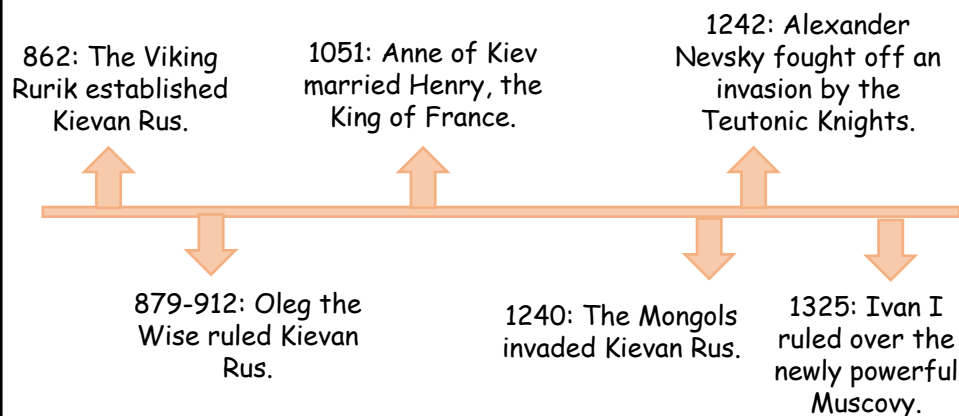


# Is Martin Sixsmith right about the 'culture, beauty and embryonic democracy' of Kievan Rus?

## Was Kievan Rus democratic?

YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public meetings (<i>veches</i>) gave some people the chance to share their views about key matters.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only men with a certain amount of money were able to take part in public meetings.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A legal system was in place. This meant that there was a clear set of rules, and punishments for those who broke the rules.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <i>boyars</i> were not elected to their positions of authority: they inherited the role.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The people of Novgorod managed to get rid of an unpopular leader, Prince Vsevolod.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was censorship in place, meaning some books could not be published.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The people of Kievan Rus chose to come out in support of Alexander Nevsky (they were not forced to) when the Teutonic knights invaded..</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When the Mongols invaded, Kievan Rus adopted their systems (which were less democratic).</li> </ul>

## Key dates:



## Key terms:

Kievan Rus	A state in Eastern Europe that existed between the 9 <sup>th</sup> and 13 <sup>th</sup> centuries.
Viking	People from Scandinavia (countries like Sweden and Norway). Many Vikings invaded and conquered large parts of Europe in the 8 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> centuries.
Chronicle	A factual written account describing an important historical event.
Veche	A meeting that saw people discuss important issues and make key decisions.
Boyar	Member of the aristocracy (the wealthiest class) in Russia.
Democracy	A system of government where everyone gets to have a say.
Merchant	Someone involved in trading.
Mayor	An official who has been elected to act as the head of a city or town.
Mongol	Someone who came from Central Asia. The Mongol Empire was growing in this period.
Golden Horde	The area controlled by the Mongols in the 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> centuries.
Teutonic knights	People who tried to spread Catholic beliefs across the world, usually through force.
Muscovy	Also known as the Principality of Moscow, this was an area in modern-day Russia ruled over by princes or tsars.
Kremlin	A group of important buildings, like palaces and cathedrals.