




The Second Germanic Invasion of Britain

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Anglo-Saxon conquest of Britain



□ **The Anglo-Saxon settlement of Britain is the migration of several Germanic peoples—the suebic tribes of the angles, Saxons, and Jutes from the western shores of Europe and their settlement on the island of Britania in the 5th century. The exact date of the first campaigns is unknown, but it is clear that the invasion began at the beginning of the fifth century after the final departure of the Roman troops in 410 and continued for some time after that.**



At first, the Germanic tribes only raided Britain, but after 430 ad they began to settle there. The aliens were warlike and illiterate. The knowledge available to us about this period comes mainly from an English monk named Bede, but he lived three centuries later. His account of events in the "Ecclesiastical history of the English people" was generally correct and confirmed archaeologically.


Bede says that the conquerors were descended from three powerful Germanic tribes-the Saxons, the Angles, and the Jutes. The Jutes settled mainly in Kent and on the South coast, and soon ceased to differ from the Saxons and Angles. The Angles settled in the East and in the Central part, and the Saxons-between the Jutes and the Angles, on a strip of land from the mouth of the Thames and further West. The migrations of the Anglo-Saxons gave Britain a new name-England, that is, "the land of the Angles".

□ **The Saxons were known to their southern neighbors as warriors, and in German, "saxon" corresponded to the meaning - "gear man" - "armed (with a spear) man" — (spear — spear-spire, peak) or "man at arms".**

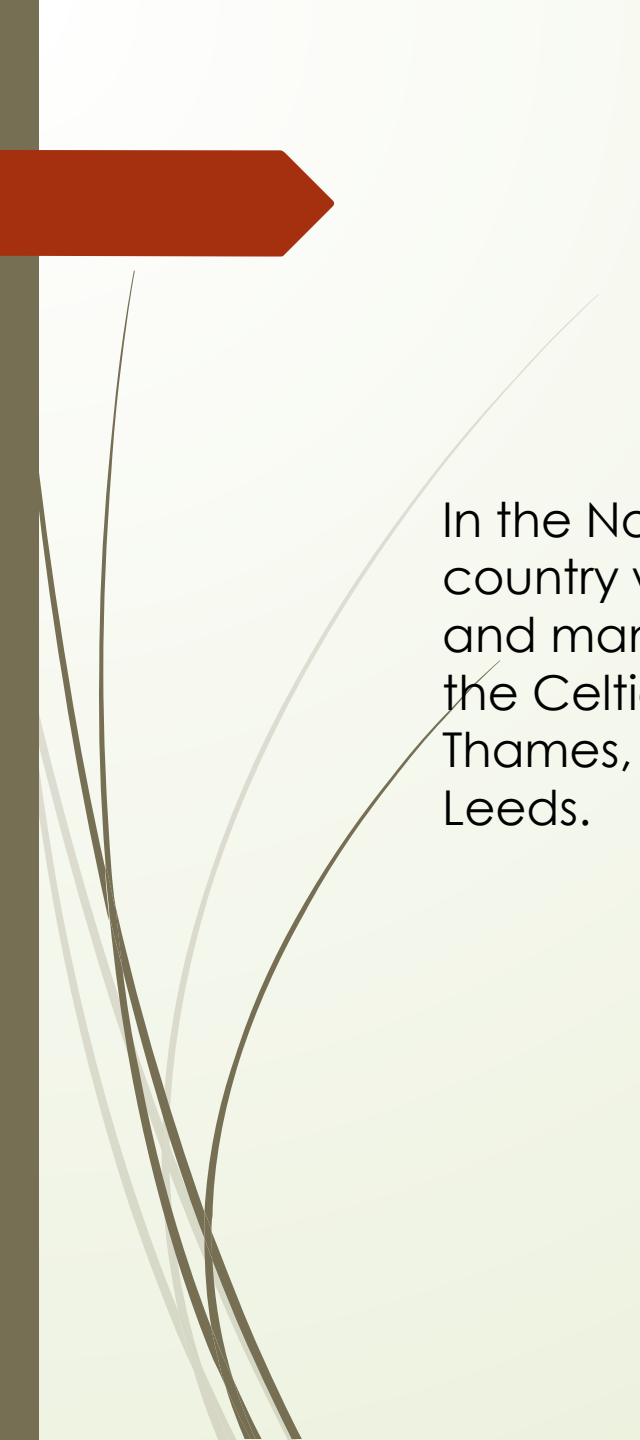
□ In Britain, the name Saxons was used for all military invaders, later called Vikings.



**"sax" - a dagger. Culture Hallstatt —
750 — 450 BC**

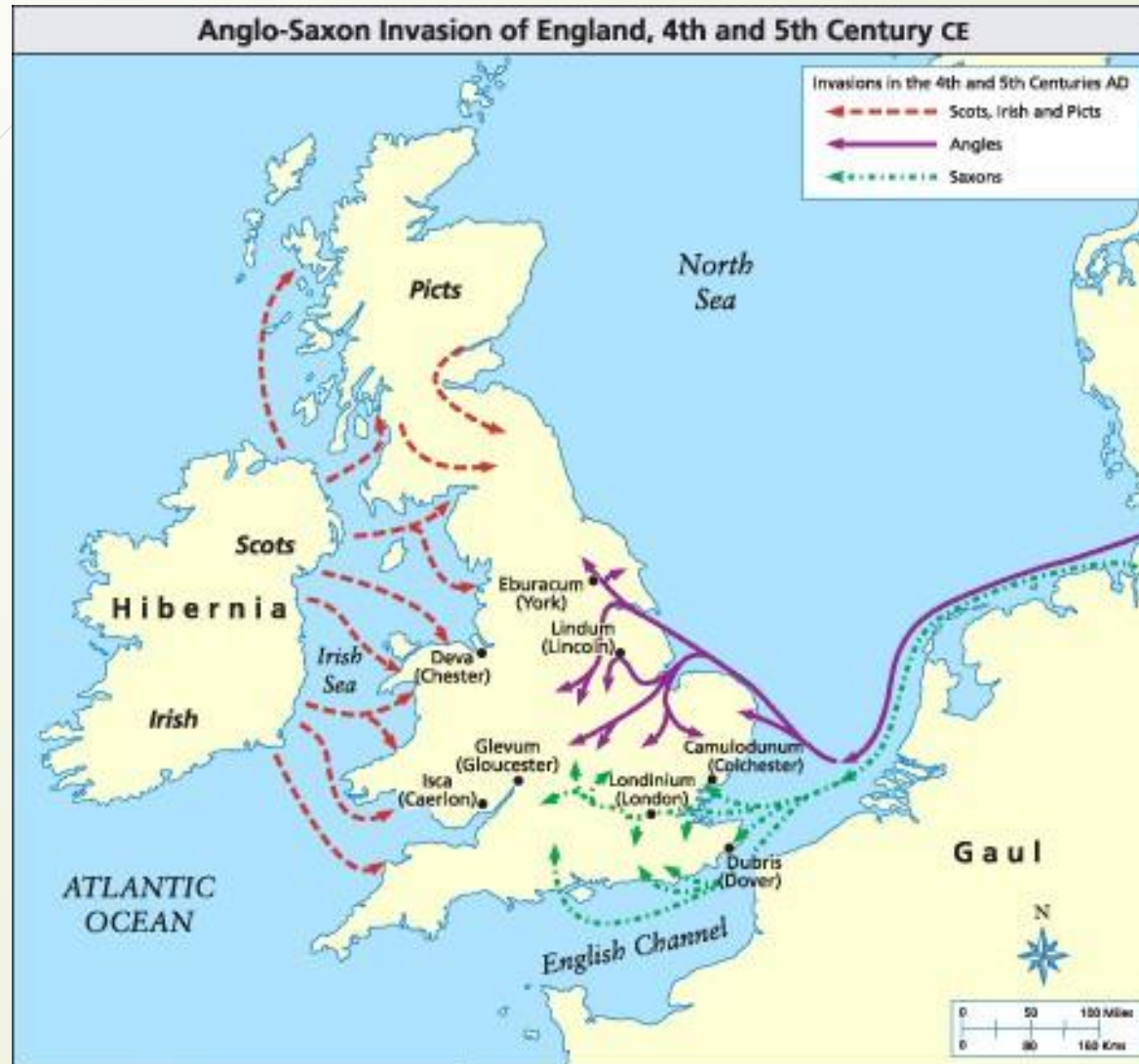


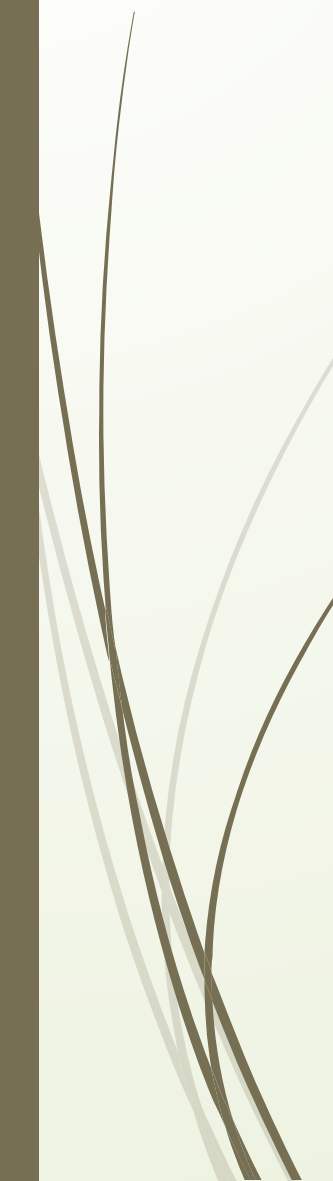

The British Celts fought the raids and settlers from Germany as best they could. Over the next century, however, the newcomers slowly squeezed them out in a westerly direction, until they were driven - by 570 - to the West of Gloucester. As a result, most of the Celts were driven to the mountainous regions far to the West, which the Saxons called "Wellas", or Wales, that is, "the land of strangers". Some Celts went to Cornwall, where they later recognized the power of the Saxon lords. In the North, other Celts were driven into Lowlands, the southern part of the country which was later called Scotland. Some Celts remained on their land and many of them became slaves of the Saxons. In Britain, little remains of the Celtic language or culture other than the names of some rivers – the Thames, Merca, Severn and Avon – and the two main cities – London and Leeds.



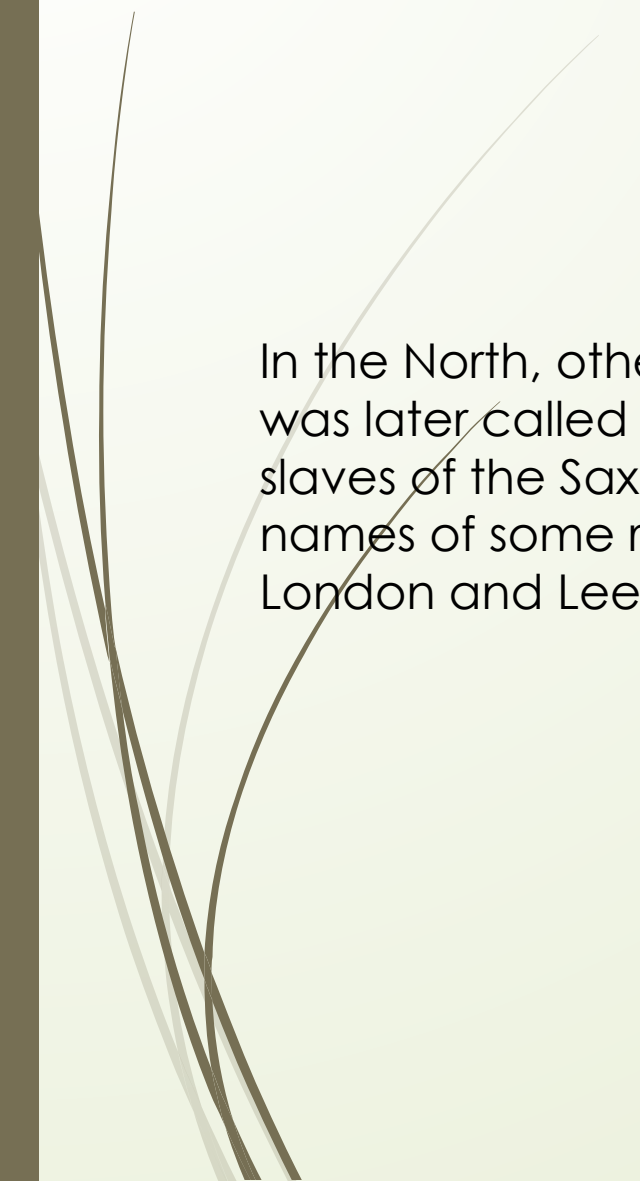

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Anglo-Saxon Invasion of England, 4th and 5th Century CE






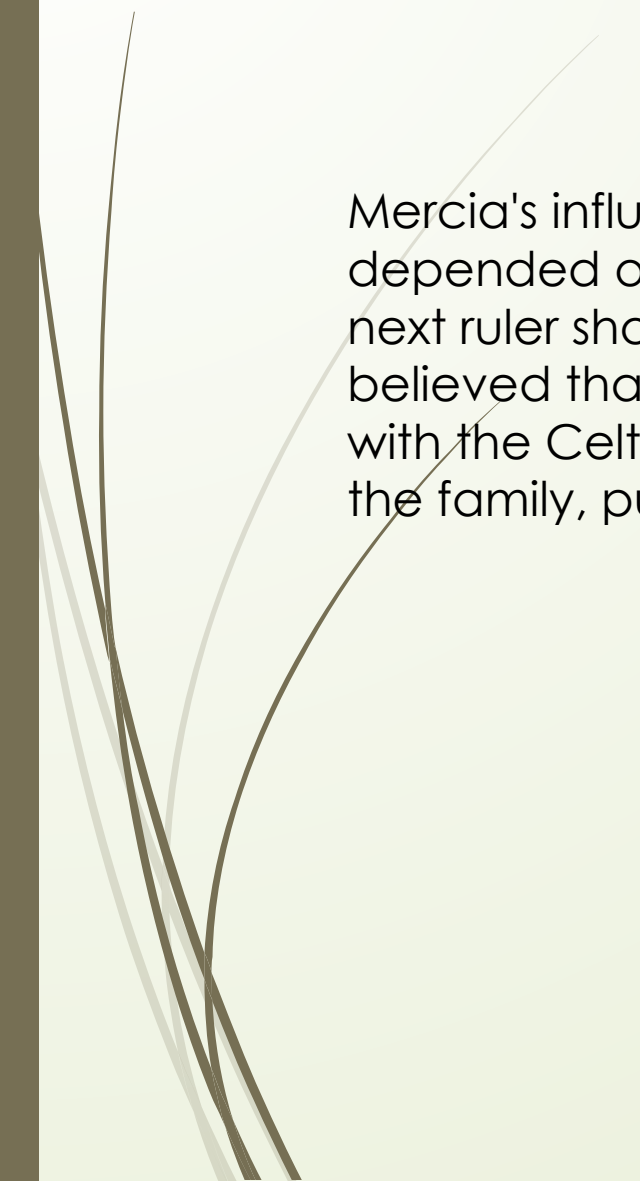

The power of Anglo-Saxon culture is evident to this day. The days of the week are named after the Germanic gods: Tid-Tuesday (Tuesday), Wodin-Wednesday (Wednesday), Thor-Thursday (Thursday), Frei-Friday (Friday). New place names also appeared on maps. Some of them confirm that the early Saxon villages, like the Celtic ones, were family settlements. The ending-ing meant belonging to a family or nationality, so " Reading "meant the residence of the red family, and" Hastings " meant the Hest family. "Ham" meant a farm, " ton " meant a settlement. Birmingham, Nottingham, or Southampton, for example, are Saxon place names. Since the Anglo-Saxon kings often established settlements, it is often found the name of Kington.



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It was only a century later that one of the kings – king Offa of Mercia – claimed the "Kingdom of the angles". There was a good reason for this. He had enough power to hire thousands of men and build a huge earthworks-along the entire Welsh border-to contain the restless Celts. But though he was the most powerful of the kings of his time, yet he did not control all of England.



Mercia's influence did not survive Offa's death. At that time, the king's power depended on the personal loyalty of his supporters. After the death of the king, the next ruler should have evoked the same sense of personal loyalty to himself. Most believed that the main duty of a man was the family, which was previously the case with the Celts. However, everything changes. Saxon kings began to replace loyalty to the family, putting in its place loyalty to the Lord and the king.



Thank you for your attention!