

# The Ottoman Empire and the impact it had on Romania

Towards the end of the 13th century, Mongol power went into decline, creating new principalities in territories taken from the Byzantine Empire. Each of them was led by a prince.

Among the first was count Osman or (Ottoman), who founded the Principality Osman (ottoman) at the north-east of Turkey, in 1300. He extended step by step the new state and he introduced Islamic concepts in the law and government. In 1317, Osman began the siege of Bursa city. After nine years, the city was won and became the capital of the Ottoman Empire. Osman died in the year 1326. The Ottoman dynasty had uninterrupted power over six century.

In 1326 the Ottoman Empire held only a small part of Turkey and around 1400 it covered around 433.000 square kilometers. Between 1359-1451 the Ottomans conquered a big part of Turkey and the Balkans. In 1453 the Ottomans conquered Constantinople and established links between the territories of Asia and Europe.

The conquest of Dobrogea by the Ottomans took place after a great expedition of sultan Mehmet 1<sup>st</sup>, in 1417 and this had very important consequences for the future development of the province between the Danube and the Black Sea. Dobrogea was under Ottoman domination for four and a half centuries, until 1877. In 1520-1566, under the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent, the Ottoman Empire reached its peak, stretching over three continents: Asia, Europe and Africa.

The Ottoman expansion in the second half of the fifteenth century was increasingly oriented towards Romania, the Turkish people pursuing the subjugation of the Black Sea area and the occupation of Chilia city and of the White Fortress. Finally, in the next century, the Romanian countries fell under Ottoman rule but, although they lost their independence, they preserved their autonomy.

The relations between the Romanian Principalities and the Ottoman Empire were regulated by agreements and capitulations in which the Romanian rulers recognized the suzerainty of the sultan, accepted the payment of tribute and promised to follow the Turkish external policy. In return, Ottomans had agreed not to attack Romanian countries and to protect them against the Tartars.

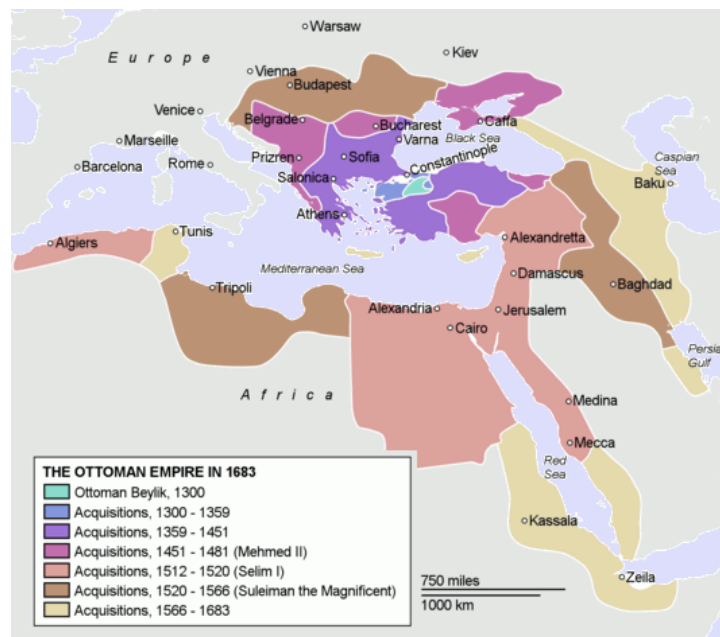
Following the conquest of Constantinople in 1453, most of southeast European states were forced to obey the Ottoman power. Mehmed II, who was the successor of the former Byzantine Empire, being aware of the geostrategic importance of Istanbul, wanted to impose full control

over his vassals and Christian countries who were tempted to ally with Venice and Austria-Hungary. Thus, in the second half of the fifteenth century, the great sultan managed to conquer Serbia (1459), southern Greece (1460), Bosnia (1463) and other Balkan areas. In the North of the Danube, however, they encountered the armies of Vlad the Impaler, who had allied with Hungary. Therefore, in 1462, Radu the Handsome became the ruler of Valacchia instead of Vlad the Impaller, for his obedience to the Ottoman Empire.

In 1606, the Long War ended. The Romanian principalities revolted against the Ottoman Empire. This trend became even more pronounced in the second decade of the seventeenth century. The monarchs Radu Mihnea in the Romanian Country (1611 - 1616), Stephen Tomşa in Moldova (1611 - 1615) and Gabriel Bethlen in Transylvania (1613 - 1629) intended to keep the three principalities under the suzerainty of the Ottoman Empire, but under different conditions from those that were characteristic of the Ottoman rule in the previous century. Indeed, the Turkish were aware that they could not return to the old system, based on interference in internal affairs by forcing its own monarchs.

In Romania there were two different situations: on the one hand there was Dobrogea, and on the other hand there were the other principalities. The legacy of Dobrogea presents many similarities to the Balkans because of direct and prolonged domination of the area. In contrast, in the rest of the country, it had been greatly reduced. Ottoman domination over the principalities was based on the following principle that was very clear: "Mefruz el-Kalem ve Maktu El Kadem" meaning "They are separate, standalone and cannot be conquered." If in the south of the Danube, the construction or repairs of the churches were done with authorization, such restrictions did not exist in the north, where the presence of the cross was allowed and mosques hadn't been built.

The Empire was abolished in 1922 and in 1923 the Turkish Republic was declared.



## The Ottoman heritage

Although the deficiencies of the ottoman administration affected the development of the Romanian territories in a mostly negative way, there was also a positive impact. Thus, the big ottoman market was always a good buyer for the Romanian products (sheep, cows, horses, barley, salt, honey, wax, wood, hemp), albeit in the circumstances of a "guided" commerce.

Also in the economy department we can talk about the introduction, through ottoman channel, of the American corn, known at the beginning as „Turkish wheat”, which soon became one of the basic commodity in the economy and diet of the Romanian peasant. Through the same channel there came tobacco, cotton, aniseed, sesame, watermelon (in Turkish „karbuz”, in Romanian „harbuz”), some flowers: tulip, lilac, hyacinth, carnation, and of course, coffee.

However, the most durable influence was registered in the field of cuisine, some food becoming so popular that they are still eaten in Romania and are even considered „traditional”, such as the famous „sarmale”, which were called „sarmak” in Turkish. Other dishes embedded in the Romanian gastronomy are: soup (ciorba), pilaf, baklava, moussaka, types of pies.

The linguistic ottoman influence over the Romanian language is estimated at around 2000-3000 words, especially in the lexicon used in gastronomy, clothing, agriculture or trade.

Some of them came from the old preottoman sublayer (oghuz, pecheneg, cumen and tartar): baclava, cafea, belea, patlagea, iaurt, musama, chirie, dusman, saftea, sarma, iahnie, chiftea, bacsis.

In the artistic field the ottoman influence can be seen in embroidery, courtly costumes, textiles, ceramics and some decorative motifs.

### Sources:

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# **The Swedish Empire and its impact on Finland and neighboring countries**

The time between year 1000 to 1300 was quite restless in the Baltic Sea area. The catholic church wanted to convert people into Christianity. Sweden arranged two crusades to Finland and at the same time invaded areas to have more land to govern. At first, only the western part of Finland was part of Sweden, whereas the eastern part turned towards Novgorod. Eventually in the 15th century, Finland was considered part of Sweden.

The start of the Swedish Empire was gradual and Sweden expanded its borders through several wars. When Gustav Vasa was the ruler of Sweden, he started developing the country in many ways: he renewed the governmental system according to German model, he started religious reformation and, in many ways, created a modern state. He suffocated all rebellious movements with violence. This happened also in Finland, where the peasants suffered during the war between Sweden and Russia.

In 1560, Sweden started an era of many wars: it fought against Poland and Denmark to gain Baltia to itself. The sons of Gustav Vasa were rivals to get the crown and ended up ruling the country one after another. Johan III was married to a Polish princess, at later on their son became the king of both Sweden and Poland. Sweden ended up gaining land Baltia (areas from today's Estonia and Latvia).

In the beginning of 17th century, the ruler of Sweden was King Gustav A Adolf II. He entered the country into the Thirty Years' War, where especially Sweden and France tried to limit the power of the Habsburgs. The war was initially a religious civil war in Germany, but ended up involving the whole of Europe. When the peace treaty was signed in Westfalen in 1648, it was the beginning of the Swedish Empire. Sweden got big areas from Germany.

Sweden continued fighting wars with its neighboring countries between 1654-1660. It invaded areas such as Trondheim, Bornholm, Jämtland, Gotland and Skåne. Sweden lost most of the areas back very shortly, but Gotland and Skåne remained part of the Empire. The enemies of Sweden, namely Denmark, Poland, Lithuania and Russia, allied with each other which resulted in the Great Northern War (1700-1721). One by one, Sweden lost territories and the Swedish Empire came to an end.

Finnish War (1808-1809) between Sweden and Russia resulted in Sweden losing Finland to Russia as an autonomous Grand Duchy.

### Map of the Swedish Empire



## **The Swedish heritage**

In the beginning of the Swedish influence, Finland was very rural and distant. Ancient beliefs were common up until Sweden brought Christianity to Finland. The oldest bishopric in Finland was located in Turku.

Sweden gave Finland a model to a governmental system and legislation, and an idea of a market economy.

The Finns maintained their own language, but also learned Swedish. Nowadays, Swedish is Finland's second official language. Students start learning it on 6th grade. For certain positions, knowing Swedish is a requirement.

Finland has been influenced by Swedish food and cooking traditions. In the western areas of Finland, people were more likely to use Germanic outdoor ovens like in Sweden. Food was cooked in a three-legged cauldron that hang over open fire. Soups were typically western foods. People baked huge amounts of bread only twice a year. The bread was stored either inside the main cabin (near the roof in long skewers) or in a bread storehouse. Swedish influence is particularly big at Christmas. Nowadays, we share a lot of dishes, such as pea soup, meat balls, Shrove bun, etc.

### **Sources:**

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# Celts in Italy

## Celts in Italy – 400 b. C    Classes 5A- 5C

Celts were people who lived in central and northern Europe from around 750 b. C.

There were 3 main groups of Celts      **Gauls**      **Britons**      **Gaels**

**HOUSES**                      They lived in *villages* with round houses.  
The houses had no windows. The roof was made of *straw*.

**CLOTHES**                      The Celts loved bright dazzling colours.  
Their clothes were made from wool and vegetables.  
Clothes were woven by hand on a vertical loom.

**WARRIORS** Celtic warriors had oval shape shields and long swords made of iron.

**RELIGION** The *druids* (*celtic* priests) were the link between the supernatural and the human world.

Celts believed in many gods and goddesses: *Sucellos* – the sky god    *Nodens*- clouds and rain.

Celts expanded to Italy during the 400 b.C.

Some Celts lived in the northern part of Italy => in the area between the Alps and the Appennine mountains => GALLIA CISALPINA ( we live here NOW!!!)

From the 300 b.C the Romans started to fight against the celtic tribes. ( the Gauls)

In 390 b. C. Rome was sacked by the Gauls led by Brenno.

**Julius Caesar** defeated the Gauls led by **Vercingetorix** in the Battle of Alesia (France) in 52 b. C.

That was the end of the celtic dominance in France and Northern Italy.

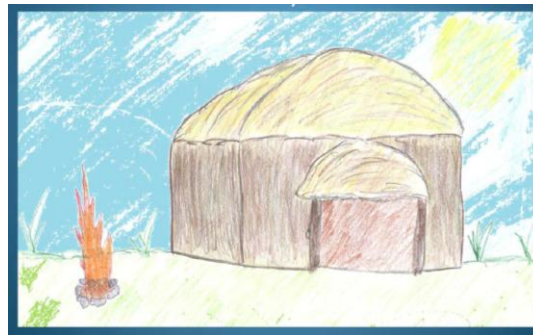
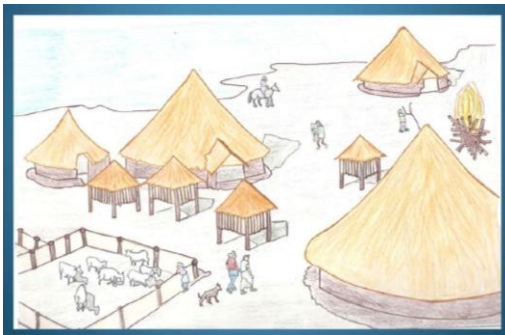
We have prepared a theatre performance titled GIULIO CESARE in which we represent the fight among the Gauls led by Vercingetorix and the Roman army led by Julius Caesar.

## The Celts - How they shaped us

The Celts occupied many territories from Spain to the river Danube. They spread in France, Great Britain and Northern Italy.



The tribes lived in villages, defended by outworks. Celtic tribes sometimes fought each other. Generally they lived in wooden huts, circular or rectangular. Their huts were very well constructed.

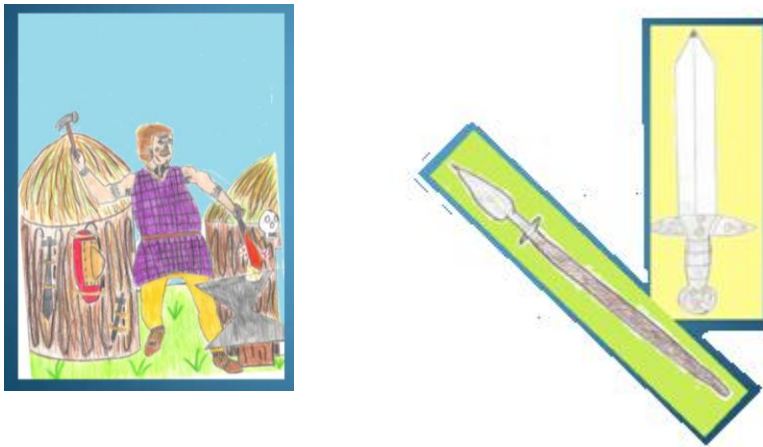


The Celts were excellent farmers. They bred pigs and sheep, but did not eat poultry, a mediator between Heaven and Earth.





They were also excellent craftsmen. Specifically, they worked metals and fabricated iron swords.



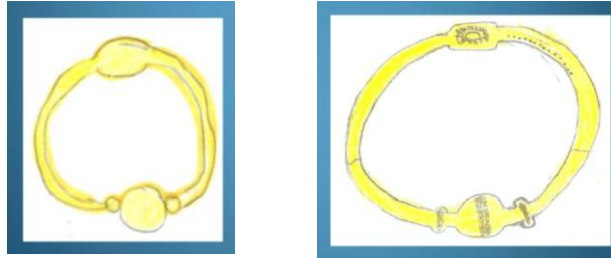
Today there are many objects made by Celt craftsmen demonstrating their skills and creativity.



The Celts used clay to make pottery containers. Today we keep Celtic bracelets and pretty terracotta pots.



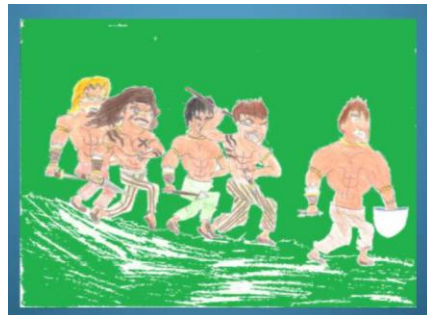
The torquet was the typical Celtic collar: a symbol of freedom. Women also wore torquet.



In Celtic society, women were respected and had the same opportunities as men. In fact, women could participate in battles and could have the role of druid.



For battle, the Celts painted their body, screaming and singing to frighten the enemy and often fought naked to show their bravery.



Being their enemies, the Romans describe them as rude and wild. The Celts were considered by the Romans as terrible warriors.



At the end of the battle, they cut off the heads of enemies and preserved them, out of respect for their value.



Celtic tribes attacked Rome in 390 BC. But after about six months, they left the city, because the Romans paid them to make them leave.



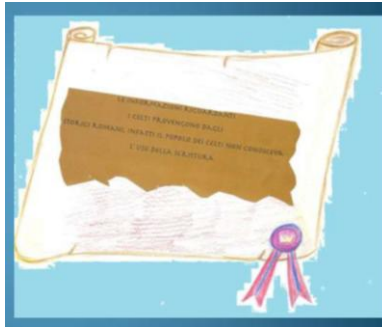
Since that incident, the Romans considered the dangerous and savage enemies, to be submitted. Caesar conquered Gaul, Normandy and Brittany.



The Celts never formed a single empire, because they were divided into tribes. This was their weakness.



The Celts left us no written record of their culture. Much of what we know of the Celts was written by the Romans.



The Celts worshipped the forces of nature and had many gods. The oak tree was their sacred tree. The druid was their priest expert of nature, medicine and astronomy. To become a druid took about 20 years of training. Having no written texts they learned everything by heart.



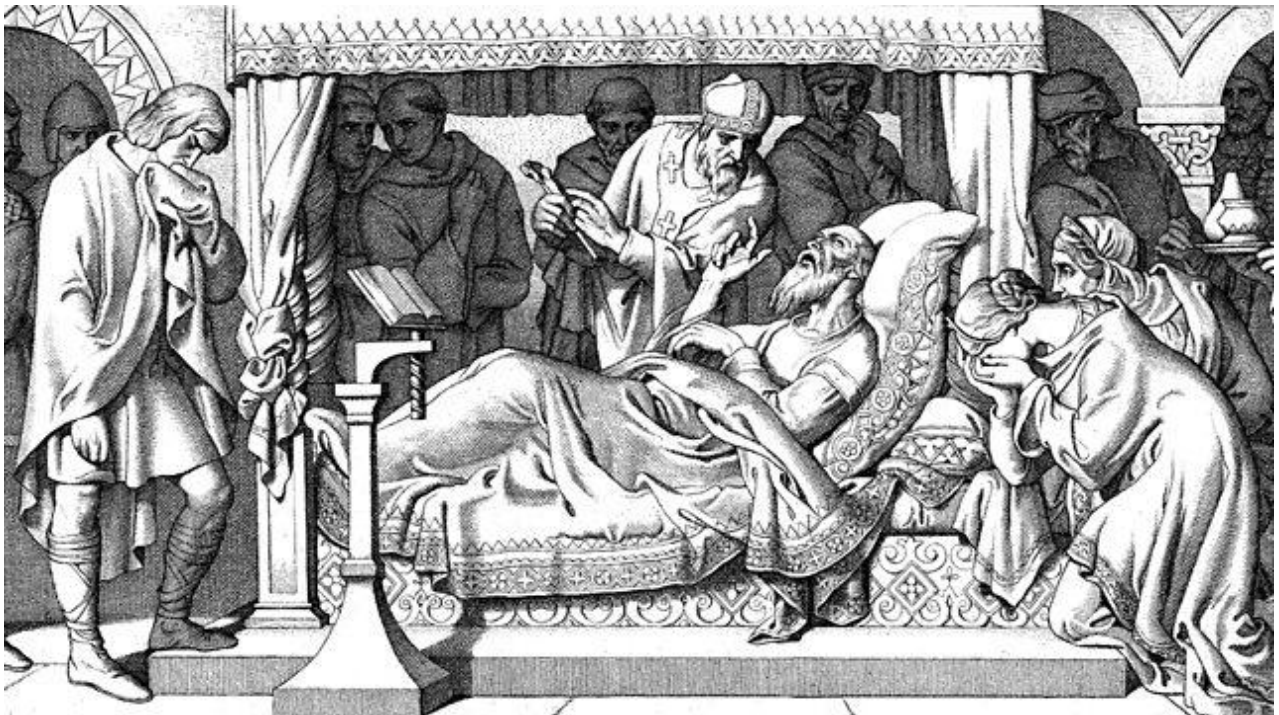
Today we find aspects of the Celtic tradition in the tales of King Arthur.



A project by Martino, Filippo, Giovanni, Lorenzo, Matilde, Alice, Francesca, Andrea, Cecilia, Vittoria, Sofia, Giorgia, Anna, Francesco, Letizia, Martina, Federico, Nicole, Alessandro, Marco and Rita.

# The Norman invasion of England - 1066

At the time, the king of England was Edward The Confessor. When he died in Jan 1066, there was no direct relative to take over the throne. Edgar Ethling was Edward's closest direct relative, but this was a distant connection as he was Edward's father's grandson by his first marriage. Edgar was weak and lacked credibility due to being a child in exile in Hungary. He would never have been supported and so was not felt to be a good successor to the throne.



This meant that the throne was up for grabs! The three main rivals for the throne were: Harold Godwinson, Harald Hardrada and William of Normandy.

**Harold Godwinson:** When Edward first died, Harold Godwinson, Earl of [Wessex](#), was immediately crowned king and became Harold II. The royal council, known as the [Witan](#), supported him. He gathered an army to defend the kingdom.



Harold Godwinson

**Harald Hardrada:** Hardrada was king of Norway. He based his claim on the fact that his ancestor, King Cnut, had once ruled England (1016–1035). He was helped by Godwinson's half-brother, Tostig. He invaded Yorkshire with a fleet of ships, but was defeated and killed by Harold's army at the Battle of Stamford Bridge. While Harold II was in the north of England fighting Hardrada, William, Duke of Normandy invaded Sussex. Harold rushed back south to fight him.



## Harald Hardrada

**William of Normandy:** The Norman [chroniclers](#) reported that Edward had once promised his distant relative, William, the throne in 1051. William was the only blood relative of Edward, but the English throne was not hereditary anyway. Claims that Edward promised the throne were probably made up by the rival sides after the event. The Bayeux Tapestry, which was made after the Conquest, shows Godwinson swearing an [oath](#) of support to William in a visit to Normandy in 1064. William was supported by the Pope.

On 14 October 1066, Harold II fought William's army at the Battle of Hastings and lost. Harold was killed, perhaps with an arrow in his eye - although this is disputed by some historians.



*WILLIAM the CONQUEROR.*

William was crowned king of England on Christmas Day 1066, but it took years more fighting to conquer the whole country. His cruellest campaign was the 'Harrying of the North' in 1069, where he slaughtered the inhabitants of the north-east and destroyed their food stores so that even the survivors starved to death.

The Norman Conquest changed the face of England forever. William ruled as unquestioned conqueror and the Saxons became merely an unpaid workforce for their new lords. The Norman Conquest also changed the history of Europe – adding the wealth of England to the military might of Normandy made the joint-kingdom a European super-power. William reorganised the

church in England. He brought men from France to be bishops and abbots. Great cathedrals and huge monasteries were built. Norman-French and Anglo-Saxon words make up the English language we use today. For example, royal, law and pork come from Norman-French words, but king, rules and pig come from [Saxon](#) ones. In warfare, it was the start of the age of the knight-on-horseback.



## **Polish Invaders – the Russians**

The beginnings of Russian expansionism traces back to the first tsar of this country, Ivan the Terrible, who had an aggressive policy towards its neighbors, including Poland. In 1577 Ivan the Terrible started a war with the Commonwealth of Nations, as our country was called at the time. Fortunately, after a few years of war struggles, the conflict ended with the defeat of the Tsar and the recapturing of the lands he plundered.

In subsequent years - during the reign of Peter the Great - Russia's policy was no longer as expansive as its predecessor, but it was still pursuing the power of political domination in Europe at the time.

A particularly difficult period for the Commonwealth took place at the end of the 18th century, when Catherine the Great sat on the throne of Russia. The rule of this ruler played a large part in the complete dissolution of our state, because its territory was divided between Prussia, Austro-Hungary and Russia. This 123 year period of our history is sometimes called partitions. The partitioning states, especially Russia, sought to deprive the Poles of their nationality, fighting Polish culture, religion, history and language. Throughout the years, the Poles sought to recover their lost homeland at all costs, taking up arms in three national uprisings. However, it was not until after the end of the First World War, in 1918 and after the fall of the tsarate that we were able to regain our independence and freedom. At that time, in place of Tsarist Russia, a coalition state of the USSR emerged, which would soon embark on the conquest of the newly independent II Republic of Poland.

Another armed conflict began in 1919, when the Russians sought to subjugate Poland and bring about a rule based on communist ideology. The Battle of Warsaw, on August 15, 1920, stopped the Bolshevik storm on the road to conquer Europe.

The Second World War was another difficult chapter in the relations between Poles and Russians. The USSR, bound with Nazi Germany, by a secret pact in the first weeks of the war, on the morning of September 17, 1939, crossed the eastern border of Poland. The aggressive offensive of the Russians also led to the arrest of many thousands of Polish officers and their placement in several POW camps. In April 1940 they were secretly murdered in Katyń and buried in mass graves in April 1940. To this day, many of the victims of this Soviet crime have not been found. As a result of the Soviet Union's act of aggression against Poland, there were also numerous deportations to Siberia, imprisonment in prisons and lagers or gulags – heavy labour camps.

When the Second World War ended, The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics imposed its rule on Poland and other countries from the so-called “eastern block”. Their rule covered the whole government system, socio-economic and cultural relations, and was combined with strong indoctrination of the people with communist ideology. For several decades after the post-war years the Soviet army was stationed within our borders. It was not until the democratic transition in 1989 which finally led to the full sovereignty and freedom of the Polish state.

# The Vikings - invaders of Ireland

## Who were the Vikings?

The **Vikings** came from the Scandinavian countries of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. They were mainly fishermen and farmers, but some worked as traders. The Vikings were skilled in exploration, trade, travel, ship building, farming, jewellery and weapons. The Vikings were sometimes called the **Norsemen**. Vikings were travellers and sailed to many lands in Europe and across the North Atlantic Ocean to Iceland and Greenland. They may even have been the first Europeans to reach North America.

## What weapons did the Vikings use to fight?

The Vikings fought with swords, axes, spears and bows and arrows. Viking warriors wore fighting **helmets** made from leather or iron. It is often thought that Viking helmets had two horns on the top however the helmet used for raids and in battle did not have horns. **Horned helmets** were only used in religious ceremonies and for display. Viking **swords** were made of iron with steel edges. The sword was double-edged and relatively lightweight and measured about 90cm in length. The sword handles were often decorated with silver and gold. The Vikings gave names to their swords such as *Head-Biter* or *Hole-Maker*.

Viking axes or **battle-axes** were capable of cutting through enemy helmets and shields. The axes sometimes had intricate designs engraved on the blades. They were given names such as *Head-crusher*. The Vikings used **bows and arrows** for hunting and also for battle. Bows and arrows allowed the Vikings to attack the enemy from a distance. In large battles, the Viking bowmen stood behind the other warriors and fired their arrows into the enemy by aiming high and letting the arrows fall onto the enemy from above.

**Spears** were also used by the Vikings. The spears were thrown and also held and used for stabbing the enemy.

When fighting, the Vikings protected themselves with round **shields** made from wood with a metal boss in the centre. The Viking shield was lightweight and held by a leather handgrip. The shield, especially the metal boss, could be used to hit the opponent in a fight. Some Vikings wore a **coat of mail**. This was a vest made of flexible small metal links. This would give some protection against blows from swords or arrows. Only the richest Vikings wore coats of mail because they were so expensive to make and buy.

The most powerful weapon the Vikings had was their **Longships**.

## Viking Invasion

Most Vikings sailed to distant lands to trade or to look for better land to farm. However, some sailed as invaders to raid and attack the local people and steal belongings and treasure. The Vikings started to invade Britain about 789 AD and continued to arrive for about 200 years. The first attack by the Vikings in Ireland was recorded to have happened in 795AD by Irish monks in the Annals of Ulster. At first the Vikings in Ireland stayed within 20 miles of the coast unsure what lay ahead inland so they kept their attacks along the coast targeting **Irish monasteries**. They made more permanent settlements with their first “wintering over” located at Lough Neagh during 840 AD and 841 AD. The following year Viking settlements were established in Dublin (named Dubhlinn), (which is the current Capital city of Ireland), Cork and Waterford (named Vadrefjord). Viking raids continued in Ireland until the mid 11<sup>th</sup> century.

## The Viking Legacy

As seafarers and noted merchants and traders the Vikings had much to teach the Irish. It was in this period that coinage was first introduced to Ireland – the Irish word for penny, ‘pingin’, is a Viking word – and that a distinct class of merchant traders emerged.

They were less interested in land than past and subsequent occupiers of Ireland, and did not attempt to amass large territories.



Instead they stuck primarily to the coast, taking control of land adjacent to natural harbours where they set up trading centres.

Several of Ireland major towns and cities originated as Viking trading settlements, some retaining to this day the Viking influence in their names, such as Waterford (*Vadrefjord*) and Wexford (*Weisfjord*).

Dublin in particular owes much of its subsequent development to its Viking founders. Sitric, a Viking ruler in Dublin, built the cities famous Christ Church Cathedral and the basic layout of

the centre of the city was established at this time. The word **Viking** comes from the ancient language called *Old Norse* and means '**pirate raider**'.

### **Which other countries did the Vikings invade?**

The Vikings attacked many countries along the North Sea and Atlantic Sea coasts of Europe including, the Netherlands, France and Spain. They also sailed up the rivers of Germany to invade settlements along the rivers.

In France, an area they invaded and later settled became known as **Normandy**. Normandy means *land of the Northmen*. It was the Vikings of Normandy who later conquered England in 1066 and their leader **William the Conqueror** became king. Eventually the Vikings began to settle in lands outside of Scandinavia. In the 9th century they settled portions of Great Britain, Scotland, Germany, and Iceland. In the 10th century they moved into North Eastern Europe including Russia. They also settled along the coast of northern France, where they established Normandy, which means "Northmen". By the start of the 11th century the Vikings were at the peak of their expansion. One Viking, Leif Eriksson, son of Erik the Red, actually made it to North America. He started a brief settlement in present day Canada.

### **The end of the Viking era**

In Ireland, a great battle, known as the Battle of Clontarf, took place in 1014 just outside Dublin. At Clontarf, the strongest king in Ireland, the Irish high king Brian Boru, fought and defeated a Viking army. After this battle, peace began to develop between the Vikings and Celtic peoples and they gradually adopted each other's ideas and customs.

In England, in 1066, the Vikings, led by King Harald Hardrada of Norway were defeated by the English and King Harold Godwinson. The loss of this battle is sometimes used to symbolize the end of the Viking Age. At this point the Vikings stopped expanding their territory and raiding became less frequent.

# The Romans - Invaders of Spain and many neighboring countries

The legend says that Roma was founded by **Romulo and Remo**, two brothers who were raised by a wolf.



Rome is located in the central region of Italy, though Roman Empire reached many countries around the **Mediterranean Sea** in Europe, Africa and Asia.



Their language was **latin** which, after having spread throughout conquered territories, gave birth to many European languages: Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, Romanian,...



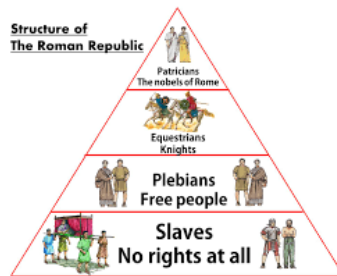
**The usual clothing** for the Romans was the **toga**, for both men and women. Togas have different colours and accessories according to the age, status and functions. They were usually white and, for special occasions, purple.



There were three **social classes**:

- **The Patricians (senators and equites)**: the aristocrat class; they had all the rights.

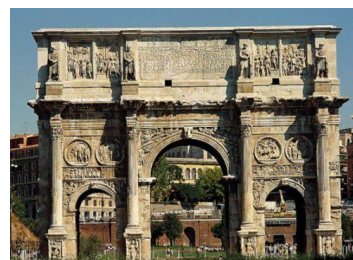
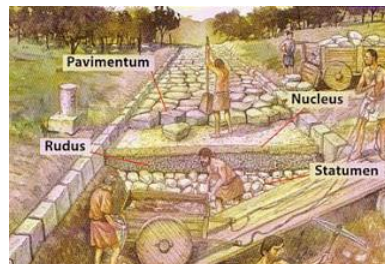
- **The Plebians:** most of the population
- **The Slaves:** they belong to their owner and don't have any right.



They were really keen on **termal baths** or heated swimming pools.



Roman had large buildings: amphitheaters, bridges, aqueducts, roads, baths, circus, triumphal arches...



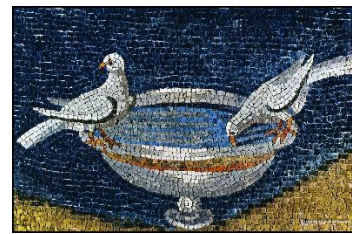
**Coliseum** was an amphitheater where there were **gladiator fights**. They fought using their swords (gladius) sometimes with other gladiators, sometimes with animals (lions or tigers).



**Chariot races** were one of their favourite sports. The riders, called *aurigas*, were slaves and led a horse-drawn wagon.



One of the artworks Roman left us were the **mosaics**. They were made with tesseras, small pieces of ceramic or glass, used to decorate ceilings, floors or walls.

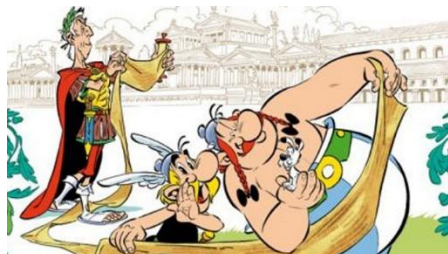


One of the most important contributions of the Romans to the world today is the **Roman Law** which set up the laws and the rules to be followed by all citizens from Rome and all over the Empire.



People from the countries invaded by the Roman were known as **barbarians**.

**Julius Caesar** was a Roman general who defeated his political opponent Pompeyo. He conquered Gaul (France) and brought back prosperity and glory to Rome. Finally, Roman Senators conspired against him and killed him.





The **eagle** was the emblem of the **Roman legion**. The **Centurion** was an officer chosen for his residence. He was in charge a century, formed by eighty men. **Legionaries** were the the soldiers of the Roman army. They were very well trained and disciplined for both military maneuvers and engineering works.



**Christians** were persecuted by Romans because it was believed they were a Jewish sect. Jews also persecuted Christians. It is said that Christians were thrown to the lions into the Coliseum for them to be fed, but this is not true. It's nothing more than a myth.



Romans were **polytheistic**. They believe in several gods. They had equivalent gods to Greek's.

Roman gods word mat



The main cause of the Fall of the Roman Empire was the invasions from different barbarian countries. Roman had reached a territory so large that it was very difficult to defend all the borders from the enemies' attacks.

