

**LEADERS OF THE WEST:
FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT**

by Edward A. C. Goodman

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Edward A. C. Goodman (1945–2024) was a lawyer by profession, a historian by inclination. He served twelve years as a borough councillor and was a parliamentary candidate. He co-authored *Britain: An Unfree Country* (Heterodox, 1986). He worked on a series of history projects before his death. This is one of them. It was not intended as an e-book but as a manuscript for the consideration of publishers. However, it is made available in this format as a resource for other researchers and for general interest.

This work is dedicated to Clio, the Muse of History



Above: Clio - Muse of History by Paulus Moreelse (1571–1638)

CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Eras of Western Hegemony	6
Directory of Rulers by Ascendancy and Suggested Bibliographies	7
Line of Descent Through the Ages	153
Index of Rulers in Directory with Regnal Dates and Era	161

INTRODUCTION

LEADERS OF THE WEST: FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT

The Western World has always had a leading country, whose rulers overshadow contemporaries. This Directory sets out their outlines from the beginning of civilisation.

There are many definitions of the West. Here it means those countries and empires located first around the Mediterranean and the Near East then moving north and west to those that looked out at and eventually crossed the Atlantic. Places not considered part of the modern cultural West such as Egypt should not be confused with their geographical ancestors.

ABOUT DATES, RULERS AND ASCENDANCIES

All dates are CE (AD) unless otherwise stated as BCE (BC). Our knowledge of the distant past can be fragmentary or even contradictory. We do not know the precise order, dates and even historicity of many rulers from civilisations that existed thousands of years ago. This is particularly true of Ancient Egypt. The dates used in this Directory are not the only defensible ones.

Some civilisations had nominal rulers whose reign was so brief, partial or otherwise weak that they have not been included here because they were never leaders of the Western World. Other eras such as Imperial Rome had periods of acknowledged junior co-rulership and others such as the Holy Roman Empire had periods when there was no recognized ruler.

This is a list of the rulers of the West's leading countries and empires. The dates may not always coincide with the reign of an individual if their country was superseded during that time.

The text lists and accompanying maps of the constituents of each ascendancy name only those places ruled for at least some time during the period of that ascendancy, not those wholly outside of it. For example, large areas of the French Empire are omitted because they were acquired during the 19th century Scramble for Africa that occurred after 1815. The lists

and maps use modern-day countries. These do not always match the borders of realms that existed many centuries ago.

ERAS OF WESTERN HEGEMONY

- Ancient Egypt (3150–728 BCE)
- Neo-Assyrian Empire (745–609 BCE)
- Neo-Babylonian Empire (626–539 BCE)
- Achaemenid (Persian) Empire (559–330 BCE)
- Macedonian Empire (330–312 BCE)
- Seleucid (Hellenistic) Empire (312–187 BCE)
- Roman Empire (190 BCE–330 CE)
- Byzantine Empire (306–800)
- Holy Roman Empire (800–1556)
- Spanish Ascendancy (1556–1685)
- French Ascendancy (1685–1815)
- British Ascendancy (1815–1901)
- German Ascendancy (1901–1945)
- American Hegemony (1945–Date)

ANCIENT EGYPT

3150–728 BCE

Below: Ankh: Key of Life in Ancient Egypt



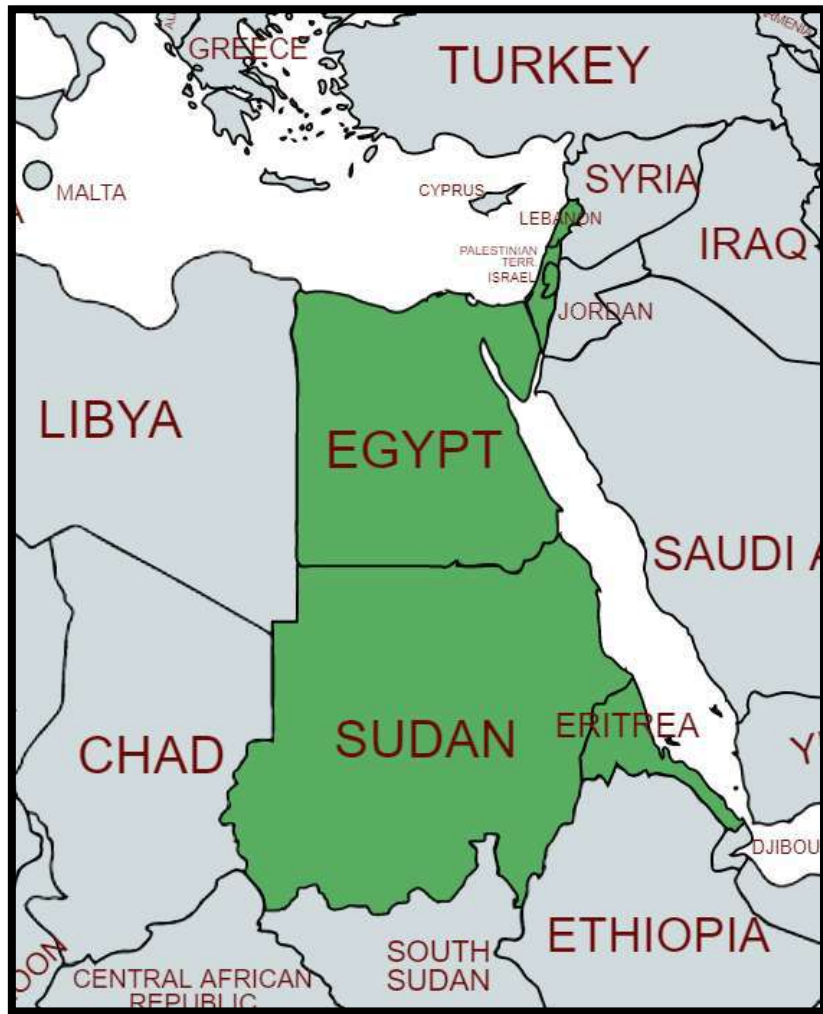
THE COMPASS OF ANCIENT EGYPT

The capital of Ancient Egypt moved multiple times. They include, with approximate dates, Memphis 2950–2180 BCE & 1332–1279 BCE, Herakleopolis Magna 2180–2060 BCE, Thebes 2135–1985 BCE & 1700–1353 BCE, Itjtawy 1985–1700 BCE, Avaris 1715–1580 BCE, Akhetaten 1353–1332 BCE, Pi-Ramesses 1279–1078 BCE, Tanis 1078–945 BCE, and Bubastis 945–715 BCE.

During its ascendancy, the Egyptian Empire included all or part of these modern countries:

- Egypt: 3100–30 BCE
- Eritrea: 1570–656 BCE
- Sudan: 1570–656 BCE
- Israel & Palestinian territories: 1549–1103 BCE
- Lebanon: 1549–1103 BCE

Below: Egyptian Empire at Greatest Extent



RULERS OF ANCIENT EGYPT

FIRST DYNASTY

Menes (Narmer)

c. 3150 BCE

United Upper and Lower Egypt to form world's first nation state, and wore the double crown.

Established system of weights and measures (used, with modifications, for 5,000 years).

Capital at Thinis. Tomb at Abydos with human and animal sacrifice.

Hor-Aha

c. 3080 BCE

Son of Menes. Conquered Nubia. Built temples of war goddess Neith at Sais in Delta.

Founded new capital Memphis on apex of Delta. Long reign.

Djer

c. 3000 BCE

Son of Hor-Aha. Conquered Sinai. Tomb at Abydos with human and animal sacrifice.

Reigned over 50 years.

Djet (Uadji)

c. 2980 BCE

Son of Djer. Married his sister Merneith who may have succeeded him. Tomb at Abydos with human and animal sacrifice.

Den (Udimu)

c. 2970 BCE

Son of Djet. Organised administration, introduced numbering. Reigned for possible 40 years.

Tomb at Abydos with human and animal sacrifice.

Anedjib (Miebîdós)

c. 2930 BCE

Possibly son of Den. Usurper from Abydos. Tomb at Abydos with human and animal sacrifice. *Damnatio memoriae*.

Semerkhet

c. 2920 BCE

Possibly son of Anedjib or Den. Usurper. Reigned for about nine years. Tomb at Abydos with human and animal sacrifice. Damnatio memoriae.

Qa'a

c. 2910 BCE

Possibly son of Qa'a or Semerkhet. Long and prosperous reign followed by civil war ending First Dynasty. Tomb at Abydos with human and animal sacrifice.

Sneferka

c. 2900 BCE

Short reign. Tomb at Abydos. Civil war ensued.

SECOND DYNASTY

Khasekhemwy

2690–2672 BCE

United Egypt. Built stone temples. Huge tomb. Married northern princess Nimaathap to appease lower Egypt. Civil war ensued. Reigned for about 18 years.

THIRD DYNASTY

Sanakhte (Nebka)

2649–2630 BCE

Possibly two separate rulers. Little known.

Djoser**2630–2611 BCE**

Son of Khasekhemwy and Nimaathap. Conquered Sinai. Sank mines there for minerals. Erected first pyramid (step Pyramid of Djoser), the largest building in the world. The pyramids became one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

Sekhemkhet**2611–2605 BCE**

Son of Djoser. Extended realm to First Cataract (Aswan). Tomb was his step pyramid at Saqqara.

Khaba**2605–2599 BCE**

Capital Saqqara, where he built his pyramid.

Huni**2599–2575 BCE**

Son of Khaba. Built Heracleopolis Magna. Possibly buried in Layer Pyramid at Zawyet el'Aryan. Reigned for 24 years.

FOURTH DYNASTY**Sneferu****2575–2551 BCE**

A priest elected king and also son-in-law of Huni. Seat at Memphis. Conquered Libya and Nubia. Expedition to Lebanon to get cedar logs for shipping. Built three pyramids. The third was the first flat sided (i.e. non-step) Red Pyramid at Dahshur, where he was entombed. Reigned for at least 24 years.

Khufu (Cheops)**2551–2528 BCE**

Possibly son of Sneferu. Invaded Sinai. Built Great Pyramid at Giza, the tallest building in the world for over three millennia, in which he was entombed. Reigned for at least 26 years.

Djedefre**2528–2520 BCE**

Son of Khufu. Built Pyramid of Djedefre at Abu Rawash, near Giza (Memphis).

Khafre**2520–2494 BCE**

Another son of Khufu. Built Sphinx and Pyramid of Khafra (Second pyramid) at Giza.

Menkaura**2494–2472 BCE**

Son of Khafre. Built Menkaure's (small third) Pyramid at Giza and mortuary temple.

Shepseskaf**2472–2467 BCE**

Possibly Menkaure's son. Built Mastabat al-Fir'aun (Pharaoh's Bench) Pyramid at Saqqara.

Thamphthis (Djedefptah)**2467–2465 BCE**

Historicity disputed.

FIFTH DYNASTY**Userkaf****2465–2458 BCE**

Grandson of Mekkaura. Built Sun Temple near Abu Gurab and Pyramid of Userkaf at Saqqara near Cairo where he was buried.

Sahure**2458–2446 BCE**

Probably son of Userkaf. Sent naval expeditions to Lebanon, Libya, Puny (Yemen) and Sinai. Built Pyramid of Sahure and Sun Temple at new site of Abusir. Layout became model for subsequent royal mortuaries. Reigned for over 13 years.

Neferirkare**2446–2438 BCE**

Brother of Sahure. Built unfinished pyramid of Neferirkare at Abusir.

Shepseskare**2438–2431 BCE**

Brother of Neferirkare Kakai. Built unfinished pyramid of Shepseskare at Abusir. May have reigned for very short period.

Neferefre**2431–2420 BCE**

Possibly son of Neferirkare Kakai. Tomb at Abusir.

Nyuserre**2420–2389 BCE**

Son of Neferirkare Kakai. Appointed Nomarchs (provincial governors). Built pyramid of Nyuserre Ini at Abusir where he was buried. May have reigned for more than 25 years.

Menkauhor**2389–2381 BCE**

Possibly son of Neferefre. Sent mining expedition to Sinai. Built Sun Temple and small pyramid at Abusir where he was buried. Started new funerary cult.

Djedkare (Isesi)**2381–2353 BCE**

Possibly son of Nyuserre. Created feudal titles. Sent four expeditions to Lebanon, Nubia (Sudan), Punt (Somalia) and Sinai. Raided Canaan. Built pyramid at Saqqara where he was buried and had a funerary cult. Likely reigned for over 40 years.

Unas

2353–2323 BCE

Possibly son of Djedkare Isesi. Sent naval expeditions to Lebanon and invaded Canaan (Palestine). Built Pyramid of Unas at Saqqara where he was buried and a funerary cult ensued. Died without surviving son and so was succeeded by possible son-in-law.

SIXTH DYNASTY

Teti (Othoes)

2323–2291 BCE

Possibly son-in-law of Unas. Seat at his beleaguered home town of Memphis. A daughter married Vizier Mereruka. Built Pyramid of Teti at Saqqara where he was entombed. Reigned about 30 years.

Userkare

2291–2289 BCE

Possibly a usurper or regent. Buried at Saqqara in unknown pyramid.

Pepi I

2289–2255 BCE

Son of Teti. Acceded young. Conquered Nubia and sent expeditions to Canaan (Palestine). Built monuments throughout Egypt and a canal around First Cataract. Built Pyramid of Pepi I at South Saqqara where he was entombed. Reigned for over 30 years and celebrated jubilee.

Merenre I

2255–2246 BCE

Son of Pepi I. Strengthened administration. Built Pyramid of Merenre at South Saqqara where he was entombed. Reigned for about nine years.

Pepi II

2246–2152 BCE

Likely Merenre's son. Ascended to throne at age of six and lived to perhaps 100 (longest reign in history). Sent expeditions into Nubia (Sudan). Lost control of Nomarchs (provincial governors). Built Pyramid of Pepi II at South Saqqara where he was entombed.

Merenre II

2152 BCE

Son of Pepi II. Succeeded father as an old man and died after a reign of a year and a month.

Netjerkare Siptah

2152–2150 BCE

Unable to control Nomarchs (provincial governors). Old Kingdom collapsed on his death. Likely the same person as the legendary female ruler Nitocris.

FIRST INTERMEDIATE PERIOD

2150–2030/2051 BCE

Rival dynasties and disunity.

ELEVENTH DYNASTY

Mentuhotep II

2051–2000 BCE

Son of King of Upper Egypt. Succeeded to Upper (Southern) Egyptian throne. Capital at Thebes. Conquered Lower (Northern) Egypt thus reunifying country after a century. Centralised administration and reconquered Nubia (Sudan). Built temples including his mortuary one at Deir el-Bahari, near Thebes.

Mentuhotep III

2000–1988 BCE

Son of Mentuhotep II. Acceded old and reigned for 12 years. Sent expedition to Punt (Somalia). Built unfinished mortuary temple at Deir el-Bahari, near Thebes.

Mentuhotep IV

1988–1981 BCE

Sent expeditions up Red Sea. Died childless whereupon deposed by his vizier Amenemhat thus ending Eleventh Dynasty.

TWELFTH DYNASTY

Amenemhat I

1981–1952 BCE

Usurper. Vizier who seized power after predecessor died childless. Invaded Canaan (Palestine) and Nubia (Sudan). Built Pyramid of Amenemhat I at Lisht, near Cairo where he was entombed. Assassinated while campaigning in Libya.

Senusret I

1961–1917 BCE

Son of Amenemhat I. Annexed Nubia (North Sudan) to Second Cataract. Conquered Libya. Rebuilt Silver Temple of Re-Atum at Heliopolis and built many temples and his 30-year Jubilee obelisk at Heliopolis. Entombed in Pyramid of Senusret I at Lisht, near Cairo.

Amenemhat II

1917–1885 BCE

Son of Senusret I. Reigned over 30 years. Sent expedition to Punt (Yemen). Built White Pyramid at Dahshur, near Cairo, where he was entombed.

Senusret II

1885–1878 BCE

Son of Amenemhat II. Allowed Israelites to settle in Egypt. Appointment of Joseph (son of Jacob, Patriarch of Israel) as Chief Minister. Irrigated Faiyum oasis region to where he removed capital. Built Pyramid of Senusret II at El-Lahun in Faiyum.

Senusret III

1878–1840 BCE

Son of Senusret II. Reigned 39 years in a time of power and prosperity. Built canal through First Cataract and then conquered South Nubia. Also raided Syria. Built Temple at Medamud and Pyramid of Senusret III at Dahshur, near Cairo, where he was entombed.

Amenemhat III

1840–1813 BCE

Son of Senusret III. Reigned almost 30 years—longer with co-rule with father—in prosperity and presided over Golden Age. Irrigated Fayum Depression. Sent expedition to Punt (Somalia). Death of Chief Minister Joseph (son of Jacob, Patriarch of Israel). Built Temple of Sobek at Kimun. Built Black Pyramid at Dahshur and another at Hawara in Fayum where he was entombed.

Amenemhat IV

1813–1805 BCE

Possibly son of Amenemhat III. Built temple near Cairo. Died without male heir. Possibly entombed in the Southern Pyramid of Mazghuna, near Cairo.

Queen Sobekneferu (Neferusobek)

1805–1802 BCE

Daughter of Amenemhat III and possibly sister of Amenemhat IV. Died without heirs and possibly entombed in her Pyramid in Mazghuna, near Cairo.

THIRTEENTH DYNASTY

The 13th Dynasty was a declining power that may only have ruled over Upper and Middle

Egypt from its capital at Itjtawy alongside an independent 14th Dynasty with its capital at Avaris in the Eastern Delta. Many scholars believe that there were rulers before Wegaf, but little is known about most of them.

Wegaf

c. 1780 BCE

Little known.

Ameny Intef IV

c. 1770 BCE

Also known as Sehetepkare Intef. Short reign.

Hor

c. 1760 BCE

Buried at Dahshur, near Pyramid of Amenemhat III of previous dynasty.

Sobekhotep II

c. 1750 BCE

Chapel in Abydos. Short reign.

Khendjer

c. 1745 BCE

Buried at Saqqara.

Sobekhotep III

c. 1745 BCE

Short reign.

Neferhotep I

c. 1735 BCE

Perhaps buried at Abydos.

Sobekhotep IV

c. 1730 BCE

Brother of Neferhotep I.

Ay

c. 1720 BCE

Hyksos sacked Memphis, the capital. On his death, Eastern Delta seceded and ruled by 14th dynasty.

SECOND INTERMEDIATE PERIOD

c. 1650–1550 BCE

Rival dynasties.

EIGHTEENTH DYNASTY

Amhose I

1550–1525 BCE

Descended from 17th Dynasty. Expelled Hyksos (Asians) from Delta and persecuted Israelites. Reunited Egypt then conquered Canaan and Nubia. Reorganised administration, built temples at Abydos and built last pyramid at Thebes. Reigned 26 years.

Amenhotep I

1525–1504 BCE

Son of Amhose I. Evacuated Canaan but reconquered Nubia and Libya. Built temples at Karnak. Deified. Reigned for over 20 years.

Thutmose I

1504–1492 BCE

Possibly son of Amenhotep I. Suppressed rebellion in Nubia and repaired canal around First Cataract. Continued constructing temple at Karnak. Reigned six years.

Thutmose II

1492–1479 BCE

Son of Thutmose I. Campaigned in Nubia, Sinai and Syria. Died leaving no son.

Queen Hatshepsut

1479–1458 BCE

Usurped throne. Sent trading expeditions to Punt (Somalia) and military ones to Canaan and Nubia. Lost control of Syria. Promoted worship of god, Amun. Built temples and obelisks at Karnak including her mortuary temple at Deir el-Bahari thus founding Valley of the Kings

near Luxor (Thebes). Foster mother of Moses. As sovereign, she portrayed herself a man. Damnatio Memoriae by successor.

Thutmose III the Conqueror

1458–1425 BCE

Nephew and stepson of Queen Hatshepsut. Founded an Egyptian Empire. Conquered Canaan, Syria and Mesopotamia and then conquered Nubia to Fourth Cataract in Sudan. From the spoils erected two obelisks and expanded Temple of Karnak. Possibly Pharaoh of Exodus when Moses fled from Egypt. Buried in Valley of the Kings near Luxor (Thebes).

Amenhotep II

1425–1400 BCE

Son of Thutmose III. Suppressed rebellions in Syria. Conquered Kadesh (Lebanon). Waged war against Mitanni (Mesopotamia). Built temples in Aswan and Karnak. Buried in Valley of the Kings.

Thutmose IV

1400–1390 BCE

Son of Amenhotep II. Succeeded after a prophetic dream. Restored Sphinx at Giza and added Dream Stele. Suppressed rebellions in Canaan (by Israelites), Nubia and Syria. Concluded alliance with the King of Mitanni (Mesopotamia) whose daughter he married. Completed Lateran Obelisk, tallest ever, at Karnak where he also built a peristyle hall. Buried in the Valley of the Kings near Thebes (Luxor).

Amenhotep III

1390–1352 BCE

“The Magnificent” or “The Son King”. Son of Thutmose IV. Claimed to be the son of God, Amun. Suppressed rebellion in Kush (Nubia). Established Temples in Karnak and Luxor. Reigned 37 years and celebrated three jubilees. Erected over 1,000 statues of himself including the Colossi of Memnon at Luxor. Egypt reached the zenith of its power and culture: the Golden Age. Buried in his mortuary temple in the Valley of the Kings near Thebes (Luxor).

Akhenaten (Amenhotep IV)

1352–1336 BCE

Son of Amenhotep III. Initiated Amarna Revolution. Changed state religion to worship of Aten (sun disc) and removed capital from Thebes to his new city of Amarna (Deir Mawas) in Central Egypt where he was buried. Married to Nefertiti. Later condemned to Damnatio Memoriae for heresy. Received Amarna letters from Canaanite subjects requesting protection from Israelites.

Tutankhamun the Boy Pharaoh

1336–1327 BCE

Son of Akhenaton. Succeeded as infant. Restored old religion and removed capital from Armana back to Memphis. Nonetheless suffered posthumous Damnatio Memoriae and removal from king-list (thereby saving his tomb from later robbers).

Ay

1327–1323 BCE

Possibly uncle of Akhenaten or married to Tutankhamun's widow. Acceded as old man. Mortuary Temple in the Valley of the Kings. Damnatio Memoriae by Horemheb.

Horemheb

1323–1295 BCE

General under Tutankhamun and Ay. Married to Nefertiti's sister. Dated reign from last orthodox king, Amenhotep III. Restored old religion of Amun and appointed soldiers as priests. Built pylon to Amun at Karnak. Reigned almost 30 years. Entombed in the Valley of the Kings.

NINETEENTH DYNASTY

Ramesses I

1295–1294 BCE

Appointed by predecessor, Horemheb. Built new summer capital at Pi-Ramesses (Qantir). Sent expeditions to Syria. Built Second Pyramid at Karnak Temple. Buried in Chapel at Abydos, Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Seti I

1294–1279 BCE

Son of Ramesses I. Reconquered Palestine and Phoenicia and concluded treaty with Hittites of Anatolia. Ehud was Vassal judge of Israel. Started building Hypostyle Hall at Temple of Amun at Karnak and new Temple of Osiris at Abydos. Buried in mortuary temple of Seti I at Thebes.

Ramesses II

1279–1213 BCE

Son of Seti I. Known by successors as the Great Ancestor, as Ozymandias and The Builder-Pharaoh. Reigned for 66 years. Seat at Pi-Ramesses (Qantir). Proclaimed *Damnatio Memoriae* of Amarna Pharaohs. Defeated pirates, Canaanites, Hittites (Anatolians) and concluded peace treaty with same, Nubians (Sudanese) and Libyans. Deborah Vassal Judge of Israel. Completed Hypostyle Hall at Karnak near Thebes making it the biggest temple in the world. Built Ramesseum at Abu Simbel with huge statues. Removed capital to the new city Pi-Ramesses (Qantir). Winter palace at Thebes. Possibly the Pharaoh of the Exodus. Entombed in Valley of the Kings.

Merneptah

1213–1203 BCE

Son of Ramesses II. Reigned for 10 years. Crushed revolts in Syria, Libya and Nubia. Erected victory Israel stele. 6,200 castrated, uncircumcised Libyan phalli brought to Karnak.

Entombed in Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Amenmesses

1203–1200 BCE

Possibly son of Merneptah. Entombed in Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Seti II

1200–1194 BCE

Son of Merneptah. Defeated anti-King Amenmesse in Upper (Southern) Egypt and against whom he declared *Damnatio Memoriae*. Extracted copper from Edom. Entombed in Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Siptah

1194–1188 BCE

Possibly son of Merneptah. A child or young man who reigned only six years. *Damnatio Memoriae*.

Queen Twosret

1188–1186 BCE

Stepmother of Siptah. Civil war against successor Setnakhte. *Damnatio Memoriae*.

TWENTIETH DYNASTY

Setnakhte

1186–1184 BCE

Son-in-law of Ramesses II and possible usurper. Stabilised country and founded new dynasty. Entombed in the Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Ramesses III

1184–1153 BCE

Son of Setnakhte. Last great Pharaoh. Hekla 3 eruption caused famine. Defeated Philistine invaders in naval battles, so they were diverted to Canaan. Defeated Libyans. Assassinated but then entombed in his Temple at Medinet Habu.

Ramesses IV

1153–1147 BCE

Son of Ramesses III. Reigned six years. Expanded Temple of Khonsu at Karnak. Lost control of Canaan. Failed to prevent tomb robberies. Entombed in the Valley of the Kings.

Ramesses V

1147–1143 BCE

Son of Ramesses IV. Suffered raids from Libya. Civil war against successor. . Entombed in the Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Ramesses VI

1143–1136 BCE

Brother of Ramesses V. Reigned eight years. Lost control of Sinai and Syria. Tomb in the Valley of the Kings looted soon after his death.

Ramesses VII

1136–1129 BCE

Son of Ramesses VI. Reigned seven years. Famine and unrest. Entombed in the Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Ramesses VIII

1129–1126 BCE

Last surviving son of Ramesses III. Short reigned. Entombed in the Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Ramesses IX

1126–1108 BCE

Grandson of Ramesses III. Reigned 18 years. Built Sun Temple at Heliopolis in Delta. Tomb in the Valley of the Kings at Luxor soon looted.

Ramesses X

1108–1099 BCE

Son of Ramesses IX. Suffered Libyan invasion. Unfinished tomb in the Valley of the Kings at Luxor.

Ramesses XI

1099–1070 BCE

Son of Ramesses X. Anarchy: Nubia (Sudan) lost and South Egypt because autonomous under High Priest of Amun at Thebes.

TWENTY-FIRST DYNASTY

Smendes

1070–1044 BCE

Son-in law of Ramesses XI. High Priest of Amun at Thebes who seized power. Removed capital from Pi-Ramesses (Qantir) to Tanis. Expanded Temple of Karnak. Entombed at Tanis.

Amenemnisu

1044–1040 BCE

Cousin of Smendes. Ruled only Delta while High Priest of Amun at Thebes controlled rest of Egypt and raided tombs in Valley of the Kings. Entombed at Tanis in Delta.

Psusennes I the Silver Pharaoh

1040–992 BCE

Grandson of Ramesses XI and son of High Priest of Amun at Thebes. Reigned at Tanis in Delta while father at Thebes administered Middle and Upper (South) Egypt. Completed Great Temple at Tanis and entombed nearby.

Amenemope**992–984 BCE**

Probable son of Psusennes I. Priest-King. Expanded Temples. Entombed at Tanis.

Osorkon the Elder**984–978 BCE**

Libyan Chief (noble). Reigned six or more years at Tanis in Delta.

Siamun**978–959 BCE**

Son-in-law of Osorkon the Elder. Reigned 20 years at Tanis. Doubled size of Temple of Amun at Tanis and built new temple to the god at Memphis. A daughter married Hadad exiled Crown Prince of Edom (Jordan) whom Siamun helped regain throne. Another daughter possibly married King Solomon of Israel who helped him retake Gezer from Philistines.

Psusennes II**959–945 BCE**

Son of Siamun. Reigned at Tanis and entombed there.

TWENTY-SECOND DYNASTY**Shoshenq I (Sheshonk)****945–924 BCE**

Son-in-law of Psusennes II. Libyan chief from Bubastis in Delta. Ended hereditary succession to High Priesthood of Amun at Thebes. Granted asylum to Jeroboam I and helped him seize throne of Israel on death of King Solomon. Raided Judah and bought off by King Jeroboam giving him the Temple Treasure of Jerusalem. Then raided Israel. Entombed at Tanis in Delta.

Osorkon I**924–889 BCE**

Son of Shoshenq I. Uneventful reign of perhaps over 30 years at Tanis.

Takelot I**889–874 BCE**

Son of Osorkon I. Reigned about 15 years at Tanis.

Osorkon II**874–850 BCE**

Son of Takelot I. Built Temple to cat goddess Bastet at Bubastis. With allies Israel, Lebanon and Syria, defeated King Shalmaneser III of Assyria at Battle of Qarqar in Syria but lost sovereignty over Israel and Lebanon to him. Built temple at Karnak.

Takelot II**850–825 BCE**

Crushed rebellions and maintained unity of Upper and Lower Egypt.

Shoshenq III**825–773 BCE**

Parentage unknown. Son-in-law of Osorkon II. Reigned about 50 years. Opposed new 23rd Dynasty at Leontopolis in Delta. Country divided. Entombed in Tanis.

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NEO-ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

745 BCE–609 BCE

Below: Sun-Star and three stripes representing the three major rivers of Assyria (Euphrates, Tigris and Zab). Attributed to George Bit Atanus (1968) and adopted in 1971.



THE COMPASS OF THE NEO-ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

Capital at Harran until 609 BCE, thereafter no fixed one until final defeat in 605 BCE.

During its ascendancy, the Neo-Assyrian Empire included all or part of these modern countries:

- Iraq: 745–605 BCE
- Lebanon: 745–605 BCE
- Syria: 745–605 BCE
- Israel (north) & & Palestinian territories: 721–609 BCE
- Egypt: 664–609 BCE
- Jordan: 648–612 BCE
- Turkey: 648–610 BCE

Below: Neo-Assyrian Empire at Greatest Extent



RULERS OF THE NEO-ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

Tiglath-Pileser III

745–727 BCE

Usurper. Removed capital from Nineveh back to Nimrud. Established Aramaic as the lingua franca of the Middle East. Organised empire and introduced policy of mass deportations. Received tribute from King Menahem of Israel and King Ajaz of Jordan. Acclaimed as King of Babylon. Then installed Hoshea Vassal King of Israel and Anatolia. There organised first deportation of Israelites.

Shalmaneser V

727–722 BCE

Son of Tiglath-Pileser III. King of Babylon and Assyria: ‘King of the World’. Deposed Hoshea, last King of Israel, organised second deportation of Israelites, and besieged Samaria their capital. Deposed by younger brother.

Sargon II

722–705 BCE

Usurped brother, Shalmaneser V. King of Assyria: ‘King of the World’. Took Samaria and then organised third deportation of Israelites. Received tribute from Hezekiah, King of Judah. Removed capital from Nimrud to Khorsabad. Killed in battle.

Sennacherib

705–681 BCE

Son of Sargon II. King of Assyria: ‘King of the World’. Removed Capital from Khorsabad back to Nineveh (Mosul). Appointed Ahikar the Israelite as Treasurer. Besieged King Hezekiah at Jerusalem and exacted tribute. Conquered Babylon. Banished Tobit (nephew of Ahikar the Treasurer). Assassinated by two of his sons as prophesied by Isaiah.

Esarhaddon

681–669 BCE

Killed his brothers who had assassinated their father, Sennacherib. King of Assyria: ‘King of the World’. Conquered Iran and invaded Egypt. Retained Ahikar the Israelite as Treasurer

and allowed latter's nephew, Tobit, to return to Nineveh. Settled in Samaria. Imprisoned King Manasseh of Judah for rebellion.

Ashurbanipal

669–631 BCE

Son of Esarhaddon. King of Assyria: 'King of the World'. Conquered Egypt and Elam (southern Iran). Defeated Arabs. Conquered Egypt. Freed King Manasseh of Judah. Planted settlers from Susa in Samaria. Founded great Library of Ashurbanipal. Tobit the Israelite visited Nineveh and prophesied its fall. Organised fourth deportation of Israelites. Removed capital from Nineveh to Harran. Died leaving disputed succession.

Ashur-etil-ilani

631–627 BCE

Son of Ashurbanipal. King of Assyria: 'King of the World'. Lost Babylon. Waged war against pretenders. Deposed.

Sinsharishkun

627–612 BCE

Brother of Ashur-etil-ilani. King of Assyria: 'King of the World'. Killed in destruction of Nineveh by King Nabopolassar of Babylon.

Ashur-uballit II (Sardanapalus)

612–609 BCE

Possibly son of Sinsharishkun. King of Assyria. Fled from Nineveh to Harran and then to Egypt. Killed at Battle of Carchemish won by Nebuchadnezzar II, King of Babylon.

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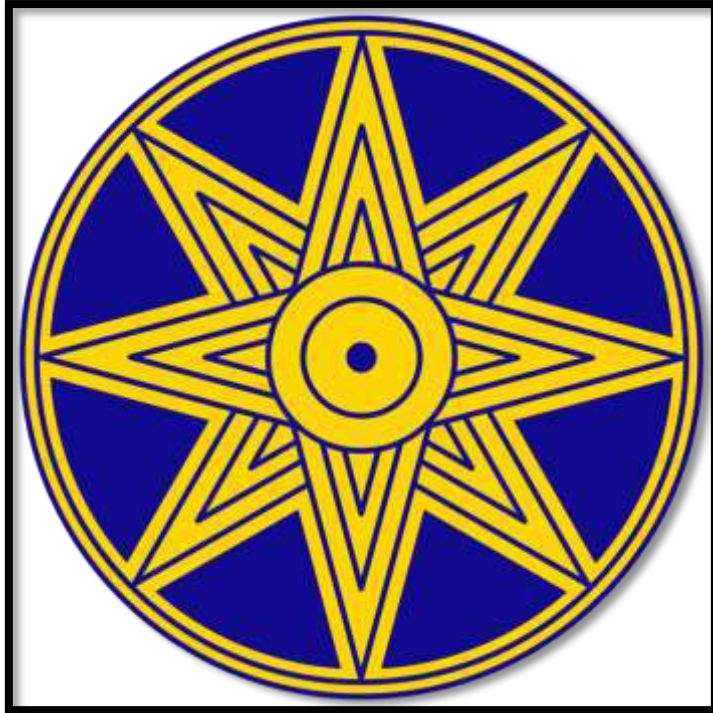
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NEO-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

626–539 BCE

Below: Symbol of Shamash, the Babylonian Sun-God



THE COMPASS OF THE NEO-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

Capital in Babylon.

During its ascendancy, the Neo-Babylonian Empire included all or part of these modern countries:

- Iraq: 612–539 BCE (conquered before collapse of preceding Neo-Assyrian Empire)
- Jordan: 605–539 BCE
- Syria: 605–539 BCE
- Israel & Palestinian territories: 586–539 BCE
- Lebanon: 573–539 BCE
- Kuwait: 553–539 BCE
- Saudi Arabia (north only, not shown on map): 553–539 BCE

Neo-Babylonian Empire at Greatest Extent



RULERS OF THE NEO-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

Nebuchadnezzar II the Great

605–562 BCE

Son of Nabopolassar. Married daughter of Cyaxares, King of the Medes, and built Hanging Gardens of Babylon for her. Advised by Prophet Daniel. Defeated Egypt. Destroyed Jerusalem and deported Jews to Babylon.

Amel-Marduk

562–560 BCE

Son of Nebuchadnezzar the Great. Freed Jehoiachin and Zedekiah, ex-kings of Judah, from captivity. Assassinated by successor.

Neriglissar

560–556 BCE

Son-in-law of Nebuchadnezzar the Great and brother-in-law of Amel-Marduk. Invaded Anatolia.

Labashi-Marduk

556 BCE

Son of Neriglissar. Infant assassinated by successor after less than a year's reign.

Nabonidus

556–539 BCE

Family possibly of Assyrian origin. Appointed stepson Belshazzar as Regent. Defeated, deposed and banished by Persians.

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ACHAEMENID (PERSIAN) EMPIRE

539–330 BCE

Below: Shabaz, fabled symbolic golden eagle from Persian mythology



THE COMPASS OF THE ACHAEMENID (PERSIAN) EMPIRE

Capital in Babylon.

During its ascendancy, the Achaemenid Empire included all or part of these modern countries:

- Armenia: 550–330 BCE
- Afghanistan: 550–330 BCE
- Azerbaijan: 550–330 BCE
- Georgia: 550–330 BCE
- Iran: 550–330 BCE
- Tajikistan: 550–330 BCE
- Turkmenistan: 550–330 BCE
- Uzbekistan: 550–330 BCE
- Turkey: 546–536 BCE
- Cyprus: 545–536
- Jordan: 539–532 BCE
- Iraq: 539–339 BCE
- Israel & Palestinian territories: 539–332 BCE
- Lebanon: 539–332 BCE
- Syria: 539–333 BCE
- Egypt: 525–404 BCE & 343–332 BCE
- Libya (part only, not shown on map): 525–404 & 343–332 BCE
- Bulgaria: 513–336 BCE
- Macedonia: 512–479 BCE

Below: Achaemenid Empire at Greatest Extent



RULERS OF THE ACHAEMENID (PERSIAN) EMPIRE

Cyrus the Great

539–530 BCE

The Pagan Messiah. Great nephew of Nebuchadnezzar. Conquered Babylon and allowed Jews to return to Jerusalem (The First Return). Killed in battle (2 Chronicles 36: 22-2, Ezra 1: 1-4 and Isaiah 6: 1-6).

Cambyses II The Despot

530– 522 BCE

Son of Cyrus the Great. Conquered Egypt (Herodotus III 2-4 and X 37). Possibly committed suicide.

Bardiya (Smerdis) (Greek name)

522 BCE

Son of Cyrus the Great and younger brother of Cambyses II. “The Magician”. Possible usurper. Assassinated. Prohibited rebuilding of Temple at Jerusalem (Ezra 4: 17-22).

Darius the Great

522–486 BCE

Possible cousin of Bardiya. Permitted building of Second Temple (Ezra 6: 3). Commissioned building of Persepolis. Established common currency, weights and measures throughout empire. Invaded Greece but defeated.

Xerxes the Great

486–465 BCE

Son of Darius the Great. Invaded Greece as burned Athens but then defeated. Reputedly married Esther the Jewess. Assassinated.

Artaxerxes I Longimanus (Long handed)

465–424 BCE

Son of Xerxes the Great. Commissioned Ezra to lead Second Return to Jerusalem and then Nehemiah to lead the Third (Ezra 7: 13-28). Completed Persepolis and concluded peace with Greeks.

Xerxes II the Martyr

424 BCE

Son of Artaxerxes I. Ruled for about 40 days before assassinated by his brother Sogdianus.

Sogdianus the Fratricide

424–423 BCE

Possibly illegitimate son of Artaxerxes I and hence half-brother of Xerxes II who he had assassinated. Assassinated in turn by own successor.

Darius II Nothus (Bastard)

423–404 BCE

Illegitimate son of Xerxes II and concubine. Reconquered Western Anatolia.

Artaxerxes II Mnemon (Mindful)

404–358 BCE

Son of Darius II. Lost Egypt. Introduced idolatry.

Artaxerxes III Ochus (birth name)

385–338 BCE

Son of Artaxerxes II. Reconquered Egypt. Possibly poisoned by Bagoas the general but possibly died from natural causes (Diodorus Siculus and British Museum 71537).

Artaxerxes IV Arses (birth name)

338–336 BCE

Son of Artaxerxes III. Placed on throne by Bagoas who later assassinated him.

Darius III (Codomannus)

336–330 BCE

Executed Bagoas the Eunuch. Defeated by Alexander the Great, then assassinated by own cousin.

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MACEDONIAN EMPIRE

330–312 BCE

Below: Vergina, Sun of Macedon



THE COMPASS OF THE MACEDONIAN EMPIRE

Capital in Babylon.

During its ascendancy, the Macedonian Empire ruled all or part of these modern countries:

- Bulgaria: 336–312 BCE
- Greece: 336–312 BCE
- Macedonia: 336–312 BCE
- Turkey: 336–312 BCE
- Cyprus: 333–312 BCE
- Syria: 333–312 BCE
- Israel & Palestinian territories: 332–312 BCE
- Jordan: 332–312 BCE
- Lebanon: 332–312 BCE
- Egypt: 332–312 BCE
- Libya (part only, not shown on map): 331–312 BCE
- Albania: 330–312 BCE
- Armenia: 330–312 BCE
- Azerbaijan: 330–312 BCE
- Iran: 330–312 BCE
- Iraq: 330–312 BCE
- Afghanistan: 329–312 BCE
- Kyrgyzstan: 329–312 BCE
- Tajikistan: 329–312 BCE
- Turkmenistan: 329–312 BCE
- Uzbekistan: 329–312 BCE
- Pakistan: 326–312 BCE

Below: Macedonian Empire at Greatest Extent



RULERS OF THE MACEDONIAN EMPIRE

Alexander the Great

330–323 BCE

King of Macedonia, Persia, Egypt and Asia. Hegemon of Greece. Conquered Persian Empire and established capital at Babylon. Died leaving posthumous son.

Perdiccas of Macedon

323–321 BCE

Regent of the Empire. Ruler at Babylon for infant Alexander IV, but faced first War of the Diadochi. Invaded Egypt to depose rebel Ptolemy I but assassinated there.

Antipater of Macedon

321–319 BCE

Went to Macedonia, but died there before being able to exert authority.

Polyperchon of Macedon

319–315 BCE

Lost second War of the Diadochi and fled to Greece, where he killed King Philip III, half-brother of Alexander the Great.

Antigonus I Monophthalmus (one-eyed)

315–312 BCE

Regent of the Empire. Seized Babylon and made himself Regent, then driven out and declared himself King of Syria where he was killed in battle aged 80.

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SELEUCID (HELLENISTIC) EMPIRE

312–187 BCE

Below: Anchor, symbol of founder, Seleucus I Nicator, who had been an admiral



THE COMPASS OF THE SELEUCID (HELLENISTIC) EMPIRE

Twin capitals at Antioch-on-Orentes (modern Antakya) and Seleucia-on-Tigris (modern Baghdad).

During its ascendancy, the Seleucid Empire included all or part of these modern countries:

- Afghanistan: 312–245 BCE
- Armenia: 301–190 BCE
- Azerbaijan: 312–190 BCE
- Iraq: 312–141 BCE
- Iran: 312–190 BCE
- Kuwait: 312–190 BCE
- Tajikistan: 312–245 BCE
- Lebanon: 301–64 BCE
- Syria: 301–64 BCE
- Turkey: 301–190 BCE
- Israel & Palestinian territories: 198–129 BCE
- Jordan: 198–129 BCE

Below: Seleucid Empire at Greatest Extent



RULERS OF THE SELEUCID (HELLENISTIC) EMPIRE

Seleucus I Nicator (Victor)

311–281 BCE

Won fourth War of the Diadochi and proclaimed himself King of Asia after assassination of Alexander IV (teenage son of Alexander the Great). Established Seleucid Era for numbering years. Founded Seleucia-on-the-Tigris (Tell Umar near Baghdad) as his capital. Invaded Anatolia where he was assassinated.

Antiochus I Soter (Saviour)

281–261 BCE

Son of Seleucus I Nicator. Failed to conquer Macedonia and Judea.

Antiochus II Theos (God)

261–246 BCE

Son of Antiochus I Soter. Lost control of Iran. Married second wife Berenice Syra (daughter of King Ptolemy II of Egypt). Poisoned by former wife, Laodice I, who also arranged assassination of Berenice and son.

Seleucus II Callinicus (Triumphant)

246–225 BCE

Son of Antiochus II. Defeated by Egyptians and Parthians (Iran).

Seleucus III Ceraunus (Thunderbolt)

225–223 BCE

Son of Seleucus II. Assassinated while campaigning in Anatolia.

Antiochus III the Great

222–187 BCE

Son of Seleucus II and brother of Seleucus III. Reasserted control of Anatolia and Bactrium (Afghanistan). Defeated King Ptolemy V of Egypt who abandoned claim to Judea and married daughter of Antiochus. Then defeated by Scipio Asiaticus and forced to evacuate Anatolia.

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ROMAN EMPIRE

190 BCE-330 CE

Below: Acronym for Senatus Populusque Romanus (Senate and People of Rome)



THE COMPASS OF THE ROMAN AND BYZANTINE EMPIRES

Note: There is a combined Roman and Byzantine Compass and Map but separate Directory and Bibliographies.

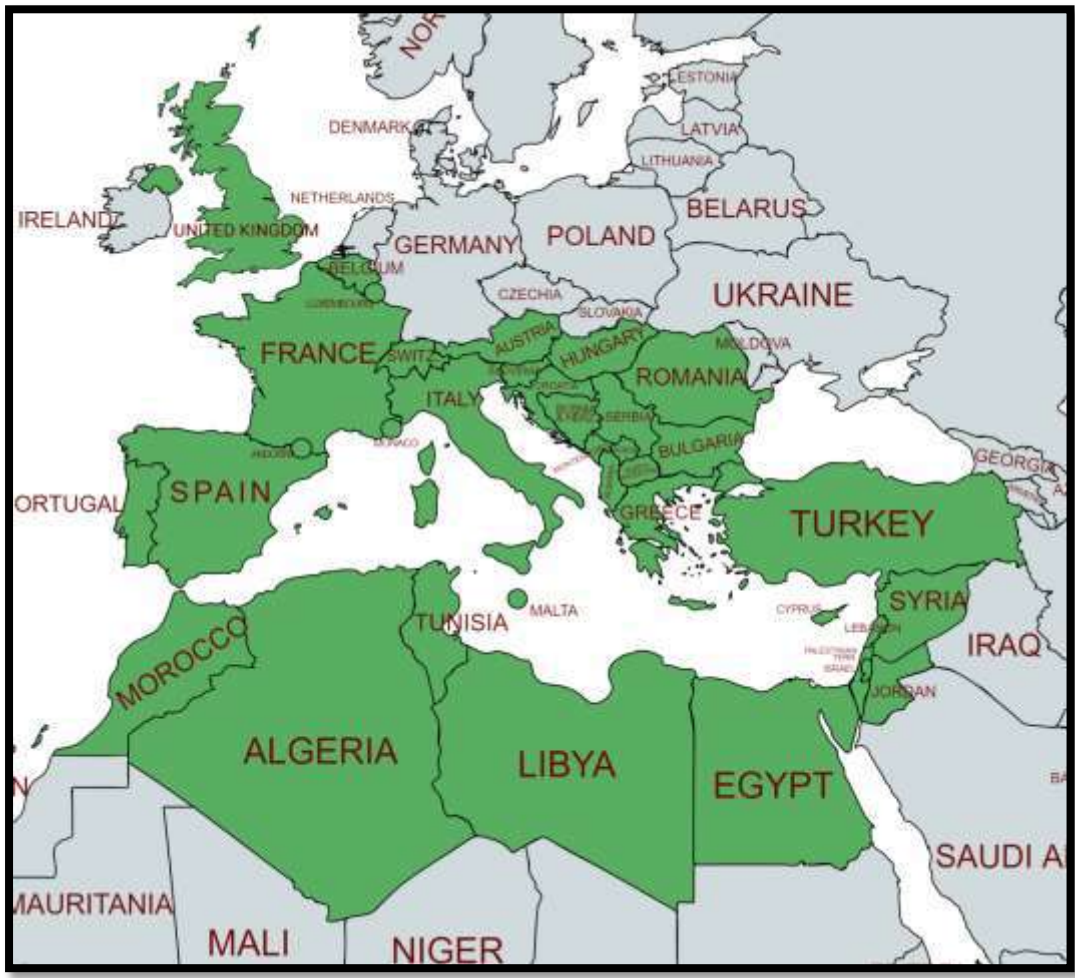
Capital in Rome until 330 and then Constantinople.

During their ascendancies, the Roman and, following the removal in 330 of the capital from Rome to Constantinople, Byzantine Empires included all or part of these modern countries:

- Vatican: 753 BCE–800
- Italy: 275 BCE–476 & 552–800
- San Marino: 275 BCE–301
- Malta: 218 BCE–850
- Spain: 197 BCE–418
- Andorra: 194 BCE–412
- Tunisia: 146 BCE–439 & 534–705
- Libya: 146 BCE–698
- Greece: 146 BCE–1204
- Kosovo: 146 BCE–134
- Macedonia: 146 BCE–1343
- Montenegro: 146 BCE–348
- Monaco: 123 BCE–476 & 552–586
- Portugal: 113 BCE–418
- Lebanon: 63 BCE–640
- Syria: 63 BCE–640
- Cyprus: 58 BCE–1185
- Belgium: 52 BCE–431
- France: 52 BCE–486
- Luxembourg: 52 BCE–431
- Egypt: 30 BCE–642
- Albania: 27 BCE–1190
- Bosnia-Herzegovina: 27 BCE–1190
- Croatia: 27 BCE–1181

- Liechtenstein: 27 BCE–555
- Slovenia: 27 BCE–476
- Turkey: 25 BCE–1073
- Austria: 15 BCE–433
- Switzerland: 15 BCE–476
- Hungary: 9 BCE–435
- Israel & Palestinian territories: 6 BCE–637
- Serbia: 6–475
- Algeria: 40–698
- Morocco: 40–698
- Britain (England & Wales): 43–410
- Bulgaria: 46–1181
- Jordan: 106–637
- Romania: 107–275

Below: Roman & Byzantine Empires at Greatest Extent (smaller possessions not shown)



RULERS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE

ROMAN HEGEMONY

Lucius Cornelius SCIPIO ASIATICUS (Victor in Asia)

190 BCE (Consul)

Defeated Antichus the Great in Asia Minor and celebrated a Triumph. Imprisoned for misappropriating booty in 183 BCE.

Lucius Aemilius PAULLUS MACEDONICUS (Victor in Macedonia)

182 & 168 BCE (Consul), 181 & 167 BCE (Proconsul), 164 BCE (Censor)

Brother-in-law of Scipio Asiaticus. Victor in Third Macedonian War.

Quintus Caecilius METELLUS MACEDONICUS (Victor in Macedonia)

148 BCE (Praetor), 143 BCE (Consul)

Conqueror of Macedonia, 148 BCE.

Publius Cornelius SCIPIO AFRICANUS AEMILIANUS Numantinus (Victor in Numantia, Spain)

147 & 134 BC (Consul), 146 & 133 BCE (Proconsul), 142 BCE (Censor)

Son of Paullus Macedonicus and cousin of Scipio Asiaticus. Destroyer of Carthage and conqueror of Numantine Spain. Celebrated Triumph. Died during popular uprising against his control 129 BCE.

Lucius MUMMIUS ACHAICUS (Victor in Achaea)

146 BCE (Consul), 142 BCE (Censor)

Conqueror of Achaea (Greece). Celebrated a Triumph.

Marcus PERPERNA

130 BCE (Consul)

Conquered Western Anatolia, 130 BCE

Marcus Fulvius FLACCUS

125 BCE (Consul)

Conquered Provence, 125 BCE, and celebrated a Triumph.

Quintus FABIVS MAXIMVS ALLOBROGICVS (Victor in Allobroges)

121 BCE (Consul), 120 BCE (Proconsul of Gaul)

Conqueror of Allobroges (Auvergne). Celebrated Triumph.

Gaius MARIUS “Third Founder of Rome”

107, 104, 103, 102, 101, 100 & 86 BCE (Consul)

Saviour of Rome from the Cimbri (German invaders). Celebrated Triumph. Defeated in Civil War by Sulla.

Lucius Cornelius SULLA FELIX (Fortunate)

88 & 80 BCE (Consul), 82–79 BCE (Dictator)

Victor in First Mithridatic War. Celebrated Triumph. Won Civil War against Marians (Gaius Marius) and carried out proscriptions (execution of opponents). Promulgated new constitution.

POMPEY the Great

70, 55 & 52 BCE (Consul), 67–61 & 58-54 BCE (Proconsul)

Married stepdaughter of Sulla. Victor in Third Mithridatic War. Conqueror of the East, Celebrated Triumphs. Violated Temple at Jerusalem and assassinated on 15th anniversary of his sacrilege.

JULIAN DYNASTY

JULIUS CAESAR the Great

63–44 BCE (Pontifex Maximus), 49-44 BCE (Dictator)

Nephew of Gaius Marius. Father-in-law of Pompey. Conquered Gaul (58–50 BCE), raided Britain (55 and 54 BCE), then marched on Rome (49 BCE). Won Civil War. Reformed Calendar. Month of July named in his hour. Tried to make himself King. Assassinated. Deified.

Caesar AUGUSTUS Refounder of Rome

43–33 BCE (Triumvir), 27 BCE-14 AD (Emperor)

Great nephew and adoptive son of Julius Caesar. Rebuilder of Rome. Won Civil Wars. Conquered Egypt and annexed Judea. Celebrated Triumph. Organised Empire and established Pax Romana. Month of August named in his honour. Established Roman Mile (used until 19th century). Deified.

TIBERIUS “Mudblood”

14–37

Adoptive son of Augustus. Ruled as tyrant. Conquered Pannonia, Dalmatia and Raetia. Appointed Pontius Pilate (possible stepson-in-law) as Governor of Judea.

Gaius CALIGULA (Little boots) the Madman

37–41

Great-nephew and adoptive grandson of Tiberius. Annexed Mauretania (Algeria). Tried to erect statue of himself in the Temple at Jerusalem. Assassinated. Damnatio Memoriae.

CLAUDIUS the Stutterer

41–54

Uncle of Caligula. Conquered Britain and Thrace (Bulgaria). Re-annexed Judea. Assassinated by poison. Deified.

NERO the Artist

54–68

Adoptive son of Claudius. Ruled as tyrant. Matricide. Persecuted Christians and martyred St Peter. Committed suicide. Damnatio Memoriae.

YEAR OF FOUR EMPERORS

GALBA the Homosexual

68–69

Installed by Praetorian Guard and then assassinated by them. Damnatio Memoriae.

OTHO the Cuckold

69

Former husband of Nero's second wife. Reigned three months then committed suicide after being defeated by successor. Damnatio Memoriae.

VITELLIUS the Glutton

69

Reigned eight months. Defeated and executed by army of successor, Vespasian. Damnatio Memoriae.

FLAVIAN DYNASTY

VESPASIAN the Mule-driver (original occupation)

69–79

Suppressed Great Jewish Revolt. Deposited Jerusalem temple treasures in the new Temple of Peace at Rome. Deified.

TITUS the Well Loved

79–81

Son of Vespasian. Destroyed Temple at Jerusalem. Built Colosseum. Deified.

DOMITIAN the Tyrant

81–96

Younger brother of Titus and son of Vespasian. Persecuted Christians and martyred Pope St Clement I. Assassinated. Damnatio Memoriae.

ADOPTIVE EMPERORS

NERVA the Stopgap Emperor

96–98

Descendant of Tiberius and brother-in-law of Otho. First of Five Good Emperors. Deified.

TRAJAN Dacicus (conqueror of Dacia)

98–117

Nephew-in-law of Titus and adoptive son of Nerva. Second of the Five Good Emperors. Conquered Dacia (Romania). Martyred Pope St Clement. Deified.

HADRIAN the Traveller

117–138

Adoptive son of predecessor. Third of the Five Good Emperors. Tolerated Pope St Telesphorus. Built Hadrian's Wall in Britain. Depatriated the Jews and renamed their country Palestine. Deified.

ANTONINE DYNASTY

ANTONINUS PIUS

138–161

Adoptive son of predecessor. Founded Antonine dynasty. Tolerated Pope St Hyginus. Deified.

MARCUS AURELIUS the Philosopher

161–180

Son-in-law and adoptive son of predecessor. Persecuted Christians and martyred Pope St Ancietus. Deified.

COMMODUS the Gladiator

177–192

Son of predecessor. Tolerated Pope St Eleutherus. Assassinated. Deified.

YEAR OF FIVE EMPERORS

PERTINAX the Victim

193

Installed but then assassinated by Praetorian Guard after a reign of 86 days. Deified.

DIDIUS JULIANUS the Briber

193

Bought power from Praetorian Guard. Assassinated after a reign of 66 days. Damnatio Memoriae.

SEVERAN DYNASTY

SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS the Enlarger

193–211

Reorganised Empire. Tolerated Pope St Victor I. Deified.

Antoninus CARACALLA (cloak) the Tyrant

198–217

Granted citizenship to all free men throughout the Empire. Martyred Pope St Zephyrinus. Assassinated but deified.

MACRINUS the African

217–218

Concluded Treaty with Parthia. Assassinated. Damnatio Memoriae.

ELAGABALUS the Priest

218–222

Purported son of Caracalla but more likely of a Roman aristocrat. Instituted sun worship and was priest of the Black Stone. Tolerated Pope St Callistus I but practised religious extremism and sexual deviancy. Assassinated. Damnatio Memoriae.

SEVERUS ALEXANDER the Syrian

222–235

Cousin of predecessor. Tried to buy off Germans. Martyred Pope St Callixtus. Assassinated but deified.

CRISIS EMPERORS

MAXIMINUS THRAX the Giant

235–238

Defeated the Germans. Persecuted Christians and imprisoned Pope Pontian and then martyred Pope St Anterus. Damnatio Memoriae.

GORDIAN I Africanus

238

Rebelled along with son Gordian II against predecessor and recognised by Senate, but defeated and committed suicide after a reign of 21 days in Africa. Deified.

PUPIENUS the Senator

238

Joint-Emperor and Pontiff elected by Senate jointly with Balbinus. Assassinated by Praetorian Guard after reign of 99 days. Damnatio Memoriae.

BALBINUS the Senator

238

Joint-Emperor and Pontiff elected by Senate jointly with Pupienus. Like him, assassinated by Praetorian Guard after reign of 99 days.

GORDIAN III the Youth

238–244

Grandson of Gordian I. Emperor aged just 13. Defeated Persians but assassinated. Deified.

PHILIP the Arab

244–249

Celebrated 1000th anniversary of founding of Rome. Killed fighting Decius. Deified. Co-emperor Philip II.

DECIUS the Brave

249–251

Persecuted Christians. Martyred Pope St Fabian. Killed fighting Goths. Deified. Co-emperor with son, Herennius Etruscus.

TREBONIANUS GALLUS the Disastrous

251–253

Martyred Pope St Cornelius. Defeated by Goths. Assassinated. Damnatio Memoriae.

AEMILIANUS “Hand on Hilt”

253

Assassinated after reign of three months. Damnatio Memoriae.

VALERIAN the Captive

253–260

Ruled with son Gallienus. Persecuted Christians and martyred many including St Stephen I and St Sixtus II and other saints. Captured by Persians and died their prisoner.

GALLIENUS the Barracks Emperor

260–268

Son of Valerian. Tolerated Christianity and Pope St Dionysius. Lost control of Gaul and Syria. Assassinated but deified.

ILLYRIAN EMPERORS

CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS (victor over Goths (Germans))

268–270

Illegitimate grandson of Gordian III. Acclaimed by army at Milan. Seat at Rome. Defeated Goths and assumed title “Gothicus”. Deified.

QUINTILLUS the Brother

270

Brother of Claudius Gothicus. Committed suicide on being defeated by Aurelian. Damnatio Memoriae.

AURELIAN the Restorer of the world

270–275

Acclaimed by army at Sirmium (near Belgrade). Seat at Rome. Conquered rebel Gallic and Palmyrene Empires. Built Aurelian Walls of Rome. Assassinated at Caenophrurium (now Istanbul in Turkey). Deified.

TACITUS the Senator

275–276

Elected by Senate. Seat at Rome. Died whilst fighting Goths at Tyana (in Turkey). Deified.

PROBUS the Reviver of the Army

276–282

Elected by Senate. Seat at Rome. Celebrated Triumph in 281. Assassinated at Sirmium (near Belgrade). Deified.

CARUS Parthicus (victor over Parthians/Iranians)

282–283

Acclaimed by army at Sirmium (near Belgrade). Seat at Rome. Defeated Persians and adopted title “Parthicus Maximus”. Died in Iraq. Deified.

CARINUS the Seducer

283–285

Son of Carus. Joint Emperor with younger brother, Numerian. Seat at Rome. Assassinated near Belgrade opposing Diocletian. Damnatio Memoriae.

DIOCLETIAN JOVIUS the Persecutor

284–305

General acclaimed by soldiers. Made adoptive son, Maximian, co-emperor. Persecuted Christians. Voluntarily abdicated and later committed suicide at Split (in Croatia). Deified.

CONSTANTIUS CHLORUS (Pale)

305–306

Adoptive grandson of Diocletian and purported great nephew of Emperors Claudius Gothicus and Quintillus. Seat at Trier. Tolerated Christianity. Deified.

GALERIUS JOVIUS the Drover (original occupation)

306–311

Son-in-law and adoptive son of Diocletian. Persecuted Christians. Deified.

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BYZANTINE EMPIRE

306-800

**Below: Double-headed eagle, symbolising two Roman administrations, one in the West,
the other at Constantinople**



RULERS OF THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE

CONSTANTINIAN DYNASTY

St Constantine the Great (Bull Neck)

306–337

Son of Constantius Chlorus. Legalised Christianity and founded Constantinople as Christian capital. Deified and canonised. Feast: 21st May.

Constantius II the Arian

337–361

Son of Constantine the Great. Heretic. Co-emperors: his brothers Constantine II (337-340) and Constans (337-350).

Julian the Apostate

361–363

Cousin of predecessor. Restored paganism. Killed fighting Persians.

INTERDYNASTIC

Jovian the General

363–364

Re-established Christianity.

Valens the Martyr

364–378

His nephew married daughter of Constantius II. Ruled as Eastern Emperor at Constantinople (the capital) while his brother, Valentinian I the Great, was Western Emperor fighting Germans. Killed fighting Gothic invaders.

THEODOSIAN DYNASTY

Theodosius I the Great

379–395

Nephew-in-law of Valentinian I. Refused title Pontifex Maximus. Outlawed Paganism, abolished Olympic Games, and made Catholic Christianity the state religion. Convened Second Ecumenical Council at Constantinople. Canonised. Feast day, 17th January. Celebrated Triumphs and Constantinople and Rome.

Arcadius the Pious

395–408

Son of Theodosius. Crushed the Goths and expelled Ostrogoth mercenaries.

St Theodosius II the Calligrapher

408–450

Son of Arcadius. Eastern Emperor (408-450). Built impregnable Theodosian Walls at Constantinople and promulgated Theodosian legal code. Convened Third Ecumenical Council at Ephesus. Appointed Valentinian III as Western Emperor. Canonised. Abolished office of Nasi (President) of Jews. Feast day, 29th July.

St Marcian the Saint

450–457

Married Pulcheria, sister of Theodosius II, and was crowned by her becoming first emperor to be crowned. Convened Fourth Ecumenical Council at Chalcedon (Kadıköy). Canonised. Feast day, 17th February.

LEONINE DYNASTY

St Leo I the Thracian

457–474

General. Crowned by Patriarch Macedonius I. Killed Aspar the Ostrogoth who had placed him on the throne. Canonised. Feast day 20th January.

Leo II the Infant**474**

Grandson of Leo I. Crowned by Patriarch Acacius. Father ruled as regent. Died aged seven.

Zeno the Isaurian**474–491**

Son-in-law of Leo I. Crowned by Patriarch Acacius. Received Western regalia on deposition of last Western Emperor, Romulus Augustus. Issued religious Henotikon (instrument of union). Start of Byzantine imperial history.

Anastasius I Dicorus (“two-pupiled” from heterochromia)**491–518**

Married widow of Zeno. Crowned by Patriarch Euphemius. Improved tax collection.

JUSTINIAN DYNASTY**Justin I****518–527**

The Thracian. Former swineherd and later commander of the Palace Guard. Crowned by Patriarch John II. Withdrew Henotikon document and ended Acacian schism with Papacy.

St Justinian I the Great**527–565**

Nephew and adoptive son of Justin I. Created Caesar in 525. Crowned co-emperor by Patriarch St Eutychius on behalf of ailing Justin I and changed prefix to Despot (a Byzantine court title). Persecuted Monophysites. Codified laws. Reconquered many former territories of Western Roman Empire including Africa and Italy. Built Hagia Sophia. Deposed and arrested Popes St Silverius (537) and Vigilius (545). Convened Fifth Ecumenical Council at Constantinople (553).

Justin II the Mad**565–574**

Nephew of Justinian I. Crowned by Patriarch John III. Lost most of Italy to the Lombards. Approved election of Pope Benedict I and later sent him a jewelled reliquary of the True Cross. Abdicated in 574 and died four years later.

Tiberius II Constantine the Generous**578–582**

Adoptive son of Justin II. Created Caesar in 574 then crowned emperor by Pope Eutychius. Lost Sirmium (near Belgrade) to the Avars. Received request from Pope Pelagius II for help against Lombards.

Maurice Tiberius of Arabissus (Afsin)**582–602**

Son-in-law of Tiberius II and crowned by him. Repulsed Slav invasion of Balkans. Supported title of Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople bestowed on Patriarch despite opposition of Pope St Gregory I the Great. Captured by soldiers of Phocas and murdered.

Phocas**602–610**

General and usurper who killed his predecessor and was in turn executed by his successor. Maintained good relations with Pope Boniface IV. Provoked civil war, deposed and executed.

HERACLIAN DYNASTY**Heraclius the Great****610–641**

Son of Exarch of Africa at Carthage. Perpetuus Augustus 610-629 and self-styled Basileus (Sovereign) from 629. Approved Popes Adeodatus I, Boniface V and Severinus. Lost Jerusalem to the Muslims. His Exarch of Ravenna, Isaac the Armenian, ratified election of Popes Honorius I and Theodore I but not St Martin I. Celebrated Triumph in 631.

Heraclius Constantine III

641

Son of Heraclius the Great. Crowned Basileus by father in 613. Died only 100 days as senior Emperor. His stepmother Martina later condemned for allegedly poisoning him.

Constantine Heraclius

641

Half-brother of Constantine III. Crowned Basileus by Heraclius in 638. Unpopular, deposed, mutilated and banished with his mother, Martina, and died soon after.

Constans II Pogonatus (Bearded)

641–668

Son of Constantine III. Crowned Basileus by Patriarch Pyrrhus I. Lost Egypt but defeated Slavs in Balkans. Arrested and exiled Pope St Martin I. Killed his own brother. His Exarch of Ravenna, Theodore I Calliopas, ratified election of Pope Eugene I. Visited Rome and plundered Pantheon. Assassinated at Syracuse.

St Constantine IV

654–685

Son of Constans II and crowned Basileus by him in 654. Defeated Arabs but not Bulgars. Ratified elections of popes St Vitalian, Adeodatus II, Donus, St Agatho, St Leo II and St Benedict II. Visited Rome. Summoned Sixth Ecumenical Council. His Exarch of Ravenna, Theodore I Calliopas, ratified elections of popes and approved election of St Benedict II.

Justinian II Rhinotmetus (slit nose)

685–695 (first reign)

Son of Constantine IV. Crowned Basileus by Patriarch George I. His Exarch of Ravenna, Theodore II, ratified elections of popes John V, Conon and St Sergius I. Tried to have Pope Sergius I arrested but was then himself deposed, mutilated and banished.

Leontios the Patrician

695–698

Deposed Justinian II, then in turn deposed by successor Tiberius III. Later executed by restored Justinian II.

Tiberius III Apsimar (birth name)

698–705

Deposed Leontios, then himself deposed and executed by former Emperor Justinian II.

Justinian II Rhinotmetus (slit nose)

705–711 (second reign)

Deposed and executed.

INTERDYNASTIC

Philippicus Bardanes

711–713

Usurper. Killed Justinian II. Later deposed and blinded.

Anastasius II Artemius

713–715

Usurper. Ended schism with Pope. Deposed and later executed for rebellion against subsequent Emperor Leo III.

Theodosius III of Adramyttium (Anatolia)

715–717

Possibly son of Tiberius III. Concluded peace with Bulgarians. Deposed and became Bishop of Ephesus.

ISAURIAN DYNASTY

Leo III the Isaurian

717–741

Governor of Anatolia. Former jobbing builder. Crowned Basileus by Patriarch Germanus I. Published Ecloga of laws. Introduced iconoclasm.

Constantine V Copronymus

741–775

Son of Leo III. Crowned junior Basileus by father in 720. Opposed by his brother-in-law, anti-emperor Artabasdos. His Exarch of Ravenna, Eutychius the Last, ratified election of popes St Gregory III and St Zachary but then lost Ravenna. Constantine, however, celebrated Triumph over Bulgars. Denigrated (Copronymus or dung-named) by later Byzantines because of support for iconoclasm and opposition to monasticism.

Leo IV the Khazar

775–780

Son of Constantine V. Crowned junior Basileus by father in 750. Stopped persecution of iconodules.

Constantine VI the Adulterer

780–797

The Adulterer. Son of Leo IV. Crowned junior Basileus by father in 776. Defeated by Bulgarians; mutilated his uncles for conspiracy. Iconoclast. Convened Seventh Ecumenical Council at Nicaea (İznik) in 787. Divorced wife and married mistress. Deposed, blinded and killed by his mother, Irene.

Irene the Athenian

797–802

Mother of Constantine VI. Basilissa, 791. Deposed, blinded and killed son. Iconodule, but lost allegiance of Pope. Eventually rejected offer of marriage by new Western Emperor, Charlemagne. Deposed and exiled to Lesbos.

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HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

800–1685

Below: Black Roman Imperial Eagle



THE COMPASS OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

Capital in Aachen 800–813 and then Frankfurt-am-Main.

During its ascendancy, the Holy Roman Empire included all or part of these modern countries:

- Andorra: 801–987
- Austria: 800–1806
- Belgium: 800–1801
- Croatia: 800–1806
- Czechia: 800–1806
- Slovakia: 800–1806
- France: 800–843
- Germany: 800–1806
- Italy (North): 800–1648
- Liechtenstein: 800–1806
- Luxembourg: 800–1806
- Monaco: 800–855 & 1032–1246
- Netherlands: 800–1648
- Slovenia: 800–1806
- Vatican City: 800–1571

Below: Holy Roman Empire at Greatest Extent



RULERS OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

CAROLINGIAN DYNASTY

St Charlemagne (Charles I the Great) the new Augustus

800–814

Son of Pepin the Short, King of the Franks. Refounder of the Western Empire. Emperor of the Franks and Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Approved election of Popes Stephen III, Hadrian I and the St Leo III who crowned him Emperor at Rome. Granted asylum to refugee English monarchs.

Louis I the Pious

813–840

Son of Charlemagne. Emperor and King of the Franks. Patricius Romanorum. Crowned at Rome by Pope St Leo III. Partitioned realm between sons.

Lothair I founder of Lorraine (Lotharingia)

817–855

Son of Louis I the Pious. Emperor and King of the Middle Franks (Lorraine and Lombards). Patricius Romanorum. Crowned at Rome by Pope Paschal I. Partitioned realm between sons and abdicated.

Louis II the Younger

844–875

Son of Lothair I. Emperor and King of Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Crowned King of Italy by Pope Sergius II and Emperor at Rome by Pope Leo IV.

Charles II the Bald

875–877

Son of Louis I and uncle of Louis II. Emperor and King of the West Franks (France). Patricius Romanorum. Crowned Emperor at Rome by Pope John VIII.

Charles III the Fat

881–887

Nephew of Charles the Bald. Emperor and King of the East Franks (Germany). Patricius Romanorum. Crowned Emperor at Rome by Pope John VIII. Deposed.

WIDONID DYNASTY

Guy III of Spoleto

891–894

Great-great grandson of Charlemagne and cousin of Charles the Fat. Emperor and King of Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Crowned Emperor at Rome by Pope Stephen V. Attached by Arnulf of Carinthia.

Lambert of Spoleto

891–898

Son of Guido of Spoleto. Emperor and King of Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Crowned co-Emperor by Pope Formosus who later declared him deposed. Instigated Cadaver Trial of Formosus. Defeated and captured by Berengar of Friuli.

CAROLINGIAN DYNASTY (REDUX)

Arnulf of Carinthia

896–899

Cousin of Lambert of Spoleto and nephew of Charles the Fat. Emperor and King of the East Franks and Italy. Patricius Romanorum. Crowned Emperor by Pope Formosus. Created Hungary by settling Magyars in Pannonia.

BOSONID DYNASTY

Louis the Blind of Provence

901–905

Grandson of Louis II, cousin of Arnulf of Carinthia and grandson of Louis II. Emperor and King of Lombards and Lower Burgundy (Provence). Crowned Emperor at Rome by Pope Benedict IV. Deposed and blinded by Berengar of Friuli, King of the Lombards, but remained King of Lower Burgundy.

UNRUOCHING DYNASTY

Berengar I of Friuli

915–924

Grandson of Louis the Pious. King of the Lombards. Captured, deposed and blinded predecessor, Louis the Blind, then crowned at Rome by Pope John X. Assassinated.

OTTONIAN DYNASTY

Otto I the Great

962–973

Son of Henry the Fowler. Emperor King of Germany and the Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned at Rome by Pope John XII. Concluded marriage alliance with Eastern Empire. Nominated Popes Leo VIII and John XIII.

Otto II the Red

973–983

Called the Red because he massacred rebels. Son of Otto the Great. Emperor of the Romans. King of Germany and the Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned at Rome by Pope John XIII. Married niece of Byzantine Empire. Nominated Popes Benedict VII and John XIV. Defeated King Lothair of France.

Otto III the Wonder

996–1002

Son of Otto the Red. Known as “wonder of the world” for his intellectual gifts. Emperor of the Romans. King of Germany and the Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned at Rome by his cousin, Pope Gregory V. Established seat at Rome. Nominated Popes John XV, Gregory V and Sylvester II. Presented Papal crown to First King of Hungary.

Henry II the Saint

1014–1024

Cousin of Otto III. Emperor of the Romans. King of the Lombards. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned at Rome by Pope Benedict VIII. Made bishops his territorial vassals.

SALIAN DYNASTY

Conrad II the Salic

1027–1039

Cousin of Henry II and married to a Carolingian princess. Emperor of the Romans. King of the Lombards and Arles. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned by John XIX. Expanded the Empire by acquiring Arles.

Henry III the Black

1046–1056

Named for his dark complexion and beard. Son of Conrad the Salic. Emperor of the Romans, King of the Lombards and Arles. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned by Clement II Reformed the Church.

Henry IV, "Friend of the Poor"

1084–1105

Son of Henry the Black. Emperor of the Romans, King of the Lombards and Arles. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Fought but then submitted to Pope Gregory VII at Canossa but crowned by anti-pope Clement III. Opposed by anti-Kings

Rudolph of Swabia, Hermann of Luxembourg and his own son Conrad of Franconia. Married Russian Princess, Eupraxia. Fought First War against Papacy.

Henry V of Franconia

1111–1125

Son of Henry IV. Emperor of the Romans, King of the Lombards and Arles. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned Emperor at Rome by Pope Paschal II. Married Matilda, daughter of King of England, who later claimed English throne. Excommunicated and forced to surrender right of investiture of bishops to pope by Concordat of Worms.

SUPPLINBURG DYNASTY

Lothair III of Supplinburg

1133–1137

Daughter related by marriage to Henry V. “Pfaffenkönig” (Priests’ King). Emperor of the Romans, King of the Lombards and Arles. Patricius Romanorum. Overlord of Bohemia, Denmark and Poland. Crowned Emperor by Pope Innocent II. Opposed by anti-Kings Conrad Hohenstaufen and Roger of Sicily.

STAUFEN DYNASTY

Frederick I Barbarossa (Red Beard)

1155–1190

Great-grandson of Henry IV. “Princes’ King”. Immutator Mundi (transformer of the world). Holy Emperor of the Romans. King of the Lombards and Arles. Overlord of Denmark, Hungary and Poland. Crowned at Rome by Pope Adrian IV. Fought Papacy and Lombard League. Died on Third Crusade. Reputed to be sleeping under Mount Kyffhäuser until Germany needs him again. Emperor Wilhelm I declared to be his reincarnation 700 years later. German invasion of Soviet Union in 1941 named Operation Barbarossa to invoke his assistance.

Henry VI the Cruel

1191–1197

Son of Frederick Barbarossa. Holy Emperor of the Romans. King of the Lombards, Arles and Sicily. Overlord of Armenia, Cyprus, England, Denmark, Hungary, Jerusalem and Poland. Crowned at Rome by Pope Celestine III. Married Constance, heiress to Kingdom of Sicily. Imprisoned and ransomed Crusader-King Richard the Lionheart of England. Tried to make imperial succession hereditary (instead of elective) and annex Sicily.

WELF DYNASTY

Otto IV of Brunswick

1209–1215

Great-grandson of Lothair III. Holy Emperor of the Romans. King Arles. Overlord of Armenia, Cyprus, Denmark, Hungary and Poland. Crowned at Rome by Pope Innocent III but later excommunicated. Opposed by anti-King Philip of Swabia (brother of Henry the VI) then deposed.

STAUFEN DYNASTY (REDUX)

Frederick II of Hohenstaufen

1220–1250

Son of Henry VI. Stupor Mundi (astonishment of the world). The Antichrist. The Son of Apulia. Holy Emperor of the Romans. King of Lombards, Arles, Sicily and Jerusalem. Overlord of Denmark, Hungary and Poland. Crowned at Rome by Pope Honorius III but then excommunicated. Opposed by anti-King Henry Raspe of Thuringia and then anti-King William of Holland. Fought Second and Third Wars against the Papacy. Married Yolande, Queen of Jerusalem. Led Sixth and crowned King at Jerusalem.

HOUSE OF LUXEMBOURG

Henry VII of Luxembourg

1312–1313

Holy Emperor of the Romans. King of Italy. Count of Luxembourg. Elected King then crowned Emperor at Rome by Pope Clement V. Ended Great Interregnum and pacified Italy. Died trying to conquer Southern Italy.

HOUSE OF WITTELSBACH

Louis IV of Bavaria

1328–1347

Holy Emperor of the Romans. King of Italy. Won civil war against Frederick the Fair, Habsburg Pretender. Fought war against the Papacy.

HOUSE OF LUXEMBOURG (REDUX)

Charles IV of Bohemia

1355–1378

Grandson of Henry VII. Holy Emperor of the Romans and King of Bohemia and Burgundy. Crowned at Rome by Pope. Promulgated Golden Bull regulating succession to Imperial Throne. Persuaded Papacy to end its “Babylonian Captivity” in Avignon and return to Rome. Persecuted Jews.

Sigismund of Luxembourg

1433–1437

Son of Charles IV. Holy Emperor of the Romans. King of Hungary, Bohemia and Lombards. Crowned at Rome by Pope Eugene IV. Led one of last Crusades.

HOUSE OF HABSBURG

Frederick III the Peaceful

1452–1493

Cousin of Albert II. Holy Emperor of the Romans. King of Bohemia and Lombards and last King of Arles. Crowned at Rome by Pope Nicholas V. Concluded marriage alliance with Charles the Bold of Burgundy.

Maximilian I the Penniless, the Last Knight

1493–1519

Son of Frederick III. Holy Emperor Elect of the Romans and King of Germany and Bohemia. Unable to travel to Rome for coronation but granted title by Pope Julius II.

Charles V the Golden

1519–1556

Grandson of Maximilian I. Holy Emperor of the Romans and King of Germany, Bohemia and the Lombards. King of the Two Sicilies. Crowned by Pope Clement VII at Bologna but later sacked Rome. Unable to preserve unity of his realms dividing between Spanish and German-Austrian lines. Abdicated.

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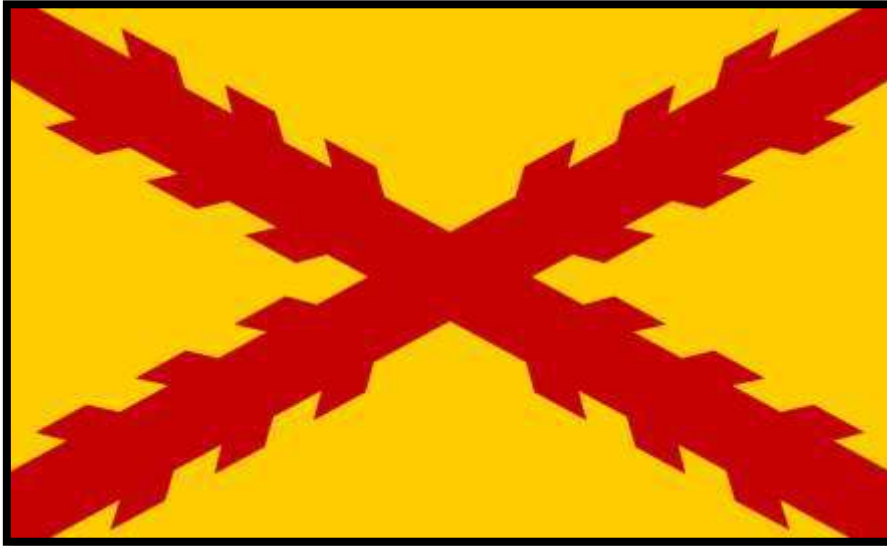
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SPANISH ASCENDANCY

1556–1685

Below: Cross of Burgundy, ancestral domain of Spanish Kings



THE COMPASS OF THE SPANISH ASCENDANCY

Capital in Madrid.

During its ascendancy, the Hispanidad included all or part of these modern countries:

- Equatorial Guinea: 1472–1968
- Bahamas: 1492–1629
- Cuba: 1492–1899
- Haiti: 1492–1697
- Dominican Republic: 1496–1821
- Trinidad: 1498–1797
- Belize: 1502–1638
- Jamaica: 1509–1655
- Panama: 1513–1821
- Mexico: 1519–1821
- Colombia: 1520–1819
- Venezuela: 1521–1821
- Nicaragua: 1522–1823
- El Salvador: 1524–1821
- Guatemala: 1524–1821
- Honduras: 1525–1821
- Micronesia: 1525–1899
- Bolivia: 1530–1825
- Ecuador: 1532–1822
- Peru: 1532–1824
- Paraguay: 1537–1811
- Chile: 1541–1818
- Italy (Milan & Naples): 1553–1707
- Netherlands: 1556–1581
- Belgium: 1556–1714
- Luxembourg: 1556–1714
- Philippines: 1565–1898

- Costa Rica: 1568–1821
- Portugal and colonies: 1580–1640
- Angola: 1580–1640
- Brazil: 1580–1640
- Cape Verde: 1580–1640
- Guinea-Bissau: 1580–1640
- Mozambique: 1580–1640
- Sao Tome & Principe: 1580–1660
- Uruguay: 1580–1640
- Argentina: 1580–1816
- Guyana: 1593–1627
- Andorra: 1607

Below: Spanish Empire at Greatest Extent (smaller possessions not shown)



RULERS OF THE SPANISH ASCENDANCY

Philip II the Prudent

1556–1598

Son of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. King of the Spanish, and the Indies, Portugal, Sicily, Naples and Sardinia. Duke of Milan. Lord of the Netherlands. King-Consort of England and Ireland while married to Queen Mary I there. Conquered Portugal and annexed Philippines (later named after him). Patronised Titian.

Philip III the Pious

1598–1621

Son of Philip II. King of the Spanish, and the Indies, Portugal, Sicily, Naples and Sardinia. Duke of Milan. Lord of the Netherlands. Waged war against Protestants in Germany and Netherlands.

Philip IV the Great

1621–1685

King of Span, and the Indies, Sicily, Naples and Sardinia. Duke of Milan. Recognised independence of Portugal and Netherlands (but not Belgium). Succeeded by a physically and mentally disabled son.

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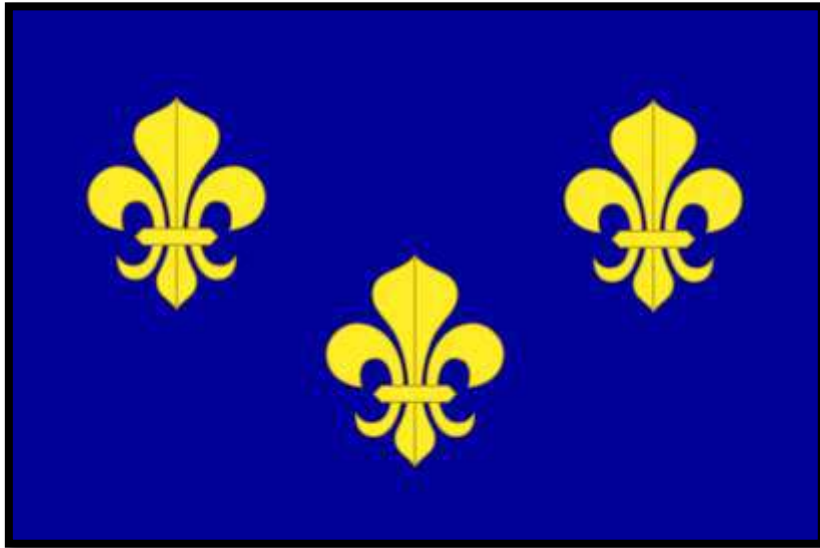
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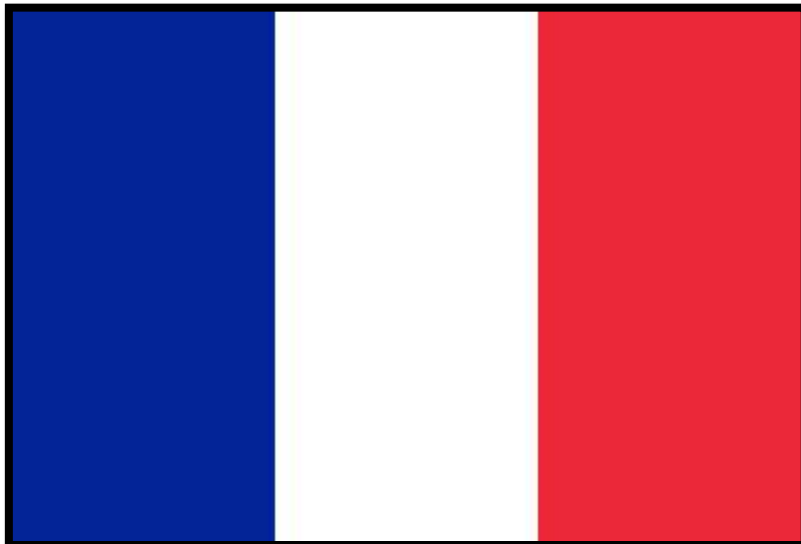
FRENCH ASCENDANCY

1685–1815

Below: Kingdom of France, 1365-1794



Below: Tricolour, 1794



THE COMPASS OF THE FRENCH ASCENDANCY

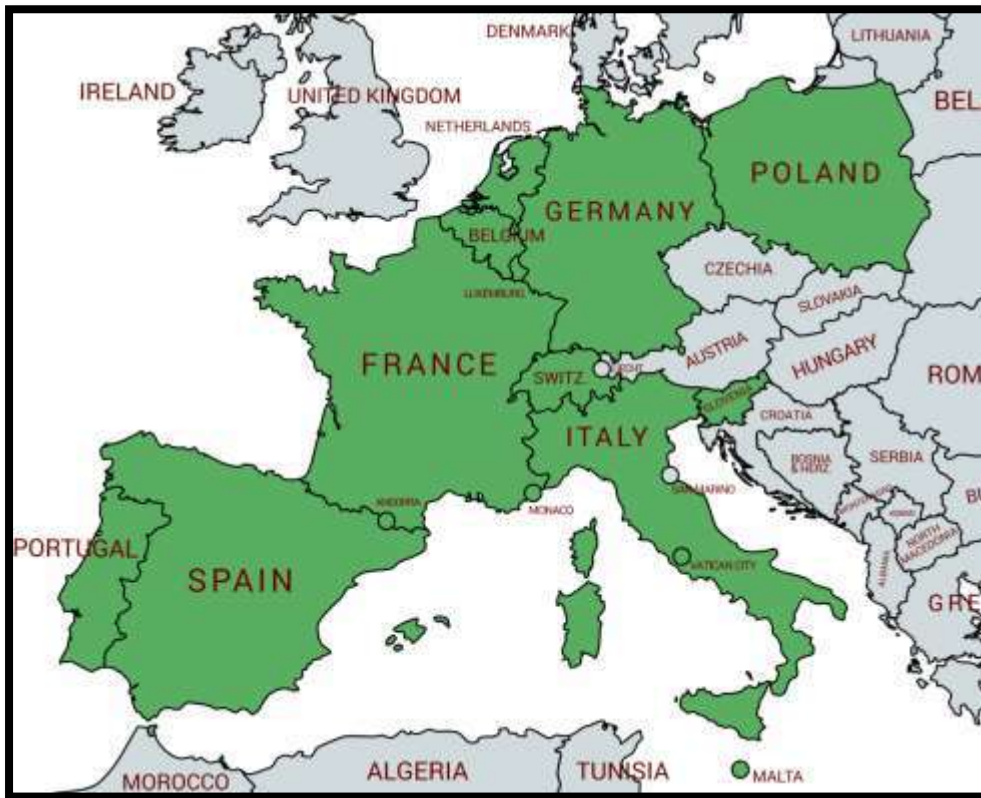
Capital in Paris.

During its ascendancy, the French Empire, whether monarchy or republic, included all or part of these modern countries:

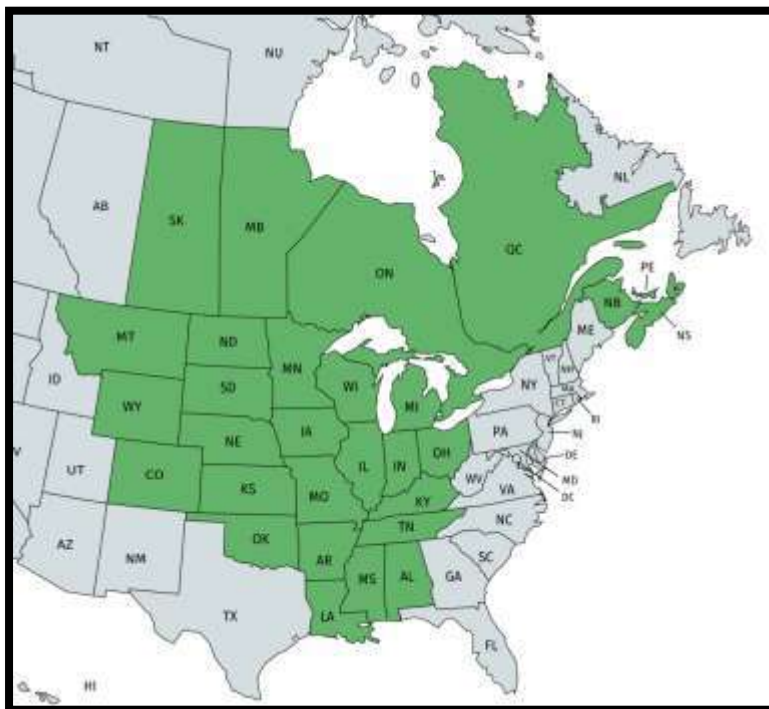
- Canada: 1534–1760
- Andorra: 1607
- Dominica: 1625–1763 & 1778–1783
- Grenada: 1649–1762 & 1779–1783
- Tobago: 1666–1667, 1781–1793 & 1802–1803
- St Lucia: 1640–1803
- Enclaves in India: 1673–1954
- Senegal: 1677–1960
- Gambia (enclaves): 1681–1857
- USA (Louisiana Territory): 1682–1763
- Haiti: 1625–1804
- Mauritius: 1715–1810
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: 1719–1763 & 1779–1783
- Seychelles: 1756–1811
- Nevis: 1782–1784
- Guyana: 1782–1784
- Monaco: 1793–1814
- Dominican Republic: 1795–1809
- Switzerland 1796–1814
- Belgium: 1797–1814
- Luxembourg: 1797–1814
- Malta: 1798–1800
- Germany: 1806–1813
- Netherlands: 1806–1813
- Poland: 1807–1813
- Portugal: 1807–1811

- Italy: 1808–1814
- Spain: 1808–1813
- Slovenia: 1809–1813
- Vatican: 1809–1814
- Other French Overseas Departments and Territories not listed

Below: French Empire at Greatest Extent (Europe only): 1808–1813



Below: French Louisiana (Nouvelle-France) Prior to Louisiana Purchase: 1803



RULERS OF THE FRENCH ASCENDANCY

Louis XIV the Great, the Sun King

1665–1715

Son-in-law of Philip IV of Spain. King of France. Defeated Austria and Spain and annexed territory including Alsace, Haiti and Louisiana, the latter named after him. Secured Spanish throne for his grandson.

Louis XV the Beloved

1715–1774

Great-grandson of Louis the XIV. King of France. Married daughter of King of Poland. Became “arbiter of Europe” but was then defeated by Britain and lost French North America. Annexed Lorraine and Corsica.

Louis XVI (Citizen Louis Capet)

1774–1791

Grandson of Louis XV. King of France. Married sister of Austrian Emperor. Assisted United States of America to win War of Independence. Deposed and Executed.

Napoleon the Great

1799–1815

First Consul then Emperor of the French and King of Italy. Conquered most of Europe, then defeated, abdicated and exiled.

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR THE FRENCH ASCENDANCY

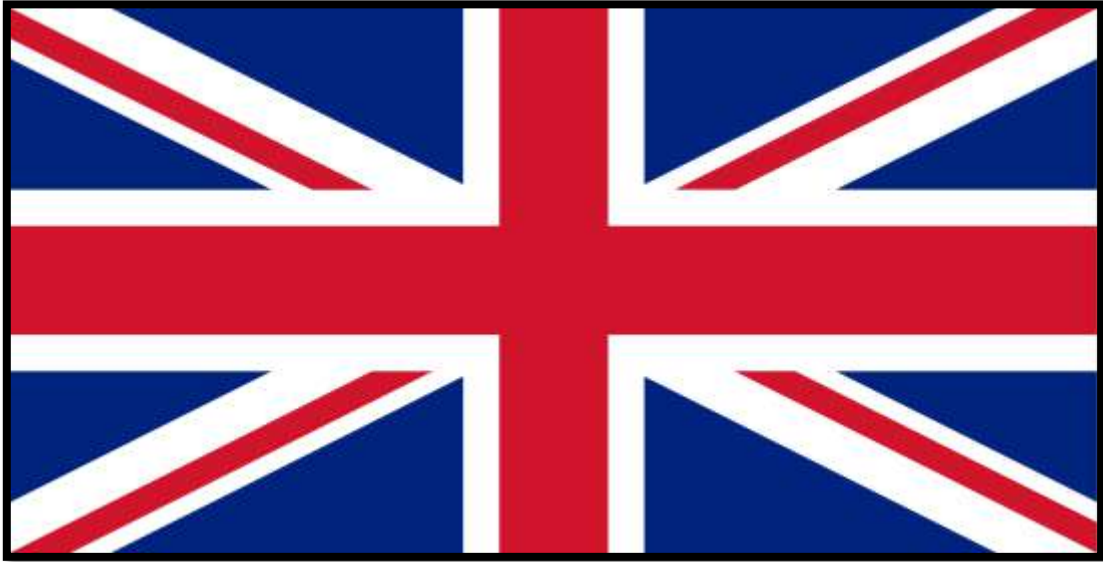
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BRITISH ASCENDANCY

1815–1901

Below: Union Flag or Union Jack, 1801



THE COMPASS OF THE BRITISH ASCENDANCY

Capital in London.

During its ascendancy, the British Empire included all or part of these modern countries:

- Ireland: 1199–1931
- France: 1422–1453
- USA: 1607–1776
- St Kitts (St Christopher Island): 1623–1983
- Barbados: 1625–1966
- Antigua: 1632–1981
- Bahamas: 1648–1973
- Suriname: 1650–1667
- Jamaica: 1655–1962
- Bangladesh: 1757–1947
- India: 1757–1947
- Senegal: 1758–1783
- Canada: 1759–1931
- Dominica: 1761–1978
- Grenada: 1762–1974
- St Vincent: 1764–1974
- Gambia: 1766–1965
- Sierra Leone: 1787–1961
- Australia: 1788–1931
- Guyana: 1796–1966
- Trinidad: 1797–1962
- Malta: 1800–1964
- St Lucia: 1803–1979
- Mauritius: 1810–1968
- Seychelles: 1811–1976
- Sri Lanka: 1815–1948
- Singapore: 1824–1963

- Yemen (south): 1839–1967
- New Zealand: 1840–1931
- Ghana: 1844–1957
- Papua New Guinea: 1844–1931
- Pakistan: 1846–1947
- Bahrain: 1861–1961
- Belize: 1862–1981
- Lesotho: 1868–1966
- Fiji: 1870–1970
- Afghanistan: 1879–1880
- Nigeria: 1884–1960
- Botswana: 1885–1966
- Myanmar (Burma): 1886–1948
- Maldives: 1887–1965
- Brunei: 1888–1984
- Somalia (north): 1887–1960
- Kenya: 1888–1963
- Malaysia: 1888–1963
- Uganda: 1888–1963
- Zambia: 1890–1964
- Zimbabwe (Rhodesia): 1890–1964
- Malawi: 1891–1964
- Oman: 1891–1971
- Kiribati: 1892–1979
- Tuvalu: 1892–1978
- United Arab Emirates: 1892–1971
- Solomon Islands: 1893–1978
- Sudan: 1899–1956
- South Sudan: 1899–1956
- Samoa: 1900–1931
- South Africa: 1900–1931
- Tonga: 1900–1970

- Eswatini (Swaziland): 1903–1968
- Vanuatu: 1906–1980
- Cyprus: 1914–1960
- Egypt: 1914–1922
- Kuwait: 1914–1961
- Nauru: 1914–1931
- Namibia: 1915–1931
- Qatar: 1916–1971
- Iraq: 1917–1932
- Israel: 1917–1948
- Jordan: 1917–1948
- Tanzania: 1918–1961
- British Overseas Territories not listed

Below: British Empire in 1900 (smaller possessions not shown)



RULERS OF THE BRITISH ASCENDANCY

George IV the Fat

1815 (Regent of Britain from 1811)–1830

Regent and then King of Britain, Ireland and Hannover. His government helped Hispano-America and Greece secure independence.

William IV the Sailor King

1830–1837

Brother of George IV. King of Britain, Ireland and Hannover. His government helped Belgium secure independence.

Victoria

1837–1901

Niece of William IV. Queen of Britain and Ireland. Empress of India. Called the “Grandmother of Europe”: Grandson became German Emperor; granddaughters became Empress of Russia and Queens of Greece, Norway, Romania and Spain; and great-granddaughter became Queen of Sweden. Died in the arms of her grandson, German Emperor Wilhelm II.

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GERMAN ASCENDANCY

1901–1945

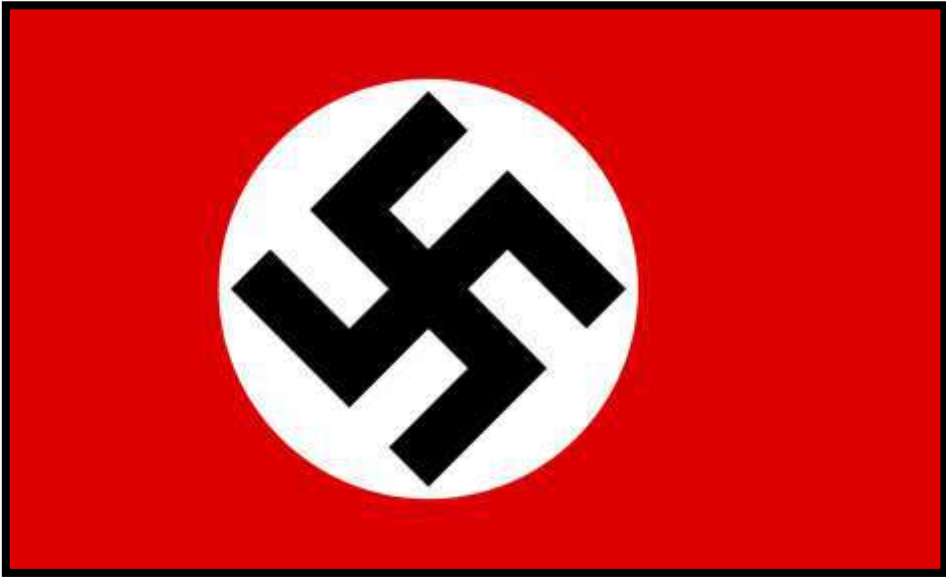
Below: Imperial Germany, 1871-1919



Below: Weimar Germany, 1919-1933, and early Nazi Germany, 1933–1935



Below: Nazi Germany, 1935-1945



THE COMPASS OF THE GERMAN ASCENDANCY

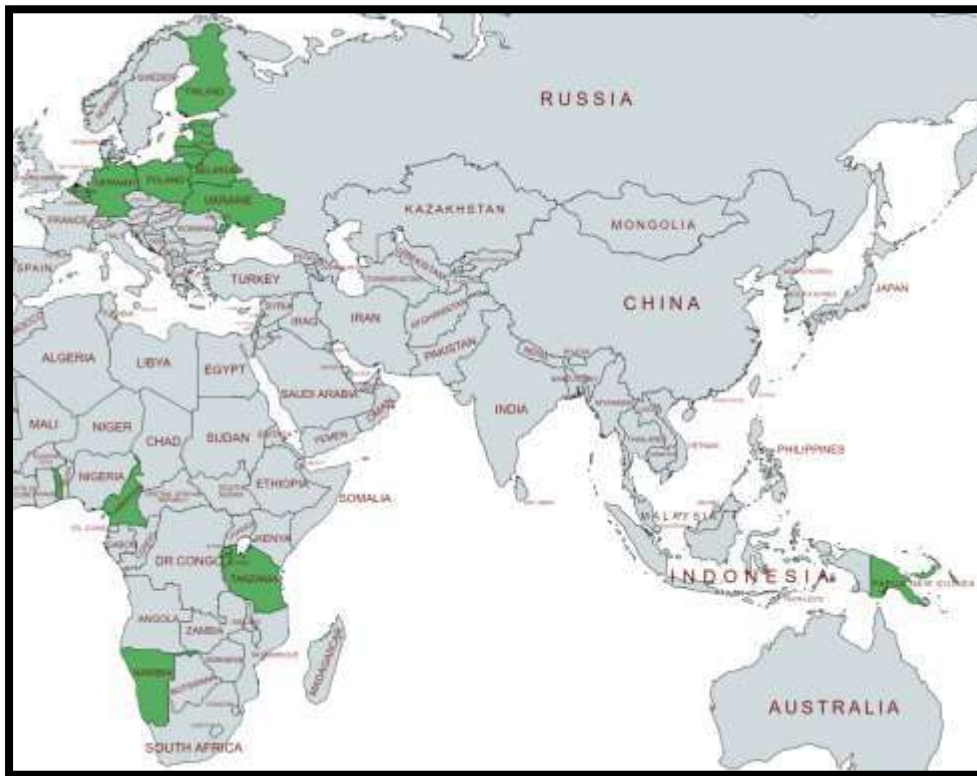
Capital in Berlin.

During its ascendancy, the German Reich included all or part of these modern countries:

- Burundi: 1884–1918
- Cameroon: 1884–1914
- Namibia: 1884–1915
- Papua New Guinea (North): 1884–1914
- Rwanda: 1884–1916
- Togo: 1884–1914
- Tanzania: 1884–1918
- Solomon Islands: 1886–1914
- Marshall Islands: 1899–1916
- Micronesia: 1899 – 1914
- Nauru: 1899–1914
- Palau: 1899–1914
- Samoa: 1900–1914
- Belgium: 1914–1918 & 1940–1944
- Luxembourg: 1914–1918 & 1940–1944
- Poland: 1915–1918 & 1939–1945
- Finland: 1917–1918
- Lithuania: 1917–1918 & 1941–1944
- Belarus: 1918 & 1941–1944
- Estonia: 1918 & 1941–1944
- Latvia: 1918 & 1941–1944
- Ukraine: 1918 & 1941–1944
- Austria: 1938–1945
- Czechia: 1938–1945
- Slovakia: 1939–1945
- Denmark: 1940–1945
- France: 1940–1944

- Netherlands: 1940–1945
- Norway: 1940–1945
- Serbia: 1941–1944
- Albania: 1943–1944
- Bosnia: 1943–1944
- Croatia: 1943–1945
- Greece: 1943–1944
- Italy: 1943–1945
- Kosovo: 1943–1944
- Montenegro: 1943–1944
- Slovenia: 1943–1945
- Hungary: 1944–1945

Below: Second Reich in 1918 (smaller possessions not shown)



Below: Third Reich in 1943



RULERS OF THE GERMAN ASCENDANCY

Wilhelm II

1901 (Emperor of Germany from 1888)–1918

Grandson of Queen Victoria. German Emperor. “The Great War Lord.” Provoked First World War. Victorious over Russia but then defeated, deposed and exiled.

Weimar Republic

1918–1934

Weak parliamentary system but secretly rearmed.

Adolf Hitler

1934–1945

“The Great Dictator”. Served in army of Wilhelm II. Started Second World War. Conquered most of Europe but then defeated and committed suicide.

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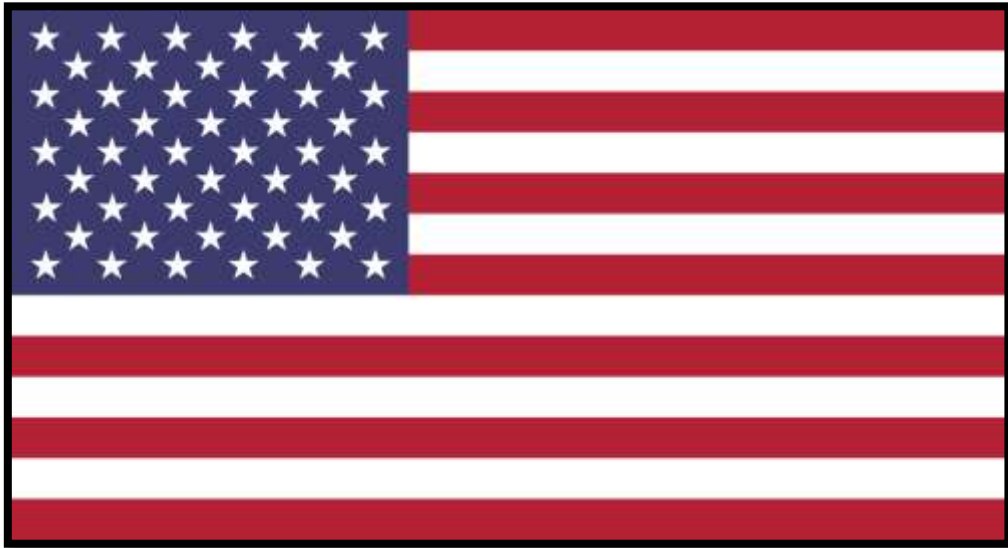
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AMERICAN HEGEMONY

1945—Date

Below: Stars & Stripes, 50 star version, 1960



THE COMPASS OF THE AMERICAN ASCENDANCY

Capital in Washington DC.

Allies of the USA since 1945. All current unless noted.

- Cuba: 1902–1959
- United Kingdom: 1941
- China: 1941–1949
- South Korea: 1945
- Philippines: 1947–2020, 2023
- Israel: 1948
- Belgium: 1949
- Canada: 1949
- Denmark (including Greenland): 1949
- France: 1949
- Iceland: 1949
- Italy: 1949
- Luxembourg: 1949
- Netherlands: 1949
- Norway: 1949
- Portugal: 1949
- Taiwan: 1949
- Australia: 1951
- New Zealand: 1951
- Saudi Arabia: 1951
- Greece: 1952
- Japan: 1952
- Turkey: 1952
- Pakistan: 1954
- South Vietnam: 1954–1975
- Thailand: 1954

- West Germany (Germany after 1990): 1955
- Iran: 1955–1979
- Iraq: 1955–1979 & 2003–2021
- Cambodia: 1970–1975
- Oman: 1980
- Spain: 1982
- Grenada: 1983
- Egypt: 1987
- Bahrain: 1991
- Jordan: 1996
- Kuwait: 1991
- Argentina: 1998
- Czechia: 1999
- Hungary: 1999
- Poland: 1999
- Afghanistan: 2001–2021
- Bulgaria: 2004
- Estonia: 2004
- Latvia: 2004
- Lithuania: 2004
- Morocco: 2004
- Romania: 2004
- Slovakia: 2004
- Slovenia: 2004
- Albania: 2009
- Croatia: 2009
- Tunisia: 2015
- Montenegro: 2017
- Brazil: 2019
- North Macedonia: 2020
- Ukraine: 2021

Below: Allies of the USA: 2022



RULERS OF THE AMERICAN ASCENDANCY

Harry S. Truman

1945–1953

"The Little Man from Missouri". President of the USA. Defeated Japan and contained communism. Granted independence to Philippines.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

1953–1961

"Ike". President of the USA. Waged Cold War against Soviet Union.

John F. Kennedy

1961–1963

"JFK". President of the USA. Forced Soviets out of Cuba then assassinated.

Lyndon B. Johnson

1963–1969

"LBJ". President of the USA. Started Vietnam War (Second Indochina War).

Richard M. Nixon

1969–1974

"Tricky Dick". President of the USA. Negotiated détente with Communist China. Forced to resign.

Gerald Ford

1974–1977

"Mr Nice Guy". President of the USA. Ended Vietnam War.

James E. "Jimmy" Carter

1977–1981

"The Peanut Farmer". President of the USA. Lost control of Iran.

Ronald Reagan

1981–1989

“The Gipper”. President of the USA. Intervened in Afghanistan.

George H.W. Bush

1989–1993

“Poppy”. President of the USA. Ended Cold War. Liberated Panama and Kuwait.

William J. “Bill” Clinton

1993–2001

“Slick Willy”. President of the USA. Bombed Yugoslavia to assist its disintegration.

George W. Bush

2001–2009

“Dubya”. Son of George H.W. Bush. President of the USA. Invaded Afghanistan and Iraq.

Barack Obama

2009–2017

“No drama Obama”. President of the USA. Concluded Vienna Accord with Iran. Refused to intervene in Syrian Civil War.

Donald J. Trump

2017–2021

“Donald Duck”. President of the USA. Repudiated Vienna Accord with Iran.

Joseph R. “Joe” Biden

2021–

“Sleepy Joe”. President of the USA. Withdrew forces from Afghanistan and Iraq. Refused to intervene directly in Ukraine War.

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LINE OF DESCENT THROUGH THE AGES

Rulers and would-be rulers want to demonstrate their legitimacy. Even in our democratic age, politicians will cite revered figures of decades ago as if by doing so these people are conferring their blessings upon their modern-day counterparts.

In the past, a vital means of demonstrating legitimacy was by familial descent: from A who begat B who begat C and so on. Sometimes the link was tenuous, yet rulers and would-be rulers made the effort.

Rulers marked with an asterisk also appear in the main Directory.

Line of Descent: From Ancient Times to the Twentieth Century

Ruler	Reigned	Descent
Rahotep	c. 1585 BCE (17 th Dynasty)	King of Upper Egypt only
Sobekemsaf I	1585–1578 BCE (17 th Dynasty)	King of Upper Egypt only. Son of Rahotep
Sobekemsaf II	1578–1573 (17 th Dynasty)	King of Upper Egypt only. Son of Sobekemsaf I
Senakhtenre Ahmose	1560–1559 (17 th Dynasty)	King of Upper Egypt only. Son of Sobekemsaf II
Seqenenre Tao	1559–1555 BCE (17 th Dynasty)	King of Upper Egypt only. Son of Senakhtenre Ahmose
Amhose I*	1550–1525 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Seqenenre Tao
Amenhotep I*	1525–1504 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Amhose I
Thutmose I*	1504–1492 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Amenhotep I
Thutmose II*	1492–1479 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Thutmose I
Thutmose III*	1458–1425 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Thutmose II
Amenhotep II*	1425–1400 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Thutmose III
Thutmose IV*	1400–1390 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Amenhotep II
Amenhotep III*	1390–1352 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Thutmose IV
Akhenaten*	1352–1336 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Son of Amenhotep III
Horemheb*	1323–1295 BCE (18 th Dynasty)	Brother-in-law of Akhenaten

Ramesses I*	1295–1294 BCE (19 th Dynasty)	Adopted son of Horemheb
Seti I*	1294–1279 BCE (19 th Dynasty)	Son of Ramesses I
Ramesses II*	1279–1213 BCE (19 th Dynasty)	Son of Seti I
Merneptah*	1213–1203 BCE (19 th Dynasty)	Son of Ramesses II
Setnakhte*	1186–1184 BCE (20 th Dynasty)	Son-in-law of Ramesses II
Ramesses III*	1184–1153 BCE (20 th Dynasty)	Son of Setnakhte
Ramesses IX*	1126–1108 BCE (20 th Dynasty)	Grandson of Ramesses III
Ramesses X*	1108–1099 BCE (20 th Dynasty)	Son of Ramesses IX
Ramesses XI*	1099–1070 BCE (20 th Dynasty)	Son of Ramesses X
Psusennes I*	1040–992 BCE (21 st Dynasty)	Grandson of Ramesses XI
Amenemope*	992–984 BCE (21 st Dynasty)	Son of Psusennes I
Siamun*	978–959 BCE (21 st Dynasty)	Son of Amenemope
Solomon	970–931 BCE	King of Israel. Son-in-law of Siamun
Ashur-dan II	934–912 BCE	King of Assyria. Nephew of Solomon through latter's Assyrian wife
Adad-nirari II	912–891 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Ashur-dan II
Tukulti-Ninurta II	891–884 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Adad-nirari II
Ashurnasirpal II	883–859 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Tukulti-Ninurta II
Shalmaneser III	859–824 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of

		Ashurnasirpal II
Shamshi-Adad V	824–811 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Shalmaneser III
Adad-nirari III	811–783 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Shamshi-Adad V
Shalmaneser IV	783–773 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Adad-nirari III
Ashur-dan III	773–755 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Adad-nirari III
Ashur-nirari V	755–745 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Adad-nirari III
Tiglath-Pileser III*	745–727 BCE	King of Assyria
Sargon II*	722–705 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Tiglath-Pileser III
Sennacherib*	705–681 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Sargon II
Esarhaddon*	681–669 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Sennacherib
Ashurbanipal*	669–631 BCE	King of Assyria. Son of Esarhaddon
Princess Addagoppe of Harran	N/a	Daughter of Ashurbanipal
Queen Nitocris of Babylon	560–539 BCE	Daughter-in-law of Addagoppe
Cyrus the Great*	559–530 BCE	King of Persia. Nephew of Nitocris
Darius the Great*	522–486 BCE	King of Persia. Son-in-law of Cyrus the Great
Xerxes the Great*	486–465 BCE	King of Persia. Son of Darius the Great
Artaxerxes I Longimanus*	465–424 BCE	King of Persia. Son of Xerxes the Great
Darius II Nothos	423–404 BCE	King of Persia. Son of Xerxes II

Artaxerxes II Mnemon*	404–358 BCE	King of Persia. Son of Darius II
Darius III	336–330 BCE	Grandson of Artaxerxes II
Alexander the Great	330–323 BCE	Son-in-law of Darius III
Seleucus I Nicator*	311–281 BCE	King of Asia. Purported son-in-law of Alexander the Great
Antiochus I Soter*	281–261 BCE	King of Asia. Son of Seleucus I
Antiochus II Theos*	261–246 BCE	King of Asia. Son of Antiochus I
Seleucus II Callinicus*	246–225 BCE	King of Asia. Son of Antiochus II
Antiochus III The Great*	222–187 BCE	King of Asia. Son of Seleucus II Callinicus
Ptolemy V Epiphanes	203–181 BCE	King of Egypt. Son-in-law of Antiochus III
Ptolemy VIII Physcon (Fat)	170–116 BCE	Son of Ptolemy V
Ptolemy IX Soter (Lathyros (Chickpea))	116–81 BCE	King of Egypt. Son of Ptolemy VIII Physcon
Ptolemy XII Auletes (Flute-player)	80–58 BCE	King of Egypt. Son of Ptolemy IX
Cleopatra VII Philopator (Father- beloved)	51–30 BCE	Queen of Egypt. “The” Cleopatra. Daughter of Ptolemy XII. Consort of Julius Caesar. Committed suicide
Caesar Augustus*	30 BCE–14 CE (Emperor from 27 BCE)	Roman Emperor. Adopted son of Julius Caesar
Marcus Aurelius*	161–180	Roman Emperor. Descendant of Ceasar Augustus
Constantius Chlorus*	305–306	Roman Emperor. Descendant of Marcus Aurelius

Valentinian I the Great	364–375	Western Roman Emperor. Great grandson-in-law of Constantius Chlorus
Theodosius I The Great*	379–395	Roman Emperor. Son-in-law of Valentinian I
Constantius III	421	Western Roman Emperor. Son-in-law of Theodosius I
Valentinian III	425–455	Western Roman Emperor. Descendant of Constantius Chlorus
Olybrius	472	Western Roman Emperor. Son-in-law of Valentinian III
Erwig	680–687	King of the Visigoths. Descendant of Olybrius
Pepin the Short	751–768	King of the Franks. Descendant of Erwig
Charlemagne*	800–814	Holy Roman Emperor. Son of Pepin
Louis I The Pious	813–840	Holy Roman Emperor. Son of Charlemagne
Henry the Fowler	919–936	King of Germany. Descendant of Louis I
Otto I the Great	962–973	Holy Roman Emperor. Son of Henry I
Otto II of Germany	967-983	Holy Roman Emperor. Son of Otto I
Conrad II the Salic	1024–1039 (King) & 1027-1039 (Emperor)	King of Germany & Holy Roman Emperor. Descendant of Otto I
Henry III the Black of Germany	1028-1056 (King) & 1046-1056 (Emperor)	King of Germany & Holy Roman Emperor. Son of Conrad II
Henry IV of Germany	1054–1105 (King) & 1084–1105 (Emperor)	King of Germany & Holy Roman Emperor. Son of Henry III
Rudolf I of Germany	1273–1291	King of Germany. Godson of Frederick II

Albert I	1298–1308	King of Germany. Son of Rudolph I
Frederick the Fair	1314–1330	King of Germany. Son of Albert I
Frederick III The Peaceful*	1452–1493	Holy Roman Emperor. Descendant of Frederick the Fair, King of Germany, 1314–1330
Maximilian I The Penniless*	1493–1519	Holy Roman Emperor. Son of Frederick III
Charles V The Golden*	1519–1556	Holy Roman Emperor. Grandson of Maximilian I
Philip II The Prudent*	1556–1598	King of Spain. Son of Charles V
Philip III The Pious*	1598–1621	King of Spain. Son of Philip II
Philip IV The Great*	1621–1685	King of Spain. Son of Philip III
Louis XIV The Great*	1643–1715	King of France. Son-in-law of Philip IV
Louis XV The Beloved*	1715–1774	King of France. Great-grandson of Louis XIV
Louis XVI (Citizen Louis Capet) *	1774–1791	King of France. Grandson of Louis XV
Louis XVII the Pretender	1793–1795	Pretender to the French throne. Son of Louis XVI
George III*	1760–1820	King of Great Britain. Supported Louis XVII
George IV*	1815–1830	King of Great Britain. Son of George III
William IV*	1830–1837	King of Great Britain. Brother of George IV
Victoria*	1837–1901	Queen of Great Britain. Niece of William IV
Wilhelm II*	1888–1918	German Emperor. Grandson of Victoria
Crown Prince Wilhelm	N/a	Son of Wilhelm II

Hitler*	1933–1945	Dictator of Germany. Supported by Crown Prince Wilhelm
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INDEX OF RULERS IN DIRECTORY WITH REGNAL DATES AND ERA

Only rulers in the main Directory appear in this index.

- Aemilianus (253), Roman, 70
- Akhenaten (Amenhotep IV) (1352–1336 BCE), Egyptian, 23
- Alexander the Great (330–323 BCE), Macedonian, 52
- Amel-Marduk (562–560 BCE), Neo-Babylonian, 40
- Amenemhat I (1981–1952 BCE), Egyptian, 17
- Amenemhat II (1917–1885 BCE), Egyptian, 17
- Amenemhat III (1840–1813 BCE), Egyptian, 18
- Amenemhat IV (1813–1805 BCE), Egyptian, 18
- Amenemnisu (1044–1040 BCE), Egyptian, 27
- Amenemope (992–984 BCE), Egyptian, 28
- Amenhotep I (1525–1504 BCE), Egyptian, 21
- Amenhotep II (1425–1400 BCE), Egyptian, 22
- Amenhotep III (1390–1352 BCE), Egyptian, 22
- Amenmesses (1203–1200 BCE), Egyptian, 25
- Ameny Intef IV (c. 1770 BCE), Egyptian, 19
- Amhose I (1550–1525 BCE), Egyptian, 21
- Anastasius I Dicorus (491–518), Byzantine, 90
- Anastasius II Artemius (713–715), Byzantine, 93
- Anedjib (Miebîdós) (c. 2930 BCE), Egyptian, 10
- Antigonus I Monophthalmus (315–312 BCE), Macedonian, 52
- Antiochus I Soter (281–261 BCE), Seleucid, 57
- Antiochus II Theos (261–246 BCE), Seleucid, 57
- Antiochus III the Great (222–187 BCE), Seleucid, 57
- Antipater of Macedon (321–319 BCE), Macedonian, 52
- Antoninus Pius (138–161), Roman, 67
- Arcadius (395–408), Byzantine, 89
- Arnulf of Carinthia (896–899), Holy Roman, 102
- Artaxerxes I Longimanus (465–424 BCE), Achaemenid, 46
- Artaxerxes II Mnemon (404–358 BCE), Achaemenid, 46
- Artaxerxes III Ochus (385–338 BCE), Achaemenid, 46
- Artaxerxes IV Arses (338–336 BCE), Achaemenid, 46
- Ashurbanipal (669–631 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 35
- Ashur-etil-ilani (631–627 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 35
- Ashur-uballit II (612–609 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 35
- Augustus, Caesar (43–33 BCE (Triumvir), 27 BCE–14 AD (Emperor)), Roman, 65
- Aurelian (270–275), Roman, 71
- Ay (1327–1323 BCE), Egyptian, 23
- Ay (c. 1720 BCE), Egyptian, 20
- Balbinus (238), Roman, 69
- Bardiya (Smerdis) (522 BCE), Achaemenid, 45

Berengar I of Friuli (915–924), Holy Roman, 103

Biden, Joe (2021–), American, 150

Bush, George H.W. (1989–1993), American, 150

Bush, George W. (2001–2009), American, 150

Caligula (37–41), Roman, 65

Cambyses II (530–522 BCE), Achaemenid, 45

Caracalla, Antoninus (198–217), Roman, 68

Carinus (283–285), Roman, 72

Carus (282–283), Roman, 71

Charlemagne (800–814), Holy Roman, 101

Charles III the Fat (881–887), Holy Roman, 102

Charles IV of Bohemia (1355–1378), Holy Roman, 107

Charles V (1519–1556), Holy Roman, 108

Charles II the Bald (875–877), Holy Roman, 101

Claudius (41–54), Roman, 65

Claudius Gothicus (268–270), Roman, 71

Clinton, Bill (1993–2001), American, 150

Commodus (177–192), Roman, 67

Conrad II (1027–1039), Holy Roman, 104

Constans II Pogonatus (641–668), Byzantine, 92

Constantine Heraclius (641), Byzantine, 92

Constantine I the Great (306–337), Byzantine, 88

Constantine IV (654–685), Byzantine, 92

Constantine V Copronymus (741–775), Byzantine, 94

Constantine VI (780–797), Byzantine, 94

Constantius Chlorus (305–306), Roman, 72

Constantius II the Arian (337–361), Byzantine, 88

Cyrus (559–530 BCE), Achaemenid, 45

Darius I the Great (522–486 BCE), Achaemenid, 45

Darius II Nothus (423–404 BCE), Achaemenid, 46

Darius III (Codomannus) (336–330 BCE), Achaemenid, 47

Decius, Gaius (249–251), Roman, 70

Den (Udimu) (c. 2970 BCE), Egyptian, 10

Didius Julianus (193), Roman, 68

Diocletian Jovius (284–305), Roman, 72

Djedefre (2528–2520 BCE), Egyptian, 13

Djedkare (Isesi) (2381–2353 BCE), Egyptian, 14

Djer (c. 3000 BCE), Egyptian, 10

Djet (Uadji) (c. 2980 BCE), Egyptian, 10

Djoser (2630–2611 BCE), Egyptian, 12

Domitian (81–96), Roman, 66

Eisenhower, Dwight D. (1953–1961), American, 149

Elagabalus (218–222), Roman, 68

Esarhaddon (681–669 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 34

Fabius Maximus Allobrogicus (121 BCE (Consul), 120 BCE (Proconsul)), Roman, 64

Flaccus (125 BCE (Consul)), Roman, 64

Ford, Gerald (1974–1977), American, 149

Frederick I Barbarossa (1155–1190), Holy Roman, 105

Frederick II (1220–1250), Holy Roman, 106

Frederick III (1452–1493), Holy Roman, 108

Galba (68–69), Roman, 65

Galerius Jovius (306–311), Roman, 72

Gallienus (260–268), Roman, 70

George IV (1815 (Regent of Britain from 1811)–1830), British, 131

Gordian I Africanus (238), Roman, 69

Gordian III (238–244), Roman, 69

Guy III of Spoleto (891–894), Holy Roman, 102

Hadrian (117–138), Roman, 67

Hatshepsut, Queen (1479–1458 BCE), Egyptian, 21

Henry II (1014–1024), Holy Roman, 104

Henry III (1046–1056), Holy Roman, 104

Henry IV (1084–1105), Holy Roman, 104

Henry V (1111–1125), Holy Roman, 105

Henry VI (1191–1197), Holy Roman, 106

Henry VII of Luxembourg (1312–1313), Holy Roman, 107

Heraclius Constantine III (641), Byzantine, 92

Heraclius I (610–641), Byzantine, 91

Hitler, Adolf (1933–1945), German, 141

Hor (c. 1760 BCE), Egyptian, 19

Hor-Aha (c. 3080 BCE), Egyptian, 10

Horemheb (1323–1295 BCE), Egyptian, 23

Huni (2599–2575 BCE), Egyptian, 12

Irene the Athenian (797–802), Byzantine, 94

Johnson, Lyndon B. (1963–1969), American, 149

Jovian, Flavius (363–364), Byzantine, 88

Julian the Apostate (361–363), Byzantine, 88

Julius Caesar (63–44 BCE (Pontifex Maximus), 49–44 BCE (Dictator)), Roman, 64

Justin I (518–527), Byzantine, 90

Justin II (565–574), Byzantine, 91

Justinian I (527–565), Byzantine, 90

Justinian II Rhinotmetus (685–695 & 705–711), Byzantine, 92, 93

Kennedy, John F. (1961–1963), American, 149

Khaba (2605–2599 BCE), Egyptian, 12

Khafre (2520–2494 BCE), Egyptian, 13

Khasekhemwy (2690–2672 BCE), Egyptian, 11

Khendjer (c. 1745 BCE), Egyptian, 19

Khufu (Cheops) (2551–2528 BCE), Egyptian, 12

Labashi-Marduk (556 BCE), Neo-Babylonian, 40

Lambert of Spoleto (891–898), Holy Roman, 102

Leo I the Thracian (457–474), Byzantine, 89

Leo II (474), Byzantine, 90

Leo III the Isaurian (717–741), Byzantine, 93

Leo IV the Khazar (775–780), Byzantine, 94

Leontios (695–698), Byzantine, 92

Lothair I (817–855), Holy Roman, 101

Lothair III of Supplinburg (1133–1137), Holy Roman, 105

Louis I the Pious (813–840), Holy Roman, 101

Louis II the Younger (844–875), Holy Roman, 101

Louis IV of Bavaria (1328–1347), Holy Roman, 107

Louis the Blind of Provence (901–905), Holy Roman, 103

Louis XIV the Great (1665–1714), French, 123

Louis XV the Beloved (1715–1774), French, 123

Louis XVI (Citizen Louis Capet) (1774–1791), French, 123

Macrinus (217–218), Roman, 68

Marcian (450–457), Byzantine, 89

Marcus Aurelius (161–180), Roman, 67

Marius, Gaius (107, 104, 103, 102, 101, 100 & 86 BCE (Consul)), Roman, 64

Maurice Tiberius of Arabissus (582–602),

Byzantine, 91
 Maximilian I (1493–1519), Holy Roman, 108
 Maximinus Thrax (235–238), Roman, 69
 Menes (Narmer) (c. 3150 BCE), Egyptian, 10
 Menkauhor (2389–2381 BCE), Egyptian, 14
 Menkaura (2494–2472 BCE), Egyptian, 13
 Mentuhotep II (2051–2000 BCE), Egyptian,
 16
 Mentuhotep III (2000–1988 BCE), Egyptian,
 17
 Mentuhotep IV (1988–1981 BCE), Egyptian,
 17
 Merenre I (2255–2246 BCE), Egyptian, 15, 16
 Merneptah (1213–1203 BCE), Egyptian, 25
 Metellus Macedonicus (148 BCE (Praetor),
 143 BCE (Consul)), Roman, 63
 Mummius Achaicus (146 BCE (Consul), 142
 BCE (Censor)), Roman, 63
 Nabonidus (556–539 BCE), Neo-Babylonian,
 40
 Napoleon Bonaparte (1799–1815), French,
 123
 Nebuchadnezzar II the Great (605–562 BCE),
 Neo-Babylonian, 40
 Neferefre (2431–2420 BCE), Egyptian, 14
 Neferhotep I (c. 1735 BCE), Egyptian, 19
 Neferirkare (2446–2438 BCE), Egyptian, 14
 Neriglissar (560–556 BCE), Neo-Babylonian,
 40
 Nero (54–68), Roman, 65
 Nerva (96–98), Roman, 66
 Netjerkare Siptah (2152–2150 BCE),
 Egyptian, 16
 Nixon, Richard M. (1969–1974), American,
 149
 Nyuserre (2420–2389 BCE), Egyptian, 14
 Obama, Barack (2009–2017), American, 150
 Osorkon II (874–850 BCE), Egyptian, 29
 Osorkon the Elder (984–978 BCE), Egyptian,
 28
 Otho (69), Roman, 66
 Otto I (962–973), Holy Roman, 103
 Otto II (973–983), Holy Roman, 103
 Otto III (996–1002), Holy Roman, 104
 Otto IV (1209–1215), Holy Roman, 106
 Paullus Macedonicus (182 & 168 BCE
 (Consul), 181 & 167 BCE (Proconsul), 164
 BCE (Censor)), Roman, 63
 Pepi I (2289–2255 BCE), Egyptian, 15
 Pepi II (2246–2152 BCE), Egyptian, 16
 Perdiccas of Macedon (323–321 BCE),
 Macedonian, 52
 Perperna (130 BCE (Consul)), Roman, 63
 Pertinax (193), Roman, 68
 Philip II (1556–1598), Spanish, 117
 Philip III (1598–1621), Spanish, 117
 Philip IV (1621–1685), Spanish, 117
 Philip the Arab (244–249), Roman, 70
 Philippicus Bardanes (711–713), Byzantine,
 93
 Phocas (602–610), Byzantine, 91
 Polyperchon of Macedon (319–315 BCE),
 Macedonian, 52
 Pompey the Great (70, 55 & 52 BCE (Consul),
 67–61 & 58–54 BCE (Proconsul)), Roman,
 64
 Probus (276–282), Roman, 71
 Psusennes I (1040–992 BCE), Egyptian, 27
 Psusennes II (959–945 BCE), Egyptian, 28
 Pupienus (238), Roman, 69
 Qa'a (c. 2910 BCE), Egyptian, 11
 Quintillus (270), Roman, 71
 Ramesses I (1295–1294 BCE), Egyptian, 24
 Ramesses II (1279–1213 BCE), Egyptian, 24

Ramesses III (1184–1153 BCE), Egyptian, 26

Ramesses IV (1153–1147 BCE), Egyptian, 26

Ramesses IX (1126–1108 BCE), Egyptian, 27

Ramesses V (1147–1143 BCE), Egyptian, 26

Ramesses VI (1143–1136 BCE), Egyptian, 26

Ramesses VII (1136–1129 BCE), Egyptian, 26

Ramesses VIII (1129–1126 BCE), Egyptian, 26

Ramesses X (1108–1099 BCE), Egyptian, 27

Ramesses XI (1099–1070 BCE), Egyptian, 27

Reagan, Ronald (1981–1989), American, 150

Sahure (2458–2446 BCE), Egyptian, 13

Sanakhte (Nebka) (2649–2630 BCE), Egyptian, 11

Sargon II (722–705 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 34

Scipio Africanus Aemilianus (147 & 134 BC (Consul), 146 & 133 BCE (Proconsul), 142 BCE (Censor)), Roman, 63

Scipio Asiaticus (190 BCE (Consul)), Roman, 63

Sekhemkhet (2611–2605 BCE), Egyptian, 12

Seleucus I Nicator (312–281 BCE), Seleucid, 57

Seleucus II Callinicus (246–225 BCE), Seleucid, 57

Seleucus III Ceraunus (225–223 BCE), Seleucid, 57

Semerket (c. 2920 BCE), Egyptian, 11

Sennacherib (705–681 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 34

Senusret I (1961–1917 BCE), Egyptian, 17

Senusret II (1885–1878 BCE), Egyptian, 18

Senusret III (1878–1840 BCE), Egyptian, 18

Septimius Severus (193–211), Roman, 68

Seti I (1294–1279 BCE), Egyptian, 24

Seti II (1200–1194 BCE), Egyptian, 25

Setnakhte (1186–1184 BCE), Egyptian, 25

Severus Alexander (222–235), Roman, 69

Shalmaneser V (727–722 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 34

Shepseskaf (2472–2467 BCE), Egyptian, 13

Shepseskare (2438–2431 BCE), Egyptian, 14

Shoshenq I (945–924 BCE), Egyptian, 28

Shoshenq III (825–773 BCE), Egyptian, 29

Siamun (978–959 BCE), Egyptian, 28

Sigismund of Luxembourg (1433–1437), Holy Roman, 107

Sinsharishkun (627–612 BCE), Neo-Assyrian, 35

Siptah (1194–1188 BCE), Egyptian, 25

Smendes (1070–1044 BCE), Egyptian, 27

Sneferka (c. 2900 BCE), Egyptian, 11

Sneferu (2575–2551 BCE), Egyptian, 12

Sobekhotep II (c. 1750 BCE), Egyptian, 19

Sobekhotep III (c. 1745 BCE), Egyptian, 19

Sobekhotep IV (c. 1730 BCE), Egyptian, 20

Sobekneferu, Queen (1805–1802 BCE), Egyptian, 18

Sogdianus (424–423 BCE), Achaemenid, 46

Sulla Felix (88 & 80 BCE (Consul), 82–79 BCE (Dictator)), Roman, 64

Tacitus (275–276), Roman, 71

Takelot I (889–874 BCE), Egyptian, 29

Takelot II (850–825 BCE), Egyptian, 29

Teti (Othoes) (2323–2291 BCE), Egyptian, 15

Thamphthis (Djedefptah) (2467–2465 BCE), Egyptian, 13

Theodosius I (379–395), Byzantine, 89

Theodosius II (408–450), Byzantine, 89

Theodosius III of Adramyttium (715–717), Byzantine, 93

Thutmose I (1504–1492 BCE), Egyptian, 21

Thutmose II (1492–1479 BCE), Egyptian, 21

Thutmose III (1458–1425 BCE), Egyptian, 22

Thutmose IV (1400–1390 BCE), Egyptian, 22
 Tiberius (14–37), Roman, 65
 Tiberius II Constantine (578–582), Byzantine,
 91
 Tiberius III Apsimar (698–705), Byzantine, 93
 Tiglath-Pileser III (745–727 BCE), Neo-
 Assyrian, 34
 Titus (79–81), Roman, 66
 Trajan (98–117), Roman, 67
 Trebonianus Gallus (251–253), Roman, 70
 Truman, Harry S. (1945–1953), American,
 149
 Trump, Donald (2017–2021), American, 150
 Tutankhamun (1336–1327 BCE), Egyptian, 23
 Twosret, Queen (1188–1186 BCE), Egyptian,
 25
 Unas (2353–2323 BCE), Egyptian, 15
 Userkaf (2465–2458 BCE), Egyptian, 13
 Userkare (2291–2289 BCE), Egyptian, 15
 Valens (364–378), Byzantine, 88
 Valerian (253–260), Roman, 70
 Vespasian (69–79), Roman, 66
 Victoria, Queen (1837–1901), British, 131
 Vitellius (69), Roman, 66
 Wegaf (c. 1780 BCE), Egyptian, 19
 Wilhelm II (1901 (Emperor of Germany from
 1888)–1918), German, 141
 William IV (1830–1837), British, 131
 Xerxes I the Great (486–465 BCE),
 Achaemenid, 45
 Xerxes II (424 BCE), Achaemenid, 46
 Zeno the Isaurian (474–491), Byzantine, 90