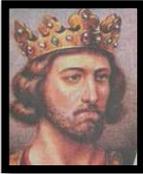


UK Site



King John



Royal Seal



S. Langton: Author



Plaque at Runnymede



800TH ANNIVERSARY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, eight hundred years ago, 15th June 1215 A.D., in a meadow called Runnymede, MAGNA CARTA, the "Great Charter of Liberties", was ordered "Sealed" and copies distributed throughout the Realm, resulting from a Parley to resolve violent dispute between England's King John and his Barons about "Liberties of the Subject"; & [Note: The American Bar Association erected a Magna Carta Memorial here, 1957; in 1965 celebrated the 750th Anniversary]

WHEREAS, this classic meeting in a meadow was negotiated by Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, the history-savvy Bible-scholar who had just set the New Testament into a system of numbered chapters used today, and who was fluent with manifold Godly-Law-and-Government-related verses, both Old and New Testaments; & [e.g. "I did not come to abolish law, but to fulfill" (Yeshua/Jesus, Mt 5:17); "Without Subjects a Prince is ruined" (Pr 14:28);

WHEREAS, John, grasping the Crown when his brother Richard the Lionheart did not return from Crusades, ruled as a Tyrant, whose erratic, lustful cruelties jeopardized his Subjects' lives, wives, estates and passage thru gates, offending: Church, King of France, Pope, his own Royal Administrators (who quit en masse), as well as Barons; & [John's Epitaph, 1216: "In this tomb reposes the likeness of a king, who, dying, brought to an end much tumult in the world"]

WHEREAS, the powerful Barons, joining forces in a heated ire against John, and threatening to remove his head, were persuaded by Langton to sheathe their swords as he reviewed ancient Royal pledges to stop similar abuses, ["Charter of Liberties" (1100, Henry I), "Generous Promises" (1136, Stephen), "Restore & Confirm Liberties" (1154, Henry II)] each return to their fortified Baronies, write down and bring him their grievances, and to await his response, &

WHEREAS, Langton's response, Magna Carta, is based upon a soaring set of principles, precepts and practices re "licit" governance [e.g. "Distinguish between the holy and profane" (Lev 10:10); "Do not take advantage of a widow or an orphan" (Ex 22:22), "Do not take a bribe" (Ex 23:8), "Put no one to death on the testimony of only one witness" (Dt 17:6)], that presaged a permanent Parliament, Congress, and Knesset, intended to serve as a rein on those who reign; &

WHEREAS, deriving from Magna Carta are: Church not under State; women may own property; taxes/laws/war set by the people; the King is under law; plus freedom of the press, religion, speech, assembly, to petition government for redress of grievances, no "takings" of property without compensation, innocent until proven guilty, trial by jury of one's peers, no cruel or unusual punishment, court to meet in a set place, HABEAS CORPUS, and, "The Golden Passage: DUE PROCESS OF LAW"; &

WHEREAS, property-rights articles were transferred into a companion CHARTER OF THE FOREST, 1217 A.D.; &

WHEREAS, Magna Carta-related citations are plentiful [e.g. Churchill: "MC is for any self-respecting man at any time in any land"; Judge Coke (1628): "Magna Carta is such a fellow that he will have no Sovereign"; Blackstone (1765), "All Law derives from Creator"; Jefferson (1776): "Law of Nature...Governments are instituted...to secure [Creator-given] Rights"], &

WHEREAS, Magna Carta principles have been utilized in many freedom-loving documents, [e.g. 1606 VA Charter, 1628 Petition of Right, 1689 English Bill of Rights, 1776 U.S. Declaration of Independence, 1787 U.S. Constitutional Republic, 1789 U.S. Bill of Rights [5th Amendment: Magna Carta verbiage] "added to prevent abuse of authority"] ... THEREFORE BE IT

Co-equal/Conjoined



RESOLVED: Magna Carta, with its underlying Biblical principles, is a fundamental basis for Western Civilization's "Liberty Under Law".

Signed _____ Date _____

Florence SC, USA

