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Carolingian System as Christendom

Kinji Chikayama

Although Charlemagne convinced it his duty to protect the religious as well as the political welfare of his subjects, he did what Byzantine emperors had done for the East.

And no clear division could be realized between the secular and the spiritual spheres of life and of authority in the Carolingian system, as in Byzantium.

Moreover, in the rate of christianization, the West was judged "but skin-deep and therefore the famous peace of the empire was nothing more than a temporary lull in the armed combat."

But we must keep in mind this "temporary lull" which has been so-called ecclesiastical. There had been found scarcely other people around Charlemagne but some bishops, abbots, priests, monks or clergymen.

Nevertheless, the crisis of Carolingian Empire seems to be perceived in the fact that most of them would not have been called strictly religious, however political to the last, and too much secular, but barely spiritual, including the Emperor himself.