

= Béla IV of Hungary =

Béla IV (1206 ? 3 May 1270) was King of Hungary and Croatia between 1235 and 1270 , and Duke of Styria from 1254 to 1258 . Being the oldest son of King Andrew II , he was crowned upon the initiative of a group of influential noblemen in his father 's lifetime in 1214 . His father , who strongly opposed Béla 's coronation , refused to give him a province to rule until 1220 . In this year , Béla was appointed Duke of Slavonia , also with jurisdiction in Croatia and Dalmatia . Around the same time , Béla married Maria , a daughter of Theodore I Laskaris , Emperor of Nicaea . From 1226 , he governed Transylvania with the title Duke . He supported Christian missions among the pagan Cumans who dwelled in the plains to the east of his province . Some Cuman chieftains acknowledged his suzerainty and he adopted the title of King of Cumania in 1233 . King Andrew died on 21 September 1235 and Béla succeeded him . He attempted to restore royal authority , which had diminished under his father . For this purpose , he revised his predecessors ' land grants and reclaimed former royal estates , causing discontent among the noblemen and the prelates .

The Mongols invaded Hungary and annihilated Béla 's army in the Battle of Mohi on 11 April 1241 . He escaped from the battlefield , but a Mongol detachment chased him from town to town as far as Trogir on the coast of the Adriatic Sea . Although he survived the invasion , the Mongols devastated the country before their unexpected withdrawal in March 1242 . Béla introduced radical reforms in order to prepare his kingdom for a second Mongol invasion . He allowed the barons and the prelates to erect stone fortresses and to set up their private armed forces . He promoted the development of fortified towns . During his reign , thousands of colonists arrived from the Holy Roman Empire , Poland and other neighboring regions to settle in the depopulated lands . Béla 's efforts to rebuild his devastated country won him the epithet of " second founder of the state " (Hungarian : második honalapító) .

He set up a defensive alliance against the Mongols , which included Daniil Romanovich , Prince of Halych , Boleslaw the Chaste , Duke of Cracow and other Ruthenian and Polish princes . His allies supported him in occupying the Duchy of Styria in 1254 , but it was lost to King Ottokar II of Bohemia six years later . During Béla 's reign , a wide buffer zone ? which included Bosnia , Barancs (Brani?evo , Serbia) and other newly conquered regions ? was established along the southern frontier of Hungary in the 1250s .

Béla 's relationship with his oldest son and heir , Stephen became tense in the early 1260s , because the elderly king favored his daughter , Anna and his youngest child , Béla , Duke of Slavonia . He was forced to cede the territories of the Kingdom of Hungary east of the river Danube to Stephen , which caused a civil war lasting until 1266 . Nevertheless , Béla 's family was famed for his piety : he died as a Franciscan tertiary , and the veneration of his three saintly daughters ? Kunigunda , Yolanda , and Margaret ? was confirmed by the Holy See .

= = Childhood (1206 ? 20) = =

Béla was the oldest son of King Andrew II of Hungary by his first wife , Gertrude of Merania . He was born in the second half of 1206 . Upon King Andrew 's initiative , Pope Innocent III had already appealed to the Hungarian prelates and barons on the 7th of June to swear an oath of loyalty to the King 's future son .

Queen Gertrude showed blatant favoritism towards her German relatives and courtiers , causing widespread discontent among the native lords . Taking advantage of her husband 's campaign in the distant Principality of Halych , a group of aggrieved noblemen seized and murdered her in the forests of the Pilis Hills on 28 September 1213 . King Andrew only punished one of the conspirators , a certain Count Peter , after his return from Halych . Although Béla was a child when his mother was assassinated , he never forgot her and declared his deep respect for her in many of his royal charters . In his correspondence with his sister , the noted Franciscan saint , Elizabeth of Hungary , he was often counseled to restrain his anger at the nobles for the death of their mother .

Andrew II betrothed Béla to an unnamed daughter of Tzar Boril of Bulgaria in 1213 or 1214 , but their engagement was broken . In 1214 , the King requested the Pope to excommunicate some

unnamed lords who were planning to crown Béla king . Even so , the eight @-@ year @-@ old Béla was crowned in the same year , but his father did not grant him a province to rule . Furthermore , when leaving for a Crusade to the Holy Land in August 1217 , King Andrew appointed John , Archbishop of Esztergom to represent him during his absence . During this period , Béla stayed with his maternal uncle Berthold of Merania in Steyr in the Holy Roman Empire . Andrew II returned from the Holy Land in late 1218 . He had arranged the engagement of Béla and Maria , a daughter of Theodore I Laskaris , Emperor of Nicaea . She accompanied King Andrew to Hungary and Béla married her in 1220 .

= = Rex iunior = =

= = = Duke of Slavonia (1220 ? 26) = = =

The senior king ceded the lands between the Adriatic Sea and the Dráva River ? Croatia , Dalmatia and Slavonia ? to Béla in 1220 . A letter of 1222 of Pope Honorius III reveals that " some wicked men " had forced Andrew II to share his realms with his heir . Béla initially styled himself as " King Andrew 's son and King " in his charters ; from 1222 he used the title " by the Grace of God , King , son of the King of Hungary , and Duke of all Slavonia " .

Béla separated from his wife in the first half of 1222 upon his father 's demand . However , Pope Honorius refused to declare the marriage illegal . Béla accepted the Pope 's decision and took refuge in Austria from his father 's anger . He returned , together with his wife , only after the prelates had in the first half of 1223 persuaded his father to forgive him . Having returned to his Duchy of Slavonia , Béla launched a campaign against Domald of Sidraga , a rebellious Dalmatian nobleman , and captured Domald 's fortress at Klis . Domald 's domains were confiscated and distributed among his rivals , the ?ubi?i , who had supported Béla during the siege .

= = = Duke of Transylvania (1226 ? 35) = = =

King Andrew transferred Béla from Slavonia to Transylvania in 1226 . In Slavonia , he was succeeded by his brother , Coloman . As Duke of Transylvania , Béla adopted an expansionist policy aimed at the territories over the Carpathian Mountains . He supported the Dominicans ' proselytizing activities among the Cumans , who dominated these lands . In 1227 he crossed the mountains and met Boricius , a Cuman chieftain , who had decided to convert to Christianity . At their meeting , Boricius and his subjects were baptized and acknowledged Béla 's suzerainty . Within a year , the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cumania was established in their lands .

Béla had long opposed his father 's " useless and superfluous perpetual grants " , because the distribution of royal estates destroyed the traditional basis of royal authority . He started reclaiming King Andrew 's land grants throughout the country in 1228 . The Pope supported Béla 's efforts , but the King often hindered the execution of his son 's orders . Béla also confiscated the estates of two noblemen , brothers Simon and Michael Kacsics , who had plotted against his mother .

Béla 's youngest brother , Andrew , Prince of Halych was expelled from his principality in the spring of 1229 . Béla decided to help him to regain his throne , proudly boasting that the town of Halych " would not remain on the face of the earth , for there was no one to deliver it from his hands " , according to the Galician ? Volhynian Chronicle . He crossed the Carpathian Mountains and laid siege to Halych together with his Cuman allies in 1229 or 1230 . However , he could not seize the town and withdrew his troops . The Galician ? Volhynian Chronicle writes that many Hungarian soldiers " died of many afflictions " on their way home .

Béla invaded Bulgaria and besieged Vidin in 1228 or 1232 , but he could not capture the fortress . Around the same time , he set up a new border province , the Banate of Szörény (Severin , Romania) , in the lands between the Carpathians and the Lower Danube . In a token of his suzerainty in the lands east of the Carpathians , Béla adopted the title " King of Cumania " in 1233 . Béla sponsored the mission of Friar Julian and three other Dominican monks who decided to visit

the descendants of the Hungarians who had centuries earlier remained in Magna Hungaria , the Hungarians ' legendary homeland .

= = His reign = =

= = Before the Mongol invasion (1235 ? 41) = =

King Andrew died on 21 September 1235 . Béla , who succeeded his father without opposition , was crowned king in Székesfehérvár on 14 October . He dismissed and punished many of his father 's closest advisors . For instance , he had Palatine Denis blinded and Julius Kán imprisoned . The former was accused of having , in King Andrew 's life , an adulterous liaison with Queen Beatrix , the King 's young widow . Béla ordered her imprisonment , but she managed to escape to the Holy Roman Empire , where she gave birth to a posthumous son , Stephen . Béla and his brother , Coloman considered her son a bastard .

Béla declared that his principal purpose was " the restitution of royal rights " and " the restoration of the situation which existed in the country " in the reign of his grandfather , Béla III . According to the contemporaneous Roger of Torre Maggiore , he even " had the chairs of the barons burned " in order to prevent them from sitting in his presence during the meetings of the royal council . Béla set up special commissions which revised all royal charters of land grants made after 1196 . The annulment of former donations alienated many of his subjects from the King . Pope Gregory IX protested strongly at the withdrawal of royal grants made to the Cistercians and the military orders . In exchange for Béla 's renouncing of the taking back of royal estates in 1239 , the Pope authorized him to employ local Jews and Muslims in financial administration , which had for decades been opposed by the Holy See .

After returning from Magna Hungaria in 1236 , Friar Julian informed Béla of the Mongols , who had by that time reached the Volga River and were planning to invade Europe . The Mongols invaded Desht @-@ i Qipchaq ? the westernmost regions of the Eurasian Steppes ? and routed the Cumans . Fleeing the Mongols , at least 40 @,@ 000 Cumans approached the eastern borders of the Kingdom of Hungary and demanded admission in 1239 . Béla only agreed to give them shelter after their leader , Köten , promised to convert together with his people to Christianity , and to fight against the Mongols . However , the settlement of masses of nomadic Cumans in the plains along the Tisza River gave rise to many conflicts between them and the local villagers . Béla , who needed the Cumans ' military support , rarely punished them for their robberies , rapes and other misdeeds . His Hungarian subjects thought that he was biased in the Cumans ' favor , thus " enmity emerged between the people and the king " , according to Roger of Torre Maggiore .

Béla supported the development of towns . For instance , he confirmed the liberties of the citizens of Székesfehérvár and granted privileges to Hungarian and German settlers in Bars (Starý Tekov , Slovakia) in 1237 . Zadar , a town in Dalmatia which had been lost to Venice in 1202 , acknowledged Béla 's suzerainty in 1240 .

= = Mongol invasion of Hungary (1241 ? 42) = =

The Mongols gathered in the lands bordering Hungary and Poland under the command of Batu Khan in December 1240 . They demanded Béla 's submission to their Great Khan Ögödei , but Béla refused to yield and had the mountain passes fortified . The Mongols broke through the barricades erected in the Verecke Pass (Veretsky Pass , Ukraine) on 12 March 1241 .

Duke Frederick II of Austria , who arrived to assist Béla against the invaders , defeated a small Mongol troop near Pest . He seized prisoners , including Cumans from the Eurasian Steppes who had been forced to join the Mongols . When the citizens of Pest realized the presence of Cumans in the invading army , mass hysteria emerged . The townsfolk accused Köten and their Cumans of cooperating with the enemy . A riot broke out and the mob massacred Köten 's retinue . Köten was either slaughtered or committed suicide . On hearing about Köten 's fate , his Cumans decided to

leave Hungary and destroyed many villages on their way towards the Balkan Peninsula .

With the Cumans ' departure Béla lost his most valuable allies . He could muster an army of less than 60 000 against the invaders . The royal army was ill prepared and its commanders ? the barons alienated by Béla 's policy ? " would have liked the king to be defeated so that they would then be dearer to him " , according to Roger of Torre Maggiore 's account . The Hungarian army was virtually annihilated in the Battle of Mohi on the Sajó River on 11 April 1241 . A great number of Hungarian lords , prelates and noblemen were killed , and Béla himself narrowly escaped from the battlefield . He fled through Nyitra to Pressburg (Nitra and Bratislava in Slovakia) . The triumphant Mongols occupied and ravaged most lands to the east of the Danube River by the end of June .

Upon Duke Frederick II of Austria 's invitation , Béla went to Hainburg an der Donau . However , instead of helping Béla , the Duke forced him to cede three counties (most probably Locsmánd , Pozsony , and Sopron) . From Hainburg , Béla fled to Zagreb and sent letters to Pope Gregory IX , Emperor Frederick II , King Louis IX of France and other Western European monarchs , urging them to send reinforcements to Hungary . In the hope of military assistance , he even accepted Emperor Frederick II 's suzerainty in June . The Pope declared a Crusade against the Mongols , but no reinforcements arrived .

The Mongols crossed the frozen Danube early in 1242 . A Mongol detachment under the command of Kadan , a son of Great Khan Ögödei , chased Béla from town to town in Dalmatia . Béla took refuge in the well fortified Trogir . Before Kadan laid siege to the town in March , news arrived of the Great Khan 's death . Batu Khan wanted to attend at the election of Ögödei 's successor with sufficient troops and ordered the withdrawal of all Mongol forces . Béla , who was grateful to Trogir , granted it lands near Split , causing a lasting conflict between the two Dalmatian towns .

= = = " Second Founder of the State " (1242 ? 61) = = =

Upon his return to Hungary in May 1242 , Béla found a country in ruins . Devastation was especially heavy in the plains east of the Danube where at least half of the villages were depopulated . The Mongols had destroyed most traditional centers of administration , which were defended by earth and timber walls . Only well fortified places , such as Esztergom , Székesfehérvár and the Pannonhalma Archabbey , had successfully resisted siege . A severe famine followed in 1242 and 1243 .

Preparation for a new Mongol invasion was the central concern of Béla 's policy . In a letter of 1247 to Pope Innocent IV , Béla announced his plan to strengthen the Danube ? the " river of confrontations " ? with new forts . He abandoned the ancient royal prerogative to build and own castles , promoting the erection of nearly 100 new fortresses by the end of his reign . These fortresses included a new castle Béla had built at Nagysáros (Veľký Šariš , Slovakia) , and another castle Béla and his wife had built at Visegrád .

Béla attempted to increase the number of the soldiers and to improve their equipment . He made land grants in the forested regions and obliged the new landowners to equip heavily armoured cavalrymen to serve in the royal army . For instance , the so called ten lanced nobles of Szepes (Spiš , Slovakia) received their privileges from Béla in 1243 . He even allowed the barons and prelates to employ armed noblemen , who had previously been directly subordinated to the sovereign , in their private retinue . Béla granted the Banate of Szörény to the Knights Hospitaller on 2 June 1247 , but the Knights abandoned the region by 1260 .

To replace the loss of at least 15 percent of the population , who perished during the Mongol invasion and the ensuing famine , Béla promoted colonization . He granted special liberties to the colonists , including personal freedom and favorable tax treatment . Germans , Moravians , Poles , Ruthenians and other " guests " arrived from neighboring countries and were settled in depopulated or sparsely populated regions . He also persuaded the Cumans , who had in 1241 left Hungary , to return and settle in the plains along the River Tisza . He even arranged the engagement of his firstborn son , Stephen , who was crowned king junior in or before 1246 , to Elisabeth , a

daughter of a Cuman chieftain .

Béla granted the privileges of Székesfehérvár to more than 20 settlements , promoting their development into self-governing towns . The liberties of the mining towns in Upper Hungary were also spelled out in Béla 's reign . For defensive purposes , he moved the citizens of Pest to a hill on the opposite side of the Danube in 1248 . Within two decades their new fortified town , Buda , became the most important center of commerce in Hungary . Béla also granted privileges to Gradec , the fortified center of Zagreb , in 1242 and confirmed them in 1266 .

Béla adopted an active foreign policy soon after the withdrawal of the Mongols . In the second half of 1242 he invaded Austria and forced Duke Frederick II to surrender the three counties ceded to him during the Mongol invasion . On the other hand , Venice occupied Zadar in the summer of 1243 . Béla renounced Zadar on 30 June 1244 , but Venice acknowledged his claim to one third of the customs revenues of the Dalmatian town .

Béla set up a defensive alliance against the Mongols . He married three of his daughters to princes whose countries were also threatened by the Mongols . Rostislav Mikhailovich , a pretender to the Principality of Halych , was the first to marry , in 1243 , one of Béla 's daughters , Anna . Béla supported his son in law to invade Halych in 1245 , but Rostislav 's opponent , Daniil Romanovich repulsed their attack .

On 21 August 1245 Pope Gregory freed Béla of the oath of fidelity he had taken to Emperor Frederick during the Mongol invasion . In the following year Duke Frederick II of Austria invaded Hungary . He routed Béla 's army in the Battle of the Leitha River on 15 June 1246 , but perished in the battlefield . His childless death gave rise to a series of conflicts , because both his niece , Gertrude , and his sister , Margaret , made a claim to Austria and Styria . Béla decided to intervene in the conflict only after the danger of a second Mongol invasion had diminished by the end of the 1240s . In retaliation of a former Austrian incursion into Hungary , Béla made a plundering raid into Austria and Styria in the summer of 1250 . In this year he met and concluded a peace treaty with Daniil Romanovich , Prince of Halych in Zólyom (Zvolen , Slovakia) . With Béla 's mediation , a son of his new ally Roman married Gertrude of Austria .

Béla and Daniil Romanovich united their troops and invaded Austria and Moravia in June 1252 . After their withdrawal , Ottokar , Margrave of Moravia ? who had married Margaret of Austria ? invaded and occupied Austria and Styria . In the summer of 1253 , Béla launched a campaign against Moravia and laid siege to Olomouc . Daniil Romanovich , Boleslaw the Chaste of Cracow , and Wladislaw of Opole intervened on Béla 's behalf , but he lifted the siege by the end of June . Pope Innocent IV mediated a peace treaty , which was signed in Pressburg (Bratislava , Slovakia) on 1 May 1254 . In accordance with the treaty , Ottokar , who had in the meantime become King of Bohemia , ceded Styria to Béla .

Béla appointed his son in law , Rostislav Mikhailovich Ban of Macsó (Ma?va , Serbia) in 1254 . Rostislav 's task was the creation of a buffer zone along the southern borders . He occupied Bosnia already in the year of his appointment and forced Tzar Michael Asen I of Bulgaria to cede Belgrade and Barancs (Brani?evo , Serbia) in 1255 . Béla adopted the title of King of Bulgaria , but he only used it occasionally in the subsequent years .

The Styrian noblemen rose up in rebellion against Béla 's governor Stephen Gutkeled and routed him in early 1258 . Béla invaded Styria , restored his suzerainty and appointed his oldest son , Stephen , Duke of Styria . In 1259 , Batu Khan 's successor , Berke , proposed an alliance by offering to marry one of his daughters to a son of Béla , but he refused the Khan 's offer .

Discontented with the rule of Béla 's son , the Styrian lords sought assistance from Ottokar of Bohemia . Béla and his allies ? Daniil Romanovich , Boleslaw the Chaste , and Leszek the Black of Sieradz ? invaded Moravia , but Ottokar vanquished them in the Battle of Kressenbrunn on 12 June 1260 . The defeat forced Béla to renounce Styria in favor of the King of Bohemia in the Peace of Vienna , which was signed on 31 March 1261 . On the other hand , Ottokar divorced his elderly wife , Margarete of Austria , and married Béla 's granddaughter ? the daughter of Rostislav Mikhailovich by Anna ? Kunigunda .

Béla had originally planned to give his youngest daughter , Margaret , in marriage to King Ottokar . However , Margaret , who had been living in the Monastery of the Blessed Virgin on Rabbits ' Island

, refused to yield . With the assistance of her Dominican confessor , she took her final religious vows which prevented her marriage . Infuriated by this act , the King , who had up to that time supported the Dominicans , favored the Franciscans in the subsequent years . He even became a Franciscan tertiary , according to the Greater Legend of his saintly sister , Elisabeth .

= = = Civil war (1261 ? 66) = = =

Béla and his son , Stephen jointly invaded Bulgaria in 1261 . They forced Tzar Constantine Tikh of Bulgaria to abandon the region of Vidin . Béla returned to Hungary before the end of the campaign , which was continued by his son .

Béla 's favoritism towards his younger son , Béla (whom he appointed Duke of Slavonia) and daughter , Anna irritated Stephen . The latter suspected that his father was planning to disinherit him . Stephen often mentioned in his charters that he had " suffered severe persecution " by his " parents without deserving it " when referring to the roots of his conflict with his father . Although some clashes took place in the autumn , a lasting civil war was avoided through the mediation of the Archbishops Philip of Esztergom and Smaragd of Kalocsa who persuaded Béla and his son to make a compromise . According to the Peace of Pressburg , the two divided the country along the Danube : the lands to the west of the river remained under the direct rule of Béla , and the government of the eastern territories was taken over by Stephen , the king @-@ junior .

The relationship between father and son remained tense . Stephen seized his mother 's and sister 's estates which were situated in his realm to the east of the Danube . Béla 's army under the command of Princess Anna crossed the Danube in the summer of 1264 . She occupied Sárospatak and captured Stephen 's wife and children . A detachment of the royal army , under the command of Béla 's Judge royal Lawrence forced Stephen to retreat as far as the fortress at Feketealom (Codlea , Romania) in the easternmost corner of Transylvania . The king @-@ junior 's partisans relieved the castle and he started a counter @-@ attack in the autumn . In the decisive Battle of Isaszeg , he routed his father 's army in March 1265 .

It was again the two archbishops who conducted the negotiations between Béla and his son . Their agreement was signed in the Dominican Monastery of the Blessed Virgin on Rabbits ' Island (Margaret Island , Budapest) on 23 March 1266 . The new treaty confirmed the division of the country along the Danube and regulated many aspects of the co @-@ existence of Béla 's regnum and Stephen 's regimen , including the collection of taxes and the commoners ' right to free movement .

= = = Last years (1266 ? 70) = = =

The " nobles of all Hungary , who are called *servientes regis* " from both the senior and the junior king 's domains assembled in Esztergom in 1267 . Upon their request , Béla and Stephen jointly confirmed their privileges , which had first been spelled out in the Golden Bull of 1222 , before 7 September . Shortly after the meeting , Béla assigned four noblemen from each county with the task of revising property rights in Transdanubia .

King Stephen Uro? I of Serbia invaded the Banate of Macsó , a region under the rule of Béla 's widowed daughter , Anna . A royal army soon routed the invaders and captured Stephen Uro? . The Serbian monarch was forced to pay ransom before being released .

Béla 's favorite son , Béla , died in the summer of 1269 . On 18 January 1270 the King 's youngest daughter , the saintly Margaret , also died . In short order , Béla fell terminally ill . Before his death , he requested King Ottokar II of Bohemia , (Princess Anna 's son @-@ in @-@ law) , to assist his wife , daughter and partisans in case they were forced to leave Hungary by his son . Béla died on Rabbits ' Island on 3 May 1270 . With his death at the age of 63 , he exceeded in age most members of the House of Árpád . He was buried in the church of the Franciscans in Esztergom , but Archbishop Philip of Esztergom had his corpse transferred to the Esztergom Cathedral . The Minorites only succeeded in regaining Béla 's remains after a long lawsuit .

= = Family = =

Béla 's wife , Maria Laskarina was born in 1207 or 1208 , according to historian Gyula Kristó . She died in July or August 1270 . Their first child , Kunigunda , was born in 1224 , four years after her parents ' marriage . She married to Boleslaw the Chaste , Duke of Cracow in 1246 .

A second daughter , Margaret followed Kunigunda in about 1225 ; she died unmarried before 1242 . The third daughter of Béla , Anna was born around 1226 . She and her husband , Rostislav Mikhailovich were especially favored by Béla . Her great @-@ grandson , Wenceslaus ? a grandson of her daughter , Kunigunda by King Ottokar II of Bohemia ? was King of Hungary from 1301 to 1305 .

Béla 's fourth child , Catherina died unmarried before 1242 . Next , Elisabeth was born ; she was given in marriage to Henry XIII , Duke of Bavaria in about 1245 . Her son , Otto was crowned King of Hungary in 1305 , but was forced to leave the country by the end of 1307 . Elisabeth 's sister , Constance married , around 1251 , Lev Danylovich , second son of Prince Daniil Romanovich of Halych . Béla 's seventh daughter , Yolanda became the wife of Bolesław the Pious , Duke of Greater Poland .

Béla 's first son , Stephen was born in 1239 . He succeeded his father . Béla 's youngest daughter , Margaret was born during the Mongol invasion in 1242 . Dedicated to God by her parents at birth , she spent her life in humility in the Monastery of the Blessed Virgin on Rabbits ' Island and died as a Dominican nun . The King 's youngest (namesake) son , Béla was born between around 1243 and 1250 .

The Greater Legend of Saint Elisabeth of Hungary (Béla 's sister) described Béla 's family as a company of saints . It wrote that the " blessed royal family of the Hungarians is adorned with resplendent pearls that irradiate all the earth " . In fact , the Holy See sanctioned the veneration of three daughters of Béla and his wife : Kunigunda was beatified in 1690 , Yolanda in 1827 ; and Margaret was canonized in 1943 . A fourth daughter , Constance also became subject to a local cult in Lemberg (Lviv , Ukraine) , according to the Legend of her sister , Kunigunda .

The following family tree presents Béla 's offspring , and some of his relatives mentioned in the article .

= = Legacy = =

Bryan Cartledge writes that Béla " reorganised the structure of government , re @-@ established the rule of law , repopulated a devastated countryside , encouraged the growth of towns , created the new royal town of Buda and revived the commercial life of the country " during his over three @-@ decade @-@ long reign . Béla 's posthumous epithet ? the " second founder of the state " ? shows that posterity attributed to him Hungary 's survival of the Mongol invasion . On the other hand , the Illuminated Chronicle notes that Béla " was a man of peace , but in the conduct of armies and battles the least fortunate " when narrating Béla 's defeat in the Battle of Kressenbrunn . The same chronicle preserved the next epigram which was written on his tomb :