

Anglo-Saxon Age and Literature: Everything you need to know to crack this topic in DU MA English Entrance Examination:

Anglo-Saxon timeline:

Anglo-Saxon period flourished from 449A.D. to 1066A.D.

How Anglo-Saxon invaded Britain:

- From 55 BC to 410 A.D., Britain was ruled by its original inhabitants called Britons.
- In 410 A.D, three Germanic tribes invaded the country- Angles, Saxons and Jutes. Jutes were in a scarce population, so the region was ruled by Angles and Saxons. Hence, the name Anglo-Saxon came into being.
- Jutes were, however the first Germanic people to settle here. These tribes migrated to Britain.
- The Anglo-Saxons were fearless and adventurous people and by 670 A.D., they invaded major parts of Angloland. This region later came to be known as Englishland.

Languages spoken in Anglo-Saxon England:

a) There were different languages spoken by Britons and Germanic tribes. However, all these languages were together referred under the umbrella term of "Old English".

b) The main dialects of Old English are- Northumbrian, Kentish, West Saxon and Mercian.

The Viking Rule:

- The Vikings were the colonisers originating from Scandinavia (comprising of countries like Denmark, Norway and Sweden) who took control of Britain and other regions.
- The Vikings invaded Britain several times.
- The last viking invasion happened in 1066A.D. when the Viking ruler, William the conqueror, who was the ruler of Normandy (a province in