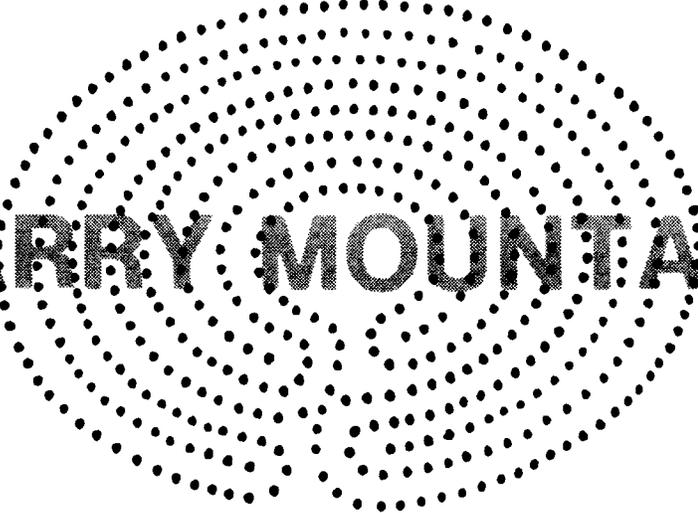


**THE  
CELTIC  
ENCYCLOPEDIA**



**HARRY MOUNTAIN**

**VOLUME III**



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C E L T I C  
E N C Y C L O P E D I A

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VOLUME III

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is dedicated to

Rosemary who made all things possible



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## Chapter 8

### GODS / HEROES / WARRIORS

#### **D - Duir (Oak) - Tree Alphabet / (—|—) Line Ogham**

NAME Da Choca  
SEX M  
CATEGORY hosteller / druid  
TYPE artificer / blacksmith  
CULTURE Goidel  
COUNTRY Ireland  
REGION west Meath  
TERRITORY Connacht  
SITES Sliabh Malonn  
CENTERS hostel (bruidhean)  
AGE Iron  
DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
BATTLES Da Choca's  
SEE ALSO Cormac Condloinges  
REMARKS Da Choca was one of 6 hostellers in Ireland in his time and his bruidhean was in Sliabh Malonn in eastern Connacht. He died in a conflict at his bruidhean when warriors from Connacht attacked Cormac Condloinges.

NAME Da Derga  
EPITHET The Red  
ALTERNATIVE Hua Derga (red)  
SEX M  
FESTIVAL Samhain (Night of the Dead)  
CATEGORY deity / warrior / druid / hosteller  
TYPE god of the dead / supernatural / chief hosteller  
CULTURE Danann  
COUNTRY Ireland  
REGION Dublin  
TERRITORY Leinster / Cua (Cualu) / Mide  
LANDMARKS Dodder / Magh Liffey  
CENTERS The Red Hostel (Bruidhean Dearg)  
AGE Iron  
DATES BC 2nd-1st c / BC 38 (destruction)  
BATTLES Ath Cliath  
ENEMIES Ingcel / sons of Donn Desa  
SEE ALSO Bran ap Llyr / Conaire Mor / Da Derga / Donn

Desa / Ingcel

REMARKS Da Derga was described as having red hair, ruddy cheeks and blue eyes with red eyebrows. He operated a hostel (bruidhean) on the Magh Liffey by Dodder river near present-day Dublin in the territory of Cua (Cualu). The hostel had 7 doors with 7 rooms, each between 2 doors, and there was a door-vent. The doors were always open unless they faced the wind, in which case they were shut. The hostel was also described as having 9 doors plus a door-valve.

In BC 38 there was a great battle or destruction at Da Derga's hostel (Bruidhean Dearg) between the high chieftain of Ireland and a force of raiders from Ireland and Britain. To get to the hostel, the invading army built hurdles across the river Liffey. This gave the name to the Town of the Hurdle Ford (Baile Atha Cliath) which was eventually built around the site.

During the battle Da Derga was described as wearing a white hooded shirt and a green cloak and carrying a sword with an ivory handle. He had 3x50 personal warriors who were described as having long hair and wearing speckled green trousers and short cloaks to their buttocks. Their weapons were clubs of blackthorn with iron bands.

Da Derga also had two attendants, Muredach and Corpre, who were his fosterlings and the sons of the head chieftain of Leinster. They served the guests of the hostel with ale and food. The cauldron of Da Derga's hostel was known to have been in continuous use since it first opened and was never taken from the fire.

When Conaire became high chieftain of Ireland, he gave to Da Derga 100 kine, 100 swine, 100 mantles of close cloth, 100 blue-colored weapons, 10 red gilded brooches, 10 vats of ale, 10 slaves, 10 querns, 3x9 white hounds with silver chains and 100 race horses.

When the high chieftain of Ireland and his entourage arrived at the hostel, Da Derga could not turn them away even though all the signs pointed to death and destruction. Da Derga and most of his bruidhean escaped the massacre. This story is similar to the invasion of Ireland by Bran and his army of Britons.

NAME	Dagdae
SEX	M
FESTIVAL	Samhain (Night of the Dead)
CATEGORY	head chef for the Conaire (Ard Righ Eirinn)
TYPE	servant
COUNTRY	Ireland
REGION	Meath / Dublin
TERRITORY	Mide
LANDMARKS	Magh mBreg / Magh Liffey
SITES	Da Derga's Hostel
CENTERS	Raith Rig - Tara
AGE	Iron

DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 BATTLES Ath Cliath  
 ENEMIES Ingcel / sons of Donn Desa  
 SEE ALSO Da Derga / Donn Desa / Ingcel  
 REMARKS Dagdae was the head chef for the high chieftain of Ireland and therefore was a part of the entourage that gathered at the hostel on the Magh Liffey. He was described as a gray-haired man and he was accompanied by Seig and Segdae, his fosterling helpers and sons of Rofer Singlespit. His two young helpers each wore aprons with inlaid decorations and all three killed an enemy each during the destruction at Da Derga's.

NAME Daghda  
 EPITHET In Fagda Mor (The Great Good God) / The Excellent God / All Competent / The Red One of Great Knowledge (In Ruadh Rofhessa) / Dagodevos (The Capable God) / Great Father Stallion (Eochaid Ollathair, Echu Ollathir) / Eochaidh Ollamh  
 ALTERNATIVE Dagda / Dagdae / Dagdai / Dagdhda / Dagdhae / Daghda {dahg'-du/dahg'-thu} / Daghdae / Daghdo / Daghdou / Daghua / Eochaidh Ollamh {yohee ollav}  
 SEX M  
 SYMBOL oak club / horse  
 FESTIVAL Beltainn (Brilliant Fires) / summer solstice  
 CATEGORY deity / hero / warrior / filidh / 5th Ri Ruirech  
 TYPE triple god (death/birth/life) / historical poet / harper / negotiator / god of the druids / father of earth / fertility / oak god / head chieftain  
 CULTURE Danann  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Mayo / Sligo / Meath / Donegal  
 TERRITORY Connacht / East Munster / Leinster / West Munster / Ulster  
 LANDMARKS Unius river  
 SITES The Bed of the Couple / Plain of Towers (Magh Tuireadh) / Teltown (Tailltenn) / Drumleene / Uisneach  
 CENTERS Sidhe Uisneach Mide  
 AGE Bronze  
 DATES BC 16th c / BC 17th-16th c / BC 1646-1566 (*Kings List*)  
 BATTLES first battle of Magh Tuireadh (south Moytura) / second battle of Magh Tuireadh (north Moytura) / Taillcenn / Druim Lighean  
 ACCESSORIES magical oak club / supernatural harp / inexhaustible cauldron / magical tree / black horse  
 RELATIVES Eladu (father); Danu (mother/consort); Macha, Breg and Boann (consorts); Aine, Adair and Brigid (daughters); Aed Caem, Cermat Milbel and

Anghus (sons); Oghma, Elloth, Bress, Delbaed, Mechi, Brénos, Iuchar and Iucharbra (half-brothers); Aigden, Barrand, Be Chuille, Be Find, Dianann, Be Thete and Boan (half-sisters); Magog, Iabonel, Ordan and Net (ancestors)

ENEMIES  
SEE ALSO

Fomorii / Ceithlenn  
Aed Caem / Amhairghin / Anghus mac Og / Be Chuille / Be Find / Boann / Bodb Dearg / Breg / Brénos / Bress / Brighid / Ceithlenn / Cermat Milbel / Danu / Dianann / Iarbonel / Indech / Lugh / Macha / Magog / Midhir / Net / Oghma / Ordan

REMARKS      Daghdha was the son of Danu, daughter of Ernmas, daughter of Etarlam, son of Ordan, as well as being the son of Eladu, son of Delbach, son of Net.

The Danann invaded Ireland on Beltainn and defeated the Firbolg during the first battle of Magh Tuireadh which was fought during the summer solstice. The Daghdha was the spiritual leader of the Danann and mated with many war and earth goddesses of Ireland to ensure their success. In time, he became known as the Omnipotent God of Complete Knowledge. His mother was Danu, the eponymous goddess of the Danann, and his father was Eladu (fir), the tree of knowledge.

Daghdha could summon the seasons by playing his supernatural harp. The harp was stolen by Fomorians so, after the battle of north Moytura, Daghdha, Lugh and Oghma followed the Fomorians to their camp and there on the wall of the banquet hall was his supernatural harp. Daghdha called out to his harp: "Come apple-sweet murmurer, come four-angled frame of harmony, come summer, come winter, from the mouths of harps, bags, and pipes." At this command the harp flew off the wall of the hall to the hands of Daghdha, killing 9 Fomorians on the way. The Daghdha then played the 3 noble strains: Lament, Laughter and Slumber. When the Fomorians had fallen asleep, the 3 Danann made their escape.

Daghdha had a supernatural cauldron, a present from Lugh, whose contents satisfied all guests, a magical tree which continuously bore fruit and a black horse named Acein (ocean). Daghdha had a supernatural club of oak that was so large he had to drag it on wheels. He could use one end to kill the living and the other end to revive the dead. When his son Cermat was killed by Lugh, Daghdha used the club to resurrect him.

On the eve of summer solstice before the second battle of Magh Tuireadh, Daghdha met with The Morrighan (Danu) at the Unius river in Connacht. She was washing the blood from the clothing of the warriors who were to die in the upcoming battle. The Morrighan was dressed in red and her long red hair hung from her head in 9 loose tresses. She and the Daghdha had intercourse while she straddled the river with one foot placed in the north and the other in the south. The site is still referred to as "The Bed of

the Couple".

The Morrighan promised Daghdha that she would take the blood from the heart of Indech, the Fomorian chieftain, and the valor from his kidneys. The Morrighan then gave Daghdha two handfuls of Indech's blood. The Daghdha was then sent by Lugh to negotiate with the Fomorians in order to buy time and to spy on them in preparation for their upcoming battle.

Daghdha went to the Fomorians dressed as a fool with a short tunic that only reached his buttocks, a hood and cape which only came to his elbows and boots made of horsehide with the hair side out. He was forced to eat a porridge of meal mixed with goat, sheep, boar, 8 measures of milk and 8 measures of mead. They mixed the porridge in a hole in the ground lined with leather. They gave the Daghdha a ladle large enough for a man and woman to lie in. He ate it all on pain of death, scraping the remainder out with his finger. Then, with a huge belly, he fell asleep. When he awoke and left the Fomorian camp, the daughter of Indech came to him. They performed ritual intercourse and she promised to turn her arts in favor of the Danann during the upcoming battle.

During the 2nd battle of Magh Tuireadh, the Danann lost 3 female and 3 male chieftains and many warriors. Although Daghdha was mortally wounded by the female warrior Ceithlenn in the battle, he succeeded Lugh as the head chieftain (oak god). Daghdha served 80 years as head chieftain. After the battles of Taillcenn (Teltown) in Meath and Druim Lighean (Drumleene) in Donegal, the Danann were defeated by the invading Goidel.

Daghdha negotiated for the Danann and Amhairghin negotiated for the Goidel. Daghdha allotted his chieftains the sidhes of Ireland, taking Uisneach Mide, the spiritual center of Ireland in the new province of Mide, as his home. Because MacGreine was dead, Daghdha appointed Bodb Dearg as head chieftain of the Danann which resulted in a civil war.

NAME	Daire
SEX	M
CATEGORY	warrior
TYPE	battleline soldier
CULTURE	Danann / Goidel / Pictish / Fomorii / Fianna - Clanna Ui Tarsigh
COUNTRY	Ireland
TERRITORY	Leinster
SITES	Allen Hill
CENTERS	Raith Almu (Fort of Almain)
AGE	Iron
DATES	AD 3rd c
RELATIVES	Fionn (father); Samhair and Cebha (half- sisters); Aedh, Ailbhinn, Cairell, Daire, Fergus, Oisín and Raighne (half-brothers)
SEE ALSO	Ailbhinn / Cairell / Cebha / Daire / Fergus

Finnbheoil / Fionn mac Cumhaill / Samhair  
 REMARKS Daire was a son of Fionn mac Cumhaill. He was  
 swallowed by a whale but survived by cutting his way out  
 with his sword.

NAME Daireann  
 SEX F  
 CATEGORY deity  
 CULTURE Danann  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Tipperary  
 TERRITORY Munster  
 CENTERS Sidhe ar Femuin  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES AD 3rd c  
 RELATIVES Sadb (sister); Bodb Dearg (ancestor)  
 SEE ALSO Bodb Dearg / Fionn / Sadb  
 REMARKS The goddess Daireann appeared to Fionn and  
 demanded that he marry her. When Fionn refused she gave  
 him a poison that drove him temporarily mad. The madness  
 passed and left no permanent damage.

NAME Damona  
 EPITHET The Divine Cow / The Great Cow  
 ALTERNATIVE Damona  
 SEX F  
 SYMBOL cow / snake  
 CATEGORY deity  
 TYPE corn goddess / healer and fertility goddess /  
 earth goddess  
 CULTURE Gallic - Lingones tribe  
 COUNTRY France  
 REGION Haute-Marne  
 TERRITORY Gaul  
 LANDMARKS Marne / Meuse / Aube / Saône  
 SITES curative springs at Bourbonne-les-Bains  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 7th c  
 RELATIVES Borvo, Moritasgus and Abilus (consorts)  
 SEE ALSO Abilus / Borvo / Moritasgus  
 REMARKS Damona was a goddess of the thermal springs in  
 Bourbonne-les-Bains. Her name associates her with the  
 divine cows. Borvo, Moritasgus and Abilus were consorts of  
 hers. In later times her image was accompanied by wreaths  
 of corn ears (grain) and sculpted with snakes coiled around  
 her arms. The Lingones tribe was in the area at least by  
 BC 7th century and possibly earlier.

NAME Danaë  
 ALTERNATIVE Danai  
 SEX F

CATEGORY noble  
 CULTURE Danann  
 COUNTRY France / Ireland  
 TERRITORY Gaul / Argos  
 LANDMARKS Seine  
 CENTERS Troyes (Mycenae)  
 AGE Bronze  
 DATES BC 14th-13th c  
 RELATIVES Acrisius (father); Zeus (consort); Perseus (son); Polydectes (husband)  
 SEE ALSO Agamemnon / Athena / Zeus  
 REMARKS Danaë was a daughter of Acrisius, a head chieftain of Argos. The druids had given a prophecy whereby he would be killed by a grandchild, so he imprisoned his daughter Danaë in a tower.  
 Zeus, in a shower of gold, managed to reach her and impregnate her. When her son Perseus was born, she and her son were put in a wooden chest (boat) and given to the sea. Eventually they landed on the island of Seriphos (Ireland).  
 Because the high chieftain of Seriphos was interested in marrying Danaë, he sent Perseus to Libya (southwestern France) to acquire the head of Medusa, which he did with the help of the goddess Athena. On his return home, Perseus saved Andromeda from being sacrificed to a sea monster by showing it the head of Medusa which turned it to stone. He and Andromeda were then married. He then proceeded to Seriphos where he showed Polydectes the head of Medusa and turned him into stone because he was mistreating his mother. Perseus then gave the head of Medusa to Athena.  
 Next Perseus took his mother and wife to meet his grandfather Acrisius in Argos. Fulfilling the ancient prophecy, he accidentally killed his grandfather while playing quoits. He then took the position of high chieftain but later traded it for the position of high chieftain of Tiryns. Here he founded Mycenae (Troyes) which was later ruled by Agamemnon.

NAME Danaus  
 ALTERNATIVE Danaus (dan'-ee-us)  
 SEX M  
 CATEGORY warrior / chieftain  
 TYPE head chieftain  
 CULTURE Danann  
 COUNTRY France  
 TERRITORY Gaul / Libya / Belgica / Argos  
 AGE Bronze  
 DATES BC 13th c  
 RELATIVES Belus (father) / Aegyptus (twin brother) / Danaides (50 foster-daughters)  
 REMARKS Danaus was the son of Belus, twin of Aegyptus, and father of the Danaids. He was a head chieftain of Libya (southwestern France, around Bordeaux) but left there

and moved to Argos (northern France) where he became head chieftain. The people of his territory were called Danaan (Danann/Danai) and by the time of the Trojan War, the name Danai referred to all the people of the territory.

His 50 foster-daughters were called the Danaides and were promised to the 50 foster-sons of their uncle Aegyptus, but Danaus was afraid of a plot against him and asked the girls to kill their husbands on the wedding night. All of them did so except Hypermnestra, and as punishment they had to spend eternity in Hades pouring water into vessels with holes, symbolized by the springs and rivers of Argos.

NAME	Danu
EPITHET	The Lasting One / Mother of Gods / Nourisher of the Gods / The Phantom (Morrighan) / Goddess of Demons (Morrigna) / Great Mother (Morrigu) / Exalted Raven (Morvan) / Great Jackdaw (Mor Cegan) / Great Chieftain (Mor Reega)
ALTERNATIVE	Ana / Anind / Annan / Anu / Dana / Danann / Danu {tha-noo, dah'-nu} / Donann / Donu / Flidais / Morrigan {More-reegan} / Morrighan {Mor-rig-ahn}
SEX	F
SYMBOL	blue / woad plant / raven (prophetic) / eel / wolf / heifer
FESTIVAL	summer solstice
CATEGORY	deity
TYPE	fertility goddess / war goddess
CULTURE	Danann
COUNTRY	Ireland / Scotland / Wales
REGION	Mayo / Kerry / Sligo / Dublin
TERRITORY	West Munster / Connacht / Mide
LANDMARKS	Plain of Towers (Magh Tuireadh) / Magh Liffey
SITES	Da Chich Anann (Breasts of Anu / Paps of Anu) / Cauldron of Morrighan (Corryvreckan) / battlefields
CENTERS	Sidhe Breg
AGE	Bronze / Iron
DATES	BC 16th-15th c / BC 2nd c
BATTLES	first battle of Magh Tuireadh (south Moytura) / second battle of Magh Tuireadh (north Moytura) / Ath Cliath / Cualnge Cattle Raid
ACCESSORIES	red horses / red chariot
RELATIVES	Ernmas (mother); Delbaeth (father/consort); Brénos, Iucharbra, Iuchar (sons/half-brothers); Eladu, Ailill, Delbaed and Bile (consorts); Adair, Airgden, Barrand, Be Chuille, Be Find, Dianann, Be Thete and Boann (daughters); Daghdha (son/consort); Mechi (son); Macha, Badbh and Elcmar (sisters); Eire, Fodhla and Banbha (half-sisters); Fiachu, Olloman and Indui (brothers); Neto, Glonn, Gnim and Coscar (half-brothers); Corpre Crom (half-brother/nephew); Fea and

Nemhain (nieces); Magog, Iarbonel, Ordan and Net (ancestors)

SEE ALSO Ailill of Echraidhe / Badbh / Banbha / Be Chuille / Be Find / Be Find / Bile / Boann / Bodb / Brénos / Brighid / Cairbre / Conaire / Cu Chulainn / Daghdha / Delbaeth / Dianann / Eire / Ernmas / Elcmar / Fea / Fiachu / Fodhla / Forgemen / Iarbonel / Indui / MacCecht / MacCuill / MacGreine / Macha / Magog / Olloman / Nemhain / Net / Neto / Odras / Olloman / Ordan

REMARKS Danu, daughter of Ernmas, daughter of Etarlam, son of Ordan, was a warrior of the Danann. Like her mother she was known for her expertise in the arts of combat and trained many of the Danann warriors.

Danu's sexual character (life) was the link between her role as a mother goddess (birth) and a war goddess (death). As an earth goddess she resided at Sidhe Breg in Munster. Her daughters were known as The Cattle of Flidais. The hills near Killarney are often referred to as the Paps of Anu (Breasts of Danu), and Ireland is sometimes referred to as the Land of Anu. As blue is a sacred color to the bride or earth goddess, the woad plant was sacred to Danu.

Danu was also known as as The Morrighan, a warrior who fought like a demon, spreading chaos and fear. During the battle of south Moytura she was referred to as the springs of craftiness and the sources of bitter fighting. She eventually became venerated as one of the 5 battle goddesses of Ireland along with Macha, Badbh, Fea and Nemhain and each had her own area of expertise. When mortals went to war the goddesses had to be appeased in order to have them on one's side.

The Morrighan would sometimes appear as a spectre but mostly she favored the form of a large black raven. The whirlpool Corryvreckan, between Jura and Scarba Islands is sometimes referred to as Morrighan's Cauldron. The Morrighan sometimes appeared as a washer-woman washing the blood from the clothing of those warriors about to die in battle. This may have been an incentive to fight naked, as some did.

The Morrighan's favor could sometimes be won over by sexual intercourse. The Daghdha came across her while she straddled the river between the Danann and the Fomorii. He had intercourse with her so she helped the Danann win the war. The Morrighan was also someone not to cross, as Odras the Goidel cowherd found out when she tried to stop the Morrighan from taking her cows.

The Morrighan appeared to Conaire in the form of a hag. In the form of a raven, she landed on a pillar stone in Cualnge and told the brown bull to move to Glenn na Samaisce (Heifers Glenn) in Sliab Culinn (Hollymount), northern Ulster. The brown bull took 50 heifers and Forgemen the Cowherd in order to escape capture from the Host of Connacht.

When the Morrighan approached Cu Chulainn at the river she had red hair and eyebrows. She was dressed in red and riding in her red chariot which was drawn by a huge ugly red horse with one leg. The chariot pole passed through the horse's body and came out through its forehead where it was held by a peg. Alongside the Morrighan was a crudely-dressed man driving a red cow with a forked hazel stick.

The Morrighan offered to help Cu Chulainn in return for sexual favors but he rejected her affection and sealed his fate. The Morrighan told Cu Chulainn that she had come with her treasures and her cattle because she loved him for his valor and great deeds. Cu Chulainn thought that a woman would weaken him at that particular time and refused her advances. She became angry and told Cu Chulainn that if he did not want her help then he would have her hindrance.

The Morrighan interfered with Cu Chulainn 3 times while he was fighting for his life. The first time she interfered, she appeared as an eel that wound around his leg and tried to trip him. Cu Chulainn broke the eel's ribs with his toe and drove it away. The second time she appeared as a shaggy russet-furred wolf which drove a herd of cattle against him. Cu Chulainn put out an eye of the wolf with his sling and drove it off. The third time she appeared to Cu Chulainn she came disguised as a red heifer without horns. Cu Chulainn broke a leg of the heifer and she retreated again.

When Cu Chulainn was dying of thirst, an ancient one-eyed stooping hag with a limp came by leading a tawny milk cow with 3 teats. Cu Chulainn asked her for a drink of milk to quench his thirst and she gave him a drink straight from the teat. Cu Chulainn blessed her and the ancient hag straightened up. He then asked her if he might have another drink and she gave him milk from the 2nd teat. Cu Chulainn again blessed her and she looked at him with two good eyes. Cu Chulainn asked her if he could have just one more drink and she gave him milk from the 3rd teat. Cu Chulainn's thirst was quenched and he blessed her in the name of all the gods and non-gods. As she walked toward him he realized her limp was gone and that she was a young maiden of great beauty; in fact, she was the mighty Morrighan.

Later when Cu Chulainn fought his final battle and had tied himself to the pillar stone, the Morrighan came in the form of a great raven and settled on his shoulder.

NAME	Dare mac Dedaid
SEX	M
CATEGORY	warrior
TYPE	chariot warrior
CULTURE	Goidel - Clanna Dedad (The Degads)
COUNTRY	Ireland
REGION	Kerry

TERRITORY Munster  
 CENTERS Temair Luachra (Tara of the Rushes)  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 RELATIVES Dedad (father); CuRoi (son); Conganchness, Li, Echbel, Gabalglinde and Foenglinde (brothers); Eremon and Tea (ancestors)  
 SEE ALSO Conganchness mac Dedaid / CuRoi macDaire / Dedad / Echbel mac Dedaid / Eremon / Foenglinde mac Dedaid / Gabalglinde mac Dedaid / Li mac Dedaid / Tea  
 REMARKS Dare was the son of Dedad and the father of CuRoi, champion of the Degads (Clanna Dedad). Temair Luachra, the burial sire of the Clanna Erainn, became the headquarters of the Clanna Dedad.

NAME Dare macFiachu  
 ALTERNATIVE Daire  
 SEX M  
 CATEGORY warrior / chieftain  
 TYPE chariot warrior / Red Branch champion  
 CULTURE Goidel  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 TERRITORY Ulster  
 LANDMARKS Carlingford Peninsula / Cantel of Cualnge  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 BATTLES Cualnge Cattle Raid / Gairech & Irgairech  
 ACCESSORIES The Brown Bull of Cualnge  
 RELATIVES Fiachna (father); Imchad and Ros (brothers)  
 ENEMIES Host of Connacht  
 SEE ALSO Forgeman / Fruich / MacRoth / Medbh  
 REMARKS Dare macFiachu found Fruich in the form of a waterworm in the water he had drawn and it told him of a coming battle. It was then drunk by a cow and was reborn as the Brown Bull of Cualnge. The bull was named after the district on the Carlingford Peninsula in the ancient province of Ulster and Forgeman was its herdsman (cowherd).  
 The Brown Bull was a supernatural beast, being the reincarnation of a god of the Sidhe, and as he grew so did his fame. The bull would allow 50 youths to rest on his back in the evening to play draughts, assembly and leaping. Another virtue was that 100 warriors could be protected from the elements by his shadow or body heat. Goblins, boggarts or sprites would not come anywhere near him and his lowing was musical to the ear for anyone within hearing. Most important of his many virtues was that he would mount fifty heifers a day and they would calf within 24 hours or burst apart.  
 Medbh, Sovereign of Connacht, desired the bull for her herd and sent MacRoth to negotiate a sale of the bull. She offered new land, a chariot and 50 heifers and the close friendship of herself, Sovereign of Connacht. Dare was

considering the offer when his chef overheard one of Connacht's couriers saying that it was lucky he was giving the bull peacefully because otherwise they would have taken it by force. Upon hearing the insult, Dare refused the offer and sent the negotiators away.

During the Cualnge Cattle Raid, Dare and his brothers were described as high-spirited youths, fiery and noble. They had their hair cut close to the head, wore sleeved tunics embroidered in red gold around their girth and over these they wore single-colored cloaks folded over them and held with gold fibulas. Each carried a shield, a gold-hilted sword on his shoulder and a 5-pointed broad gray-green spear in his right hand.

The Brown Bull, who was the object of the Bo Tain war, killed his enemy the Bull White Horn (Finnbhenach) and headed for home where he died at Druim Tairb (Bull's Back).

NAME	Dath
SEX	M
CATEGORY	warrior / Ri Ruirech
TYPE	chariot warrior / head chieftain
CULTURE	Goidel
COUNTRY	Ireland
REGION	Carlow
TERRITORY	Leinster
CENTERS	Dinn Rig
AGE	Iron
DATES	BC 2nd c
RELATIVES	Mesroeda and Mesgegra (sons)
SEE ALSO	Mac Da Tho (Mesroeda) / Mesgegra mac Dathó
REMARKS	Dath was the head chieftain of Leinster and the father of Mesroeda and Mesgegra.

NAME	Dathi
ALTERNATIVE	Nathi
SEX	M
CATEGORY	warrior / Ard Righ Eirinn
TYPE	high chieftain
CULTURE	Goidel / Danann / Pictish
COUNTRY	Ireland
REGION	Meath
TERRITORY	Connacht / Leinster / Mide / Munster / Ulster
LANDMARKS	Magh mBreg
CENTERS	Raith Rig - Tara
AGE	Ui Néill
DATES	%AD 4th-5th c / AD 381-404 (Ard Righ - Kings List) %
ACCESSORIES	Boramha Tribute (cattle counting)
RELATIVES	Fiachra (father); Ailill Molt (son); Eochu Muigmedon (grandfather); Niall Noighiallach (uncle); Eremon and Tea (ancestors)
ENEMIES	Formenius

SEE ALSO Eochu Muigmedon / Eremon / Loiguirí mac Neil /  
Niall Noighíallach / Tea

REMARKS Dathi, son of Fiachra, son of Eochu Muigmedon,  
descendant of Eremon and Tea, became the high chieftain  
after his uncle Niall Noighíallach. He continued to exact  
the cattle tax (Boramha Tribute) from Leinster without a  
fight.

Dathi led a fleet of warriors to Sliab Elpa in Thrace  
and attacked the fortress of Formenius. During the siege,  
he was killed by a bolt of lightning (arrow) sent by a  
Thracian god. He was followed by his cousin Loiguirí mac  
Neil who ruled for 30 years before the coming of Patrick.  
Loiguirí died at Mag Lifi between the hills of Alba and  
Eriu while securing the cattle tax from Leinster.

NAME Dealgnaid  
ALTERNATIVE Elgnat / Delgnat  
SEX F  
FESTIVAL Beltainn (Brilliant Fires)  
CATEGORY rigbean (noble woman)  
TYPE wife of the chieftain  
CULTURE Partholeann tribe  
COUNTRY Ireland  
TERRITORY Munster  
SITE Da Econd (Of the Two Fools)  
AGE Bronze  
DATES BC 19th c  
BATTLES Magh Ibha  
ACCESSORIES lapdog (Saimer)  
RELATIVES Partholon (husband); Senboth, Laighlinne,  
Slainge, Rudraidhe, Eber, Er, Orba, Ferann and  
Fergna (sons); Aidne, Aife, Aine, Fochain,  
Muchos, Melepard, Glas, Grennach, Ablach and  
Gribendach (daughters); Toba (consort)  
ENEMIES Fomorii  
SEE ALSO Eber / Laighlinne / Partholon / Rudraidhe /  
Senboth / Slainge  
REMARKS One day, while Partholon was away fishing and  
hunting, Dealgnaid, daughter of Lochtach, and Toba, servant  
of Partholon, drank from the tubes of Partholon's vats and  
then fornicated by a river. Because of this act the river  
was named Da Econd (Of the Two Fools).  
When Partholon returned home he found out what had  
happened and killed Dealgnaid's lapdog (Saimer) in revenge.  
She defended her action by accusing her husband of leaving  
her in a situation where such a thing could happen. He was  
pronounced negligent and this was the first adultery, the  
first jealousy and the first judgment in Ireland. Toba was  
later killed by Partholon.

NAME Dechtire  
ALTERNATIVE Dectera / Deichtine {dech-tin-e}

SEX F  
 CATEGORY rigbean (noble woman) / charioteer  
 TYPE driver for Conchobar (Ri Ruirech)  
 CULTURE Goidel - Dal nAraide / Danann / Pictish  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Louth  
 TERRITORY Ulster  
 LANDMARKS Magh Muirthemni  
 CENTERS Raith Dairgthech  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 RELATIVES Cathbad (father); Maga (mother); Conchobar (half-brother/consort); Cu Chulainn (son); Sualtaim (husband/half-brother); Lugh (consort); Elbha and Findchaem (sisters); Genonn and Imrinn (brothers); Ferghus and Fachtna (half-brothers); Ir and Anghus (ancestors)  
 SEE ALSO Anghus mac Og / Cathbad / Conchobar / Cu Chulainn / Elbha / Fachtna Fathach / Ferghus mac Roig / Findchaem / Genonn Gruadsolus / Imrinn / Ir / Lugh / Maga / Sualtaim macRoig  
 REMARKS Dechtire was the daughter of Cathbad and Maga and in her youth was a charioteer for her half-brother Conchobar. During a Beltainn festival, she was the consort to the sun god while Conchobar was the consort to the earth goddess.  
 The sun god Lugh changed Dechtire and her maidens into a flock of birds. The women disappeared for 9 months until the birds appeared again at Emain Macha, inciting the warriors to follow after them in their chariots.  
 At sundown they arrived at a Sidhe mound and were invited to enter where they were entertained for the night with a feast. In the morning, Dechtire appeared with a child and they were told to take the child home to Emain Macha and to train him well. He was named Setanta after a Pictish tribe from Britain on her distaff side.  
 Dechtire then married the filidh Sualtaim who became the boy's father. They lived at raith Dairgthech (Oak House) in county Louth on the Plain of Muirthemni.

NAME Dedad  
 ALTERNATIVE Deda / Degad  
 SEX M  
 CATEGORY hero / warrior / Ri Ruirech  
 TYPE chariot warrior / champion / head chieftain  
 CULTURE Goidel / Clanna Dedad (The Degads)  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Kerry  
 TERRITORY West Munster  
 CENTERS Temair Luachra (Tara of the Rushes)  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 RELATIVES Sin (father); Dare, Conganchness, Li, Echbel,

Gabalglinde and Foenglinde (sons); CuRoi (grandson); Tigernach Tetbannach (uncle); Eremon and Tea (ancestors)

SEE ALSO Conganchness mac Dedaid / CuRoi macDaire / Dare mac Dedaid / Echbel mac Dedaid / Eremon / Foenglinde mac Dedaid / Gabalglinde mac Dedaid / Li mac Dedaid / Tea / Tigernach Tetbannach

REMARKS Dedad, son of Sin son of Daire, was a descendant of Eremon and Tea of the Milesian (Goidel). During the reign of Conaire Mor he became the head chieftain of West Munster and Tigernach Tetbannach, son of Daire son of Ailill, was the head chieftain of East Munster.

Dedad established the Clanna Dedad (The Degads) as a unit of elite warriors or champions. Temair Luachra, the burial site of the Clanna Erainn, became the headquarters of the Clanna Dedad.

NAME Deiotarus  
 EPITHET The Divine Bull  
 ALTERNATIVE Dejotarus  
 SEX M  
 CATEGORY deity / warrior / vate / Brenin  
 TYPE bull god / soothsayer / head chieftain  
 CULTURE Galatian - Tolistoboi  
 COUNTRY Turkey  
 TERRITORY Galatia  
 SITES Drunemeton (sacred spring)  
 CENTERS Tolistothora  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 1st c / BC 63 / BC 45  
 RELATIVES Dumnorix (father)  
 SEE ALSO Dumnorix  
 REMARKS In BC 63 during the Roman domination of Turkey, the Galatians lost their independence when Pompey organized the three chiefdoms of Galatia into principalities of Rome. Deiotarus was made the chieftain of one of the new territories. During the civil war between Caesar and Pompey for control of Rome, Deiotarus plotted to increase the strife.

In BC 45 Deiotarus defended his conduct before Caesar, using Cicero as his defence. He was victorious and returned home as the Rix of the three chieftains of Galatia.

Deiotarus dedicated a sacred spring, unified the Celtic tribes, conquered an area and made a treaty with Rome. The three chieftains who ruled the territory formed a triumvirate.

NAME Deirdre  
 EPITHET Of the Sorrows  
 ALTERNATIVE Darthula / Deirdre {deer-dree} / Derdru  
 {der dru}

SEX F  
 CATEGORY hero / rigbean (noble woman)  
 TYPE most beautiful woman  
 CULTURE Goidel  
 COUNTRY Ireland / Scotland  
 TERRITORY Ulster  
 SITES Armagh  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 RELATIVES Fedlim (father); Naoise (husband); Lebarcham (foster-mother)  
 ENEMIES Conchobhar / Eogan mac Durthacht  
 SEE ALSO Ailill macMata / Baruch / Buinne / Cathbad / Conchobar mac Nessa / Eoghan mac Durthacht / Fedlim mac Daill / Ferghus mac Roig / Illann / Lebarcham / Medbh / Naoise / Sencha macAilella  
 REMARKS Deirdre was the daughter of Fedlim mac Daill, storyteller to Conchobar, head chieftain of Ulster. During a feast at which Aencha, Sencha, Cathbad, Conchobar, Ferghus mac Roig and many of the heroes of Ulster were present, Deirdre let out a scream while she was still in her mother's womb. Cathbad prophesied a tall female of great beauty with golden hair, gray-green eyes, flawless skin and snow-white teeth. He also predicted that her great beauty would cause much hardship and many deaths among the Ulster warriors.

The warriors wanted her put to death, but Conchobar said he would foster her and raise her away from everyone. She was fostered to a female filidh named Lebarcham and taken to a great woods of Ulster, never to see any man but Cathbad and Conchobar.

One day, when she was reaching the age of marriage, Deirdre and Lebarcham were looking over the wall of their raith. It was winter and there was a new snow over the land. A spot was marked by the red blood of a newly-killed calf and as they were watching, a large black raven settled on the snow to eat the blood of the calf. When Deirdre saw this she cried out that she would like to see a man whose hair was as black as the raven, whose skin was as white as the newly-fallen snow and whose cheeks were as red as the blood of the newly-slain calf. Lebarcham told Deirdre that there was such a man: Naoise son of Usna, a young warrior of the Red Branch.

Lebarcham arranged a meeting between Deirdre and Naoise and the young maiden fell madly in love with him. She did not want to marry Conchobar, whom she considered an old man, and tried to convince Naoise to help her to escape. One night Naoise and his two brothers came to the raith and rescued Deirdre, taking her and Lebarcham to Scotland where they became mercenaries for a head chieftain of the Picts. One night, the head chieftain tried to kill Naoise and his brothers so he could take Deirdre for himself, so the group moved on.

Back in Ulster, the warriors wanted their brother of

the Red Branch back and were angry at Conchobar for forcing them to the wilderness because of a girl. Conchobar agreed to pardon them and sent Ferghus mac Roig to deliver the pardon. Naoise and his brothers were excited because they longed to see their comrades-at-arms and Emain Macha once again. Deirdre, on the other hand, perceived danger but was convinced by Naoise that no one including Conchobar would violate the protection of Ferghus.

When Deirdre and her entourage landed in Ireland, they were met by Baruch, a Red Branch warrior who invited Ferghus to his raith for a feast. Ferghus could not refuse because it was a geis of his never to refuse an invitation to a feast. He put his sons Fiacha, Illann and Buinne in charge to safeguard the party to Emain Macha. Deirdre and her group arrived safely at Emain Macha and were housed at the Red Branch. Here Cathbad assured Naoise and his brothers that it was safe to leave the Red Branch hostel and he would guarantee their safety.

Conchobar broke his promise, and warriors loyal to him commanded by Eoghan attacked the Red Branch. Naoise and his brothers and two of Ferghus's sons were some of the many killed in the fray. This black deed caused a split in the warriors of Ulster, and Ferghus led warriors loyal to him against Emain Macha and set it ablaze. He then left with his warriors for Connacht where they became mercenaries for Ailill and Medbh and fought a 17-year guerrilla war against Conchobar.

Deirdre was no joy to Conchobar as she wept for her lost love. In anger Conchobar asked her what she hated most and she replied that she hated him and Eoghan, the killer of Naoise. Conchobar then told Eoghan that he could have Deirdre for a year and put her in his chariot. Before they went far Deirdre threw herself out of the chariot and dashed her head on a rock, killing herself. She was buried in a grave beside Naoise and in time yew trees grew from their graves and intertwined. They are said to be the yews at the great church of Armagh.

NAME	Dela
SEX	M
CATEGORY	warrior / chieftain
CULTURE	Firbolg
AGE	Bronze
DATES	BC 17th c
RELATIVES	Loth (father); Gann, Genann, Rudraige, Sengann and Slainge (sons); Magog and Semeon (ancestors)
SEE ALSO	Gann / Genann / Magog / Rudraige / Semeon / Sengann / Slainge
REMARKS	Dela, son of Loth, son of Oirthet, son of Tribuat, son of Gothorb, son of Gosten, son of Fortech, son of Semeon of the Nemedian, sired 5 sons who led the Firbolg invasion of Ireland. After they settled the island his sons then divided it into 5 territories or provinces

(Coiceda). They became known as Leinster, East Munster, West Munster, Connacht and Ulster. Their spiritual center was Uisneach, the center of the island, where the five provinces met.

NAME Delbaed  
 EPITHET Shapefire  
 ALTERNATIVE Dealbaeth / Dealbaith / Delbach / Delbaeth / Delbath / Delbaith  
 SEX M  
 CATEGORY filidh  
 TYPE seer  
 CULTURE Goidel  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 TERRITORY Munster  
 SITES Fiachu's Cairn  
 AGE Ui Néill  
 DATES AD 4th-5th c  
 RELATIVES Cas mac Tuil (father)  
 REMARKS Delbaed and his five sons were banished from Munster so he went to Fiachu's Cairn and built a druidic fire which sent out five fire streams and he sent his sons in those directions.

NAME Delbaeth  
 EPITHET Tuirill Piccroe  
 ALTERNATIVE Dealbaeth Dana / Dealbaith / Delbach / Delbaed / Delbath / Delbaith  
 SEX M  
 CATEGORY warrior / 6th Ri Ruirech  
 TYPE head chieftain  
 CULTURE Danann  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Mayo / Sligo  
 TERRITORY Connacht  
 LANDMARKS Plain of Towers (Magh Tuireadh)  
 AGE Bronze  
 DATES BC 16th c / BC 1566-1556 (*Kings List*)  
 BATTLES first battle of Magh Tuireadh (south Moytura)  
 second battle of Magh Tuireadh (north Moytura)  
 RELATIVES Etain (mother); Oghma (father); Ernmas (wife); Macha and Badbh (daughters); Elcmar and Danu (daughters/consorts); Fiachu, Olloman, Indui, Corpre Crom, Brénos, Iucharba and Iuchar (sons); Ai (grandson); Cairbre and Senbecc (half-brothers); Diancecht (grandfather); Esaire (great-grandmother); Magog, Iarbonel and Net (ancestors)  
 ENEMIES Caicher / Cian / Lugh  
 SEE ALSO Ai mac Ollamain / Badbh Catha / Brénos / Bress / Cairbre / Cian / Danu / Diancecht / Elcmar / Ernmas / Esaire / Etain / Fea / Fiachu /

Iarbonel / Indui / Macha / Magog / Nemhain / Net  
/ Oghma / Olloman

REMARKS Delbaeth was the son of Oghma and Etain and a descendant of Net. Delbaeth sired the 3 sons of Tuirill Piccroe: Brénos, Iucharba and Iuchar, with his daughter Danu. There was a blood feud between the bloodlines of Etain and Cian which came to a head when the sons of Tuirill killed Cian, father of Lugh.

Once when Delbaeth was suffering a sickness and could not find a cure he went to his mother's father Diancecht. Diancecht gave him a draught at Cnoc Uachtat Archae that caused him to vomit 3 times. The first time he threw up was in Loch Uair, the second in Loch Iairn and the third in Loch Aininn.

Delbaeth ruled the Danann for 10 years after Daghada until he and his son, Olloman, were killed by Caicher, son of Namadach, son of Eochu Garb, son of Dui Temen, son of Bress.

NAME Delbchaem  
EPITHET Fair Shape  
SEX F  
CATEGORY rigbean (noble woman)  
CULTURE Danann  
COUNTRY Ireland  
TERRITORY The Otherworld - Land of Wonder (Tir na Iontas)  
AGE Iron  
DATES AD 3rd c  
RELATIVES Art (husband); Morgan (father); Coinchend (mother)  
SEE ALSO Art Aenfer / Coinchend / Morgan  
REMARKS Delbchaem was imprisoned by her mother in a tower built on the top of a high pillar because it had been foretold that the mother would die when her daughter married. She finally escaped from her home when Art Aenfer defeated all obstacles and rescued her from her parents. She returned to Ireland with Art as his bride.

NAME Delga  
ALTERNATIVE Dela / Deled / Delidh  
SEX M  
CATEGORY warrior / chieftain  
CULTURE Fomorii  
COUNTRY Ireland  
REGION Louth  
TERRITORY Ulster  
LANDMARKS Magh Muirthemni  
CENTERS Dundalk (Dun Dealgan)  
AGE Bronze  
DATES BC 19th-18th c  
RELATIVES Morc (son)  
ENEMIES Nemedian

SEE ALSO Morc mac Deiled  
 REMARKS Delga constructed a fortress in Ulster called Dun Dealgan (Dundalk) in county Louth on Magh Muirthemni. Centuries later it was to become the fortress of Cu Chulainn.

NAME Derbhorgill  
 ALTERNATIVE Derbforgaill / Derbforgaille / Derorcaill  
 SEX F  
 SYMBOL swan  
 CATEGORY deity / filidh  
 TYPE love goddess / sorcerer  
 CULTURE Danann  
 COUNTRY Scotland / Ireland  
 TERRITORY The Otherworld - Scandinavia (Lochlann) / Ulster  
 SITES Tech Midchuarta  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 RELATIVES Lugaid Roederg (1st husband); Lugaid Riab nDerg (2nd husband)  
 ENEMIES Fomorii  
 SEE ALSO Bricriu / Cu Chulainn / Lugaid Reoderg / Lugaid Riab nDerg

REMARKS Derbhorgill was a Danann of Lochlann and was offered to the Fomorians as a tribute. She was taken down to the beach where she was to be turned over to Fomorian warriors when out of nowhere came Cu Chulainn. He killed all the Fomorians and gave Derbhorgill her freedom.  
 Derbhorgill changed herself and her maidens into swans and followed Cu Chulainn to Ireland. She found Cu Chulainn while he was hunting with his friend Lugaid Reoderg. As Derbhorgill and her maidens circled, Cu Chulainn let go a shot from his sling and brought her down. She changed herself back into a human and Cu Chulainn, realizing what he had done, sucked out the shot and saved her.  
 Derbhorgill was even more in love with Cu Chulainn for having saved her life for the second time, but because he was already married, Derbhorgill married his Cu Chulainn's friend Lugaid Reoderg. During Bricriu's Feast at Tech Midchuarta, Derbhorgill sat in the 8th position from Conchobar on the women's side.  
 Derbhorgill eventually married Lugaid Riab nDerg the high chieftain of Ireland and when she died he was so in love with her that he took his own life.

NAME Dianann  
 ALTERNATIVE Danann / Dinand / Dinann / Donand / Donnand  
 SEX F  
 FESTIVAL summer solstice  
 CATEGORY filidh / farmer  
 TYPE sorcerer  
 CULTURE Danann

COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Sligo  
 TERRITORY Connacht  
 LANDMARKS Plain of Towers (Magh Tuireadh)  
 AGE Bronze  
 DATES BC 16th-15th c  
 BATTLES second battle of Magh Tuireadh (north Moytura)  
 RELATIVES Danu (mother); Airgden, Barrand, Be Chuille, Be Thete, Be Find and Boann (half-sisters); Daghada, Mechi, Brénos, Iucharbra and Iuchar (half-brothers); Delbaeth (grandfather); Ernmas (grandmother); Magog, Iarbonel, Ordan and Net (ancestors)  
 ENEMIES Fomorii  
 SEE ALSO Be Chuille / Be Find / Brénos / Boan / Daghada / Danu / Delbaeth / Ernmas / Iarbonel / Lugh / Magog / Net / Ordan  
 REMARKS Dianann daughter of Danu, daughter of Ernmas, daughter of Etarlam, son of Ordan, promised Lugh that when they fought the Fomorii she and her sister Be Chuille would wield their magic and make the trees, rocks and sods of the earth rise up as an army and attack the Fomorian warriors.  
 Dianann died a druid's death during the battle of north Moytura when she was attacked by grey air demons.

NAME Diancecht  
 ALTERNATIVE Den / Dian Cecht {jan-kett, dee'an-kecht} / Dien  
 SEX M  
 FESTIVAL summer solstice  
 CATEGORY deity / druid  
 TYPE healer god / sage of leechcraft / physician (medicine)  
 CULTURE Danann  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Mayo / Sligo  
 TERRITORY Connacht  
 LANDMARKS Plain of Towers (Magh Tuireadh) / Ardagh (Achad Aba) / Lough Arrow  
 AGE Bronze  
 DATES BC 16th-15th c  
 BATTLES first battle of Magh Tuireadh (south Moytura) / second battle of Magh Tuireadh (north Moytura)  
 ACCESSORIES leeches and herbs  
 RELATIVES Esaire (mother); Cian, Miach, Ochttriuil, Cethen and Cu (sons); Airmid and Etain (daughters); Creidhne, Goibhniu, Luchtine and Samhain (half-brothers); Lugh (grandson); Net (grandfather); Magog and Iarbonel (ancestors)  
 SEE ALSO Airmid / Bress / Cian / Creidhne / Esaire / Etain / Goibhniu / Iarbonel / Luchtine / Lugh / Magog / Miach / Midhir / Net / Nuada / Octriallach / Samhain  
 REMARKS Diancecht, son of Esaire daughter of Net, was

the master leech of the Danann when they invaded Ireland. When Nuadha, head chieftain of the Danann, lost his arm during the first battle of Magh Tuireadh, Diancecht replaced it with a silver hand made by Creidhne.

Nuadha, now disfigured, could not remain the head chieftain of the Danann and was replaced by Bress. Diancecht's son Miach, who was also a physician, replaced Nuadha's silver hand with one of flesh and blood. This display of superior healing by his son made Diancecht so envious and jealous that he killed Miach.

Diancecht replaced Midhir's eye that he had lost trying to settle a quarrel on the playing field of Bruig na Boinne. He wrote a thesis called the "Judgement of Dian Cecht" which dealt with the legal responsibilities of a person who had caused personal injury to another.

During the battle of north Moytura, Diancecht and his children Miach, Ochttriuil and Airmid chanted spells over the sacred Spring of Health. Diancecht resurrected the dead and healed the wounded by immersing them into its well (Tiprait Slainge) which was located in Achad Aba (Ardagh) between Lough Arrow and Magh Tuiredh.

Diancecht had filled the well with every herb that grew in Ireland so it was also called Loch Luibe. The well was destroyed when the Fomorian Octriallach led a raid by warriors who filled the well with stones from the Drowes river and built the Cairn of Octriallach. Diancecht died of painful plague, probably contacted from a poisoned weapon, during the battle of north Moytura.

NAME	Dianos
EPITHET	Light Half / Bright Phase
ALTERNATIVE	Danius / Dianus {jan-us} / Ianus / Janus
SEX	M
SYMBOL	2 human heads pointing in opposite directions
FESTIVAL	winter solstice
CATEGORY	deity / chieftain
TYPE	god of portals / thunder / sky / oak / reincarnation
CULTURE	pre-Goidel - Epirotae / Urnfield-Hallstatt - Sequani, Aedui / Gallic - Tricastini, Vocontii
COUNTRY	Spain / Germany / France / England / Ireland
REGION	Saône-et-Loire
TERRITORY	Gaul / Lloegr
LANDMARKS	Iberian Peninsula / Arroux / Rhône
SITES	Boa Island / Roquepertuse / Holzerlingen / Leichlingen / Lothbury
AGE	Iron
DATES	BC 20th c / BC 12 th c / BC 9th c / BC 6th c / BC 4th c / BC 3rd c
RELATIVES	Eperus (father); Iafeth (great-grandfather)
SEE ALSO	Iafeth
REMARKS	The etymology of the name Dianus suggests roots in the Aryan language and the meaning "bright phase" or

"bright half". In Celtic mythology he was the son of Eperus, son of Tubal, son of Iafeth, and was the chieftain of the Epirotae on the Iberian Peninsula. His father seems to have been associated with the people of the same name from southern Albania, an area of the early Goidel.

Dianos became the two-headed deity who guarded the entrance to The Land of the Dead in The Otherworld. Spain is also associated with this mythical place. Dianos was associated with the oak tree and the winter solstice which was the ending of the dark half and the beginning of the light half of the solar year. He was also associated with reincarnation and his head graced the pommel of many Celtic swords.

Various Celtic sculptures of Dianos have been found: one from BC 6th century found at Holzerlingen, one of BC 4th century from Leichlingen, Germany and another found at Lothbury, England which also dates from BC 4th century.

The Gauls had a temple dedicated to Dianos at Autun in Saône-et-Loire, France. The site was near the Arroux river and may have been a druidic center of learning. The site at one time was in the territory of the Sequani, who were settled there between BC 12th-8th century, and the Aedui tribe, who were settled in the area by BC 9th century.

A sculpture of Dianos was found at Roquepertuse in southern France by the Rhône in the territory of the Vocontii, who settled there around BC 12th century. The territory was also settled by the Tricastini in BC 3rd century. The stone-carving style may have been influenced by the Ligurians (who were the original inhabitants) or by the later Iberian settlers, both of whom were excellent stone carvers.

The Celts in Ireland venerated a sculpture of Dianos which is now in a small graveyard at the side of the road on Boa Island at Lough Erne in county Fermanagh, North Ireland. The style of carving is similar to that of the sculpture from Holzerlingen.

The two-headed sculptures of Dianos are called Janiform and the god is often mistakenly credited to the Romans. Dianos predates the Romans and like most things Roman he was borrowed from another culture.

NAME	Diarmaid ua Duibhne
EPITHET	Of the Love Spot (ua Duibhne) / The Auburn-haired (Diarmaid Donn) / Yellow-haired Dearmaid of Women (Dearmaid Buidhe nam Ban)
ALTERNATIVE	Dearmaid / Dermid / Dermot / Diarmait {der mot} / Diarmuid
SEX	M
SYMBOL	boar / flag - Gear-lomlan (bitter brimful)
CATEGORY	hero / warrior
TYPE	battle-line / 3rd best champion
CULTURE	Danann / Goidel / Pictish / Fomorii / Fianna - Clanna Ui Tarsigh

COUNTRY Ireland / Scotland  
 REGION Sligo / Tیره / Meath  
 TERRITORY Leinster / Mide  
 LANDMARKS Magh mBreg  
 SITES Sidhe Brugh na Boyna / Ben Bulben (Beann Ghulban) / Ui Fiacrach Aidhne / Forest of Duvnos  
 CENTERS Raith Almu (Fort of Almain) / Raith Rig - Tara  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES AD 3rd c  
 ACCESSORIES sword - Muileartach (eastern sea)  
 RELATIVES Tuireann (mother); Donn (father); Anghus (god-father); Fionn (uncle); Grainne (wife)  
 ENEMIES Fionn / the white boar of Beann Ghulban  
 SEE ALSO Anghus mac Og / Conan Maol / Donn / Eber / Fionn mac Cumhaill / Goll mac Morna / Grainne / Manannan / Oscar / Roc / Searbhan / Tuireann

REMARKS Diarmaid was the son of Donn of the Danann and Tuireann, a descendant of Eber of the Milesian (Goidel). He was said to be fostered by the gods Anghus mac Og and Manannan of the Danann, meaning that he was fostered by their descendants.

One day at a camp of the Fianna, Fionn's dogs were fighting amongst themselves. Diarmaid's half-brother hid between the knees of Donn for protection but Donn crushed him to death. The boy's father Roc used a magical wand to change the corpse into a gray-cropped white boar with no tail or ears. He gave him the same life-span as Diarmaid and the boar ran off to Beann Ghulban (Ben Bulben) in county Sligo to live his life. Diarmaid was given a geis not to hunt boar for his own protection.

Diarmaid had a beauty spot (ball seirc) which made him irresistible to females once they saw it. He received the beauty mark from a goddess of youth when he, Oscar, Conan and Goll were out hunting. They spent the night in a cabin in the woods with an ancient man, his daughter, a wether sheep and a cat. During the evening meal, the cat jumped up onto the table and in turn each of the Fianna tried to remove it but failed. The ancient man explained to them that the cat was the symbol of death and none of them was stronger. That night each of the males tried to entice the maiden to sleep with him but only Diarmaid succeeded and she put her mark on him.

Diarmaid was considered to be the 3rd best warrior of the Fianna. Diarmaid and Oscar were the best of friends and Diarmaid, the older, taught Oscar how to play Taileasg. One night at a feast held in honor of Fionn's marriage to Grainne, daughter of the high chieftain of Ireland, Diarmaid's love spot got him into trouble. Grainne did not want to be married to Fionn and she used Diarmaid's geis (always to help a maiden in trouble) to rescue her from this fate. Diarmaid loved his uncle and his life with the Fianna and did not want to elope with her but he had no choice.

The two ran away to the forest of Ireland and at first

he left symbols so that Fionn would know that they were not sleeping together, but as time went on they fell in love. A cave named Ui Fiacrach Aidhne in the hills of Kenavarra at the western end of Tiree in the Inner Hebrides became known as the Bed of Diarmuid and Grainne.

While they were being hunted by the Fianna, the couple entered the forest of Duvnos in which there was a magical rowan tree which produced berries of immortality. The tree was guarded by a giant called Searbhan the Surly. Diarmaid convinced the giant to allow them to hide in the tree on condition that they would not touch the berries. They agreed, but then Grainne complained of her hunger and wanted to eat some. This situation forced Diarmaid to kill the giant.

The couple spent 16 years living off the land in Ireland and Scotland and having many adventures before Anghus mac Og and Grainne's father, the high chieftain of Ireland, put enough pressure on Fionn to allow them to come back to Tara.

The couple returned to live in Raith Grainne at Tara, and Grainne bore four sons and a daughter by Diarmaid. While there, Grainne convinced Diarmaid to invite Fionn to a festival. One night during Fionn's stay, Diarmaid was woken by hounds of the Danann howling in the distance. In the morning he found Fionn and some of the Fianna ready to go on a boar hunt. Diarmaid was under geis not to hunt boar so he went along only as an extra.

When the white boar of Ben Bulben had been killed, Fionn asked Diarmaid to measure it from snout to tail. Diarmaid realized it was his half-brother and while measuring out the 16-foot boar, he was stabbed in the sole of his foot (his only vulnerable spot) by a poisonous bristle.

As Diarmaid lay dying, he asked Fionn for a drink of water from his hands because only this could save his life. Fionn said there was no spring in the area and Diarmaid pointed out that he was lying only 9 paces from a spring with the best water in the area. Fionn attempted to bring him water, but each time he remembered the pain Diarmaid had caused him, the water slipped through his fingers. Fionn's son Oscar, who was Diarmaid's best friend, threatened his father with his life if he did not bring Diarmaid a drink. Fionn brought a 3rd handful of water to Diarmaid but he was already dead.

Anghus mac Og and his people of the Danann appeared on Ben Bulben and wailed over the death of Diarmaid, then carried away his body on a gilded bier to Sidhe Brugh na Boyna on Magh mBreg in Mide. Grainne then sent her sons abroad to learn the arts of combat so they could avenge their father's death but as time went on, Fionn wooed her. Much to the disgust of the Fianna, Grainne married Fionn and made peace between him and her sons.

NAME Diarmait mac Conchobar  
 SEX M  
 CATEGORY warrior / son of the Ri Ruirech  
 TYPE chariot warrior  
 CULTURE Goidel - Dal nAraide / Danann  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Armagh  
 TERRITORY Ulster  
 SITES Imroll Belaig Eoin / Ard in Dirma (Height of the Troops)  
 CENTERS Emain Macha (Navan)  
 AGE Iron  
 DATES BC 2nd-1st c  
 BATTLES Cualnge Cattle Raid (died)  
 RELATIVES Conchobar (father); Fedlimid (half-sister); Cu Chulainn, Cormac Condloinges, Cuscraid Menn, Findchad, Fiachu, Fiachna, Naoise, Conall, Follomain, Glas, Mane, Conaing, Beann, Furbude Fer Bend and Fiachra (half-brothers)  
 ENEMIES Host of Connacht / Mane  
 SEE ALSO Ailill macMata / Beann / Conchobar mac Nessa / Cormac Condloinges / Cu Chulainn / Cuscraid Menn / Fedlimid Nocruthach / Fiachna / Fiachra / Fiachu / Findchad / Conall Cernacht / Follomain / Furbude Fer Bend / Glas / Macha / Mane Andoe / Medbh / Naoise / Nocruthach  
 REMARKS Diarmait son of Conchobar was a descendant of Ir of the Milesian (Goidel). During the Cualnge Cattle Raid at the time when the men of Ulster were recovering from the Pains of Macha, Diarmait was sent to parley with the hosts of Connacht. Mane, a son of Ailill and Medbh, represented the Connacht host and Diarmait told him that Conchobar wanted the Brown Bull and his cattle back, plus restoration for the damage done. Because Medbh had pledged a meeting of the bulls, she could bring the White Bull to Cualnge. Mane delivered the message but Medbh and Ailill refused all conditions. When Mane delivered the reply, Diarmait suggested that they exchange spears. They both died along with 3 score of each side. The site where the two died became known as Imroll Belaig Eoin and the hill itself was called Ard in Dirma (Height of the Troops)

NAME Diarmuid mac Cearbhail  
 ALTERNATIVE Diarmait mac Cerball / Diarmait mac Cerbaill / Diarmait mac Cerbhaill  
 SEX M  
 FESTIVAL Feis Temhra / Beltainn (Brilliant Fires) / Samhain (Night of the Dead)  
 CATEGORY warrior / Ard Righ Eirinn  
 TYPE high chieftain  
 CULTURE Goidel - Ui Néill / Danann / Pictish  
 COUNTRY Ireland  
 REGION Meath

TERRITORY Connacht / Leinster / Mide / Munster / Ulster  
 LANDMARKS Magh mBreg  
 SITES Magh Uisneach / hostel of Banban  
 CENTERS Raith Rig - Tara  
 AGE Ui Néill  
 DATES AD 6th c / AD 514-535 (*Ard Righ - Kings List*)  
 ACCESSORIES Tamhlorgaibh fileadh / Boramha Tribute (cattle counting)  
 RELATIVES Fergus Cerrbel (father); Mugain (wife); Aed Slaine and Colman Mor (sons); Morda (2nd wife); Mael-morda (son); Niall (great-grandfather); Eremon and Tea (ancestors)  
 ENEMIES Aedh Dubh  
 SEE ALSO Aedh Dubh / Banban / Bec mac De / Caoilte / Eremon / Golamh / Mugain / Niall Noighiallach / Oisin / Tea  
 REMARKS

Diarmuid mac Cearbhail was a great-grandson of Niall Noighiallach and a descendant of Eremon and Tea of the ancient Milesian. When Diarmuid became the high chieftain, Ireland was inundated with such hailstorms that 12 new streams were created.

Diarmuid was one of the last great pagan rulers of Ireland and during his rule The Feast of Feis Temhra (ritual marriage between the high chieftain and the earth goddess of Mide) was still being practiced. He ordered the stories of Oisin and Caoilte to be cut into the poet staffs (Tamhlorgaibh Fileadh).

Diarmuid killed two head chieftains of Leinster over the cattle tax (Boramha Tribute). After that he extracted the tax without a fight.

While Diarmuid was high chieftain of Ireland, a legal representative of the court of Tara was murdered by a chieftain named Hugh Guairy. Diarmuid sent officers to arrest Hugh Guairy for the murder he had committed, but he was hidden away by the clergy of a new religion that was aggressively trying to defeat the established religion in Ireland at the time. Diarmuid had the premises searched and the murderer was brought to justice at Tara. The clergy of the new religion gathered at Tara and laid a curse upon it, but it failed and Tara continued to be used as a site for pagan rituals as late as AD 780.

Diarmuid found that his wife was having an affair with Flann mac Dima, and on the eve of Beltainn attacked his raith on the Plain of Uisneach. While it was ablaze, Flann suffocated in a vat of water where he climbed to escape the flames.

Diarmuid asked his druids how he would meet his own death. The first filidh said he would die from slaughter while he was wearing a shirt made from the single flax seed and a mantle made from the wool of one sheep. The second filidh said Diarmuid would die from drowning in a vat of beer made from a single seed of grain. The third filidh said Diarmuid would die from burning after eating the bacon of a swine that was never farrowed.