

Dante's 8th Circle Punishment

- Circle 8, also known as Malebolge
- There are 10 ditches in the 8th circle, each for different forms of fraud
- Ditch 1: Seducers and Panderers- Punishment is to march while being whipped by tall horned demons
- Ditch 3: Simoniacs- Punishment is to be headfirst in the a hole in the ground, doused with oil and set on fire
- Ditch 5: Grafters- Punishment is to lie in boiling blood or try to escape and be ripped to pieces
- Ditch 7: Thieves- Punishment is to be repeatedly bitten by snakes until they catch on fire and fall to ashes only to rise from them living again
- Ditch 8: False Counselors- Punishment is to burn for eternity
- Ditch 10: Falsifiers- Punishment is to be plagued with a fever or leprosy
- Each ditch is 25 by 50 meters wide

Punishment and Torture in the Middle Ages

- Type of torture is based upon crime and social status
- The Rack: Pulled feet and wrists away from each other until limbs dislocated or were torn from sockets
- Spanish boot: Tall boots placed on criminals feet with boiling water poured in to eat flesh and dissolve bones
- The Brank: Iron muzzle that disabled a women from speaking
- The Wheel: Hands were cut off and burned in a cauldron, then they tied 4 horses to 4 limbs and had them run in different directions until limbs dislocated but did not break and then had horses run in different directions until limbs broke off, body was burned and limbs were hung in town with a inscription of the crime
- Head Vice: Device just big enough for head was tightened until teeth broke and eyes fell out
- People were also beaten, blinded, boiled. Choked, cut, drowned, flayed, whipped, starved, and amputated
- Rulers made people fear consequences so that laws would not be broken
- Ordeal by Fire: People held red hot irons, then hands were bandaged, if they did not improve significantly they were guilty, if they did they were innocent
- Ordeal by Water: People were thrown into water, if you floated you were guilty
- Ordeal by Combat: Convicted persons fought against accuser, if you won you were right, if you lost you were wrong
- Prison was expensive, torture and mutilation was cheap
- 1215: Pope decides that a jury will organize ordeals
- 1275: if you accuse some of a crime and they don't agree to go to trial then you have the right to torture them until they agree, priests are no longer in guilds

History

Medieval prejudices were prominent in the way that people were sentenced and punished. For example, women's punishments were different than men's punishments because they were considered to be inferior to men. They could be hanged for adultery while a man in the medieval ages has probably never been prosecuted for being adulterous.

People weren't supposed to torture other people but they did anyways. Nobles would almost never get punished for what they had done unless the person they had tortured rises to power or the king specifically told them not to.

Under the feudal system, lords of manors made their own laws and punishments so what people were sentenced with depended on where they lived.

The overall theme in the medieval ages when it comes to the government is that the more money, status, and power you have the more you can get away with. In the early medieval ages, there really wasn't an overall structure that everyone adhered to.

Stealing, murdering and treason were usually punishable by death and other lesser crimes were punished through a fine of through humiliation of the person. To humiliate a person they were usually out in the stocks. Though legislation the idea of a normal court was created, but the punishment scale for a theft would change over the ages and when feudalism was used each lord had his own court and set of rules for within the court.

Thievery was punishable by cutting off ones hands, physical labor and death by either hanging from a tree of gallows or death by impalement. Thieves could also be banished from the city that they committed the crime in.

Penal code (n)

A body of laws relating to crimes and offenses and the penalties for their commission.

In the most general sense, penal is the body of laws that are enforced by the State in its own name and impose penalties for their violation, as opposed to civil law that seeks to redress private wrongs. This usage is synonymous with criminal law and is covered in that article.

In some jurisdictions, such as Canada penal law is distinct from criminal law even if it encompasses this last field. This is a result of federalism only the federal Parliament has the legislative power to enact criminal law statutes, yet provinces can also attach penal dispositions to their non-criminal statutes so they will be respected. More specifically, the Penal laws were a set of laws which punished nonconformist in the United Kingdom and Ireland

The Franciscan Movement

- Most Franciscans are members of Roman Catholic religious orders founded by St. Francis of Assisi
- The main group is the Order of Friars Minor usually just called "Franciscans" and they follow the life that St. Francis followed
- St Francis was born in Assisi around 1182
- He got the nickname "Francis" because his father's business was in France
- His father, Pietro Bernardone, was a very successful and dreamed of Francis entering the family business when he was old enough
- Francis went into the military but his experience was short because he got captured and spent almost a year as a prisoner of war
- When he returned to Assisi he was a weak and changed man
- One day in 1205 he stopped to pray at a church and heard God speak to him and say, "Francis, repair my church, which as you see is falling into ruins
- He took this literally and began to rebuild the church that he was praying at and declared that God alone was his father and he entrusted himself to the bishop
- Some people laughed at him and didn't think what he was doing was worthwhile while others joined him in building churches and figured they should help others in need like the lepers who were abandoned
- The number of people following his teachings grew and Francis and his followers went to Rome to get the approval of the pope for their way of life
- Tradition says a dream helped Pope Innocent III to realize that this way of life would actually benefit the church
- After the pope approved this way of life thousands of more people joined the movement while Francis was alive
- Francis died on October 3, 1226 and was made a saint only 2 years later and it is now a very popular pilgrimage spot

Franciscan movement notes

Saint Francis of Assisi founded it in 1209

Franciscans follow the manner of life that Saint Francis had

Largest group called Order of Friars Minor

Live under the rule of Saint Francis

Followers are called friars

Francis started by preaching

Franciscan is divided into three groups

Friars Minor

Friars Minor Conventual

Friars Minor Capuchin

Largest Roman Catholic religious order

Saint Francis of Assisi died in 1226

Can't own property

Help poor and sick

Vow to poverty

Saint Bonaventure tried to make the people agree

In return Saint Celestine became pope

Movement was a stricter following of the rule

Notes Page- Group 8

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Canto XIX

Circle 8 Ditch 3

“o Boniface?/ The book has lied to me by several years./Are you so quickly sated with riches/
for which you did not fear to take by guile/ the Lovely Lady, then to violate her?”

Analysis: Boniface VIII cared more about riches than the church. This is why Boniface was selling positions of the church – he didn’t care who the bishops were, he just wanted more money. Also, Dante mentions that Boniface is not afraid of taking by cunning, deceitful ways.

“So eager to advance the cubs that I/ pursed wealth above”

Analysis: The pope admits that all he cared about was wealth. He was just let the others succeed in order to get more wealth. The pope put wealth on top of everything, because it was the most important thing to him.

“There is a place of those/ who took the way of simony before me”

Analysis: Dante is saying that there is a place for people who committed the crime of simony – selling Christian Church office positions – and that place is hell. This is why Dante puts Pope Clement V and Pope Boniface VIII in hell.

Pope Boniface

- Dante’s biggest enemy
- Real name was Benedetto Caetani
- Was the VIII (8th) Pope Boniface
- Was Pope from Dec 24, 1294 to Oct 11, 1303
- Was pope for 8 years and 9 months
- He had a lot of religious and political power
- Had King Philip excommunicated in 1303
- King held him prisoner for three days
- He was rescued by the towns people
- Died from stress on October 11, 1303

Why was Pope Boniface VIII in Dante's Inferno?

Pope Boniface was in Dante's Inferno because he bought and sold church offices for personal gain. He was a Simoniac. Dante was mad at him because he was sinning against God. In Dante's Inferno he was depicted as a pair of legs sticking out of a hole in the ground. It is to symbolize a reverse baptism. A baptism is when your head is dipped in holy water. In Hell a reverse baptism is your head is in the ground and your feet are in oil.

Pope Clement V

- Real name was Raymond Bertrand de Got
- Was the V (5th) Pope Clement
- The French Archbishop
- The King Philip IV of France helped him win the election
- Won in 1305
- The first Pope of "Babylon Captivity"
- Was Pope from Jun 5, 1305 to Apr 20, 1314
- Was Pope for 8 years
- Excommunicated Robert the Bruce of Scotland because he killed John Comyn during church mass
- Pope Clement congratulated King Philip for being hostile towards Pope Boniface VIII

Why was Pope Clement V in Dante's Inferno?

Pope Clement was in Dante's Inferno because of the same reasons as Pope Boniface. He was also a Simoniac, which is someone who bought and sold church offices. He was also shown with his head in a hole and his legs sticking up and being soaked in oil (a reverse baptism).

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Black- Social Study Notes

Red- English Connections

Magic and canto XXIX notes

- **People thought that magic was an allusion from the devil**
 - The alchemists used “magic” to trick people into giving them money, which was believed to be from the devil.
- **It was believed that there was two types of magic, one called black and the other white**
 - The alchemists in Dante’s Inferno used black magic
- **Black was bad magic that was harmful to people**
- **People believed witches did black magic and caused bad accidents, bad luck, illnesses, or death to people**
 - The alchemists used black magic supposedly.
- **White magic had Christian symbolism and used herbs and nature**
 - Herbal magic and incantations
- **White magic was used for things like love, good luck and wealth**
- **Members of the church disliked witchcraft the most because it was believed to come from the devil**
 - The reason why the alchemists went to Hell was because the Church disagreed with their choices in black magic since they were assumed to worship the devil.
- **When witches were caught they went on trial for heresy and witchcraft**
 - Also sent to Hell after they were killed.
- **When people were thought to be a witch they were beaten until they admitted to being a witch**
- **Alchemists worked for king, pope, and princes because they needed to get more wealth.**
 - Daedalus worked for a King and the alchemist made him wings to fly out of the labyrinth. The alchemist did this job for money instead of caring for Daedalus’ life.
- **Alchemy is a science of making gold.**
 - The second alchemist in Canto XXIX made “gold” out of rocks for a living. The alchemists painted the rocks gold because turning rocks into gold is impossible.
- **Alchemy was started in the ancient time.**
 - Alchemy was an important aspect of the Middle Ages.
- **In Alchemy they would rip you off every time because you believe that the gold they were given was real gold and not fake but they would give the Alchemy all their life savings and they would steal it.**

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Thomas Aquinas' Philosophy Notes

Who he was:

- Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) was a Dominican friar, philosopher, and theologian
- Born in the family castle near Naples and youngest son of Landulfo d'Aquino
- Age 19= joined the new mendicant Dominican order
- 1259-1268 Thomas taught at various Dominican houses in Italy
- Thomas Aquinas was Catholic

What he did:

- Attempted to reconcile faith and reason in a comprehensive theology; presented philosophical proofs of the existence of God
- Combined Christian doctrine with classical philosophy
- Put insights of the Greek thinkers within a Christian context
- Blended Christian theology with Aristotelian philosophy
- Emphasis on human reason and intellectual ability
- Saw government as just part of the universal empire of which God made and rules
- Saw things in terms of their development or completeness
- Made the intellectual issues of the faith intelligible and rational

What he believed:

- Society is more orderly when individuals can own property rather than having everything in common
- Human knowledge can be harmonized with divine knowledge
- Many of the truths of the Christian religion were beyond rational explanation
- Truths of Christianity must be treated as mysteries of a "divine science."
- Something is superior to another only by its being more complete or comprehensive
- reason itself wouldn't allow us to know God intimately
- Believed that God is superior because he created everything
- Jesus Christ was truth, one cannot know unless one believes
- Greater and Lesser laws:
 - 1.Divine/Eternal law-governs universe, only perfect and unchanging, ordained by God
 - 2.Natural Law- science/limits of nature, can be superseded by God-miracles
 - 3.Human/Positive Law-common good, must conform to laws above it
- Aquinas believed that learning and education are good and can serve God this gave medieval Christianity its intellectual quality and detailed reasoning
- looked to the natural world and argued that the senses might provide human beings with some reliable proofs for God's existence
- Faith and reason must be used together logically and spiritually to enable humanity to know and love God

Cantos X and XI Notes

X

- Leaving city(limbo) entering levels of hell
- They enter the heretics level and see tombs where the souls are burned
- A man by the name of Farinata recognized Dante's accent and said he was from the same place and wanted to know who his ancestors were
- Their ancestors were bitter enemies and he said that he was better off than Dante's ancestors
- Souls in hell can see future not the present
- Punishments=what they were like on earth
- Angry soul who first talked dove back into his tomb and was never again seen
- He is talking to the dead man and when he realizes he is alive he asks why his son isn't with him then realizes he is not here on his own accord
- This man, the "noble one" says if he hasn't learned enough already he never will
- Goddess of the moon will show her face fewer than 50 times before the collapse of negotiations on the exiles' return
- He wants to know why men made such repugnant laws on earth (torture and massacre)
- The man says he wants to return to Florence and without his help Florence would be in ruins
- They can see the future but not the present and rely on the newcomers for recent information.
- The day of judgment will never come in hell
- He is apologizing for not responding to man's question before he fell back into the tomb
- Says if a father did something bad the son won't automatically go to hell because of father's actions.
- Virgil says that 1000 other souls at least are also in the tombs including Frederick II and the Cardinal for heresy
- Virgil tells Dante that a beautiful woman will guide him through heaven but not tell him his future (Beatrice)
- They left and went on towards another trail toward the middle "by a trail that strikes into a valley whose tall sides shunted up to us a stench so foul to inhale." (they went through a trail and the smell coming up to them was unbearable

XI

- The valley's horrible stench is coming from more burning tombs.
- Dante and Virgil retreat until they're behind one of the tombs.
- Dante reads the inscription on the tomb. It says, "I hold Pope Anastasius." This was a pope who denied the divinity of Christ.
- Virgil explains the next 3 circles of Hell
- Heretic - a professed believer who maintains religious opinions contrary to those accepted by his or her church or rejects doctrines prescribed by that church

- right hand cut off for stealing, people were beaten, burned alive, stretched on a rack and women committing adultery were drowned. Suffocating people in water was a common practice. People were boiled in oil, eyes were burned out with pincher's and fingers torn off. Mutilation and branding's were common place. (<http://www.thefinertimes.com>)
- English law was based on torture
- The higher classes were exempt from the law so they couldn't be punished
- Peasants were the main people who were tortured
- They had courts and judges
- If you did not show up to court you were considered an outlaw and your property was taken and given to the king
- Most torture was made a public display
- Quartering was when they removed all your limbs with a hatchet or axe, then cut your head off, and pulled your insides out.
- The jails (gaols) back in the medieval era were dirty and filthy. If criminals were jailed for a long time, they would have died from disease and possible starvation. (<http://medievalcrimeandpunishment.wetpaint.com/page/CRIME+IN+THE+MIDDLE+AGES>)
- Criminals were considered as people who disturbed the king's peace. If the crime committed was only a minor crime, then the lords had authority to punish the offenders in their local court house.
- The accused had to pick up a red hot iron bar and hold it while they walked three or four paces. Their hand was then bandaged. After three days they had to return to the court where the bandages were removed. If the wound was beginning to heal they were innocent but if the wound showed no sign of healing then they were pronounced Guilty. <http://www.historyonthenet.com>

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The church had canon law that they enforced with their own courts. Although the courts did not exactly have evidence or anything else because someone could just say, "I am innocent." And people would believe him/her because no one can lie in a church or no Christian would ever lie. Vanni Fucci, in Dante's Inferno, is portrayed as one of the worst of the worst. He thieved and stole from people and let others take the blame. To the medieval mind the worst thing you could do was lie or break an oath so Vanni Fucci was hated by Dante because of his behavior.

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Just like medieval times, the nine circles does not have a completely clear system. People get tortured repeatedly in creative ways that fit the crime they committed just like they were in the medieval ages.

Vanni Fecci says that he is hurting more because he got caught than the fact that he was torn from being alive. Many powerful people in the medieval ages were never caught for torturing people or basically doing anything wrong because they had the power and money to inspire fear. But even though they did not get their punishments in life, they would in the eighth circle of hell where reptiles would catch them and bite them repeatedly.

Vanni Fecci, a thief in the eight circle of hell, is an awe and fearful of the power that God has. In the medieval ages, people were taught to be fearful of God but still love and worship him.

- The Christian Crusades greatly waged against the Muslims, which divided the two religions among their beliefs as to which was better.
 - Also, when Constantinople's "New Rome" and the Eastern Orthodox church is taken over by the Muslims, more division between the two beliefs set in.
 - As Islam begins to spread and more Christian land takes over, the Christians start to separate their core beliefs.
 - Books reiterating their separate beliefs came out, the New Testament Bible and the Koran.
 - Religious laws soon came out that dealt with the separation of the Muslims and Christians. The common law for Christians set the ground rules and beliefs for the people, however the Muslims were not apart of this and more of frowned upon.
 - Even though the Muslims respected Christian beliefs and Jesus Christ, Dante still put Mohammad in hell because he "disliked him". This is what Dante did to people he did not like. If you were not apart of what Dante believed in or what he respected, you would be put in a circle of hell depending on what Dante thought.
 - The choices Dante made putting people in levels of his Hell, especially with the Muslims, has led to many controversies and conspiracies of what Dante believed in. Many do not understand why he would have Mohammad suffering in Hell, however the Muslims respected their beliefs.
 - Dante's views on Muslims and Mohammad have led many to believe the Christians felt superior to Muslims. The division during the spread of Islam played a large role in how the Christians feel about Islam. This was taken out during the Crusades where they fought against religion.
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- Dante's beliefs in a separation of church and state began a major conflict as he began to believe that the Catholic Church was becoming corrupt and his thoughts of a single Christian Church (catholic) were now in question.
 - Dante observed the spiritual plan of the church which had lost its direction and now believed the only way the church survived was with this separation.
 - Dante observed a personal fight about whose dog was superior and this lead to a fight that caused the two men Guelfo, and Ghibellino to try and gather support and separate Christians that had similar thoughts into competing religions.
 - Dante created hostility as he began to create anti Muslim thoughts as he describes Mohammed the founder of Islam and his cousin Ali as sowers of religious divisiveness. He describes Mohammed's body split in half for dividing the religions as he cardinal in the Christian church before founding the church of Islam.
 - Dante viewed anti division and people who attempted to turn people against each other as sinners that during his visit to hell saw how god punished them for their acts of turning others against their leaders when it was for power.

- Dante viewed patriotism as a strength and as he describes the punishment in hell, they are dealt with in favor where when religion was used to gain power it was negatively viewed and more severely punished.

