|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Laskarid dynasty (Empire of Nicaea, 1204–1261)** | | | |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/86/148_-_Theodore_I_Laskaris_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png/75px-148_-_Theodore_I_Laskaris_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png | **Theodore I** Laskaris Θεόδωρος Λάσκαρις | May 1205 – November 1221  (16 years and 6 months) | Born c. 1174, he rose to prominence as a son-in-law of Alexios III. His brother Constantine Laskaris (or Theodore himself, it is uncertain) was elected emperor by the citizens of Constantinople on the day before the city fell to the Crusaders; Constantine only remained for a few hours before the sack of the city and later fled to Nicaea, where Theodore organized the Greek resistance to the Latins. Proclaimed emperor after Constantine's death in 1205, Theodore was crowned only in Easter 1208. He managed to stop the Latin advance in Asia and to repel Seljuk attacks, establishing the Empire of Nicaea as the strongest of the Greek successor states. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/2/24/149_-_John_III_Doukas_Vatatzes_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png/75px-149_-_John_III_Doukas_Vatatzes_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png | **John III** Vatatzes Ἰωάννης Βατάτζης | December 1221 – 3 November 1254  (32 years and 11 months) | Born c. 1192, he became the son-in-law and successor of Theodore I in 1212. A capable ruler and soldier, he expanded his state in Bithynia, Thrace and Macedonia at the expense of the Latin Empire, Bulgaria and the rival Greek state of Epirus. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/1f/150_-_Theodore_II_Laskaris_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png/75px-150_-_Theodore_II_Laskaris_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png | **Theodore II** Laskaris Θεόδωρος Λάσκαρις | 3 November 1254 – 16 August 1258  (3 years, 9 months and 13 days) | Born in 1221/1222 as the only son of John III, he succeeded on his father's death. His reign was marked by his hostility towards the major houses of the aristocracy, and by his victory against Bulgaria and the subsequent expansion into and Albania. |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/2/26/151_-_John_IV_Laskaris_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png/75px-151_-_John_IV_Laskaris_%28Mutinensis_-_color%29.png | **John IV** Laskaris Ἰωάννης Λάσκαρις | 16 August 1258 – 25 December 1261  (3 years, 4 months and 9 days) | Born on 25 December 1250 as the only son of Theodore II, he succeeded on his father's death. Due to his minority, the regency was exercised at first by George Mouzalon until his assassination, and then by Michael Palaiologos, who within months was crowned senior emperor. After the recovery of Constantinople in August 1261, Palaiologos sidelined John IV completely, had him blinded and imprisoned. John IV died c. 1305. |



|  |
| --- |
| **Compiler FLN** |