



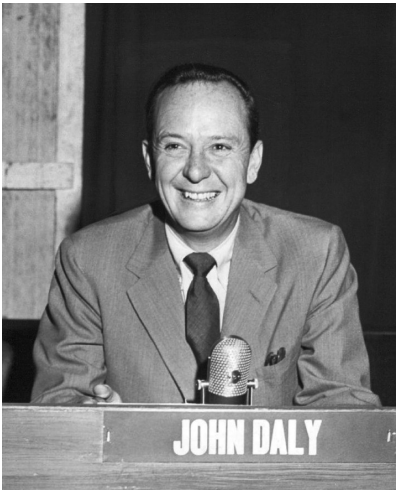







John Daly (radio and television personality)

For other people named John Daly, see John Daly (disambiguation).

John Daly (radio and television personality)	
<div><div></div><div>Daly as the host of <i>It's News to Me</i> in 1952.</div></div>	
Born	<div>John Charles Patrick Croghan Daly</div> <div>February 20, 1914</div> <div>Johannesburg, South Africa</div>
Died	<div>February 24, 1991 (aged 77)</div> <div>Chevy Chase, Maryland, U.S.</div>
Resting place	Columbarium 4, Section I, Row 24, Niche 5, Arlington National Cemetery ^[1]
Other names	John Charles Daly, John Daly
Occupation	<div>Reporter/News caster</div> <div>Game show host</div>
Spouse(s)	<div>Margaret Griswell Neal (1937–1959/60)</div> <div>Virginia Warren (1960–1991)</div>
Signature	

John Charles Patrick Croghan Daly^[2] (generally known as **John Charles Daly** or simply **John Daly** (February 20, 1914–February 24, 1991) was an American journalist, game show host, and radio personality, probably best known for hosting the panel show *What's My Line?*. He was the vice president of ABC during the 1950s. On December 22, 1960, he became the son-in-law of Chief Justice Earl Warren, upon marrying Virginia Warren.^[3]

Personal life

The second of two brothers, Daly was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, where his American father worked as a geologist. After his father died of tropical fever, Daly's mother moved the family to Boston, Massachusetts, in the United States. Daly was an alumnus of Tilton School in Tilton, New Hampshire; he later served on its board of directors for many years and contributed to the construction or restoration of many buildings on campus. He did his post-secondary education at Boston College.

He married twice, first to Margaret Griswell Neal in January 1937.^{[4][5]} The marriage resulted in sons John Neal Daly and John Charles Daly III and daughter Helene Fitzgerald Daly.^[6] It ended in divorce in April 1959 or 1960. On December 22, 1960, Daly married Virginia Warren, daughter of then-chief justice Earl Warren, in San Francisco. They were married for over 30 years, until Daly's death. The marriage yielded three children: John Warren Daly, John Earl Jameson Daly, and Nina Elisabeth Daly.

Daly died in Chevy Chase, Maryland, of cardiac arrest.^[]

Career

Radio

Daly began his broadcasting career as a reporter for NBC Radio, and then for WJSV (now WTOP), the local CBS Radio Network affiliate in Washington, D.C., serving as CBS's White House correspondent.

Through covering the Roosevelt White House, Daly became known to the national CBS audience as the network announcer for many of the president's speeches. In late 1941, Daly transferred to New York City, where he became anchor of *The World Today*. During World War II, he covered the news from London as well as the North African and Italian fronts. Daly was a war correspondent in 1943 in Italy during Gen. George S. Patton's infamous "slapping incidents." After the war, he was a lead reporter on CBS Radio's news/entertainment program *CBS Is There* (later known on TV as *You Are There*), which re-created the great events of history as if CBS correspondents were on the scene.

Famous broadcasts

As a reporter for CBS, Daly was the voice of two historic announcements. He was the first national radio correspondent to deliver the news of the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941,Wikipedia:Citation needed (recordings of this announcement reveal a minor error, either a mistyping of the copy in haste or a misreading by Daly as he pronounced Oahu as if it were spelled "O-ha-u"), and he was the first to relay the wire service report of the death of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on April 12, 1945,Wikipedia:Citation needed interrupting "Wilderness Road" to deliver the news. Both narrations have been used on historical record albums and radio and TV retrospectives.

Television

Daly's first foray into television was as a panelist on the game show *Celebrity Time*. This led to a job in 1950 as the host and moderator on a new panel show produced by Goodson–Todman, *What's My Line?* The show lasted 17 years with Daly hosting all but four episodes of the weekly series.

In 1954–55, in addition to his duties with *What's My Line?*, Daly also hosted the final year of the NBC Television game show *Who Said That?*, in which celebrities tried to determine the speaker of quotations taken from recent news reports.

On *What's My Line?*, each panelist introduced the next in line at the start of the show. Following the 1951 departure of panelist Louis Untermeyer, Random House co-founder and humorist Bennett Cerf joined the panel. Upon Fred Allen's death in 1956, Cerf became the anchor panelist who would usually, but not always, introduce Daly. Cerf

usually prefaced his introduction with a pun or joke that over time became a pun or joke at Daly's expense. Daly would then often fire back his own retort. Cerf and Daly enjoyed a friendly feud from across the stage for the remainder of the history of the program. The mystery guest on the final CBS program (aired September 3, 1967) was Daly himself. (Over the years, many people had suggested this to Daly, but he could never do it, as he was always the "emergency mystery guest" in case the scheduled guest did not show up for the live program. Despite a few close calls, this plan was never needed.)



Daly and fellow broadcaster Quincy Howe at Presidential convention coverage.

According to executive producer Gil Fates, Daly was resistant to changes that would have appealed to a younger audience but might have diminished the show's dignity. For example, Daly usually referred to the panelists formally, e.g., as "Mr. Cerf." The producers, Fates said, were unable to challenge Daly for fear of losing him as the show's moderator. Wikipedia: Citation needed The series spawned a brief radio version in 1952 that was also hosted by Daly. The series also inspired a multitude of concurrent international versions and a syndicated U.S. revival in 1968 that Daly did not participate in.

Daly also did hosting duties on *Who Said That?*, *It's News to Me*, *We Take Your Word*, and *Open Hearing* and was a narrator on *The Voice*

of *Firestone* starting in 1958.

He also had several television and movie guest appearances from the late 1940s to the mid-1960s, including an uncredited role on *Bye Bye Birdie* (as the reporter announcing the title character's induction into the Army) and as the narrator, in a mock documentary style, on the premiere episode of *Green Acres*.

In 1949 he starred in the short-lived CBS Television newspaper drama *The Front Page*, where it was thought that his presence and journalistic experience would give the series more authenticity.

During the 1950s, Daly became the vice president in charge of news, special events, and public affairs, religious programs and sports for ABC and won three Peabody Awards. From 1953 to 1960, he anchored ABC news broadcasts and was the face of the network's news division, even though *What's My Line?* was then on CBS. At the time, this was a very rare instance of a television personality working on two different networks simultaneously. (Technically, Daly worked for Goodson–Todman Productions for *What's My Line?*, and also filled in occasionally on *The Today Show* on NBC, making him one of the few people in early television to work simultaneously on all three networks.) His closing line on the ABC newscast was "Good night, and a good tomorrow." Daly resigned from ABC on November 16, 1960 after the network preempted the first hour of election night coverage to show Bugs Bunny cartoons and *The Rifleman* from 7:30 to 8:30 while CBS and NBC were covering returns from the Kennedy–Nixon presidential election and other major races.

Daly continued on *What's My Line?* until 1967. In the 1962–63 season, the program was in competition with Howard K. Smith's *News and Comment* program on ABC. A former CBS correspondent, Smith switched networks early in 1961, by which time Daly had already resigned from ABC. Smith's program ended, however, after a controversial broadcast, premature as it turned out, entitled "The Political Obituary of Richard M. Nixon."

In May 1967, during the final year of *What's My Line?*, it was announced that Daly would become the director of the Voice of America after the show ended. He assumed the position on September 20, 1967, but lasted only until June 6, 1968, when he resigned over a claim that Leonard H. Marks, his superior at the U.S. Information Agency, had been making personnel changes behind Daly's back.

Daly retreated from the public eye. He did not host the syndicated version of *What's My Line?*, although he did co-host a 25th-anniversary program about the show for ABC in 1975. He was a frequent forum moderator for the conservative think tank the American Enterprise Institute throughout the 1980s.

Daly's legacy at Tilton School

Daly's legacy lives on at Tilton School, his alma mater. There is an award named for him given to "persons whose pursuit of excellence and deep commitment as a member of the school family resembles [sic] that of John Daly's involvement with Tilton: continuous and widely known expressions of support in word and deed, inspiring others to reach goals that common experience dictates are impossible."

Awards and nominations

Emmy Awards^[7]

- 1955: **Won**, "Best News Reporter or Commentator"—ABC
- 1956: Nominated, "Best News Commentator or Reporter"—ABC
- 1956: Nominated, "Best MC or Program Host, Male or Female"—CBS
- 1957: Nominated, "Best News Commentator"—ABC
- 1958: Nominated, "Best News Commentator"—ABC
- 1959: Nominated, "Best News Commentator or Analyst"—ABC

Golden Globe Award

- 1962: **Won**, "Best TV Star—Male"

Peabody Award^[8]

- 1954: **Won** Personal Award, Radio-Television News.
- 1956: **Won** ABC Television, Television News for Coverage of the National Political Conventions.
- 1957: **Won** ABC Television, "Prologue '58."

References

- [1] findagrave.com John Charles Daly (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=7261609>)
- [2] Episode 859 of *What's My Line?* Originally aired November 13, 1966, on CBS. Rebroadcast on the Game Show Network on January 20, 2008. After Bennett Cerf announces Daly's full name, Daly corrects his pronunciation: "...for nearly eighteen years I've been trying to teach you it's John Charles Patrick 'Crow-ann'—the 'g' is silent..."
- [3] Obituary *Variety*, March 4, 1991.
- [4] – Scan of original publication. (<http://home.comcast.net/~s.astorino/John.Daly.Weds.Virginia.Warren.pdf>)
- [5] Bennett Cerf states that Daly is celebrating his 18th anniversary on the January 9, 1955, episode of *What's My Line*.
- [6] It is unclear if Fitzgerald is Helene's married surname or if her surname remained Daly at the time of the obituary; the latter is more likely, given that the article does not list the boys' surnames either.
- [7] John Daly - Awards (<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0198458/awards>)
- [8] Peabody 1950s (http://www.peabody.uga.edu/winners/winners_1950s.php)

External links

- Biography on TV.com (<http://www.tv.com/john-daly/person/8545/summary.html>)
- Robert Trout discusses the CBS newscast of December 7, 1941 (<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1067553>)
- John Charles Daly at Find a Grave (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=daly&GSfn=john&GSbyrel=in&GSdy=1991&GSdyrel=in&GSob=n&GRid=7261609&>)

Media offices		
Preceded by N/A (first host)	Host of <i>What's My Line?</i> 1950–1967	Succeeded by Wally Bruner (1968)
Preceded by N/A (first anchor)	ABC Evening News anchor 1953–1958	Succeeded by Don Goddard
Preceded by Don Goddard	ABC Evening News anchor 1959–1960	Succeeded by John Cameron Swayze, Al Mann, Bill Lawrence

Article Sources and Contributors

John Daly (radio and television personality) *Source:* <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?oldid=615997690> *Contributors:* Aardvarkzz, All Hallow's Wraith, Anthony Winward, Baseball Bugs, Bender21435, Billy Hathorn, Binksternet, Bobo192, BornonJune8, BrainyBroad, BrownHairedGirl, CBSJokersWildFan, CC21560, Centpacrr, Chris the speller, Chrisbox51, ClockworkLunch, Conundrum02, Craigy144, D6, Danthemankhan, Dfinock, DrBear, EdH, Elendil's Heir, Firsfron, Flami72, Freddyboy, Fuhghettaboutit, Gaius Cornelius, Gobonobo, Googuse, Grammarspellchecker, Guat6, Hmains, Inhighspeed, It Is Me Here, JB82, Jayarathina, Jengod, Jimknut, Jmeola75, Joefromrandb, John of Reading, Keith D, Khazar2, KingDaavid, Klilidiplonus, Lockley, Longtailcat, Lrg8607, LucilleBall, Maarten1963, Magioladitis, Magnoliasouth, Markhh, Mattbr, Michaelcarraher, Minesweeper, Moncrief, Mtstroud, NHBaritone, Newportm, Niteowlneils, Ohconfucius, Otrfan, Pfifieldny, Prez2016, RMc, Redfarmer, Rlquall, RogerMGrace, Roman Spinner, Ronaldomundo, Rontrigger, Ronzoni, Sahasrahla, Simtropolitan, Suzanne Astorino, TMC1982, Tanbace, Tesscass, TheHYPO, Tjmayerinsf, Tom harrison, Tombarrister, Tregoweth, Ulysses411, VetPsychWars, Vincelord, WFinch, Waacstats, Wahkeenah, Wbwn, We hope, Wizardman, Woohookitty, Zzyzx11, Τασούλα, 68 anonymous edits

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patricius

Definition from Wiktionary, the free dictionary

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Latin

Pronunciation

- (*Classical*) IPA^(key): /paːˈtri.ki.us/

Adjective

pātricius *m* (*feminine* **pātricia**, *neuter* **pātricium**); *first/second declension*

- patrician, noble

Inflection

First/second declension.

<i>Number</i>	<i>Singular</i>			<i>Plural</i>		
<i>Case \ Gender</i>	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
<i>nominative</i>	pātricius	pātricia	pātricium	pātriciī	pātriciae	pātricia
<i>genitive</i>	pātriciī	pātriciae	pātriciī	pātriciōrum	pātriciārum	pātriciōrum
<i>dative</i>	pātriciō	pātriciae	pātriciō	pātriciīs	pātriciīs	pātriciīs
<i>accusative</i>	pātricium	pātriciam	pātricium	pātriciōs	pātriciās	pātricia
<i>ablative</i>	pātriciō	pātriciā	pātriciō	pātriciīs	pātriciīs	pātriciīs
<i>vocative</i>	pātricie	pātricia	pātricium	pātriciī	pātriciae	pātricia

Noun

pātricius *m* (*genitive* **pātriciī**); *second declension*

- patrician

Inflection

Second declension.

<i>Number</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>nominative</i>	pātricius	pātriciī
<i>genitive</i>	pātriciī	pātriciōrum
<i>dative</i>	pātriciō	pātriciīs
<i>accusative</i>	pātricium	pātriciōs
<i>ablative</i>	pātriciō	pātriciīs
<i>vocative</i>	pātricie	pātriciī

Descendants

- Russian: патриций

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Categories: Latin lemmas | Latin adjectives | Latin first and second declension adjectives | Latin nouns
| Latin second declension nouns

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Patrick (given name)

Patrick	
Pronunciation	/ˈpætrɪk/
Gender	Male
Origin	
Word/Name	Latin
Meaning	<i>Nobleman, patrician</i>
Region of origin	Worldwide
Other names	
Related names	Pádraic, Pádraig, Patricia, Paraic Patric, Pat, Paddy, Patty

Patrick in its earliest form, can be found as the name derived from the Latin name *Patricius* (patrician, i.e. "nobleman"). Owing to the importance of Saint Patrick in Irish history, it is an especially popular name in Ireland. Other versions of Patrick include Padraic, Pádraig, Pat, Rick, Ricky, Patricia and the diminutive Paddy.

People named Patrick

- Saint Patrick
- Patrik Andersson, Swedish football player
- Pat Barry (born 1979), American kickboxer and mixed martial artist
- Patrik Berger, Czech football player
- Patrick Blake (1846–1909), Canadian politician
- Pat Boller (born 1972), American ice hockey coach and executive
- Pat Boone, American singer
- Paddy Bradley, Irish Gaelic football player
- Patrick Breeding, member of R&B group B5 (group)
- Patrick Alavi, German musician
- Patrick Buchanan, American political commentator, author and politician
- Patrick Burris, American judoka and two-time Olympian
- Patrick Tracy Burris (1967–2009), American spree killer
- Patrick Cargill, British actor
- Patrick Cary, (c. 1624 – 1658), English poet
- Patrick Carney, American drummer
- Pat Cash, Australian tennis player
- Patrick Chan, Canadian figure skater
- Pat Chapman, English food writer
- Padraic Colum (1881–1972), Irish author
- Pat Condell, English stand-up comedian
- Patrick E. Crago, American medical researcher
- Patrick Dearen, American author
- Patrick Dempsey, American actor
- Patrick Doyle, film composer
- Patrick Duffy, American actor
- Patrick Duggan, Roman Catholic Bishop of Clonfert in Ireland

- Patrick Eaves, American-Canadian ice hockey player
 - Patrick Ewing, American basketball player
 - Patrick Faber (field hockey), Dutch field hockey player
 - Patrick Fitzgerald, American Attorney
 - Patrick Flanagan, American inventor
 - Sean Patrick Flanery, American actor
 - Patrick de Gayardon (1960–1998), French skydiver, skysurfer and BASE jumper
 - Patrick F. Gill, American Representative
 - Patrick Gordon, Imperial Russian Army general
 - Patrick Hanrahan, Australian writer
 - Pádraig Harrington, Irish professional golfer
 - Patrick Harvey (disambiguation), multiple people
 - Patrick Henry (1736–1799), American revolutionary figure
 - Patrick Heuscher, Swiss volleyball player
 - Patrick Hillery (1923–2008), the sixth President of Ireland (1976–1990)
 - Patrick Jeffrey, American diver
 - Patrick Jones, Welsh poet and playwright
 - Patrick Kane, professional ice hockey player
 - Patrick J. Kennedy a former United States congressman
 - Pat Kiernan, television news anchor
 - Patrick Kluivert, Dutch football player
 - Patrick Kühl, German swimmer
 - Patrik Kühnen, German tennis player
 - Patrick Lane (born 1939), Canadian poet
 - Patrick Macnee, English actor
 - Patrick Matt, Liechtensteiner cyclist
 - Pat Matzdorf, American athlete
 - Patrick Mboma, Cameroon football player
 - Patrick McEnroe, American tennis player
 - Patrick McGoochan (1928–2009), Irish-American actor
 - Patrick McGuinness (disambiguation), multiple people
 - Pat Metheny, American jazz guitarist
 - Patrick Mills, Australian basketball player
 - Sir Patrick Moore, English astronomer
 - Pat Mountain, Welsh football player
 - Steven Patrick Morrissey (born 1959), British singer
 - Patrick Monahan (born 1969), American musician (rock band Train)
 - Patrick O'Brian (1914–2000), English author and translator
 - Pat O'Hanlon (born 1991), Australia Rugby League player
 - Patrick Chukwuemeka Okogwu (aka Tinie Tempah), British rapper
 - Pat Paulsen (1927–1997), American comedian and satirist
 - Patrick Pearse (aka Pádraig Pearse) (1879–1916), Irish activist and revolutionary
 - Patrick Rafter, Australian tennis player
 - Patrick Rakovsky, German football player
 - Patrick Rechner, Canadian Captain taken hostage working as a UN observer in Bosnia
 - Pat Richards (born 1981), Australian Rugby League player
 - Pat Roberts, American Senator from Kansas
-

- Pat Robertson, American preacher and political figure
- Patrick Lipton Robinson, Jamaican U.N. judge
- Patrick Roy, Canadian ice hockey goaltender
- Pat Sajak, American game show host
- Patrick Schmollinger, Austrian swimmer
- Patrick da Silva, Brazilian football player
- Patrik Sjöberg, Swedish high jumper
- Sir Patrick Stewart (born 1940), British actor
- Patrick Stump (born 1984), American musician
- Patrick Swayze (1952–2009), American actor
- Patrick Swift (1927–1983), painter
- Patrick Topaloff (1944–2010), French singer and actor
- Patrick Troughton (1920–1987), English actor
- Patrick Veszpremi, Australian rules footballer
- Patrick Vieira, Senegalese-born French football player
- Patrick Wanis, Australian life coach
- Patrick Warburton (born 1964), American actor
- Patrick Willis (born 1985), American football player
- Patrick Wolf (born 1983), English singer-songwriter
- Patrick, the working name of professional wrestler Don Harris
- Patrick, the pseudonym used by artist John Byrne

In fiction

- Lord Harry, also known as Patrick, the locomotive character from *The Railway Series* books by the Rev. W. Awdry
- Patrick Bateman, fictional character from Bret Easton Ellis' novel *American Psycho*
- Patrick Harper (fiction), the Irish right-hand man from the *Sharpe* book and television series
- Patrick Darling, character on *Dirty Sexy Money*
- Patrick McReary, character in the 2008 video game *Grand Theft Auto: IV*
- Patrick Star, character on the television series *SpongeBob SquarePants*
- Sir Patrick Delaney-Podmore, character in the *Harry Potter* series of books
- Patrick Jane, main character in *The Mentalist*
- Patrick, a character from Disney's *Home on the Range*

Translations in other languages

- Arabic: باَتْرِيك (Baatriik), and also similar in meaning نبيل (Nabil)
 - Basque: Patirki
 - Belarusian: Патрык (Patryk)
 - Bengali: প্যাট্রিকি (Pyātrik)
 - Breton: Padrig
 - Bulgarian: Патрик (Patrik)
 - Catalan: Patrici, Patricio
 - Chinese Simplified: 帕特里克 (Pàtèlìkè)
 - Chinese Traditional: 帕特里克 (Pàtèlìkè)
 - Croatian: Patrik
 - Czech: Patrik
-

- Dutch: Patrick, Patricius, Patriek
- English: Patrick
- Estonian: Patrik
- Faroese: Pátrikur
- Finnish: Patrik
- French: Patric, Patrice, Patrick, Padrig
- German: Patrick, Patrik
- Greek: Πατρίκιος (Patrikios)
- Gujarati: પેટ્રિક (Pēṭrik)
- Hebrew: פַּטְרִיק (Patriq), or פֶּרְטֵם (Partem, lit. "nobleman")
- Hindi: पैट्रिक (Paiṭrik)
- Hungarian: Patrik
- Icelandic: Patrekur
- Irish: Pádraic, Pádraig, Páraic
- Italian: Patrizio
- Japanese: パトリック (Patorikku)
- Kannada: ಪೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ (Pyāṭrik)
- Korean: 패트릭 (Paeteulig)
- Late Roman: Patricius
- LATINIVS: PATRICIVS
- Latin: Patricius
- Latvian: Patriks
- Lithuanian: Patrikas
- Macedonian: Патрик (Patrik)
- Maltese: Patrizju
- Manx: Pherick
- Marathi: पैट्रिक (Pēṭrik)
- Mongolian: Патрик (Patrik)
- Norwegian: Patrik, Patrick, Patryk
- Persian: پاتریک
- Polish: Patryk
- Portuguese: Patrício, Patrique
- Punjabi: ਪੈਟਰਿਕ (Paiṭrik)
- Romanian: Patriciu
- Russian: Патрик (Patrik)
- Scottish Gaelic: Pàdraig
- Serbian: Патрик (Patrik)
- Slovak: Patrik
- Slovene: Patrik
- Spanish: Patricio
- Swedish: Patrik
- Tagalog: Patricio
- Tamil: பட்ரிக் (Pēṭrik)
- Telugu: పేట్రీక్ (Pāṭrik)
- Thai: เพทริก (Phæthrikh)
- Ukrainian: Патрік (Patrik)
- Urdu: پٹریک

- Welsh: Padrig
 - Yiddish: פאַטריק (P'atryq)
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Patrician (ancient Rome)

This article is about the social and political class in ancient Rome. For other uses of the term, see Patrician (disambiguation).

The term **patrician** (Latin: *patricius*, Greek: πατρίκιος, *patrikios*) originally referred to a group of ruling class families in ancient Rome, including both their natural and adopted members. In the late Roman Empire, the class was broadened to include high administrative officials, and after the fall of the Western Empire it remained a high honorary title in the Byzantine Empire. Medieval patrician classes were once again formally defined groups of leading burgher families in many medieval Italian republics, such as Venice and Genoa, and subsequently "patrician" became a vaguer term used for aristocrats and the higher bourgeoisie in many countries.

Origin

According to Livy, the first 100 men appointed as senators by Romulus were referred to as "fathers" (patres),^[1] and the descendants of those men became the Patrician class.^[2] The patricians were distinct from the plebeians because they had wider political influence, at least in the times of the Republic. As the middle and late Republic saw this influence gradually stripped, non-patricians (i.e., plebeians) were granted equal rights on a range of areas, and quotas of officials, including one of the two consulships, were exclusively reserved for plebeians.

Roman Republic and Empire

Status

Patricians were historically afforded more privileges than plebeians. They were better represented in the Roman assemblies. The *Comitia Centuriata*, the main legislative body, was divided into 193 voting *centuriae* (centuries). The first two houses (which consisted largely of patricians) together had 98 *centuriae*, a number which was enough to obtain a majority, despite the fact that they were fewer in number. That meant that if the patricians acted in concord, they could always determine the result of the voting of the people's assembly. So, although it was not forbidden for plebeians to hold magistracies, the patricians dominated the political scene for centuries.

In the beginning of the Republic, all priesthoods were closed to non-patricians. There was a belief that patricians communicated better with the Roman gods, so they alone could perform the sacred rites and take the auspices. This view had political consequences, since in the beginning of the year or before a military campaign, Roman magistrates used to consult the gods. Livy reports that the first admission of plebeians into a priestly college happened in 300 BC^[3] when the college of Augurs raised their number from four to nine. After that, plebeians were accepted into the other religious colleges, and by the end of the Republic, only minor priesthoods with little political importance like the Salii, the Flamines and the Rex Sacrorum were exclusively filled by patricians.

In the list of the names of the Romans who held magistracies (the Fasti), very few plebeian names appear before the 2nd century BC. The turning point were two laws, the Lex Licinia Sextia of 367 BC that ascertained the right of plebeians to hold the consulship, and the Genucian law of 342 BC that made it compulsory that at least one of the consuls be a plebeian.

The ancient patrician *gentes* whose members appear in founding legends of Rome disappeared as Rome started becoming an empire and new plebeian families rose to prominence, such as the Decii and the Sempronii. Families such as the Horatii, Lucretii, Verginii and Menenii seem to vanish after the 2nd century BC. Others, such as the Julii reappear only at the end of the Republic. There are some cases where the same gens name was shared by patrician and plebeian clans (for example the Appii Claudii were patricians and the Claudii Marcelli were plebeians).

The patrician and plebeian classes came into conflict during the conflict of the orders which saw the gradual decrease in patrician privileges, and increasing equality for plebeians.

Patricians vs. Plebeians

The distinction between patricians and plebeians in Ancient Rome was based purely on birth. Although modern writers often portray patricians as rich and powerful families who managed to secure power over the less-fortunate plebeian families, most historians argue that this is an over-simplification. As civil rights for plebeians increased during the middle and late Roman Republic, many plebeian families had attained wealth and power while some traditionally patrician families had fallen into poverty and obscurity.

Historian Richard Mitchell states that patrician families were initially those who held positions within the priesthoods, and that the ancient Senate, composed of patricians, was a religious advisory body. Wikipedia:Citation needed The Senate, acting as a council of religious elders, had political power because it was necessary to have their assent to new laws. The priestly class would confirm that the new laws were in keeping with *mos maiorum* and would give their *auctoritas* to the measures that could then be enacted.

Patrician families

The following *gentes* were regarded as patrician, although they may have had plebeian members or branches.

- | | | | | |
|------------|--|------------|--------------|-------------|
| • Aebutia | • Furia | • Menenia | • Potitia | • Tarpeia |
| • Aemilia | • Gegania | • Metilia | • Quinctia | • Tarquinia |
| • Aquillia | • Genucia | • Minucia | • Quinctilia | • Tarquitia |
| • Atilia | • Herminia | • Mucia | • Romilia | • Tullia |
| • Claudia | • Horatia | • Nautia | • Sempronia | • Valeria |
| • Cloelia | • Julia | • Numicia | • Sergia | • Verginia |
| • Cornelia | • Lartia | • Papiria | • Servilia | • Veturia |
| • Curtia | • Lucretia | • Paetus | • Sestia | • Vitellia |
| • Fabia | • Manlia | • Pinaria | • Siccia | • Volumnia |
| • Foslia | • Marcia, <i>cognomen</i> Rex ^[4] | • Pollia | • Sulpicia | |
| | | • Postumia | | |

A number of other *gentes* originally belonged to the patricians but were known chiefly for their plebeian branches.

- Antonia
- Cassia
- Cominia
- Curiatia
- Hostilia
- Junia
- Marcia, with the *cognomen* Censorinus or Philippus

Gentes maiores et minores

Among the patricians, certain families were known as the *gentes maiores*, the greatest or perhaps the most noble houses. The other patrician families were called the *gentes minores*. Whether this distinction had any legal significance is not known, but it has been suggested that the *princeps senatus*, or Speaker of the Senate, was traditionally chosen from the *gentes maiores*. Wikipedia:Citation needed

No list of the *gentes maiores* has been discovered, and even their number is entirely unknown. It has been suggested Wikipedia:Manual of Style/Words to watch#Unsupported attributions that the Aemilii, Claudii, Corneli, Fabii, Manlii, and Valerii were amongst them. The Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology suggests that the *gentes maiores* consisted of those families that had settled at Rome in the time of Romulus, or at least before the destruction of Alba Longa. The noble Alban families which settled at Rome in the time of Tullus Hostilius then formed the nucleus of the *gentes minores*; these included the Tulii, Servilii, Quinctii, Geganii,

Curiatii, and Cloelii.

However, Harper's Dictionary of Classical Antiquities suggests that the Alban families were also included amongst the *gentes maiores*, and that the *gentes minores* consisted of the families admitted to the patriciate under the Tarquins and in the early years of the Republic. In any case, the distinction cannot have been based entirely on priority, because the Claudii did not arrive at Rome until after the expulsion of the Etruscan kings.^{[5][6][7][8]}

Late Roman and Byzantine periods

Patrician status still carried a degree of prestige at the time of the early Roman Empire, and Roman emperors routinely elevated their supporters to the patrician caste *en masse*. The prestige and meaning of the status were gradually degraded, and by the end of the 3rd-century crisis patrician status, as it had been known in the Republic, ceased to have meaning in everyday life. The Emperor Constantine the Great (r. 306–337) reintroduced the term as the Empire's senior honorific title, not tied to any specific administrative position, and from the first limited to a very small number of holders.^{[9][10]} The historian Zosimus even states that in Constantine's time, the holders of the title ranked above the praetorian prefects.^[11]

In the Western Roman Empire, the title was sparingly used and retained its high prestige, being awarded, especially in the 5th century, to the powerful *magistri militum* who dominated the state, such as Stilicho, Constantius III, Aëtius, Boniface, and Ricimer. The eastern emperor Zeno (r. 474–491) granted it to Odoacer to legitimize the latter's rule in Italy after his overthrow of the rebellious *magister militum* Orestes and his pretender son Romulus Augustulus in 476. In the Eastern Empire, Theodosius II (r. 408–450) barred eunuchs from holding it, although this restriction had been overturned by the 6th century. Under Justinian I (r. 527–565), the title proliferated and was consequently somewhat devalued, as the emperor opened it up to all those above *illustris* rank, i.e. the majority of the Senate.^[12]

In the 8th century, the title was further lowered in the court order of precedence, coming after the *magistros* and the *anthypatos*. However it remained one of the highest in the imperial hierarchy until the 11th century, being awarded to the most important *stratēgoi* (provincial governors and generals) of the Empire. In the court hierarchy, the eunuch *patrikioi* enjoyed higher precedence, coming before even the *anthypatoi*.^[13] According to the late 9th-century *Klētorologion*, the insignia of the dignity were ivory inscribed tablets.^[14] During the 11th century, the dignity of *patrikios* followed the fate of other titles: extensively awarded, it lost in status, and disappeared during the Komnenian period in the early 12th century. The title of *prōtopatrikios* (πρωτοπατρίκιος, "first patrician") is also evidenced in the East from 367 to 711, possibly referring to the senior-most holder of the office and leader of the patrician order (*taxis*).^[15] The feminine variant *patrikia* (πατρικία) denoted the spouses of *patrikioi*; it is not to be confused with the title of *zostē patrikia* ("girded *patrikia*"), which was a unique dignity conferred on the ladies-in-waiting of the empress.

The patrician title was occasionally used in Western Europe after the end of the Roman Empire; for instance, Pope Stephen II granted the title "Patricius of the Romans" to the Frankish ruler Pepin III. The revival of patrician classes in medieval Italian republics, and also north of the Alps, is covered in Patricianship.


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- [1] Kenny Zeng, 2007, *A History Of Ancient and Early Rome*
- [2] Livy, *Ab urbe condita*, 1:8
- [3] Livy, *Ab urbe condita*, 10.7.9
- [4] The Marcii had both a patrician and plebeian branch. The patrician branch claimed descent from the Kings of Rome, particularly Ancus Marcius, and thus used the *cognomen* Rex. See Gary D. Farney, *Ethnic identity and aristocratic competition in Republican Rome* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), pp. 22–25, 79 *et passim*.
- [5] *Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology*, William Smith, Editor.
- [6] Titus Livius, *Ab Urbe Condita*, i. 30, ii. 16.
- [7] *Harper's Dictionary of Classical Literature and Antiquities*, Second Edition, Harry Thurston Peck, Editor (1897)
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- [9] Kazhdan (1991), p. 1600
- [10] Paul Stephenson, *Constantine, Roman Emperor, Christian Victor*, 2010:240.
- [11] Zosimus, *Historia Nova*, II.40.2
- [12] Bury (1911), p. 27
- [13] Bury (1911), p. 124
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