

Thirty-eighth Generation

Count Gisibert of Massgau (Count Gainfroi³⁹, Duke Mainier of Austria⁴⁰_) birth date unknown.

Count Gisibert of Massgau had the following child:

1. Count Gisibert of Darnau³⁷ was born 845.

Count Gisibert died after 840.



Emperor Lothar I (King Louis I "The Pious" of Aquitaine³⁷, King Charlemagne³⁹, King Pepin "The Short"³⁹, King Charles⁴⁰ Martel, Duke Pippin II⁴¹, Duke Ansgise⁴², St. Arnulf⁴³, Badegeisel II⁴⁴, St. Gondolfus⁴⁵, Munderic⁴⁶_) was born 795. King of Italy (818 – 855) and crowned Carolingian King of (Northern) Italy, Emperor of the Romans and (nominally) he was Emperor of the Franks (840 – 855).

Lothair was the eldest son of the Carolingian emperor Louis the Pious and his wife Ermengarde of Hesbaye, daughter of Ingerman, duke of Hesbaye. He led his full-brothers Pippin I of Aquitaine and Louis the German in revolt against their father on several occasions, in protest against his attempts to make their half-brother Charles the Bald a co-heir to the Frankish domains. Upon the death of the father, Charles and Louis joined forces against Lothair in a three year civil war (840-843), the struggles between the brothers leading directly to the breakup of the great Frankish Empire assembled by their grandfather Charlemagne, and would lay the foundation for the development of modern France and Germany.

Little is known of his early life, which was probably passed at the court of his grandfather Charlemagne. Shortly after the accession of his father, he was sent to govern Bavaria. He first comes to historical attention in 817, when Louis the Pious drew up his *Ordinatio Imperii*. In this, Louis

designated Lothair as his principal heir, to whom his younger brothers Pippin of Aquitaine and Louis the German, as well as his cousin Bernard of Italy, would be subject after the death of their father; he would also inherit their lands if they were to die childless. Lothair was then crowned joint emperor by his father at Aix-la-Chapelle. At the same time, Aquitaine and Bavaria were granted to his brothers Pippin and Louis respectively as subsidiary kingdoms. Following the murder of Bernard, King of Italy, by Louis the Pious, Lothair also received the Kingdom of Italy.

In 821, he married **Ermengarde of Tours** (Count Hugh II of Tours³⁹, Count Luitfride II⁴⁰_) (d. 851), daughter of Hugh, count of Tours. Emperor Lothar I and Ermengard had the following children:

1. **Emperor Louis II le Jeune**³⁷ (825-875)
2. Hiltrude (826-865)
3. Bertha (c.830-852)
4. **Ermengarde of Lorraine** (c.830-849)
5. Gisela (c.830-856)
6. King Lothar II. King of Lorraine (835-869)
7. Rotrude (c.840)
8. King Charles of Provence. King of Provence (845-863)
9. Carloman (853)

In 822, he assumed the government of Italy, and at Easter, 5 April 823, he was crowned emperor again by Pope Paschal I, this time at Rome. In November 824, he promulgated a statute concerning the relations of pope and emperor which reserved the supreme power to the secular potentate, and he afterwards issued various ordinances for the good government of Italy.

On his return to his father's court his stepmother Judith won his consent to her plan for securing a kingdom for her son Charles, a scheme which was carried out in 829, when the young prince was given Alemannia as king. Lothair, however, soon changed his attitude and spent the succeeding decade in constant strife over the division of the Empire with his father. He was alternately master of the Empire, and banished and confined to Italy, at one time taking up arms in alliance with his brothers and at another fighting against them, whilst the bounds of his appointed kingdom were in turn extended and reduced.

The first rebellion began in 830. All three brothers fought their father, whom they deposed. In 831, he was reinstated and he deprived Lothair of his imperial title and gave Italy to the young Charles. The second rebellion was instigated by Angilbert II, Archbishop of Milan, in 833, and again Louis was deposed and reinstated the next year (834). Lothair, through the loyalty of the Lombards and later reconciliations, retained Italy and the imperial position through all remaining divisions of the Empire by his father.

When Louis the Pious was dying in 840, he sent the imperial insignia to Lothair, who, disregarding the various partitions, claimed the whole of the Empire. Negotiations

with his brother Louis the German and his half-brother Charles, both of whom armed to resist this claim, were followed by an alliance of the younger brothers against Lothair. A decisive battle was fought at Fontenay-en-Puisaye on 25 June 841, when, in spite of his and his allied nephew Pepin II of Aquitaine's personal gallantry, Lothair was defeated and fled to Aachen. With fresh troops he began a war of plunder, but the forces of his brothers were too strong for him, and taking with him such treasure as he could collect, he abandoned to them his capital. He met with the leaders of the *Stellinga* in Speyer and promised them his support in return for theirs, but Louis and then the native Saxon nobility put down the *Stellinga* in the next years.

Peace negotiations began, and in June 842 the brothers met on an island in the Saône, and agreed to an arrangement which developed, after much difficulty and delay, into the Treaty of Verdun signed in August 843. By this, Lothair received the imperial title as well as northern Italy and a long stretch of territory from the North Sea to the Mediterranean, essentially along the valleys of the Rhine and the Rhone. He soon left Italy to his eldest son, Louis, and remained in his new kingdom, engaging in alternate quarrels and reconciliations with his brothers and in futile efforts to defend his lands from the attacks of the Northmen (as Vikings were known in Frankish writings) and the Saracens.

In 855, he became seriously ill and, despairing of recovery, renounced the throne, divided his lands between his three sons, and on September 23, entered the monastery of Prüm, where he died six days later. He was buried at Prüm, where his remains were found in 1860. His kingdom was divided among his three sons — the eldest, Louis II, received Italy and the title of Emperor; the second, Lothair II, received Lotharingia; while the youngest, Charles, received Provence.

Ermentrude de Orleans was born October 12, 830. Ermentrude died October 6, 869 in St. Denis, at 38 years of age. She married **King Charles I "The Bald"** 842. (See King Charles I "The Bald" for the children resulting from this marriage.)

Count Adalard birth date unknown. Count Adalard had the following child:

1. **Adelaide³⁷ (Judith)** was born 855.

Count Liudolf of Saxony was born 806. was a Saxon count; later authors called him duke of the Eastern Saxons. He was also named as count of Eastphalia. Liudolf had possessions in eastern Saxony, and was involved in wars against Normans and Slavs. The Liudolfing House, also known as the Ottonian House, is named after him; he is its oldest known member.

He married **Oda** (836) daughter of a Frankish prince named Billung and his wife Aeda. Oda died on 17 May 913, supposedly at the age of 107. By marrying a Frankish nobleman's daughter, Liudolf followed suggestions set forth by Charlemagne about ensuring the integrity of the Frankish Kingdom through marriage.

Count Liudolf of Saxony and Oda had the following children:

1. Duke Bruno of Saxony³⁷ .
2. Liutgard.
3. Hathumoda.
4. Gerberga.
5. Christine.
6. **Duke Otto of Saxony** was born 836.

In 845/846, Liudolf and his wife traveled to Rome in order to ask Pope Sergius II for permission to found a house of secular canonesses, duly established in Brunshausen around 852, and moved in 881 to form Gandersheim Abbey. Liudolf's daughter Hathumod became its first abbess.

Count Liudolf died 866. Liudolf is buried in Brunshausen; his sons Bruno and Otto apparently inherited his property.



King Arnulf of Carinthia (King Carloman³⁹, Ansgarde of Burgundy⁴⁰) (German: *Arnulf von Kärnten*; Slovene: *Arnulf Koroški*; 850 – December 8, 899) was the Carolingian King of East Francia from 887 and Holy Roman Emperor from 896 until his death. He was the illegitimate son of Carloman, King of Bavaria, and his concubine, Liutswind, of Carantanian origin, daughter of one Count Ernst. He was given the Duchy of Carinthia, a Frankish vassal state and successor of the ancient Principality of Carantania, by his father when he divided his realm, giving Bavaria to Louis the Younger and the Kingdom of Italy to Charles the Fat, in 880 on his death.

He spent his childhood in Carantania, homeland of his mother. Carloman had a court there, in Moosburg (then *Blatograd*), where the young Arnulf grew up. From later events it is evident that the Carantanians, from an early time, treated him as their own Duke.

When, in 882, Engelschalk II rebelled against the margrave of Austria, Aribio, and ignited the so-called Wilhelminer War, Arnulf supported him and even accepted his and his brother's homage. This ruined Arnulf's relationship with his uncle the emperor and put him at war with Svatopluk of Moravia. Pannonia was invaded, but Arnulf refused to give up the young Wilhelminers. Arnulf did not make peace with

Svatopluk until late 885, by which time the Moravian was a man of the emperor. Some scholars see this war as destroying Arnulf's hopes at succeeding Charles.

He took the leading role in the deposition of his uncle, the Emperor Charles the Fat. With the support of the nobles, Arnulf held a diet and deposed Charles in November 887, under threat of military action. Charles peacefully went into his involuntary retirement, but not without first chastising his nephew for his treachery and asking only for a few royal villas in Swabia, which Arnulf mercifully granted him, on which to live out his final months. Arnulf was elected by the nobles of the realm (only the eastern realm, though Charles had ruled the whole of the Frankish lands) and assumed his title of King.

He married **Oda of Bavaria**. King Arnulf of Carinthia and Oda of Bavaria had the following children:

1. **Hedwige**³⁷.
2. King Zwentibold. King of Lorraine.
3. King Louis III "The Child" was born 893.

Arnulf was not a negotiator, but a fighter. At the decisive Battle of Leuven in September 891, he defeated an invading force of the Northmen, or Vikings, essentially ending their invasions on that front. The *Annales Fuldenses* report that the bodies of dead Northmen blocked the run of the river. After his victory, Arnulf built a new castle on an island in the Dijle river (Dutch: Dijle, English and French: Dyle).

In 893 or 894, Great Moravia probably lost a part of its territory — present-day Western Hungary — to him. Arnulf, however, failed to conquer the whole of Great Moravia when he attempted it in 892, 893, and 899. In 895, Bohemia broke away from Great Moravia and became his vassal. An accord was made between him and the Bohemian Duke Borivoj I (reigned 870-95); Bohemia was thus freed from the dangers of invasion.

In 893, Pope Formosus, not trusting the newly crowned co-emperors Guy and Lambert, sent an embassy to Regensburg to request Arnulf come and liberate Italy, where he would be crowned in Rome. Arnulf sent his son Zwentibold with a Bavarian army to join Berengar of Friuli. They defeated Guy, but were bought off and left in autumn. Arnulf then personally led an army across the Alps early in 894. He conquered all of the territory north of the Po, but went no further before Guy died suddenly in late autumn. Lambert and his mother Ageltrude travelled to Rome to receive papal confirmation of his imperial succession, but Formosus, still desiring to crown Arnulf, was imprisoned in Castel Sant'Angelo.

In September 895, a new embassy arrived in Regensburg beseeching Arnulf's aid. In October, Arnulf undertook his second campaign into Italy. He crossed the Alps quickly and took Pavia, but then he continued slowly, garnering support among the nobility of Tuscany. First Maginulf, Count of Milan, and then Walfred, Count of Pavia, joined him. Eventually even the Margrave Adalbert II abandoned Lambert. Finding Rome locked against him and held by Ageltrude, he had to take the city by force on 21 February 896, freeing the pope. Arnulf was there crowned King and

Emperor by Formosus on 22 February. He only retained power in Italy as long as he was personally there. Arnulf marched on Spoleto, where Ageltrude had fled to join Lambert, but he suffered a stroke and had to call off the campaign. That same year, Formosus died, leaving Lambert once again in power. Rumours of the time made Arnulf's condition to be a result of poisoning at the hand of Ageltrude. He returned to Germany and had no more control in Italy for the rest of his life.

On Arnulf's death in 899, he was succeeded as a king of the East Franks by his son by his wife Oda (died 903), Louis the Child. Arnulf's illegitimate son Zwentibold, whom he had made King of Lotharingia in 895, continued to rule there until the next year (900).

He is entombed in St. Emmeram's Basilica which is now known as Schloss Thurn und Taxis, the castle of the Princes of Thurn and Taxis.

Count Walput of Ringelheim (Duke Wigbert of Saxony³⁹, Duke Witteking "The Great"⁴⁰, King Wernicke⁴¹, King Dieterick⁴², King Sighard⁴³, King Berthold of the Saxons⁴⁴, Prince Bodicus⁴⁵, King Hulderick⁴⁶, Prince Hathwigate⁴⁷, Prince Hengest of Jutes⁴⁸, King Witigislus⁴⁹, King Witte II⁵⁰, King Witte I⁵¹_) birth date unknown. Ringelheim is a suburb of Salzgitter in Lower Saxony, Germany.

He married **Alburgis**. Count of Ringelheim also Count of the region of Threcwiti, 834-872.

Count Walput of Ringelheim had the following child:

1. **Duke Theudebert (Dietrich) of Saxony**³⁷.
2. Count Dietrich of Ringelheim was born 872.

Count Walput died 856.

Earl Hlodvir "The Viking" (Thorfin I "Skull-Cleaver"³⁹, Earl Turf Einar I⁴⁰, Hildir⁴¹_) birth date unknown. The Earl of Orkney was originally a Norse jarl ruling Orkney, Shetland and parts of Caithness and Sutherland. The Earls were periodically subject to the kings of Norway for the Northern Isles, and later also to the kings of Alba for those parts of their territory in mainland Scotland (i.e. Caithness and Sutherland). The Earl's status as a Norwegian vassal was formalized in 1195. In 1232 a Scottish dynasty descended from the Mormaers of Angus replaced the previous family descended from the Mormaers of Atholl, although it remained formally subject to Norway. This family was in turn replaced by the descendants of the Mormaers of Strathearn and later still by the Sinclair family, during whose time Orkney passed to Scots control

He married **Audna** (King Kiarva (Carrol)³⁹_) . Earl Hlodve "The Viking" and Audna had the following child:

1. **Earl Sigurd II "The Corpulent"**³⁷.

Earl Hlodvir died 988.

King Cadell ap Rhodri (King Rhodri Mawr "The Great"³⁹, King Merfyn Frych "The Freckled"⁴⁰, King Gwriad⁴¹, King Elidyr⁴², King Sandde⁴³, King Tegid⁴⁴, King Gwyar⁴⁵, King Diwg⁴⁶, King Llywarch Hen⁴⁷, King Elidyr "The Handsome"⁴⁸, King Merchiaun⁴⁹, King Gurgust "The Ragged"⁵⁰, King Ceneu⁵¹, King Coel Hen "The Old"⁵², Guotepauc⁵³, Tegfan⁵⁴, Teuhvant⁵⁵, Telpuil⁵⁶, Erb (Urbanus)⁵⁷, Gratus⁵⁸, Iumetel⁵⁹, Ritigern⁶⁰, Oudicant⁶¹, Outigern⁶², Eliud⁶³, Eudaf⁶⁴, Eudelen⁶⁵, Amalech⁶⁶, Beli⁶⁷, Bran the Blessed⁶⁸, Llyr (Lear)⁶⁹, Caswallon⁷⁰, Beli Mawr⁷¹), was born 878.

The younger son of Rhodri Mawr, Cadell inherited Ceredigion and Ystrad Tywi while his brother Anarawd inherited Gwynedd and Powys. Cadell and Anarawd combined forces to ensure that they suffocated any opposition. By the early 890s, they had not only forced Ceredigion into submission, but had become a menace to Hyfaidd, King of Dyfed, and Eliseg of Brycheiniog. The hostility worsened as the threatened kings sought the help of Alfred of Wessex, which Anarawd and Cadell countered in 894 by bringing in the Danes of York. The Danes ravaged Gwynedd and Anarawd in turn had to seek aid from Alfred. Cadell went on to conquer Dyfed in 905. Cadell held his land by force, in complete contrast to his son Hywel, whose abilities made him the greatest ruler the Welsh ever had.

King Cadell had the following children:

1. King Clydog³⁷.
2. **King Hywel Dda "The Good ap Cadell"** was born 882.

Cadell died 909.

King Edmund of Birka (King Erik³⁹, King Bjorn⁴⁰, King Ragnar Lodbrok⁴¹) birth date unknown. King of Birka

King Edmund of Birka had the following children:

1. **King Eric of Sweden Emundsson**³⁷.
2. Ingeborg.

Edmund died 873.

Mistui I (Rodigastus³⁹, Mieceslas of the Obotrites⁴⁰, Billung⁴¹, Billung I⁴², Aribert I⁴³, King Vislas of Obotrites⁴⁴) birth date unknown.

Mistui I had the following child:

1. **Mieceslas I**³⁷.

Mistui died 869.

Count Adalberto birth date unknown.

Count Adalberto had the following child:

1. **Sigifredo**³⁷ **Di Canossa**.

Boniface of Tuscany (Margrave Adalberto I³⁹, Margrave Boniface II⁴⁰, Margrave Boniface I⁴¹) birth date unknown.

Boniface of Tuscany had the following child:

1. **Margrave Adalberto II**³⁷.

Boniface died 894.

King Rudolph I (Count Conrad II³⁹, Count Conrad I of Burgundy⁴⁰, Count Guelph I of Altdorf⁴¹, Lord Isembert⁴², Lord Warinus⁴³, Duke Eberhard of Alsatia⁴⁴, Duke Adelbertus⁴⁵) was born 847. King of (Upper or Transjurane) Burgundy from his election in 888 until his death.

Rudolph belonged to the elder Welf family and was the son of Conrad, Count of Auxerre, from whom he inherited the lay abbacy of St Maurice en Valais, making him the most powerful magnate in Upper Burgundy - present-day western Switzerland and the Franche Comté.

King Rudolph I had the following child:

1. **King Rudolph II**³⁷ was born 877.

After the deposition and death of Charles the Fat, the nobles and leading clergy of Upper Burgundy met at St Maurice and elected Rudolph as king. Apparently on the basis of this election, Rudolph claimed the whole of Lotharingia, taking much of modern Lorraine and Alsace - but his claim was contested by Arnulf of Carinthia, the new king of East Francia or Germany, who rapidly forced Rudolph to abandon Lotharingia in return for recognition as king of Burgundy. However, hostilities between Rudolph and Arnulf seem to have continued intermittently until 894.

Rudolph's relationships with his other neighbors were friendlier. His sister Adelaide married Richard the Justiciar, duke of Burgundy (the present day Burgundy, part of west Francia), and his daughters, another Adelaide, married Louis the Blind of Provence (Lower Burgundy), and Willa, married Boso of Tuscany.

Rudolph was succeeded as king of Burgundy by his son, Rudolph II. Rudolf I's widow, queen Guilla, married in 912 Hugh of Arles.

Rudolph died 911.

Duke Burchard I of Swabia (Count Burchard I of Thurgovie³⁹, Count Adalbert II of Thurgovie⁴⁰, Count Ulric I of Thurgovie⁴¹, Count Adelbert I of Thurgovie⁴², Count Hunfried de La Retie⁴³) born 885, was the duke of Swabia from 909 to his death and margrave of Rhaetia, as well as count in the Thurgau and Baar. Born between 855 and 860, he was the son of Adalbert II, count in the Thurgau.

By 900, Burchard was already the most powerful man in Swabia. In 904, he was the administrator of the lands of the abbey of Lorsch in Swabia. He succeeded, around 909, Ruadulf (a Welf) as *dux* or *marchio* (duke of margrave) of *Raetia Secunda* (the borderlands of Rhaetia). Burchard entered into a conflict with the Count Palatine Erchanger

and Bishop Solomon III of Constance, who were loyal to King Conrad I. Burchard was captured and charged with high treason. He was found guilty by the tribal council and executed, along with his brother, Adalbert III of Thurgau. His son, Burchard II, and daughter-in-law, Regelinda, left for Italy, either exiled or taking refuge. Their Rhaetian estates were lost, though later recovered. Burchard I's second son, Odalric, had already died young.

He married **Regerlined of Nellenburg**. Duke Burchard I of Swabia and Regerlined of Nellenburg had the following child:

1. **Bertha of Swabia**³⁷ was born 907.

Duke died 925.

King Sancho I Garcés was born 865. King of Pamplona from 905 to 925. He was a son of García Jiménez, who was king of "another part of the kingdom" of Pamplona and Dadildis de Pallars, his second wife. In 905, a coalition of enemies of the king, Fortún Garcés: Lubb ibn Muhammed of the Banu Qasi, King Alfonso III of Asturias, Galindo Aznar II of Aragon and Sancho's uncle, Raymond I of Pallars and Ribagorza, deposed the king, and put Sancho on the throne in his place. Throughout his reign, he involved himself in the squabbles among the Muslim lords to the south with repeated success. In 907, he turned on his former ally Lubb ibn Muhammad, killing him in battle. Four years later, another former ally, Galindo Aznar, joined with his brother-in-law Muhammad al-Tawil and Abd Allah ibn Lubb ibn Qasi to attack Sancho, but they were crushed: al-Tawil was killed, the power of the Banu Qasi was severely crippled, and Galindo forced into vassalage to Sancho, leading to the incorporation of the County of Aragon into Pamplona. In 920, he teamed with Bernard I of Ribagorza and Amrus ibn Muhammed, son of Muhammad al-Tawil, to attack Monzón. He joined Ultra-Puertos, or Basse-Navarre (Baja Navarra), to his own dominions, also extending his territory as far as Nájera. As a thanksgiving offering for his victories, he founded, in 924, the convent of Albelda.

He married **Urraca Anzarez de Aragon**. King Sancho I Garcés and Urraca Anzarez de Aragon had the following children:

1. Sancha of Pamplona³⁷.
2. Urraca of Pamplona.
3. Oncea of Pamplona.
4. Velasquita.
5. Orbita.
6. **King Garcia I Sanchez** was born 919.

King Sancho died December 11, 925.

Urraca of Pamplona birth date unknown. She married **Conde Fernan Gonzalez** 961. (See Conde Fernan Gonzalez for the children resulting from this marriage.)



King Ordoña II of Leon born 873 was king of Galicia from 910 and king of Galicia and León from 914 until his death. He was the second son of the King Alfonso III the Great and his wife, Jimena of Navarre.

His father sent him to Zaragoza to be educated in the court of the Banu Qasi. Upon Alfonso's death in 910, his sons divided the kingdom. León went to García, Galicia to Ordoño, and Asturias to Fruela. Asturian primacy was nevertheless recognised, though Ordoño was of a harder temperament than his brothers. Upon his brother García's death in Zamora in 914, he succeeded him in León.

Ordoño continued thereafter the expansion of the Christian polity of his forefathers on two fronts. In the west of his territories, he sacked Mérida and Évora and forced the Muslim governor of the region to buy his retreat.

In the east of his territories, he united with Sancho I Garcés, king of Navarre, against the emir of Córdoba, Abd-ar-Rahman III. The Moors were destroyed at San Esteban de Gormaz (917). Arnedo and Calahorra were taken the next year from the Banu Qasi. The reaction of Abd-ar-rahman, however, was not light. In 920, he put to march an army to recover Osma and San Esteban de Gormaz. He crossed into Navarre and destroyed the Christians at Valdejunquera and took captive the bishops of Tui and Salamanca. Though intending to crush Pamplona itself, he turned around to deal with his immense booty.

Ordoño II—who had come at King Sancho's request—attributed the loss to the absence of the counts of Castile, who had not come at his call. He brought them together at Tejares and had them killed. The Christian counteroffensive was immediate, occupying La Rioja and incorporating into Navarre Nájera and Viguera.

Ordoño married three times. His first wife (895) and the mother of his children was **Elvira Menendez**, daughter of count Hermengildo Gutierrez and sister of San Rosendo. King Ordoña II of Leon and Elvira Hermenegildez had the following children:

1. King Sancho³⁷.
2. King Alfonso IV "the Monk" of Leon.
3. Garcia.
4. Jimena.
5. King Ramiro II of Leon was born 900.

Elvira died 921. He then married Aragona Gonzalez, daughter of count Gonzalo Betotez. He set her aside because "she was not pleasing to him", and when he formed a political alliance with Sancho I of Pamplona, he was married to that king's daughter, Sancha.

He died in 924 leaving young children, and was succeeded by his eldest surviving brother, Fruela, the king of Asturias, thereby reuniting their father's patrimony.

Count Guttiere Osorez birth date unknown. He married **Ildoncia Gutierrez**. They had the following child:

1. **Adosina**³⁷.



Duke Ziemonislav of Poland birth date unknown, was the third Polish duke, and the father of Poland's first historical ruler, Mieszko I. He was son of Lestek. Siemomysł is credited with leaving the lands known as Greater Poland to his son Mieszko I, who further expanded them during his reign. His name in German was Ziemomysl.

He married **Gorka**. Duke Ziemonislav of Poland and Gorka had the following child:

1. Duke Mieszko (Borislaw) I of Poland³⁷ was born 922.

Ziemonislav died 964.

Prince Taksony of Hungary was born 931. Grand Prince of the Magyars. Taksony was the son of Zoltán (Zaltas), the fourth son of Árpád, the second Grand Prince of the Magyars. The Gesta Hungarorum mentions that his mother was a daughter of Menmarót, the local military leader in the region of Bihar (Romanian: *Biharea*) at the time of the Hungarian settlement occupation (*Honfoglalás*).

Taksony married **Daughter von Kumanien** 947. Prince Taksony of Hungary and Daughter von Kumanien had the following children:

1. **King Geza of Hungary**³⁷.
2. Michael of Hungary was born 955.

In 947, Taksony led a raid to Italy till Apulia, and King Berengar II of Italy had to buy the peace by paying a large amount of money to him and his followers. He might have taken part in the Battle of Lechfeld (Hungarian: *augzburgi csata*) where King Otto I of Germany won a decisive victory over the Magyars. After the defeat the Magyars stopped their raids (*kalandozások*) in Western Europe, but they began to pillage the Byzantine Empire.

Taksony became the Grand Prince of the Magyars just or shortly after the Battle of Lechfeld, but his authority must have been only nominal over some regions of the Carpathian Basin inhabited by the Magyars. During his rule a large number of Pechenegs and Khalyzians immigrated to the territory of the future Hungary.

Prince Taksony died 972.



King Otto I "The Great" (King Henry I "The Fowler"³⁶, Duke Otto of Saxony³⁷, Count Liudolf of Saxony³⁸) (23 November 912 in Wallhausen – 7 May 973 in Memleben), son of Henry I the Fowler and Matilda of Ringelheim, was Duke of Saxony, King of Germany, King of Italy, and "the first of the Germans to be called the emperor of Italy" according to Arnulf of Milan. While Charlemagne had been crowned emperor in 800, his empire had been divided amongst his grandsons, and following the assassination of Berengar of Friuli in 924, the imperial title had lain vacant for nearly forty years. On 2 February 962, Otto was crowned Emperor of what would later become the Holy Roman Empire.

Otto succeeded his father as king of the Germans in 936. He arranged for his coronation to be held in Charlemagne's former capital, Aachen, where he was anointed by the archbishop of Mainz, primate of the German church. According to the Saxon historian Widukind of Corvey, at his coronation banquet he had the four other dukes of the empire, those of Franconia, Swabia, Bavaria and Lorraine, act as his personal attendants: Arnulf I of Bavaria as marshal (or stable master), Herman I, Duke of Swabia as cupbearer, Eberhard III of Franconia as steward (or seneschal), and Gilbert of Lorraine as Chamberlain. Thus from the outset of his reign he signaled that he was the successor to Charlemagne, whose last heirs in East Francia had died out in 911, and that he had the German church, with its powerful bishops and abbots, behind him. Otto intended to dominate the church and use that sole unifying institution in the German lands in order to establish an institution of theocratic imperial power. The Church offered wealth, military manpower and its monopoly on literacy. For his part the Emperor offered protection against the nobles, the promise of endowments, and an avenue to power as his *ministeriales*.

King Athelstan of England sent two of his sisters to Germany, instructing Otto I, Holy Roman Emperor to choose whichever one pleased him best. Otto chose Edith and married her in 929. King Otto I "The Great" and Edith of England had the following child:

1. Liutgarde, married Conrad the Red
2. Liutdolf, Duke of Swabia (930-September 6, 957)

Otto's early reign was marked by a series of ducal revolts. In 938, Eberhard, the new duke of Bavaria, refused to pay Otto homage. After Otto deposed him in favor of his uncle Berthold, Eberhard of Franconia revolted, together with several of the Saxon nobility, who tried to replace Otto with his elder half-brother Thankmar (son of Henry's first wife Hatheburg). While Otto was able to defeat and kill Thankmar, the revolt continued the next year when Gilbert, the duke of Lorraine, swore fealty to King Louis IV of France. Meanwhile, Otto's younger brother Henry conspired with Frederick, Archbishop of Mainz, to assassinate him. The rebellion ended in 939 with Otto's victory at the Battle of Andernach, where the dukes of Franconia and Lorraine both perished. Henry fled to France, and Otto responded by supporting Hugh the Great in his campaign against the French crown, but in 941 Otto and Henry were reconciled through the efforts of their mother, and the next year Otto withdrew from France after Louis recognized his suzerainty over Lorraine.

Edith died 26 January 946. Her tomb is located in the Cathedral of Magdeburg; a lead sarcophagus with her name on it was found and opened in 2008 and is currently (as of 2009) being examined.



Edith and Otto

To prevent further revolts, Otto arranged for all the important duchies in the German kingdom to be held by close family members. He kept the vacant duchy of Franconia as a fiefdom, while in 944 he bestowed the duchy of Lorraine upon Conrad the Red, who later married his daughter. Meanwhile, he arranged for his son Liutdolf to marry Ida, the daughter of Duke Herman of Swabia, and to inherit that duchy when Herman died in 947. A similar arrangement led to Henry becoming duke of Bavaria in 949.

Meanwhile, Italy had fallen into political chaos. On the death (950), possibly by poisoning, of Lothair of Arles, the Italian throne was inherited by a woman, Adelaide of Italy, the respective daughter, daughter-in-law, and widow of the last three kings of Italy. A local noble, Berengar of Ivrea, declared himself king of Italy, abducted Adelaide, and tried to legitimize his reign by forcing Adelaide to marry his son Adalbert. However, Adelaide escaped to Canossa and requested German intervention. Liutdolf and Henry independently invaded northern Italy to take advantage of the situation, but in 951 Otto frustrated his son's and his brother's ambitions by invading Italy himself. He received the homage of the Italian nobility, assumed the title "King of the Lombards" and in 952 forced Berengar and Adalbert to pay homage, allowing them to rule Italy as his vassals. Having been widowed since 946, he married Adelaide himself.

King Otto I "The Great" and **Adelaide of Lombardy** (King Rudolph II³⁷, King Rudolph I³⁸, Count Conrad II³⁹, Count Conrad I of Burgundy⁴⁰, Count Guelph I of Altdorf⁴¹, Lord Isembert⁴², Lord Warinus⁴³, Duke Eberhard of Alsacia⁴⁴, Duke Adelbertus⁴⁵) born 931. They had the following child:

1. **King Otto II of Saxony** was born 955.

In 953 Otto rebelled in league with Conrad, Duke of Lorraine and the Archbishop of Mainz. While Otto was initially successful in reasserting his authority in Lorraine, he was captured while attacking Mainz, and by the next year, the rebellion had spread throughout the kingdom. However, Conrad and Liutdolf erred by allying themselves with the

Magyars. Extensive Magyar raids in southern Germany in 954 compelled the German nobles to reunite, and at the Diet of Auerstadt, Conrad and Luitdolf were stripped of their titles and Otto's authority reestablished. In 955, Otto cemented his authority by routing Magyar forces at the Battle of Lechfeld (10 August 955) and the Obodrites at the Battle of Recknitz (16 October 955).

In the early 960s, Italy was again in political turmoil, and when Berengar occupied the northern Papal States, Pope John XII asked Otto for assistance. Otto returned to Italy and on February 2, 962, the pope crowned him emperor. See *Translatio imperii*. Ten days later, the pope and emperor ratified the *Diploma Ottonianum*, under which the emperor became the guarantor of the independence of the papal states. This was the first effective guarantee of such protection since the Carolingian Empire. After Otto left Rome and reconquered the Papal States from Berengar, however, John became fearful of the emperor's power and sent envoys to the Magyars and the Byzantine Empire to form a league against Otto. In November 963, Otto returned to Rome and convened a synod of bishops that deposed John and crowned Leo VIII, at that time a layman, as pope. When the emperor left Rome, however, civil war broke out in the city between supporters of the emperor and of John. John returned to power amidst great bloodshed and excommunicated those who had deposed him, forcing Otto to return to Rome a third time in July 964 to depose Pope Benedict V (John having died two months earlier). On this occasion, Otto extracted from the citizens of Rome a promise not to elect a pope without imperial approval.

Otto unsuccessfully campaigned in southern Italy on several occasions from 966 to 972. In 967, he gave the duchy of Spoleto to Pandulf Ironhead, prince of Benevento and Capua, a powerful ally in the Mezzogiorno. In the next year (968) Otto left the siege of Bari in the charge of Pandulf, but the allied duke was captured in the battle of Bovino by the Byzantines. In 972, the Byzantine emperor John I Tzimiskes recognized Otto's imperial title and agreed to a marriage between Otto's son and heir Otto II and his niece Theophano. Pandulf was released from captivity.



After his death in 973 he was buried next to his first wife Edith of Wessex in the Cathedral of Magdeburg.

Adelaide died December 999.

Count Miro (Count Guifre "Winifred" of Barcelona³⁹, Count Sunifred I of Urgel & Barcelona⁴⁰, Count Bella of Carvasonne⁴¹) birth date unknown.

He married **Ava of Bigorre** (Count Unifred³⁹ Bernat, Count Ramon I of Bigorre⁴⁰, Count Llop of Bigorre⁴¹, Count Llop Donat of Bigorre⁴², Count Dato Donat of Bigorre⁴³, Count Donat Loup of Bigorre⁴⁴, Duke Loup Centulle of Gascony⁴⁵, Centulle of Gascony⁴⁶, Duke Adelrico of Gascony⁴⁷, Duke Loup II of Gascony⁴⁸, Duke Waifar of Aquitaine⁴⁹, Duke Hunold of Aquitaine⁵⁰, Duke Eudes "Otto" of Aquitaine⁵¹, Duke Boggis of Aquitaine⁵², Duke Charibert II of Aquitaine⁵³) birth date unknown.

Count Miro and Ava of Bigorre had the following child:

1. **Count Oliba**³⁷.

Ava died 927.

Count Gausbert of Ampurias (Count Sunyer II of Ampurias³⁹, Count Sunyer I of Ampurias⁴⁰) birth date unknown was the count of Empúries and Rosselló from 915 until he died. He was the son of Sunifred II and brother of Bencion.

The County of Empúries or Ampurias was a medieval county centered on the town of Empúries and enclosing the Catalan region of Peralada. It corresponds to the historic *comarca* of Empordà. After the Franks conquered the regions in 785, Empúries and Peralada came under the authority of the County of Girona. Around 813, Empúries, with Peralada, became a county itself under Ermengar. He and the other early counts were probably Goths. In 817, Empúries was united to the County of Roussillon. Thereafter until 989 except Empúries was attached to Roussillon. From 835 to 844, Sunyer I ruled Empúries and Peralada while Alaric I ruled Roussillon and Vallespir.

With the death of his father, the counties passed to him and Bencion, but Bencion died in 916 and all the inheritance fell to Gausbert. In 924, he participated in a campaign with the margrave of Gothia against invading Moors. In 927, he rebuilt Saint Martin of Ampurias.

Count Gausbert married **Trudegarda**, with whom he had the following issue:

1. Sunifred, died young
2. Gausfred I (d.991), his successor
3. **Ermengarda of Ampurias**³⁷.

Gausbert died 931.

Count Borell II of Barcelona (Count Sunyer of Barcelona³³, Count Guifre (Wilfred) "The Hairy"³⁴, Count Sunifred I of Urgell³⁵, Count Bello of Carcassonne³⁶_) birth date unknown was Count of Barcelona, Girona, and Ausona from 945 and Count of Urgell from 948.

Borrell is first seen acting as count during the reign of his father Marquis Sunyer in 945 at the consecration of the nunnery church of Sant Pere de les Puelles in Barcelona, and succeeded Sunyer along with his brother Miró I in 947, while in 948 he inherited Urgell from his uncle Sunifred II. Miró died in 966, leaving Borrell sole ruler of more than half of Old Catalonia, a status which led outsiders and flatterers to refer to him as 'dux Gothiae', "Duke of Gothia". His own documents almost all refer to him merely as 'comes et marchio', "Count and Marquis".

In 967 he married **Luitgarde of Toulouse** (Duke Raymond III of Aquitaine³⁹_), daughter of Raymond III of Toulouse, with whom he had two sons and two daughters: **Ramon Borrell**, Ermengol, Ermengarda and Richilda. After his wife's death *circa* 986 he married Eimeruda of Auvergne in 987.

Borrell's military career seems to have been undistinguished—he is recorded fighting only two battles and seems to have lost both, and it was under his rule that Barcelona was sacked in 985 by the Muslim leader al-Mansur, as discussed below. On the other hand, he was a far greater success as a diplomat. Before the attacks of the 980s, and discounting a single raid by the Caliph al-Hakam II soon after his succession in 961, he maintained cordial relations with the Muslim rulers of Córdoba and also sent emissaries to the kings of the Franks. In 970, furthermore, he himself voyaged to Rome to meet with Pope John XIII and Emperor Otto I.

Borrell was also a patron of learning and culture. In 967, Borrell visited the monastery of Aurillac and the Abbot asked the count to take Gerbert of Aurillac with him so that the lad could study mathematics in Spain. In the following years, Gerbert studied under the direction of Bishop Ato of Vich, some 60 km north of Barcelona, and probably also at the nearby Monastery of Santa Maria de Ripoll. He was also taken on the 970 embassy to Rome, during which the Pope persuaded Otto to employ Gerbert as a tutor for his young son, the future emperor Otto II.

In 985 however the Hispanic March was attacked by the Muslim general al-Mansur. Al-Mansur managed to take Barcelona which was pillaged and sacked. Many citizens were taken prisoner by the Muslim forces. Borrell sent a request to help to King Lothar III, the current King of the Western Franks, but although documents of Borrell's refer to royal orders that must have come from this embassy, actual military assistance was beyond Lothar's power. What appears to have been a similar plea to Hugh Capet resulted in a letter from Hugh to Borrell promising aid if the count preferred "to obey us rather than the Ishmaelites", but in the event Hugh could not persuade his nobles to support a southern expedition. No answer to Hugh's letter is known from Borrell, and the connection between the March and France was effectively broken. Catalan historians now consider this the point at which their nation became a

sovereign power, and the millennium of their independence was celebrated in 987 with conferences and numerous publications, but in fact the Catalan counties other than Borrell's appear to have retained links with the Frankish crown for a little longer.

Luitgarde of Toulouse (Duke Raymond III of Aquitaine³⁹_) birth date unknown. She married **Count Borell II of Barcelona**. (See Count Borell II of Barcelona for the children resulting from this marriage.)

Waifri of Aquitaine (Count Acred II of Carcassonne³⁹, Count Oliba II of Carcassonne⁴⁰, Count Eudes of Carcassonne⁴¹, Count Oliba I of Carcassonne⁴², Gislefroy⁴³, Dellon⁴⁴_) birth date unknown.

Waifri of Aquitaine had the following child:

1. **Ermesinde of Carcassonne**³⁷ .

Count Boso III of Provence (Count Ratbold II of Arles³⁹, Count Ratbold I of Arles⁴⁰_) birth date unknown.

Provence, a province in SE France, was colonized by Greeks about 600 BC. It was held successively by Rome, Gaul, Visigoths, Franks, Arabs (expelled in 739 by Charles Martel) and the German kings. It entered the 10th century quite disorganized; Boso and his sons revived its order and countship.

Count Boso III of Provence had the following children:

1. **Count Guillaume I**³⁷ .
2. Count Ratbold III of Provence.

Count died 968.

Guerri I birth date unknown.

He married **Eve of Roussillon**. Guerri I and Eve of Roussillon had the following child:

1. **Bertha of Morvois**³⁷ .

Count Ernicule of Bologne (Count William I of Montreuil³⁹, Count Rotgair of Montreuil⁴⁰, Count Herluin II of Montre⁴¹, Helgaud of Ponthieu⁴², Herluin of Ponthieu⁴³, Helgaud I of Ponthieu⁴⁴, Nithard "The Chronicler"⁴⁵, Agilbert of Ponthieu⁴⁶_) birth date unknown.

Count Ernicule of Bologne had the following child:

1. **Count Gui of Bologne**³⁷ .

Count died 972.

Count Arebo I (Marquess Ernst II³⁹, Marquess Ernst I⁴⁰_) birth date unknown. Count Arebo I had the following child:

1. **Count Ottakar I**³⁷ .

Everhard of Niederlahngau (Count Everhard of Niederlahngau³⁹) birth date unknown.

The Lahngau was a medieval territory comprised of the middle and lower Lahn River valley in the current German states of Hesse and (partially) Rhineland-Palatinate. The traditional names of the Gau are *Loganahe Pagus* or *Pagus Logenensis*. The Lahngau was the East Frankish ancestral homeland of the Conradines. It was divided in ca. 900 into the Upper and Lower Lahngau (translated from the German *Oberlahngau* and *Niederlahngau* [or *Unterlahngau*], respectively).

Everhard of Niederlahngau had the following child:

1. **Count Otto I of Zutphen**³⁷ .

Everhard died 966.

Wichard II of Pont (Godfrey of Pont³⁹, Gerlach of Pont⁴⁰, Wichard I of Pont⁴¹, Otto of Pont⁴²) birth date unknown.

Wichard II of Pont had the following child:

1. **Dau. of Wichard II of Pont**³⁷ .

Wichard died 963.

Count Theobald I of Dillengen (Count Hupald I³⁹) birth date unknown. Count Theobald I of Dillengen had the following child:

1. **Edith (Hedwig)**³⁷ .

Count Theobald died 953.

Alix de Vermandois (Liegarde (Hildebrante) of France³⁵, King Robert I³⁶, Count Rutpert IV³⁷, Count Rupert III³⁸, Rupert II³⁹, Thuringbert⁴⁰, Rupert I⁴¹, Lambert⁴²) birth date unknown. She married **Count Arnolph I "The Great" of Flanders**. (See Count Arnolph I "The Great" of Flanders for the children resulting from this marriage.) Alix died 960 in Bruges.

Count Pepin of Vermandois (King Bernard of Lombardy³⁹) born 817 was the first count of Vermandois, lord of Senlis, Peronne, and Saint Quentin. He was the son of King Bernard of Italy and Cunigunda.

Pepin first appears in 834 as a count to the north of the Seine and then appears as same again in 840. In that year, he supported Lothair I against Louis the Pious.

Count Pepin of Vermandois had the following child:

1. **Count Pepin II of Senlis**³⁷ .

Count Pepin died Aft 840.

Count Rogenwald (Eystein³⁷ Glumra, Earl Ivar³⁸, Halfdan "The Old"³⁹, Sveide "The Viking"⁴⁰) was born 830. Count of Maer, Earl of More.

He married **Hildir**. Count Rogenwald and Hildir had the following children:

1. Earl Turf Einar I³⁷ .
2. Duke Rollo.
3. **Hrollager**.

Count Rogenwald died 890 in Maer, Normandy.

Osmond the Dane birth date unknown. Osmond the Dane had the following child:

1. **Count Ayman**³⁷ .

Count Rupert III (Rupert II³⁹, Thuringbert⁴⁰, Rupert I⁴¹, Lambert⁴²) was born 812.

He married **Wialdruth**. Count Rupert III had the following child:

1. **Robert "The Strong" of Neustria**³⁷ .
2. Count Rutpert IV.

Rupert died ca. 834.

Count Luitfride II (Duke Luitfride I³⁹, Duke Adelbert⁴⁰, Duke Adalric⁴¹, Lendisius⁴², Erchambaldus⁴³, Ega⁴⁴) birth date unknown. Count of Tours.

He married **Hiltrude**. Count Luitfride II and Hiltrude had the following children:

1. **Count Hugh III**³⁷ .
2. Ermentrude. II.

Luitfrede died 780.



King Aethelwulf (King Egbert³⁹, Under-King Ealhmund of Kent⁴⁰, Eafa⁴¹, Eoppa⁴², Ingeld⁴³, Cenred⁴⁴, Ceolwold⁴⁵, Cuthwulf (Cutha)⁴⁶, Cuthwine⁴⁷, King Ceawlin⁴⁸, King Cynric⁴⁹, King Cerdic⁵⁰, Elesa⁵¹, Elsa⁵², Gewis⁵³, Wig⁵⁴, Freawine⁵⁵, Frithugar⁵⁶, Brond⁵⁷, Baeldaeg⁵⁸, Woden⁵⁹, Frithuwald⁶⁰, Frealaf⁶¹, Frithuwulf⁶², Finn⁶³) was born in the

Court of Charlemagne, Aachen 795.

Æthelwulf, also spelled Aethelwulf or Ethelwulf; Old English: *Æþelwulf*, means 'Noble Wolf' (c. 795 – 858) was the elder son of King Egbert of Wessex.

Æthelwulf married firstly **Osburga** (Osric of Hampshire³⁹) in 830, daughter of Osric. They had six children, four of whom became kings of Wessex:

1. **King Athelstan**³⁷. King of Mercia, Wessex (924-40)
2. King AÆthelbert. King died 865. King of Wessex (860-65) King of Kent (855-56, 858-860).
3. AÆthelswyth. She married Burgred of Mercia.
4. King AÆthelbald was born 831. King died December 860. King of Wessex (855-820).
5. King AÆthelred I was born 865/6. Aethelred died April 23, 871. The third son of Athelwolf, he was born about the year 837.
6. **King Alfred "The Great"** was born April 23, 871. Alfred died October 899.

Osburga died 846. Æthelwulf married a second time to Judith of Flanders and had no issue.

In 839, Æthelwulf succeeded his father Egbert as King. Egbert had been a grizzled veteran who had fought for survival since his youth. Æthelwulf had a worrying style of Kingship. He had come naturally to the throne of Wessex. He proved to be intensely religious, cursed with little political sense, and too many able and ambitious sons. [Humble, Richard. *The Saxon Kings*. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1980. 41.] One of the first acts Æthelwulf did as King, was to split the kingdom. He gave the eastern half, that of Kent, Essex, Surrey and Sussex to his eldest son Athelstan (not to be confused with the later Athelstan the Glorious). Æthelwulf kept the ancient, western side of Wessex (Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset and Devon) for himself. Æthelwulf and his first wife, Osburga, had five sons and a daughter. After Athelstan came Ethelbald, Ethelbert, Ethelred, and Alfred. Each of his sons succeeded to the throne. Alfred, the youngest son, has been praised as one of the greatest kings to ever reign in Britain. Æthelwulf's only daughter, Aethelswith, was married as a child to the king of Mercia.

In 853 Æthelwulf, sent his son Alfred, a child of about four years, to Rome. In 855, about a year after his wife Osburh's death, Æthelwulf followed Alfred to Rome. In Rome, he was generous with his wealth. He distributed gold to the clergy of St. Peter's, and offered the Blessed Peter chalices of the purest gold and silver-gilt candelabra of Saxon work. During the return journey in 856 he married Judith a Frankish princess and a great-granddaughter of Charlemagne. She was about twelve years old, the daughter of Charles the Bald, King of the West Franks.

Upon their return to England in 856 Æthelwulf met with an acute crisis. His eldest son Ethelbald (Athelstan had since died) had devised a conspiracy with the Ealdorman of Somerset and the Bishop of Sherborne to oppose Æthelwulf's resumption of the kingship once he returned. There was enough support of Æthelwulf to either have a civil war, or to banish Ethelbald and his fellow conspirators.

Instead Æthelwulf yielded western Wessex to his son while he himself retained central and eastern Wessex. The absence of coins in Æthelbald's name may also suggest that West Saxon coinage was in Æthelwulf's name until his death. He ruled there until his death on January 13, 858. The family quarrel, had it been allowed to continue, could have ruined the House of Egbert. Æthelwulf and his advisors deserved the adoration bestowed upon them for their restraint and tolerance.

Æthelwulf's restoration included a special concession on behalf of Saxon queens. The West Saxons previously did not allow the queen to sit next to the king. In fact they were not referred to as a queen, but merely the "wife of the king." This restriction was lifted for Queen Judith, probably because she was a high ranking European princess.

He was buried first at Steyning and then later transferred to the Old Minster in Winchester. His bones now reside in one of several *mortuary chests* in Winchester Cathedral.

Ealdorman AÆthelred "The Great" Mucil birth date unknown. Ealdorman of the Gaini. He married **Eadburga**.

Ealdorman AÆthelred "The Great" Mucil and Eadburga had the following child:

1. **Saint Ealhswith of the Gaini**³⁷.

Aethelred died 866.

Count Ramnulf I of Poitou born 820 was a Count of Poitiers (from 835) and Duke of Aquitaine (from 852). He is considered a possible son of Gerard, Count of Auvergne, and Hildegard (or Matilda), daughter of Louis the Pious and Ermengard. Few details are known about Ranulf I, except that he died in 866 in Aquitaine from wounds received in the Battle of Brissarthe against the Vikings (in which Robert the Strong also died). Ranulf I, is the 32nd Great-Grandfather to Queen Elizabeth II.

He married **Daughter of Maine** 845. Count Ramnulf I of Poitou and Daughter of Maine had the following children:

1. Gauzbert³⁷.
2. Ebalus.
3. **Count Ramnulf II of Poitou** was born 855.

Ramnulf died July 5, 866.

Count Raymond I of Toulouse birth date unknown. He was the Count of Limoges (from 841), Rouergue and Quercy (from 849), and Toulouse and Albi (from 852). He was the younger son of Fulcoald of Rouergue and Senegund, niece of William of Gellone through his sister Alda.

Raymond married Bertha and had five children:

1. Bernard II, count at one time or another of Toulouse, Rouergue, Quercy, Albi, and Nîmes
2. Fulgaud, viscount of Limoges

3. **Odo** (Eudes), count at one time or another of Toulouse, Rouergue, and Quercy and duke of Septimania
4. Aribert, abbot of Vabres
5. a daughter who married Lupo I of Bigorre

In 852, on the death of his brother Fredelon, he, already count of Limoges, Quercy, and Rouergue, received Toulouse and Albi. In 862, he was attacked by Humfrid, Count of Barcelona, and forced to abdicate Limoges. In 863, he was likewise forced to abdicate Rouergue and Toulouse. He died in 865 while fighting for his possessions against the new count Sunifred I.

Count Ermengaud D'Alby (Count Raymonde II³⁹ de Rouerge, Count Ermengaud⁴⁰) birth date unknown. Count Ermengaud D'Alby had the following child:

1. **Gersinde**³⁷ **D'Alby**.

Earl Ivar (Halfdan "The Old"³⁹, Sveide "The Viking"⁴⁰) birth date unknown. He married **Daughter Eystein**. Earl of Uplands

Earl Ivar and Daughter Eystein had the following child:

1. **Eystein**³⁷ **Glumra** was born 830.

Ivar died 790.

Rognwald of Jutland (King Olaf II³⁹, Gudrod⁴⁰, Halfdan II⁴¹, Eystein I⁴², Halfdan I⁴³, King Olaf I⁴⁴) birth date unknown.

Rognwald of Jutland had the following children:

1. **Aseda of Jutland**³⁷.
2. Suanhilde.

Rognwald died 850.

King Pepin (King Charlemagne³⁸, King Pepin "The Short"³⁹, King Charles⁴⁰ Martel, Duke Pippin II⁴¹, Duke Ansgise⁴², St. Arnulf⁴³, Bادهgeisel II⁴⁴, St. Gondolfus⁴⁵, Munderic⁴⁶) born April 773 was the son of Charlemagne and king of Italy (781-810) under the authority of his father.

Pepin was the third son of Charlemagne and his wife Hildegard. He was born Carloman, but when his brother Pepin the Hunchback betrayed their father, the royal name Pepin passed to him. He was made king of Italy after his father's conquest of the Lombards, in 781, and crowned by Pope Hadrian I with the Iron Crown of Lombardy.

He was active as ruler of Italy and worked to expand the Frankish empire. In 791, he marched a Lombard army into the Drava valley and ravaged Pannonia, while his father marched along the Danube into Avar territory. Charlemagne left the campaigning to deal with a Saxon revolt in 792. Pepin and Duke Eric of Friuli continued, however, to assault the Avars' ring-shaped strongholds. The great Ring of the Avars, their capital fortress, was taken twice. The booty was sent to Charlemagne in Aachen and redistributed to all his

followers and even to foreign rulers, including King Offa of Mercia. A celebratory poem, *De Pippine regis Victoria Avarica*, was composed after Pepin forced the Avar khagan to submit in 796. This poem was composed at Verona, Pepin's capital after 799 and the centre of Carolingian Renaissance literature in Italy. The *Versus de Verona* (c.800), an urban encomium of the city, likewise praises king Pepin.

He married **Bertha of Toulouse** (Duke William of Toulouse³⁹), daughter of William of Gellone, count of Toulouse, and had five daughters with her (Adelaide, married Lambert I of Nantes; Atala; Gundrada; Bertha; and Tetrada), all of whom but the eldest were born between 800 and Pepin's death and died before their grandfather's death in 814. Pepin also had an illegitimate son **Bernard**. Pepin was expected to inherit a third of his father's empire, but he predeceased him. The Italian crown passed on to his son Bernard, but the empire went to Pepin's younger brother Louis the Pious.

His activities included a long, but unsuccessful siege of Venice in 810. The siege lasted six months and Pepin's army was ravaged by the diseases of the local swamps and was forced to withdraw. A few months later Pepin died

Count Lambert of Nantes (Guido of Nantes³⁹, Lambert of Nantes⁴⁰, Guido of Treves⁴¹, Bishop Leoduin⁴², Countess Gunza⁴³) birth date unknown.

Nantes is 35 miles from the mouth of the Loire River, where it meets the Orleans River. Prior to Roman occupation it was the major center of the Namnetes; under Romans it became a great commercial and administrative center.

Count Lambert of Nantes had the following child:

1. **Duke Guido I**³⁷.

Lambert died 826.

Margrave Hunroch of Friuli birth date unknown. The Unruochings (French: *Unrochides*; German: *Unruochinger*) were a Frankish noble family who established themselves in Italy. The family is named for the first member to come to prominence, Unruoch II of Friuli (flourit early 9th century). The family members held various titles in northern Italy, including Margrave and Duke of Friuli, one of the lordships established on the eastern Marches of the Frankish Empire. The March of Friuli was considerably larger than modern Friuli, covering much of the modern Veneto and as far west as the Province of Brescia in Lombardy.

The family's main landholdings, however, were in modern France, north of the River Seine, and southern Belgium. The family monastery, the centre of their power, was at Cysoing, near Tournai.

King Berengar I of Italy belonged to this family. Berengar left no male heirs, but the descendants of his daughter Gisela and Adalbert I of Ivrea including their son Berengar II of Italy, Berengar II's son Adalbert, and Adalbert's son Otto-William, Duke of Burgundy, are counted among the

Unruochings.

He married **Engeltron**. Margrave Hunroch of Friuli and Engeltron had the following child:

1. **Count Eberhard of Friuli**³⁷.

Hunroch died 811.



King Kenneth MacAlpin (King Alpin³⁹, King Eochaid IV "The Poisonous"⁴⁰, King Aed Find "The Fair"⁴¹, King Eochaid III⁴², King Eochaid II "Crooked-Nose"⁴³, King Domangart II⁴⁴, King Domnall Brecc "The Speckled or Pock-Marked"⁴⁵, King Eochaid Buide "The Yellow Hiaired"⁴⁶, King Aedan⁴⁷, King Gabhran⁴⁸, King Domangart⁴⁹, King Fergus Mor "The Great"⁵⁰, Erc⁵¹, Eochaid⁵², King Eochaid⁵³, King Corbred (Cairbre)⁵⁴, King Conaire⁵⁵, Moglama⁵⁶_).

Cináed mac Ailpín (Modern Gaelic: *Coinneach mac Ailpein*), commonly Anglicized as Kenneth MacAlpin and known in most modern regnal lists as Kenneth I (born 810 died 13 February 858) was king of the Picts and, according to national myth, first king of Scots, earning him the posthumous nickname of An Ferbasach, "The Conqueror". Kenneth's undisputed legacy was to produce a dynasty of rulers who claimed descent from him. Even though he cannot be regarded as the father of Scotland, he was the founder of the dynasty which ruled that country for much of the medieval period.

King of the Scots (840-58) and Picts (847-58). Traditionally the founder and first king of Scotland. About 834 he succeeded his father, Alpine, as king of the Gaelic Scots in Galloway. In a series of battles from 841-846 he conquered the Pictish kingdom and, uniting it with his own, called his increased domains Scotland. The kingdom is sometimes called Scone, after Kenneth's capital. In subsequent years the king led six invasions of Lothian, south Scotland, then part of Saxon Northumbria. Kenneth's reign was violent but successful. Having taken over control of the Picts he still warred against the Angles to the south and the British of Strathclyde, and he retained an uneasy peace with the Vikings. He relied heavily on his own strength of character, though he also cemented his authority with neighbors and allies by inter-dynastic marriages through his daughters. One married Olaf, the King of Dublin; another married Aed Findliath, who became High King of Ireland in 862, whilst a third married Rhun, prince of Strathclyde.

King Kenneth MacAlpin had the following children:

1. **King Constantine I**³⁷.
2. King Aedh.
3. daughter. She married King Rhun of Strathclyde.
4. daughter. She married King Olaf "The White".
5. daughter. She married Aed Findliath, High king of Ireland.

Kenneth died from a tumour on 13 February, 858 at the palace of *Cinnbelachoir*, perhaps near Scone.

Hrolf Turstan (Hrollager of Maer³⁹, Count Ragenwald of Maer⁴⁰_) birth date unknown.

He married **Gerlotte of Blois**. Hrolf Turstan and Gerlotte of Blois had the following child:

1. **Ansfrid**³⁷ de Goz.

Hrolf died 920.

King Anarawd ap Rhodri (King Rhodri Mawr "The Great"³⁹, King Merfyn Frych "The Freckled"⁴⁰, King Gwriad⁴¹, King Elidyr⁴², King Sandde⁴³, King Tegid⁴⁴, King Gwyar⁴⁵, King Diwg⁴⁶, King Llywarch Hen⁴⁷, King Elidyr "The Handsome"⁴⁸, King Merchiaun⁴⁹, King Gurgust "The Ragged"⁵⁰, King Ceneu⁵¹, King Coel Hen "The Old"⁵², Guotepauc⁵³, Tegfan⁵⁴, Teuhvant⁵⁵, Telpuil⁵⁶, Erb (Urbanus)⁵⁷, Gratus⁵⁸, Iumetel⁵⁹, Ritigern⁶⁰, Oudicant⁶¹, Outigern⁶², Eliud⁶³, Eudaf⁶⁴, Eudelen⁶⁵, Amalech⁶⁶, Beli⁶⁷, Bran the Blessed⁶⁸, Llyr (Lear)⁶⁹, Caswallon⁷⁰, Beli Mawr⁷¹), birth date unknown, was a King of Gwynedd, also referred to as "King of the Britons" by the Annals of Wales.

Anarawd's father Rhodri the Great had eventually become ruler of most of Wales, but on his death in 878 his kingdom was shared out between his sons, with Anarawd inheriting the throne of Gwynedd. Anarawd and his brothers Cadell and Merfyn are recorded as cooperating closely against the rulers of the remaining lesser kingdoms of Wales. Earl Aethelred of Mercia invaded Gwynedd in 881, but Anarawd was able to defeat him with much slaughter in a battle at the mouth of the River Conwy, hailed in the annals as "God's vengeance for Rhodri", Rhodri having been killed in battle against the Mercians.

As Rhodri's eldest son, Anarawd inherited the greater part of his father's kingdom. Anarawd and his brothers gave Mercians such a sound beating at the battle of Conway that they treated it as revenge for the death of their father. About the year 885 Anarawd entered into alliance with the Danes of York who had established their kingdom under Gothfrith. This however backfired, as the Danes of East Anglia ravaged Gwynedd in 894. Anarawd turned to Alfred the Great for help. Alfred obliged. Supported by West Saxon soldiers, he attempted to conquer Dyfed and Glamorgan, sending their kings pleading to Alfred for support. What Anarawd did during the next 20 years is not known. Wales was still subject to attacks by the Danes, which Anarawd succeeded in repulsing.

King Anarawd ap Rhodri had the following children:

1. **King Idwal Foel "The Bald" ab Anarawd**³⁷ .
2. Elisedd.

Anarawd died in 916 and was succeeded by his son Idwal Foel (Idwal the Bald).

Ithel of Glamorgan (Owen of Glamorgan³⁹, King Morgan Hen⁴⁰, King Owen of Gwent⁴¹, King Howell of Gwent⁴², King Rhys of Gwent⁴³) birth date unknown.

Ithel of Glamorgan had the following child:

1. **Prince Gyrgant of Glamorgan**³⁷ .

Ithel died 994.

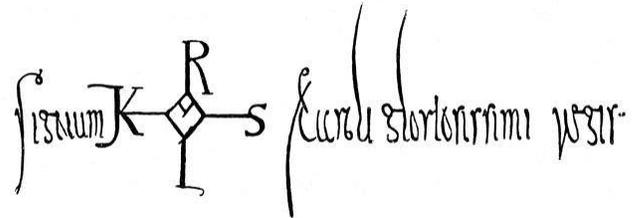
King Gwyn birth date unknown. *Gwyn* means "white" in the Welsh language and is in everyday use as a common noun and adjective with that meaning. It also remains a popular personal name. The Brythonic form of this name would have been **Vindos*, a name also found for a Celtic deity in ancient Gaul. Especially in Old and Middle Welsh, "gwyn" also has the connotations of "pure, sacred, holy". The feminine form, Gwen, is the root of *Gwenhwyfar*, the original Welsh form of Guinevere.

King Gwyn had the following child:

1. **Angharat of Gwent**³⁷ .

Inyr (Cadfarch of Whittington³⁹) birth date unknown. He married **Rheingar** (Llydocca³⁹, Carader⁴⁰ Yreichfras). Inyr and Rheingar had the following child:

1. **Lord Tudor**³⁷ **Trevor**.



King Charlemagne (King Pepin "The Short"³⁹, King Charles⁴⁰ Martel, Duke Pippin II⁴¹, Duke Ansgise⁴², St. Arnulf⁴³, Badegeisel II⁴⁴, St. Gondolfus⁴⁵, Munderic⁴⁶) was born in Anachen, West Germany April 2, 742.

Charles the Great or Charles I, 742-814, emperor of the West (800-814). Carolingian king of the Franks (768-814). He ruled France, Italy, and Middle Europe. He consolidated his rule in his own kingdom, invaded Italy in support of the pope, and in 774 was crowned king of the Lombards. He took northeast Spain from the Moors (778) and annexed Bavaria (788). After a long struggle (772-804) he subjugated and Christianized the Saxons. In 800 he restored Leo III to the papacy and was crowned emperor by him on Christmas Day, thus laying the basis for the holy Roman Empire and finalizing the split between the Byzantine and Roman empires. Charlemagne ruled through a highly efficient administrative system. He codified the law in his various dominions, and his court at Aachen was the center for an intellectual and artistic renaissance. The end of his reign was troubled by raids by the Norsemen. His son Louis I was named co-emperor in 813 and succeeded on his father's death. Charlemagne's legend soon enhanced and distorted his actual achievements, and he became the central figure of a medieval romance cycle.

The name is derived from the Latin Carolus Magnus, Charles the Great. His birthplace is unknown, but from the fondness, which he displayed for the cities of Aix-le-Chapelle and Ingelheim, it has been conjectured that he was born in one of those places. He was the eldest son of Pepin the Short, king of the Franks, and grandson of Charles Martel. On Pepin's death in 768, Charlemagne and his brother Carloman jointly succeeded to the throne; and, by Carloman's death, the former became sole king in 771. In 772 it was resolved in the diet at Worms to make war against the Saxons. Charlemagne advanced as far as the Wesser River in 772. Pope Adrian I then called him to his aid against Desiderius, King of the Lombards. Charlemagne crossed the Alps from Geneva, with two armies, by way of the Great St. Bernard and Mont Cenis passes, in 773, and

overthrew the kingdom of the Lombards in 774. In 775 he was again in the most northerly part of his dominions, reducing the Saxons to subjections; in 776 he suppressed an insurrection in Italy; in 777 he completed his victory over the Saxons. Being then invited to interpose in the wars of the Arabs and Moors in Spain, he added to his dominions the regions between the Pyrenees and the Ebro River. From Spain he was summoned by a new insurrection of the Saxons, who had advanced almost to Cologne, but he drove the back to the Elbe. In 781 he went to Italy, where the pope crowned his second son Pepin, king of Italy, and his third son Louis, a child three years old, king of Aquitaine. The Saxons, once more rising in arms, defeated and destroyed a Frankish army in 782, which Charlemagne, after a new victory, fearfully avenged by causing no fewer than 4500 prisoners to be executed as rebels in a single day. A more general rising of the Saxons followed, but in 783-785 the Frankish monarch reduced them completely to subjection, and persuaded their chiefs to submit to baptism and to become his vassals. In 778, Bavaria was absorbed in the empire of Charlemagne, an event that brought the Franks into contact with the Avars. They too were subdued, and the Frankish dominions extended to the Raab.

In 800 Charlemagne was in Rome investigating accusations against Pope Leo III who had been elected in 795. After the Pope was cleared of all charges, on Christmas Day, 800, he set a crown on Charlemagne's head, and, amidst the acclamations of the people, saluted him as Carolus Augustus, Emperor of the Romans. A scheme for the union of the newly revived Western Empire with the Empire of the East by Charlemagne's marriage with Irene, the Byzantine empress, failed when Irene was deposed in 802. The remaining years of his service were spent in further consolidating his vast empire, which extended from the Ebro to the Elbe. The empire was divided into districts ruled by counts, called Markgrafen, or counts of the marches, who defended the frontiers against attack, and the unity of rule was maintained by officers, the *missi dominici*, who were sent out in all directions as the organs of the imperial will.

Charlemagne was the founder of the Holy Roman Empire, which endured for more than 1000 years. As Holy Roman Emperor he was succeeded by his son Louis, known as the Pious or the Debonnaire. Charlemagne was also the subject of innumerable legends, in some of which he was depicted as a great hero of the type of King Arthur, in others as a tyrant.

Charlemagne had twenty children over the course of his life with eight of his ten known wives or concubines. Nonetheless, he only had four legitimate grandsons, the four sons of his third son Louis, plus a grandson who was born illegitimate, but included in the line of inheritance in any case (Bernard of Italy, only son of Charlemagne's third son Pepin of Italy), so that the claimants to his inheritance remained few.

His first relationship was with Himiltrude. The nature of this relationship is variously described as concubinage, a legal marriage or as a *Friedelehe*. (Charlemagne put her aside when he married Desiderata.) The union with Himiltrude produced two children:

1. Amaudru, a daughter
2. Pepin the Hunchback

After her, his first wife was Desiderata, daughter of Desiderius, king of the Lombards; married in 770, annulled in 771.

His second wife was **Hildegard** (Count Geraud of Swabia³⁹) (757 or 758-783), married 771, died 783. By her he had nine children:

1. Charles the Younger (c.772-4 December 811), Duke of Maine, and crowned King of the Franks on 25 December 800
2. **Carloman, renamed Pippin** (April 773-8 July 810), King of Italy
3. Adalhaid (774), who was born whilst her parents were on campaign in Italy. She was sent back to Francia, but died before reaching Lyons
4. Rotrude (or Hruodrud) (775-6 June 810)
5. Louis (778-20 June 840), twin of Lothair, King of Aquitaine since 781, crowned Holy Roman Emperor in 813, senior Emperor from 814
6. Lothair (778-6 February 779/780), twin of Louis, he died in infancy
7. Bertha (779-826)
8. Gisela (781-808)
9. Hildegard (782-783)

His third wife was Fastrada, married 784, died 794. By her he had:

1. Theodrada (b.784), abbess of Argenteuil
2. Hiltrude (b.787)

His fourth wife was Luitgard, married 794, died childless.

In 813, Charlemagne called Louis the Pious, king of Aquitaine, his only surviving legitimate son, to his court. There he crowned him with his own hands as co-emperor and sent him back to Aquitaine. He then spent the autumn hunting before returning to Aachen on 1 November. In January, he fell ill with pleurisy. He took to his bed on 21 January.

He died January twenty-eighth, the seventh day from the time that he took to his bed, at nine o'clock in the morning, after partaking of the Holy Communion, in the seventy-second year of his age and the forty-seventh of his reign.

He was buried on the day of his death, in Aachen Cathedral, although the cold weather and the nature of his illness made such a hurried burial unnecessary. The earliest surviving *planctus*, the *Planctus de obitu Karoli*, was composed by a monk of Bobbio, which he had patronized. A later story, told by Otho of Lomello, Count of the Palace at Aachen in the time of Otto III, would claim that he and Emperor Otto had discovered Charlemagne's tomb: the emperor, they claimed, was seated upon a throne, wearing a crown and holding a scepter, his flesh almost entirely incorrupt. In 1165, Frederick I re-opened the tomb again, and placed the emperor in a sarcophagus beneath the floor of the cathedral. In 1215 Frederick II would re-inter him in a

casket made of gold and silver.



Count Eberhard III of Lower Alsace (Count Eberhard II of Lower Alsace³⁹, Count Eberhard I of Lower Alsace⁴⁰, Count Alberic of Lower Alsace⁴¹, Count Ethico II⁴²) was born 853.

He married **Adelaide de Vermandois**. Count Eberhard III of Lower Alsace and Adelaide de Vermandois had the following child:

1. Count Hugues I of Lower Alsace³⁷ was born 880.

Eberhard died 920.

Count Gerard I of Metz (Count Adalbert II of Metz³⁹, Count Adalbert I of Metz⁴⁰) birth date unknown. Count Gerard I of Metz had the following child:

1. **Count Adalbert III of Metz**³⁷.

Gerard died 905.

Voiry D'Ardennes (Count Sigefrid of Luxemburg³⁴, Wigeric of Luxemburg³⁵) birth date unknown. Count Palatine of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Voiry D'Ardennes had the following child:

1. **Luitgarde**³⁷ **D'Ardennes**.

Matilda of Ringelheim (Count Dietrich of Ringelheim³⁹, Alfburgis⁴⁰) was born in Memleben, Germany 894. Matilda died May 936 in Quedlinberg, Germany. She married **King Henry I "The Fowler"** 909. (See King Henry I "The Fowler" for the children resulting from this marriage.)

Count Gebbard of Franconia (Count Udo³⁹, Vicount Eberhard II of Nordgau⁴⁰, Count Begue of Paris⁴¹, Count Girard of Paris⁴²) birth date unknown.

He married **Oda of Aquitaine**. Count Gebbard of Franconia and Oda of Aquitaine had the following child:

1. **Ida of Swabia**³⁷.

Gebbard died 910.



Emperor Leo VI "The Wise" of Byzantium

Leo VI, surnamed the Wise or the Philosopher (Greek: Λέων ΣΤ΄ ὁ Σοφός, *Leōn VI ho Sophos*, 19 September 866 – 11 May 912), was Byzantine emperor from 886 to 912.

The second ruler of the Macedonian dynasty (although his parentage is unclear), he was very well-read, leading to his surname. During his reign, the renaissance of letters begun by his predecessor Basil I continued, but the Empire also saw several military defeats in the Balkans against Bulgaria and against the Arabs in Sicily and the Aegean.

Leo was born to Eudokia Ingerina who was at the time mistress of Emperor Michael III and wife of his Caesar Basil. Which of the two men was his biological father is uncertain. Basil legally acknowledged Leo as his son but his later treatment of him might suggest that he regarded Leo as Michael's son.

In 867, Michael was assassinated by Basil who succeeded him as Emperor Basil I. As the second eldest son of the Emperor, Leo was associated on the throne in 870 and became the direct heir on the death of his older half-brother Constantine in 879. However, he and his father hated each other and Basil almost had Leo blinded as a teenager. On August 29, 886, Basil died in a hunting accident, though he claimed on his deathbed that there was an assassination attempt in which Leo was possibly involved.

Leo VI was not as successful in battle as Basil had been. In indulging his chief counselor Stylianos Zaoutzes, Leo provoked a war with Simeon I of Bulgaria in 894, but was defeated. Bribing the Magyars to attack the Bulgarians from the north, Leo scored an indirect success in 895. However, deprived of his new allies, he lost the major Battle of Boulgarophygon in 896 and had to make the required commercial concessions and to pay annual tribute.

The Emirate of Sicily took Taormina, the last Byzantine outpost on the island of Sicily, in 902. In 904 the renegade Leo of Tripolis sacked Thessalonica with his Muslim pirates. In 907 Constantinople was attacked by the Kievan Rus' under Oleg of Novgorod, who was seeking favourable trading rights with the empire. Leo paid them off, but they attacked again in 911, and a trade treaty was finally signed.

Leo VI caused a major scandal with his numerous marriages which failed to produce a legitimate heir to the throne. His first wife Theophano, whom Basil had forced him to marry, died in 897, and he married Zoe Zaoutzaina, the daughter of his adviser Stylianos Zaoutzes, though she died as well in 899. Upon this marriage Leo created the title of *basileopatōr* ("father of the emperor") for his father-in-law.

After Zoe's death a third marriage was technically illegal, but he married again, only to have his third wife Eudokia Baïana die in 901. Instead of marrying a fourth time, which would have been an even greater sin than a third marriage Leo took as mistress, Zoe Karbonopsina. He married her only after she had given birth to a son (**Constantine VII**) in 905, but incurred the opposition of the patriarch. Replacing Nicholas Mystikos with Euthymios, Leo got his marriage recognized by the church, but opened up a conflict within it and allowed new grounds for papal intervention into Byzantine affairs when he sought and obtained papal consent.

The future Constantine VII was the illegitimate son born before Leo's uncanonical fourth marriage to Zoe Karbonopsina. To strengthen his son's position as heir, Leo had him crowned as co-emperor on May 15, 908, when he was only two years old. Leo VI died on May 11, 912. He was succeeded by his younger brother Alexander, who had reigned as emperor alongside his father and brother since 879.

Emperor Romanus I Lecapenus was born in Constantinople, Turkey. Romanos I Lekapenos or Romanus I Lecapenus (Greek: Ρωμανός Α΄ Λακαπηνός, *Rōmanos I Lakapēnos*; Armenian: Ռոմանոս Ա Նալկապէնոս, *Romanos I Lakapenos*; circa 870 – June 15, 948) was Byzantine Emperor from 920 until his deposition on December 16, 944.

Romanos was the son of an imperial guardsman of Armenian origin named Theophylaktos Abstartos "the Unbearable". Romanos had been born in Lacape, hence the name "Lakapenos" (more commonly rendered by the less accurate form "Lekapenos" in English). Although he did not receive any refined education (for which he was later abused by his son-in-law Constantine VII), Romanos advanced through the ranks of the army during the reign of Emperor Leo VI the Wise, another fellow Armenian. In 911 he was general of the naval theme of Samos and later served as admiral (*droungarios*) of the fleet. In this capacity he was supposed to participate in the Byzantine operations against Bulgaria on the Danube in 917, but he was unable to carry out his mission. In the aftermath of the disastrous Byzantine defeat at the Battle of Acheloos in 917 by the Bulgarians, Romanos sailed to Constantinople, where he gradually overcame the discredited regency of Empress Zoe Karvounopsina and her supporter Leo Phokas.

Becoming increasingly influential at court, Romanos exiled his rivals and strengthened his links with the underage Emperor Constantine VII. In May 919 he married his daughter Helena Lekapene to Constantine and was proclaimed *basileopatōr* ("father of the emperor"). In September 920, Romanos was invested as *kaisar* (Caesar), and finally on December 17 of the same year he was crowned co-emperor, becoming the effective head of the Byzantine Empire.

In subsequent years Romanos crowned his own sons co-emperors, Christopher in 921, Stephen and Constantine in 924, although, for the time being, Constantine VII was regarded as first in rank after Romanos himself. It is notable that, as he left Constantine untouched, he was called 'the

gentle usurper'. Romanos strengthened his position by marrying his daughters to members of the powerful aristocratic families of Argyros and Mouseles, by recalling the deposed patriarch Nicholas Mystikos, and by putting an end to the conflict with the Papacy over the four marriages of Emperor Leo VI.

By his marriage to Theodora (who died in 922), Romanos had six children, including:

1. Christopher Lekapenos, co-emperor from 921 to 931, who was married to the Augusta Sophia and was the father of Maria (renamed Eirene), who married Emperor Peter I of Bulgaria; Christopher's son Michael Lekapenos may have been associated as co-emperor by his grandfather.
2. Stephen Lekapenos, co-emperor from 924 to 945, died 967.
3. Constantine Lekapenos, co-emperor from 924 to 945, died 946
4. Theophylaktos Lekapenos, patriarch of Constantinople from 933 to 956.
5. **Helena Lekapene**, who married Emperor Constantine VII.
6. Agatha Lekapene, who married Romanos Argyros; their grandson was Emperor Romanos III.

Romanos also had an illegitimate son, the eunuch Basil, who remained influential at court, particularly during the period 976–985.

Romanos' later reign was marked by the old emperor's heightened interest in divine judgment and his increasing sense of guilt for his role in the usurpation of the throne from Constantine VII. On the death of Christopher in 931, Romanos did not advance his younger sons in precedence over Constantine VII. Fearing that Romanos would allow Constantine VII to succeed him instead of them, his younger sons Stephen and Constantine arrested their father in December 944, carried him off to the Prince's Islands and compelled him to become a monk. When they threatened the position of Constantine VII, however, the people of Constantinople revolted, and Stephen and Constantine were likewise stripped of their imperial rank and sent into exile to their father.

Romanos died in June 948, and was buried as the other members of his family in the church of Myrelaion.

Athelweard (Athelfrith³⁹, Athelhelm⁴⁰, King AÆthelred I⁴¹) birth date unknown.

He married **Athelflaed**. Athelweard and Athelflaed had the following child:

1. **Athelmaer**³⁷.

King Olaf of Sweden Bjornsson (King Bjorn "The Old" of Sweden Ericsson³⁶, King Eric of Sweden Emundsson³⁷, King Edmund of Birka³⁸, King Erik³⁹, King Bjorn⁴⁰, King Ragnar Lodbrok⁴¹). Olof Björnsson (ca 970 - 975), was a semi-legendary Swedish king, who according to *Hervarar saga* and the *Styrbjarnar þáttir Svíakappa* ruled together with his brother Eric the Victorious.

He was the father of Styrbjörn Starke and Gyrid by his queen, Ingeborg Thrandsdotter.

He died of poison during a meal. Instead of proclaiming his son Styrbjörn co-ruler, Eric proclaimed his own unborn child co-ruler on condition that it was a son. It was a son who became Olof of Sweden.

Gyrid Olafsson birth date unknown. She married **King Harald "Bluetooth" Gormsson**. (See King Harald "Bluetooth" Gormsson for the children resulting from this marriage.)



Count Dirk I of Holland was Count of Holland, thought to have been in office from ca. 921 to ca. 928 or 939.

The actual title of count Dirk I was 'count in Friesland. **Frisia** (West Frisian: *Fryslân*; North Frisian: *Fraschlönj*, *Freesklöön*, *Freeskluin*, *Fresklun*, and *Friislön*; Saterfrisian (East Frisian): *Fräislound*; East Frisian Low Saxon: *Freesland*; Gronings: *Fraislaand*; German and Dutch: *Friesland*; Danish: *Frisland*) is a coastal region along the southeastern corner of the North Sea, i.e. the German Bight. Frisia is the traditional homeland of the Frisians, a Germanic people who speak Frisian, a language group closely related to the English language. Frisia extends from the northwestern Netherlands across northwestern Germany to the border of Denmark (Vidå).

Dirk is thought to be a son of Gerulf II, 'count in Frisia', who is named by some sources as one of the counts who assassinated their Viking overlord Godfryth 'the Sea King' at a place named Herespich (modern Spijk) in 885.

Count Dirk I of Holland had the following child:

1. **Count Dirk II of Holland**³⁷ .

Count Dirk died 939.

Count Athelbert of Sachsen birth date unknown. Count Athelbert of Sachsen had the following child:

1. **Billung of Stubeckeshorn**³⁷ .

King Ceallachan birth date unknown. Cellachán mac Buadacháin (died 954), called Cellachán Caisil, was King of Munster.

The son of Buadachán mac Lachtnai, he belonged to the Cashel branch of the Eóganachta kindred, the *Eoganacht Chaisil*. The last of his cognatic ancestors to have held the kingship of Munster was Colgú mac Fáilbe Flaind (d. 678), eight generations earlier.

His predecessor as king at Cashel was said to be Lorcan mac Coinligáin, a distant cousin, the date of whose death is uncertain. The earliest record of Cellachán is an attack on Clonmacnoise in 936. In 939 he was allied with Norse Gaels from Waterford in an attack on the kingdom of Mide. The leader of the Waterford contingent is called mac Acuid (Hákon's son). They took captive the abbots of Clonenagh and Killeigh but were defeated by the Uí Failge of Leinster.

King Ceallachan had the following child:

1. **Prince Donnchadh**³⁷ .

In 941, in a struggle for control of the eastern Déisi, Cellachán came into conflict with the High King of Ireland, Donnchad Donn, and so too with Donnchad's nominated successor Muirchertach mac Néill. Muirchertach undertook a "circuit of Ireland" at the head of his army, a campaign commemorated in later verse, during which he took Cellachán prisoner. Cellachán remained a captive at Donnchad's court for some years.

Cellachán had returned to Munster by 944, and perhaps earlier, as in that year he defeated and killed Cennétig mac Lorcáin and two of his sons at the battle of Gort Rottacháin. Cennétig was king of the Dál gCais and father of the famous Brian Boru. It may be that the conflict had begun earlier as Dál gCais traditions have Cennétig defeat Cellachán at a battle fought near Lough Saighlenn, somewhere in Munster.

There is little more recorded of Cellachán in the Irish annals. He raided Mide again in 951 with his only known son Donnchad. He died in 954 and Donnchad in 963.