

## LÊ LONG ĐĨNH



Lê Long Đĩnh, also known as Chí Trung, was born in the tenth month of the day Bính Ngọ, and the year Bính Tuất (which corresponds to the fifteenth day of the eleventh month in 986), as the fifth son of Lê Đại Hành. Historical records do not clearly state the name of his mother, only noting her as "a wonderful lady" or "the first lady." It is recorded that he and Lê Long Việt shared the same mother. In the fourth year of the Hưng Thống era (992), he was granted the title of Khai Minh Vương by his father, the king, and was assigned to govern in Đằng Châu. In the eleventh year of the Ứng Thiên era (1004), Lê Hoàn intended to appoint Lê Long Đĩnh as the Crown Prince, but due to objections from the court officials, he was instead granted the title of Great Prince, while his elder brother Lê Long Việt was appointed as the Crown Prince. After Lê Hoàn's death in March 1005, Lê Long Đĩnh, along with his brothers Ngân Tích, Long Kính, and Long Cân, contended for the throne against Crown Prince Lê Long Việt. In October 1005, Lê Ngân Tích was killed, and Long Việt ascended to the throne. However, after just three days, Lê Long Đĩnh assassinated his brother and seized the throne.

The term "chi hậu diêu nữ" or "sơ hầu di nữ" refers to his mother, and it is recorded that he and Lê Long Việt shared the same mother. In the fourth year of the Hưng Thống era (992), he was granted the title of Khai Minh Vương by his father, the king, and was assigned to govern in Đằng Châu. In the eleventh year of the Ứng Thiên era (1004), Lê Hoàn intended to appoint Lê Long Đĩnh as the Crown Prince, but due to objections from the court officials, he was instead granted the title of Great Prince, while his elder brother Lê Long Việt was appointed as the Crown Prince. After Lê Hoàn's death in March 1005, Lê Long

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During his four years in power, Lê Long Đĩnh led military campaigns to quell unrest on five occasions:

1. The first campaign (1005): He suppressed violent rebellions and disputes among his siblings within the royal family to bring them under control. From then on, both local lords and bandits submitted to his authority.
2. The second campaign (1005): While his forces were engaged in battle with insurgents at the Phù Lan camp, news arrived that the Cử Long invaders had arrived at the Thần Phù coastal gate (Ninh Bình). The king returned to the Tham River, crossed to Ái Châu, and engaged the Cử Long invaders.
3. The third campaign (1008): He fought against the Man people in the Đô Lương and Vị Long regions.
4. The fourth campaign (1008): He battled invaders in Hoan châu and Thiên Liêu châu.

5. The fifth campaign (1009): In July, he fought against invaders in the Hoan Đường and Thạch Hà regions.
6. In the spring of the Đinh Mùi year (1007), Lê Long Đĩnh sent his younger brother Minh Xưởng and his chief secretary Hoàng Thành Nhã to present a white elephant as a gift to the Song dynasty, along with a request for the Tripitaka scriptures.
7. When the king reached Ái Châu and arrived at the Vũ Lung River, it was said that many people crossing this river were harmed. To address this issue, he instructed individuals to swim across the river three times without any harm. Then, he had boats stationed at four locations along the Vũ Lung, Bạt Cừ, and Động Lung rivers to ferry people back and forth.
8. Lê Ngọa Triều reigned for four years, until the Kỷ Dậu year (19th of November, 1009), when he died at the age of 24 due to illness. With Long Đĩnh's death and his young son Sạ still a child, under the arrangements made by the official Chi Hậu Đào Cam Mộc, the court officials enthroned Lý Công Uẩn as the new emperor. Thus, the Tiền Lê dynasty ended, spanning three kings and lasting 29 years. Because Lê Long Đĩnh killed his brother to seize the throne and fell into licentiousness, leading to illness and confinement to his bed, the people called him Ngọa Triều.

King Lê Long Đĩnh did not have his own dedicated temple, but he was also honored with statues and worship alongside his father, King Lê Đại Hành, at two locations: the Temple of King Lê Đại Hành in the ancient capital of Hoa Lư (Ninh Bình), and the Lê Dynasty Temple in his hometown of Liêm Càn Thanh Liêm (Hà Nam).

Long Đĩnh (986 – 1009) was the last king of the Tiền Lê dynasty in Vietnamese history. He ruled for 4 years, from 1005 to 1009. His death at the age of 24 led to the end of the Tiền Lê dynasty, with power falling into the hands of the Lý dynasty.

