

# LEGENDS E

*by* Legends E Legends E

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Legends <sup>2</sup> Essay

King Arthur was a medieval and mythological figure who was the Knights of the Round Table and the head of the Kingdom Camelot. It is believed that Arthur may have been a Roman-affiliated leader in the military and it is not known whether he was a real person. It is also believed that during the 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> centuries, he successfully staved off a Saxon invasion. “Geoffrey of Monmouth is one of the many writers who has popularized his legend.” (Lee & Hart, 2011)

In my own opinion, I think it is relevant for people to believe in individuals like King Arthur even in supporting them little evidence is available. I have read a lot about the subject of King Arthur and have a lot of discussions with my fellow students about him and his subject. I believe many legends like King Arthur stories due to the fact that his stories are rooted from past stories which are facts based conveyed over time as folklore.

One of the reason why it is important to believe in legends like King Arthur is he was an epic hero. There is knowledge by few people that Arthur was a hero whose back to the Medieval Wales of the past is where his ancestry dates. This was before the arrival of Saxons and not just the kingly figure that in later romances appear. Although he was neither the round table owner nor a king which is at least not in the way today these terms are in use. His life records are far between and few. In Welsh monk Gildas work, it is where in the sixth century he emerges. There is a celebration of his victory at Mount Badon although there is no naming. Arthur is also named as a “dux bellorum, a military commander that was a compose of another monk Nennius in the ninth century Historia Brittonum. The third way in which he was an epic hero is in the French Chretien de Troyes and the Geoffrey of Monmouth works at the 12<sup>th</sup> century full-blown accounts where he is made the legendary king. He is the one we know and a variety of roles is what he took. The works of these writes are made relevant by

the use of King Arthur hence the need for people to believe in a legend like him. (Lee & Hart, 2011)

As a modern legend, it becomes important to believe in legend like him. Arthur has connected always to the realities for whom he was reinvented in relation to times, countries and realities. The Arthurian revival in late 19<sup>th</sup> century <sup>1</sup> put him back internationally on the cultural map by emphasizing the values he stood for and historical aura removing. It was a far cry to have him utilized as a national figure from whom there could be derivation of rights to rule by medieval kings. This was a paving way to the created fantasy worlds, most famously The Once and Future King by T.H. White that was published in 1958. Audiences tend to seek past reassurance in the past models in this frightening and confusing world. It is only through King Arthur stories that moral integrity standards and transformational and inspirational visionary leadership are discovered since the world around them cannot provide. A reflection to reinvent in the past in our modern appetite for reflection of fantasy is what we need. Arthur values and virtues as a legend have been prevailing and it is these enduring features he remains important through the centuries to many. (Lee & Hart, 2011)

### References

Lee, T., & Hart, S. (2011). *Excalibur: The legend of King Arthur, a graphic novel*.

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