Chronology of the Romani throughout Eastern and Western Europe. The first recordings of the Romani in a particular area are highlighted in red. The first 'Anti-Gypsy' laws in a particular area are highlighted in green.

- Before 400. Some Indians become nomadic craftsmen and entertainers. (Patrin)
- 430-443. The Persian poet Firdawsi reports in the *Shah-Nameh* (Book of Kings), written c.1000, how the Persian Shah Bahram Gur persuades the Indian King Shangul to send him 10,000 *Luri* musicians to be distributed to the various parts of the Persian kingdom. (Patrin)
- *About the year 420 before our era, Behram Gour, a wise and beneficent prince of the Sassanide dynasty [226B.C. – A.D. 641], realized that his poor subjects were pining away for lack of amusement. He sought a means of reviving their spirits and of providing some distraction from their hard lives. With this end in mind he sent a diplomatic mission to Shankal King of Cambodia and Maharajah of India, and begged him to choose among his subjects and send to him in Persia persons capable by their talents of alleviating the burden of existence and able to spread a charm over the monotony of work. Behram Gour soon assembled twelve thousand itinerant minstrels, men and women, assigned lands to them, supplying them with corn and livestock, in order that they should have the wherewithal to live in certain areas which he would designate; and so be able to amuse his people at no cost. At the end of the first year these people had neglected agriculture, consumed the corn seed and found themselves without resources. Dehram was angry and commanded that their asses and musical instruments be taken away, and that they should roam the country and earn their livelihood by singing. As a consequences, these men, the Luri, roamed the world to find who would employ them, taking with them dogs and wolves, and thieving night and day."*
- 661. In the Arab Empire, Caliph Muawiya deports Zott from Basra to Antioch on the Mediterranean cost. (Kenrick)
- c. 710 Caliph Yazid II sends still more Zott to Antioch. (Kenrick)
- 820-834. *Zott* state established on the banks of the River Tigris (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 834. The Zott are defeated by the Arabs and many of them relocate to Ainzarba. (Kenrick)
- 855. The Battle of Ainzarba was fought. The Greeks defeated the Arabs and took the Zott soldiers and their families as prisoners of war to Byzantium. (Kenrick)

- 1001-1026. *Sindh* and the *Panjab* in India are invaded some seventeen times by a mixed army of Turko-Persian Ghaznivid troops led by King Mahmud from Ghazni (present-day eastern Iran). Indian resistance, in the form of the *Rajput* warriors, is fierce, but King Mahmud is victorious and takes half a million slaves. (Patrin)
- c. 1000. Roma reach the Byzantine Empire (modern Greece and Turkey). (Patrin)
- c. 1050. Acrobats and animal doctors called 'Athingani' are active in Constantinople. (Kenrick)
- 1192. The Battle of Terain is fought in India and the last Indian nomads leave for the west. (Kenrick)
- c.1200. The canonist Theodore Balsamon describes the canon LXI of the Council in Trulho (692) which threatens a six- year excommunication for any member of the Church (including *Athinganoi*) from displaying bears or other animals for amusement or by telling fortunes. (Patrin)
- 1290. Romani shoemakers are recorded in Greece residing on Mount Athos. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- c.1300. The Romani *Aresajipe;* the arrival of Roma in Europe. (Patrin)
- Romani groups begin to be enslaved in southeast Europe. (Patrin)
- 1322. Roma are recorded on the island of Crete. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1347. The Black Death reaches Constantinople and the 'Aresajipe/Athinganoi/Athingani' move west again. (Kenrick)
- 1348. Roma are recorded in Prizren, Serbia. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- Jules Bloch reports the presence of Cingarije in Serbia "they are shoeing smiths or harness makers and pay an annual tribute of forty horses shoes." (Clebert cites Bloch's Les Tsiganes)
- 1362. Roma are recorded in Dubrovnik, Croatia. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1373. Roma are recorded on the island of Corfu. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1378. Roma are recorded living in villages near Rila Monastery, Bulgaria. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- The judicial chronicles at Zagreb, record the appearance before the court of many Cygans, particularly butchers. (Clebert cites Bloch)
- The Venetian Governor of Nauplia in the Peloponnese confirms the local 'Acingani' in the privileges already accorded by his predecessors. (Clebert cites Bloch)
- 1384. Romani shoemakers are recorded in Modon, Greece. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1385. The first recorded transaction of Roma slaves in Romania. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1387. Mircea the Great of Wallachia indicates that Roma have been in that country for over one hundred years. (Patrin)

- Hasdeu, the Roumanian philologist and historian, tells that Mircea the Great presented forty families of Transylvanian Tzgines to the monastery of Tisman, and three hundred Tzgine families to the monastery of Cosia. (Bercovici)
- 1383. Roma are recorded in Hungary. (Patrin)
- 1399. The First Roma was mentioned in a Bohemian chronicle. (Kenrick, Clebert)
- c.1400. In Bulgaria, Roma are reported "living in large numbers" along the Albanian coast. (Patrin)
- 1407. Roma are recorded at Hildesheim, Germany. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1416. Roma are expelled from the Meissen region of Germany. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1417-1423. King Sigismund of Hungary issues safe-conduct orders at Spis Castle for travelling Roma. (Patrin) (Kenrick mentions safe conduct to the Roma in Lindau.) (Clebert dates King Sigismund letter as 1493)
- 1417. Gypsies appear in Germany claiming they came from Egypt, through Hungary. (Bercovici)
- 1418. Roma are recorded in Colmar, France. (Patrin)
- First Roma arrive in Switzerland (Knerick)
- 1419. Roma are recorded in Antwerp, Belgium. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- A group presented themselves at the gates of Sisteron, on the river Durance, in France. They were given the name Sarrasins (Saracens) but, in spite of the sharply pejorative appellation, proof was given of a hospitality offered to them. They received provisions and the right to camp. (Clebert)
- 1420. Roma are recorded in Deventer, Holland. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1422. Roma are recorded in Rome and Bologna (Patrin, Kenrick, Clebert)
- The first mention of Papal letters in the hands of Gypsies is ascribed to July 16th, 1422 in a Swiss Chronicle:
- *"on that day Duke Michael of Egypt and his followers are said to have produced to the citizens of Basle' good letters of safe conduct from the Pope and our lord the king and from other lords." (Fraser, pg 71)*
- 1423. Roma are recorded in Spissky, Slovakia. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- Andrew 'Duke of Little Egypt' and his followers set of to visit Pope Martin V in Rome. (Kenrick)
- 1425. Roma are recorded in Zaragoza, Spain. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1427. Hundreds of Roma arrive at the gates of Paris. The city sends them on to the town of Pontoise in less than a month. (Patrin, Bercovici)
- Le Journal d'un Bourgeois de Paris, an anonymous yet invaluable document describes the event:

■ *On Sunday 17 August, twelve penitents, as they said, came to Paris: there were a duke, a count and ten men, all on horseback, who said they were Christians and natives of Lower Egypt. ... They had hoped to remain in those countries (Germany and Poland), but the Emperor and his allies held council not to allow them there without the consent of the Pope, and had sent them to Rome to see the Holy Father... The Pope deliberated with his council and gave them as penance that they should roam the earth for seven years without sleeping in a bed. ... He then handed them letters patent with these decisions for the prelatives concerned, gave them his blessing, and they went on their way. ... They had already been traveling for five years before their arrival in*
Paris. The common herd- a hundred or a hundred and twenty men, women, and children-... their entrance into Paris was forbidden and they were accommodated at La Chapelle-Saint Denise... When they were established at La Chapelle, more people than ever had been seen at the benediction of Lendit (The Famous Fair) ... In truth their children were incredible shrewd; and the majorit, indeed nearly all of them had there ears pierced and in each wore one or two silver rings. They said this was the fashion in their country. ... The men were very dark and their hair was crisp. The women were the ugliest and the swarthiest one could see. They had sores on their faces (tattoos) and black hair a horses tail. They were clad in flaussaie, a corse old material attached to the shoulder by a thick band of cloth or cord; their only linen was an old blouse or shirt. ... In spite of their poverty their were amoung them witches who, looking at people's hands, revealed the past and foretold the future."
(Clebert)

- 1439. The records of Siegburg, a little to the north of Bonn, contains frequent gifts to Romani, but now they are thought to have been bribes to induce them to go away. (Fraser)
- Starting in 1441. In some towns, such as Hamburg, Germany (1441-68_ and Hildesheim, Germany (1442 and 1454) alms continued to be handed over but with no hospitality. (Fraser)
- 1445. Prince Vlad Dracul of Wallachia transports some 12,000 persons "who looked like *Egyptians*" from Bulgaria for slave labor. (Patrin)
- 1447. First record of Roma in Catalonia. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1449. Roma are driven out of the city of Frankfurt-am-Main. (Patrin, Fraser)
- 1453. The Turks Capture Constantinople and more Roma flee westward. (Kenrick)
- A Roma smith is reported in Slovenia. (Kenrick)
- 1456. In the Diocese of Troyes, there were several instances when ecclesiastical penalties were imposed on those who had their hands read or resorted to the healing crafts of the Romani. (Fraser)

- A doctor, Jophann Hartlieb, author of a book on palmistry, urged the Duke to get rid of the Romani because of their lack of scientific method in reading palms. (Fraser)
- 1468. Roma are recorded in Cyprus. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1471. The first anti-Romani laws are passed in Lucerne, Switzerland. (Patrin, Kenrick, Fraser)
- 17,000 Roma are transported into Moldavia by Stephan the Great for slave labor. (Patrin)
- 1472. Duke Friedrich of the Rhine Palatinate asks his people to help Roma pilgrims. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1476 and 1487. King Matthias of Slovakia issues safe-conduct orders for travelling Roma. (Patrin)
- 1482. The first anti-Romani laws are passed in state of Brandenburg. (Patrin)
- 1485. Roma are recorded in Sicily. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1489. Roma musicians are reported on Czepel Island, Hungary. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1492 and 1496. King Vladislav of Slovakia issues safe-conduct orders for travelling Roma. (Patrin)
- 1492. The first anti-Romani laws are passed in Spain. (Patrin) (Kenrick mentions that the first drafts of these laws were written in1492. The laws did not go into effect until 1499.)
- 1493. Roma are expelled from Milan. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- A Dated letter of protection reads:

■ *We, Sigismund... King of Hungary, Bohemia, Dalmatia, Croatia and of other places... Our faithful Ladislas, Voivode of the Gypsies and others dependent on him have humbly besought Us to bear witness of our special benevolence. It has pleased Us to receive their compliant request and not to refuse them this present letter. In consequence, if the aforesaid Ladislas and his people present themselves in any place within Our Empire, town or village, we enjoin you to show your loyalty towards Us. You will protect them in every way, so that the Viovode Ladislas and the Gypsies his subjects can reside within your walls. If there should be found among them some drunken woman, if any troublesome incident should occur among the, no matter what its nature, it is Our will and formal command that the said Viovode Ladislas and he alone shall then use the right to punish and to absolve to the exclusion of you all. (Clebert)*

- 1496-1498. The *Reichstag* (parliament) in Landau and Freiburg declares Roma traitors to the Christian countries, spies in the pay of the Turks, and carriers of the plague. (Patrin)
- 1498. Four *Romani* accompany Christopher Columbus on his third voyage to the New World. (Patrin)

- Expulsion of Roma was ordered in Germany. (Kenrick)
- 1499. Medina del Campo in Spain orders *Gitanos* to find a trade and master, cease travelling with other Gitanos, all within sixty days. Punishment for failure to obey is 100 lashes and banishment. Repeat offences are punished by amputation of ears, sixty days in chains, and banishment. Third-time offenders become the slaves of those who capture them. (Patrin)
- 1500. At the request of Maximilian I, the Augsburg Reichstag declares Roma traitors to the Christian countries, and accuses them of witchcraft, kidnapping of children, and banditry. (Patrin)
- c. 1500. Gitano influence on Andalusian *flamenco* song and dance begins. Although flamenco is not a Gitano invention, the art of flamenco later becomes forever associated with the Gitanos from the 19th century onwards. (Patrin)
- 1501. Roma are recorded in Russia. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1504. Roma are prohibited by Louis XII from living in France. The punishment is banishment. (Patrin, Kenrick, Fraser)
- 1505. Roma are recorded in Scotland, probably from Spain. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- Two groups of Roma enter Denmark. (Kenrick)
- 1510. Roma are prohibited by the Grand Council of France from residence. The punishment is banishment. A second offence results in hanging. (Patrin)
- The Death penalty is introduced for Roma found in Switzerland. (Kenrick)
- 1512. Roma are first recorded in Sweden on 29 September. A company of about 30 families, lead by a "Count Anthonius" arrives in Stockholm, claiming that they came from "Little Egypt". They are welcomed by the city and given lodging and money for their stay. A few years later, King Gustav Vasa (1521-1560), suspects that the Roma are spies and orders that they be driven out from the country. (Patrin)
- Safe conduct granted by Polish Duke Bogislav X to Ludwig von Rothenburg, count of little Egypt. (Fraser)
- Roma are expelled from Catalonia. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1514. Roma are first mentioned in England. (Kenrick)
- 1515. Bavaria, Germany closes its borders to Roma. (Kenrick)
- 1516. Roma are mentioned in Portuguese literature. (Kenrick)
- 1523. Prague officially allows *nomads* to remain. The welcome does not last long. (Patrin)
- 1525. Roma are ordered to leave Sweden, Again. (Kenrick, Fraser)
- 1525 (6). Charles V issues an edict in Holland ordering all those that call themselves *Egyptians* to leave the country within two days. (Patrin)

- 1526. The first anti-Romani laws are passed in Holland and Portugal. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1530. The first law expelling the Romani from England is introduced. Henry VIII forbids the transportation of the Romani into England. The fine is forty pounds for ship's owner or captain. The Romani passengers are punished by hanging. (Patrin)
- 1531. The Augsburg Reichstag forbids the issuing of passports to Roma. (Patrin)
- 1536. The first anti-Romani laws are passed in Denmark. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1538. Deportation of Roma in Portugal to colonies begins. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1539. Roma are prohibited by Frances I from residence in France. The punishment is banishment. A second offence results in corporal punishment. (Patrin)
- Any Males found 'Nomadizing' in Spain were sent to the galleys. (Kenrick)
- 1540. The Romani are allowed to live under their own laws in Scotland. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1541. Roma are blamed for outbreak of fires in Prague. This sets the stage for future anti-Romani legislation. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- The first anti-Romani laws are passed in Scotland. (Patrin)
- 1544. English Roma are deported to Norway. (Kenrick)
- 1547. Edward VI of England institutes law requiring that Romani be seized and "branded with a 'V' on their breast, and then enslaved for two years." If escapees are caught they will be branded with an "S" and made slaves for life. (Patrin)
- Andrew Boorde authors an encyclopedia in England entitled *The Fyrst Boke of the Introduction of Knowledge*. It has a chapter on Romani, which includes some of the earliest specimens of the language. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1549. The first anti-Romani laws are passed in Bohemia. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1551. A decree was passed in Poland, declaring any pass [of safe conduct] carried by a Romani to be void, and banned all such documents in the future. (Fraser)
- 1553. First Roma appear in Estonia. (Kenrick)
- 1554. In the reign of Philip and Mary, an Act is passed which decrees that that the death penalty shall be imposed for being a Romani, or anyone who "shall become of the fellowship or company of *Egyptians*." (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1557. The first anti-Romani laws are passed in Lithuania. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- In the reign of Sigismund Augustus, the first law ordering Roma to be expelled is passed by the Warsaw *Seym* (parliament). (Patrin)
- 1559. Roma are recorded on the Finnish island of Åland. (Patrin, Kenrick)

- 1560. The Archbishop of the Swedish Lutheran Church forbids priests to have any dealings with Roma. Their children are not to be christened and their dead not to be buried. (Patrin)
- 1560 and others. Spanish legislation forbids Gitanos of travelling in groups of more than two. *Gitano* "dress and clothing" is banned. Punishment for wearing Gitano clothing and travelling in groups of more than two is up to eighteen years in the galleys for those over fourteen years of age. This legislation is later altered to change the punishment to death for all nomads, and the galleys reserved for settled Gitanos. (Patrin)
- 1561. Roma are prohibited by Charles IX of France from residence. The punishment is banishment. A second offence results in the galleys and corporal punishment. Men, women and children have their heads shaved. (Patrin)
- 1562. An Act is passed in England "for further punishment of Vagabonds, calling themselves *Egyptians*." Any Romani born in England and Wales is not compelled to leave the country if they quit their idle and ungodly life and company. All others should suffer death and loss of lands and goods. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1563. The Council of Trent in Rome affirms that Roma cannot be priests. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1568. Pope Pius V orders the expulsion of all Roma from the domain of the Roman Catholic Church. (Patrin)
- 1573. Romani in Scotland are ordered to leave the country or settle down. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1574. Roma miners are recorded in Bosnia. (Kenrick)
- 1578. At the General Warsaw Seym, King Stephen Báthory pronounces an edict threatening sanctions against anyone who harbors Roma on their lands. They are punished as accomplices of outlaws. (Patrin)
- 1579. Augustus, elector of Saxony, orders the confiscation of Romani passports and banishes them from Saxony. (Patrin)
- Romani are recorded in Wales. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- Wearing of Romani dress is banned in Portugal. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1580. Roma are recorded on the Finnish mainland. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1586. Nomadic Roma are ordered expelled from Belarus. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1589. In Denmark, the death penalty is ordered for any Roma not leaving the country. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1595. Stefan Razvan, the son of a Roma slave and free woman, becomes ruler of Moldavia in April. He is deposed four months later and murdered in December of the same year. (Patrin, Kenrick)

- 1596. 106 men and women are condemned to death at York just for being Romani, but only nine are executed. The others prove they were born in England. (Patrin)
- Early 17th century. Spanish legislation becomes harsher, forbidding Gitanos from dealing in horses. The local populace is given permission to form armed groups to pursue Gitanos. (Patrin)
- 1606. Roma are prohibited by Henry IV of France from any gathering of more than three or four. Roma are punished as "vagabonds and evil-doers." (Patrin)
- 1611. Spanish legislation orders that all Gitano occupations must be connected to the land. (Patrin)
- 3 Roma are hanged in Scotland under the 1554 law. (Kenrick)
- 1619. Philip III declares all Gitanos are to be banished from the kingdom of Spain within six months, or to settle in a locality with over 1,000 inhabitants. The dress, name and language of the Gitanos is banned. The punishment is death. (Patrin)
- 1633. The Pragmatica of Felipe IV takes effect in Spain, and the Roma are expelled. (Kenrick)
- 1637. The first anti-Romani law in Sweden is enacted. All Roma should be expelled from the country within one year. If any Roma are found in Sweden after that date the men will be hanged and the women and children will be driven out from the country. (Patrin, Kenrick)
- 1646. An ordinance passed in Berne gives anyone the right "personally to kill or liquidate by *bastinado* or firearms" Roma or *Heiden* (heathen) malefactors. (Patrin)
- 1647. Roma are punished by the Louis XIV regency of France for being "Bohemians." Punishment is the galleys. (Patrin)
- 1652. Matiasz Korolewicz is conferred the title "*King of the [Romani]*" by the Polish Royal Chancery. (Patrin)
- 1650s. Last known execution for being Romani, in Suffolk, England occurs. Others are banished to America. (Patrin)
- 1660. Roma are prohibited from residence in France by Louis XIV. Punishment is banishment. A second offense results in the galleys or corporal punishment. (Patrin)
- 1660-1800. The identity of the English Romani *Romanichal* group has been formed. They survive by working for local people who know them. (Patrin)
- 1661. Johann Georg II, elector of Saxony, imposes the death penalty to any Roma caught in his territory. (Patrin)

- 1666. Punished by Louis XIV of France for being "*Bohemians*." Men are sent to the galleys. Women and girls are flogged, branded and banished. (Patrin)
- 1682. Louis XIV reiterates his previous policy: punishment for being "Bohemian." Men are sentenced to the galleys for life on the first offence. Women's heads are shaved and children are sent to the poor house. For a second offence, women are branded and banished. (Patrin)

- 1685. Portugal deports Roma to Brazil and makes it a crime to speak Romani. (Patrin)
- 1686. Frederick William, elector of Brandenburg, decrees that Roma are not to be allowed trade or shelter. (Patrin)
- There is a sudden and radical change in the attitude of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Roma are now accepted and their children may be christened. (Patrin)
- 1692. Roma are reported in Villah, Austria. (Kenrick)