

# Difference Between Ancient, Medieval and Modern History

The table below discusses the important differences between the phases of history that shall serve as a great way of recapitulation.

Basis	Ancient History	Medieval History	Modern History
Timeline	This period extends for a total of 5000 years, beginning from 6,000 BCE to 650 CE.	This period lasted from the 5th century to the 15th century.	Modern age history begins from the 15th century and extends till the late 18th century.
Characteristic events	Beginning of the Iron Age, Indus Valley Civilization, Gupta Empire, and Roman Empire.	Dark Ages, Early, High, and Late Middle Ages.	Renaissance and colonization.
Events that changed history	The rise and fall of the Indus Valley civilization and the growth of the Greek Kingdom.	The fall of the Roman empire.	The Industrial Revolution, territorial expansion, colonization, and international trade.

<b>Population</b>	The population was the least during this time, around 209 million at the end of ancient history.	The world population gradually began to rise and was believed to be around 461 million during the 15th century.	The population is recorded to have risen to around 7.8 billion.
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## Ancient History

Ancient history refers to the earliest records of human settlements and describes the time period between 6,000 BCE and 650 CE, although the stretch of years is debatable among scholars and historians. Some of the landmark events from this era include the beginning of the Iron Age, the Roman Empire, and the Gupta Empire.

## Medieval History

Medieval history refers to the time period extending from about 500 to 1400-1500 CE. It is also known as the Middle Ages and has three divisions early, central or high, and late middle age. The first reference to the term Middle Ages is found in the works of 15th-century scholars. The Middle Ages was a time of reorganization of society's economic, political, social, and cultural sections. It also marks a time of urban and agricultural growth.

The beginning and the end of the Middle Ages are questionable. Some historians define the period as beginning between (c. 250c. 750 CE) and entering into the 10th century or later. Some scholars include the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation into a single timeline that ends in the second half of the 16th century.

## Modern History

Modern history is used to describe the time period extending from the late 15th century to the beginning of the 18th century. It refers to an age of unparalleled human evolution, the fast-paced Industrial Revolution, the colonization of Africa, Asia, and North America, continental expansion, and international trade.

Timelines of modern history are quoted differently based on region. Some sources also divide modern history into Early, Late, and Contemporary or Present modern history that covers the two major World Wars and the current times.