A simple definition of feudalism during the time of 'Medieval Europe' is where the elite held land in exchange for service or labour. Peasant farmers would rent and work the land whereby entire peasant communities would be employed to assist in the farming or as servants for the elite in their homes. It was a way of structuring a society which was controlled by a few elites who owned massive swathes of land. When you question how feudalism in 'Medieval Europe' came about, one only has to remember that in those times, during the 9th to 15th centuries, the power and the huge financial rewards were obtained through war and the church. Position and land were given by the King to those who led and proved themselves in battle or those of a religious status who controlled the masses through religion. It was an organic progression which led to the building of large stately homes with massive estates and the common people, the working class, to maintain them.

In Great Britain, due to the 'Industrial Revolution' and especially the end of the 1st World War in 1918, this feudalistic society began to crumble as people moved into the cities to find a new style of work. Those servants from the large stately homes, were able to find a more profitable occupation, one which offered a new sense of freedom, and even the ability for some, to start their own businesses. By the end of the 2nd World War in 1945, this renewed sense of freedom further gripped the nation which led to the final end of feudalism, or so it was thought?

The core ideal of any feudalistic society is for a few wealthy elites to control the peasants (the proletariat) the common working class. In 'Marxist' terms, the elite (the bourgeoisie) are those few who hold the bulk of the wealth of a society. Through the ages, we have had revolutions, where the common people have risen against the elites and probably the worst was 'The French Revolution' where the elite of France were conveyed in carts to the scaffold and their heads removed by the sharp blade of 'Madame Guillotine'. Of course, given time, the elite always rise again. They may even have risen from the working class or the middle class, which is a class of people whose wealth and occupation places them between those of a higher and lower social standing, determined by their average income, education and conservative values.

Today, 'Modern Feudalism' is alive and kicking. After the 2nd World War and especially during the end of rationing in Great Britain as we entered the 1950s, the gradual rise of global corporate businesses and the creation of central banks, ensured feudalism would take on a new face, a hidden face. Many will suggest it was a grand plan by those elites who possessed great wealth but I suggest it was a slow organic development, without much planning, and due to the avarice of human nature. There was a gradual rise of council houses being purchased by their occupants who had previously paid rent to the council. Through a natural process, many of those houses ended up being sold on and owned by wealthy private individuals and/or private consortiums who renting them back to the public and

invariably adding on an annual maintenance charge. By the late 1990s, any elite person who was in a position of power, either in government or a CEO in a multi-national corporate business recognised that the common working-class man was the first port of call in achieving the financial reward and the mantra became very clear - keep them in low wages and debt slavery, keep them in the working class, otherwise they will not work.

The banks took 'debt slavery' to a new level, they also wanted the middle class in debt and under their control. Today, those people who strive to save, find their bank savings achieve very little income due to low interest returns which in 2021 are deliberately kept low. Also, the Bank of England prints money and keeps encouraging low interest on loan repayment rates to encourage borrowing and to maintain a failing consumer economy – a giant 'Ponzi Scheme'. This printed money we borrow from the banks at low interest rates, is used to purchase material goods, tech gadgets, cars and homes and the interest is paid back to the banks. The money from the goods we purchase is paid to the corporate businesses that made those goods and their shareholders. The corporate profits are taxed and the monies paid to the government. To add grist to the mill, the government has to keep borrowing money by selling bonds to financial institutions and even other countries by promising annual interest payments on the bond. Of course, the bond is a figure of debt that can be recalled for payment. The current debt of Great Britain is £2.5 trillion (23rd November 2021) the truth however is much worse, factoring in all liabilities including state and public sector pensions, the real National Debt is closer to £4.8 trillion and the average monthly interest payments of £5.6 billion (£18.8 Billion in October 2021) continue to increase the overall debt along with the continual borrowing.

In 2021, this new organically created feudalism has created billionaires in Great Britain whilst the ordinary people lurch slowly but surely back towards a 1930s lifestyle with its massive poverty and an increase in their ill health, mental instability, a rise in suicides and infant deaths and a lowering of the expected lifespan of adults. There is no escape for those in debt other than to have everything they own, including their home, taken from them by the banks and find themselves living with their relatives, friends or out on the street. Now, this once Great Britain is massively in debt to unsustainable and unrecoverable levels. This modern feudalism will take time to reach a crunch point because the Bank of England will keep printing money and deliberately keeping the borrowing and savings interest rates low; but gradually and gathering speed, like a runaway train, inflation will rise like it did in the 1970/80s whereby the Bank of England will be caught between a rock and a hard place. It will have to raise the interest (borrowing) rates to combat rising inflation and watch the economy, this giant Ponzi Scheme, collapse.

The government would have you believe that the Covid-19 virus is the cause of all the debt but this is pure rubbish. Likewise, the 'Remainers' who blame Brexit is pure rubbish. Britain was facing a catastrophic collapse similar to the late 1970s long before the Covid-19 Pandemic or Brexit. The

evidence of this imminent collapse was all around us with government borrowing, the printing of money, poor wages for the working man, a weakened NHS, reduced services, especially the emergency services and the forced low interest rates. You only have to examine the infrastructure of

Britain and you can see that since 1979 it has been slowly descending into one of a third world country.

A working man in this once Great Britain is like a human ant working for a human ant colony. He will be taxed all his life and he will receive a very poor pension when he retires. If he aspires to save, he will receive a meagre return and when in old age, when he is infirm, and in a care home, the state will take the bulk of his savings to maintain him. On his death, if he has managed to save a sizeable amount, the state will tax him once again with inheritance tax. There is no-one he can vote for that will change the outcome, all the political parties are the same, because none of them possess the genius to

overcome the massive debt the country now faces.

Copyright Conditions

This article is free for worldwide distribution by electronic means or hard copy on the condition the copyright is maintained whereby it cannot be used for commercial use without the owner's permission. Richard Lawrence has asserted his right to be identified as the 'Author of this Work' in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

Website: www.lawrencephotographic.com