

Royal Studies Terminology

Absentee Authority The use of proxy authority by ruling dynasties at a time of minority rule, illness, the absence of the physical ruler when on crusade and so on.

Also see. Co-rule, Intercession, Minority Rule, Queen Lieutenant, Queen Regent

Agnatic Succession A patrilineal inheritance system that restricted the inheritance of the throne or land to male heirs, excluding women and their descendants.

Also see. Patrilineal, Porphyrogennetos/Porphyrogennita, Primogeniture, Salic Law, Semi-Salic Law

Anti-Worthies The opposite to a woman worthy, and example of a woman who should not be mirrored by others in their actions.

Also see. Paragon, Virago, Women Worthies

Appanage An appanage, or apanage, is the grant of an estate, title, office or another thing of value to a younger child of a monarch, who would otherwise have no inheritance under the system of primogeniture.

Barrenness The condition of not being able to have children.

Also see. Fecundity

Concubine A woman who lives with a man but has lower status than his wife or wives.

Also see. Haseki, Mistress, Odalik

Coronation A ceremony that marks the formal investiture of a monarch with regal power.

Co-rule When two or more people share power and rule a country together.

Also see. Intercession, Minority Rule

Divine Right of Kings A political doctrine in defence of monarchical absolutism, by which a ruler's authority was derived from God, and therefore unchallengeable.

Also see. Mandate of Heaven

Dower Lands Provisions of lands often to a wife in the years of her widowhood, however Queen Consorts are also known to access these lands and their revenue.

Also see. Dowry, Trousseau

Dowry An amount of property or money brought by a bride to her husband on their marriage.

Also see. Dower Lands, Trousseau



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Dynastic Capital	Refers to a key factor in the role and influence of a female monarch The value of a marital link with a particular family or nation (also clan, tribe, or confederation); often referring to groups of high lineage.
Dynasty	A sequence of rulers from the same family, where the power has transferred to at least one successive generation.
Endogamy	The custom of marrying only within the limits of a local community, clan, or tribe. Also see. Exogamy
Eunuch	A man who had been castrated and were often employed to guard the women's living quarters. They also appear in the imperial court system.
Exogamy	The custom of marrying outside a community, clan or tribe. Also see. Endogamy
Fecundity	The ability to produce an abundance of offspring or new growth; fertility. Also see. Barrenness
Filial Piety	A cultural value that involves showing respect and care for one's parents, elders and ancestors.
Fratricide	The killing of one's siblings. Also see. Regicide
Harem	A domestic space for concubines affiliated with the ruling monarch. Also see. Household, Zenana
Haseki	The chief-consort of an Ottoman Sultan (later Imperial Consort). Also see. Concubine, Queen Consort, Odalik
Heiress	A woman who inherits or has the right to inherit a large amount of money, property, or title from another person.
Hereditary	A title, office or right conferred by or based on inheritance. Also see. Agnatic Succession, Porphyrogennetos/Porphyrogennita, Primogeniture
Heterogeneity	The sovereigns need to be different from their subject, to be extraordinary, excessive, and dangerous. Also see. Homogeneity
Homogeneity	The sovereigns need to be the same as their subjects, ordinary, proper, and law-abiding. Also see. Heterogeneity



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Household	The administrative staff surrounding the King and or Queen. Also see. Harem, Zenana
Hypergamy	Marrying someone who is of a higher social and economic status. Also see. Hypogamy, Isogamy
Hypogamy	Marrying someone who is of a lower social and economic status. Also see. Hypergamy, Isogamy
Impious	Showing a lack of respect for God or religion.
Intercession	The action of intervening on behalf of another.
Isogamy	A marriage between individuals with equal status. Also see. Hypergamy, Hypogamy
Itinerant/ Peripatic Court	A migrating form of government, where the court moves around its territory.
Legacy	The long-lasting impact of one's actions on their memory.
Mandate of Heaven	A concept of legitimisation of East Asian Royals, associating their right to rule with divine sanction. Also see. Divine Right of Kings
Matriarch	A woman who is the head of a family or tribe. Also see. Patriarch
Mediatrix	A term for a female mediator; mediatress.
Minority Rule	A duration of time when the crown is passed to a minor who often requires a regent to support the mechanism of monarchy until they come of age to rule themselves. Also see. Absentee Authority, Co-rule, Queen Regent
Mistress	A woman who is having a sexual relation with a man who is married. Also see. Concubine, Odalik
Odalik	A maid who tended to the Harem, but she could eventually become a concubine. Also see. Concubine, Mistress, Haseki
Paragon	A person or thing regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality. Also see. Anti-Worthies, Virago, Women Worthies
Patriarch	Male head of a family or tribe. Also see. Matriarch



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Patrilineal	Relating to or based on relationships to the father or descendant through the male line.
Patrilocality	When a newlywed couple lives close to or near the husband's family. Also see. Uxorilocality
Patronage	The support awarded by a patron through, political, financial, cultural, educational and or religious means.
Pax Sinica	A Historiographical term referring to periods of peace and stability in East, Northeast, and Central Asia led by China.
Peripatic/Itinerant Court	A migrating form of government, where the court moves around its territory.
Polygamous/Polygamy	The state or practice of having more than one wife or female mate at one time.
Porphyrogenetos/ Porphyrogennita	refers specifically to those individuals born legitimately to a reigning emperor, "Born in the Purple."
Power Base	An area of a country, empire or a group of people on which someone's power depends.
Primogeniture	The State of being the first-born child. Also see. Agnatic Succession
Pro Anima	A Clause in the charter specifying that a disposition is made 'for the soul' of a person.
Progenitrix	A female progenitor, a foremother, or any of a person's direct female ancestors.
Queen Consort	Wife of the reigning King. Also see. Haseki
Queen Dowager	The widow of a King.
Queen's Gold	A tax on fines paid to the king that was a significant source of income for the queen.
Queen Lieutenant	A wife of the reigning king, who rules on his behalf at home or over a designated land in his absence.
Queen Mother	The mother of the ruling monarch.
Queen Regent	An adult guardian of a child monarch who rules instead of the child until they come of age.
Queen Regnant	A female monarch who reigns over a kingdom in her own right, equivalent to that of a King.
Queenship Studies	An academic field that examines the lives of royal women and the role and mechanism of queenship.
Regalian	Belonging or relating to a monarch; regal.
Regicide	The act of killing a monarch. Also see. Fratricide
Salic Law	Regulated the line of succession in France to the male sex, barring women from assuming the throne in their own right.



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	Also see. Agnatic Succession, Semi-Salic Law
Seigneur	A feudal Lord, the Lord of the manor.
Seigniorial	Lordship, dominion. The power or authority of a feudal Lord. The territory over which a Lord holds jurisdiction.
Semi-Salic Law	Male succession prioritised, but the line of succession can be passed through the female line. Also see. Agnatic Succession, Salic Law
The Curia Regis	Latin for “the royal council” or “king’s Court” was the name given to councils of advisers and administrators in medieval Europe who served the king.
Trousseau	The clothes, linen, and other belongings collected by a bride for her marriage.
	Also see. Dower Lands, Dowry
Typology	A classification according to general type, especially in archaeology, psychology or the social sciences. The interpretation and study of types and symbols, originally especially in the bible.
Uxorilocality	A rule of marital residence by which the newlywed married couple takes up residence in the household of the bride’s parents. Also see. Patrilocality
Viceroy	The governor of a country or province who rules as the representative of a king or sovereign.
Virago	A domineering, violent, or bad-tempered woman. A woman of masculine strength or spirit; a female warrior. Also see. Anti-Worthies, Paragon, Women Worthies
Women Worthies	Collective memorials to virtuous women that represent an early form of prescriptive literature – to guide behaviour. Also see. Anti-Worthies, Paragon, Virago
Zenana	The inner rooms of the palace designed specifically for women, where men were not allowed to enter. Also see. Harem, Household

