

Abstract

This thesis explores the institutional changes in the Northern Italian area during Frederick I Barbarossa's era, specifically focusing on the changes in Milan and Venice. It describes the evolution of establishment of both of these cities, starting from the Early Medieval period up to the rise of the Communes during the 11th century. The core of the thesis aims to be the very Communal establishment - more precisely, the changes in the institutions raised during the reign of Frederick I. Barbarossa and the possible impact of the Lombard wars between the Emperor and the Lombard League.