












Knowledge Organiser: How fierce were Medieval female rulers?

<p><i>This unit explores the reign of Medieval women who despite societies attitudes, showed courage and power. We study examples of women who: ruled in their own right, fought for the rights of their heirs, campaigned in battles, and others whose right to rule was taken from them.</i></p>		Chronology: what happened on these dates?		Vocabulary: define these words	
		690 AD	Empress Wu Zetian declares herself as the first female emperor of China.	Monarch 	A king or queen
Summarise your learning		1135 AD	King Henry I dies. Matilda was meant to be crowned but instead her cousin Stephen is.	Heir 	A person who inherits the property/rank/throne of another after their death.
Topic 1: What was lifelike for Medieval women?	The Medieval period exercised a lot of societal expectations on women. Society was strongly patriarchal, yet many women showed their courage and power amidst this.	1137 – 1152 AD	Eleanor of Aquitaine becomes Queen of France	Patriarchy 	A system of society or government in which men hold the power and women are largely excluded from it.
Topic 2: Why is Matilda now known as the forgotten queen?	Empress Matilda has now been recognised by many historians as a woman who should have been Queen. She fought for her right against her cousin, Stephen.	1154 AD	Matilda's son, Henry II takes the throne.	Empress 	A woman who rules an empire.
Topic 3: How significant was Eleanor of Aquitaine?	Eleanor of Aquitaine has been remembered by many historians as a ferocious and powerful woman. She fought against her husband and worked hard to fight for her son's right to the throne.	1154 – 1189 AD	Eleanor of Aquitaine becomes Queen of England.	Tyrant 	A cruel and oppressive ruler.
Topic 4: The greatest Empress or tyrant; What can we learn from Empress Wu Zetian?	Empress Wu Zetian was the first and last emperor of China. She has been remembered both positively and negatively.	1346 AD	Philippa of Hainault acts as regent whilst her husband was away for the Hundred Years' War.	Regent 	A person who is appointed to rule in place of the monarch because they are either too young, absent, or unable to currently rule.
Topic 5: Why was Philippa of Hainault so well respected and adored by the people?	Philippa of Hainault was a popular and adored female who acted as ruler whilst her husband was away fighting in the Hundreds Year war.	Who were these people?		Consort 	The partner of the current ruling monarch.
Topic 6: What can we learn from the stories of Joan of Arc and Khawlah bint al-Azwar?	These two women are examples of women who were not royalty but instead campaigned ferociously on the battlefield.	Empress Wu Zetian	First and last female emperor of China	Fierce 	Strong and powerful
		Empress Matilda	Fought for her right to the throne against her cousin Stephen	Queen 	A female ruler of a country
		Eleanor of Aquitaine	Known for her role in helping her son overthrow her husband and ruling as regent.	Interpretation 	Interpretations are created by historians who use evidence to reach an opinion on a specific topic.
		Philippa of Hainault	Known for acting as regent. Was very popular and well respected by the people.		
		Joan of Arc	A fierce peasant who was involved in various military campaigns.		
		Khawlah bint al-Azwar	The sister of one of the leading Muslim commanders she took up arms herself during battles, including leading a troop of women against the Byzantine army.		

