**Later Middle Ages -- ~1000-~1500 ce/7**

**end of XII century-beginning of XIII century**

Institution of the earliest elected magistrates, invested with a short-term appointment, bound to their office as a civic duty and with full powers of government over their specific area of attributions:

-- *Advocatores Comunis* (State attorneys)

-- Camerlenghi (cashiers, collecting and paying State money)

-- Procurator of St.Mark (fabricator of the Basilica, custodian of the Treasure and commissar given by the State in case an appointed one or a relative are not available)

-- Visdomini da Mar, dei Lombardi, di Ternaria (collectors of customs duties)

-- Justiciars (control over the guilds, about which here below).

The extent and prerogatives of each magistrate is detailed in laws of the Councils, collected in a *capitulare*; the elected magistrates swear to abide by the *capitulare* before entering their functions.

Guilds are formed among practicioners of several arts and crafts; they differ from the guilds in the Comuni of the mainland in that they are not autonomous (self-governing), but they must be sanctioned by laws of the Councils, collected in ledgers called *capitulari*, and they function under the supervision of the magistrates of the Comune.

**1189-1192**

Third crusade.

Around this time Chioggia is known to have a Major Council composed by the principal families and a Minor Council of 12 elected *iudices*.

**1192**

Enrico Dandolo is elected as doge. The *promissio ducis* of Dandolo is the earliest whose text is preserved; the doge is bound to swear it, does not choose its contents, and is legally held to abide by its prescriptions, under penalty in case of violation. It functionally stands as a *capitulare* for the office of the doge, updated by the Councils at every election.

According to the *promissiones ducis*, at this time the rules of law are applied judicially in this order: 1) legislation, 2) judicial customs, 3) deliberation on doubtful cases by the Minor Council.

Dandolo also swears on an updated *promissio maleficiorum.*

<http://www.arielcaliban.org/PX_promissiones_ducis.pdf>