

GALLA PLACIDIA

Galla Placidia was born in 388, the daughter of Theodosius I and his second wife Galla, and thus the half-sister of Arcadius and Honorius. In 410 she was taken prisoner by the Visigoths after their capture of Rome and taken by them to Gaul in 412. In 414 she married the Visigothic King Athaulfus and bore him a son who died in infancy. She was restored to the Romans after the murder of Athaulfus by King Vallia in 416. Her second husband was the 'patricius' Flavius Constantius (who became Augustus for a few months in 421) and by him she had two children, Justa Grata Honoria and Placidius Valentinianus (III). Although Placidia and Honorius were very close after her husband's death, they later quarrelled and she departed with her children to Constantinople. The Eastern Emperor Theodosius II championed the cause of Placidia and her son against Honorius' successor, the usurper Johannes, and with his defeat and death in 425 Placidia assumed the reins of government in the West, where she acted as regent for her six-year-old son Valentinianus III. She lost her political influence in the latter part of her son's reign and spent her final years erecting holy buildings in Ravenna. She died at Rome in 450.

Obverse legends.

- A. DN GALLA PLACIDIA PF AVG.
B. DN GALL PLACIDIA PF AVG.

Obverse bust.

- a. pearl diadem, draped, right.



	VF	EF
5† Aa R̄ SALVS REIPVBLICAE, Victory seated r. on cuirass inscribing a chi-rho on shield resting on her knee. Ravenna \overline{RVPS} . siliqua .	900	2,000



16a Aa R̄ No legend, Chi-rho in wreath. Ravenna \overline{RV} . half siliqua .	750	1,750
16b Ba R̄ As last Ravenna \overline{RV} . half siliqua	750	1,750
16c Aa As last. Aquileia \overline{AQ} . half siliqua <i>forgery</i>		
18† Aa R̄ No legend, cross in wreath. Aquileia $\overline{AQMP S}$. siliqua <i>forgery</i>		