

GEOFFREY CHAUCER

1340-1400

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- Father of English poetry.
- First poet of national importance.
- Genius recognized in all ages including his own
- His career is divided into three phases : French, Italian and English
- Patron- John of Gaunt
- Wrote in East Midland dialect

CHAUCER'S LIFE

- Son of a wealthy London wine merchant.
- Educated at St. Paul's Cathedral School, and later at inner Temple, where he studied law.
- Chaucer was captured by the French during the Brittany expedition of 1359, but was ransomed by the king.
- From 1360 to 1366 nothing is known about his life.

CAREER

- He held a number of royal posts, serving both Edward III and his successor Richard II.
- Edward III sent him on diplomatic missions to France.
- His travels exposed him to be the work of authors such as **Dante, Boccaccio, Froissart.**
- In 1374, Chaucer was appointed comptroller of the London customs.
- In 1386, during the reign of Richard II, he was elected member of parliament for Kent, and he also served as a justice of the peace.

DEATH

- Chaucer died in 1400 of unknown causes.
- He was buried at what later came to be called poet's corner in Westminster Abbey.
- He was the first poet to be buried in Abbey as he had been Clerk of works to the Palace of Westminster.

CHAUCER'S WORKS

- Translation of Roman de la Rose
- The Book of Duchess
- The House of Fame
- The parliament of