

1121

Events

In England, Henry I is king. Called Henry Beauclerc, or the Lion of Justice, Henry is an educated man and an opportunistic, prudent ruler of considerable skill. The fourth son of William the Conqueror, Henry successfully won the throne in 1100, after the death of his brother William II in a hunting accident, by seizing the keys to the royal treasury in Winchester while his elder brother Robert was en route returning from the First Crusade.

Henry was described as average height, brawny and fleshy, with black hair and a high forehead and bright eyes.

Henry's reign saw a number of social and judicial reforms focused on centralizing his power as king. He extended the jurisdiction of the royal courts, increased the use of royal writs, and established a regular circuit of judges who meted out justice throughout the kingdom and brought the king's court into closer contact with the regional courts. A number of Norman immigrants were attracted to England by the growing prosperity and trade opportunities.

In 1118, Henry's first wife, Edith-Matilda, died.

On November 25, 1120, Henry's only son, Prince William, died in a shipwreck when the White Ship sank off the coast of Barfleur in the English Channel. Although the cause of the wreck was never known for certain, it was said that the crew was drunk and ran the ship into rocky water. In addition to the prince, a number of notables died, including the Earl of Chester (Richard d'Avranches), his brother Otheur, Geoffrey, the Archdeacon of Hereford, two of the king's daughters and a niece, and many more. Henry grieved fiercely for the accident.

On January 29, 1121, Henry re-married, taking for his wife Adeliza, the daughter of the Duke of Lower Lotharingia, Godfrey I of Leuven. Their marriage would produce no children.

In 1122, Henry's eldest illegitimate son, Robert, being one of his most capable military officers, was created the Earl of Gloucester.

In Germany, Henry V is king and emperor. Henry is married to the daughter of the King of England, Matilda, since 1114 (she was 12 years old at the time of their marriage). The marriage will produce no children, and Henry will be succeeded after his death in 1125 by Lothair III, the Duke of Saxony.

Henry continued the Investiture Controversy begun by his father, Henry IV. He invaded Italy several times during his reign, but in 1122, he and the pope came to a compromise, the Concordat of

Worms. By the terms of the agreement, the emperor would maintain some control in the election of German bishops and abbots by having the election take place in the emperor's presence and with the emperor acting as arbiter of disputes.

In Italy, Callixtus II is pope. Callixtus is a Burgundian by birth, born Guido de Vienne, son of William, the Count of Burgundy, and related to a large number of the rulers of Europe. Elected to the papacy in 1119, he is a skilled diplomat and will end the Investiture Controversy in 1122.

Sicily is ruled by Normans since the conquest by Roger I (1031-1101) in 1091 following two decades of war. The current ruler is Roger II (1093-1154), who has been count since 1105 and will ultimately unite Sicily and Apulia into the Kingdom of Sicily in 1130.

Elsewhere in Italy, cities are beginning to gain status as self-governing communes. Asti became a commune in 1093, Pavia in 1105, and Florence will follow in 1138. Italian cities are growing rapidly as maritime powers, and the Crusades would open new trade partners in the Levant, with Venice gaining the lion's share of trading rights.

In France, the king is Louis VI, called Louis the Fat. Louis is intelligent and rather greedy, but very well-liked by the people of France, including the peasantry and the clergy. He is a huge man but a brave and capable warrior, although he is too large to ride a horse. He is known to be a protector of the poor, the church, and the towns of his realm. Louis is the first French king to call himself the King of France instead of the King of the Franks.

Louis spent a great deal of his reign battling robber barons in the vicinity of Paris in an effort to enforce the authority of the crown. He gathered his knights together for annual military campaigns in which they went off to fight whatever enemy Louis set his sights on that year. He also contended frequently with England's King Henry in Normandy, as Henry refused to pay homage to Louis as his lord. In 1119, Louis was defeated at the Battle of Bremule, after which he appealed to Pope Callixtus to condemn Henry.

In 1120, Henry finally yielded and paid homage to Louis for Normandy.

Under Louis, the city of Paris grew and thrived. The royal palace was fortified, a castle was built on the river bank, churches were built, and annual fairs were instituted.

By 1121, Louis and his wife, Adelaide, have three young sons: Philip, Louis, and Henry. A fourth son will be born in 1122 but will die young. Four more children will follow in the next four years.

In 1122, Louis's old tutor, Suger, will become the Abbot of St. Denis. Suger will go on to construct a new abbey church (beginning in 1136) in the new architectural style that will come to be called Gothic in later centuries.

In 1121, the famous French scholar and philosopher, Peter Abélard, is castrated by the uncle of Heloise, a young woman to whom Peter had been tutor, and then seduced and impregnated.

The Iberian peninsula is a fragmented battlefield between the Berbers of Morocco, the Almoravides, and Christian forces attempting to expand their own small realms. Under the Amir, Ali ibn Yusuf, the Berbers have taken Madrid, Lisbon, and other cities, and have launched a fresh invasion of Spain this year.

In addition to fighting the Muslims, the Christians are busy fighting each other. In particular, Alfonso I of Aragon, called The Warrior, fights with the Muslims, the Church, his wife Urraca (until the marriage was annulled in 1114), his stepson, Alfonso Raimunde, and others. The pope ultimately intervened to bring about peace between the two Alfonsos. Alfonso of Aragon made a number of conquests until his death in 1134.

Urraca, the Queen of Castile, was engaged in war since 1120 with her own half-sister, Theresa of Leon, after Theresa initiated efforts to expand the lands that would be her son's (Afonso I of Portugal). In 1121, Theresa is besieged and captured, to be freed only after agreeing to hold the county of Portugal as a fief under Urraca. Afonso, upon reaching majority, would repudiate the agreement and drive the Spanish from Portugal. He would go on to become a great and famous knight and struggle constantly with the Moors, ultimately defeating them in 1139 at the Battle of Ourique, after which he would be declared King of Portugal.

In Poland, Boleslaw III the Wry-Mouth is the Duke of Poland. He is among the greatest of Polish rulers, having defeated the Pomeranians in 1109 and being in the midst of the conquest of Pomerania, which will be subjugated completely by 1123. In 1109, he also defeated the Emperor Henry V at the Battle of Glogaw and the Battle of Hundsfield, although in 1135 he will eventually become vassal to the empire.

Boleslaw organized the state of Poland, giving firm definition to magnates and gentry as social classes, at the expense of the peasantry, which slipped toward serfdom.

The Byzantine Empire is ruled by John II Comnenus (1087-1143), a man of integrity and bravery who has just completed a successful

campaign (1120-1121) against the Seljuk Turks, recovering southwestern Anatolia. In 1122, John will refuse to renew trading privileges to the Venetians, who have been exploiting their position, and as a result, a Venetian fleet will attack Byzantine islands in the Aegean Sea, initiating a war that will last four years until John finally yields and renews their privileges.

The Seljuk Turkish Empire fell apart in the end of the 11th century, being divided into a number of smaller sultanates, emirates, and minor divisions, all of which fight with each other as much as with the Christians of the Levant. But in a few years, a man named Zengi will become Atabeg of Mosul (in 1127) and Aleppo (in 1128) and will unify Syria and begin a successful campaign against the Crusader States, ultimately capturing Edessa in 1144, sparking the Second Crusade.

In 1118, Ahmed Sanjar, one of the sons of the last great sultan, Malik Shah, declared himself Sultan of the Seljuk Empire. His brother, Mahmud II, did not recognize his claim and declared himself Sultan of Baghdad.

In 1118, King Baldwin I of Jerusalem died without an heir. He was succeeded by his cousin, Baldwin of Le Bourq, the Count of Edessa. The County of Edessa then passed to Joscelin of Courtenay as a reward for his support of the claim of Baldwin of Le Bourq for the throne.

As the most exposed of the Crusader States, Edessa was in constant conflict with its Turkish neighbors. In 1122, Joscelin will be taken prisoner by the Turks. King Baldwin II will attempt to rescue him and be captured himself. Both will escape in 1124 with the help of Armenian soldiers disguised as merchants.

Antioch is at this time under the regency of the King of Jerusalem, as the current Prince of Antioch, Bohemund II, is just 13 years old.

The Kingdom of Jerusalem is still expanding at this time. In 1124, the city of Tyre will finally be conquered. Still, since the end of the First Crusade, the number of Christian knights and soldiers in the Levant is always low, and the threat from the Muslim neighbors is very real; only the internal struggles of the Muslims keep them from reconquering the Holy Land.

In 1118, the Order of the Knights Templar was founded to help defend Jerusalem against the Muslims. The Knights Hospitaler were similarly important. Both orders would become powerful entities in their own right in the Levant, building and occupying great castles, such as the Krak des Chevaliers, an impregnable and mighty castle

occupied by the Prince of Galilee, Tancred, in 1110 and given to the Hospitalers in 1144 upon the fall of Edessa.

In 1126, the first Artesian well will be drilled by Carthusian monks in Artois.

People of Note

King of England: Henry I (1100-1135)

Also, **Duke of Normandy** (vassal to King of France)

Married Edith, daughter of King Malcolm of Scotland, on Nov 11, 1100

Had two children: Matilda (1102-1167) and William (1103-1118)

William died on the White Ship in 1118

Married Adeliza, daughter of the Duke of Leuven, on Jan 29, 1121, but no children resulted

Henry is known to have had 20-25 illegitimate children

Earl of Chester: Ranulph le Meschin (1121-1129)

Earl of Albemarle: Stephen (d. 1127)

Earl of Huntingdon and Northampton: Simon II of St. Liz (1103-1153)

Earl of Surrey: William de Warenne (d. 1138)

Earl of Warwick: Henry de Beaumont (d. 1123)

Earl of Buckingham: Walter Giffard (d. 1164)

Earl of Devon: Baldwin de Redvers (d. 1155)

Earl of Leicester: Robert de Beaumont (1104-1168)

King of Scotland: Alexander I (1078-1124)

Married Sybilla, an illegitimate daughter of Henry I of England, in 1107

No children, succeeded by his brother, David, in 1124

High King of Ireland: Turlough O'Connor (1088-1156)

Also, **King of Connacht**

King of Gwynedd: Gruffyd ap Cynan (1055-1137)

Prince of Gwynedd: Owain Gwynedd ap Gruffyd (1100-1170)

Led the Welsh against the Normans after 1120

King of Denmark: Nicholas (1064-1134)

King of Norway: Eystein I (1088-1123)

King of Sweden: Inge II Halstensson (r. 1105-1125)

King of France: Louis VI the Fat (1081-1137)

Married Lucienne de Rochefort in 1104

Married Adelaide de Maurienne in 1115

Children:

Philip (1116-1131)

Louis VII (1120-1180)

Henry (1121-1174)

Hugues (1122-?)

Robert (1123-1188)

Constance (1124-1176)

Philip (1125-1161)

Pierre (1126-1180)

Adelaide was the niece of Pope Callixtus II and daughter of Humbert, Count of Savoy.

Holy Roman Emperor and King of Germany:

Henry V (1081-1125)

Duke of Saxony: Lothair III of Supplinburg (1075-1137)

Later, **King of Germany** (1125-1137) and **Holy Roman Emperor** (1133-1137)

Count Palatine of the Rhine: Gottfried of Kalw (r. 1113-1129)

Count of Arenberg: Franko (r. 1117-1129)

Count of Bar: Renaut I the One-Eyed (r. 1105-1150)

Duke of Bavaria: Henry IX the Black (r. 1120-1126)

Count of Bentheim: Otto of Salm (r. 1115-1149)

King of Bohemia: Vladislav I (r. 1120-1125)

Duke of Franconia: Conrad III (1093-1152)

Later, **King of Germany** (r. 1138-1152)

Duke of Lower Lotharingia: Godfrey I of Leuven (1106-1128)

Also, **Count of Brussels, Count of Leuven, Landgrave of Brabant**

Duke of Swabia: Frederick II of Hohenstaufen (1090-1147)

Count of Wurttemberg: Conrad I (r. 1089-1122)

Margrave of Austria: Leopold III (1073-1136)
Canonized St. Leopold in 1485

Count of Savoy: Amadeus III (1095-1148)

Doge of Venice: Domenico Michele (r. 1117-1130)
nam

Count of Sicily: Roger II (1093-1154)

Duke of Apulia (1127-1130)

King of Sicily after 1130

Duke of Apulia: William II (1095-1127)

King of Aragon and Navarre: Alfonso I (1073-1134)

Married Urraca in 1109, marriage annulled by the pope in 1114

Queen of Castile and Leon: Urraca of Castile (1082-1126)

Married Raymond of Burgundy in 1090, he died in 1107

Married Alfonso I of Aragon in 1109, annulled in 1114

Count of Barcelona: Ramon Berenguer III (1082-1131), also:

Count of Girona (1082-1131)

Count of Osona (1082-1131)

Count of Belasu (1111-1131)

Count of Provence (1112-1131)

Count of Cerdagne (1117-1131).

Countess of Portugal: Theresa (1080-1130)

Also, **Princess of Leon**

Byzantine Emperor (Basileus): John II Comnenus (1087-1143)

Married Piroska in 1104, they had 8 children – 4 sons and 4 daughters

Lord of the Mountain: Thoros I of Armenia (r. 1102-1129)

King of Jerusalem: Baldwin II (r. 1118-1131)

Count of Edessa: Joscelin I (r. 1118-1131)

Also: **Prince of Galilee** (1113-1131)

Prince of Antioch: Bohemond II (1108-1131)

Also, **Prince of Taranto** (1111-1128)

While Bohemond was a minor, Antioch was ruled by regents:

Tancred, 1111-1112

Roger of Salerno, 1112-1119

Baldwin II of Jerusalem, 1119-1126

Count of Tripoli: Pons of Tripoli (1098-1137)

Married Cecile, daughter of King Philip I of France

Count of Jaffa and Ascalon: Albert of Namur (exact dates unknown)

Lord of Oultrejordain: Roman of Le Puy (r. 1118-1126)

Lord of Sidon: Eustace I Grenier (r. 1110-1123)

Lord of Toron: Humphrey I of Toron (dates unknown)

Lord of Caeserea: Eustace Grenier (r. 1110-1123)

Lord of Hebron: Baldwin of St. Abraham (r. 1120-1136)

Count of Rethel: Gervais (r. 1118-1124)

Count of Nevers: William II (r. 1097-1148)

Also, **Count of Auxerre**

Count of Ardennes: Wilhelm (r. 1096-1130)

Count of Flanders: Charles the Good (1080-1127)

Count of Holland: Floris II the Fat (r. 1091-1121), Dirk VI (r. 1121-1157)

Count of Namur: Godfrey I (r. 1102-1139)

Duke of Burgundy: Hugh II (1084-1143)

Duke of Aquitaine: William IX (The Troubadour) (1071-1126)

Also, **Duke of Gascony, Count of Poitiers**

Count of Champagne: Hughes (r. 1093-1125)

In 1125, he joined the Knights Templar and went off to Crusade, transferring Champagne to his nephew, Theobald.

Count of Toulouse: Alphonse I (1103-1148)

Duke of Poland: Boleslaw III Wrymouth (1102-1138)

Prince of Kiev: Vladimir Monomakh (1113-1125)

King of Hungary: Stephen II (1116-1131)

Abbasid Caliph (Baghdad): Al-Mustarshid (1118-1135)

Sultan of Great Seljuk: Ahmed Sanjar (1084-1157)

Sultan of Baghdad: Mahmud II (r. 1118-1131)

Sultan of Kerman: Arslan Shah I (1101-1142)

Sultan of Rum: Mas'ud of Rum (r. 1116-1156)

Pope: Callixtus II (1119-1124)

1122 – Treaty of Metz with Henry V of Germany

1122 – Concordat of Worms

Succeeded by Honorius II (1124-1130)

Archbishop of Cologne: Friedrich I (r. 1100-1131)

Archbishop of Mainz: Adalbert I von Saarbrücken (r. 1111-1137)

Archbishop of Reims: Raoul the Green (r. 1106-1124)

Archbishop of Trier: Bruno of Laufen (r. 1101-1124)

Abbot of Clairvaux: Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153). Bernard is the Abbot of the new monastery at

Clairvaux, built in 1115. By 1125, Bernard will become a dominating voice in the Christian west, and he will be responsible for much of the growth of the Cistercian Order. His preaching of the Second Crusade in the 1140s would spur even the King and Queen of France to take the cross and travel to the Holy Land. Bernard will be canonized in 1174.