**THE NORMAN INVASION:**

The Norman Conquest was a very important historical event and it was been the last conquest by the hands of a foreigner.

In my opinion the most important changes after the Norman Conquest were:

* Feudalism
* The gradually develop of English
* English Church

William the conqueror introduced in England Feudalism, it was based on the relationship of loyalty between the lord and his vassal (that was a man less important than him); it also was an unstable politic and economic system.

It had a hierarchical structure: the society was divided into rigid and define classes. At the highest level there was the Pope, than the king, the Knights and then at the base of the pyramid there were yeomen or peasants (they weren’t freemen).

Feudalism favoured nobility and the common people were “serves”. Before the Norman Conquest the Anglo-Saxons divided the territory in ten states; Feudalism, after the Norman Conquest helped to unified this states under one. In this way also the peasants were protect by the knights; so Feudalism also helped the common people and not only nobility.

The factors that contributed to the birth of Feudalism were linguistic, economic, politic and social: English became the language that all the people spoke (in the 14th century), barons became landowners and peasants became freemen.

In 1085, a consequence of this government system was been the Doomsday Book. It was a survey ( a census) and with it William could Know the number of the land and the people that lived there( in this way he could judge the conflicts between his people); with this survey he also could know the financial resources of his kingdom. He wrote the Doomsday Book, because it had to confirm the politic and economic domination of the Normans in England.

When the Normans conquered England and unified the territory, English gradually became the language that was spoken by all the people.

After the Norman Conquest, nobility spoke Norman French, clergy spoke Latin and common people spoke Old English.

Between the Germanic dialects, the one of London manage to become that one spoken by all the people. London was the most important centre of commercial because London had an important port.

William was also interested to develop London Church and he wanted that he maintained his independence from the Roman Church.

The religion, Christianity in particular, was very important for the people, because they used it to explain a lots of things that the skills of that time didn’t explain.