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Král' Matej na dereši

„King Matthias on dereš“



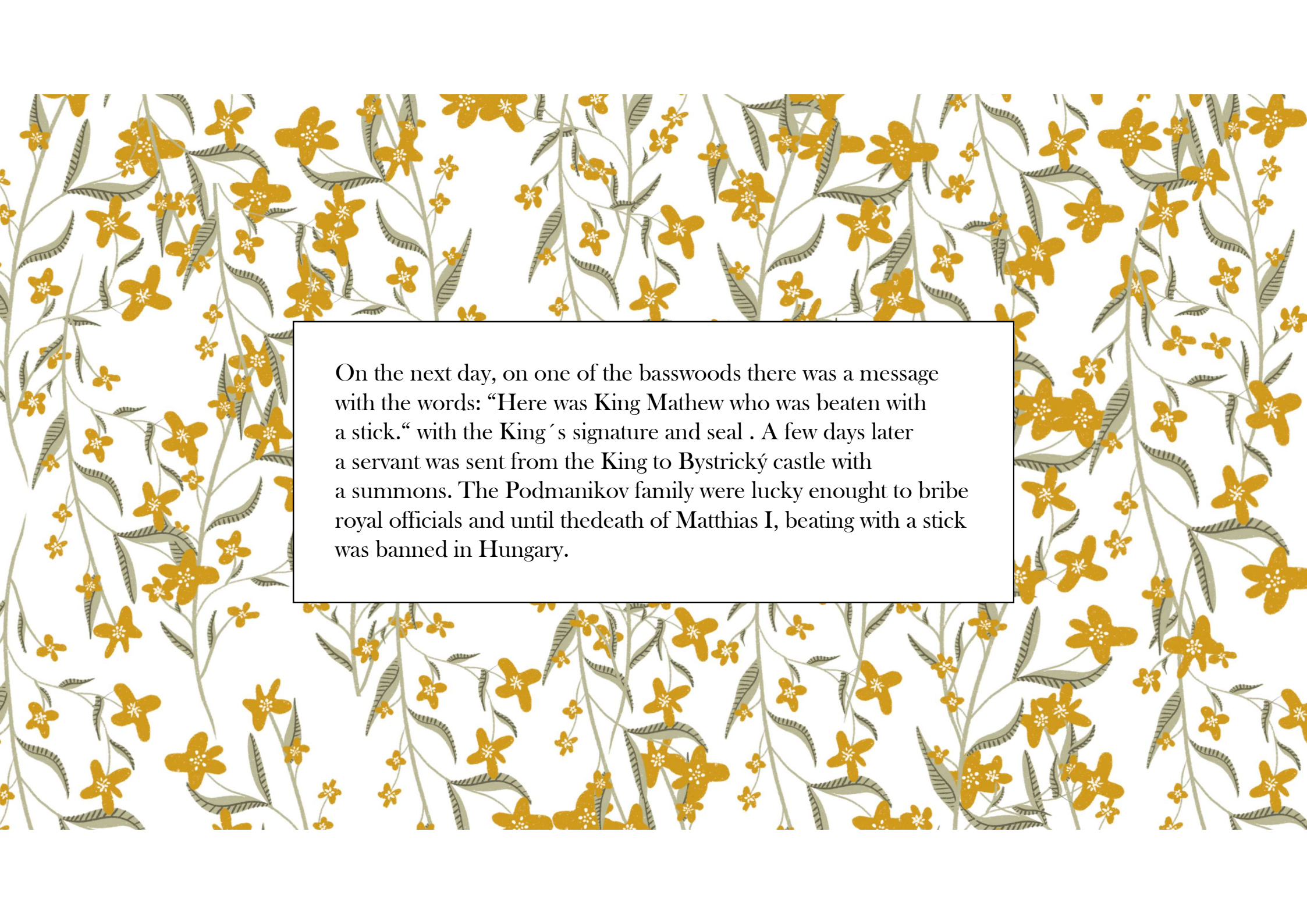
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The Legend:

The Podmanic family ruled from Bystrický Castle. They were known for their cruelty towards their subjects. King Matthew was a good person and once he found out about their cruelty towards their subjects, so he dressed up as a poor traveller and stayed at a poor widow's place. She was visibly pregnant so he went to work instead of her. He was cutting trees with a wooden axe and didn't do much as others. So they tied him to a bench and beat him with a stick. When he got back to the widow, she had already given birth to a healthy boy and he became his godfather. But after the baptisms he mysteriously left. He only left a short letter for the widow and a bag of gold ducats.

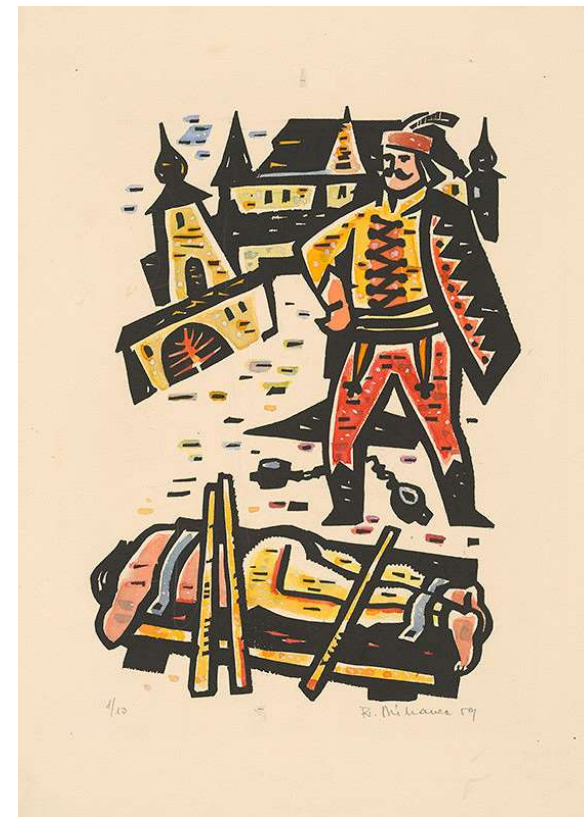


On the next day, on one of the basswoods there was a message with the words: “Here was King Mathew who was beaten with a stick.” with the King’s signature and seal . A few days later a servant was sent from the King to Bystrický castle with a summons. The Podmanikov family were lucky enough to bribe royal officials and until the death of Matthias I, beating with a stick was banned in Hungary.

The bench on which was Matthias beaten is called dereš.
It was used during serfdom as a type of a punishment. The defendant was sentenced to beatings.



By Oto Lupták in 1972



By Róbert Dúbravec in 1959

Matthias Corvinus
original name Mátyás Hunyadi
1443-1490

He was a very famous hungarian king.
He´s also the only hungarian monarch
who is written in folk literature.

His nickname, Corvinus, derived from the
raven (Latin corvus) on his escutcheon.



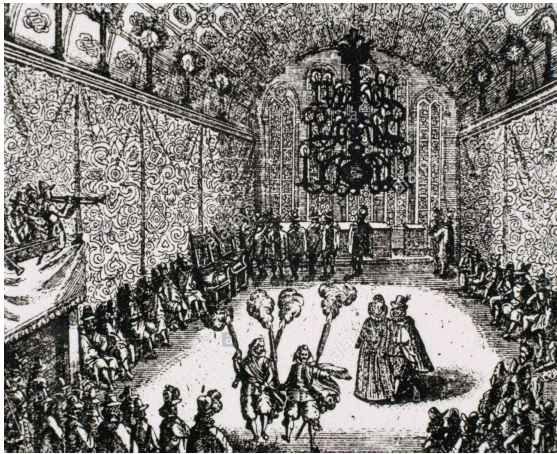
Matthias deserved his reputation for being
“a friend of the Muses.” The knowledge of
many languages (Hungarian, Croatian,
Latin, German, Czech and some other
slavic languages), classic latinity, modern
humanistic ideas, and ancient books and
the support of new art and science were all
familiar to him since childhood.



Map of Hungary



Golden ducat of Matthias Corvinus



Dance with torches at the coronation of Matthias I of Hungary. Theodore de Bry engraving.

He did everything he could to increase state incomes and to improve the modern elements of his army and his warfare. One of his first steps was a reform of finances and taxes (1467). A few years later the treasury was developed into a well-organized office, collecting regularly the “extraordinary” taxes

= As a result the state income reached a considerable sum. The high taxation burdened mostly the peasants.

Matthias was the second son of a military leader, János Hunyadi. After the death of King Ladislas Posthumus of Austria (Habsburg), and despite dynastic claims of his uncle, the Holy Roman emperor Frederick III, other pretenders to the throne, he was in 1458 elected Matthias king. This was the first time in the medieval Hungarian kingdom that a member of the nobility, without dynastic ancestry and relationship, mounted the royal throne.



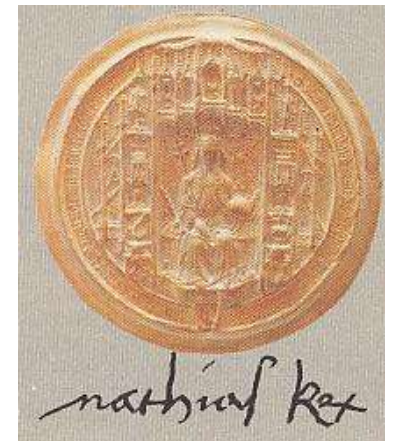
Some historians have characterized him as an early representative of modern absolutism, but this was far beyond his possibilities. He increased the influence of the lower nobility against the barons; he tried to repress or at least to moderate feudal anarchy; he protected merchants and small proprietors and even peasants, not against their own lords but against other troubles; and he tried to improve the system of central government (without disturbing local autonomies), mainly by increasing the governmental role of the chancellors, the royal secretaries, and other offices.

Matthias died on 6th of April in 1490 in Wien. The cause of his death was exasperation when the servants brought him unwashed figs. He suffered an apoplectic stroke and died two days later.

Matthias possessed high personal qualities, as reported by friends and enemies alike. He tried to strengthen his state, not without success. His name became later a symbol of strength and independence. He was glorified by statesmen, military leaders and students of cultural progress. And, despite the heavy taxes, he was also glorified by the people, who were reported, a few years after the King's death, as being willing to pay still more, "if only he could rise again." This could be explained by the general decline of the country after Matthias' death but also by a popular saying: "**Matthias is dead—justice is lost.**"



Matthias's signature and royal stamp



His personal life

Matthias was married twice 1. Catherine of Poděbrady
2. Beatrice of Aragon
He had no children from neither of the marriages

Mistresses:

Barbara Edelpock:

- king's favourite mistress
- she gave birth to the king's only child- John Corvinus
- she later on married unknown Fridrich
- she was given a house from the king in Banská Bystrica

Wives:

Catherine of Poděbrady:

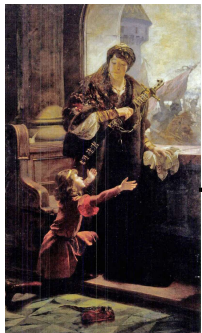
- She died at age of 15 after 3 years of marriage
- Matthias was a widower after her death about 10 years. (he had lots of mistresses during this period of time)

Beatrice of Aragon:

- They had no children
- She introduced the Italian renaissance into the court of Hungary- an interest she shared with Matthias
- she was jealous of Barbara Edelpock (Matthias's mistress who gave him a son)



János Hunyadi
father



Elizabeth Szilágyi
mother



Catherine of Poděbrady
first wife



Matthias Corvinus

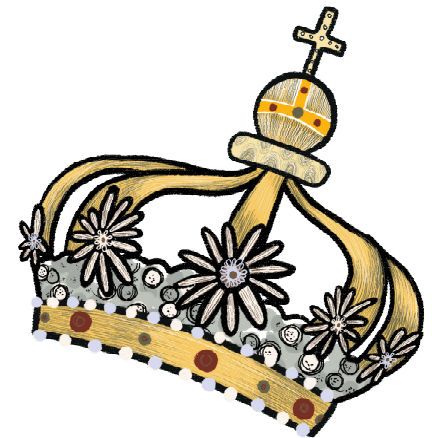


Beatrice of Aragon
second wife

Barbara Edelpock
mistress and mother of his son



John Corvinus
son



Matejov Dom The Matthias' s house

- The Mathias' s house is situated in Slovakia in Banská Bystrica.
- The house is the part of the town castle. It has five floors and it' s connected to the Saint Cross' s church.
- Allegedly the king Matthias stayed here when he visited Banská Bystrica.
- A legend says that when he came here, he usually went to the secret corridor which led to the church and there he would change a new lady companions.



The legend is wrong tho.

WHY ?

- Because the church was finished in 1492, but Matthias died in 1490.
- Except for this information, we have some next facts to refute the legend.
- There are no secrets corridors, too.
- The king Matthias has never stayed in the house. It was originally built to be a warehouse of grain and weapons in case of danger. So it's very unlikely that the king would stay in a warehouse. When he visited Banská Bystrica, he stayed in the Kammerhoff in the Main square or in Slovenská Ľupča, where he owned a hunting lodge.



Kammerhoff (Banská Bystrica)

In facts

- The Matthias's house is connected to king Matthias only because it was built during his reign.
- The Matthias's house hasn't got any cellar. Archeological researches proved it.

Academia Istropolitana

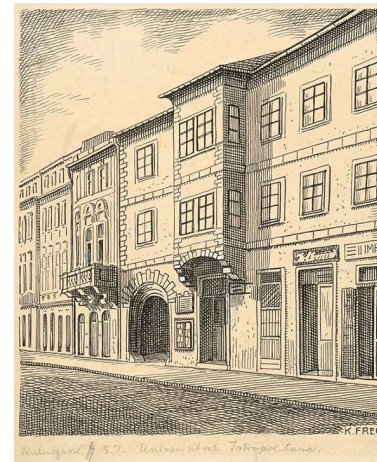
- Is situated in Pressburg (today's Bratislava- capital city of Slovakia)
- It was the first university to be founded in the territory of present-day Slovakia.
- It was founded in 1465 by Pope Paul II, at the request of King Matthias Corvinus.
- It was also the only university in the Kingdom of Hungary at that time, although historically not the first in Hungarian territory.
- Many well-known lecturers from Austria, Italy and elsewhere, such as Galeotto Marzio and Johann Vitez, taught at the school.
- The university didn't last long tho, it probably ceased to exist in 1470s.
- The Renaissance university building still stands in Bratislava, and it currently houses the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava.



Johann Vitez



Academia Istropolitana today



by Karol Frech in 1930-1940



Galeotto Marzio

Source:

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Thank you for your attention!

