What historical event in your country has had a major effect on your country?

Macedonia has been a sovereign country for almost three decades. That is certainly a short time frame for it to experience huge and remarkable events compared to some of the bigger European countries. However, there are several important events that are crucial in the development of my country and one of the most important is the Illinden Uprising that took part in the beginning of the twentieth century. The Illinden Uprising was an organized revolt against the Ottoman Empire and it managed to establish a provisional government in the town of Krushevo.

To begin with, the uprising had a goal to make the territory of Macedonia an autonomous one, independent of the Ottoman Empire. Moreover the leaders of this rebellion wanted to make neighboring countries acknowledge the Macedonian people as people with Macedonian identity.

Additionally, the leader of this uprising was Goce Delchev, a man who valued Macedonian culture like no other and he set the standards of how Macedonian people should act when their identity is questioned. He was eventually captured by the Ottoman Empire but his legacy continues to live as part of Macedonia’s heritage.

Most importantly, the revolution brought hope to Macedonians. It was the first big revolution in more than five centuries during which Macedonia was under Ottoman rule. People like Goce Delchev, Dame Gruev and Ivan Gavranov made people around the country to unite under a single goal and together try to bring an end to the tyrant rule of the Ottoman Empire.

To conclude, the Illiden Uprising was one of the most influential historical events for the Macedonian country and people. It affected the way Macedonians lived; it changed their culture and brought hope for the younger generations all of which eventually led to Macedonia’s independence and sovereignty in the ninety-nineties.