

Community and Authority in the Medieval West

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1. What is the purpose of civil society?
2. How should civil authority be organized (who should rule)?
3. What are the limits of civil authority?

- The Theocratic Norm: Byzantium and Islam

- The West's Tripartite Inheritance

Rome's Contribution
Christianity's Contribution
Germanic Contribution

- Benedictine Communitarianism
- The Frankish (Christian?) kingdom
- Carolingian Europe and the Papacy
- The 11th Century Investiture Controversy
- From Thomas Becket to Innocent III
- Western Singularity?