

1240s

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The **1240s** was a decade that began on 1 January 1240 and ended on 31 December 1249. It is distinct from the decade known as the ***125th decade*** which began on January 1, 1241. and ended on December 31, 1250.

Events

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- [Batu Khan](#) and the [Golden Horde](#) sack the [Ruthenian](#) city of [Kiev](#).
- [Mandinka](#) prince [Sundiata Keita](#) defeats [Sosso](#) king [Soumaoro Kanté](#) at the [Battle of Kirina](#), beginning the [Mali Empire](#).
- [July 15 1240](#) - [Russian prince Alexander Nevsky](#) defeats the [Swedes](#) in the [Battle of the Neva](#), saving Russia from a full-scale enemy invasion from the North.
- End of the [civil war](#) era in [Norway](#).
- [Saint Maurice](#) is started to be portrayed as [Moor](#).
- [April 5 1241](#) - [Mongols](#) of [Golden Horde](#) under the command of [Subotai](#) defeat feudal Polish nobility, including [Knights Templar](#), in the [battle of Liegnitz](#)
- [April 27 1241](#) - [Mongols](#) defeat [Bela IV of Hungary](#) in the [battle of Sajo](#).

Births

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- [Abulafia](#), Maltese Jewish philosopher (died [1292](#))
- [Pope Benedict XI](#) (died [1304](#))
- [Stephen V of Hungary](#) (died [1272](#))
- [Sigerus of Brabant](#), French theologian (died [1284](#))
- [Albert the Degenerate](#), landgrave of Thuringia (approximate date; died [1314](#))

Deaths

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- [April 11 1240](#) - [Llywelyn the Great](#), [King of Gwynedd](#)
- [Ibn Arabi](#), Andalusian Arab philosopher
- [Jacques de Vitry](#), French historian and theologian (born c. [1180](#))
- [William de Warenne, 6th Earl of Surrey](#) (born [1166](#))

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