



Good day Worthy Knights,

In this part 85, The High Prelate and the Marshal

[Wikipedia](#)

Prelate

A high-ranking member of the clergy who is an ordinary or who ranks in precedence with ordinaries. The word derives from the Latin *praelatus*, the past participle of *preferre*, which means 'carry before', 'to be set above or over' or 'prefer'.

The archetypal prelate is a bishop, whose prelature is his particular church. All other prelates, including the regular prelates such as abbots and major superiors, are based upon this original model of prelacy.

A distinction between clergy and laity developed in the 2nd century, although the clerical ministry traces its beginnings to the commission of the Twelve Apostles and the Seventy for service.

Over the centuries, the distinction between clergy and laity was emphasized by special privileges granted to the clergy, including those granted by the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great. These privileges were later extended and codified by the Theodosian Code. Later progressive legislation in most countries removed the special privileges enjoyed by the clergy. Such privileges, including exemption from secular courts, were an important issue in the Protestant Reformation.

Related terminology

In a general sense, a "prelate" in the Roman Catholic Church and other Christian churches is a bishop or other ecclesiastical person who possesses ordinary authority of a jurisdiction, i.e., of a diocese or similar jurisdiction. It equally applies to cardinals, who enjoy a kind of "co-governance" of the church as the most senior ecclesiastical advisers and moral representatives of the Supreme Pontiff.

By extension, it refers to "inferior" or "lesser prelates", that is priests who have the title and dress of prelates as a personal honorific, i.e., Papal chaplains, prelates of honor, and honorary protonotaries apostolic. All these enjoy the title of "monsignor", which also is used in some nations for bishops and archbishops.

In the strict canonical sense, "prelate" denominates a priest or bishop who is ordinary of a personal prelature, which is a functional equivalent of a diocese that has a "particular pastoral or missionary work for various regions or for different social groups". In the Armenian Apostolic Church, "prelate" denominates a diocesan bishop, whose jurisdiction of his diocese is denominated a "prelacy".



Three Bishops and one Cardinal

Marshal

A term used in several official titles in various branches of society. As marshals became trusted members of the courts of Medieval Europe, the title grew in reputation. During the last few centuries, it has been used for elevated offices, such as in military rank and civilian law enforcement.

Etymology

"Marshal" is an ancient loanword from Norman French (modern French maréchal), which is borrowed from Old Frankish marhskalk (stable boy, keeper, servant), being still evident in Middle Dutch maerscalc, marscal, and in modern Dutch maarschalk (military chief commander; the meaning influenced by the French use).

The late Roman and Byzantine title of *comes stabuli* ("count of the stables") was a calque of the Germanic, which became Old French *con(n)estable* and modern *connétable*, and the English word "constable". Finally, in Byzantium, a marshal with elevated authority, notably a borderlands military command, was also known as an exarch.

Military

In many countries, the rank of marshal, (field marshal), is the highest army rank, outranking other general officers. The equivalent navy rank is often admiral of the fleet or grand admiral.

Marshals are typically, but not exclusively, appointed only in wartime. In many countries, especially in Europe, the special symbol of a marshal is a baton.

In some countries, the term "marshal" is used instead of "general" in the higher air force ranks. The four highest Royal Air Force ranks are marshal of the Royal Air Force, air chief marshal, air marshal and air vice marshal (although the first named, which has generally been suspended as a peacetime rank, is the only one which can properly be considered a marshal). The five-star rank of marshal of the Air Force is used by some Commonwealth and Middle Eastern air forces.

In the French Army and most National Armies modelled upon the French system, Maréchal des Logis ("marshal-of-lodgings") is a cavalry term equivalent to sergeant.

Some historical rulers have used special "marshal" titles to reward certain subjects. Though not strictly military ranks, these honorary titles have been exclusively bestowed upon successful military leaders. Most famous are the Marshals of France (Maréchaux de France) under Napoléon I.

Another such title was that of Reichsmarschall, bestowed upon Hermann Göring by Adolf Hitler, although it was never a regular title as it had been "invented" for Göring who was the only titleholder in history.



Baton of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel