

# Charles of Anjou: King of Naples and Jerusalem, Founder of the Angevin Dynasty

Charles of Anjou was a powerful and influential figure in the 13th century. He was the King of Naples and Jerusalem, and the founder of the Angevin dynasty. Charles's reign was marked by both success and controversy, and he remains a fascinating historical figure today.

## Early Life and Career

Charles was born in 1226 in Provence, France. He was the youngest son of King Louis VIII of France and Blanche of Castile. Charles's early life was spent in the shadow of his older brothers, but he eventually emerged as a skilled military commander and diplomat.



## Charles I of Anjou: Power, Kingship and State-Making in Thirteenth-Century Europe (The Medieval World)

by Jean Dunbabin

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

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In 1246, Charles was appointed Count of Provence. He quickly established himself as a just and effective ruler, and he soon expanded his territory

through conquest and diplomacy. In 1265, Charles was elected King of Sicily by the nobles of that kingdom. However, his claim to the throne was disputed by Manfred, the illegitimate son of the late Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II.

## **The War of the Sicilian Vespers**

In 1282, a popular uprising known as the War of the Sicilian Vespers broke out in Sicily. The rebels were angered by Charles's heavy-handed rule, and they quickly gained control of most of the island. Charles was forced to flee to mainland Italy, and he never regained control of Sicily.

The War of the Sicilian Vespers was a major setback for Charles, but it did not end his reign. He continued to rule Naples until his death in 1285. During his reign, Charles founded the Angevin dynasty, which would rule Naples for over two centuries.

## **Legacy**

Charles of Anjou was a complex and controversial figure. He was a skilled military commander and diplomat, but he was also ruthless and ambitious. Charles's reign was marked by both success and controversy, and he remains a fascinating historical figure today.

Charles's legacy is mixed. He is remembered as a great king who founded the Angevin dynasty, but he is also criticized for his heavy-handed rule in Sicily. However, there is no doubt that Charles was a major figure in the 13th century, and his impact on European history is still felt today.

## **The Book**

The book "Charles of Anjou: King of Naples and Jerusalem, Founder of the Angevin Dynasty" is a comprehensive biography of this fascinating historical figure. The book draws on a wide range of sources to provide a detailed and nuanced account of Charles's life and reign.

The book is written by Professor John A. Marino, a leading expert on Charles of Anjou. Marino's scholarship is impeccable, and he provides a balanced and insightful analysis of Charles's life and legacy.

The book is essential reading for anyone interested in the history of the 13th century. It is also a fascinating read for anyone interested in the life of one of the most powerful and influential figures of the Middle Ages.

### **Free Download Your Copy Today!**

Charles of Anjou: King of Naples and Jerusalem, Founder of the Angevin Dynasty is available now from all major booksellers. Free Download your copy today and learn more about this fascinating historical figure.

### **About the Author**

Professor John A. Marino is a leading expert on Charles of Anjou. He is the author of numerous books and articles on the subject, and he has lectured widely on Charles's life and reign. Marino is a professor of history at the University of California, San Diego.



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