

- got:
 64. SIGURD snake-in-the-eye Ragnar's son. King of Sjelland and south Norway. Got:
 65. ASLAUG Sigurd's daughter, married Helge the sharp. They got:
 66. SIGURD Hjort (deer) Sigurd's son, king in Ringerike, married the sister of Queen Tyra of Denmark. They were daughters of the Earl of Holstein Klok-Harald
 67. RAGNHILD Sigurd's daughter married King Halvdan the Black in Hadeland. They got:
 68. HARALD FAIRHAIR Halvdan's son, born ca. 850, died ca. 932. First king of united Norway.

The above ancestry is that of Harald Fairhair's MOTHER, RAGNHILD SIGURD'S DAUGHTER. 27 generations of HALVDAN the BLACK, father of Harald Fairhair, are to be found in Flatøy Book and in "Ynglinge-Soga" Snorre Sturlasson's "King Sagas." Most of Halvdan's ancestors were kings in Switjod/Sweden. The oldest generations here go back about 2000 years and are uncertain.

In Flatøy book there are just 68 generations from Adam to Harald Fairhair. Yet the time span covers thousands of years considering the first 10 on the list. As mentioned, the first 13 on the list are from the Book of Genesis. Many of the next group are from Greek Mythology and religion. Then follows some from the early Old-Norse gods, and the last one-third on the list are well-known names from Norwegian history and from the first part of Snorre's writings. The list should most likely be regarded as a curiosity. However, we cannot refuse to appreciate the fact that Iceland, in the 1380s, undertook to trace Norse royalty generation by generation back to Adam and Eve!

-translated by Edna Rude

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Amerika Brev

fra Ole Nielsen (Lille Ola) til Niels K. Gudmundsrud m.fam. Al, Hallingdal (Ole Nielsen family papers, Minn. State Hist. Soc.).

Silver Lake 3de Septb. 1875

Kjære Forældre!

Jeg har ikke paa nogen Tid skrevet til Eder; thi jeg troede, at Gjeldaker før var kommen til Aal, og at I af ham havde hørt fra os herover. Han har vel først i disse Dage besøgt Eder. Igaar modtog jeg Brev fra S. Strand. Han siger, at han først til Vaaren agter at komme hertil, - en Beslutning, som jeg ikke tror er den heldigste; thi - han kan i mellemtiden ikke tage sig noget bestemt for, - ikke lære noget nyt; - men han og hans Kone vilde have meget Udbytte af en Vinter herover. Hun vilde lære meget og som Nykommer være bedre stillet ved at komme i det kolde Efteraar istedet for i Foraarssolens Varne. -

Derhjemme bliver man under den samme Paavirkning, at man skal forblive der, og Afskedens Smertelighed bliver forlængere. Bedre - mange Gange bedre - at gjøre kort Proces. Jeg skriver ei til Strand, førend jeg faar høre (gjennem G) om han virkelig blir hjemme; men I faar hilsen ham kjærligst fra mig. - Her har alt gaaet heldigt i Sommer. Afgrøden staar nu ude til Tørring; men Veiret er med engang bleven meget regnfuldt. Fra Ole og Gro har jeg nylig faaet Breve. De have (hver i sit hjem) Sundhed i Familierne og - Gudskelov - god Avling. Svendsen vil sende sin *Svend* hermed til de Gamle Skrattefolk forat han efter deres Ønske han være til Selskab og faa mere Skolegang, end han hidtil har havt. De ønske, at jeg kunde gjøre en Tur til dem i Høst;

↳ your roots go back to the Viking kings and then back to Adam and Eve?

by Botolv Baklien

Many Halling families can trace their ancestry back to King Harald Fairhair (born about 85 and died about 932 A.D.) who gathered all of Norway into one kingdom about 872. From the mathematical side we can say that every REAL Norwegian descends from the old Norse royalty. But most of us just don't know it!

For example, we can name four Norwegian, and American, Halling families who can document their ancestry from the old royalty:

1. The numerous Tufte clan from Hol, with Asbjørn Pederson Maurset/Tufto as its founder. Asbjørn was born in Eidfjord, Hardanger in 1763.
2. Kjerrulf family in lower Hallingdal, whose founder was parish pastor in Gol/Hemsedal: Jens Lauritz Ulrikson Kjerrulf, born in Ringerike 1799.
3. Knoph-Rønneke/Tandberg family in Nes got its royal connections when Maren Magdalene Knoph (born 1771) married into Rønneke family.
4. Selmer/Rasch family has several lines to royalty, and numerous descendants in Hallingdal and U.S.A. (Ole Kristianson Rasch married Ingeborg Peder's-daughter Verneker (Wernmager) emigrated to Houston County, Minnesota in 1857 with their 6 children. See Hallingen #225, 1968, page 20).

More could be mentioned. Anyone who wishes to learn if their lines go back to early kings must first check with C.M. Munthe's book "Vore Felles Ahner" where 2160 such ancestries are mentioned.

Then we look closer at the unusual part of above title. Can anyone trace their ancestors back to Adam and Eve? We shall look at one of the serious attempts that have been done, "but take it with a pinch of salt":

The Royal Library of Copenhagen, Denmark has the largest of all Icelandic Saga books, written on leather. It is the Flatøy Book (Flatøyarbok in Icelandic) named for the place in Iceland where it was found. There are 225 pages in very large format, written by two priests in 1382-94 at the request of a wealthy Icelandic farmer, Jon Haakonson. It is written in Old Norse/Icelandic. In 1859-68 it was copied and printed in the original language in Oslo, in 3 large volumes. The book includes the saga of Erik the Red which makes it of special interest to Americans. Erik was the father of the well-known Leif Erikson (Eirikson) who discovered America in year 1000.

In Volume I, pages 24 to and including 29, we find the ancestry of the old Norwegian Royal families. There the ancestors of Harald Fairhair are traced back to Adam and Eve, the first 13 generations that can be found in Genesis. It is from Genesis I have taken the age of each man at the time of his son's birth as well as his age at time of death. Here is the list from Flatøy Book:

1. ADAM lived 930 years, was 130 years when he got:
2. SEITH Adam's son. He lived 912 years, was 105 when he got:
3. ENOS Seth's son. He lived 905 years, was 90 when he got:
4. KAINAN Enos' son. He lived 910 years, was 70 when he got:
5. MALALAEI Kainan's son. He lived 895 years, was 65 when he got:
6. PHARET Malalael's son. He lived 962 years, was 162 when he got:
7. ENOK Pharet's son. He lived 365 years, was 65 when he got:
8. METHUSELAH Enok's son. He lived 969 years, was 187 when he got:
9. LAMEK Methesulah's son. He lived 777 years, was 184 when he got:
10. NOAH Lamek's son. He lived 950 years, was 500 when he got:
11. JAPHETH Noah's son. He got:

12. JAPHAN Japheth's son. He got:
13. ZECHIM (Kithim) Japhan's son. He got:
14. CIPRUS Zechim's son. He got:
15. CRETUS (Celius) Ciprus' son. He got:
16. SATURNUS Cretus' son. He got:
17. JUPITER Saturnus' son. He got:
18. DAREIOS (Dardan) Jupiter's son. He got:
19. ERICHONIUS Dareios' son. He got:
20. TROEG (Erras) Erichonius' son. He got:
21. ILIUS Troeg's son. He got:
22. LAMIDON Ilius' son. One of the first kings of Troy, Turkey. He got:
23. PRIAMOS Lamidon's son. King of Troy, married to Hekebe. He got:
24. MUNNON (Mennon) married PRIAMOS' daughter. He was King of Troy. They got:

25. THOR Munnon's son. He got:
26. LORCHA Thor's son. He got:
27. EREDEI (Eindride) Lorcha's son. He got:
28. VINGTHOR Eredei's son. He got:
29. VINGINER Vingthor's son. He got:
30. MODE Vinginer's son. He got:
31. MAGNE Mode's son. He got:
32. SESEP Magne's son. He got:
33. BEDVIG Sesepe's son. He got:
34. ATRA Bedvig's son. He got:
35. TRINAAN (Triman) Atra's son. He got:
36. HERMOD Trinaan's son. He got:
37. SKJOLD (Skjaldr) Hermod's son. He got:
38. BJAR Skjold's son. He got:
39. GODOLV Bjar's son. He got:
40. BURRI (Finn) Godolv's son. He got:
41. FRIALAFR (Bors) Burri's son. He got:
42. ODIN Frialaf's son, king in Turkey. He got:
43. SKJOLD Odin's son, possibly a Danish king. He got:
44. FRIDLEIV Skjold's son, possibly a Danish king. He got:
45. FRED-FRODE Fridleiv's son. He got:
46. HERLEIV Fred-Frode's son. He got:
47. HALUAR Herleiv's son. He got:
48. FRODE Haur's son. He got:
49. VEMUND Frode's son. He got:
50. OLOF Vemund's daughter. She got:
51. FRODE the peaceful. He got:
52. FRIDLEIV Frode's son. He got:
53. FRODE the famous Fridleiv's son. He got:
54. HALDAN Frode's son, first historical king of Denmark, 5th century. He got:
55. HROAR Halvdan's son, king of Danish sagas, brother of Helge. He got:
56. VALLDAR Hroar's son (Valldar the mild). He got:
57. HARALD (the old) Valldar's son, first King Harald of Denmark. He got:
58. HALVDAN Snjalle (speedy) Harald's son, Danish saga king. He got:
59. IVAR, the famous, Halvdan's son, Danish saga king. He got:
60. AUD (the deep minded) Ivar's daughter married Rørik. They got:
61. RANDVER Rørik's son. He got:
62. SIGURD King Randver's son, mighty king of the Northlands. He got:
63. RAGNAR Lodbrok Sigurd's son, Danish Viking king, died ca. 865. He