

1. The Vikings—seagoing warrior from Scandinavia—have received bad press for
 2. the way they terrorized coastal areas of central and western Europe between 793
 3. and 1066, the so-called Viking Age. Most contemporary accounts emphasize the
 4. vicious brutality of Viking attacks on defenseless civilians—many of whom were
 5. murdered or had valuables stolen from their homes—as well as assaults on
 6. Christian churches and monasteries. There has been considerable discussion
 7. among scholars of why the Vikings set out on these raids, with some citing pure
 8. envy and greed as the key motivating factors. The more commonly held view,
 9. however, is that while those factors contributed, the Vikings were driven into a
 10. corner where, because of the inability of the limited farmland and natural
 11. resources in their homelands to support a rising population, they had little
 12. alternative but to raid and colonize foreign territories. The innovations they

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26. never reached Scandinavia, Ferguson believes the Vikings heard the tales of the
 27. savagery of Charlamagne's army from their southern neighbors, the Saxons, who
 28. took refuge in Viking territories after falling victim to the Frankish forces.
 29. Ferguson proposes that, after learning from the Saxon warriors of forcible
 30. Christianization at the hands of the Franks, the Vikings feared they were next.
 31. The result, he says, is the Vikings developed a deep hatred of Christianity
 32. because it threatened their cultural identity and pagan beliefs. Rather than
 33. directly attacking the stronger Frankish army, however, the Vikings launched
 34. small-scale campaigns against “soft targets” they knew who offer little resistance.
 35. These violent attacks were often against symbols of Christianity, and were
 36. intended to strike fear into the Christian populations of the countries
 37. invaded. Ferguson believes this explains why the first recorded assault, in
 38. Lindisfarne in northeastern England was on a monastery.

Further Questions& Sample Answers

39.3) What happened right before the Viking raids began?

40. *The Frankish empire was imposing its power throughout most of Western Europe.*

42.4) How does Ferguson believe the Vikings heard about Charlemagne's army?

43. *_He believes the Vikings heard the tales of the savagery of Charlamagne's army from their southern neighbors,*

45. *_the Saxons, who took refuge in Viking territories after falling victim to the Frankish forces.*

47.5) What does Ferguson propose the real purpose of the attacks on symbols of Christianity was?

48. *The violent attacks were intended to strike fear into the Christian populations of*

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Further Questions& Sample Answers

61.6) What do Furguson's critics say there is no firm evidence of?

62. *They say there is no firm evidence to suggest the Vikings were aware of the wider campaign the Franks were waging.*

63.7) Why is it unlikely the Vikings would have resisted accepting Christian beliefs?

64. *Their own beliefs were polytheistic in nature.*

65.8) What do many critics attribute the Vikings' cruelty to?

66. *_The Vikings were probably no more vicious than other armies of the age*

67. *_and Christian monks who chronicled the attacks exaggerated the Vikings' brutality to arouse sympathy.*

*Choose the correct answer from these choices.

69. (35) What is widely considered to have been the reason behind the Viking attacks?
70. 1. As the Vikings were being expelled from their homelands by the armies of the surrounding countries, they were forced to search for new regions to settle in.
71. 2. Although greed partially prompted the Vikings' aggression, it was the shortage of land and other resources that forced them to seek out targets to raid.
72. 3. The Vikings learned of the wealth of churches and monasteries in Western Europe and decided to acquire it to ensure their economic security.
73. 4. While their own shipbuilding skills were considerable, the Vikings sought to gain technology that would enable them to cross the Atlantic.
- 74.

75. (36) Robert Ferguson believes that the Vikings

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84. 3. Ferguson's critics believe the Vikings had already fought off the invasion by Christian armies in their own region before they began their attacks.
85. 4. Any violent behavior on the part of the Vikings was unlikely to have been a conscious attempt to make those in the Christian world terrified of them.

Review Questions

86. 1) What did the Vikings do between 793 and 1066?
They terrorized the coastal areas of central and western Europe.
87. 2) What is the commonly held view on why the Vikings set out on raids?
They set out on raids because of the inability of the limited farmland and natural resources in their homelands to support a rising population.
88. 3) What happened right before the Viking raids began?
The Frankish empire was imposing its power throughout most of Western Europe.

- 93.4) How does Ferguson believe the Vikings heard about Charlemagne's army?
94. *He believes the Vikings heard the tales of the savagery of Charlamagne's army from their southern neighbors,*
95. *the Saxons, who took refuge in Viking territories after falling victim to the Franish forces.*
- 96.5) What does Ferguson propose the real purpose of the attacks on symbols of Christianity was?
97. *The violent attacks were intended to strike fear into the Christian populations of the countries invaded.*
- 98.6) What do Furguson's critics say there is no firm evidence of?
99. *They say there is no firm evidence to suggest the Vikings were aware of the wider campaign the Franks were waging.*
- 100.7) Why is it unlikely the Vikings would have resisted accepting Christian beliefs?
101. *Their own beliefs were polytheistic in nature.*
- ... 8) What do many critics attribute the Vikings' cruelty to?

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残虐 (ざんぎやく) な行為 (こうい)
brutality of Viking attacks on defenseless civilians —many of
貴重品 (きちょうひん)
whom were murdered or had valuables stolen from their homes—as well as
急襲 (きゅうしゅう)
assaults on Christian churches and monasteries .
修道院 (しゅうどういん)

106. There has been considerable discussion among scholars of why the Vikings set
不意 (ふい) の襲撃 (しゅうげき)
out on these raids , with some citing pure envy and
強欲 (ごうよく)
greed as the key motivating factors.
動機 (どうき) づけをしている
一般 (いっぽん) に

107. The more commonly held view, however, is that while those factors contributed,
窮地 (きゅうち) に追 (お) い込 (こ) まれていた
the Vikings were driven into a corner where, because of the inability of the
農地 (のうち)
limited farmland and natural resources in their homelands to support a
母国 (ほこく)
rising population, they had little alternative but to raid and
植民地 (しょくみんち) にする
colonize foreign territories. The innovations they achieved in
代 (か) わり
革新 (かくしん) する

造船 (ぞうせん)

遠 (とお) く離 (はな) れて

shipbuilding would have allowed them to travel far afield in this effort—evidence suggests that they even crossed the Atlantic and reached North America.

大西洋 (たいせいけいよう)

Further Questions& Sample Answers

108.1) What did the Vikings do between 793 and 1066?

109. ヴァイキングは 793年から 1066年の間に何をしましたか。

They terrorized the coastal areas of central and western Europe.

110.2) What is the commonly held view on why the Vikings set out on raids?

111. なぜヴァイキングが急襲 (きゅうしゅう) でに出たのかについて、一般にもたれている考え方などはどのようなものですか。

*_ They set out on raids because of the inability of the limited farmland
_ and natural resources in their homelands to support a rising population.*

歴史家 (れきしか)

112. Historian Robert Ferguson, however, argues that external factors may have been a more pertinent force behind the Viking attacks.

適切 (てきせつ) な

ピリオド (ピリオド)

フランス 英国 (ブリタニア)

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because it threatened their cultural identity and pagan beliefs.

117. Rather than directly attacking the stronger Frankish army, however, the Vikings
起 (お) こした 小規模 (しょうきぼ) の launched small-scale campaigns against “soft targets” they knew who offer little resistance.

118. These violent attacks were often against symbols of Christianity, and were intended to strike fear into the Christian populations of the countries invaded.

119. Ferguson believes this explains why the first recorded assault (急襲 (きゅうしゅう)) in Lindisfarne修道院 (しゅうどういん) in northeastern England was on a monastery .

Further Questions& Sample Answers

120.3) What happened right before the Viking raids began?

121. ヴァイキングの 急襲 (きゅうしゅう) が始まる直前に、何がありましたか。

The Frankish empire was imposing its power throughout most of Western Europe.

122.4) How does Ferguson believe the Vikings heard about Charlemagne's army?

123. ファーガスンは、ヴァイキングたちがカール大帝の軍についてどのように聞いたと信じていますか。

_He believes the Vikings heard the tales of the savagery of Charlamagne's army from their southern neighbors,
_the Saxons, who took refuge in Viking territories after falling victim to the Frankish forces.

124. 5) What does Ferguson propose the real purpose of the attacks on symbols of Christianity was? ファーガスンは、キリスト教の象徴を攻撃することの本当の目的は何だったと提案していますか。

125. The violent attacks were intended to strike fear into the Christian populations of the countries invaded.

126. Ferguson's critics counter that there is no firm evidence to suggest the Vikings were aware of, much less interested in, the wider campaign the Franks were waging throughout western Europe.

127. Furthermore, although almost the entire population of Scandinavia was pagan at

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131. ノアーカスン反対派は、何の確実な証拠か? といっていますか。

They say there is no firm evidence to suggest the Vikings were aware of the wider campaign the Franks were waging.

132. 7) Why is it unlikely the Vikings would have resisted accepting Christian beliefs?

なぜ、ヴァイキングたちがキリスト教信仰を受け入れることに抵抗しそうにないと言えるのでしょうか。

Their own beliefs were polytheistic in nature.

133. 8) What do many critics attribute the Vikings' cruelty to?

134. 多くの反対派は、ヴァイキングの残酷さは何のせいだとしていますか。

_The Vikings were probably no more vicious than other armies of the age
135. _and Christian monks who chronicled the attacks exaggerated the Vikings' brutality to arouse sympathy.

*Choose the correct answer from these choices.

136. (35) What is widely considered to have been the reason behind the Viking attacks? ヴァイキングの攻撃の背景にある理由として広く知られているものは何ですか。

追(お)い出(だ)された

137.1. As the Vikings were being expelled from their homelands by the armies of the surrounding countries, they were forced to search for new regions to settle in.

～せざるをえなかつた

138.2. Although greed partially prompted the Vikings' aggression, it was the shortage of land and other resources that forced them to seek out targets to raid.

侵略(しんりやく)

捜(さが)し出(だ)す

139.3. The Vikings learned of the wealth of churches and monasteries in Western Europe and decided to acquire it to ensure their economic security.

確保(かくほ)する

140.4. While their own shipbuilding skills were considerable, the Vikings sought to gain technology that would enable them to cross the Atlantic.

141.(36) Robert Ferguson believes that the Vikings ロバート・ファーガストンは、ヴァイキングは～と信じている。

征服(せいふく)する

改宗(かいしゅう)させる

142.1. were made aware of Charlemagne's efforts to conquer and convert

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143.2. Charlemagne ordered chronicles of the Viking attacks to exaggerate their accounts to make the Vikings appear more violent than they actually were.

説明(せつめい)

擊退(げきたい)した

144.3. Ferguson's critics believe the Vikings had already fought off the invasion by Christian armies in their own region before they began their attacks.

145.4. Any violent behavior on the part of the Vikings was unlikely to have been a conscious attempt to make those in the Christian world terrified of them.

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158. *The Frankish empire was imposing its power throughout most of Western Europe.*

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163. *The violent attacks were intended to strike fear into the Christian populations of the countries invaded.*

164. 6) What do Furguson's critics say there is no firm evidence of?

165. *They say there is no firm evidence to suggest the Vikings were aware of the wider campaign the Franks were waging.*

166. 7) Why is it unlikely the Vikings would have resisted accepting Christian beliefs?

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