

= Marek Sobieski (1628 ? 1652) =

Marek Sobieski (24 May 1628 ? 3 June 1652) was a Polish noble (szlachcic) , starosta (tenant of the Crown lands) of Krasnystaw and Jaworów , older brother of King Jan III Sobieski of Poland . He graduated from Nowodworski College in Kraków and Kraków Academy , then traveled and studied in Western Europe . After returning to Poland in 1648 he fought against the Cossacks and Tatars at Zbara? and Beresteczko . He was taken captive by Tatars in 1652 and then killed by Cossacks .

= = Childhood and studies = =

Sobieski was the oldest child of Jakub Sobieski and his second wife Teofila Zofia Dani??owiczówna . He was born on 24 May 1628 in Z?oczów and spent his childhood in ?ó?kiew . He grew up in a patriotic family , and his mother often took him and his brother to the grave of her grandfather Stanis?aw ?ó?kiewski , Grand Hetman of the Crown , who was killed in the battle of Cecora in 1620 . Zofia Teofila Dani??owicz taught her sons the inscription upon their great @-@ grandfather 's grave : " O quam dulce et decorum est pro patria mori ! " (How sweet and glorious it is to die for one 's homeland !) . On 29 October 1639 Sobieski became Starosta of Jaworów .

Along with his brother Jan , beginning in 1640 , Sobieski studied at the Nowodworski College in Kraków . On 29 April 1642 Sobieski made a speech on funeral of Jakub Zadzik , bishop of Kraków . The next year , on 2 June 1643 , Sobieski made a speech where he thanked absent W?adys?aw IV for everything he had done for Nodworski College . Two months earlier , in April 1643 , Marek and Jan Sobieski began studies at Kraków Academy . In 1644 Sobieski became Starosta of Krasnystaw .

In 1645 Jakub Sobieski , father of Marek and Jan , prepared special instructions and a guidebook for his sons , who were about to go abroad . Jakub Sobieski , who was inspired by Roman authors , emphasized learning foreign languages and physical exercises . He wanted to prepare his sons to be politics and diplomats .

After completing their studies in 1646 , the brothers started to travel around Europe under the tutelage of Sebastian Gawrecki . They departed ?ó?kiew on 21 February or 25 March 1646 . They visited Berlin , Wittenberg , Leipzig , Halle , Amsterdam and Paris , where they arrived on 9 June 1646 . They spent the next 16 months in France . In October 1647 Marek and Jan Sobieski went to England and subsequently studied mathematics in the Netherlands . The brothers had planned to go to Turkey , but after hearing of the Khmelnytsky Uprising they decided to return to Poland . Marek and John Sobieski left Brussels on 24 July 1648 .

= = Adulthood = =

After returning to Poland Sobieski and his brother came to Zamo?? , which at the time was being besieged by Cossacks . In 1648 , 1649 and 1650 Sobieski was elected a member of the parliament (sejm walny) of the Polish ? Lithuanian Commonwealth . In 1649 he was among the electors who voted for Jan II Kazimierz as King of Poland . Then , as a head of a chor?giew husarska (military unit formed by Hussars) of 100 horse , the young starosta joined the army of Jeremi Wi?niowiecki .

Sobieski was a member of the Polish defense crew besieged by Cossacks at Zbara? from 10 July to 22 August 1649 . In 1650 he fought against the Cossacks at Kamieniec Podolski . Marek Sobieski also took part in the Battle of Beresteczko on 28 ? 30 June 1651 . After the Polish victory , due his bravery , he received a saber of Tugay Bey , who had been killed during the battle . In September 1651 he fought at the Battle of Bia?a Cerkiew . When the Poles , Cossacks and Tatars began negotiations , Marek Sobieski was sent to the Cossack camp as a guarantor of safety for the Cossack leader , Bohdan Khmelnytsky , who was in the Polish camp .

In 1652 Sobieski fought against the Cossacks near Brac?aw and during Bia?a Cerkiew campaign . Marching with Jan Odrzywolski , but without his own hussar banner , Sobieski and his retinue came to the field hetman Kalinowski 's camp at Bato? on May 31 . Marek Sobieski and Odrzywolski were assigned to command cavalry banners during the subsequent battle , and in that capacity they

fought on June 1 and 2 . On June 2 , during the second day of the Battle of Batoh after the defeat of Polish cavalry in the field before the Polish camp , Sobieski commanded a cavalry group , perhaps containing wounded filed hetman Kalinowski , that withdrew to the eastern redoubt in Polish camp , where Cossacks destroyed them after bringing artillery . Following Polish soldier Wespazjan Kochowski 's writings Sobieski might have been the last Polish commander defending the Polish camp against the Cossack @-@ Tatar army . Young commander was taken prisoner or surrendered , to be ransomed in a future as it was practice of the day , by the Tatars or Cossacks . After the battle , the Cossacks paid the Tatars for possession of the prisoners , and killed the Polish captives in retaliation for Chmielnicki 's defeat at Berestechko . Among the 8 @,@ 000 massacred Polish soldiers was Marek Sobieski. or the number could have been much higher , up to 15 @,@ 000 killed in action and massacred .

Sobieski 's mother returned his body to his home , and to commemorate him she founded the Church of the Assumption of Mary in ?ó?kiew , which was built between 1653 and 1655 . Sobieski was buried there in 1655 on the day the church was consecrated . His brother , King Jan III Sobieski , commissioned a gravestone by Andreas Schlüter made from black marble , which was destroyed after 1945 . In 1946 Sobieski 's body was taken to the Dominican 's Church in Kraków .

= = Legacy = =

Sobieski was portrayed by Henryk Sienkiewicz in *With Fire and Sword* (1884) , Antoni Euzebiusz Balicki in *Z ?aka król* (1936) and Jacek Komuda in novel *Bohun* (2006) .