

ON THE ROAD TO MODERNIZATION

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR 1848

- 13th March – the revolution in Vienna
 - 15th March – the revolution in Pest
 - 18th March – March Laws issued
 - 11th April – Ferdinand I. approved the March Laws
 - 10th May – the Demands of Slovak Nation
 - 2nd June - Slavonic Congress in Prague – the result – the Manifest to the European Nations worked out by F.Palacký (criticised the policy of discrimination of minorities living in the monarchy)
 - 16th September – **the Slovak National Council established** in Vienna – the highest Slovak national and political authority aiming to formulate and achieve the concept of a Slovak territory
- the main representatives: J.M.Hurban, L.Štúr, M.M.Hodža
 - the first chairman: J.M.Hurban
 - organised the Expeditions (three – September, Winter, Spring) on the side of Vienna, several military successes
 - 19th September – L.Štúr on the behalf of the Slovak National Council proclaimed the autonomy of Slovakia in Myjava
- 3rd October - Ferdinand I. – dismissed the Hungarian Diet
 - 2nd November – Franz Joseph I. – became the Emperor

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR 1849

- 7th March - the Emperor proclaimed the new Constitution
 - in March - the assembly of Slovak representatives in Martin – worked out the new demands (one of the six points was the separation of Slovakia from the Hungarian Kingdom , falling under the direct administration of Vienna) – handed in to the Emperor in Olomouc. (They came in very crucial military events which shooked the Habsburg Monarchy)
 - 14th April – Kossuth proclaimed the autonomy of Hungary
 - 28th July – the Hungarian Diet approved the Nationality Act (model of Hungarian political nation, granted some language rights for non-Magyar nationalities), it came to late to somehow influenced the events followed
 - 13th August – at Vilagos – the Magyars defeated
 - 17th September – the most prominent politicians discussed the question of Hungary. They decided to preserve Hungary and Croatia, Vojvodina, Sedmohradsko, but not Slovakia were disintegrated from Hungary
 - 21st December – Alexander Bach (the Minister of Home affairs) – proclaimed Old Slovak to be the official language (de facto it was Czech) – imperial legislation was translated, used in administration, primary schools and partly also in secondary education
- the expectations of the Slovak representatives, who remained loyal in the service of the monarch, were not fulfilled after the suppression of the revolution
 - the Emperor quickly forgot his small allies and did not fulfil any of their hopes
 - the political and military leaders of the revolution (Štur, Hurban,Hodža) were to radical for the Court and found themselves in complete isolation

NEO-ABSOLUTISM (BACH´ S ABSOLUTISM)

EUROPE

- at the first sight, the political map of Europe at the beginning of 1850s evoked the feeling that no revolutionary attempts of 1848/1849 and no political changes had taken part
- France – Napoleon III. proclaimed the Second Empire
- Italy – not united, the North governed by the Habsburgs
- Germany – not united
- the Habsburg Monarchy – the revolution defeated, the absolutism renewed
- Poland – divided among – Prussia, Austria and Russia
- Balkan – occupied by the Ottoman Empire
- the definite end of the Holy Alliance (Russia, Prussia, Austria)

THE HABSBURG MONARCHY

- the Emperor – Franz Joseph I.
- the return of absolutism
- the beginning of capitalism – a positive element of the revolution – the abolishment of serfdom, weakening of feudal ties
- the nationality question - unsolved
- Habsburg positions in Italy – weakened
- the first aim – to strengthen the Habsburg position in Europe
- 31st December 1851 – the October Constitution abolished and the new one was proclaimed
 - Main points:
 - united centralised administration
 - united jurisdiction
 - the official renewal of absolutism
 - germanisation (official language – German)

NATIONAL MOVEMENT

- in spite of the disappointment of Hodža, Štúr and Hurban and their supporters caused by unfulfilled aspirations on Slovak autonomy in the framework of the Hungarian Kingdom or the Monarchy, the post revolutionary neo-absolutism brought a partial and temporary improvement in the position of the Slovaks.
1. the new administrative districts respected ethnic frontiers
 2. Old Slovak accepted

NATIONAL MOVEMENT VERSUS HUNGARY

- the Nationality Act – Kossuth´s model of Hungarian political nation aimed at the assimilation of the non-Magyars
- Hungarian politician saw the participation of Slovak volunteers on the side of the Austrian army in the revolution as treason

the Slovak representatives	the Magyar representatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- pro – Habsburg- Russophil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- anti – Habsburg- felt anti-Russian phobia- sympathised with the enemies of Russia- domestic policy aimed at persecution of the national movements of the Slavs- discrimination- magyarization

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE 1850S, THE 1860S, THE EARLY 1870S

- 1857 – 59 – an economical and industrial crisis
- democratic states of western Europe as England, France, Holland – continued in the development of capitalism and expanded their colonial interests, workers organized in trade unions
- Habsburg Empire – absolutism, nationality question not solved, a slow development of capitalism
- eastern Europe – national movements of the nations under the Ottoman supremacy
- Russia - after the Crimean War – left international policy, concentrated on domestic reforms, the abolishment of serfdom (1861), could not forgive the treason of the Habsburg monarchy in the Crimean War where the Habsburg monarchy did not provide any help to Russia. As the revenge the Russians would not help in the fight against Napoleon III.
- 1864 – London – The First International declared
- 1870 – the unification of Italy
- 1871 – German Empire declared – Otto von Bismark – Germany united

CHARACTERISTIC OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT IN THE 1850s AND 1860s

- the absence of a national nobility and national bourgeoisie
- the absence of their own Church
- the absence of capital city
- the ethnic heterogeneity
- dominance of small towns
- the absence of Slovak central institutions
- the absence of Slovak secondary and higher education
- Bratislava – the centre of Štúr’s activities
- Martin – (3000 inhabitants) – became the national centre
- two confessional camps

the Catholic Church	the Lutheran or Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tradition - hierarchy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - protest - freedom - democratisation

- the national movement was based on the idealisation of folk culture, anti-modern national stereotypes, Slovak historiography, Great Moravian and Cyrillo – Methodian traditions
- 30th August – Štefan Moyzes appointed by the Emperor to be the Bishop of Banská Bystrica
- 1851 – Hurban revived publication of the first Slovak literary periodical **Slovenskje Pohľadi** which partially replaced Štúr’s dissolved political newspaper (Slovenské noviny – 1849-1861)
- 1852 – Martin Hatala - his grammar reference book gave the final version of codified Slovak language
- 1856 – the death of Štúr – deepened the feeling of hopelessness and disillusionment
- 1859 – the end of the Bach’s absolutism (the defeat in northern Italy, the loss of Lombardy)

1860s

- the renewal of constitutional relation
- issuing of the October Diploma – 1860 and February Constitution of 1861
- release of suppressed political tension
- time of liberalization
- the Hungarian Kingdom elected its parliament
- national emancipation ambitions reopened
- the Slovaks activated again
- March 1861 – the publication of a second independent Slovak political newspaper *Pešťbudínske vedomosti* and it became the most influential and important tool of the the national movement.

- the June assembly of 1861 in Martin – adopted **the Memorandum of the Slovak Nation**
- initiator: Štefan Marko Daxner
- the invitation published in the newspaper Pešťbudínske vedomosti
- date: 6th June 1861
- guests . about 1500
- the chairman of assembly: Ján Francisci

Demands:

1. a limited form of autonomy – Slovak District – called Okolie in the framework of the Hungarian Kingdom
2. the acceptance of existence of the Slovak Nation
3. the Slovak language – the official language, used in administration, schools and in law-courts
4. the abolishment of the all laws that do not respect the national equality
5. the laws must be also printed and issued in the Slovak language
6. the foundation of the Faculty of Law and at the University of Pest, the foundation of the Department of Slovak language and literature
7. the support of Vienna for the foundation of cultural and literary institutions
8. they asked to have the Slovak representatives in the Upper Chamber of the Hungarian Diet

Weaknesses

1. the demand suggesting the establishment of the Slovak District was not specified clearly
 2. the social question – not solved
 3. the question of peasants – not solved
- approved that the demands were handed in to the Hungarian Diet
 - when Vienna dismissed the Hungarian Diet, the Slovak representatives partly modified the Memorandum and called it Vienna Memorandum which is considered to be the most comprehensive constitutional programme of the Slovaks before 1918.

Results:

1. the foundation of Matica Slovenská
2. the foundation of three Slovak secondary grammar schools (two protestant in Revúca /1862/ and Martin /1866/, one Catholic in Kláštor pod Znievom / 1869/)

- the representatives of the Slovak National Movement divided in two ideological –political camps.

Old School

- traditional
- pro-Vienna
- following the Štur's programme

New School

- newly formed, new younger generation
- pragmatically they saw some possibilities for the slovaks only in the cooperation of Hungary
- called for the agreement with the Magyar political parties
- pro-Magyar