

04 - THE BREAKUP OF THE CAROLINGIAN EMPIRE AND THE NEW POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ORDER IN EUROPE FROM THE 7TH TO THE 11TH CENTURY

The death of Charlemagne and the future division of his Empire, the second wave of barbarian settlers; Arab conquests and Norman rule in Sicily and England were far-reaching events following the earlier Germanic migrations and the establishment of the Frankish empire. This radical shift in European political and territorial relations represents a period of marked change, spanning almost five centuries of tumult (from the 7th to the 11th century).

The papers in this workshop should deal with specific problems within a larger historical context. The precise titles of individual papers will be agreed on in contact with the applicants – the ones below are simply guidelines to steer us towards tackling problems like the construction of states, their social orders, Christianization, the question of *origo gentis* and national identity, etc. The aim of the workshop is to compare and contrast the «old» and the «new» and discuss the importance of this period in European history.

Papers/Case studies:

1. The Carolingian Empire after Charlemagne

The division of the Empire following Charlemagne's death and the creation of a new power in its former territory at the end of the 9th century, greatly affecting subsequent developments in that area of Europe

2. Arab conquests and Saracens in the Mediterranean

The Arab expansion and shortly thereafter Saracen incursions and raids, that grew into conquests as their power waxed. Social, cultural and political repercussions in the affected areas.

3. The Vikings and the Normans: from raiders to settlers

The Viking and Norman push, starting with raids and invasions to invasions and settling – from Iceland and Ireland to Eastern Europe. Due to the breadth of the topic, at least two papers are to be presented on different aspects of this problematic.

4. The Magyars

Hungarian raids and incursions, with a special focus on their settling on the Pannonian plain and relations with their neighbours.

5. Sicily and England

The establishment of a Norman kingdom on Sicily and the conquest of England by William the Conqueror, including the distinctions between the events and the subsequent changes incurred.

6. Western Slavs: the Czechs, Poles and Great Moravia

The creation of the Czech and Polish states, with a reflection on the problems and legacy of the short-lived Great Moravian state.

7. Southern Slavs

The Southern Slav peoples, their settling and identities, their creation of states and the implications of Christianization