

The most illustrious Order of St Patrick was instituted by George III in 1783, to consist of the sovereign, the lord lieutenant of Ireland (as grand master) and 15 Knights companions; the number was increased to 22 in 1833. The King of arms. The chapel is in St Patrick's cathedral in Dublin. The collar is of alternate red and white-leaved roses and gold harps linked by gold knots, the badge is suspended from a harp surmounted by an imperial jeweled crown the motto is *Quis separabit*

The Most Honourable Order of the Bath, established by George I in 1725 for the sovereign, a grand master and 36 Knights companions, was a pretended revival of a supposed order of Henry II's time which had never in fact existed, as explained above previously the Knights of the Bath were Knights bachelors who had been knighted with full ceremony on special occasions and therefore took precedence of other Knights Bachelors. In 1815 three classes were instituted to commemorate the end of the Napoleonic Wars; and in 1847 civil Knights commanders and companions were added. Apart from the sovereign, royal princes and distinguished foreigners, the Order is limited to 28 military and 27 civil Knights grand cross, 173 military and 112 civil Knights Commanders, and 943 military and 555 civil companions. The Orders Officers are: The Dean (Dean of Westminster) Bath King of Arms, the registrar and the Usher of the scarlet red. The badge shows three crowns, with the motto *via juncta in uno*.

The Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George - Founded in 1818 by the prince regent, later George IV, to commemorate the British protectorate over the Ionian Islands, this order was later placed on a new basis and extended by letters patent of 1863 and 1877 to high colonial officials. The chapel is in St Pauls cathedral, London. The Knights grand cross have a seven-rayed star of silver with alternating small rays of gold; in the centre a red St George's cross bearing a medallion of St Michael encountering Satan, surrounded by a blue fillet with the motto *Auspilium melioris aevi*

The most Exalted Order of the Star of India and the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire: The First of these ranks before and second after, the Order of St Michael and St George. The Viceroy of India was ~~ex~~ *ex-officio* grand master of both, the Order of the Star of India, was instituted in 1861, was enlarged in 1902 to consist of Knights grand commanders, Knights commanders and companions. Its collar is composed of alternate links of the lotus flower, red and white roses and palm branches enameled on gold, with an imperial crown in the centre. The Order of the Indian Empire, founded in 1877-78 in commemoration of Queen Victoria's assumption of the style of empress of India, includes the same three classes as the Star of India. Its collar is composed of elephants, peacocks and Indian roses.

The Royal Victorian Order was instituted by Queen Victoria in 1896 for personal services rendered to the sovereign. Besides the sovereign, chancellor and secretary there are Knights and dames commanders, commanders and members (of the fourth and fifth classes).

Distinguished Service Order, founded in 1886, recognizes the special services of officers of the Army and Navy. Members of its one class take precedence immediately before those of the fourth class of the Royal Victorian Order. The badge is a white and gold cross with a red centre bearing the imperial crown surrounded by a laurel wreath. The ribbon is red, edged with blue.

The Imperial Service Order, founded in 1902 and several times revised, recognizes the work of Commonwealth civil servants. It consists of companions only and ranks after the Order of the British Empire, fourth class.

The Royal Order of Victoria and Albert founded in 1862 was purely a court distinction for Ladies only.

The Order of the British Empire was instituted in 1917 to reward both civilian and military war service. In 1918 a separate military division was created. The five classes of both civil and military divisions can be conferred on men and women equally. They are: Knights, dames grand cross, Knights and dames commander, commanders, officers and members. The two highest classes wear an eight pointed star of chipped silver rays, with a golden medallion in the centre bearing the crowned effigies of King George V and Queen Mary and surrounded by a circlet of crimson enamel bearing the motto: *For God and the Empire*. The badge is a cross patty with centre medallion and circlet like the star and a gold imperial crown surmounting it. The order has also a medal, awarded to persons not eligible for the first 5 classes.

The Order of Companions of Honour, founded at the same time as the Order of the British Empire, recognizes men and women who have rendered conspicuous national services. It ranks next after the first class of the Order of the British Empire and consists of the sovereign and not more than 65 members in a single class.

Modern European Orders: The following select list, in alphabetical order of the sovereign states concerned, includes a number of Orders bestowed by dynasties which ceased to reign in the course of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Albania - Order of the Black Eagle 1914, of Skanderberg 1925, of Fidelity 1926, of Valour (1925)

Anhalt - Order of Albert the Bear (family order 1836)

Austria - Apart from the Golden Fleece and the Hungarian Order of St. Stephen, Imperial Austria had the Orders of Leopold (1805), Orders of the Iron Crown (1816), taken over from a Lombard order founded by Napoleon I as King of Italy in 1809 and of Francis Joseph (1840); the two military orders of Elizabeth Theresia 1750 - renewed 1771 and of Maria Theresa (1757); and the orders of the Starry Cross (1663) and of Elizabeth (1893) (Ladies). Republican Austria has the Order of Merit (1922).