

KINGDOM OF HUNGARY

-multinational and multicultural political formation in the Carpathian Basin from 10th century till 1918

-territory→ Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia (without Dalmatia), parts of Ukraine, Romania, Poland, Serbia, Austria, Slovenia, Bosnia (at different time different lands)

House of Árpád

896- first invasions of the Old Magyar tribes (7) to western Europe at Tisa River led by Árpád

907- defeat of Great Moravia→ following existence of the Slavic principalities that were still under the attacks of the Old Magyar tribes (till 1019- Moravia became a part of Czech kingdom and cca 1100 most parts of Slovakia became parts of Kingdom of Hungary)

955- ending of the Old Magyars invasion→ defeat at Lech River by Germans and Czechs→ the Old Magyars were forced to settle (mostly at modern Hungary) and change the living style

Forming of the Kingdom of Hungary

-from 970 Grande Prince Géza (from the House of Árpád) weakened the power of the local tribal chiefs and started to build a centralized political formation called Hungary

-Géza also invited Bavarian missionaries to spread Christianity

-the unifying process was finished by Stephen I., a son of Géza, who was crowned as a first Hungarian king by the Roman Pope in 1000

-Stephen I. reorganized a state/public administration→ county-the castles led by "župan" appointed by the king (Bratislava, Nitra, Tekov, Zemplín), custodian/legal guardian of the king's property (plus trial, army)

-Stephen I. also established the presbyteries, bishoprics and archbishopric in Esztergom, monasteries (Zobor, Hronský sv. Beňadik, Bzovík)- centers of culture and education

-after Stephen I. death a situation is complicated→ fights for power, interventions from the Holy Roman Empire (modern Germany)

-after the stabilization in the late 11th century→ active expansive foreign politics toward the Balkans

12th and 13th century

-12th century- during the reign of Béla III. the Kingdom of Hungary became a great European power (cca 2 million citizens)

13th century- first towns (mainly mining)

- King Andrew II. issued the Golden Bull- nobles gained the rights from the king (already before they gained a huge land property)→ the Kingdom of the Estates

- 1241-1242- invasion of the Mongol Tatars→ extermination of people, land, harvest→ building of protective castles→ colonization of the strangers (Germans)

-disorganization of the kingdom "de facto" by the strongest nobles → western Slovakia (Matthew Csák of Trenčín), eastern Slovakia (the Amadé/Omodeus Family), western Hungary (the Lords of Koszeg), eastern Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia

-committees changed to the chairs → led by the officers appointed by the king, the real influence and power was in the hands of the middle and lower nobles

-1301 the House of Árpád died out

House of Anjou (1301-1387)

-after the anarchy and the rules of the nobles (oligarchy) and the fights over the succession → Charles Robert of Anjou (1301/1308-1342) was appointed as the King of Hungary with the help of Roman pope

-he united the country and beat the oligarchs, control over the mining valleys (1/3 of all world gold, ¼ of all silver world production), tax reform- portal tax from the homestead, stable currency (florin)

-his son Louis the Great (1342-1382) → the greatest territory expansion, strong centralized government, 1351- reissued the Golden Bull, erased all legal differences between the lower nobles and the magnates, united the duties of the subjects and prohibited their right to move

-1355- meeting at Visegrad, 3 kings- Charles Robert, John of Luxembourg, Kazimir III., to make an alliance between Poland and Hungary against the Habsburgs

From 1387 to 1526

-Sigismund of Luxembourg (1387-1437), King of Hungary, Czech and Holy Roman Empire, he weakened his power because of many military conflicts

-Matthias Corvinus (1458-1490) from Hunyadi Family, weakened the power of the oligarchs, established a temporary military troops, gained Moravia, Silesia, eastern Austria (Wien) back to Hungary, made reforms, established Academia Istropolitana at Bratislava and fought against the Turks

-1526 → defeat of the Hungarians at the battle at Mohacs by the Turks