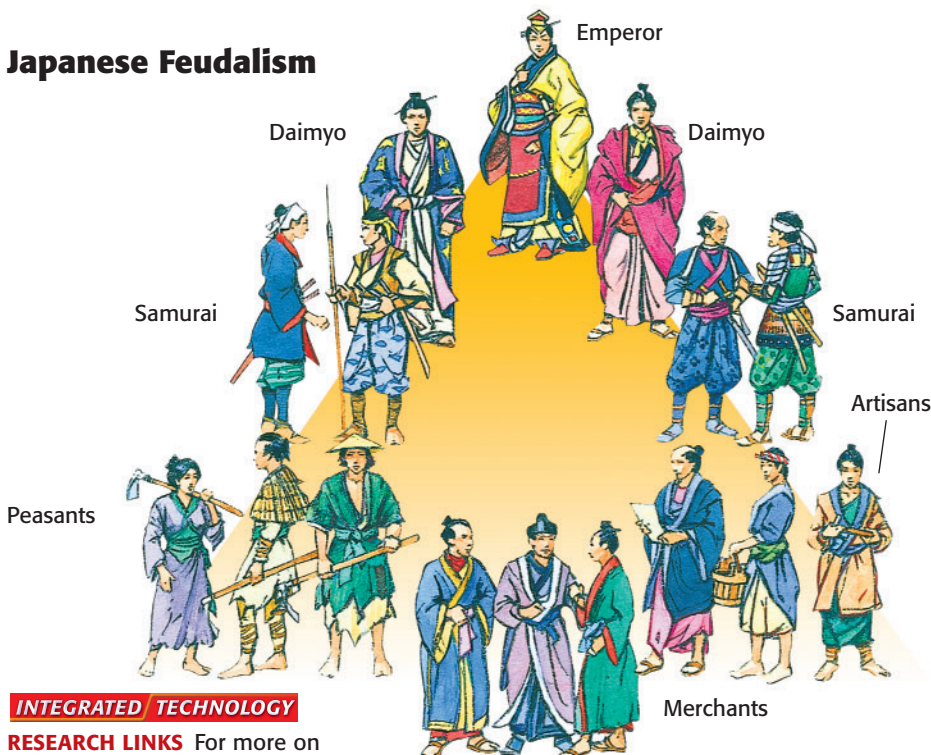
# Feudalism

Feudalism was a political system in which nobles were granted the use of land that legally belonged to the king. In return, the nobles agreed to give their loyalty and military services to the king. Feudalism developed not only in Europe but also in countries like Japan.

### European Feudalism



### Japanese Feudalism



## > DATA FILE

### FEUDAL FACTS AND FIGURES

- In the 14th century, before the bubonic plague struck, the population of France was probably between 10 and 21 million people.
- In feudal times, the building of a cathedral took between 50 to 150 years.
- In feudal times, dukedoms were large estates ruled by a duke. In 1216, the Duke of Anjou had 34 knights, the Duke of Brittany had 36 knights, and the Count of Flanders had 47 knights.
- In the 14th century, the nobility in France made up about 1 percent of the population.
- The word *feudalism* comes from the Latin word *feudum*, meaning *fief*.
- The Japanese word *daimyo* comes from the words *dai*, meaning "large," and *myo* (shorten from *myoden*), meaning "name-land" or "private land."

\* SOURCES: *A Distant Mirror* by Barbara Tuchman; *Encyclopaedia Britannica*

## Connect to Today

**1. Comparing** What are the similarities between feudalism in Europe and feudalism in Japan?

See Skillbuilder Handbook, Page R7.

**2. Forming and Supporting Opinions** Today, does the United States have a system of social classes? Support your answer with evidence.

### INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY

**RESEARCH LINKS** For more on feudalism, go to [classzone.com](http://classzone.com)