

CHRONOLOGICAL summary of Galileo's life

- 1564 Galileo born at Pisa, Italy, on February 15.
- 1575-7 Began formal schooling at the Monastery of Vallombrosa.
- 1578 Entered the Vallombrosan Order but left before completing the year of novitiate.
- 1581 Begins studies at the University of Pisa.
- 1586 Invents a hydrostatic balance.
- 1588 Writes a treatise on the center of gravity in solids which wins him some acclaim.
- 1589 With the help of Guidubaldo del Monte, Galileo obtains a professorship of mathematics at the University of Pisa.
- 1591 Galileo resigns from Pisa after conflicts with Aristotelians. G. del Monte helps him obtain the chair of Mathematics at the University of Padua.
- 1597 Writes to Kepler that he has been a Copernican "for several years."
- 1600 Daughter Virginia (later Sister Maria Celeste) born out of wedlock.
- 1601 Daughter Livia (later Sister Archangela) born.
- 1605 Returns to Florence during the summer to tutor Prince Cosimo.
- 1606 Birth of a son, Vincenzo.
- 1608 Invention of the telescope by Hans Lippershey.
- 1609 February _____ Prince Cosimo becomes Grand Duke of Tuscany.
July-August _____ Constructs a telescope and begins observing the heavens.
- 1610 March _____ publishes the *Sidereus Nuncius*.
- June _____ resigns from the University of Padua.
September, returns to Florence as Ducal Philosopher and Mathematician to Cosimo II.
- 1611 Makes triumphant journey to Rome. Jesuit astronomers confirm his discoveries. Wins election to the *Accademia dei Lincei*. Returns to Florence and gets involved in a dispute concerning the behavior of bodies in water.
- 1612 Publishes discourse on floating bodies and writes letters on the sunspots. Mistakenly accuses Father Lorini of attacking him from the pulpit.
- 1613 Letters on the sunspots published by the Lincean Academy. Hears from Father Castelli that his doctrine has been challenged on the basis of Holy Scripture at the court of the Grand Duke. Writes Letter to Castelli.
- 1614 Publicly attacked by Father Caccini.
- 1615 Letter to Castelli denounced to the Holy Office but judged in favor of Galileo. Father Foscarini publishes a book trying to reconcile the new astronomy with Sacred Scripture. Cardinal Bellarmine writes Letter to Foscarini warning him and Galileo to stay in the area of hypothesis until demonstrative proof is produced. Galileo goes to Rome to defend his position. Thomas Campanella writes his *Apologia pro Galileo* at the request of Cardinal Gaetani.
- 1616 February 19 _____ Theological Consultors of the Holy Office summoned to give their opinion on the Copernican doctrine.
February 23 _____ Consultors censure Copernican opinion as heretical.
February 25 _____ Pope Paul V assigns Cardinal Bellarmine to tell Galileo not to hold or defend his theory.
February 26 _____ Date of the famous injunction recorded in the Holy Office files which claims that Galileo was told by the Commissary General not to discuss his theory in any way.
March 3 _____ Cardinal Bellarmine gives Galileo a certificate with which to combat the lies which were being spread about him.