

# WORLD HISTORY



## 40,000-1 BCE

### POLITICAL & MILITARY

c. 40,000-12,000 BCE	Paleolithic Era: Nomadic tribes of hunter-gatherers roam Africa, Europe, Asia, and Mid-East
c. 15,000	Coldest period of ice age ends
c. 15,000-10,000	Migrations across Bering Strait into the Americas
c. 8000	Farming villages spread around Mediterranean and Persian Gulf
c. 3500	Height of Sumerian civilization
c. 3100	King Menes unifies and rules Upper and Lower Egypt
c. 2900	First city at Troy
c. 2750	Mesopotamia: Gilgamesh, King of Uruk
2686-2181	Egypt: Old Kingdom
c. 2500	Canaanite tribes in Palestine
c. 2500-2300	Yao Dynasty in China
c. 2440-1786	Egypt: Middle Kingdom
c. 2000	Indus valley civilization in India
c. 1994-1600	Xia Dynasty in China
c. 1792-1750	King Hammurabi extends Kingdom of Babylonia
c. 1600-1050	Shang Dynasty in China
1567-1085	Pharaohs expel Hyksos from Egypt and rule New Kingdom
c. 1500	Beginning of Olmec civilization on Mexican Gulf coast
c. 1500	Fall of Indus civilization
c. 1225	Trojan War of legend; fall of Troy
c. 1200	Fall of Hittite Empire to Assyrians
c. 1100	Kingdom of Israel established by Jews in Palestine
c. 1050-480	Zhou Dynasty in China
c. 1000-900	King David in Israel, succeeded by Solomon
c. 850	Beginning of Zapotec civilization in Mexico
753	Traditional date of the founding of Rome
c. 750	Rise of Greek city-states
c. 750	Kush (Nubian) Dynasty conquers Egypt
c. 675	Assyrians destroy Babylon, Memphis, and Thebes
c. 600	Mayan civilization in Mexico
c. 540	Rise of Persian Empire under Cyrus II (the Great); 538 BCE conquers Babylonia
c. 525	Persians capture Egypt
c. 510	Etruscans expelled from Rome; republic is founded
461-451	Athens and Sparta at war
431-404	Peloponnesian War
c. 403	Period of Warring States begins in China
c. 400	Decline of Olmec civilization in Mexico
390	Gauls sack Rome
338	Phillip II defeats Athens; rules unified Greece
334-331	Alexander the Great invades Persian Empire; takes Egypt, founds Alexandria; conquers Mesopotamia
330	Persian Empire ends with murder of Darius
323	Alexander dies; empire divided
321	Chandragupta founds Mauryan Empire in India
321-280	Mauryan Empire expands through subcontinent
c. 320-275	Expansion of Roman power throughout Italy
312	Start of Seleucid Empire in Persia
304	Egypt: Ptolemaic Era begins
c. 300	Mayan cities established in Peten, Guatemala
295	Meroë Kingdom founded in Sudan
264-241	Romans defeat Carthage in North Africa in First Punic War; take Sicily
221	Qin Dynasty begins after conquest and unification of China
218-202	Second Punic War: Hannibal crosses Alps to defeat Romans
206	China: Han Dynasty begins
202	Hannibal driven back to Algeria; Spain becomes Roman province
c. 200	Mexico: Rise of Zapotecs
187	Fall of Mauryan Empire in India
147-146	Third Punic War; Romans take Carthage
121	Rome conquers southern Gaul (France)

91	Huns attack Chinese
87	Chinese Empire rules Korea and Vietnam
c. 71	Spartacus leads slave revolt against Romans
60	First Triumvirate established
49-47	Civil War in Rome
44	Julius Caesar assassinated; 43 BCE Second Triumvirate formed
37	Romans make Herod King of Judea
31	Octavian defeats Anthony and Cleopatra at Actium
27	Octavian becomes Augustus, Roman Emperor
c. 10	Satavahana Dynasty in India

### SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

c. 8000	Bow and arrow invented
c. 6300	Dug-out canoes in Mediterranean
c. 5000-3000	Copper Age
c. 4500	Ox-drawn plow invented in Mesopotamia
c. 3400	First use of bronze in Crete
c. 3300	Wheel used in Mesopotamia
c. 3200	Bronze Age begins in Middle East
c. 3000	Peanuts, avocados, and sweet peppers cultivated in Peru
c. 2500	Potter's wheel invented in China
c. 2100	Mesopotamia: Circle divided into 360 degrees
c. 1600	Hittites (Asia) make first iron works
c. 1200	Iron Age in Europe
c. 1100	Decimals used in China
c. 1000	Beginnings of geometry and equations
c. 1000	Use of natural gas
c. 750	Babylon: Tracking of planetary motion
c. 700	Coins first used in Greece
c. 650	Use of water clocks in Assyria
c. 585	Thales develops early mathematics
c. 582-507	Pythagoras, Greek philosopher
c. 475	Steel made in India
c. 460-370	Hippocrates, medical pioneer in Greece
c. 425	Atomists in Greece
c. 400	Crossbow in China
c. 325	Use of zero and decimals in India
c. 310	First aqueduct in Rome
295	Euclidian geometry developed
293	Leap year on calendar in Egypt
287-212	Archimedes, Greek mathematician
c. 280	First lighthouse built in Alexandria
c. 275	Cast iron process developed in China
c. 275	Aristarchus argues that Earth revolves around Sun
c. 240	Eratosthenes predicts tilt of planet's axis
c. 125	Use of negative numbers in China
c. 100	Camels used in the Sahara
86	System of crop rotation used in China
c. 50	Glass-blowing perfected in Rome
46	Julian calendar in Rome (365 day calendar with leap year)
c. 23	Vitruvius's <i>On Architecture</i>

### HUMANITIES & CULTURE

c. 8000	First pottery in China
c. 7000	Copper first used for jewelry
c. 6500	Southern Sahara: First African pottery
c. 3400	Sumerians develop written language
c. 3100	First earthworks at Stonehenge
c. 3000	First hieroglyphics in Egypt
c. 2600	Earliest glass beads in Mesopotamia
c. 2550-2525	Construction of Great Pyramids in Egypt
c. 2000	Minoan pictographs in Crete
c. 1900	Epic of Gilgamesh written in Babylonia
c. 1780	Hammurabi's Legal Code
c. 1600-1400	Early writing (Linear A and Linear B scripts) in Minoan Crete
c. 1500	Glass pottery in Egypt
c. 1200	Vedas written in India
c. 1200	Moses's Ten Commandments
c. 1100	Phoenician alphabet
c. 1000	Chinese ink painting
c. 900	Geometric pottery in Greece

c. 776	Founding of Olympic Games
c. 750	Homer writes <i>Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i>
604-531	Lao Tzu, founder of Taoism
c. 600	Upanishads written in India
c. 600	Mayans build temples at Tikal
585	Thales, considered first western philosopher, predicts solar eclipse
c. 570	Aesop's <i>Fables</i>
c. 570	Greek poet Sappho dies
c. 563-483	Siddhartha Gautama, the Buddha
c. 551-479	Confucius
c. 550	Zoroastrianism in Persia
525-465	Aeschylus, Greek dramatist
c. 500	Theater at Delphi
496-406	Sophocles, Greek dramatist
484-406	Euripides, Greek dramatist
427-347	Plato, philosopher; 387 BCE founds Academy in Athens
399	Socrates convicted for "corrupting the youth of Athens"; commits suicide
395	<i>History of the Peloponnesian War</i> , Thucydides
372-289	China: Philosopher Mencius expands Confucianism
c. 350	Mahabharata epic in India
341-270	Epicurus, Greek philosopher
c. 340	Aristotle develops music theory
335	Aristotle founds Lyceum in Athens
330	Hellenistic Period begins
c. 320	Rock-cut Nabataean tombs at Petra (Jordan)
c. 300	Zeno leads Stoic philosophers
c. 300	Great Library built in Alexandria
256	Buddhism becomes state religion in Mauryan empire (India)
c. 250	Theravada Buddhism in Southern India
215	Great Wall of China constructed
c. 210	Mahayana Buddhism in Northern India
c. 200	First Dead Sea Scrolls
c. 200	Rosetta Stone inscribed in three languages
195-159	Roman dramatist Terence
136	State of China adopts Confucian ideology
c. 120	Greece: Venus de Milo
70-19	Roman poet Virgil
59-17	Livy's histories of Roma
c. 50	Bhagavad-Gita in India
24	Horace's first <i>Odes</i>
c. 4 BCE-	
c. 30 CE	Jesus Christ

## 1-1000

### POLITICAL & MILITARY

9 - 25 CE	Han Dynasty in China overthrown, then restored
c. 30	Jesus crucified
43	Romans under Claudius invade Britain; London established
c. 50	Population of Rome reaches one million
c. 50	City of Teotihuacán rules valley of Mexico
78	Height of Kushan Empire on Indian subcontinent
c. 80-97	Chinese contain Kushans; establish Silk Road to Rome
113-117	Peak of Roman Empire
122-135	Romans suppress Jewish revolt
138-180	Emperors Antonius Pius and Marcus Aurelius
c. 150	Huns control central Asia
161	Devastating plague in Rome
192	Emperor Commodus assassinated; civil war in Rome
197-235	Severan Dynasty in Rome
200	Huns attack Afghanistan
212	Roman citizenship extended to all freeborn subjects
220	Han Dynasty ends in civil war; China divided into "Three Kingdoms"
224-260	Expansion of Sasanid Empire in Persia
c. 240	Fall of Kushan Empire in India
c. 260	Goths reach Black Sea; 269 raid Athens
280	Western Jin Dynasty reunifies China
c. 300	Earliest Japanese states
c. 300	Rise of Ghana as trading power in West Africa
312	Constantine becomes Roman emperor, converts to Christianity

ALL DATES IN RED ON THIS CHART ARE BCE (BEFORE COMMON ERA, OFTEN KNOWN AS B.C.), DATES IN BLACK ARE CE (COMMON ERA, OFTEN KNOWN AS A.D.) IN TEXT, "c." MEANS "CIRCA" AND "d." MEANS "DIED."

“THE PROBLEM IS NO LONGER ONE OF TRADITION, OF TRACING A LINE, BUT ONE OF DIVISION ... OF TRANSFORMATIONS THAT SERVE AS NEW FOUNDATIONS, THE REBUILDING OF FOUNDATIONS.”

MICHEL FOUCAULT

313	Edict of Milan declares toleration of Christians in Roman Empire
c. 315	Huns raid China, capture Jin emperor
320	Chandragupta first Gupta emperor in India
330	Constantine moves capitol of empire to Constantinople (Greek Byzantium)
343	Aksum king converts to Christianity
364	Roman Empire divided into East (Constantinople) and West (Rome)
378	Visigoths invade Europe
383	Chinese repel Huns at Fei River
c. 395	India: Height of Gupta empire
c. 400	Rise of Teotihuacán Empire (Americas)
406	Vandals and Suevi enter Spain
410	Visigoths sack Rome
418	Visigoths found kingdom in France
c. 420	Angles and Saxons in Britain
429	Vandals expand to North Africa; 439 capture Carthage
434-453	Attila leads Huns in plunder of Balkans and Italy; abandons plans to take Rome
455	Vandals sack Rome
476	End of west Roman Empire: Odoacer overthrows Romulus Augustulus
481	Clovis rules Franks; begins Merovingian Dynasty in France
c. 484-495	Rise of Hephthalites in Persia
498	Clovis converts to Christianity
c. 500	Height of Mohica in Peru
c. 500	Rise of Huari Empire in Andes
527	Constantinople: Justinian becomes Emperor; Byzantine Empire begins, Roman Empire ends
533	Byzantines capture North Africa from Vandals
534	Franks conquer Burgundy
535	India: Gupta Empire falls to Hephthalites
541	Smallpox epidemic in Mediterranean Europe
c. 550	Ghana Empire founded in West Africa
553	Byzantines capture Naples and Rome
558	Clotaire unites Frankish kingdom
568	Lombards invade Italy
581-589	Sui Dynasty reunifies China
c. 600	State of Tibet formed
618	China: Tang Dynasty founded
622	Muhammad leaves Mecca for Media; 630 returns to gain control of Mecca
639-648	Arabs and Byzantines battle for North Africa
642	Fall of Sasanian Empire to Arabs; Arabs commence conquest of Persia, Egypt
c. 645	Taika reforms in Japan; rise of feudal nobility
c. 650	Fall of Teotihuacán Empire in Mexico
697	Arabs sack Carthage
711	Arabs defeat Visigoths in Spain; expand power throughout North Africa
750	Pepin the Short becomes king of Franks; end of Merovingian Dynasty
750	Abbasids take power in Islamic Middle East (Al-Fustat); 762 make Baghdad capital
c. 750	Decline of Huari and Mayan civilizations
756	Pepin gives Italian "Papal States" to Rome
771-800	Charlemagne expands Frankish control through Germany, Spain, Italy
794	Japan: Heian period begins
787	Danish Vikings raid England
800	Pope Leo III crowns Charlemagne; start of Holy Roman Empire
812	Byzantines recognize Charlemagne as emperor; Venice becomes independent
825	Arabs conquer Crete
843	Treaty of Verdun divides Frankish empire
846	Arabs sack Rome
c. 850	Toltecs rule central Mexico
c. 860	State of Tibet collapses
871-899	King Alfred the Great founds Saxon Dynasty in England
c. 875	Rise of Fujiwaras in Japan
882	King Oleg unites Novgorod and Kiev into Russian state
907	Civil war ends Tang Dynasty in China
909	Fatimid Dynasty begins in Tunisia
919	Saxon Henry I becomes king of Germany
945	Fall of Abbasid Baghdad
960	Reunification of China; Song Dynasty begins

962	King Otto I crowned Holy Roman Emperor
969	Fatimids capture Egypt
971-974	Fatimids and Byzantines divide Palestine and Syria
c. 1000	Vikings sight land in North America

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

10 CE	Strabo maps Roman world
c. 60	Early steam engine invented by Hero of Alexandria
90-168	Greek astronomer Ptolemy
c. 100	Wheelbarrow invented in China
c. 100	India: Use of monsoon winds in shipping
105	First use of paper in China
c. 110	Menelaus pioneers trigonometry
c. 180	Galen writes key medical text
c. 200	Silkworms imported to China
c. 250	Diophantus of Alexandria develops algebra; earliest algebra books in China
c. 260	Successful use of 75-foot arch in Iran
c. 271	Earliest compass in China
321	Constantine's calendar uses 7-day week
c. 340	Geometry of curves developed by Pappus of Alexandria
370-415	Hypatia of Alexandria, mathematician
c. 375	Use of stirrups in China
c. 485	Tsu Chung Chi accurately calculates pi
c. 499	Aryabhata compiles scientific tome in India
525	First use of Jesus's birth to mark beginning of Common Era
c. 560	First silk production in Europe
600	First use of windmills in Persia
c. 650	China: City of Xian reaches pop. 1 million
720	Arab chemist Abu Masa Dshaffar
c. 815	Persia: Mathematician al-Khwarizmi introduces arabic numerals
825	Al-Khwarizmi's <i>Algebra</i>
850	First gunpowder used in China
c. 900	Viking innovations in shipbuilding
925	Al-Razi writes medical compendium
953	Al-Uqlidisi uses decimal fractions
c. 975	Hospital founded in Baghdad
c. 1000	Arabs spread decimal system to Spain
c. 1000	Spinning wheels used in China

## HUMANITIES & CULTURE

c. 1	Meroë Lion Temple at Naqa (Sudan)
5	Roman poet Ovid's <i>Metamorphoses</i>
c. 50	Northern India: Mathura art
c. 67	Golden House, Nero's Palace, built in Rome
c. 75	Jesus's apostles write Gospels
c. 80	Colosseum in Rome
c. 100	Buddhism spreads to China
c. 100	Juvenal's <i>Satires</i>
c. 110	Tacitus's Roman histories
c. 118	Domed Pantheon completed in Rome
121	Hadrian's Wall built in Britain as Roman border
c. 150	Earliest Sanskrit in India
c. 150	Sun Temple built at Teotihuacán (Mexico)
c. 175	Marcus Aurelius's <i>Meditations</i>
205-270	Roman philosopher Plotinus leads Neoplatonism
c. 216	Baths of Caracalla built in Rome
216-276	Persian philosopher Mani founds Manichaeism
c. 250	Persecution of Christians in Roman Empire
c. 260	Royal Palace of Taq-i-Kisra in Baghdad
325	Council of Nicea establishes Christian doctrine
c. 330	Roman Empire adopts Christianity as state religion
347-420	St. Jerome, translator of Bible into Latin
c. 380	Ambrose develops plainsong music
c. 397	Augustine's <i>Confessions</i>
c. 400	India: Art flourishes in Gupta period
c. 411	Augustine's <i>City of God</i>
c. 475	Early Shinto shrines in Japan
480-524	Boethius, translator of Aristotle into Latin
499	Roman Synod's decree on election of popes
529	Benedictine Order founded
c. 530	Justinian Legal Code (Codex Justinianus)
537	Hagia Sophia completed
540	Early Welsh poets

550	Buddhism introduced in Japan
c. 550	Cassiodorus amasses collection of Greek and Latin manuscripts
570-632	Life of Muhammad
585	Horyuji Temple built in Japan
c. 600	Development of Gregorian chant
600	First printed books in China
610-635	Koran compiled
618	Development of public bureaucracy in China
622	Muhammad's flight marks first year of Muslim calendar
641	Alexandria: Great Library destroyed in fire
650	Wood block prints in China
695	Jews persecuted in Spain
700	Arabs ban use of Greek language
c. 700	Woven tapestries in Peru
701-762	Chinese poet Li Po
c. 710	Great Mosque built in Damascus
726-843	Iconoclast period in Byzantine Empire
c. 750	Anglo-Saxon epic <i>Beowulf</i> put in written form
c. 750	America: Pueblo period architecture
c. 750	Tamil language developed in Southern India
765	Kasuga Shrine built in Japan
780	India: Birth of Sankara
c. 800	Korean culture flourishes
c. 820	Old French divides from Latin
840	Christian doctrine of transubstantiation established
845	Chinese state returns to Confucianism, bans Buddhism
853	Japanese painter Kudara Kuwanari dies
c. 850	Polyphonic music developed
c. 860	Cyrillic alphabet developed
895	Oldest surviving Old Testament in Hebrew produced
c. 900	<i>Thousand and One Nights</i> written in Arabia
c. 925	Japanese empire anthologizes poetry in <i>Kokinshu</i>
936	Beginning of Ottonian architecture
940-1020	Persian poet Firdasi
960	Music introduced into Chinese drama
972	University founded at Cairo
978-1014	Female Japanese author Murasaki Shikibu, <i>Tale of Genji</i>
990	Early musical notation

## 1000-1450

### POLITICAL & MILITARY

c. 1006-1024	Ghaznavid Dynasty (Afghanistan) extends through Eastern Persia and Northwest India
1013	Danes conquer England
1019-1054	Jaroslav the Wise unifies and rules Russia
c. 1020	Rise of Italian city-states
1053	Henry IV crowned Holy Roman Emperor
1055	Seljuk Turks take Baghdad and solidify conquest of Persia
c. 1060	Almoravid Muslims build Dynasty in North Africa
1066	William the Conqueror made first Norman King of England
1075	Seljuk Turks conquer Syria and Palestine
1075	Conflict in Holy Roman Empire between Pope Gregory VII and Emperor Henry IV
1076	Decline of Ghana Empire
1096-1097	First Crusade: French and Normans take Constantinople and Palestine, defeat Turks and Muslims
1099	Crusaders take Jerusalem
c. 1100	Shona people construct stone walls in Great Zimbabwe
1108-1137	France: Louis VI expands Capetian Dynasty
c. 1125	Height of Khmer Dynasty in Cambodia
1127	Song Dynasty loses control of Northern China
1147	Almohad Muslims conquer Morocco
1147-1149	Second Crusade
1152-1190	Frederick I ("Barbarossa") is Holy Roman Emperor
1156	Japan: Heian period ends in civil war
1187	Mexico: Fall of Toltecs at Chichén Itzá; second Mayan period begins at Mayapan



1189-1191	Third Crusade unable to regain Jerusalem
c. 1200	Inca Empire founded at Cuzco, Peru
1204	Fourth Crusade sacks Constantinople, establishes Latin Empire in East
1206-1258	Rise of Mongol Empire under TemJin, or "Genghis Khan" (1162-1227), and his heirs; conquer Middle East, Northern India, and much of China
1212	Christians end Islamic rule of Spain
1215	England: Magna Carta establishes principles of due process of law
1228-1229	Sixth Crusade recaptures Jerusalem
1237	Mongols raid Europe, establish Khanate of the Golden Horde in Russia
1240	Sundiata founds Mali Empire
1249-1270	French-led Crusades invade North Africa
1250	Egypt: Mamluks from Central Asia take power
1259	English and French sign Peace of Paris
1260	Northern China: Mongol Kublai Khan becomes emperor
1261	Greeks end Latin Empire in Constantinople
1279	Southern Song Dynasty falls to Mongols; Yuan Dynasty begins
1281	Japanese Samurai repel Mongols
1284	Edward I of England captures Wales
1295	First representative parliament sits in England
1300	Founding of Ottoman Empire under Osman
1306	Delhi Sultanate expels Mongols, expands through India
1306	France: Philip IV expels Jews
1309	Pope Clement V moves to Avignon, begins Babylonian Captivity (till 1378)
c. 1315	Height of Mali Empire
1328	Moscow becomes seat of Russian Church
1337	Start of Hundred Years' War
1341-1343	The Black Plague hits China
1347-1363	Two outbreaks of Black Plague devastate Europe
1348	Black Death strikes Egypt
1360-1369	Peace of Bretigny suspends Hundred Years' War
1367	India: 400,000 massacred after Delhi Sultanate defeats Hindu Vijayanagar
1368	Ming Dynasty expels Mongols, reunites China
c. 1380-1400	Mongol Tamerlane conquers Persia, expands through Mesopotamia and Northern India
1381	Peasants' Revolt in England
1397	Bank of Medici founded in Florence
c. 1400	Rise of Aztecs and Incas
1415	Henry V wins Battle of Agincourt; English take Paris
1420	Ming capital moves to Beijing
1429	Joan of Arc defeats English siege of Orléans
1434	Cosimo de Medici rules Florence
1440-1468	Mexico: Montezuma I expands Aztec power

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1050	Chinese use ceramics to create movable type
1066	Halley's Comet first sighted
1070	Chinese scientist Shen Kua develops natural sciences
c. 1075	Omar Kayyam uses geometry to solve cubic equations
1080	Toledan Tables in Spain chart position of stars
1100	China: illustrated texts in botany
c. 1200	First explosive rockets used in China
1202	Mathematician Leonardo Fibonacci introduces Arabic numerals to Italy
1214-1294	Roger Bacon works toward experimental method
c. 1250	Gunpowder introduced to Europe
c. 1270	First firearms used in China
1271	Marco Polo begins journey to China
1275	The formation of rainbows explained by Theodorich of Freiburg
c. 1290	Cable bridges used in Andes
c. 1300	Eyeglasses first used commonly in Europe
1310	Use of mechanical clocks
1316	Italy: Modinus's <i>Anatomy</i>
1317	Pope John XXII condemns alchemy
1320	First European use of cannons
1327	Grand Canal constructed in China
1340	Italy: First European paper factory
1343	William of Occam's <i>Dialogus</i>
1363	Guy de Chauliac's Great Surgery

1392	Korea: Metal type used for printing
c. 1400	Windmills used in Holland
c. 1420	Chinese ships reach Eastern Africa
1435	Italy: Leon Alberti gives mathematical laws for drawing perspective
1437	Mongol astronomers publish astrological <i>Tables of Ukugh Beg</i>
1439	Portugal: Henry the Navigator opens school at Sagres
c. 1450	Johannes Gutenberg develops movable type

HUMANITIES & CULTURE

1001	Cairo: Hakin Mosque constructed
1007-1072	Chinese poet Ou Yang Hsiu
1022	Pope Benedict VIII institutes laws on celibacy
1025	Tosa School of painting founded in Japan
1033-1109	St. Anselm, Scholastic philosopher
c. 1038	Buddhism flourishes in Tibet
c. 1050	Polyphonic singing replaces Gregorian chant
c. 1050-1132	Persian poet Omar Kayyam
1052	Westminster Abbey built in England
1053	Byodo Temple built in Japan
1054	Schism divides Roman and Eastern Churches
1065-1100	<i>Song of Roland</i> written
1066	Romanesque (Norman) architecture flourishes
c. 1070	Europe: Production of illuminated manuscripts
1070-1142	Abelard, Christian theologian, revives teaching of Aristotle
c. 1075	Allegorical plays in India
1100	Gothic architecture flourishes
c. 1100	Old English replaced by Middle English
1113	Cambodia: Temple of Angkor Wat begun
c. 1120	First troubadour poetry
1122	Concordat of Worms
1134	France: Cathedral at Chartres begun
1140-1215	Japan: Eisa founds Zen Buddhism
1150	University founded in Paris
1163	Paris: Notre Dame Cathedral
1167	University founded at Oxford
1170	Maimonides's <i>Mishneh Torah</i>
1174	Leaning Tower of Pisa built
c. 1175	Chrétien de Troyes writes Arthurian romances
c. 1180	China: Zhu Xi compiles Confucian classics
c. 1200	Ethiopia: Churches cut from rock
c. 1200	Sitar played in India
1200-1253	Japanese Zen master Dogen
1207-1273	Persian poet Rumi
1208	St. Francis of Assisi founds order of friars
1209	Cambridge University founded
1225-1274	St. Thomas Aquinas
c. 1235	Court jesters become popular
1252	Inquisition under Pope Gregory IX begins use of torture
1253	Japanese priest Nichiren founds Lotus Sutra Buddhism
1265-1308	England: philosopher Duns Scotus
c. 1290	The Travels of Marco Polo
1304-1309	Italy: Giotto di Bondone begins painting frescos at Arena chapel
1314	Italy: Dante Alighieri begins <i>Divine Comedy</i>
c. 1325	Italian Renaissance begins
1341	Italy: Francesco Petrarch made poet laureate of Rome
1347-1380	Catherine of Siena
c. 1350	Rise of Humanist philosophy
1358	Italy: Poet Giovanni Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i>
c. 1362	England: Langland's <i>Piers Plowman</i> poem
c. 1370-1400	Japanese playwrights Kanami Kiyotsugu and Zeami Motokiyo establish noh drama
1378-1416	The Great Schism: rival Popes compete for power
1380	John Wyclif translates Bible into English
c. 1380	Geoffrey Chaucer begins the <i>Canterbury Tales</i>
1390	Granada, Spain: Alhambra fortress completed
1400	Oil-based paints developed
1406	China: Forbidden City started
1417	Council of Constance ends Great Schism
1423	Fabrizio's <i>Adoration of the Magi</i>
1424	France: Chartier's <i>La Belle Dame Sans Merci</i>
1431-1463	François Villon, father of French poetry
1434	Italy: Drawings demonstrate perspective
1434	Donatello's <i>David</i>

1450-1750

POLITICAL & MILITARY

1452	Hapsburg German Frederick III made Holy Roman Emperor
1453	French victory at Castillon ends Hundred Years' War
1453	Ottoman conquest of Constantinople (now Istanbul) ends Byzantine Empire
1455-1485	England: Wars of the Roses
1462	Ivan III ("the Great") ends Russian tribute to Golden Horde
1463-1482	Portuguese capture coastal cities in West Africa
c. 1465	Rise of Songhay Empire (Africa)
1467-1477	Japan: Onin War
1469	Lorenzo "the Magnificent" Medici rules Florence
1477	French under Louis XI and Swiss defeat Charles the Bold at Battle of Nancy
1478	Ivan the Great conquers Novgorod
1485	Henry VII begins Tudor Dynasty
1492	Ferdinand V and Isabella defeat Moors, unite Spain
1499	Louis XII captures Milan
1501	First African slaves in West Indies
1501	French conquer Naples, begins expansion in North Italy
1502	Ismail captures Persia, becomes Shah
1502-1520	Height of Aztec power under Montezuma II
1510	India: Portuguese colony at Goa
1511	Ferdinand V and Henry VIII join anti-French "Holy League"
1514	Ottoman Turks invade Persia
1516	Hapsburgs win control of Spain through marriage
1518	Cortez begins conquest of Aztecs
1519	Charles V elected Holy Roman Emperor
1521	Ottoman Turks under Suleiman the Magnificent invade Europe, take Belgrade
1526	Babur raids Delhi Sultanate, begins Mughol Empire's expansion in Northern India
1529	Ottoman Turks capture Algeria
1529-1531	Protestant rebellions in Germany and Switzerland
1531	Pizarro begins conquest of Incas
1536-1541	John Calvin leads reformation at Geneva, sets up Calvinist government
1547	Russia: Ivan IV ("the Terrible") becomes Tsar
c. 1550	Portuguese establish colonies in Brazil
1555	Germany: Peace of Augsburg establishes religious freedom
1558	Elizabeth I becomes Queen of England
1559	Peace of Cateau-Cambrésis ends Italian wars between Spain and France
1561-1592	Rise of Mughols under Akbar I
1562	Religious wars in France follow murder of Huguenots
1571	Turks defeated at Battle of Lepanto
1572	France: St. Bartholomew's Day massacre
1584	Dutch William of Orange murdered
1588	English defeat Spanish Armada
1589	France: Bourbon Dynasty begins with ascension of Henry IV
1591	Moroccans sack Gao; end of Songhay Empire
1598	Edict of Nantes orders toleration of French Huguenots
c. 1600	Portuguese, French, and Dutch establish African colonies
1600	Japan: Edo period begins
1600-1603	English and Dutch form East India Companies, begin battling Portugal for colonial holdings
1603	England: Queen Elizabeth I dies; James I begins Stuart Dynasty
1607	English form colony at Jamestown, Virginia
1609	Spanish and Dutch commence 12-year truce
1610	France: Henry IV assassinated, Louis XIII made king
1613	Poles expelled from Russia; Romanov Dynasty begins
1618	Defenestration of Prague begins Thirty Years' War

CONTINUED ON OTHER SIDE

## 1450-1740 (CONT.)

1628	French under Cardinal Richelieu repress Huguenot rebellion
1635	France enters Thirty Years' War with Sweden, against Spain
1638	Japan closes itself to foreigners
1640	Frederick William takes power in Prussia
1643	French found Montreal
1644	China: End of Ming Dynasty; Qing Dynasty begins
1648	Thirty Years' War ends with Treaty of Westphalia
1649	England: Charles I killed, commonwealth established
1653-1658	Oliver Cromwell is Lord Protector of England
1659	French and Spanish sign Peace of Pyrenees
1660	Charles II reestablishes English monarchy
1661	English colony at Bombay
1664	English take New Amsterdam, rename it New York
1672	French invade Netherlands
1682	French claim Louisiana territory
1685	Louis XIV revokes Edict of Nantes
1686	French claim Madagascar
1686-1697	League of Augsburg wars against France
1688	Dutch Protestant William of Orange becomes William I of England in Glorious Revolution
1689	Russia: Peter the Great becomes sole ruler
c. 1690	India: Height of Mughol Empire
1700	Great Northern War begins; Swedes defeat Russians
1700	Charles II dies, ending Hapsburg rule of Spain; Bourbon Dynasty begins
1701	Frederick III crowned Frederick I of Prussia
1701	War of Spanish Succession begins
1703	Russia: St. Petersburg established; becomes capital in 1713
1705	Husseinids establish Dynasty in Tunis
1707	England and Scotland united as Great Britain
1707	Fall of Mughol Empire after death of Aurangzeb; India divided
1714	Treaty of Utrecht ends War of Spanish Succession
1715	Louis XV King of France
1717	Mongols raid Tibet; later defeated by Chinese
1718	French establish New Orleans
1718-1720	Spain takes Texas
1720	London: Failure of South Seas company
1721	Russians under Peter the Great win Great Northern War
1721-1742	Britain: Robert Walpole serves as first prime minister
1727	George II takes British throne
1730-1747	Rise of Persians under Nadirs Kuli and Shah; capture of Afghanistan and Delhi
1733-1735	War of Polish Succession; Russian invasion of Poland
1735	Russia and Persia defeat Turks at Baghavand
1738	Treaty of Vienna
1740	Frederick the Great becomes King of Prussia
1740-1748	War of Austrian Succession
1744-1748	America: British and French fight King George's War
c. 1750	Robert Clive leads British conquest of Southern India

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1460	Italy: Production of clear glass perfected
1469	First printed version of Pliny the Elder's <i>Natural History</i>
c. 1480	Aztec Sun Stone calendar
c. 1480	First use of plus and minus signs
1480-1520	Italian inventor and artist Leonardo da Vinci conceives of the parachute, the helicopter, and the wheel-lock musket
1492	Christopher Columbus reaches North America
1498	Vasco de Gama reaches Calicut, India
c. 1500	Germany: Peter Henlein invents the pocket watch
1510	Polish astronomer Copernicus theorizes that Earth revolves around Sun
1515-1520	First rifles developed
1518-1593	Chinese doctor Li Shizhen
1519-1522	Magellan's expedition circumnavigates world
1545	Girolamo Cardano introduces negative numbers into European mathematics
1546-1601	Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe
1564-1642	Galileo Galilei
1582	Gregorian calendar introduced under Pope Gregory XIII
1593	First modern abacus in China
1619	Germany: Johannes Kepler develops laws of planetary motion

1621	First modern army under Gustavus II of Sweden
1623-1662	French scientist Blaise Pascal
1628	England: William Harvey describes circulation of blood
1637	René Descartes proposes analytical geometry
1659	Fermat's theory of probability
1662	Royal Society of London founded
c. 1665	England: Isaac Newton develops law of gravity
1665-1675	Royal Observatories constructed in Paris and Greenwich
1673	Marquette and Joliet explore upper Mississippi
1701	England: Jethro Tull invents seed drill
1709	England: Process of producing iron in blast furnace
1714	Germany: Fahrenheit uses mercury to create thermometer
1721	Boston: First smallpox inoculations
1730	Bering Strait mapped and named
1733	Englishman John Kay invents flying shuttle loom
1735	Sweden: Linnaeus develops biological classification
1740-1742	Processes of casting and galvanizing steel advanced
c. 1750	Beginning of the Industrial Revolution

## HUMANITIES & CULTURE

1455	Gutenberg Bible printed
c. 1460	China: First exportation of Ming porcelain
1469-1539	India: Nanak, founder of Sikhism
1477	Spain: Inquisition renewed
1483-1546	Martin Luther
1484	Boticelli's <i>Birth of Venus</i>
1485	Sir Thomas Malory's <i>Le Morte D'Arthur</i> printed in England
1494-1553	French writer François Rabelais
1503	Leonardo da Vinci paints the <i>Mona Lisa</i>
1509-1564	Switzerland: John Calvin leads Reformation at Geneva
1511	Erasmus writes <i>In Praise of Folly</i>
1512	Michelangelo completes painting ceiling of Sistine Chapel
1513	Italy: Machiavelli writes <i>The Prince</i>
1515-1582	Spain: St. Teresa de Avila
1516	England: Sir Thomas More's <i>Utopia</i>
1517	Selling of indulgences under Pope Leo X
1517	Luther's 95 Theses begin the Reformation
c. 1520-1560	Wu painting in China
1521	Charles V condemns Luther at Diet of Worms
1528	Castiglione's <i>The Courtier</i>
1528	Aztec <i>Annals of Tlatelolco</i>
1529	Henry VIII's Reformation Parliament severs ties with Church of Rome
1532-1623	Indian poet Tulsī Das
1534	Society of Jesus (Jesuits) founded
1535	Sir Thomas More executed in England
1541-1614	Spanish painter El Greco
1545	Council of Trent reforms Catholicism
1547-1579	Florentine Codex collects Aztec literature
1549	England: Cramer's <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> set to music
1550-1617	China: Dramatist T'ang Hsien-tsu
1553	England: Protestants persecuted under Queen Mary
1553-1616	England: William Shakespeare
1560	China: Hsu Wei's <i>Ching P'ing Mei</i>
1560	John Knox founds Presbyterian Church
1572-1631	English Poet John Donne
1575	Baroque period begins
1577-1660	Dutch painter Pieter Paul Rubens
1580	France: Montaigne's first <i>Essays</i>
1583	Akbar I orders religious toleration in India
1586	Japan: Kabuki theater
1596	Edmund Spenser's <i>The Faerie Queen</i>
1598-1600	Globe Theatre built in London; Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i>
1605	Miguel de Cervantes's <i>Don Quixote, Part I; 1615 Part II</i>
1606-1669	Dutch artist Rembrandt
1611	King James Bible
1620	Mayflower compact in Massachusetts
1632-1704	English philosopher John Locke
1634-1638	Taj Mahal completed in India
1644-1694	Basho Matsuo, Haiku poet of Japan
1645	Tibet: Residence of Dalai Lama established in Lhasa
1646-1716	German philosopher Gottfried Leibniz
1651	Thomas Hobbes's <i>Leviathan</i>

1652	Society of Friends (Quakers) founded
1664-1667	Racine and Molière publish in France
1667	Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i>
1669	Persecution of Hindus by Mughals
1677	Spinoza's <i>Ethics</i> published posthumously
1685-1759	German-born Handel composes in England
1685-1740	German composer J.S. Bach
1688-1744	British poet Alexander Pope
1689	English Bill of Rights
1689	Toleration Act in England
1692	Witchcraft trials in Salem, Massachusetts
1701	First translation of Mayan sacred text <i>Popul Vuh</i>
1709	Italy: Piano invented
1710	George Berkeley's <i>Principles of Human Knowledge</i>
1715	France: Rococo architecture
1720	Japan: Shogun Yoshimune allows study of European books
1725	Vivaldi's <i>The Four Seasons</i>
1726	Jonathan Swift's <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>
1735	America: Zenger trial establishes freedom of the press
1739	David Hume's <i>Treatise on Human Nature</i>
1746-1828	Francisco Goya, Spanish artist
1748	Japan: Samurai plays
1749	Henry Fielding's <i>Tom Jones</i>

## 1750-1914

### POLITICAL & MILITARY

1756-1763	Seven Years' War between Austria and Prussia
1756-1763	French and Indian War (American theater of Seven Years' War)
1763	America: British gain French and Spanish territories in Treaty of Paris
1768	Russo-Turkish war
1770	James Cook claims Australia for Britain
1773-1775	Peasants revolt in Russia
1773	Boston Tea Party; Committees of Correspondence
1774	India: Warren Hastings first British governor
1775	American Revolution begins; Battles of Lexington and Concord
1776	U.S.: Declaration of Independence; Washington crosses Delaware
1777	U.S.: Articles of Confederation
1778	French join war against British
1779-1793	Suurveld Wars in South Africa
1780	Peru: Tupac Amaru leads rebellion
1781	American Revolution ends with British surrender at Yorktown
1783	Russia annexes Crimea
1784	India Act solidifies British rule
1787	France: Louis XVI dismisses Assembly of Notables
1787	Convention creates US Constitution
1789	U.S.: George Washington first President
1789	French Revolution begins; Estates General meets; storming of the Bastille
1791	France: National Assembly creates new constitution
1791	U.S. Bill of Rights
1792	Austria and Prussia invade France
1793	Louis XVI killed; 1793-1794 Jacobin Reign of Terror
1795-1799	Directory rules France
1796-1798	French battle under Napoleon, take Italy
1796	China: Jia Qing becomes emperor, begins repression of White Lotus Society
1798	Napoleon invades Egypt
1799	Napoleon takes power in Paris
1799-1839	Northern India: Rise of Sikhs under Ranjit Singh
1800	Washington, DC, becomes U.S. capital; 1801 Thomas Jefferson president
1801	France invades Austria
1801	Alexander I Tsar of Russia
1802	Treaty of Amiens creates temporary peace in Europe
1803	Central India: British win final Maratha War
1803	Louisiana Purchase
1804	Napoleon crowned emperor
1804	Haiti gains independence
1805	Third Coalition battles Napoleon
1806	Napoleon dissolves Holy Roman Empire
1807	England bans importation of slaves
1808	U.S. bans importation of slaves

1812	Napoleon invades Russia, loses army in winter retreat
1812	U.S.: War of 1812 with British
1813	French defeated at Battle of Leipzig
1814	Napoleon exiled to Elba; Treaty of Paris
1815	French abolish slave trade
1815	Napoleon defeated at Waterloo after "Hundred Days" return; Congress of Vienna
1818	France joins Holy Alliance
c. 1819	S. Africa: Rise of Zulus under Shaka; Mfecane Wars begin
1819	Spain sells Florida to U.S. in Adams-Onís Treaty
1819	Simón Bolívar liberates Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador
1821	Mexico, Peru, and Central American states gain independence
1821-1829	Greek War of Independence against Turks
1823	U.S.: Monroe Doctrine
c. 1825	British expand colonial control in SE Asia
1825	Nicholas I becomes Tsar after failed Decembrist coup
1828	Egyptian fleet destroyed at Battle of Navarino
1831	U.S.: Nat Turner leads slave rebellion in Virginia
1831	Belgium gains independence under Leopold I
1832	England: Reform Act extends vote
1836	Mexicans battle Texans at the Alamo
1837-1901	Britain: Victoria reigns as Queen
1840	Upper and Lower Canada united
1841	Egypt: Governorship made hereditary in Muhammad Ali's line (Ali served as pasha of Egypt, 1805-1848)
1842	China: Treaty of Nanking ends Opium War; British gain Hong Kong
1843	British conquer Natal, defeat Boers
1845	Irish potato famine
1846	British Corn Laws repealed
1848	Revolutions in France, Germany, Austria, and Italy
1848	U.S.: wins war against Mexico; takes California, all land north of Rio Grande in Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
1848	U.S.: California gold rush
1849	Revolutions crushed in Hungary and Italy
1852	Louis Napoleon becomes Emperor Napoleon III
1854	Commodore Matthew Perry forces Japan to open to foreign trade
1854	Liberal revolution in Spain
1854-1856	Crimean War
1857	India: British repress rebellion, colonies placed under crown rule
1857	U.S.: <i>Dred Scott</i> decision
1858	Mexico: Benito Juárez, reformist president
1859	French-Austrian War
1860	U.S.: Abraham Lincoln elected president
1860	China: British and French win Second Opium War
c. 1860	French control Vietnam
c. 1860-1890	Expansion of Russian control in Asia
c. 1860-1900	U.S.: Westward expansion results in forcible removal of Native Americans
1861-1866	William I King of Prussia
1861	U.S.: Civil War begins; Southern states secede from Union to form Confederacy
1863	U.S.: Battle of Gettysburg
1865	U.S.: Lee surrenders at Appomattox, ending Civil War; slavery abolished
1865	U.S.: Lincoln assassinated
1866	Austro-Prussian War
1866-1877	U.S.: Reconstruction period in South
1867	Japan: Resignation of last shogun leads to Meiji Restoration (1868)
1867	U.S.: Buys Alaska from Russia
1868	Spain: Revolution against Queen Isabella II
1870-1871	Franco-Prussian War; Paris Commune defeated; Third Republic begins
1872	League of Three Emperors
c. 1875	Decline of Turkish Ottoman Empire
1876	Sioux under Sitting Bull rebel, kill Colonel Custer
1877	British annex South Africa
1877	Mexico: Porfirio Díaz gains power in coup
1879	British fight Zulu War
1879	Otto von Bismarck negotiates German-Austrian alliance
c. 1880-1910	Britain, France, Belgium battle for African colonies
1882	Triple Alliance against France
1884	Dowager Empress Cixi gains power in China
1884	Berlin conference partitions colonial Africa
1885	Indian National Congress founded
1888-1889	Revolution in Brazil frees slaves, creates republic

1890	U.S.: Cavalry massacre Sioux at Wounded Knee
1893	Irish Home Rule defeated
1894	Dreyfus Affair begins in France
1898	China: "100 days" reforms repressed
1898	U.S.: Defeats Spain in Cuba and Puerto Rico
1900	China: Boxer rebellion
1901	England: Queen Victoria dies; Edward VII King
1901	U.S.: Theodore Roosevelt president
1903	Panama secedes from Colombia; U.S. gains canal zone
1904	Manchuria: Russo-Japanese war begins
1904	Entente Cordiale between England and France
1905	Revolution in Russia against Tsar
1906	First Russian Duma
1908	Ferdinand I declares Bulgarian independence
1911	Mexican Revolution deposes Porfirio Díaz
1912	China: Fall of Qing (Manchu) Emperor
1912	First Balkan War against Ottomans
1913	Second Balkan War: Bulgaria fights Serbia and Greece
1914	Franz Ferdinand assassinated; World War I begins: Austria battles Serbia; Britain, Russia and France battle Germany

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1752	U.S.: Benjamin Franklin publishes findings on electricity
1766	U.S.: Franklin invents bifocals
1779	Britain: First cast-iron bridge
1782	Scotland: James Watt develops double-acting steam engine
1783	France: First hot air balloon
1784	Britain: Wrought iron
1785	Britain: Power loom
1793	U.S.: Eli Whitney invents cotton gin
1795	France adopts metric system
1798	Britain: Edward Jenner begins vaccinations for smallpox
1799	Egypt: French historians find Rosetta Stone
1804-1806	Lewis and Clark expedition through western U.S.
1807	U.S.: Fulton runs first commercial steamboat
1809	France: Lamarck's theory of evolution
1814	Britain: First steam locomotive
1825	Britain: First public railroad
1834	U.S.: Horse drawn harvester-reaper
1834	U.S.: Samuel Colt invents the revolver
1837	U.S.: Steel plow
1837	Britain: Wheatstone and Cooke invent electric telegraph
c. 1839	France: Photography invented with first daguerreotype
1839	U.S.: Goodyear vulcanizes rubber
1844	Samuel Morse patents telegraph in U.S.
1851	London: Great Exhibition
1858	First transatlantic telegraph cable
1859	Charles Darwin's <i>On the Origin of Species</i> proposes evolution by natural selection
1862	U.S.: R. J. Gatling creates machine gun
c. 1864	France: Louis Pasteur presents theory of germs, invents Pasteurization
1867	Sweden: Alfred Nobel invents dynamite
1869	Russia: Mendeleev's periodic table of elements
1869	U.S.: Transcontinental Railroad completed in Utah
1869	Suez Canal opens
1876	U.S.: Alexander Graham Bell invents telephone
1877-1879	U.S.: Thomas Edison invents phonograph, light bulb
1881	U.S.: First electrical power plant
1883	U.S.: First steel skyscraper in Chicago
1884	Britain: Parsons's steam turbine
1885	Germany: Gottlieb Daimler creates internal combustion engine, motorcycle
1888	U.S.: George Eastman makes hand-held camera
1891	Russians begin Trans-Siberian Railroad
1895	France: Lumières present first public cinema
1897	Britain: J. J. Thomson discovers electron
1898	France: Pierre and Marie Curie discover radium
1900	Germany: Max Planck forms quantum theory
1903	U.S.: Wright brothers fly first airplane at Kitty Hawk
1905	U.S.: Albert Einstein proposes first theory of relativity
1908	U.S.: Henry Ford begins production of Model T, develops assembly line production
1909	U.S. expedition led by Robert Peary reaches North Pole
1914	Panama Canal opens

## HUMANITIES & CULTURE

1751	First volume of French Encyclopedia published
1753-1806	Japanese painter Kitagawa Utamaro
1759	Voltaire's <i>Candide</i>
1762	Jean Jacques Rousseau's <i>The Social Contract</i>
c. 1770	Romantic Movement in art and literature
1771	England: <i>Encyclopedia Britannica</i> published
1772	China: Complete Works of Chinese literature compiled by imperial library
1772	Franz Haydn's <i>Farewell Symphony</i>
1776	Thomas Paine's <i>Common Sense</i>
1776	Adam Smith's <i>Wealth of Nations</i>
1776	Sturm und Drang movement
1781	Immanuel Kant's <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i>
1783	Noah Webster publishes <i>The American Spelling Book</i>
1786	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>
1787	Ottobah Cugoana's <i>Thoughts and Sentiments on Slavery</i>
1788-1850	French novelist Honoré de Balzac
1789	William Blake's <i>Songs of Innocence</i>
1790	Edmund Burke's <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i>
1792	Mary Wollstonecraft's <i>Vindication of the Rights of Women</i>
1795-1821	British poet John Keats
1797	Austrian composer Franz Schubert
1798	Wordsworth and Coleridge publish <i>Lyrical Ballads</i>
1798	Thomas Malthus's <i>Essay on the Principle of Population</i>
1804	Napoleonic Legal Code
1808	Goethe's <i>Faust</i>
1808	Beethoven's Fifth Symphony
1810-1849	Polish composer Frederic Chopin
1811-1812	Luddites in England destroy machinery
1812-1870	British novelist Charles Dickens
1813-1855	Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard
1813	Jane Austen's <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
1818	Mary Shelley's <i>Frankenstein</i>
1828	Webster publishes <i>American Dictionary of the English Language</i>
1833	Ando Hiroshige's <i>53 Stages of the Tokaido</i>
1833-1897	German composer Johannes Brahms
1835	Alexis de Tocqueville's <i>Democracy in America</i>
1835-1910	American writer Mark Twain
1836	U.S.: Ralph Waldo Emerson leads Transcendentalist movement
1839-1906	French artist Paul Cézanne
1840-1928	British novelist Thomas Hardy
1845	Edgar Allan Poe's <i>The Raven</i>
1847	Brontë sisters publish in Britain
1848	Marx and Engels, <i>The Communist Manifesto</i>
1850	Hawthorne's <i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
1851	Melville's <i>Moby Dick</i>
1853	Steinway piano factory founded in New York
1854-1900	Irish writer Oscar Wilde
1856-1857	Flaubert and Baudelaire publish in France
1862	Victor Hugo's <i>Les Misérables</i>
1862-1918	French composer Claude Debussy
1863	J. S. Mill's <i>Utilitarianism</i>
1866	Fyodor Dostoevsky's <i>Crime and Punishment</i>
1867	Karl Marx's <i>Das Kapital</i>
1867-1916	Nicaraguan poet Rubén Darío
1869	Leo Tolstoy's <i>War and Peace</i>
1871-1922	French writer Marcel Proust
1874	Paris: First exhibition of Impressionist painting
1874-1963	American poet Robert Frost
1883	Friedrich Nietzsche's <i>Thus Spake Zarathustra</i>
1883-1949	Mexican artist José Orozco
1886-1957	Mexican artist Diego Rivera
1888	Vincent Van Gogh's <i>Sunflowers</i>
1888-1953	American dramatist Eugene O'Neill
1889	Paris: Eiffel Tower completed
1896	Greece: Olympic Games revived
1897	Emile Durkheim's <i>Suicide</i>
1897-1962	American novelist William Faulkner
1900	Sigmund Freud's <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i>
1902	Egypt: First Aswan Dam
1904	Max Weber's <i>The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism</i>
1909	Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House in Chicago
1911	Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore wins Nobel Prize
1912	<i>Titanic</i> sinks off Newfoundland
1912	Thomas Mann's <i>Death in Venice</i>
1913	Armory Show signals arrival of modernist art in U.S. in New York
1913	Igor Stravinsky's <i>The Rite of Spring</i>

# 1914-PRESENT

## POLITICAL & MILITARY

1914-1916	U.S. invades Mexico
1915	Turkish massacre of Armenians
1916	Battles of Verdun and the Somme
1916	Russia: Rasputin murdered
1917	Liberal, then Bolshevik Revolutions in Russia; Russia exits World War I
1917	U.S.: Enters World War I
1917	Mexican Revolution ends with new constitution
1918	U.S.: Woodrow Wilson proposes Fourteen Points to end war
1918-1920	Civil war in Russia
1918	Armistice ends War on Western front
1919	Treaty of Versailles between Allies and Germany
1920	Paris: League of Nations formed
1920	U.S.: Women gain vote
c. 1920	India: Gandhi leads Satyagraha campaigns
1921	Hyperinflation in Germany
1922	Mussolini rises to power in Italy
1924	Stalin rises to power in USSR
1926	Japan: Emperor Hirohito takes power
1926-1927	Iraq and Saudi Arabia become independent nations
1929	Stock Market crashes, U.S. enters Great Depression which spreads through world
1932	U.S.: Franklin D. Roosevelt president; 1933 launches New Deal
1932-1933	USSR: Severe famine
1933	Germany: Hitler gains power, declares Third Reich
1934	China: Red Army under Mao Zedong begins Long March
1935	Germany: Nuremberg Laws further persecution of Jews
1936-1940	Spanish Civil War
1937	Japanese invade China
1938	Germany takes Austria; Munich Pact creates policy of appeasement
1938	Mexico nationalizes oil
1939	World War II begins with German invasion of Poland
1940	Germany invades Holland, Norway, France, bombs Britain
1941	Japanese attack Pearl Harbor; U.S. enters War
1941	Germany invades Russia; begins "final" extermination of Jews
1942	U.S.: Japanese internment on West Coast
1943	Allies defeat Italy
1944	Allies invade Normandy
1944	France promises post-war independence to African colonies
1944	U.S.: Bretton Woods conference
1945	U.S.: Roosevelt dies; Truman president
1945	Germany surrenders; Potsdam Conference
1945	U.S. drops atomic bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Japan surrenders, ending World War II
1945	United Nations founded in San Francisco
1946	Nuremberg Trials
c. 1947	Cold War begins between U.S. and Soviet Union
1947	Communist control of Eastern Europe
1947	U.S.: Announces Marshall Plan for European recovery
1948	Berlin airlift
1948	Israel established as state
1949	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) formed
1949	Maoist Revolution establishes People's Republic of China
1950	India gains independence; partition creates Pakistan
1950-1953	Korean War
1953	USSR: Stalin dies; Khrushchev takes power
1953	U.S.: Dwight Eisenhower president
c. 1954	U.S.: McCarthyism takes hold
1954-1960	Nigeria, Sudan, Morocco, Ghana, Congo, and French African colonies gain independence
1954	Algeria battles for independence
c. 1955	U.S.: Civil Rights movement begins
1955	Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (Non-Aligned Movement, or NAM) begins in Bandung, Indonesia
1955	Warsaw Pact signed
1956	USSR represses rebellions in Hungary and Poland
1959	Cuban Revolution
1959	Alaska and Hawaii become U.S. states

1959	Egypt: Nasser nationalizes Suez Canal; Israel invades
1960	Soviet-Chinese alliance dissolves
1960	U.S.: John F. Kennedy president
1960	OPEC formed in Mid-East
1960	Chinese take control of Tibet; Dalai Lama flees
1961	South Africa leaves British Commonwealth
1961	U.S. supports failed invasion of Cuba at Bay of Pigs
1961	Berlin Wall constructed
1962	Jamaica and British West Indies gain independence
1962	Cuban Missile Crisis
1963	Organization of African Unity founded
1963	U.S.: Kennedy assassinated; Lyndon Johnson president
1964	U.S.: Escalates war in Vietnam after Gulf of Tonkin incident
1966	China: Mao begins Cultural Revolution
1967	Israel victorious in Six-Days War
1967	Civil War in Nigeria
1968	U.S.: Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated; height of protest movements
1968	Student-led rebellions in France and Germany
1968	North Vietnamese Tet Offensive
1968	Soviets invade Czechoslovakia
1969	Violence erupts in Northern Ireland
c. 1970-1980	U.S.: Supports "Dirty Wars" in South America
1971	Eastern Pakistan breaks with Western Pakistan, becomes Bangladesh
1971	Vietnam War spreads to Laos and Cambodia
1972	U.S.: Watergate scandal
1972	Northern Ireland: "Bloody Sunday"
1973	U.S. withdraws from Vietnam
1973	Israel repels Arab invasion
1973	OPEC precipitates energy crisis
1973	Chile: Augusto Pinochet becomes dictator in U.S.-supported coup
1975	Khmer Rouge takes power in Cambodia
1975	North Vietnamese occupy Saigon; end of Vietnam War
1976	South Africa: Schoolchildren killed in Soweto uprising
1979	USSR invades Afghanistan
1979	Camp David peace accords
1979	Sandinistas take power in Nicaragua
1979-1980	Iran: Ayatollah Khomeini takes power; U.S. hostage crisis
1980-1988	Iran-Iraq War
c. 1980-1989	U.S. supports right-wing contras in Central America
1982	Israel invades Lebanon
1982	Falklands War
1983-1985	Famine in Ethiopia
1985	USSR: Mikhail Gorbachev takes power, begins reforms
1986	U.S. bombs Libya
1987	New York: Stock Market crash
1989	China: Tiananmen Square massacre
1989	Destruction of Berlin Wall signals fall of Soviet power, end of Cold War
1990	South Africa: End of apartheid; Nelson Mandela freed
1991	Persian Gulf War
1991	USSR dismantled
1992	North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) established
1993	Economic Community forms common European market
1996	Civil War in Rwanda
1997	British return Hong Kong to China
2000	Mexico: End of PRI's one-party rule
2001	U.S.: Terrorists destroy World Trade Center

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1915	Germans use poison gas in warfare
1915	Germany: Alfred Wegener's theory of continental drift
1917	Germany uses submarine warfare
c. 1920	Early radio broadcasting
1922	Germany: First Technicolor movie film
1925	Charles Lindbergh makes first solo nonstop flight from New York to Paris
1927	First "talking" movies
1928	U.S.: Color television patented
1928	Scotland: Sir Alexander Fleming uses penicillin as antibiotic
1933	U.S.: Armstrong invents FM radio
1935	Britain: Robert Watson-Watt invents radar
1939	Germany: Atomic fission discovered by Otto Hahn

1939	U.S.: First helicopter
1941	Manhattan Project to build atomic bomb begins
1942	U.S.: Enrico Fermi builds first nuclear reactor
1942	Germany: First jet aircraft used in combat
c. 1943	Early computer prototypes developed for wartime use
1947	U.S.: Chuck Yeager breaks sound barrier
1947	U.S.: First transistor
1952	U.S. explodes first hydrogen bomb
1952	Britain: First passenger jet
1953	USSR explodes hydrogen bomb
c. 1953	Germany: High-density plastics
1953	U.S. and Britain: Watson and Crick find structure of DNA
1954	China and US: First birth control pill
c. 1956	U.S.: Development of early computer languages
1957	USSR launches Sputnik satellite into orbit
c. 1958	U.S.: First nuclear powered submarines
1958	U.S.: NASA formed
1960	U.S.: Laser invented
1961	Soviet cosmonaut orbits Earth
1962	First satellite launched
1967	South Africa: First successful heart transplant
1969	American astronauts walk on the moon
1981	AIDS identified
c. 1981	First personal computers
1987	World population reaches 5 billion
1989	World Wide Web created
c. 1990	AIDS epidemic begins in Africa
1994	Genetic engineering of food
c. 1996	Consensus forms around theory of global warming
1997	International Space Station founded
1997	Britain: "Dolly" the sheep cloned
1998	India and Pakistan test nuclear bombs
1999	Human Genome Project completely sequences a chromosome's DNA

## HUMANITIES & CULTURE

1916	Claude Monet's <i>Water Lilies</i>
1922	T.S. Eliot's <i>The Waste Land</i>
1922	James Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i>
1923	Poet William Butler Yeats wins Nobel Prize
1924	France: André Breton publishes Surrealist manifesto
1925	Franz Kafka's <i>The Trial</i> published posthumously
1927	Virginia Woolf's <i>To The Lighthouse</i>
1931	U.S.: Empire State Building completed in New York
1931	Salvador Dalí's <i>The Persistence of Memory</i>
1932	Aldous Huxley's <i>Brave New World</i>
1937	Pablo Picasso's <i>Guernica</i>
1938	Radio performance of <i>War of the Worlds</i> by Orson Welles generates widespread panic in US
1939	John Steinbeck's <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>
1940	Ernest Hemingway's <i>For Whom the Bell Tolls</i>
1941	U.S.: Movie <i>Citizen Kane</i> released
1942	Edward Hopper's <i>Nighthawks</i>
1942	Albert Camus's <i>The Stranger</i>
1943	Jean Paul Sartre's <i>Being and Nothingness</i>
1946	Herman Hesse wins Nobel Prize
1948	U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
1949	Arthur Miller's <i>Death of a Salesman</i>
1949	Simone de Beauvoir's <i>The Second Sex</i>
1950	Pablo Neruda's <i>Canto General</i>
1952	Frantz Fanon's <i>Black Skin, White Masks</i>
1955	Samuel Beckett's <i>Waiting for Godot</i>
1955	Vladimir Nabokov's <i>Lolita</i>
1959	Gunter Grass's <i>The Tin Drum</i>
1962	Rachel Carson's <i>Silent Spring</i> marks rise of environmental movement
1964	Mass success of the Beatles signals internationalization of popular culture
1967	Gabriel Garcia Marquez's <i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>
1968	Japanese writer Yasunari Kawabata wins Nobel Prize
1969	Kurt Vonnegut's <i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>
1973	Thomas Pynchon's <i>Gravity's Rainbow</i>
1974	Alexander Solzhenitsyn's <i>The Gulag Archipelago</i>
1975	Helsinki Accords codify human rights
1988	Salman Rushdie's <i>The Satanic Verses</i>
1991	South African writer Nadine Gordimer wins Nobel Prize
1995	Irish poet Seamus Heaney wins Nobel Prize
2000	Chinese writer Gao Xingjian wins Nobel Prize

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