

Attila the Hun

Attila (406 – 453), also known as **Attila the Hun**, was leader (**Khagan**) of the **Huns** from 434 until his death in 453. He was leader of the **Hunnic Empire** which stretched from **Germany** to the **Ural River** and from the **River Danube** to the **Baltic Sea**. During his rule, he was one of the most fearsome of the Western and Eastern **Roman Empires'** enemies: he invaded the **Balkans** twice and marched through **Gaul** (modern **France**) as far as **Orleans** before being defeated at the **Battle of Chalons**. He refrained from attacking either **Constantinople** or **Rome**. In much of **Western Europe**, he is remembered as the epitome of cruelty and rapacity. In contrast, some histories and chronicles lionize him as a great and noble king, and he plays major roles in three **Norse sagas**.



Mór Than's painting *The Feast of Attila*, based on a fragment of **Priscus** (depicted at right, dressed in white and holding his history):

"When evening began to draw in, torches were lighted, and two barbarians came forward in front of Attila and sang songs which they had composed, hymning his victories and his great deeds in war. And the banqueters gazed at them, and some were rejoiced at the songs, others became

excited at heart when they remembered the wars, but others broke into tears—those whose bodies were weakened by time and whose spirit was compelled to be at rest.

Invasion of Italy and death



Raphael's The Meeting between Leo the Great and Attila shows Leo I, with Saint Peter and Saint Paul above him, going to meet Attila

Attila returned in 452 to claim his marriage to **Honorius** anew, invading and ravaging **Italy** along the way. The city of **Venice** was founded as a result of these attacks when the residents fled

to small islands in the [Venetian Lagoon](#). His army sacked numerous cities and razed [Aquileia](#) completely, leaving no trace of it behind. Legend has it he built a castle on top of a hill north of [Aquileia](#) to watch the city burn, thus founding the town of [Udine](#), where the castle can still be found. Aëtius, who lacked the strength to offer battle, managed to harass and slow Attila's advance with only a shadow force. Attila finally halted at the [River Po](#). By this point disease may have broken out in Attila's camp, thus helping to stop his invasion.

Attila's Death (painting by Paczka)

In the year after the retreat from Italy Attila died an appropriately barbarian death. He took a new, young, beautiful bride, a damsel named Ildico, though he already had a coterie of wives. The wedding day was spent in heavy drinking and partying, and the King of the Huns took his new bride to bed that night in drunken lust. The next morning it was discovered that he had died-drowned in his drunkenness in his own nosebleed. The new bride was found quivering in fear in the great man's bed quarters. The empire of the Huns dissipated nearly as quickly as its most famous leader. In 454 the Ostrogoths and other Germanic tribes revolted against the Huns, and the sons of Attila, who had quarreled among themselves, could not deal with the crisis. In the words of Bury, the Huns were "scattered to the winds."



Background

The origin of the [Huns](#) has been the subject of debate for centuries. It can be said with general agreement that they may have been a confederation of [Central Asian](#) and [European](#) tribes, many of them nomadic horsemen. Many experts think they may have been [Turkic people](#), descended from the [Xiongnu](#) tribes that menaced [China](#) as early as the 5th century BC. The first emperor of China, [Qin Shi Huangdi](#), built part of the [Great Wall](#) to keep the Xiongnu out.

Their united power appeared or began to form in Europe in the 400s. They achieved military superiority over their neighbours by their readiness for battle, unusual mobility, and weapons, including the [composite bow](#).

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charlemagne>

Charlemagne



A portrait of Charlemagne by Albrecht Dürer, painted in the sixteenth century; the coat of arms above him show the German eagle and the French Fleur-de-lis.

Charlemagne ([Latin](#): *Carolus Magnus*, meaning **Charles the Great**) (747 – 28 January 814) was [King of the Franks](#) from 768 to his death. He expanded the Frankish kingdoms into a [Frankish Empire](#) that incorporated much of [Western](#) and [Central Europe](#). During his reign, he conquered [Italy](#) and was crowned *Imperator Augustus* by [Pope Leo III](#) on 25 December 800 as a rival of the [Byzantine Emperor](#) in [Constantinople](#). His rule is also associated with the [Carolingian Renaissance](#), a revival of art, religion, and culture through the medium of the [Catholic Church](#). Through his foreign conquests and internal reforms, Charlemagne helped define both [Western Europe](#) and the Middle Ages.

The son of King [Pippin the Short](#) and [Bertrada of Laon](#), Charlemagne continued the policy of his father towards the [papacy](#) and became its protector, removing the [Lombards](#) from power in Italy, and waging war on the [Saracens](#), who menaced his realm from Spain. It was during one of these campaigns that Charlemagne experienced the worst defeat of his life, at [Roncesvalles](#) (778). He also campaigned against the peoples to his east, especially the [Saxons](#), and after a protracted war subjected them to his rule. By forcibly converting them to Christianity, he integrated them into his realm and thus paved the way for the later [Ottonian dynasty](#).

The death of Roland at the Battle of Roncevaux, from an illustrated manuscript, 1455–1460



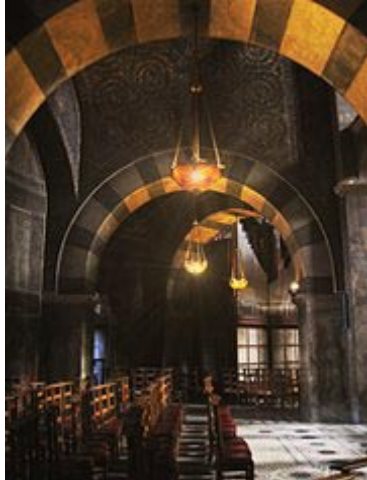
By the 6th century, the [Franks](#) were [Christianised](#), and the [Francia](#) ruled by the [Merovingians](#) had become the most powerful of the kingdoms which succeeded the [Western Roman Empire](#). But following the [Battle of Tertry](#), the Merovingians declined into a state of powerlessness, for which they have been dubbed do-nothing kings.

In 687, [Pippin of Herstal](#), mayor of the palace of Austrasia, ended the strife between various kings and their mayors with his victory at Tertry and became the sole governor of the entire Frankish kingdom. Pippin himself was the grandson of two most important figures of the Austrasian Kingdom, Saint [Arnulf of Metz](#) and

[Pippin of Landen](#). Pippin the Middle was eventually succeeded by his illegitimate son Charles, later known as [Charles Martel](#) (the Hammer). After 737, Charles governed the Franks without a king on the throne but desisted from calling himself "king". Charles was succeeded by his sons [Carloman](#) and [Pippin the Short](#), the father of Charlemagne. To curb separatism in the periphery of the realm, the brothers placed on the throne [Childeric III](#), who was to be the last Merovingian king. After Carloman resigned his office, Pippin had Childeric III deposed.

Imperial diplomacy

Charlemagne's chapel at Aachen Cathedral.

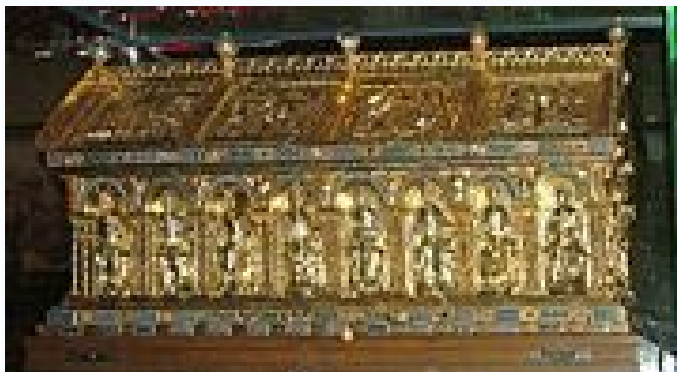


Matters of Charlemagne's reign came to a head in late 800. In 799, [Pope Leo III](#) had been mistreated by the Romans, who tried to put out his eyes and tear out his tongue. Leo escaped, and fled to Charlemagne at Paderborn, asking him to intervene in Rome and restore him. Charlemagne, advised by [Alcuin of York](#), agreed to travel to Rome, doing so in November 800 and holding a council on [December 1](#). On [December 23](#) Leo swore an oath of innocence. At [Mass](#), on Christmas Day, when Charlemagne knelt the altar to pray, the pope crowned him *Imperator Romanorum* ("Emperor of the Romans") in [Saint Peter's Basilica](#).

Death

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 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](#),

Throne of Charlemagne in Aachen Cathedral



Frederick II's gold and silver casket for Charlemagne

Descendants of: Attila King (59th) of the Huns As Related to: Lars Erik Granholm

- 1 **Attila King (59th) of the Huns** d. 453 (48th great grand father)
- 2 **Ellak King of the Huns** d. 451 (47th great grand father)
- 3 **Ascama Princess of Huns** (46th great grand mother)
m. **Ardaric King of the Gepidae** d. 460
- 4 **Elemund King of the Gepidae** b. 491 (45th great grand father)
- 5 **Ostragotha (Austrigusa) of the Gepidae** b. 504 (44th great grand mother)
m. **Wacho King of the Lombards** b. 490 d. 539
- 6 **Waldrada Princess of the Lombards** b. 528 Lombardy, Italy d. 571 France (43rd great grand mother)
m. **Garibald I King of Bavaria** b. 540
- 7 **Gertrude Princess of Bavaria** b. 555 (42nd great grand mother)
m. **Carloman Count of Austrasia** b. 550 Liege d. 645
- 8 **Pepin I the Elder Mayor of Austrasia** b. 580 d. 640 (41st great grand father)
m. **Itta of Metz** b. 592 d. 652
[daughter of Arnoald Bishop of Metz and Oda of Swabia]
- 9 **Saint Begga** b. 615 d. 693 (40th great grand mother)
m. **Ansegisel Arnulfing** b. abt 602 d. bef 662
[son of Saint Arnoald Bishop of Metz and Doda (Clothilde) of Old Saxony]
- 10 **Martin of Laon** (39th great grand father)
m. **Bertrada of Prüm** b. 670 d. 721
[daughter of Theuderic III King of Neustria and Clotilda of Heristal]
- 11 **Bertrada of Laon Queen of the Franks** b. 710/27 d. 783 (38th great grand mother)
m. **Pepin the Short King of the Franks** b. 714 d. 768
[son of Charles Martel Duke of the Franks and Rotrude Duchess of Trier]
- 12 **Charlemagne Emperor of Holy Roman Empire** b. 742 d. 814 Aachen (37th great grand father)
m. **Hildegard Empress of Holy Roman Empire** b. ABT 757 Aachen d. 30 Apr 783 Moselle
[daughter of Gerold I Duke of Vinzgau and Emma of Allemania]
- 13 **Louis I the Pious Emperor of Holy Roman Empire** b. 778 Casseneuil d. 20 Jun 840 Ingelheim (36th great grand father)
m. **Judith Princess of Bavaria** b. ABT 800 Altdorf, Bavaria d. 19 Apr 843 ToursFrance
[daughter of Welf I Duke of Bavaria and Heilwig of Saxony]
- 14 **Charles the Bald Emperor of Holy Roman Empire** b. 828 Frankfurt-am-Main d. 877 (35th great grand father)
m. **Ermentrude Empress of Holy Roman Empire** b. 12 Oct 830 d. 6 Oct 869
[daughter of Eudes (Odo) Count of Orleans]
- 15 **Louis the Stammerer Emperor of Holy Roman Empire** b. 1 Sep 846 d. 10 Apr 879 Compiègne (34th great grand father)
m. **Ansgard of Burgundy Queen of France**
- 16 **Charles III "the Simple" King of France** b. 19 Sep 879 France d. 7 Oct 929 Peronne, Austrasia (33rd great grand father)
m. **Frederuna of France** b. ABT 887 France d. 10 Feb 917 Abbaye De St Remy, Reims, Champagne
[daughter of Dietrich Count of Hamaland]
- 17 **Ermentrud Princess of France** b. ABT 908 (32nd great grand mother)
m. **Gottfried of Lorraine**
[son of Gerhard Count of Metzgau and Oda of Saxony]
- 18 **Gerberga of Lorraine** b. ABT 925 d. 995 (31st great grand mother)
m. **Meginoz Count of Geldern and Zütphen** b. ABT 920 d. 998

19 **Ermentrud of Geldern** b. ABT 940 (30th great grand mother)
m. **Herbert I Count of Gleiberg** b. ABT 925 Hohenstaufen, Swabia d. 992
[son of Eudes (Odo) Count of Wetterau and Dght. of Herbert I of Vermandois]

20 **Gerberga Countess of Kitzinggau** b. 972 Kitzinggau, Swabia, Bavaria (29th great grand mother)
m. **Henry I Margrave Count of Schweinfurt** b. 975 Schweinfurt, Unterfranken, Bavaria d. 18 Sep 1017
[son of Berthold I Margrave Count of Bavaria and Eiliswintha (Eila) of Walbeck]

21 **Judith of Schweinfurt** b. ABT 1007 d. 2 Aug 1058 (28th great grand mother)
m. **Bretislaus I Duke of Bohemia** b. 1005 d. 10 Jan 1055
[son of Oldrich Duke of Bohemia and Bozena (concubine) of Bohemia]

22 **Vratislav II King of Bohemia** b. ABT 1035 d. 14 Jan 1092 (27th great grand father)
m. **Adelaida Princess of Hungary** b. ABT 1038 Esztergom, Hungary d. 27 Jan 1062
[daughter of Andreas I King of Hungary and Anastasiya Agmunda Queen of Hungary]

23 **Judith (Premyslid) I Princess of Bohemia** b. 1057 Praha, Bohemia d. 25 Dec 1085 (26th great grand mother)
m. **Wladislaw I Herman Duke of Poland** m. 1080 Plitzk, Poland b. ABT 1042 d. 4 Jun 1102
[son of Casimir I Karol King of Poland and Dobronegra Mariya Princess of Kiev]

24 **Boleslaw III The Wrymouth Duke of Poland** b. 20 Aug 1085 Krakow d. 1138 (25th great grand father)
m. **Salome of Berg-Schelklingen** m. 1133 b. 1097 Schelklingen, Donaukreis, Wurttemberg d. 27 Jul 1144
[daughter of Heinrich III Count of Berg and Adeleide of Monchenthal]

25 **Richia Sventoslava Princess of Poland** b. 12 Apr 1116 Krakow d. aft 1156 (24th great grand mother)
m. **Volodar Glebovitj of Minsk Prince of Russia** m. 1135 b. ABT 1123 Novgorod d. AFT 1139
[son of Vsevolod Gavriil Prince of Russia and Svyatoslavna Princess of Chernigov]

26 **Sofiya Vladimirovna Princess of Russia** b. 1140 Novgorod d. 5 May 1198 (23rd great grand mother)
m. **Valdemar I the Great King of Denmark** b. 14 Jan 1131 d. 12 May 1182
[son of Knud Eriksson Lavard King of Denmark and Ingeborg Princess of Russia]

27 **Richiza Valdemarsdotter Princess of Denmark** b. ABT 1178 d. 8 May 1220 (22nd great grand mother)
m. **Erik X Knutsson King of Sweden** b. 1180 Stockholm, Sweden d. 10 Apr 1216 Visingsö, Sweden
[son of Knut I Eriksson King of Sweden and Cecilia Johansdotter Queen of Sweden]

28 **Märtha Eriksdotter Princess of Sweden** b. ABT 1213 (21st great grand mother)
m. **Nils Sixtensson Sparre av Tofta** b. ABT 1188 Tofta, Uppsala, Sweden
[son of Sixten Sixtensson Sparre of Tofta]

15 **Sixten Nilsson Sparre av Tofta** d. 1310 (20th great grand father)
m. **Ingrid Abjörnsdotter** b. Abt 1220 Adelso, Uppsala

16 **Abjörn Sixtensson Sparre av Tofta** b. ABT 1240 d. 1310 (19th great grand father)
m. **Ingeborg Ulfsdotter Ulf** b. ABT 1258 d. AFT 1307
[daughter of Ulf Karlsson Ulv and Karlsdotter Lejonbalk]

17 **Ulf Abjörnsson Sparre** b. 1348 (18th great grand father)
m. **Kristina Sigmundsdotter Tre Klöverblad** m. 1330 b. 1295
[daughter of Sigmund Keldorsson Tre Klöverblad]

18 **Karl Ulfsson Sparre av Tofta** (17th great grand father)
m. **Helena Israelsdotter** b. 1340 d. 1410
[daughter of Israel Birgersson and Bengta Färla Karlsdotter]

19 **Margareta Karlsdotter Sparre av Tofta** d. 1429 (16th great grand mother)
m. **Knut Tordsson Bonde** b. ABT 1377 Vadstena, Sweden d. 1413
[son of Tord Röríksson Bonde and Ramborg Cecilia Nilsdotter Vasa]

20 **Karl VIII Knutsson Bonde King of Sweden** b. 1409 Uppsala d. 15 May 1470 Stockholm (15th great grand father)
m. **Birgitta Turesdotter Bielke** m. 1428 d. 1436
[daughter of Ture Stensson Bielke and Birgitta Abrahamsdotter Tjurhuvud]

21 **Karin Karlsdotter Bonde** (14th great grand mother)
m. **Erengisle Björnsson Djäkn** d. bef 1447
[son of Björn Pedersson Djäkn]

22 **Märta Erengisledotter Djäkn** (13th great grand mother)
m. **Johan Henriksson Fleming** b. 1465 Rada, Sverige d. AFT 1514
[son of Henrik Klausson Fleming and Valborg Jönsdotter Tawast]

23 **Anna Johansdotter Fleming** b. 1435 d. 1505 (12th great grand mother)
m. **Olof Pedersson (Wildeman) Lille** d. 1535

24 **Karin Olofsdotter Wildeman** b. 1465 d. 1535 (11th great grand mother)
m. **Ludolf Boose** b. 1465 Holstein d. 1535

25 **Johan Ludolfsson Boose** b. 1526 d. 1596 Karuna (10th great grand father)
m. **Ingeborg Henriksdotter**

26 **Kirstin Johansdotter Boose** b. 1576 d. 1646 Karuna (9th great grand mother)
m. **Bertil von Nieroht** b. 1582 d. 1652

27 **Maria Bertilsdotter von Nieroht** b. 1612 d. 1682 (8th great grand mother)
m. **Carl Henriksson Lindelöf**
[son of Henrik Hansson Lindelöf and Anna Bengtsdotter Gyllenlood]

28 **Carl Carlsson von Lindelöf** b. 1642 d. 1712 (7th great grand father)
m. **N.N. Laurisdotter Laurentz**

29 **Anna Maria Carlsdotter von Lindelöf** b. 1670 d. 1 Feb 1747 Suomusjärvi (6th great grand mother)
m. **Ericus Christierni Orenius** b. ABT 1658 d. 2 Mar 1740 Suomusjärvi
[son of Krister (Christiernus) Matthiae Orenius and Ingeborg]

31 **Christina Margareta Urnovia** (4th great grand mother)
m. **Johan Flinck** m. 20 Dec 1781 Turku

32 **Johan (Flinck) Årenius** b. 12 Jan 1787 Pemar Vista d. 6 Nov 1823 Eckois Tyrvää (great-great-grand father)
m. **Ulrika Abrahamsdotter Sevon** m. 15 Mar 1810 b. 9 Jun 1784
[daughter of Abraham Abrahamsson Sevon and Juliana Ulrika Hallonblad]

33 **Johan Gustaf Johansson Årenius** b. 5 Jun 1810 Eckois Tyrvaa (great-great-grand father)
m. **Johanna Carolina Röring** b. 24 Jun 1802 d. ABT 1839
[daughter of N.N. Röring and Maria Jakobsdotter Tägtström]

34 **Charlotta Constantia Renlund** b. 4 Jun 1830 d. 28 Jan 1905 (great-grand mother)
m. **Erik Eriksson Kåll** m. 19 Mar 1854 b. 24 Jun 1829 d. 23 Jan 1905
[son of Erik Persson Lillkåll and Maria Johansdotter Lillkåll]

35 **Johanna Karolina Eriksdotter Kåll** b. 9 Jan 1863 d. 8 Nov 1934 (grand mother)
m. **Karl-Johan Granholm** m. 24 Mar 1887 b. 14 Mar 1866 d. 22 Jun 1920
[son of Anders Gustaf Johansson Granholm and Brita Andersdotter Djupsjö]

36 **Erik Anton Granholm** b. 28 May 1906 d. 29 Jan 1959 (father)
m. **Karin Hildegard Kasén** m. 20 Aug 1933 b. 3 Jul 1914
[daughter of Alfred Jakobsson Kasén and Wera Ingeborg Björk]

37 **Lars Erik Granholm** b. 28 Jul 1934 (myself)
m. **Leena Elisabeth Kentala**
[daughter of Anders Artur Kentala and Anna Heleena Reuter]