

# CHARLEMAGNE: MEDIA BIAS!

**Directions:** Using information from the article on Charlemagne and your knowledge of Global History, write an editorial (opinion-based) article about Charlemagne from the perspective of one of four groups living during his time.

- First, find out what group you have been assigned, which you can do by simply flipping this paper over and reading the title of your newspaper! Then read the comments on the screen and on your slip of paper about your group's perspective on Charlemagne.
- Write your editorial based on information and examples from the reading on Charlemagne according to your role. You should be writing from the perspective of someone living in this time, so be sure to talk about these events as if they have just happened or are currently happening.
- In your editorial, you **MUST** include
  - text separated into at least two columns just like a newspaper.
  - at least one quote from a "witness" or "expert" (you can make these up but they should be based on sound knowledge)
  - a picture with a caption

**Below you will find descriptions of the four perspectives to help you write your article:**

## **Carolingian Chronicle**

Frankish perspective. Fully supportive of Charlemagne in every way. Celebrates his greatness in military victory, political leadership, and educational reform.

## **Heathen Herald**

Pagan Saxon perspective. Supportive of traditional Germanic culture, especially pre-Christian Germanic paganism. Opposed to the Christianization of the Germanic peoples and extremely angered by Charlemagne's treatment of the Saxons. Keep in mind, however, that many Saxons have converted and joined Charlemagne.

## **Byzantine Bugle**

Byzantine perspective. Supportive of the authority of the Byzantine Emperor in Constantinople, seen as the true emperor of the Romans. You view Charlemagne as undeserving of the title of Emperor, and view the Pope as far exceeding the limits of his power by declaring him Emperor.

## **Papal Press**

Roman Catholic perspective. Supportive of the pope as the supreme authority over all Christendom (Christian World) above all religious and secular (non-religious) leaders. Supportive of Charlemagne as defender of Catholic Church and of the Pope. Agrees with choice of Charlemagne as Emperor.

Let me be  
Frank. Charles,  
he is Great!

# Carolingian Chronicle

The Weather

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Y'all know  
who... keepin'  
it Roman!

# BYZANTINE BUGLE

The Weather

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Pagan and  
proud! Be true  
to the gods!

# HEATHEN HERALD

The Weather

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Don't be a  
dope! Get with  
the Pope!

# Papal Press

The Weather

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