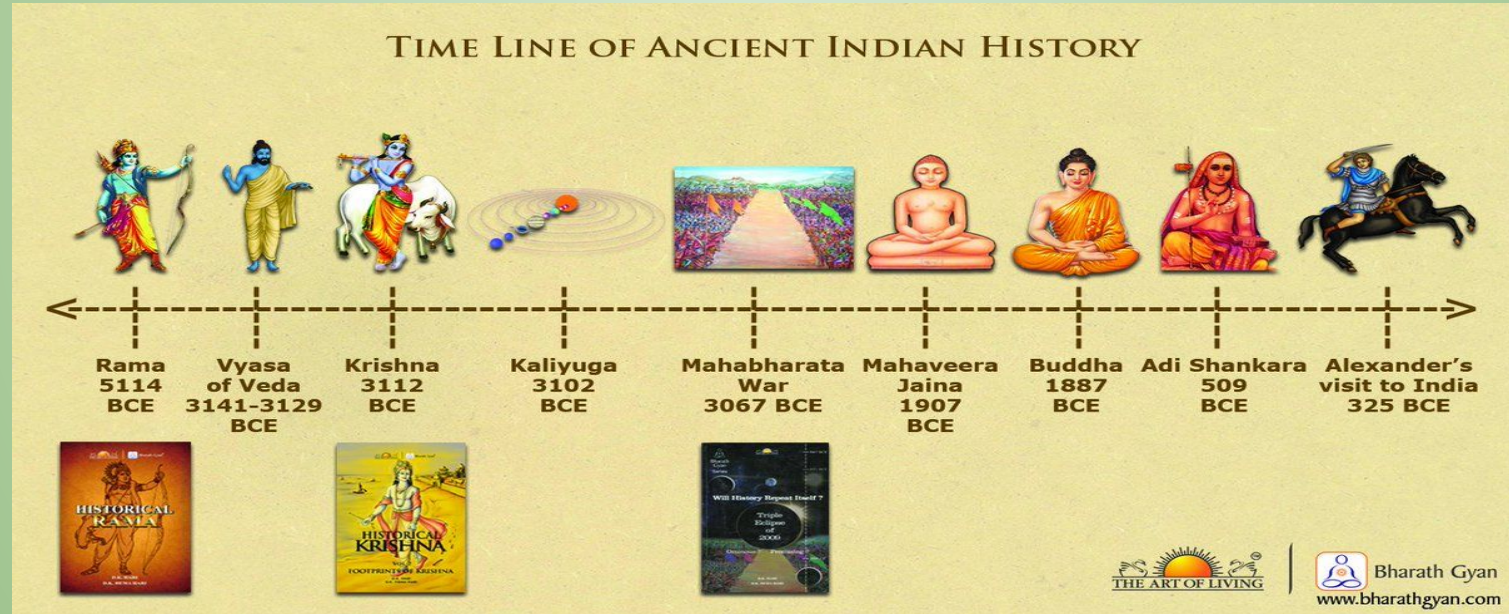


Timeline

What is AD and BC?



What is a timeline?

A timeline is an actual sequence of events that have occurred in **History**. It can depict a sequence of events as they occurred in a certain period of time.

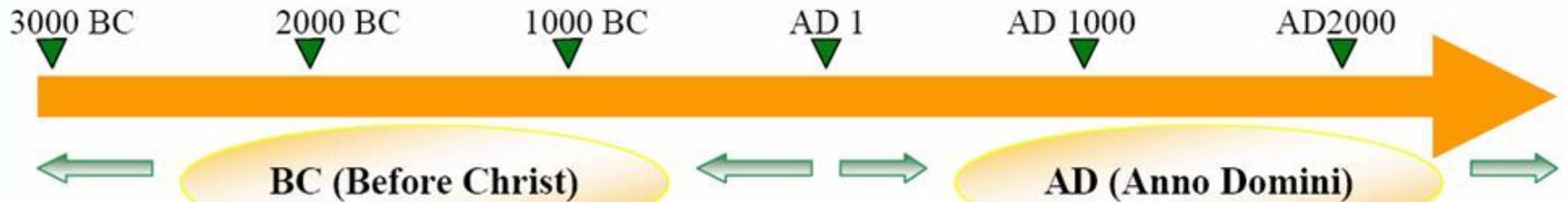


Historical Timelines

If you travel back twenty centuries on this timeline, you will come to the year from which the positive counting of years began. But history goes back even before that. In most timelines, there are time frames before and after the point at which the positive counting of years began.

Remarks: For the AD years, sometimes we can omit 'AD' to make things simple.

For BC years, however, we must not do that.



Our Calendar

The system of years and months or the calendar we use nowadays is originally from Europe.

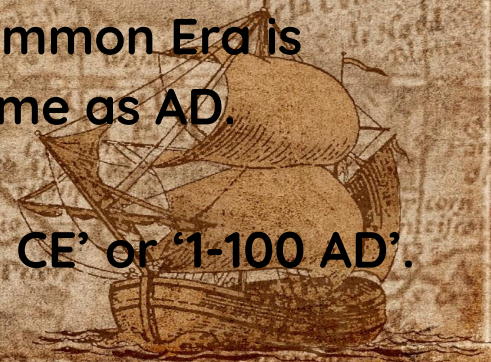


Common Era / Christian Era is same as AD



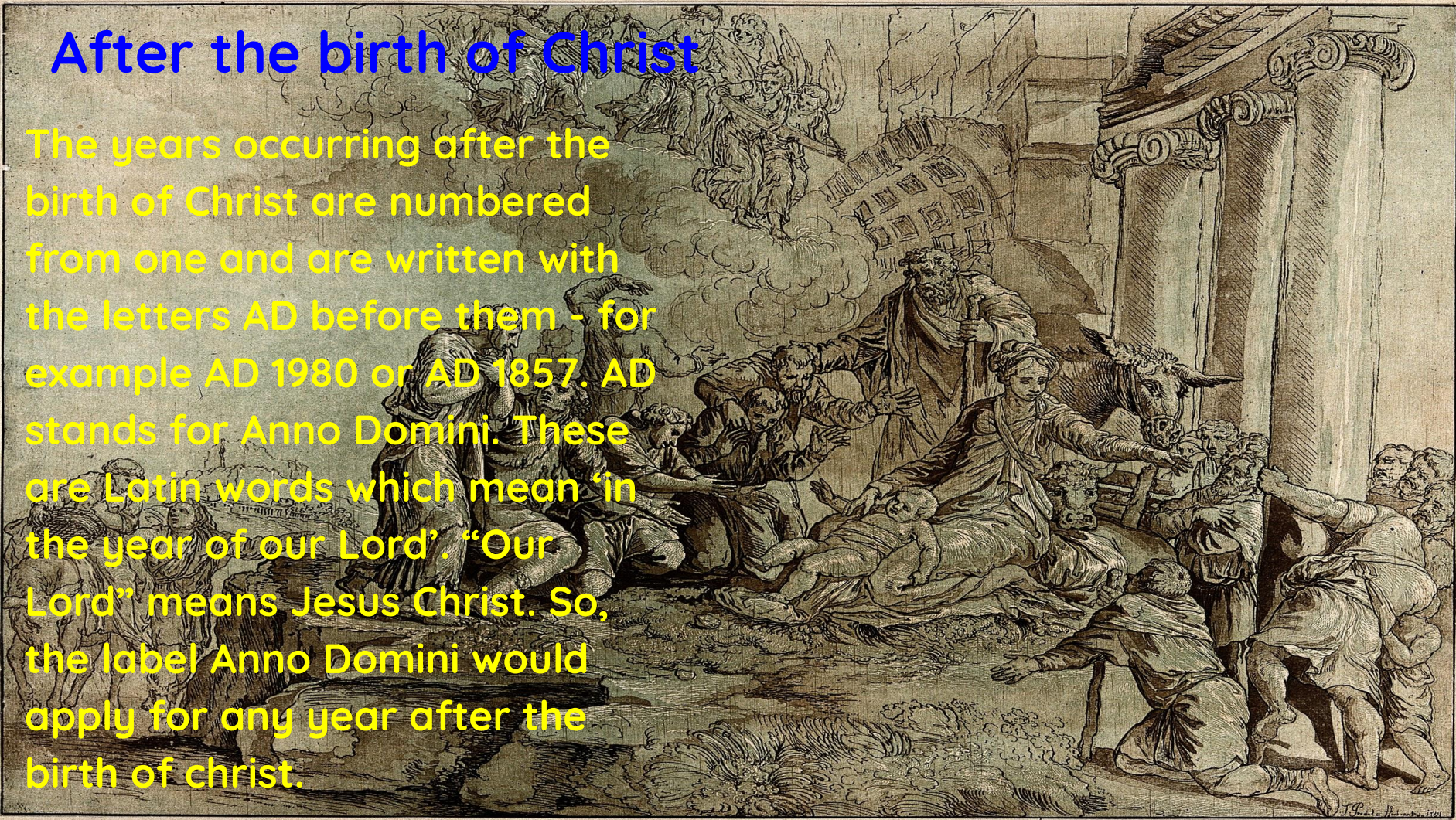
The calendar we use today is based on the Christian Era, which is also called Common Era. The first year of this Era is the year when our counting starts. Common Era is same as AD.

The first hundred years of this era is written as '1-100 CE' or '1-100 AD'.



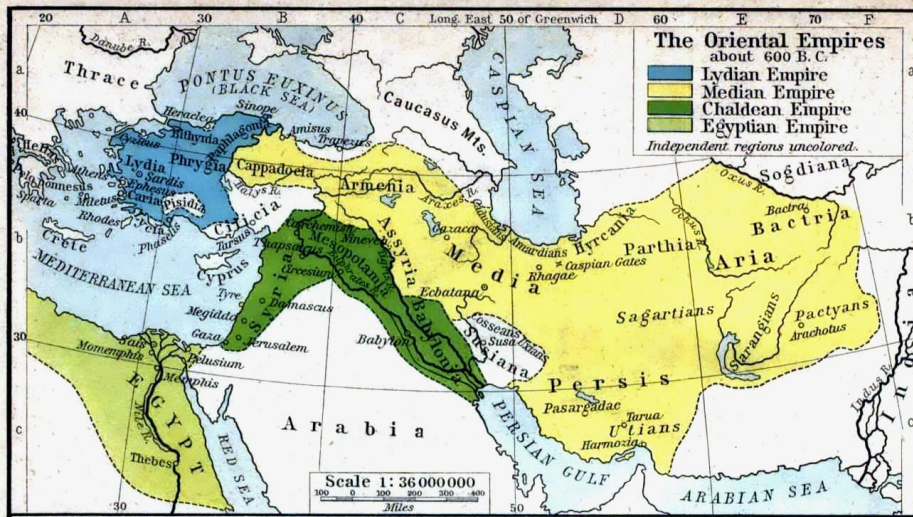
After the birth of Christ

The years occurring after the birth of Christ are numbered from one and are written with the letters AD before them - for example AD 1980 or AD 1857. AD stands for Anno Domini. These are Latin words which mean "in the year of our Lord". "Our Lord" means Jesus Christ. So, the label Anno Domini would apply for any year after the birth of Christ.



The system of naming the years

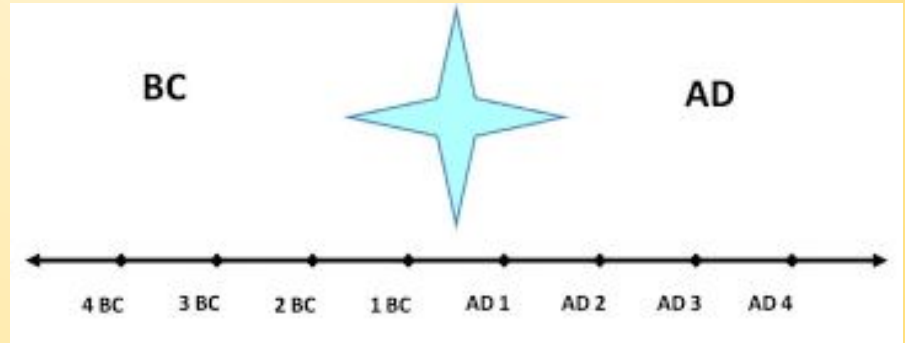
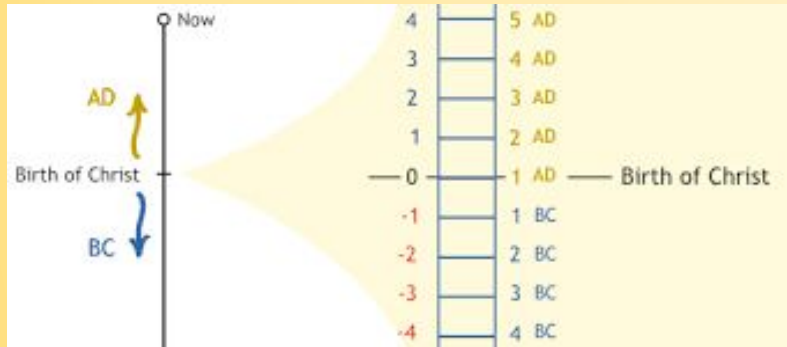
Time, as we know, did not start with the birth of Christ. To number anything we need a **starting point!** The year of Christ's birth was chosen as the starting point- year one of our calendar. But how do we number the years before and after the birth of Christ?



Did you know?
Our present calendar is called the Gregorian calendar after Pope Gregory the Thirteenth.

Before the birth of Christ

The years before the birth of Christ are also numbered. But there is a difference! The years **before** Christ's birth are counted **backwards!**



BC - Before Christ

When this calendar was established most of the people of Europe were Christians. They believed that Jesus christ was their God and his birth was the most important event in history.



These people numbered the years from the year of his birth. Jesus was born almost 2000 years ago, which became the first year of our calendar and all years before that were labeled BC as in Before Christ or BCE.

A world map is shown on a piece of aged, yellowish paper with various stains and a vertical crease down the center. The map is rendered in a light, muted greenish-brown color. Overlaid on the map is the text 'BC - AD' in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below this, the phrase '...in five minutes or less' is written in a black, cursive script font.

BC - AD

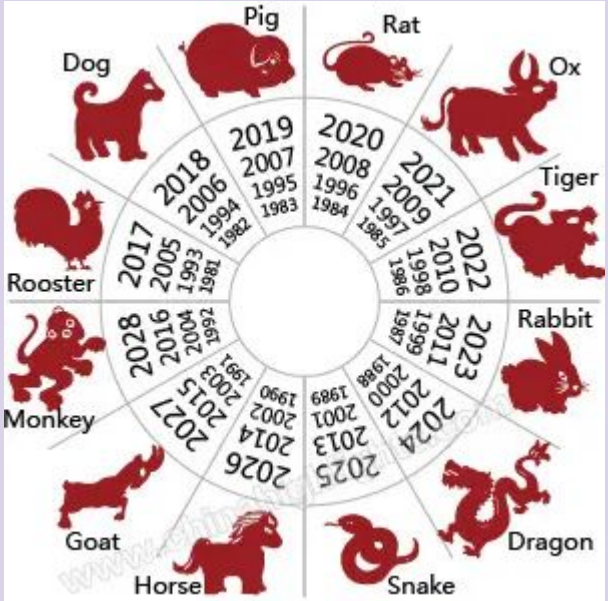
...in five minutes or less

This system is now used all over the world. But there are several other calendars as well, for example, Chinese, Muslim, Hindu and Jewish calendars use different starting points. The dates of festivals associated with these calendars are decided based on these calendars themselves.

HIJRI MONTHS

 9. Ramadan	 5. Jumada Al Awwal	 1. Muharram
 10. Shawwal	 6. Jumada Al Akhar	 2. Safar
 11. Dhul Qadah	 7. Rajab	 3. Rabi-Al Awwal
 12. Dhul Hajjah	 8. Shaban	 4. Rabi-Al Akhar

Muslim Calendar



Chinese Calendar



Hindu Panchang (Calendar)