
THE STORY OF CONAIRE MOR

A BRIEF GENEALOGY

Traditionally, most Irish families sprang from a small number of Irish chiefs. As families multiplied, each person was required to know his relationship to the ruling family. The oldest Irish names were personal names, later becoming surnames. The Seannachies (the clan bards or storytellers) were the official keepers of genealogical data. They didn't write anything down, for fear the knowledge would get into the wrong hands and be used against them. For hundreds of years, their legacy was oral, committed to memory and passed down through the generations. This was a coveted task and taken very seriously; death was the penalty for mistakes.

Christianity was embraced by the Irish when it arrived. During the middle ages, writing was encouraged, to propagate copies of the bible. Writing down the local genealogy and making the connection to biblical references was a logical step. Ireland became the story-telling center of Europe.

Rulers were chosen from the ablest member of the family through the extended family of brothers, uncles, cousins, and nephews through the system known as tanistry. Tanistry ensures the one best-equipped to serve succeeds in the line, rather than by simply being the next in line.

One of several kings of the same name, Conaire Mor (KON a ree MOHR), was our ancestor and the origin of the Conary name. He was noted for bringing more than 40 years of peace and prosperity to Ireland.

The line is as follows:

1. Adam (Ish) & Eve (Ishshah)
2. Seth
3. Enos
4. Kenan (Canein)
5. Mahabeel (Malaliel)
6. Jared
7. Enoch
8. Methuselah
9. Lamech
10. Noah "The Farmer"
11. Japheth
12. Gomer
13. Magog ⁱ
14. Baath (Haath)
15. Feinus Farsaidh "King of Scythians" - 1700 BC ⁱⁱ
16. Niall "Of the Languages" & Scota (dau of Rameses II) ⁱⁱⁱ
17. Gaidhal Glas (Gadel) - the father of the ancient Celtic people whose language is known as Gaelic ^{iv}
18. Esasru (Asruth)
19. Sru (Sruth)
20. Eibher Swt (Heber Scut)

21. Beogamon (Baouman)
22. Ogamon
23. Tait
24. Agnamaan (Agnon)
25. Lamhfinn
26. Heber Glunfion
27. Agnonfinn
28. Ermhear Glas (Febric Glas)
29. Nenuaill
30. Nuadhat
31. Aldoid (Alladh)
32. Earchada
33. Deaghata
34. Bratha
35. Breogan - conquered and settled in Spain
36. Bile
37. Miledh (Milesius, Galamh) & Scota ^v
38. Heremon (Eremon) & Odhbha (Tea) - abt 1000 BC - conquered Ireland from original inhabitants
39. Irialfaidh "The Prophet" ^{vi}
40. Ethriall (Eithriall) ^{vii}
41. Follach (Follain) - was kept out of the Monarchy by Conmaol, his father's slayer, who usurped his place
42. Tighearnmhas (Tighernmas) ^{viii}
43. Ganbrotha (Iambotha, Eanbotha)
44. Smiorghall (Smiorguil, Flachaidh Labhrainne)
45. Faichadah I - 1472 BC
46. Aonghas Olmuachaidh (Oilbhuagah) "The Big-headed One" - slain by Eana in the battle of Carman, 1409 BC
47. Maon (Maoin)
48. Rothachtaign (Rotheachta) - the 22nd Monarch; slain, 1357 BC, by Sedne (Seadhna) of Ir
49. Deman (Dian, Dein)
50. Siorna Saoghlach "The Long-Lived One" - slain, 1030 BC, at Aillin, by Rotheachta, of the Heber Fionn line
51. Oilioll Olchaoin
52. Gallchadh (Giallchadi)- killed by Art Imleach of the Heber Fionn line, at Moighe Muadh, 1013 BC
53. Nuadha Fionn Fail "The Fortunate One" - the 39th Monarch; slain by Breasrioghacta, his successor, 961 BC
54. Aodian Glas - in his time the coast was infested with pirates and there occurred a dreadful plague (Apthach) which swept away most of the inhabitants
55. Simeon Breac - the 44th Monarch; he inhumanly caused his predecessor to be torn asunder; but, after a reign of six years, he met with a like death, by order of Duach Fionn, son to the murdered King, 903 BC
56. Muiriadhach Bolgrach - the 46th Monarch; killed by Eadhna Dearg, 892 BC
57. Fiaochaidh Tolgrach - killed by Oilioll Fionn of the Heber Fionn line, 795 BC
58. Duach Liaghrach - 59th Monarch; killed by Lughaidh Laighe, son of Oilioll Fionn, 737 BC
59. Eochaidh Buillaig (Buadach) "The Ruler of Aileach" - was kept out of the Monarchy by his father's slayer
60. Ugaine Mor "The Great King" & Eithne Amlabur - the 66th Monarch; slain 593 B.C. He was contemporary with Alexander the Great, and is stated to have sailed with a fleet into the Mediterranean, landed forces in Africa, and also attacked Sicily; proceeded to Gaul and Married Caesair, daughter of the King of the Gauls, his brethren Celts. They had 22 sons and 3 daughters. He divided the kingdom into twenty five portions for their inheritance. Only two sons had issue.
61. Cobhtach Caolbreagh - the 69th Monarch; to secure the Throne, he assassinated his brother Laeghaire; after a long reign he was slain by his nephew, Maion, 541 BC
62. Meilage - slain by Modhchorb, son of Cobhtach Caomh, of the Line of Heber Fionn, 541 BC

63. Iarn Gleofatach - was a King of great justice and wisdom, very well learned and possessed of many accomplishments; slain by Fear-Chorb, son of Modh-Chorb, 473 BC
64. Conla Gruaidchealgach (Cruaich) -the 74th Monarch of Ireland; died a natural death, 442 BC
65. Oilioll Caisfhiacloch - the 77th Monarch; slain by his successor, Adhamhar Foltchaion, 417 BC
66. Eochaid Altleathan (Foltleathan) "The Long Hair" - the 79th Monarch; slain by Feargus Fortamhail, his successor, 395 BC
67. Laebchuire
68. Fir Almaich
69. Fir Anaraith
70. Fir Raith
71. Fir Cetharraid
72. Aonghus Tuirimheach "The Prolific" - the 81st Monarch; slain at Tara (Teamhrach), 324 BC
73. Feacha Fearmara
74. Oilill Euron
75. Fergus (Fearach)
76. Forga
77. Maine (Manius)
78. Airioil (Dornaidel, Arnold, Don Adilla)
79. Rothrein (Reuthar, Rathrean, Raghein)
80. Train (Treon)
81. Roifin (Rosin)
82. Suin
83. Deagha (Dedad)
84. Iar (Jarr)
85. Oilill Lactighe (Anglonnach)
86. Eoghan (Eugenius, Cormac)
87. Edersel (Eterscel) & Mes-Buachalla - died 110 BC
88. Conaire Mor & Moltach - the 97th Monarch; said to have yellow curly hair and blue eyes; killed by pirates, 39 BC
89. Caibre Fionn Mor (Corbred) - son of Conaire Mor

ⁱ From Magog descended the Parthians, Bactrians, and Amazons; Parthalon, the first planter of Ireland, about three hundred years after the Flood; and the rest of the colonies that planted there, such as, the Nemedians, who planted Ireland, three hundred and eighteen years after the birth of Abraham, and two thousand one hundred and fifty-three years before Christ. The Nemedians continued in Ireland for two hundred and seventeen years, when a colony of theirs went into the northern parts of Scotland under the conduct of their leader Briottan Maol (from whom Britain takes its name and not from Brutus). From Magog were also descended the Belgarian, Belgian, Firbolgian or Firvolgian colony that succeeded the Nemedians, and who first erected Ireland into a Monarchy. This Belgarian or Firvolgian colony continued in Ireland for thirty-six years under nine of their Kings. They were supplanted by the Tuatha-de-Danann (meaning "the people of the god Dan," whom they adored) who possessed Ireland for one hundred and ninety-seven years, during the reigns of nine of their kings. They were then conquered by the Gaelic, Milesian, or Scotie Nation (the three names by which the Irish people were known). This Milesian or Scotie Irish Nation possessed and enjoyed the Kingdom of Ireland for two thousand eight hundred and eighty-five years, under one hundred and eighty-three Monarchs, until their submission to King Henry the Second of England in 1186.

ⁱⁱ Phniusa Farsaidh (or Fenius Farsa) was King of Scythia when Ninus ruled the Assyrian Empire. Being a wise man and desirous to learn the languages that not long before confounded the builders of the Tower of Babel, he employed able and learned men to go among the dispersed multitude to learn their several languages. They returned after becoming well-skilled in languages, Phniusa Farsaidh erected a school in the valley of Senaar, near the city of othena, in the forty-second year of the reign of Ninus; whereupon, having continued there with his younger son Niul for twenty years, he returned home to his kingdom, which, at his death, he left to the oldest son Nenuall; leaving to Niul no other patrimony than his learning and the benefit of the school.

ⁱⁱⁱ Miledh - son of Niul, married Scota, the daughter of Ramsees II. Ramsees II was the Pharaoh in Egypt, when Moses led the Israelites to the Promised Land. The ancient Irish people, who descended from the Celtic king, were called Scots in ancient Roman History, because they were descended from this Egyptian princess named Scota. Many years later, the Irish would invade the Highlands, and conquered it from the original inhabitants called Picts - this is how it came to be known as Scotland.

^{iv} Gaodhal (or Gathelus), the son of Niul and ancestor of Clan-na-Gael. In his youth, Gaodhal was stung in the neck by a serpent and was immediately brought to Moses, who instantly cured him, leaving a green scar. This scar remained on his neck after the wound was healed. Gaodhal obtained a further blessing, that no venomous beast can live where his descendants inhabit (Creta or Candia, Gothia or Getulia, and Ireland). Gaodhal and his descendants painted the figures of Beasts and Birds on their banners and shields to distinguish their tribes and septs, in imitation of the Israelites. A Thunderbolt was the cognizance in their chief standard.

^v Milesius went to Scythia, and was kindly received. The king of Scythia gave him his daughter in marriage and appointed him General of his forces. In this capacity, Milesius defeated the king's enemies, gained much fame, and the love of all the king's subjects. Eventually, the king became jealous or afraid and secretly plotted to kill Milesius. When he found out, Milesius killed the king and left Scythia for Egypt, taking with him 60 ships. Pharaoh Nectonibus, king of Egypt, had heard about him and made him General of all his forces against the king of Ethiopia. Milesius was again victorious. The Pharaoh gave him his daughter Scota in marriage (Milesius first wife had died), and kept him eight years in Egypt. During this time, Milesius had his smartest people instructed in Egyptian trades, arts, and sciences. [The original name of Milesius of Spain was "Galamh"] Milesius eventually returned to Spain, where he was welcomed. The people were harassed by natives and the intrusion of other foreign nations while he was away. In fifty-four battles, victoriously fought, he routed, destroyed, and totally extirpated them out of the country and then settled in peace and quietness. During his reign, a 26-year famine and drought occurred. Milesius superstitiously believed the famine fell upon him and his people as punishment from their gods for not attempting to settle the "western islands" (Ireland). Milesius sent his uncle Ithe, with his son Lughaidh [Luy], and one hundred and fifty stout men to bring them an account of those western islands. They landed in that part now called Munster. Ithe left his son with fifty of his men to guard the ship, and explored the island.

At that time, Ireland was ruled by three kings; each would take their turn for one year. This had been going on for about 30 years. The country was named after their three queens, Eire, Fodhla, and Banbha, depending on whose turn it was. The husband of Eire (MacCuill) was governing the country when they were conquered.

Ithe met the 3 brothers at their palace at Aileach Neid, and helped them settle a dispute over the family jewels. The brothers were impressed, and invited Ithe to fetch the rest of his men. They deferred often to Ithe in settlement of their disputes, and became good friends. Eventually, Ithe returned to Spain. As soon as he left, the brothers began thinking that Ithe thought too well of their island and became worried that he might tell other about them. They did not want to become invaded. They followed Ithe, catching him before he could reach Spain. They killed him at Magh Ithe or "The plain of Ithe" (an extensive plain in the barony of Raphoe, county Donegal).

His son recovered Ithe's mangled body and brought it back to Spain, hoping to incite revenge. It worked. Milesius decided to invade Ireland. While he was making preparations, however, he died, leaving the invasion task to his sons. Heremon survived his brothers in the many battles and catastrophes that befell them, becoming king of Ireland.

^{vi} The 10th Monarch of Ireland; d. B.C. 1670. He was a very learned King, could foretell things to come, and caused much of the country to be cleared of the ancient forests. He built seven royal palaces - Rath Ciombaoith, Rath Coincheada, Rath Mothuig, Rath Buirioch, Rath Luachat, Rath Croicne, and Rath Boachoill. He won four remarkable battles over his enemies: - Ard Inmath, at Teabtha, where Stirne, the son of Dubh, son of Fomhar, was slain; Teanmhuighe, against the Fomhoraice, where Eichtghe was slain; Loch Muighe, where Lugrot, the son of Moghfeibhis, was slain; and Cuill Martho, where the four sons of Heber were defeated. Irialfaidh died 2 years after this battle, having reigned 10 years, and was buried at Magh Muagh.

^{vii} The 11th Monarch; reigned 20 years; was slain by Conmaol, the son of Heber Fionn, at the battle of Soirrean, Leinster, 1650 BC. He was also a learned King; he wrote with his own hand the History of the Gaels (or Gadelians); during his reign seven large woods were cleared and great advances were made in the practice of agriculture.

^{viii} The 13th Monarch; reigned 77 years; he fought 27 victorious battles with the followers of the family of Heber Fionn. During his reign, gold was mined near Liffey and skilfully worked by Inchadhan. This King also made a law that each grade of society should be known by the number of colors in its clothes; the clothes of a slave should be of one color; those of a soldier two; the dress of a commanding officer to be of three colors; a gentleman's dress, who kept a table for the free entertainment of strangers, to be of four colors; five colors to be allowed to the nobility (the chiefs); and the King, Queen, and Royal Family, as well as the Druids, historians, and other learned men to wear six colors. He was the first to introduce image worship to Ireland.

He died 1543 BC, on the Eve of 1st of November, with two-thirds of the people of Ireland at Magh Sleaght (or Field of Adoration), county of Leitrim, as he was adoring the Sun-God, Crom Cruach.