

## The Rise of the Carolingians

- I. The Founders
  - A. Pepin of Heristal (d. 714) and the “mayors of the palace”
  - B. Charles “the Hammer” Martel (c. 688–741)
    - 1. The second founder (after Clovis) of the Frankish state
    - 2. The battle of Tours (733/734)
    - 3. Developed alliances with English Benedictines in central Germany Pepin the Short (c. 715–768)
    - 4. Coronation
    - 5. Integration of the Frankish monarchy into the papal-Benedictine orbit
- II. The reign of Charlemagne (742–814, r. 768–814)
  - A. United the Frankish Kingdom through armed expeditions
    - 1. Italy, Germany, and central Europe
    - 2. Forcing conversion to Christianity
  - B. Counts and local administration
    - 1. The *comites* (followers)
    - 2. Administration of justice
    - 3. Raising armies
    - 4. Courts, tolls, and taxation
    - 5. New coinage system
    - 6. New capital city at Aachen
- III. Christianity and kingship
  - A. Leading a unified Christian society
  - B. Kingship regarded as a divine office created by God to protect the Church
  - C. Religious reforms
    - 1. Appointed and deposed bishops
    - 2. Changed liturgy of Frankish Church
    - 3. Reformed rules of worship
    - 4. Prohibited pagan observances
    - 5. The peasant tithe
- IV. Spiritual responsibilities of kingship—the protector of the papacy
  - A. The Carolingian renaissance
    - 1. The patron of poetry and learning
    - 2. The court as an intellectual center
    - 3. Classical learning
- V. Alcuin of York (c. 735–804)
  - 1. Correcting and copying texts
  - 2. Carolingian miniscule

A. Charlemagne and the revival of the western Roman Empire

1. Charlemagne's coronation (Christmas Day, 800)

VI. The collapse of the Carolingian empire

- A. Louis the Pious (d. 843)—the empire disintegrates
- B. Charles the Bald, Louis the German, and Lothair
- C. Civil wars

VII. The Vikings

- A. Established trading settlements in the North Sea, the Baltic, and Russia
- B. In the 790s, Vikings began to attack coastal ports of northern Europe
  1. Initially the desire was for profit alone
  2. Large organized armies invade in mid-ninth century
  3. Viking settlements in Iceland, Greenland, and Newfoundland
  4. Ruled principalities in Scotland, Ireland, Normandy, and Russia
  5. The battle of Hastings (1066)
  6. The Vikings were not the only source of disorder
    - a) Civil wars
    - b) Muslim and Hungarian attacks
    - c) Local political rivalries
    - d) Viking invasions helped tighten the cultural and political links that kept Europe together

VIII. The legacy of the Carolingians

- A. The European political entity
- B. England becomes unified
  1. Alfred the Great (871–899)
  2. Reorganized the army, codified laws
  3. Cultural regeneration patterned on the Carolingian example

IX. The Saxon kings of Germany

1. The Carolingian example
2. Royal power based on conquest rather than trade and administration
3. Otto I defeats Hungarians using Charlemagne's lance (955)
4. Strengthening control of the church