

Getting to Know Your Atlas

► Milestones of World History

1. Turn to the inside front cover of *The Nystrom Atlas of World History*. Use the Milestones of World History to determine when each of the following events occurred. Write the year on the line next to each event. Make sure to include either B.C. or A.D.

Event

Year

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. First cities develop at Jericho and Catal Huyuk. | _____ |
| b. Earliest known writing is used in Mesopotamia. | _____ |
| c. Construction begins on the Great Wall of China. | _____ |
| d. Bubonic plague spreads to Europe. | _____ |
| e. Thomas Edison invents the electric light bulb. | _____ |

► Content

2. Now turn to the table of contents on pages 2–3. Use it to identify the pages on which you would find the following information.

- You are writing a report comparing ancient Greece and Rome. Where would you look for information about Greece and Rome in the Atlas? Pages _____
- You want to learn about the causes of the French Revolution. Which unit would you look at? _____ What years does it cover? _____
- You are studying China from ancient times to 1800. Which two units would you look at to find more information about China during this period?
_____ and _____
- You need to find the countries of the world in the year 200 and today. Reference maps would help. Where would you find these maps? Pages _____

► How does this atlas work?

3. Turn to pages 4–5 of the Atlas. These pages have tips for how to use this Atlas. Read the steps in the upper left corner. Then number the following items in the order they should be read.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| a. Introduction | _____ | c. ABCD items | _____ |
| b. Topic title | _____ | d. Unit title | _____ |

MILESTONES OF WORLD HISTORY



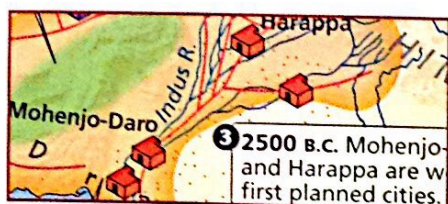
- 9000** Agriculture begins in the Fertile Crescent.
- 8000** First cities develop at Jericho and Catal Huyuk.
- 6000** Agriculture begins in the Nile, Yangtze, and Indus river valleys.
- 3500** Bronze tools are made in Sumer.
- 3000** Earliest known writing is used in Mesopotamia.
- 2650** First pyramid is built in Egypt.
- 1500** Hinduism, one of the world's oldest living religions, emerges in India.
- 1200** Hebrews establish a kingdom in Canaan.
- 528** Buddhism is founded by Siddhartha Gautama in northern India.
- 509** Roman Republic is established as a representative form of government.
- 508** Greeks form a democracy with direct rule by the people.
- 500** Bantu begin their migration to central and southern Africa.
- 400** Maya build their first pyramids.
- 326** Alexander the Great's empire stretches from Greece to India.
- 220** Construction begins on the Great Wall of China.
- 150** Silk Road links China and Europe through trade.
- 4** Jesus Christ, the central figure in Christianity, is born in Bethlehem.
- 117** Roman Empire reaches its greatest extent.
- 220** Han dynasty ends and Chinese empire goes into decline.
- 476** Western Roman Empire falls to barbarian invaders.
- 622** Islam begins to spread when Mohammad, its founder, goes to Medina.
- 700** Ghana becomes first empire in West Africa.
- 1096** Christians start a series of Crusades against Muslims.
- 1279** Mongols conquer China and create one of the largest empires in history.
- 1325** Aztec settle at Tenochtitlan in central Mexico.
- 1346** Bubonic plague spreads to Europe.
- 1450** Johannes Gutenberg perfects the printing press.
- 1453** Ottomans take Constantinople and end the Byzantine Empire.
- 1492** Columbus reaches the Americas.
- 1503** Leonardo Da Vinci paints the *Mona Lisa*, a great work of the Italian Renaissance.
- 1517** Reformation begins when Martin Luther protests church corruption.
- 1776** Declaration of Independence is written by colonists rebelling against Britain.
- 1789** French Revolution begins when the people of Paris capture the Bastille.
- 1879** Thomas Edison invents the electric light bulb.
- 1884** Almost all of Africa is claimed by seven European countries.
- 1914** World War I begins and soon involves most nations of Europe.
- 1917** Revolution in Russia establishes communist government.
- 1945** Atomic bomb is dropped, World War II ends, and United Nations is formed.
- 1960** Eighteen African countries gain independence in a single year.
- 1991** Soviet Union collapses and Cold War ends.
- 2001** Terrorists attack New York City and Washington D.C.

T able of Contents

Milestones of World History inside front cover
How does this atlas work? 4-5

UNIT 1 **EARLY SETTLEMENTS AND CIVILIZATIONS** *pages 6-15* 100,000 B.C. to 500 B.C.

People Migrate Across the Earth > Agriculture and Early Settlements
> Civilization in Ancient Mesopotamia > Babylonia and Assyria
> Hebrew Kingdoms > Phoenician Trade



UNIT 2 **ANCIENT EGYPT, CHINA, AND INDIA** *pages 16-27* 6000 B.C. to 552 A.D.

Civilization in Ancient Egypt > Ancient Egypt Under Foreign Rule
> Civilization in Ancient China > Dynasties of Ancient China
> Ancient India and the Spread of Hinduism > Ancient India and the Spread of Buddhism

UNIT 3 **ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME** *pages 28-41* 3000 B.C. to 500 A.D.

Civilizations of Ancient Greece > Growth of Greek City-States
> The Conquests of Alexander the Great > From Roman Republic to Roman Empire
> Height of the Roman Empire
> Judaism and Christianity in the Roman Empire > Decline of the Roman Empire



UNIT 4 **EMPIRES AND CULTURES OF ASIA** *pages 42-55* 395 to 1818

Cultures and Trade In and Around Asia > The Spread of Islam
> Growth and Decline of the Byzantine Empire > Tang and Sung Dynasties of China
> The Mongol Empire Spans Eurasia
> Ming Dynasty of China > Kingdoms of Southeast Asia
> From Imperial to Feudal Japan > India and the Mughal Empire

UNIT 5 **EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE AGES** *pages 56-69* 418 to 1580

Early Kingdoms of Medieval Europe > Viking Impact on Europe
> Feudalism and the Holy Roman Empire > Crusades to the Holy Land
> Trade Routes and Plague > Moorish Spain
> The Hundred Years' War > Age of European Exploration



UNIT 6 THE AMERICAS TO COLONIAL TIMES pages 70-79 1200 B.C. to 1888 A.D.

Olmec and Maya Civilizations ➤ Native American Farming Cultures
➤ Aztec Empire ➤ Inca Empire ➤ Europeans Explore and Settle
in the Americas ➤ Three Worlds Meet

1054 Eastern and Western Christianity split into two separate churches.	1398 Mongol ruler Timur invades Delhi	1453 Ottomans Byzantium
1180-1603 Japan is engulfed by civil wars.	1279-1368 Mongols conquer and rule China.	



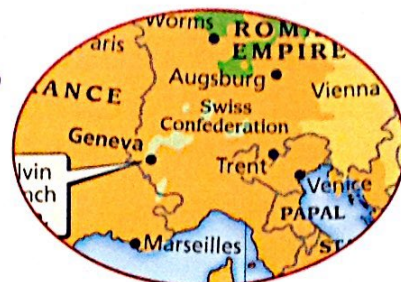
UNIT 7 AFRICAN EMPIRES AND EUROPEAN COLONIES pages 80-89 590 B.C. to 1914 A.D.

Early Civilizations of Africa ➤ Spread of Islam in Africa
➤ Empires and States of Africa ➤ Africa and Trade
➤ European Imperialism in Africa

UNIT 8 FROM RENAISSANCE TO INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION pages 90-99 1300 to 1870

Europe During the Renaissance ➤ Reformation and Counter Reformation
➤ Rise of the Ottoman Empire ➤ The Dawn of Worldwide Trade
➤ Industrial Revolution Changes Europe

Thirty Years' War (1618-1648)
Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815)
Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905)

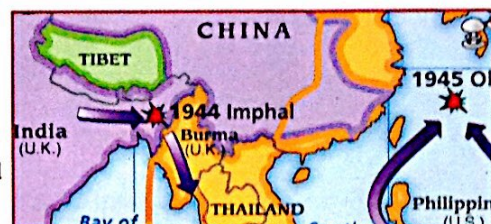


UNIT 9 REVOLUTIONS AND IMPERIALISM pages 100-109 1775 to 1910

Independence in the Americas ➤ French Revolution
➤ Empire of Napoleon ➤ New Boundaries in Europe ➤ Imperialism
in East Asia and the Pacific ➤ Imperialism Continues

UNIT 10 TWENTIETH CENTURY AND BEYOND pages 110-121 1914 to the Present

World War I Changes Europe ➤ Rise of Communism ➤ World War II
Engulfs the World ➤ The Cold War ➤ Independence Sweeps the World
➤ International Challenges Today



REFERENCE MAPS pages 122-131

World in 200 ➤ World in 1000 ➤ World in 1600
➤ World Today ➤ Physical World

Timetables of World History	132-135
Glossary	136-137
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Thematic Index	inside back cover
Abbreviations	inside back cover

PHOTO CREDITS

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BAL Bridgeman Art Library **C** CORBIS **GDO/C** Gianni Dagli Orti/Corbis **GI** Getty Images **MF** Masterfile **PQ** PictureQuest
Position on page: **b** bottom; **l** left; **r** right; **t** top

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H ow does this atlas work?

Charts and graphs organize information visually.

1 First read the **unit title**, which tells what the unit is about and what time period it covers.

2 Then read the **topic title** which tells what these two pages are about.

3 Next read the **introduction**, for more about the topic.

4 Now follow the **A B C D** markers for the clearest path through the pages.

The **A B C D captions** help you understand each map, graph, and picture.

Maps show places, movement, people, and events.

The **legend** gives the title of the map and explains what its colors and other symbols mean. Read the legend before studying the map.

UNIT 5 Europe in the Middle Ages 418 to 1580

711-1492 Moors rule Spain.

418 Visigoths start a kingdom in Spain.
432 St. Patrick introduces Christianity to Ireland.

789 Vikings' first raid strikes Portland, England.

800 Charlemagne crowned "Emp of the West."

Early Kingdoms of Medieval Europe

During the **Middle Ages** or **medieval era**, many Europeans were poor, uneducated, and violent.

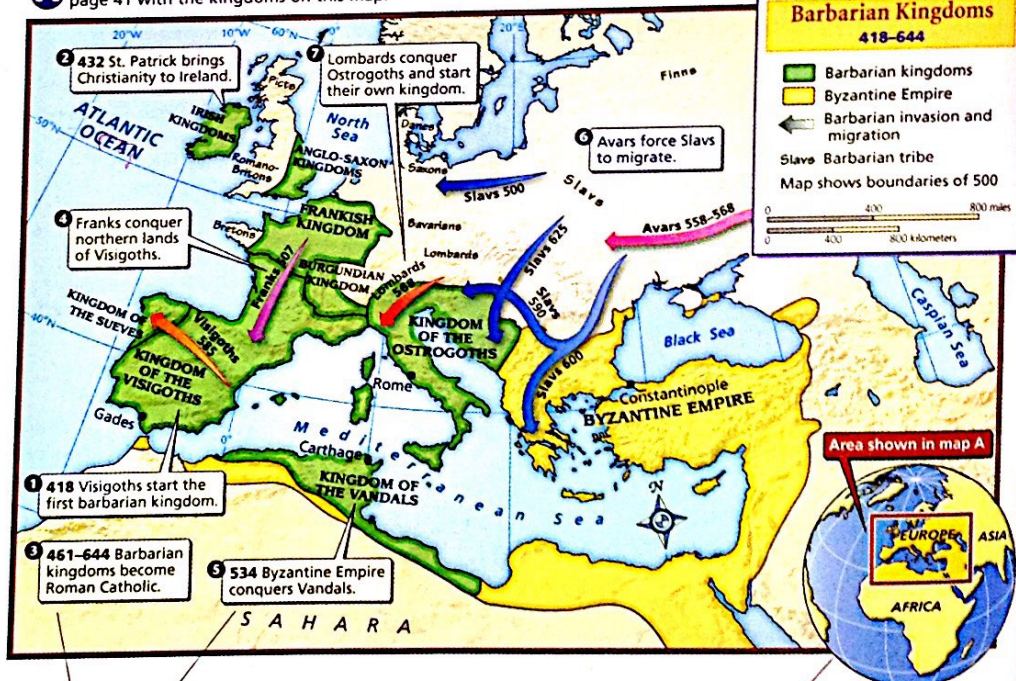
- Early in the Middle Ages, barbarian tribes settled in Western Europe and established their own kingdoms.
- Barbarian kings, wanting to be as civilized as the Romans, became Roman Catholic.
- One Frankish king, Charlemagne, conquered much of Western Europe.

Barbarians in Our Language

barbarian —a brutal or uncultured person	From bar bar, an imitation of how barbarians talked.
frank —straightforward	From the Franks, who thought violence was more direct than laws or diplomacy.
slave —person held as property of another	From the Slavs, a tribe that lost many people to slavery in the Roman Empire.
vandalism —deliberate destruction of property	From the Vandals, the tribe that looted Rome in 455.

B The table above shows some modern-day words, definitions, and histories.

A Compare the barbarian invasions on page 41 with the kingdoms on this map.



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Call-outs are mini-captions right on the map.

Locator maps explain what part of the world is shown.

The **unit timeline** shows key events from this time period. Use it to preview the unit.

At the end of the unit, use the timeline to review the sequence of key events.

1066 Normans take control of England.	1095 First Crusade is called by Pope Urban II.	1347 Plague-infected rats arrive in Sicily.	1498 Vasco da Gama reaches the Indies.	1519-1522 Magellan's crew circles the earth.
1000	1200	1400	1600	

936
Otto I creates what will be the Holy Roman Empire.

1215
Magna Carta gives rights to free men in England.

1337-1453
Hundred Years' War fought between England and France.

What else can you find in this atlas?

Milestones of World History on the inside front cover are a short list of key events.

Reference Maps on pages 122-131 can be compared to see how countries have changed over time.

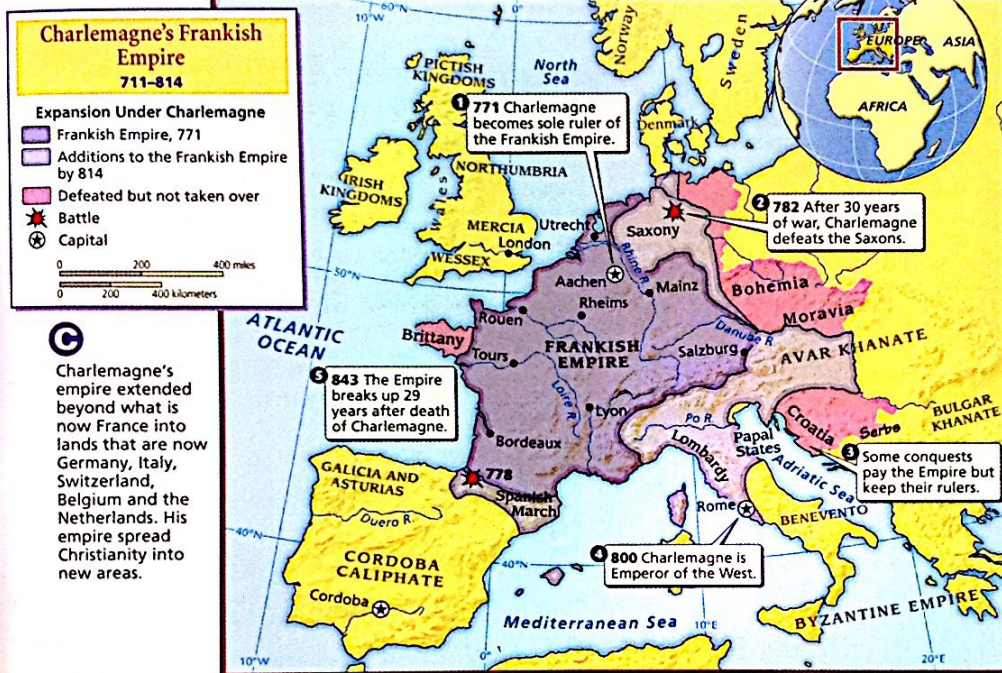
Timetables of World History on 132-135 show what was happening in different places at the same time.

Glossary on 136-137 defines special words and names used in the atlas.

Index on 138-144 lists all the pages where people, places, or events are mentioned.

Thematic Index on the inside back cover lists all the pages related to certain big topics.

Abbreviations are explained on the inside back cover too.



D The pope (center) crowned Charlemagne "Emperor of the West." Western Europeans hoped Charlemagne's rule would end centuries of chaos.

Who is the pope?

The pope is the Roman Catholic bishop of Rome and is the leader of the entire church. In the Middle Ages, the Catholic Church was very powerful in Western Europe. Today the pope leads over a billion Catholics worldwide.

Pictures show how people and places looked in the past.

History Questions help you understand key words or ideas.