Order of the British Empire (Knights & Dames)

The "***Most Excellent Order of the British Empire***" is a British order of chivalry, rewarding contributions to the arts and sciences, work with charitable and welfare organizations, and public service. It was established in 1917 by King George V, and comprises five awards.

Recommendations for awards of the ***Order of the British Empire*** can be made in the United Kingdom and in some Commonwealth countries. Today, many Commonwealth countries, such as India, Pakistan and Nigeria, have created their own local awards. Awards given to non-residents of the UK (or British Commonwealth) are called "honorary" awards.

The five classes of appointment to the Order are:

1. **Knight Grand Cross** or **Dame Grand Cross** of the *Most Excellent Order of the British Empire* (**GBE**)
2. **Knight Commander** or **Dame Commander** of the *Most Excellent Order of the British Empire* (**KBE** or **DBE**)
3. **Commander** of the *Most Excellent Order of the British Empire* (**CBE**)
4. **Officer** of the *Most Excellent Order of the British Empire* (**OBE**)
5. **Member** of the *Most Excellent Order of the British Empire* (**MBE**)

These awards are "honours" or "honourable titles" and they entitle their recipients to become ***knights*** or ***dames*** and to use the titles ***Sir*** or ***Dame***. However, honorary award holders cannot use these titles. Here are some people who are knights or dames:

- Kevin Spacey KBE (2015) (USA)
- Steven Spielberg KBE (2001) (USA)
- **Sir** Elton John KBE (1995) (England)
- **Sir** Sean Connery KBE (2000) (Scotland)
- Angelina Jolie DBE (2014) (USA)
- **Dame** Judie Dench DBE (1988)(England)

Source:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_of_the_British_Empire