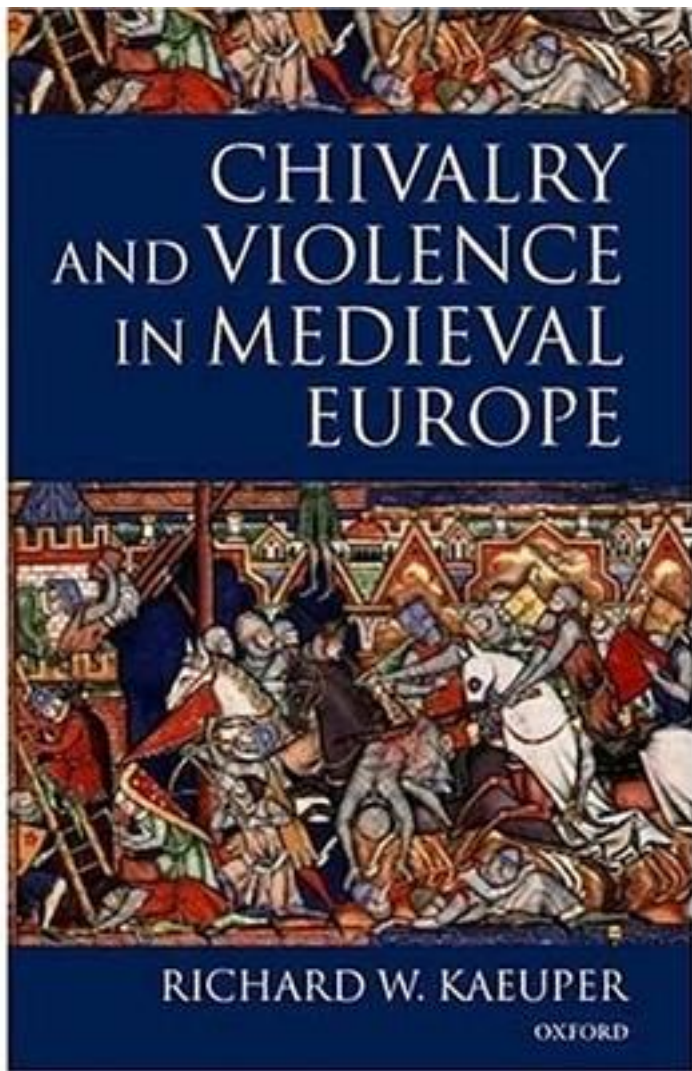


Chivalry and Violence in Medieval Europe



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出版者:Oxford University Press, USA

出版时间:2001-6-21

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780199244584

Medieval Europe was a rapidly developing society with a problem of violent disorder. Professor Kaeuper's original and authoritative study reveals that chivalry was just as much a part of this problem as it was its solution. Chivalry praised heroic violence by knights, and fused such displays of prowess with honour, piety, high-status, and attractiveness to women. Though the vast body of chivalric literature praised chivalry as necessary to civilization, most texts also worried over knightly violence, criticized the ideals and practices of chivalry, and often proposed reforms. The knights themselves joined the debate, absorbing some reforms, ignoring others, sometimes proposing their own. The interaction of chivalry with major governing institutions ("church" and "state") emerging at that time was similarly complex: kings and clerics both needed and feared the force of the knighthood. This fascinating book lays bare these conflicts and paradoxes which surrounded the concept of chivalry in medieval Europe.

作者介绍:

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标签

中世纪

的

欧洲历史

Medieval

评论

- 1.骑士精神是一个矛盾体：理想上坚持勇猛和克制的高贵性，实际上却表现为流血暴力。
- 2.中世纪存在着三种秩序：教权、王权和骑士阶层，这便产生了第二个矛盾。骑士对王权表现出忠诚、对教权表现出虔诚，但其精神内核本质上是独立于二者的，强调的是个人武力的高贵和其品质与神的直接关系；教权和王权也经常与骑士精神表现出矛盾，反对骑士们私下动用武力。
这样一个矛盾体随着历史的进展产生了黑格尔式的消解与升华：克制的一面终于压过了

勇猛的一面，而随着王权垄断了暴力、教权投向了王权的神圣性一方，骑士精神与二者的结盟终于瓦解，最终在自身衰落的同时成为了埃利亚斯式的文明化进程的一个阶段。

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书评

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