

Historical booklet about Slovakia



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Important events to the 20th century Great Moravia

863 - Great Moravia (today Slovakia's area): The nation needed religious and cultural assistance and Byzantine King Michael III urged Constantine to take up with his brother a directed mission to Great Moravia to Rastislav's court because the brothers confessed in philosophy, literature and in Slavic language. They did the introduction of Slavic liturgy, the brothers created the basis of a Slavic language school for clergy. The Slavic writing, creation and dissemination of the **Glagolitic** alphabet and the Slavic languages, religious books translating was also Constantine's merit.

867 - with the consent of the Great Moravian monarchs Rastislav and Svatopluk went to Rome to obtain Pope's consent to the use of Old Slavonic as a liturgical language. They translated the Bible into Slavic language. Thanks to them the religious life of the Slavics started blooming.



Great Moravia



Kingdom of Hungary



1000 - Pope Silvester II crowned Saint Stephen I and the Christian Kingdom of Hungary (part of which was today's Slovakia) came into being.

1300 - 1308 – Matthew Csák took possession of many important castles.

1465 - The first university in the territory of Slovakia, Academia Istropolitana was instituted.

1521 - 1718 – Kingdom of Hungary came under Ottoman's power. Bratislava became the capital and coronation city of Kingdom for this period.

1699 - Ottoman – Habsburg wars finished with lowitz.



The Rákóczi uprising

Ferenc (Francis) II Rákóczi (1676, Borsí - 1735, Rodosto) a Hungarian aristocrat and leader of the Hungarian uprising against the Habsburgs in 1703 – 11. Rákóczi's War for Independence (1703–1711) was the first significant freedom fight in Hungary against the absolutist Habsburg rule. It was fought by a group of noblemen, wealthy and high-ranking progressives. In 1703 large portions of Hungary were under Rákóczi's control and in 1704 a „ruling prince“ by the diet was elected. In 1707 the diet of Onod deposes the House of Habsburg from the Hungarian throne. Rákóczi, however, suffered severe defeats and in 1711 the Hungarians and Austrians negotiated peace at Szatmar. Rákóczi, who refused to accept the treaty, fled to Poland then to France, and eventually to Turkey. He died in Turkey.



Important events from the 20th century Czechoslovakia

1918 – Czechoslovakia came into existence. It's first president was Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk.

1938 – Slovakia became independent with Hitler's help. To the end of the World War II it was a puppet ally of the Nazi Germany.

1945 – Czechoslovakia is created again with communist help and until 1989 it was a state under communist leading.

In 1989 the country became democratic again through the Velvet Revolution.

On 1 September 1992 the Slovak Constitution was published.

1 January 1993 – Slovakia became an independent state.



The World Wars

1939 – on 14 March the Slovaks created the independent Slovak Republic by fasists' influence. Jozef Tiso, a catholic priest became the president of Slovakia.

1944 – 45 - In Banská Bystrica (a town in central Slovakia) the Slovak National Uprising broke out. The Soviet army entered into Slovakia and started to eliminate the Germans.



1948 – Czechoslovakia became part of the Soviet Union - in terms of obedience. The Communist government was in Prague.

1968 - Alexander Dubcek became the leader of the Communist Party in Czechoslovakia. Dubcek wanted to democratize the party and the state (Prague Spring). In August the Soviet army destroyed the democratic reform.

1989 – The Soviets lost their power and the road opened for democracy.



The European Union

The European Union is a unique economic and political partnership between 27 countries.

1950 - The European Union was set up after the Second World War to bring peace, stability and prosperity to Europe. Important institutions and bodies of the EU are the Council of the European Union, European Parliament, European Court of Justice, European Commission.

2004 - Slovakia joined in the European Union with nine other states.

2009 – Slovakia's currency became euro, replacing the Slovak koruna. Slovakia is the 16th state which money is the euro.



Important characters from the history



Juraj Jánošík

January 25, 1688, - Terchová

March 17, 1713, - Liptovský Mikuláš

1688 - Slovakia's favourite folk hero, Juraj Jánošík was born in Terchová. At the age of twenty he voluntarily joined the troops of Ferenc Rákoczi.

1708 - Jánošík was recruited by the Habsburg army after the battle of Trenčín until 1710.

1711 – Jánošík joined a robber group and then he became the leader of the group. His group took from the rich and gave to the poor, as Robin Hood.

1713 - Jánošík was imprisoned and executed in Liptovský Mikuláš.



Ľudovít Štúr

October 29, 1815, Uhrovec

January 12, 1856, Modra



1815 - Ľudovít Štúr, the leader of the Slovak national revival, was born in Uhrovec.

1843 – Štúr and his friends decided to codify the Slovak literary language.

1847 - Town Zvolen vote Štúr for a congressman.

1848 - Slovak National Council was formed by Štúr, Hurban and Hodža in Vienna.

Towards the end of his life the police investigated Štúr and he could not leave Modra without police authorisation.

1855 - He accidentally fell and shot himself while out hunting.

1856 - As a result of his injuries he died.



Ányos Jedlik



January 11, 1800, Zemné

December 13, 1895, Győr

Ányos Jedlik was an inventor, an engineer, a physicist, a Benedictine priest and author of several books.

1800 – Anyos Jedlik was born in Zemné in Kingdom of Hungary (today's Slovakia). Through his textbook he is regarded as one of the establishers of Hungarian vocabulary in physics.

From 1858 he was a corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Ányos Jedlik's best known invention is the principle of dynamo self-excitation.

1827 - he started experimenting with electromagnetic rotating devices which he called electromagnetic self-rotors. Jedlik's invention was decades ahead of its time. Dynamos were the first electrical generators capable of delivering power for industry.



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