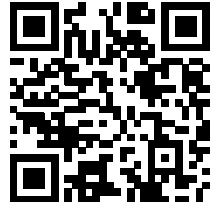


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Harold Godwinson's Rise to Power



In 1066, Harold Godwinson became the king of _____, a position many coveted. His claim to the throne was challenged by William of Normandy and Harald _____ of Norway, leading to a series of conflicts that would change the course of English history. Harold's _____ faced Harald Hardrada at the Battle of Stamford Bridge, where the Norwegian _____ was defeated and killed. This victory, however, left Harold's forces _____ and exhausted. Shortly after, William of Normandy landed on the southern _____ of England, presenting another challenge for Harold. The two armies met at the _____ of Hastings, a fierce conflict that lasted all day. Despite fighting valiantly, _____ was killed, allegedly struck in the eye by an _____. This moment is famously depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry. With Harold's death, William of Normandy became the _____ of England, marking the beginning of Norman rule. This event is known as the Norman _____, significantly influencing the English language, culture, and _____. Harold's brief reign was marked by his determination and _____, but his legacy is overshadowed by the consequences of his defeat. The Norman Conquest also led to the construction of iconic _____ across England and introduced new _____ that reshaped medieval English society. Harold Godwinson remains a pivotal figure in English _____, representing the end of Anglo-Saxon rule and the start of a new era.

Hardrada laws Conquest history army leadership weakened arrow
Harold governance king Battle castles ruler coast England