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Collana	Cambridge studies in medieval life and thought ; ; 4th ser., 47
Disciplina	306.2/09434
Soggetti	Political culture - Rhine River Valley - History - To 1500 Cities and towns, Medieval - Rhine River Valley Elite (Social sciences) - Rhine River Valley - History Church and state - Rhine River Valley - History - To 1500 Local government - Rhine River Valley - History - To 1500 Monasticism and religious orders - Rhine River Valley - History - Middle Ages, 600-1600 Rhine River Valley Social conditions Germany History To 843 France Social conditions To 987 Germany Religious life and customs Middle Ages, 843-1517
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 268-306) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Monasticism, spiritual patronage and social structure -- Land, kinship and status -- Local power: collective action, conflict and consensus -- Locality and centre: mechanisms of extraction -- Political power from the fifth to the eleventh century.

Sommario/riassunto

This book, first published in 2000, is a pioneering study of politics and society in the early Middle Ages. Whereas it is widely believed that the source materials for early medieval Europe are too sparse to allow sustained study of the workings of social and political relationships on the ground, this book focuses on a uniquely well-documented area to investigate the basis of power. Topics covered include the foundation of monasteries, their relationship with the laity, and their role as social centres; the significance of urbanism; the control of land, the development of property rights and the organization of states; community, kinship and lordship; justice and dispute settlement; the uses of the written word; violence and the feud; and the development of political structures from the Roman empire to the high Middle Ages.
