



THE ROYAL HOUSE OF NORWAY

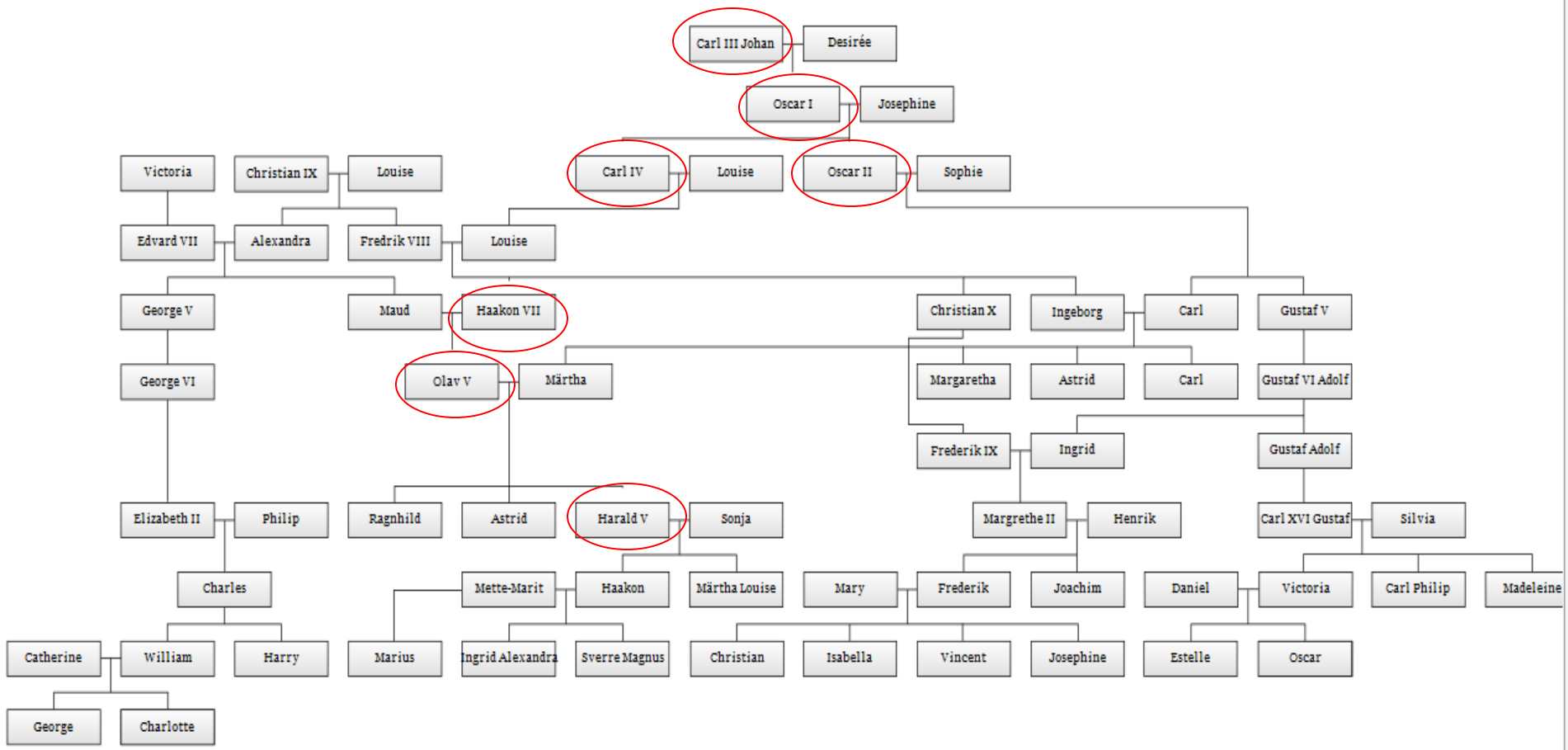


## **Norway is a constitutional monarchy.**

This means that the King is formally the head of state but that his duties are mainly representative and ceremonial.

- The legislative and executive powers live with the country's elected bodies.
  - The Storting is vested with the legislative, budgetary, and supervisory powers of government.
  - The King in Council is vested with the executive powers.
  - The Supreme Courts and subordinate courts are vested with the judicial powers.
- The King is no longer 'crowned', but instead 'consecrated' in a solemn, ecclesiastical blessing in the Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim.

# Royal Family Tree: Denmark and England, France and Sweden



 = King of Norway

# Biography: King Harald of Norway

- Born 21 February 1937 at his parents' country home of Skaugum, near Oslo.
- Son of King Olav V (1903-1991) and Crown Princess Märtha (1901-1954).
- He acceded to the throne on 17 January 1991.
- He was the first prince born in Norway in 567 years!

# King Olav and Crown Princess Märtha parents of King Harald



# King Harald Childhood Pictures

1937



1942



# Young Man

1948



1963



# Love

- Crown Prince Harald met Miss Sonja Haraldsen in 1959.
- They had been forced to wait a long time to marry because she was a commoner. It represented a break with traditional practice, and caused widespread debate at the time.
- They married in Oslo Cathedral on 29 August 1968, nine years after they first met.

# Wedding Day, 29 August 1968





# Sonja Photos

1941



1953



They were consecrated in Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim as King and Queen on 23 June 1991.



# Sonja pictures

1970



2006



# Queen Sonja and King Harald, 75<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration



# Silver Anniversary of acceding to the throne of Norway

- On June 18-29, 2016, the King and Queen celebrated their Silver Anniversary with a tour of Norway aboard the Royal Yacht *NORGE*.
- It sailed along the coastline to Tromsø, Bodø, Trondheim, Bergen, Stavanger, and Kristiansand.



# The Royal Yacht, *NORGE*



# The Next Generations

- The King and Queen have two children and five grandchildren.
- Their son, Haakon, is married to Mette-Marit Tjessem Høiby, and have two children.
- Their daughter, Märtha Louise, was married to Ari Mikael Behn, and have three daughters.

Crown Prince Haakon



His wife,  
Crown Princess Mette-Merit





# Children of Haakon and Mette-Merit

Her Royal Highness  
Ingrid Alexandra



His Highness  
Sverre Magnus



Her Highness  
Princess Märtha Louise



Her ex-husband  
Mr. Ari Mikael Behn



# The Crown Princess and family

Daughters are:

Leah Isadora, Emma Tallulah, and Maud Angelica



# Order of Succession

Before 1990, the children of the monarch were first in line for the throne.

- Males took precedence over females.

Amendment to the constitution was made.

- Males now do not take precedence over females.

# Current Order of Succession

- HRH Crown Prince Haakon
- HRH Princess Ingrid Alexandra
- HH Prince Sverre Magnus
- HH Princess Märtha Louise
- Miss Maud Angelica Behn
- Miss Leah Isadora Behn
- Miss Emma Tallulah Behn



# King Harald's Diversity Speech

- **Published on Sep 1, 2016**
- King Harald V of Norway gave a speech to his 1500 guests at his garden party Thursday 1st of September 2016. In 2015 thousands of refugees came to Norway, followed by a huge debate on immigration politics. The King's message is that we have to take care of each other.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShLacHMG6Q4>

# King Harald's New Year's Speech 2017

translation provided by Finn Roed

A tree was placed in Palace Park, and people visiting the park were invited to hang up their hopes and wishes for Norway and the world.

Throughout the summer, peoples' wishes waved in the wind and hung heavily with the hopes of children and adults, young and old, Norwegians and foreign tourists.

One sentiment found on the tree:

'It is important to hang on to traditions from the past, so they are not packed together and placed in a dusty drawer'.

**Below is part of the King's response.**

‘A tree is a fine example of this.  
The roots are inheritance and traditions.  
The tree above ground is constantly  
subjected to pressures which require  
care through changing times and life  
conditions.’

‘As long as the tree lives, the roots dig  
themselves slowly deeper and deeper  
down.’





‘Norway has many traditions, both religious and culturally determined.’

‘It is important to remember roots and to give new generations the possibility to understand the references in our culture.’

‘That includes our history, religious traditions, anecdotes, myths, fairy tales, music, and picture art.’



**Therefore, I am glad that this piece of paper blew on the outside of a branch of the Wishing-Tree:**

“I wish for a Norway which is rich in its diversity with a capacity to love its neighbors, where one can be as a man is. A country with pure freedom”.

**And from the Wishing-Tree in the Palace Park comes the very last hope:**

“That all the wishes on the tree must be fulfilled”.