

American Minute with Bill Federer

Magna Carta: History of Limiting Deep State Power -
"Freedom of the individual against the arbitrary
authority of the despot"

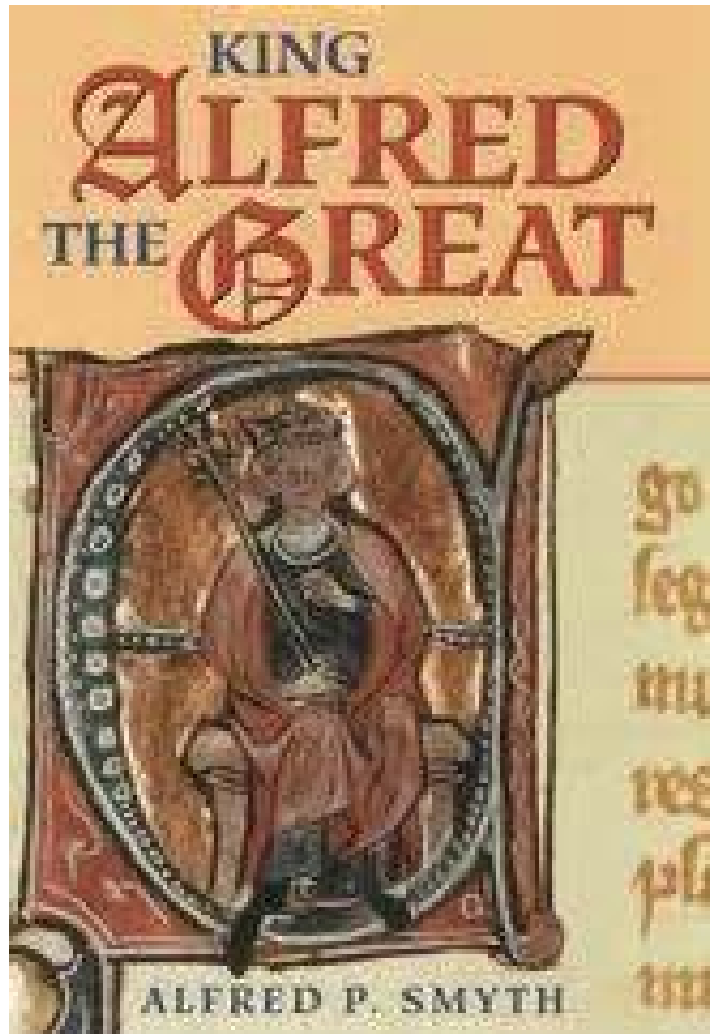
To understand the significance of the **Magna Carta**, one must know **what preceded it**.

England was invaded by "**Dane**" **Vikings** from Scandinavia in the 9th century.

They raided, pillaged, and plundered, destroying homes, churches, and libraries.

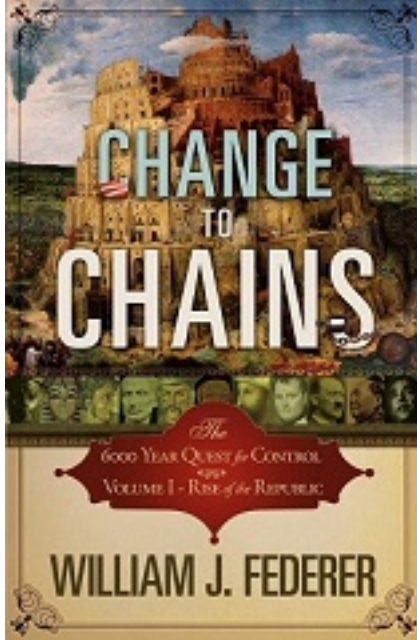
They were unstoppable, defeating all opposition, till they encountered **23-year-old King Alfred**.

Forced into the swampy, tidal marshes of Somerset, **Alfred, King of the Anglos and Saxons**, began a resistance movement in 878 AD.



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[Change to Chains-the 6000](#)



According to biographer Bishop Asser:

"Alfred attacked the whole pagan army fighting ferociously in dense order, and by divine will eventually won the victory."



King Alfred's battle song was:

"When the enemy comes in a'roarin' like a flood, Coveting the

kingdom and
hungering for
blood,

The Lord will raise
a standard up and
lead His people ,
The Lord of Hosts
will go before
defeating every
foe;
defeating every
foe.

For the Lord is our
defense, Jesus
defend us,
For the Lord is our
defense, Jesu
defend.

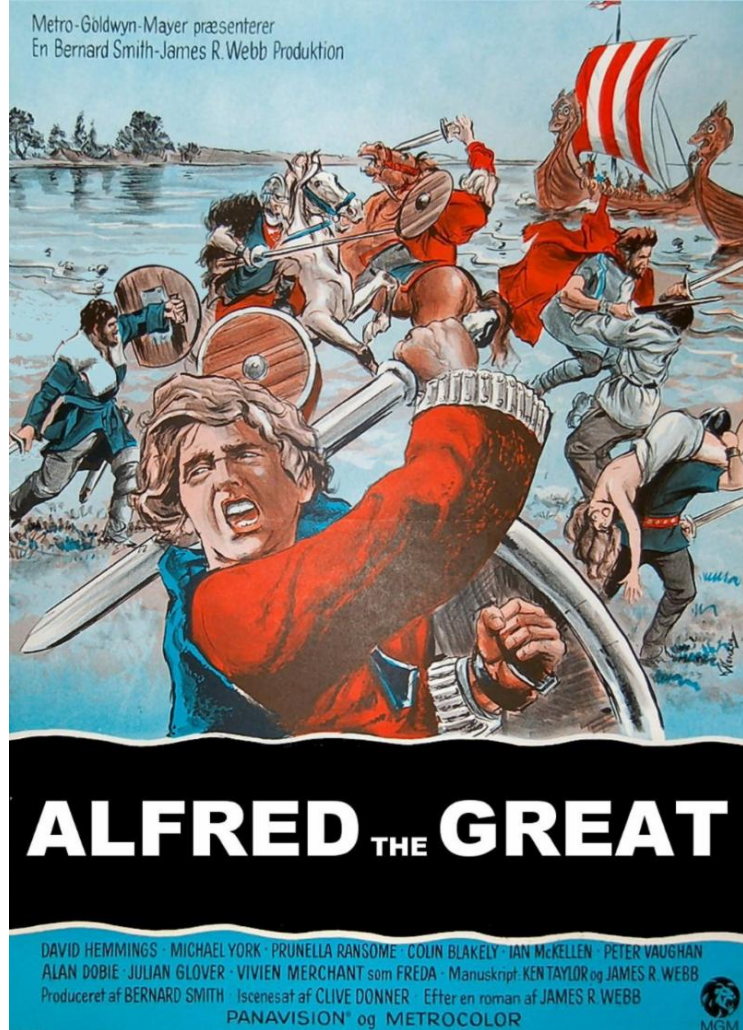
... Some men trust
in chariots, some
trust in the horse,
But we will depend
upon the Name of
Christ our Lord,

The Lord has
made my hands to
war and my fingers
to fight.

The Lord lays low our enemies, but He raises us upright;
He raises us upright.

For the Lord is our defense, Jesus defend us,
For the lord is our defense, Jesu defend.

... A thousand fall



on my left hand,
ten thousand to
the right,
But He will defend
us from the arrow
in the night.



Protect us from
the terrors of the
teeth of the
devourer,
Embue us with
your Spirit, Lord,
encompass us
with power;
encompass us with power.

For the Lord is our defense, Jesus defend us,
For the Lord is our defense, Jesu defend."



Alfred drove the
Danes back to
England's coastal
area of **East
Anglia**, where he
gave their **King
Guthrum** the
choice of sailing
back to
Scandinavia or

converting to Christianity. He chose the latter.

G.K. Chesterton's
narrative poem
about **Alfred**, called
**"The Ballad of the
White Horse"**
(1910), is said to
have influenced
J.R.R. Tolkien in

his writing of *The Lord of the Rings*.



Afterwards, **King Alfred the Great** wrote his **Law Code**, drawing from as far back in history as:

- **Lucius King of Britons** (c.156 AD) "prayed and entreated ... he might be made a Christian";



- **St. Patrick's Celtic "Senchus Mor" Laws** (c.438 AD);
- **Laws of Æthelberht of Kent** (c.602 AD)-the first Saxon king in England to be baptized, by St. Augustine of Canterbury;

- **Laws of Christian King Ine of Wessex** (c.694 AD), and
- **Laws of Christian King Offa of Mercia** (c.755 AD).

Born in the county of **Oxfordshire**, **King Alfred the Great's** emphasis on learning and love of books has been credited with the beginning **Oxford, the oldest university in England.**



He included in the preface of his **Law Code**:

- the **Ten Commandments**,
- passages of the **Book of Exodus**,
- Christ's **Sermon on the Mount**, and
- the **Acts of the Apostles.**

King Alfred wrote:

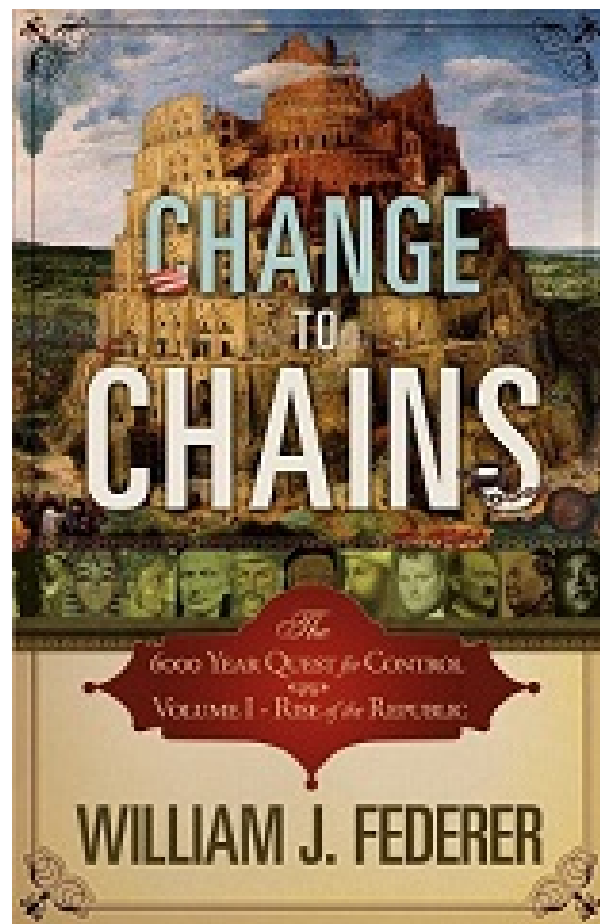
"These are judgments which **Almighty God** Himself spoke to **Moses** and commanded him to keep.

Now, since **the Lord's only**

begotten Son our God and healing Christ has come to Middle Earth (the Mediterranean World) He said that He did not come to break nor to forbid these **commandments** but to **approve them well**, and to **teach them** with all mild-heartedness and lowly-mindedness."



[Change to Chains-the 6000 year Quest for Global Control](#)



King Alfred's book of laws is called the "**Doom Book**" -- "**doom**" being an old

English term for
"judgment."

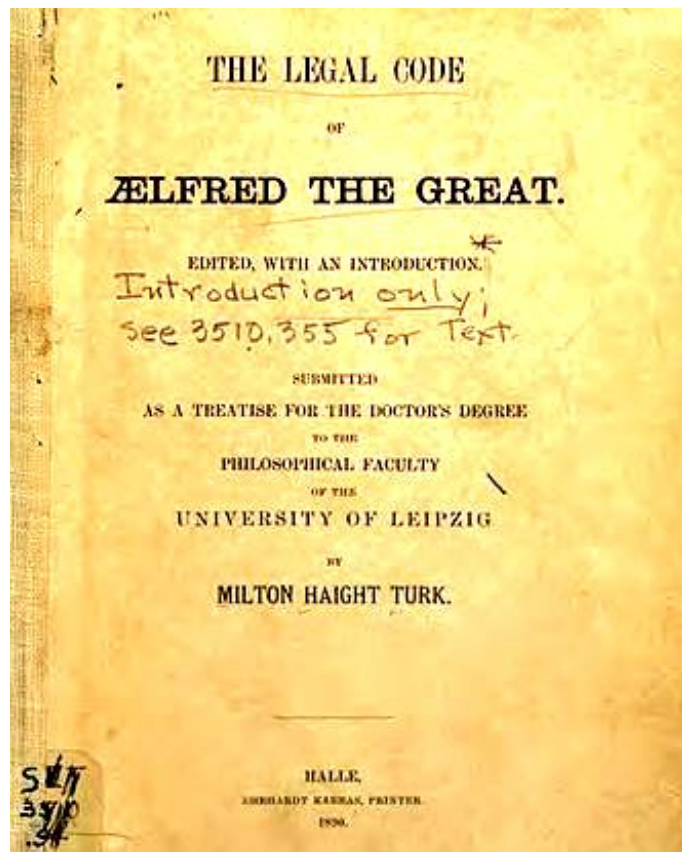
Considered the basis
for **English Common
Law**, it contained
concepts such as:

- **liberty of the individual, family and church;**
- **a decentralized government;**
and
- **equal justice for all under the law.**



Similar to **Leviticus 19:15**, "You shall do no injustice in judgment! You shall not be partial to the poor; nor defer to the great! But you are to judge your neighbor fairly," **Alfred's Doom Book** stated:

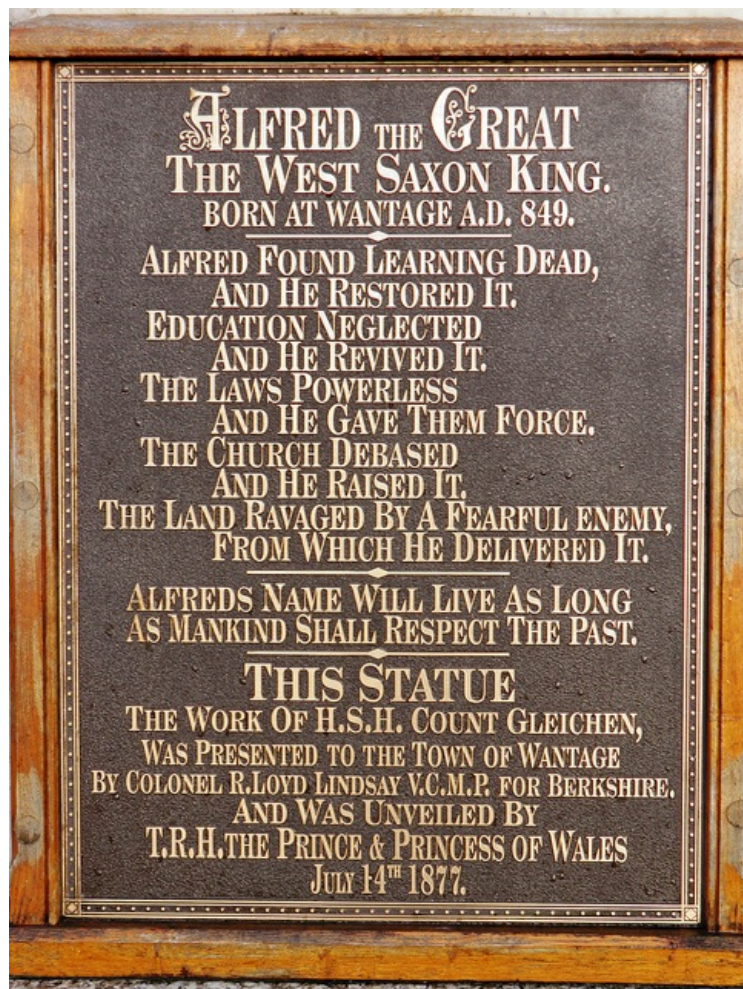
"Doom very evenly!
Do not doom one
doom to the rich;
another to the poor!
Nor doom one doom
to your friend; another
to your foe!"



Winston

Churchill wrote in his Nobel Prize winning book, ***A History of the English Speaking Peoples*** (1956, vol. 1):

"King Alfred's Book of Laws ... as set out in the existing laws of Kent, Wessex, and Mercia, attempted to blend the **Mosaic code with Christian principles** and old Germanic customs."



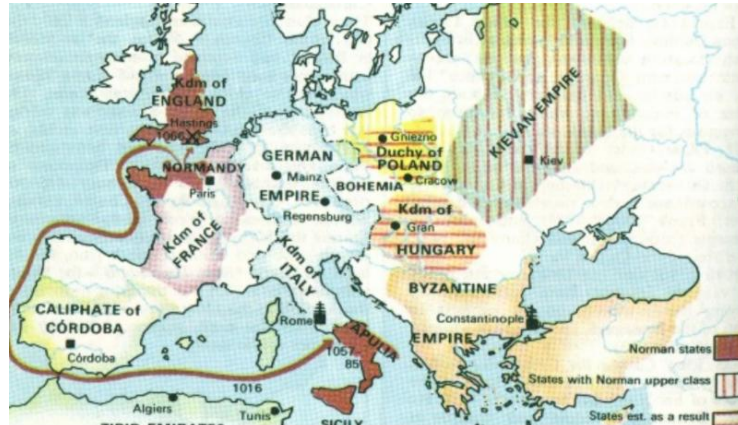
Around 911 AD, **"Norse" Vikings,** called **"Normans,"** invaded an area in northern France.

The land came to be called **Normandy.**

Through intermarriage with royal families there, the **Normans** eventually became **Christian.**



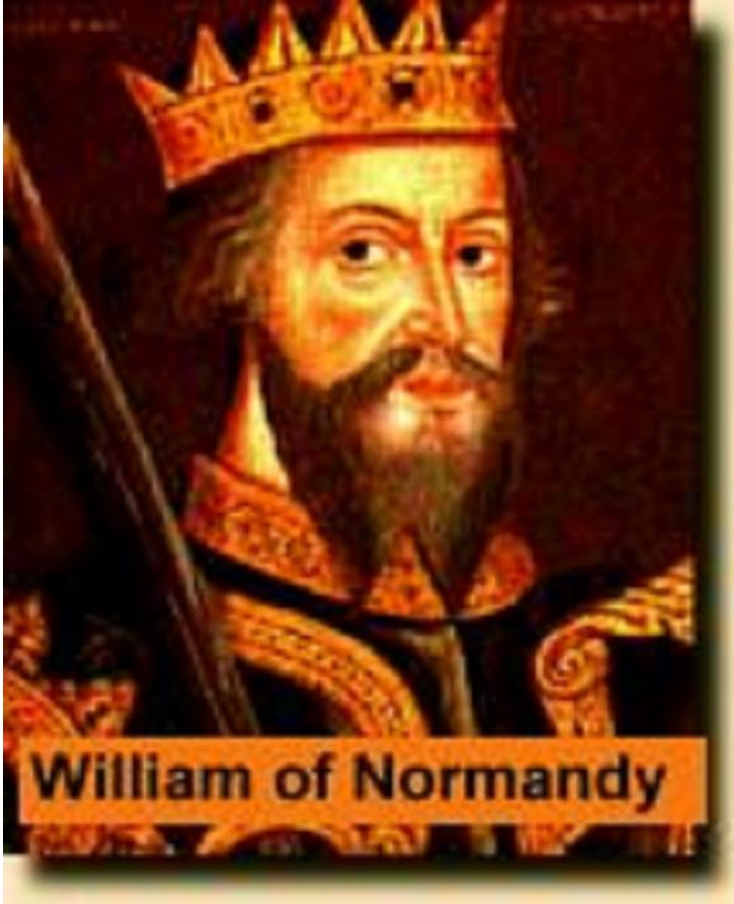
Beginning in 999 AD, **Normans** sailed down to the Mediterranean and **drove the Muslims out of Sicily and Southern Italy.**



Norman Richard I of Capua took control of Calabria in the "**toe of Italy,**" and **pushed back Muslims raiders.**

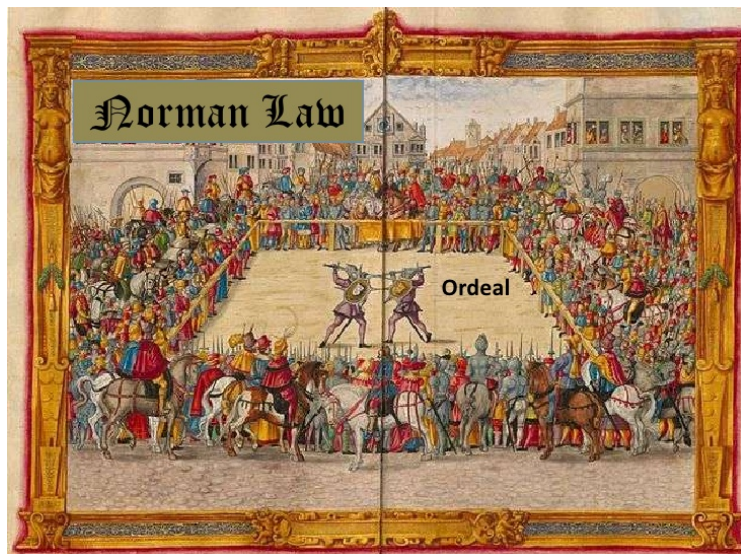
In 1061, **Normans Robert and Roger Guiscard** recaptured **Sicily** from **Muslim Saracens.**

In 1066, the **Norman King, William the Conqueror,** crossed the



English Channel and **invaded England.**

William replaced **King Alfred's Law** with a **feudal system** of government which **concentrated power into the hands of the king.**



This continued in England till the **Magna Carta.**

While England's **King Richard the Lionheart** was away fighting the Muslim warriors in the **Third Crusade**, his brother John was left in charge.



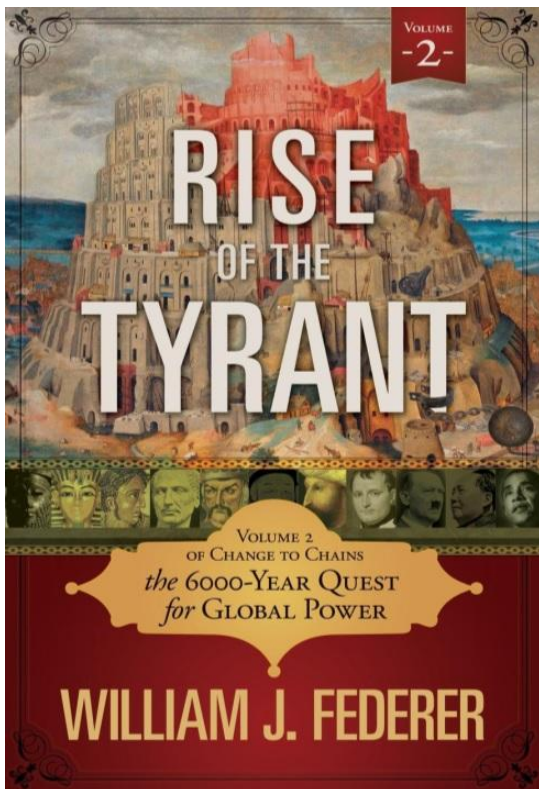
The legend of **Robin Hood** is considered to have originated during this time period.



Richard the Lionheart returned to England in 1192, but was killed in 1199, leaving **King John** to rule.

Though the **Normans** had

sailed from **Normandy** in northern France over a century earlier to invade England, **King John of England** had lost **Normandy** and other English territorial possessions in that area to **King Philip II of France** by 1205.



[Rise of the Tyrant - Volume 2 of Change to Chains](#)

England's barons became so frustrated by this loss and by **King**

John's absolute and arbitrary despotism that 25 of the leading barons surrounded the king on the plains of Runnymede.



There they forced him to sign the Magna Carta, the Great Charter of English Liberties, on JUNE 15, 1215.

British judge, Lord Denning, described the Magna Carta as:

"the greatest constitutional document of all times - the foundation of the freedom of the individual against the arbitrary authority of the despot."

The Magna Carta
limited the
previously
unbridled
centralized deep

state power.

Winston Churchill stated in 1956:

"Here is a law which is above the King and which even he must not break.



This reaffirmation of a supreme law and its expression in a general character is the great work of the **Magna Carta**; and this alone justifies the respect in which men have held it."



Sir Edwin Coke stated: "**The Magna Carta** will have no sovereign."

The **Magna Carta** began the process of redefining government's purpose from dominating people's lives into guaranteeing individual rights, culminating in the **U.S. Constitution**.

Political power changed from top-down to bottom-up.

Sir Edwin Coke's book, *Institutes*

on the *Laws of England*, which emphasized the importance of the **Magna Carta**, was studied by **John Adams, Thomas Jefferson** and **James Madison**.

Sir Edwin Coke had written in a 1610 case:

"When an act of Parliament is against common right or reason ... the **common law** will ... adjure such an act void."



When Britain imposed the hated **Stamp Act** on the American colonies, the Massachusetts Assembly responded that it "was against the **Magna Carta** and the natural rights of Englishmen,

and therefore, according to Lord Coke, null and void."

The Magna Carta, Clause 1:

"the English Church shall be free, and shall have its rights undiminished, and its liberties unimpaired"

is reflected in the
**1ST
AMENDMENT:**

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

The Magna Carta, Clause 6:

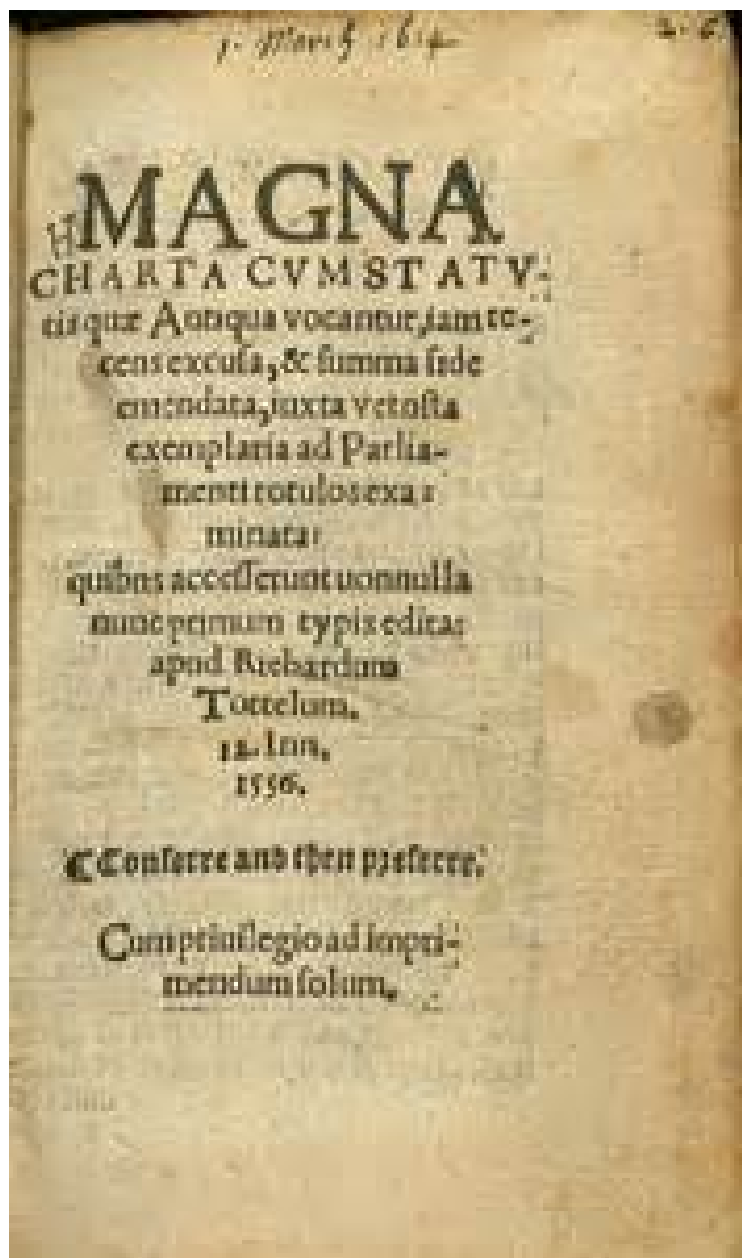
"If ... our chief justice, our officials, or any of our servants offend in any respect against any man ... and the offense is made known to four of the said twenty-five barons, they shall come to us ... and claim immediate redress"

is reflected in the **1ST AMENDMENT:**

"and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The Magna Carta, Clause 12:

"No scutage (tax)



nor aid ... shall be imposed on our kingdom, unless by common counsel"

is reflected in the the **Revolutionary phrase,**

"No taxation without representation"

and the **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

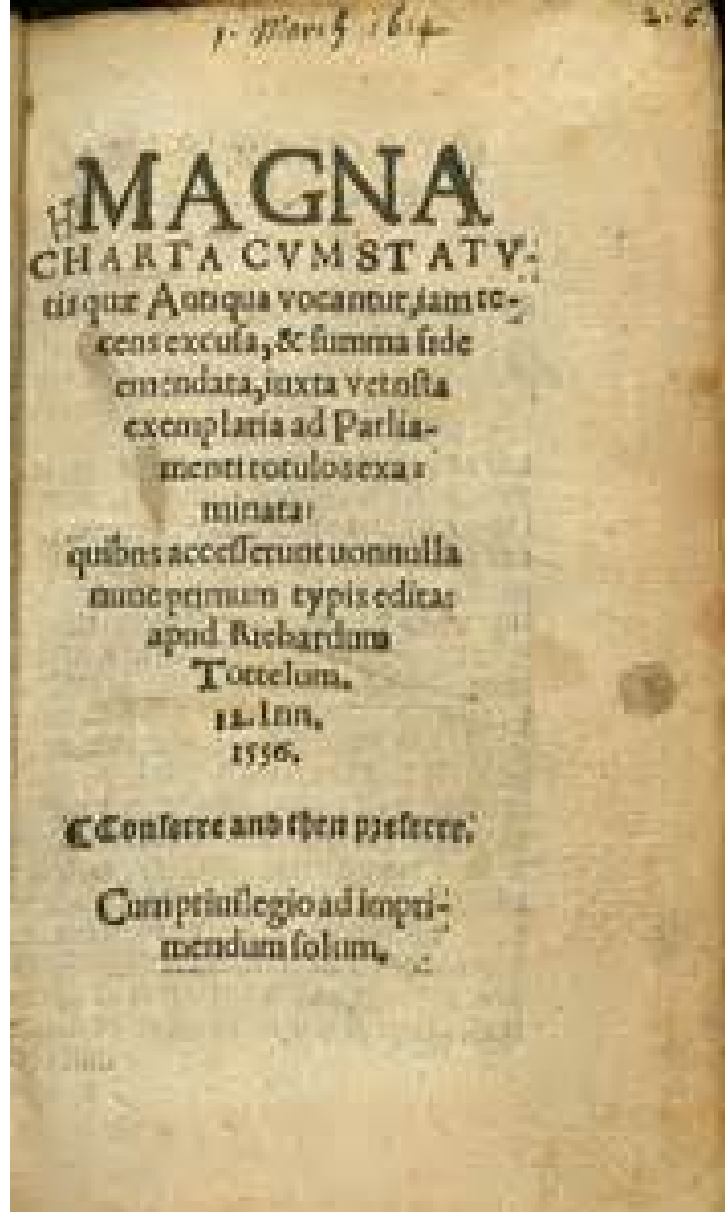
"deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

The Magna Carta, Clause 13:

"We also will and grant that all other cities, boroughs, towns, and ports shall enjoy all their liberties and free customs"

is reflected in the

U.S. CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE IV,



SECTION 2:

"The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States"

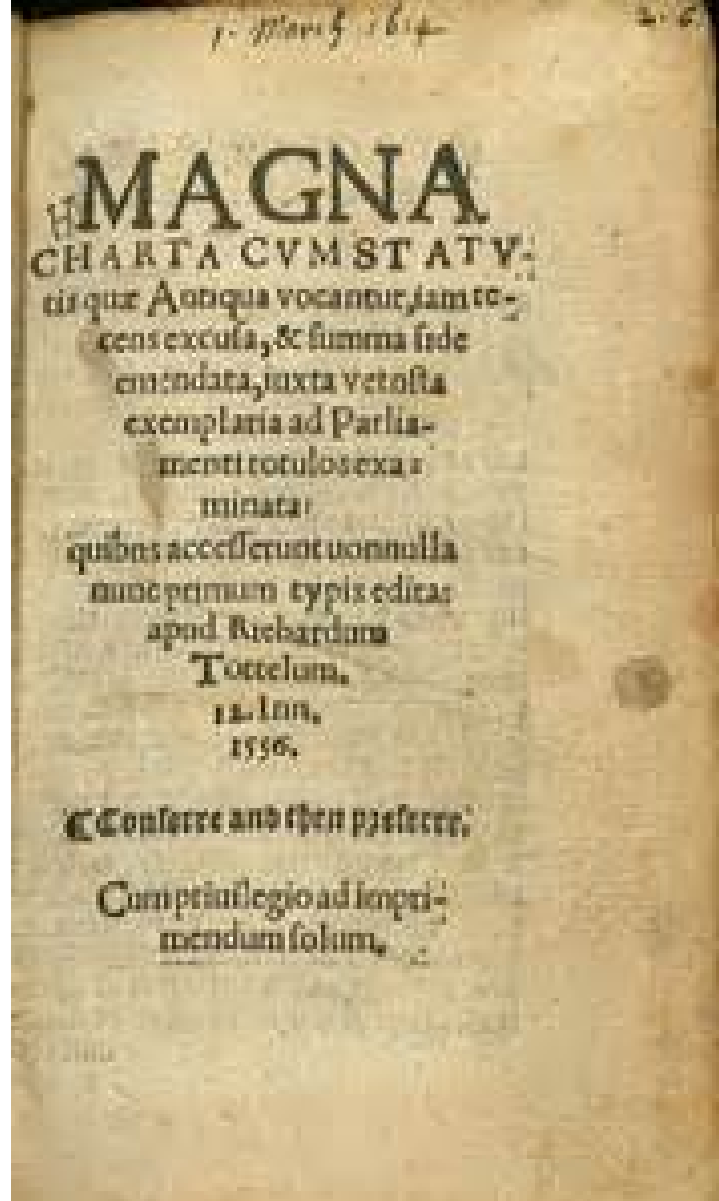
and ARTICLE IV, SECTION 1:

"Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State"

The Magna Carta, Clause 20:

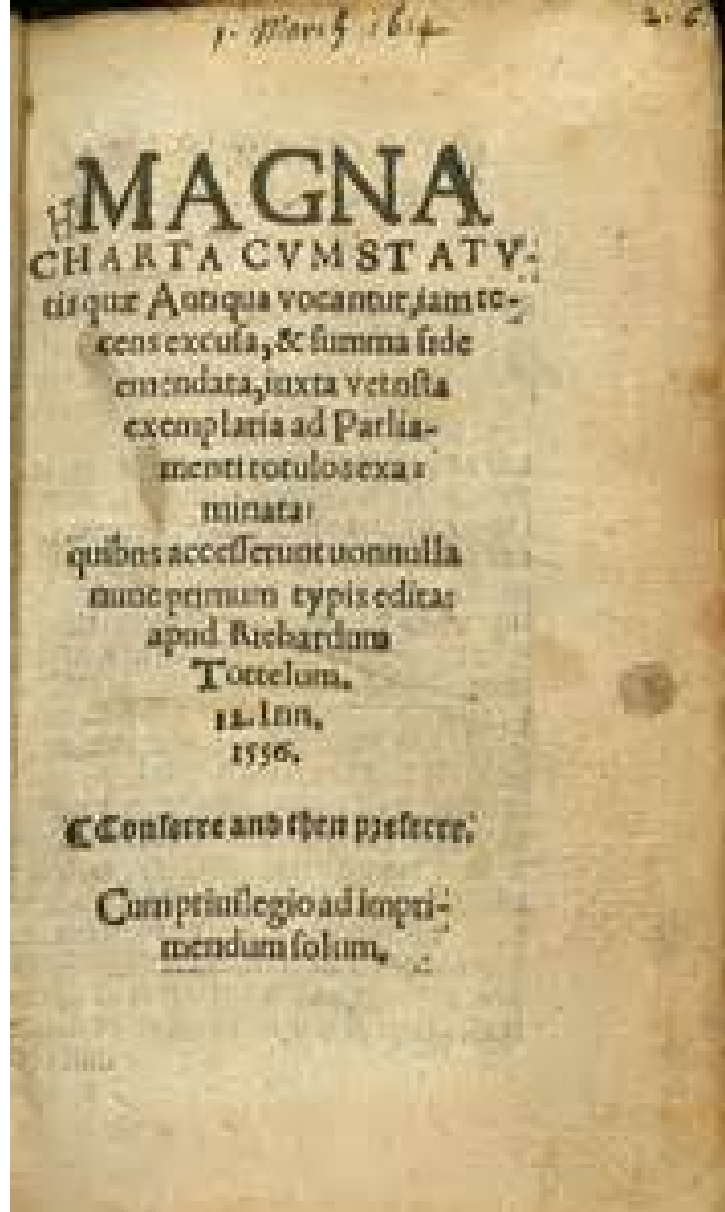
"For a trivial offence, a free man shall be fined only in proportion to the degree of his offence, and for a serious offence correspondingly, but not so heavily as to deprive him of his livelihood"

is reflected in the



**8TH
AMENDMENT:**

"Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted."



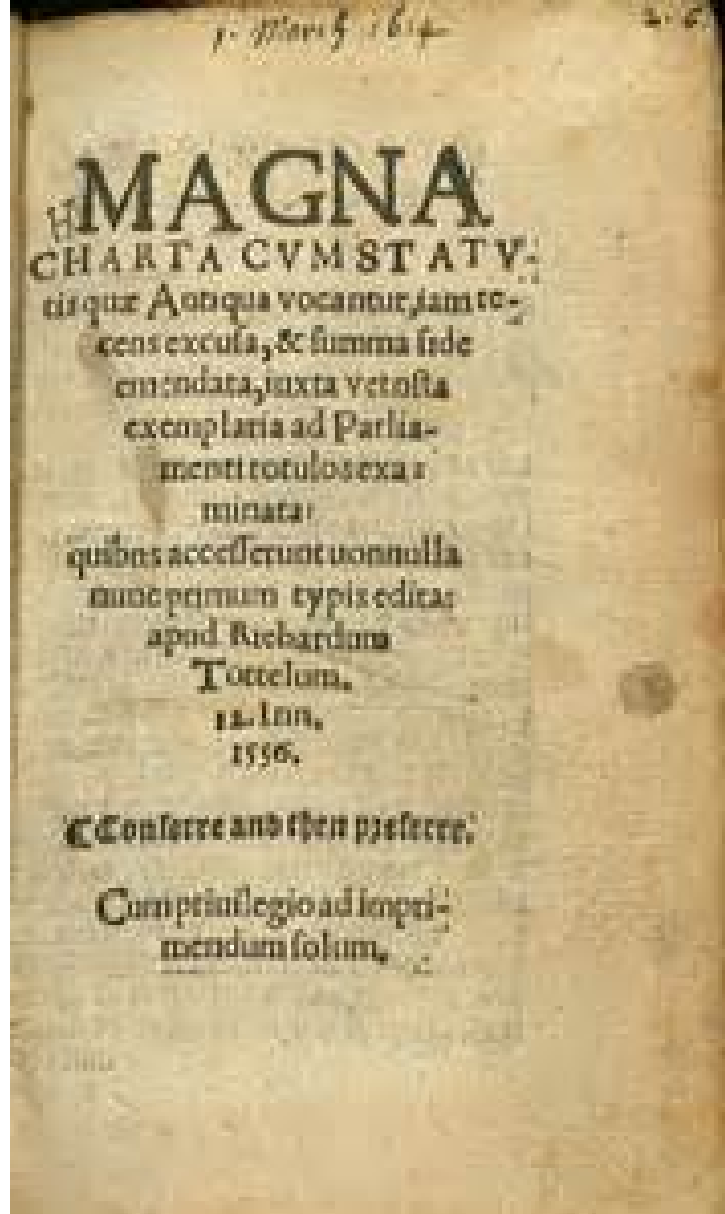
**The Magna Carta,
Clause 28:**

"No constable or other bailiff ... shall take corn or other provisions from anyone without immediately tendering money"

is reflected in the
**5TH
AMENDMENT:**

"nor shall private

property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

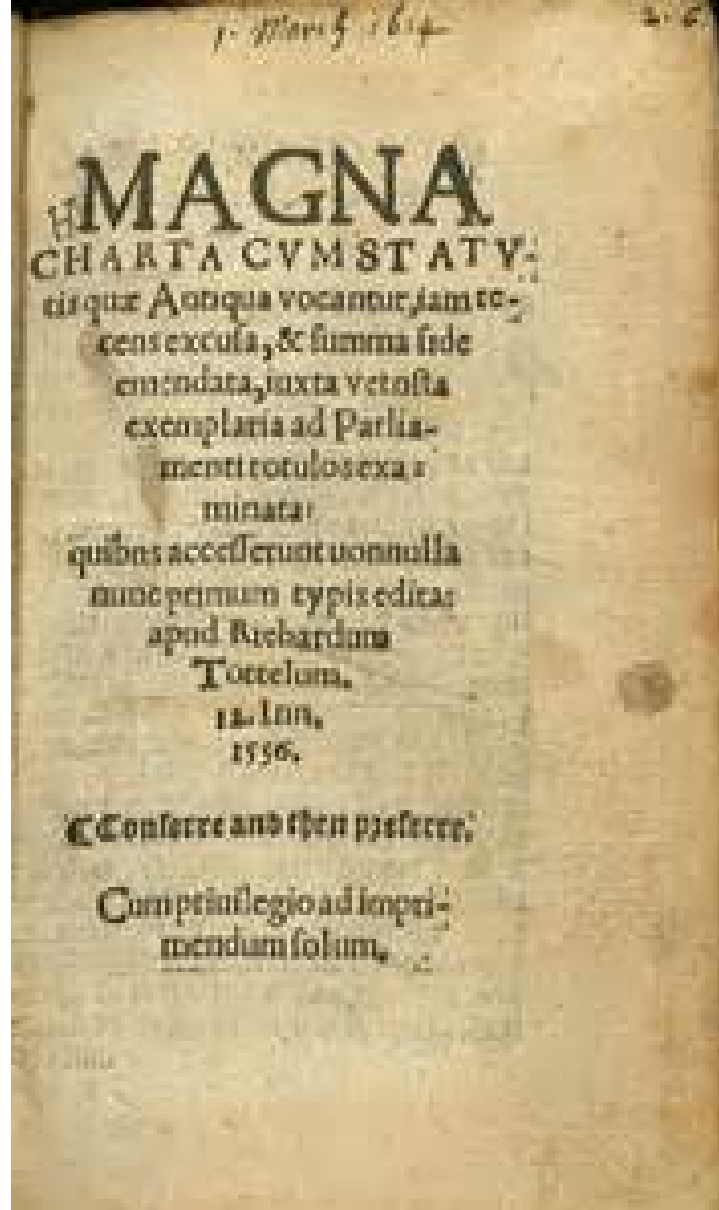


The Magna Carta, Clause 38:

"No official shall place a man on trial upon his own unsupported statement, without producing credible witnesses to the truth of it"

is reflected in the
**6TH
AMENDMENT:**

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right ... to be confronted with the witnesses against him."



The Magna Carta, Clause 39:

"No free man shall be seized or imprisoned, or stripped of his rights or possessions or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any other way, nor will we proceed with force against him ... except by the lawful judgment of his

trial, by an impartial jury."



If **King John** did not adhere to the **Magna Carta**, the 25 barons promised to levy war against him.

The **U.S. Supreme Court** wrote in ***Bank of Columbia v. Okely***, 17 U.S. 235, 244 (1819):

"The words from



Magna Carta ...
were intended to **secure the individual from the arbitrary exercise of the powers of government, unrestrained by the established principles of private right and distributive justice.**"

In over 100 U.S. Supreme Court decisions, the Magna Carta is referenced regarding:

- due process of law;
- trial by jury of one's peers;
- the importance of a speedy and unbiased trial; and
- protection against excessive bail or fines or cruel and unusual punishment.



Acknowledging



America's debt to the **Magna Carta**, the **American Bar Association** erected a monument to it in **England at Runnymede** in 1957.

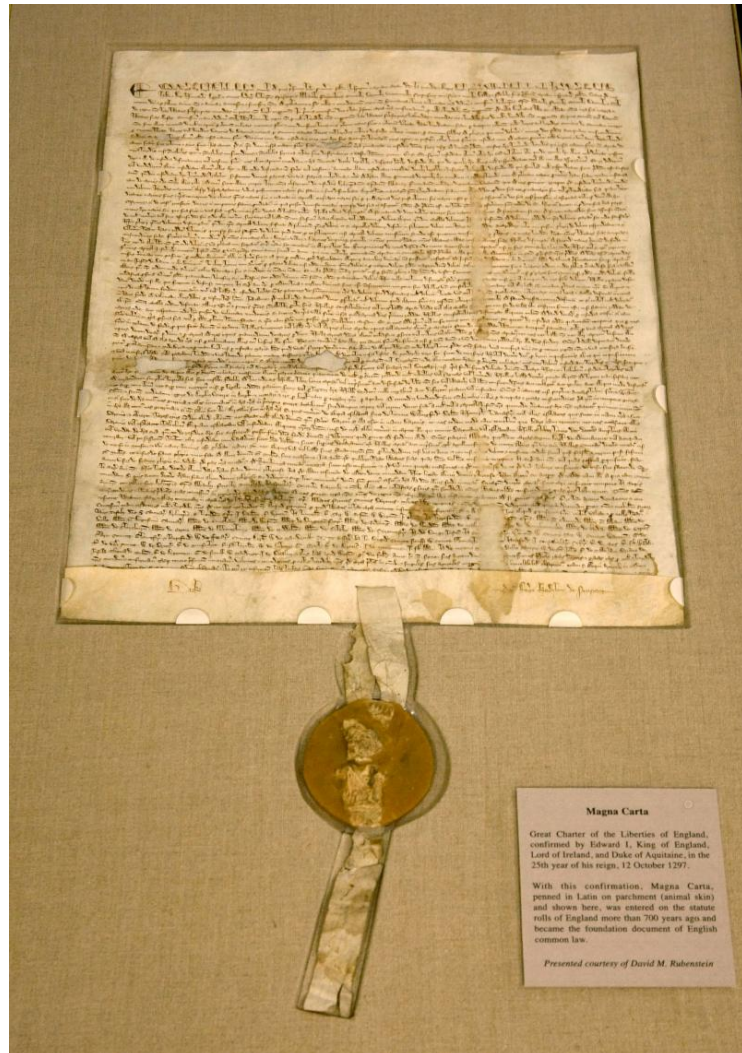
Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., stated in a "**Rededication Address to The American Bar Association's Memorial to the Magna Carta**" (19 Loy. L.A. L. Rev. 55, 1985):

"The **Magna Carta**, in Bryce's words, 'was the starting point of the constitutional history' ...

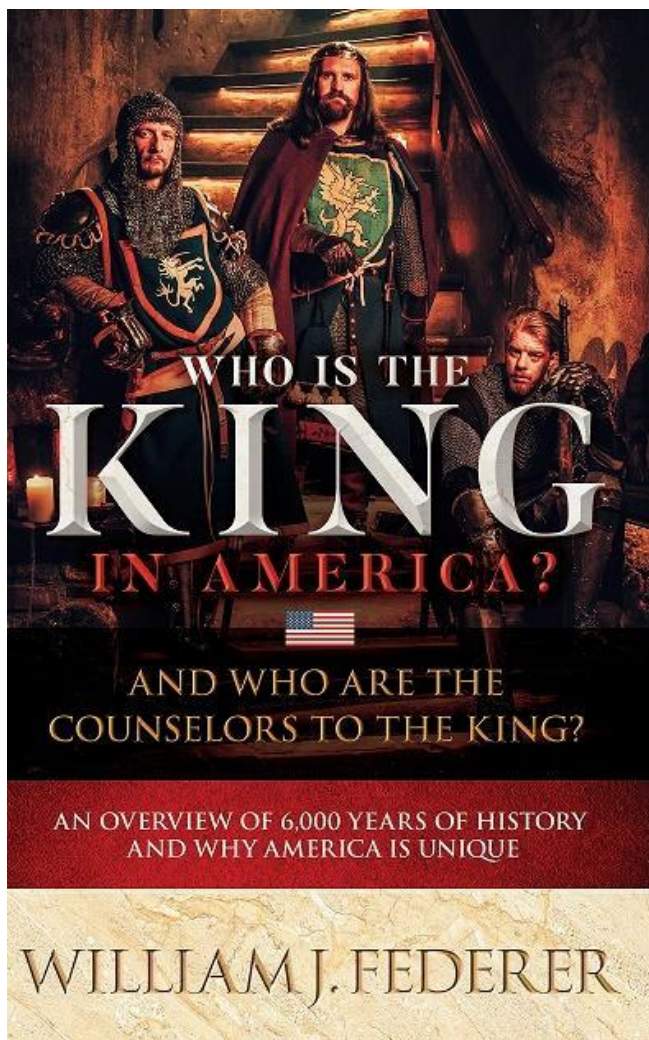
Throughout the 196 year history of the Supreme Court of the United States, the bedrock principles of the **Magna Carta** have had and continue to have, a profound influence over the Justices' deliberations."

The **Magna Carta** ends:

"... for the salvation of our souls, and the souls of all our ... heirs, and unto the honor of God."



Magna Carta
Great Charter of the Liberties of England, confirmed by Edward I, King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, in the 25th year of his reign, 12 October 1297.
With this confirmation, Magna Carta, penned in Latin on parchment (animal skin) and shown here, was entered on the statute rolls of England more than 700 years ago and became the foundation document of English common law.
Presented courtesy of David M. Rubenstein



Who is the King in America? -An Overview of 6,000 Years of World History and Why America is Unique

The **Magna Carta** was signed by King John, the younger brother of Richard the Lionheart, who was renowned for fighting the Muslims in the **Third Crusade**.



For a background



of the Third Crusade, continue reading:

Jerusalem had been a Jewish city since **King David**, around 1000 BC, and it had been a

Christian city since **Emperor Constantine**, 313 AD.

Muslim warriors under **Caliph Umar** took Jerusalem away from the **Byzantine Patriarch Sophronius** and forced Christian and Jewish inhabitants to live as second-class citizens under a set of "Jim Crow" style laws called "dhimmi."

Christian pilgrims began to be harassed, massacred and crucified. In the 700's, Christians were banned from giving religious instruction to their children and displays of the cross were banned in Jerusalem.



In 772 AD, **Caliph al Mansur** ordered Jews and Christians to be branded on the hand.



In 923 AD, sharia Muslims began destroying churches in Jerusalem.

On Palm Sunday in 937 AD, they plundered the Church of Calvary and the Church of

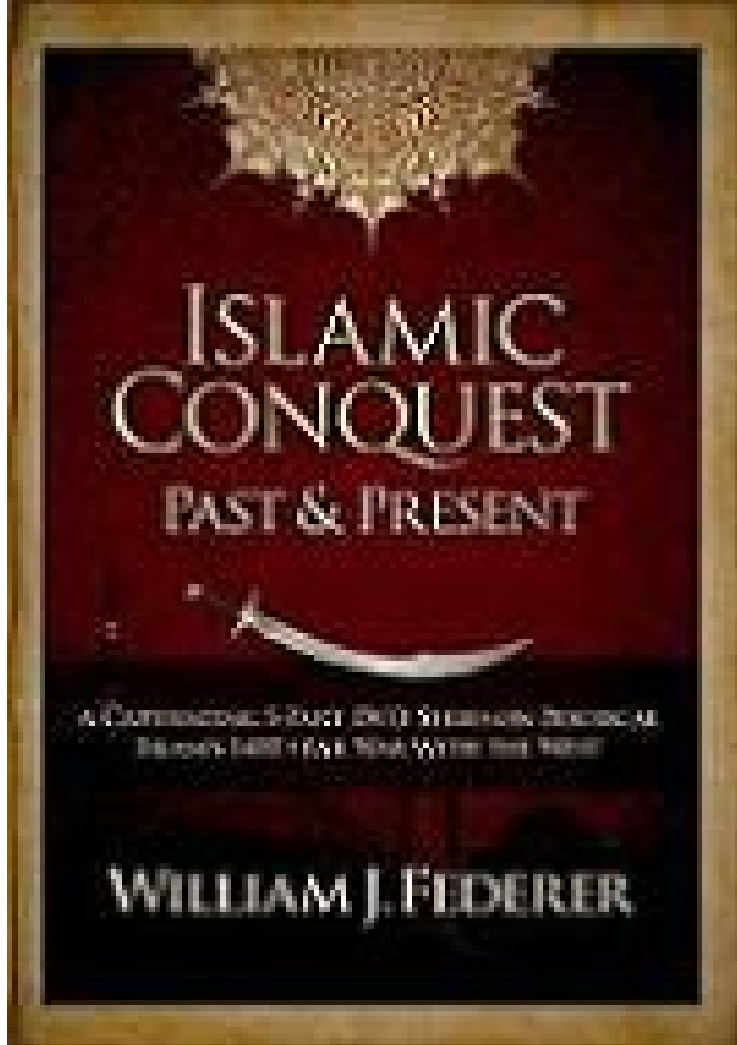
the Resurrection.

In 1004, **Fatimid Caliph al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah** began a ten year persecution where thousands were forced to convert or die and 30,000 churches were destroyed.

In 1009, **Caliph al-Hakim** destroyed the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.



In 1075, the **Muslim Seljuk Turks** captured Jerusalem from Arab Muslims. **Gregory Bar-Hebraeus** (1226-



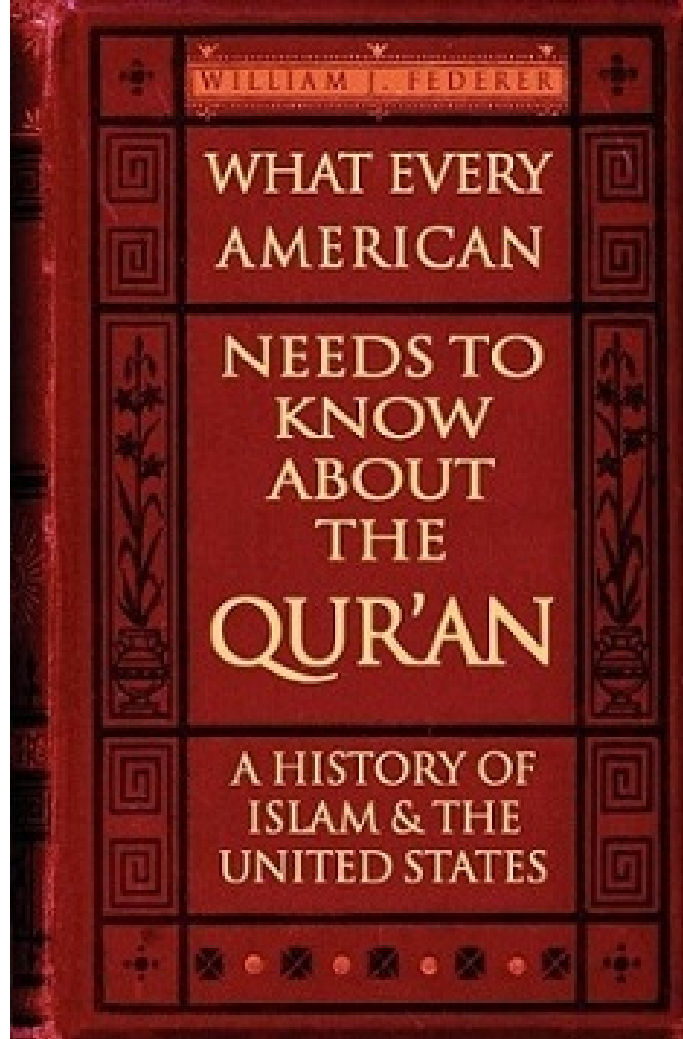
1286), a Syrian Orthodox Church leader, wrote how **Seljuk Turkish Muslims** initially tolerated Christians tolerably, then:

"... having seen very much modesty and other habits of this kind among Christian people, certainly the Mongols loved them greatly at the beginning of their kingdom, a time ago somewhat

short. But their love hath turned to such intense hatred."

Travelers returning from pilgrimages to the Holy Land shared reports of Islamic persecution of "dhimmi" Christians.

Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Egypt, which had all been **Christian lands**, were conquered by fundamentalist Muslim, who then conquered Sicily.



In 1057, the Norman adventurer **Robert Guiscard** took control of Calabria in the "toe of Italy" and fought against the Islamic warriors of Sicily.



Italian city-states of Pisa, Genoa and Catalonia fought the Muslims who were raiding Italy's coasts, Majorca, Sardinia, and Catalonia.



In 1071, the Muslims inflicted a **major defeat on the Byzantine Christians** at the **Battle of Manzikert** and took control of all but the coastlands of Asia Minor.



Cries for help were carried back to Europe. Europe sent help, it was called the **Crusades**.

Europeans had just two centuries of crusades compared to Islam's fourteen centuries of jihad crusades which are still continuing, killing an estimated 240



million.

The Europeans **nine major Crusades** lasted from 1095 till 1291, when Acre was finally recaptured by Islamic forces.

The First Crusade began when, in desperation, the proud **Byzantine Emperor Alexius I Comnenus** humbled himself and sent ambassadors to the Council of Piacenza in March of 1095, appealing for aid from his religious rival, the Roman Catholic Pope.

The seriousness of this call for help is underscored by the fact that it occurred just a few years after the **Great East-West Schism** where the **Byzantine Church** and the **Roman Catholic Church** split.

Pope Urban II gave an impassioned plea at the **Council of Clermont** in 1095 for Western leaders to set aside their doctrinal differences and come to the aid of their **Byzantine Christians brethren**.

Pope Urban II described how Muslims "compel to extend their necks and then, attacking them with naked swords, attempt to cut through the neck with a single blow." (Robert the Monk, *Medieval Sourcebook*, Fordham University.)



Pope Peter II preaches the First Crusade

With Spain exuberant after successfully driving the Muslims from Toledo and Leon a few years earlier, the First Crusade began in 1097, led by Godfrey of Bouillon.



It freed Iconium from the Muslims, though it was later lost.



Richard the Lionheart, Makes a Sea Landing

The First Crusade defeated Islamic warriors at Dorylaeum and Antioch, and **captured Jerusalem** in 1099, holding it for nearly 100 years.

After Muslims conquered Edessa, another crusade was called for by **Bernard of**

Clairvaux in 1147.

It was made up of French and German armies, led by King Louis VII and Conrad II.

In 1148, **Muslim leader, Nur ed-Din**, slaughtered every Christian in Aleppo.



The Second Crusade failed to take Damascus and returned to Europe in 1150. **Bernard of Clairvaux** was disturbed by reports of misdirected violence toward some Jewish populations.

On July 4, 1187, the Muslim leader **Saladin**, founder of the **Ayyubid dynasty**, captured **Crusaders** at **Hattin** and ordered their mass execution.



In 1190, **Pope Gregory VIII** called for a **Third Crusade**. It was led by **German King Frederick I**, called **Frederick Barbarossa** (meaning Redbeard), who was the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire.

He was joined by **Richard I of England** and **Philip II of France**.

Frederick led 100,000 soldiers across **Byzantium**, driving out Muslims and temporarily freeing Iconium.

He most likely would have freed Jerusalem had he not **fallen off his horse** while crossing the Göksu River in Cilicia, Asia Minor.

Being 67 years old and weighted down with heavy armor, **Frederick Barbarossa** drowned in waist deep water and the **Crusade** went into confusion.

Richard the Lionheart was suddenly in charge leading the Crusade and successfully captured Acre.



Due to rivalries, **Philip II**, without warning, abandoned the Crusade and returned to France in 1191.

Richard's troops came within sight of Jerusalem in 1192, but grew weary as it did not look like they were making an impact.



Then word came to **Richard** that **Phillip II** was trying to take away **Normandy** from **England**, so **Richard** quickly ended the **Crusade** to go back and defend his kingdom.

Richard later discovered Saladin was on the verge of

defeat and was propping up dead soldiers along the walls.

Saladin allowed some Christians to leave **Jerusalem** if they paid a ransom, but according to Imad al-Din, approximately **15,000 could not pay their ransom and were enslaved.**

Richard sailed away, but was shipwrecked and had to travel on foot across Europe in disguise.

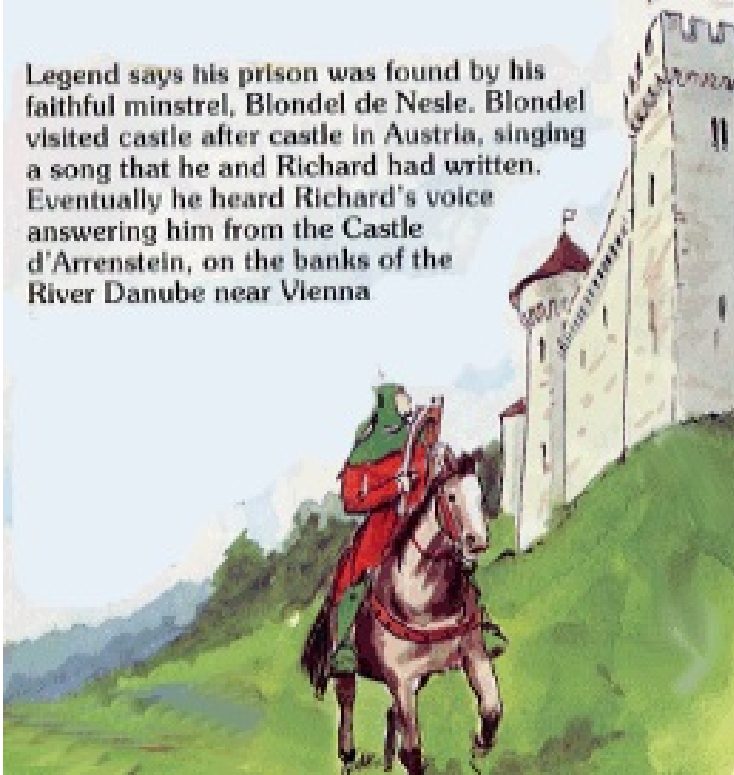
He was recognized near **Vienna** and captured by **Duke Leopold V of Austria**. The Holy Roman Emperor, **Henry VI**, imprisoned **Richard at Dumstein for three years.**



Legend has it that **Richard's loyal minstrel, Blondel**, traveled from kingdom to kingdom across Europe trying to find him by singing **Richard's favorite song.**

When **Richard**

Legend says his prison was found by his faithful minstrel, Blondel de Nesle. Blondel visited castle after castle in Austria, singing a song that he and Richard had written. Eventually he heard Richard's voice answering him from the Castle d'Arrenstein, on the banks of the River Danube near Vienna.



heard the song, he sang the second verse from the prison tower, and was found.

Richard's brother, **King John**, had to raise taxes for the "king's ransom."

This was the origins of the story of **Nottingham, Sherwood Forest and Robin Hood.**

The Holy Roman Emperor, **Henry VI**, prepared for another crusade in 1197, but died from malaria.



Once back in England, **Richard** ruled only a few years before being shot with an arrow during the siege of a castle in Normandy.

His brother, **King John**, once again ruled, where he raised taxes **oppressively.**

When he lost Britain's claim to

Normandy after the **Battle of Bouvines** in 1214, English barons were upset, as they also lost their titled lands there.



Angry barons then surrounded **King John** on the plains of Runnymede on JUNE 15, 1215, and forced him to sign the **Magna Carta** - the **cornerstone of English liberty**.

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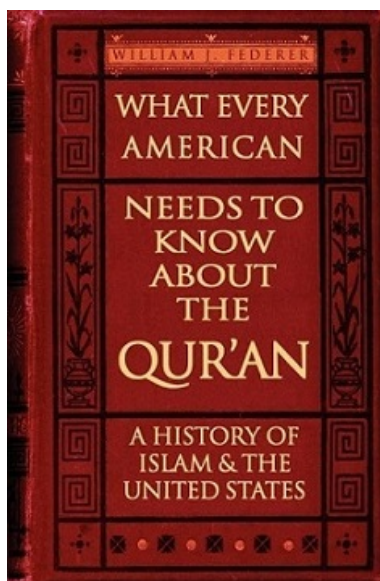
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