

History's Greatest Hits!

ALL ABOUT

JOAN OF ARC

French heroine Joan of Arc was one of the world's first female military leaders. Find out more about the life of this legend...

CA 1412

START

Jeanne d'Arc (or Joan of Arc in English) was born into a family of farmers in the village of Domrémy, France. She probably spent her early years taking care of animals and sewing.

C'MON, FRANCE! PUT SOME MUSCLE INTO IT!

Historians don't always know the exact dates of events from ancient times. That's why you'll see a 'ca' next to the years listed below. It stands for 'circa,' meaning 'around'.

1415-1425

English troops invaded France and forced French king Charles VI to name England's Henry V as France's next king. But in 1425, three years after Henry V's death, young Joan began to have visions telling her she could save her country by restoring the throne to Charles VI's son, Charles VII.

FRANCE

ENGLAND

APRIL 1429

Teenage Joan – dressed like a man – visited Charles VII, demanding that he let her fight on his behalf. Even though he realised she was a woman, he agreed, allowing her to lead his soldiers in battle. Oui, Joan!

JULY 1429

After months of fighting, Charles VII was crowned King of France – thanks in large part to Joan's efforts.

1430

Joan was captured and sold to the English. They accused her of lying and dressing like a man, among other charges. She was thrown in jail to await trial.

1431

Found guilty, Joan was burned at the stake, aged just 19. Nearly 500 years after her death, the Roman Catholic Church made her a saint, and she's still seen today as a fearless leader who changed the course of her country's history.

YOU'RE WELCOME, FRANCE.

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