**Post-Classical Era: Unit 3 Vocabulary Chart**

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| **Term** | **Definition** |
| Caliph | Leader of an Islamic empire ruled by those believed to be the successors to the Prophet Muhammad |
| Crusade | series of holy wars from 1096-1270 AD undertaken by European Christians to free the Holy Land from Muslim rule |
| Feudalism | a political system in which nobles are granted the use of lands that legally belong to their king, in exchange for their loyalty, military service, and protection of the people who live on the land |
| Islam | the religion of the Muslims, a monotheistic faith regarded as revealed through Muhammad as the Prophet of Allah. |
| Knight | a man, usually of noble birth, who after an apprenticeship as page and squire was raised to honorable military rank and bound to chivalrous conduct. |
| Manor | economic system during the Middle Ages that revolved around self-sufficient farming estates where lords and peasants shared the land |
| Mosque | a Muslim place of worship |
| Muslim | A follower of the Islamic faith |
| Qur’an | the holy book of Islam |
| Serf | a person who is bound to the land and owned by the feudal lord |
| Shari’a | Islamic law |
| Shi’a | a Muslim group that accepts only the descendants of Muhammed's son-in-law Ali as the true rulers of Islam |
| Sunni | The largest branch of Islam; after the death of Muhammad, Muslims who accepted Abu Bakr as the first Caliph became known as Sunni in order to differentiate them from the Shi'a |
| Vassal | a knight who promised to support a lord in exchange for land |