

Saint Joan Preface Glossary

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Vosges: A department of France, it was known as the Duchy of Bar in the Middle Ages and was split in half. Domrémy, the village in which Joan was born, was in the French half west of the Meuse River, while the eastern half belonged to the Holy Roman Empire.

Rehabilitated: The retrial of Joan of Arc, which was authorized by Pope Callixtus III in 1452. The trial itself started on November 7, 1455, at Notre Dame de Paris. It concluded by declaring her innocent on July 7, 1456. Cauchon's sentence and the twelve articles of accusation were torn out of a copy of Joan's original trial and were publicly burnt in Rouen.

Venerable: An appellation applied by the Catholic church upon a person marking the second step to sainthood, the first being titled 'Servant of God'. The investigation must determine that the deceased was "heroic in virtue" and it must be declared to the pope by a bishop. Although this is the second of four steps toward sainthood, becoming Venerable does not guarantee becoming sainted.

Blessed: The title used to refer to someone who is Beautified, the third step on the way to sainthood. To become Beautified, the church must recognize that the deceased has truly entered into heaven and has the capacity to help those who pray to them. Normally they are given a feast day, but generally only celebrated within the home diocese of the Blessed. As with Venerable, becoming Blessed does not guarantee sainthood.

Canonized: The final step to sainthood, the deceased must have had at least two miracles performed through his intervention and is capable of being seen in a beatific vision, as what Joan had with Catherine and Margaret. The saint is given a feast day and can have churches built in their name.

Warrior saint: Saints that feature prominently in the early Christian church, originating with Roman soldiers who converted and were martyred. Warrior saints usually arose from times of conflict and are invariably depicted as armed and armored, an appeal to societies in which warfare is a part of life.

Napoleonic Realism: A rigorous mechanism that functions without goal or end simply because it was started. An idea discussed by Jacques Ellul in his *Sources & Trajectories*.

Breach of promise: The case brought against Joan for not following through on a marriage vow. Sources disagree to the exact time of the trial, so there is not much consensus regarding her participation. Most modern historians believe that she would have had to have been present.

Headman: Joan's father, Jacques d'Arc, actually held the position of *doyen*, a local tax collector and defense organizer. Headman implies a certain function, essentially a tribal leader, that was no longer viable within the manorial system of Medieval Europe.

Feudal: The legal and military system of governing common in Europe during the Middle Ages. Viewed commonly as rather backwards and simplistic, it was in truth a fairly complex system ideal for the state of the "nation" during that time. France had undergone a "revolution" of sorts in the 12th century, in which counties and duchies broke down into smaller pieces in order to usurp and take advantage of various rights of the crown. Most common among these rights were travel dues, market fees, land usage obligations, and the highly profitable rights of justice.

Squires: A different definition than that used upon the medieval squire, Shaw is referring to a person who has received a grant of arms but is neither noble nor knight.

Castle: The Château de Bourlémont, which stood some four miles south of Domrémy in the town of Frebécourt. There is no indication that the manor house was ever derelict; it was held by the Bourlémons from 1184 until 1412, at which point it passed to the Anglure family.



Beaurevoir Castle: The chateau in which Joan was held prisoner before her trial, this tower is the last remaining vestige following its destruction in 1674. This may be the tower from which Joan jumped, but that is simply conjecture.

En nom Dé: In God's name, from the Lorraine dialect and a typical expression therein. Famously quoted from *En nom Dé, les gens d'armes batailleront et Dieu donnera victoire!*: "In Gods name, the soldiers will fight and God will give the victory!"

Par mon martin: An extremely mild expletive that Joan trained the infamously foul-mouthed La Hire to use, in addition to using herself. It means 'by my staff' and was frequently heard by those around her.

La Pucelle: The name Joan gave herself (Jehanne la Pucelle) as well as the friendly term used by those when speaking of her. Also used to underline her virginal status as “the Maid”. More recently, it has been applied to a battery of literary works from Voltaire to Leonard Cohen.

Courts of the Inquisition: A legal system in which the entirety or part of the court is involved in investigating the facts of the case. In 1198, Pope Innocent III reformed the system, allowing ecclesiastic courts using the Inquisitorial system to summon and interrogate witnesses on its own initiative, using their testimony to summon and try any accused. In 1215, the Fourth Council of the Lateran required ecclesiastic courts to use the Inquisitorial system.

While Shaw says that Joan was tried by ecclesiastical courts and Inquisitorial courts, there was no difference between the two; the church court that tried her was an extension of the Papal Inquisition. She was to be tried by a secular court as well, which also used the Inquisitorial system, but their findings were infamously ignored by Cauchon.

She was tried...as a heretic, blasphemer.: The official sentence of death names Joan as:

“...fallen into divers errors and divers crimes of schism, idolatry, invocation of demons and many others...pretended divine revelations and apparitions lying, seducing, pernicious, presumptuous, lightly believing, rash, superstitious, a divineress and blasphemer towards God and the Saints, a despiser of God Himself in His Sacraments; a prevaricator of the Divine Law, of sacred doctrine and of ecclesiastical sanctions; seditious, cruel, apostate, schismatic, erring on many points of our Faith, and by all these means rashly guilty towards God and Holy Church.”

It also declares her a relapsed heretic and excommunicate. While there is no doubt that she was tried for religious crimes, there is also little doubt that the entire trial was political in nature, a fact underscored by numerous instances of blatant disregard for ecclesiastical law dealing with prisoners and legal proceedings.

Jeanne d’Arc: She was never known as d’Arc during her lifetime. When questioned during her trial on March 24, she responded “I have as surname d’Arc or Romée: in my country the girls take the name of their mother.” It was not until after her death that she began to be commonly called Jeanne d’Arc.