

= Andrew III of Hungary =

Andrew III the Venetian (Hungarian : III . Velencei András , Croatian : Andrija III . Mlečanin , Slovak : Ondrej III . ; c . 1265 ? 14 January 1301) was King of Hungary and Croatia between 1290 and 1301 . His father , Stephen the Posthumous , was the posthumous son of Andrew II of Hungary although Stephen 's brothers considered him a bastard . Andrew grew up in Venice , and first arrived in Hungary upon the invitation of a rebellious baron , Ivan Kőszegi , in 1278 . Kőszegi tried to play Andrew off against Ladislaus IV of Hungary , but the conspiracy collapsed and Andrew returned to Venice .

Being the last male member of the House of Árpád , Andrew was elected king after the death of King Ladislaus IV in 1290 . He was the first Hungarian monarch to issue a coronation diploma confirming the privileges of the noblemen and the clergy . At least three pretenders ? Albert of Austria , Mary of Hungary , and an adventurer ? challenged his claim to the throne . Andrew expelled the adventurer from Hungary and forced Albert of Austria to conclude a peace within a year , but Mary of Hungary and her descendants did not renounce their claim . The Hungarian bishops and Andrew 's maternal family from Venice were his principal supporters , but the leading Croatian and Slavonian lords were opposed to his rule .

Hungary was in a state of constant anarchy during Andrew 's reign . The Kőszegis , the Csáks , and other powerful families autonomously governed their domains , rising up nearly every year in open rebellion against Andrew . With Andrew 's death , the House of Árpád became extinct . A civil war ensued which lasted for more than two decades and ended with the victory of Mary of Hungary 's grandson , Charles Robert .

= = Childhood (c . 1265 ? 1278) = =

Andrew was the son of Stephen the Posthumous , the self @-@ styled Duke of Slavonia , and his second wife , Tomasina Morosini . Andrew 's father was born to Beatrice D 'Este , the third wife of Andrew II of Hungary , after the king 's death . However , Andrew II 's two elder sons , Béla IV of Hungary and Coloman of Halych , accused Beatrice D 'Este of adultery and refused to acknowledge Stephen the Posthumous as their legitimate brother . Andrew 's mother , Tomasina Morosini , was the daughter of wealthy Venetian patrician Michele Morosini .

The exact date of Andrew 's birth is unknown . According to historians Tibor Almási , Gyula Kristó , and Attila Zsoldos , he was born in about 1265 . Stephen the Posthumous nominated his wife 's two kinsmen , including her brother Alberto Morosini , as Andrew 's guardians before his death in 1272 .

= = Pretender (1278 ? 1290) = =

Andrew came to Hungary for the first time in 1278 at the invitation of a powerful lord , Ivan Kőszegi . Kőszegi wanted to play Andrew off against Ladislaus IV of Hungary . Andrew , who was the only male member of the royal family besides the king , adopted the title of " Duke of Slavonia , Dalmatia and Croatia " and marched as far as Lake Balaton . Andrew achieved nothing , however , and went back to Venice in autumn .

Andrew returned to Hungary at the beginning of 1290 . On this occasion , Lodomer , Archbishop of Esztergom , also urged him to come , since the archbishop wanted to dethrone the excommunicated Ladislaus IV with the assistance of Ivan Kőszegi . Before Andrew was successful , Arnold Hahót , an enemy of the Kőszegis , invited him to the fort of  trigova and captured him . Hahót sent Andrew to Vienna , where Albert I , Duke of Austria , held him in captivity .

Three Cuman assassins murdered Ladislaus IV on 10 July 1290 , and Archbishop Lodomer subsequently dispatched two monks to Vienna to inform Andrew of the king 's death . With the monks ' assistance , Andrew left his prison in disguise and hastened to Hungary .

= = Reign = =

== Coronation and pretenders (1290 ? 1293) ==

Upon Andrew 's arrival , his opponents tried to bribe Theodor , Prior of the Székesfehérvár Chapter , not to hand over the Holy Crown of Hungary to the soon @-@ to @-@ be @-@ king , but the prior refused them . Archbishop Lodomer crowned Andrew king in Székesfehérvár on 23 July . The lords and prelates swore loyalty to Andrew only after he issued a charter promising the restoration of internal peace and respect for the privileges of the nobility and the clergymen . He then appointed the most powerful noblemen , who had for years administered their domains independently of the monarch , to the highest offices . Amadeus Aba , who dominated the northeastern parts of the kingdom , was made palatine , Ivan K?szegi , the lord of the western parts of Transdanubia , became master of the treasury , and Roland Borsa remained the voivode of Transylvania . Andrew held a diet before 1 September . To put an end to anarchy , the " prelates , barons and noblemen " ordered the destruction of castles which had been erected without royal permission and the restoration of estates that had been unlawfully seized to their rightful owners . Andrew promised that he would hold a diet each year during his reign .

There were several other challengers to Andrew 's claim to the throne . Rudolf I of Germany claimed that Hungary escheated to him after Ladislaus IV 's childless death , because Ladislaus IV 's grandfather , Béla IV of Hungary , had sworn fidelity to Frederick II , Holy Roman Emperor during the Mongol invasion of Hungary . Although Pope Innocent IV had years before freed Béla IV of his oath , Rudolf I of Germany attempted to bestow Hungary on his own son , Albert of Austria , on 31 August . The self @-@ declared " Andrew , Duke of Slavonia " ? an adventurer who claimed to be identical to Ladislaus IV 's dead younger brother ? also challenged King Andrew 's right to the crown and stormed into Hungary from Poland . He was shortly thereafter forced to return to Poland , where he was murdered .

Andrew married Fenenna , the daughter of Ziemomys? of Kuyavia , before the end of 1290 . Andrew then held a general assembly for the barons and the noblemen of five counties to the east of the river Tisza ? Bihar , Kraszna , Szabolcs , Szatmár , and Szolnok ? at Nagyvárad (now Oradea in Romania) in early 1291 . The assembly outlawed Stephen Balogsemjén , a staunch supporter of the late Ladislaus IV , for major trespass . From the assembly , Andrew went to Gyulafehérvár (now Alba Iulia in Romania) . Here he issued the decrees of his 1290 diet at the assembly of the local noblemen , Saxons , Székelys and Romanians , in February or March . Around the same time , Andrew dismissed Amadeus Aba and made Iván K?szegi palatine .

Ladislaus IV 's sister Mary , wife of Charles II of Naples , announced her claim to the throne in April 1291 . The Baboni?i , Frankopans , ?ubi?i , and other leading Croatian and Slavonian noble families accepted her as the lawful monarch . Andrew 's main concern , however , was Albert of Austria 's claim . He invaded Austria , forcing Albert to withdraw his garrisons from the towns and fortresses ? including Pressburg (now Bratislava in Slovakia) and Sopron ? that he had captured years before , many of which were held by the K?szegis before their conquest . The Peace of Hainburg , which concluded the war , was signed on 26 August , and three days later Andrew and Albert of Austria confirmed it at their meeting in Köpcsény (now Kop?any in Slovakia) . The peace treaty prescribed the destruction of the fortresses that Albert of Austria had seized from the K?szegis . The K?szegis rose up in open rebellion against Andrew in spring 1292 , acknowledging Mary 's son , Charles Martel , as King of Hungary . The royal troops subdued the rebellion by July , but the K?szegis captured and imprisoned Andrew during his journey to Slavonia in August . Andrew was liberated within four months , after his supporters sent their relatives as hostages to the K?szegis .

== Rebellions and attempts to consolidate (1293 ? 1298) ==

Upon Andrew 's request , his mother , Tomasina , moved to Hungary in 1293 . Andrew appointed her to administer Croatia , Dalmatia , and Slavonia . Due to her activities , the Baboni?i , ?ubi?i , and the Dalmatian towns , acknowledged Andrew 's rule . Andrew visited the northern parts of Hungary and ordered the revision of former land grants in February . After his return to Buda , he again made

Amadeus Aba palatine . In August , Andrew arranged a marriage between his niece , Constance Morosini , and Vladislav , son of Stefan Dragutin of Serbia , who had earlier acknowledged Charles Martel 's claim to Hungary .

Roland Borsa besieged and captured Benedict , Bishop of Várad 's fortress at Fenes (now Fini? in Romania) on 23 May 1294 . Andrew held a general assembly and outlawed Borsa . According to historian Attila Zsoldos , he made Nicholas K?szegi palatine on this occasion . Andrew laid siege to Borsa 's fort at Adorján (now Adrian in Romania) . The siege lasted three months before the fort fell to Andrew in October . Andrew replaced Roland Borsa with Ladislaus III Kán as voivode of Transylvania , but the former preserved all his domains in the lands east of the Tisza .

The Croatian lord Paul ?ubi? again turned against Andrew and joined the camp of Charles Martel in early 1295 , but Charles died in August . Within two months , the Baboni?i also rebelled against Andrew . Early the next year , the recently widowed King Andrew visited Vienna and arranged a marriage with Duke Albert 's daughter Agnes . The K?szegis soon rose up in open rebellion . Andrew declared war on the rebels , and Archbishop Lodomer excommunicated them . Andrew and Albert jointly seized the K?szegis ' main fort at K?szeg in October , but could not subdue them . Andrew 's mother seems to have died at the end of the year because references to her activities disappear from the contemporaneous documents .

Matthew III Csák , whom Andrew had made palatine in 1296 , turned against Andrew at the end of 1297 . Andrew 's staunch supporter , Archbishop Lodomer , died around the same time . In early February of 1298 , Andrew visited Albert of Austria in Vienna and promised to support him against Adolf of Nassau , King of Germany . Andrew sent an auxiliary troop , and Albert of Austria routed King Adolf in the Battle of Göllheim on 2 July .

== = Last years (1298 ? 1301) == =

Andrew held an assembly of the prelates , noblemen , Saxons , Székelys , and Cumans in Pest in the summer of 1298 . The preamble to the decrees that were passed at the diet mentioned " the laxity of the lord king " . The decrees authorized Andrew to destroy forts built without permission and ordered the punishment of those who had seized landed property with force , but also threatened Andrew with excommunication if he did not apply the decrees . At the gathering , he appointed his uncle , Albertino Morosini , Duke of Slavonia . After the close of the diet , Andrew entered into a formal alliance with five influential noblemen , including Amadeus Aba , who stated that they were willing to support him against the Pope and the bishops . Gregory Bicskei , the Archbishop @-@ elect and Apostolic Administrator of Esztergom , forbade the prelates to participate at a new diet which was held in 1299 . The prelates ignored the archbishop 's order and Andrew deprived him of Esztergom County .

A group of powerful lords ? including the ?ubi?i , K?szegis and Csáks ? urged Charles I? of Naples to send his grandson , the 12 @-@ year @-@ old Charles Robert , to Hungary in order to become king . The young Charles Robert disembarked in Split in August 1300 . Most Croatian and Slavonian lords and all Dalmatian towns but Trogir recognized him as king before he marched to Zagreb . The K?szegis and Matthew Csák , however , were shortly reconciled with Andrew , preventing Charles ' success . Andrew 's envoy to the Holy See noted that Pope Boniface VIII did not support Charles Robert 's adventure , either . Andrew , who had been in poor health for a while , was planning to capture his opponent , but he died in Buda Castle on 14 January 1301 . According to historians Attila Zsoldos and Gyula Kristó , the contemporaneous gossip suggesting that Andrew was poisoned cannot be proved .

Andrew was buried in the Franciscan church in Buda . Years later , Palatine Stephen Ákos referred to Andrew as the " last golden branch " of the tree of King Saint Stephen 's family , because with Andrew 's death the House of Árpád , the first royal dynasty of Hungary , ended . A civil war between various claimants to the throne ? Charles Robert , Wenceslaus of Bohemia , and Otto of Bavaria ? followed Andrew 's death and lasted for seven years . The civil war ended with Charles Robert 's victory , but he was forced to continue fighting against the K?szegis , the Abas , Matthew Csák , and other powerful lords up to the early 1320s .

= = Family = =

Andrew 's first wife , Fenenna of Kuyavia , gave birth to a daughter , Elizabeth , in 1291 or 1292 , but died in 1295 . Elizabeth became engaged to Wenceslaus , the heir to Wenceslaus II of Bohemia , in 1298 , but the betrothal was broken in 1305 . She joined the Dominican convent at Töss where she died a nun on 5 May 1338 . She is now venerated as Blessed Elizabeth of Töss . Andrew 's second wife , Agnes of Austria , was born in 1280 . She survived her husband , but did not marry again ; she died in the Königsfelden Monastery of the Poor Clares in 1364 .