

# The Peasants Revolt 1381

Will discuss:

- i) causes
- ii) First Stage
- iii) London
- iv) Aftermath
- v) why it failed
- vi) Conclusion

## INTRODUCTION

Peasants' Revolt was a general name for an uprising of peasants, merchants, churchmen that took place in the Summer of 1381.

## CAUSES

Uprising in other countries, such as The Jaquerie in France

Church was corrupt

Ruling classes tried to keep peasants in their place.

Black Death had created shortage of labourers who now wanted a better quality of life. Freedom, equality, justice

**Long Term and Short Term:**

London opens gates to rebels

First collection of taxes returned less than expected

## FIRST STAGE

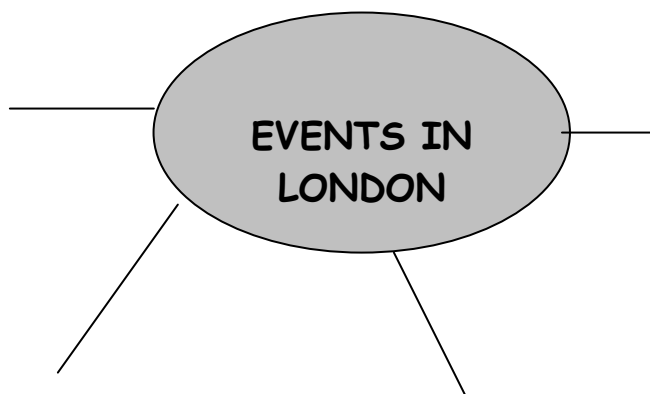
Essex Rebels led by Jack Straw march on London

Kent rebels led by Watt Tyler march to London

Tax collectors attacked

Archbishop Sudbury orders another collection

With Tyler dead, rebels disperse home with promise of charter of freedom



Meeting at **Mile End**. Tyler makes **demands**  
a) End to Feudal System,  
b) no fixed wages,  
c) fixed rent for land,  
d) punish poll taxers  
Richard II agrees

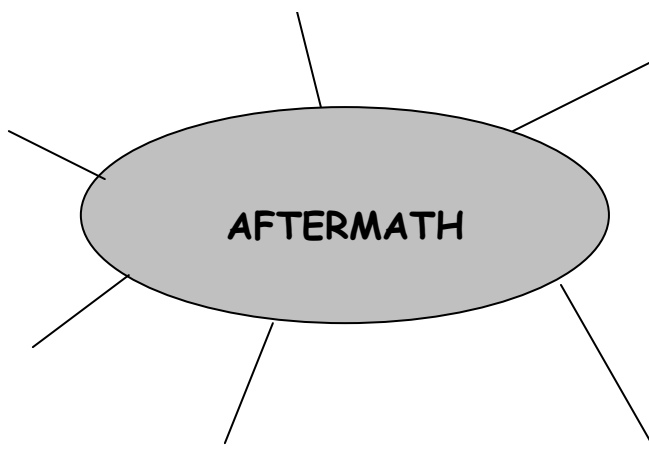
Meeting at **Smithfield**  
Tyler's demands excessive.  
a) All equal below King  
b) Tyler to head army  
Tyler swigs beer. Insulted by Richard aid, and he pulls out dagger. Killed by Lord Mayor

Militant rebels ransack London. Sudbury executed. Foreigners beheaded. Londoners scared and withdraw support

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Revolt did shock government and Church

Poll tax not raised again



Ball arrested and executed along with other leaders.

Execution of rebels as example.

Pardons withdrawn.

Remnants of militant rebels defeated at Billericay.

