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dictionary

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English
Language



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liege  (lēj)

Share:

n.

1. A lord or sovereign to whom allegiance and service are due according to feudal law.
2. A vassal or subject owing allegiance and services to a lord or sovereign under feudal law.
3. A loyal subject to a monarch.

adj.

1.

a. Entitled to the loyalty and services of vassals or subjects: *a liege lord*.

b. Bound to give such allegiance and services to a lord or monarch.

2. Loyal; faithful.

[Middle English, from Old French, entitled to feudal allegiance, from Late Latin *laeticus*, being a semifree colonist in Gaul, from *laetus*, a semifree colonist, of Germanic origin; see *lē-* [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Liège  (lē-āzh , lyězh)

Share:

A city of eastern Belgium near the Dutch and German borders. First mentioned in 558, it was a noted intellectual center in the Middle Ages. Liège was held by France from 1794 to 1815 and by the Netherlands from 1815 to 1830.

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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