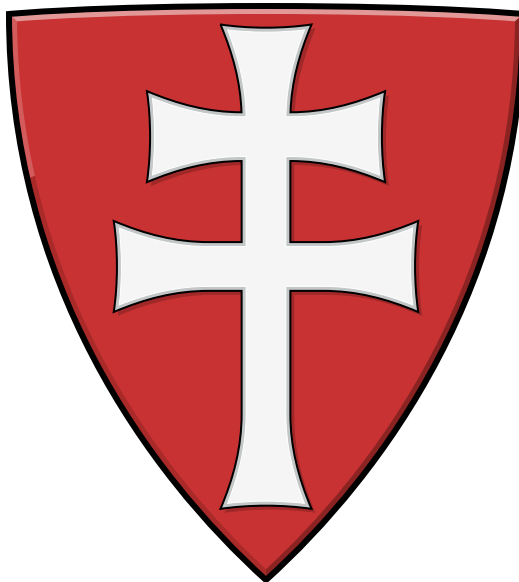


Description

The remains of King Béla III, one of medieval Hungary's most powerful rulers, were recovered from Matthias Church in Buda and analyzed under the sample designation BelalIII. He reigned in the 12th century as the peak expression of the Árpád dynasty's power. His burial artifacts reflect the cosmopolitan world he navigated: a silver crown and a ring bearing an Arabian inscription — an unusually diverse set of objects for a Central European monarch. His physical remains now rest under a marble monument in Budapest.



Coat of arms of Béla III of Hungary (used 1172–1196).

Béla III was educated in Constantinople under Emperor Manuel I Komnenos, where he was known by the Greek name Alexios and trained in diplomacy, finance, and what Byzantine chroniclers diplomatically called "dissimulation." This education shaped his entire approach to governance. Returning to Hungary, he modernized the state, organized the Royal Chancellery to preserve official records, and adopted sophisticated Byzantine administrative models. His reign saw the reconquest of Croatia and Dalmatia, and a prestigious marriage to Margaret of France, sister of King Philip II.

The Arabian inscription on his burial ring is a vivid symbol of the cultural currents flowing through his 12th-century court: a man educated in Greek, ruling Hungarians, buried with Arabic script. Despite his own self-deprecating claim of being "too cowardly to fight," his strategic invasions of the Byzantine Empire solidified Hungary as a dominant European superpower. His remains now provide a biological anchor at the

center of this remarkable life — that of a monarch who successfully navigated the intersection of three civilizations: Byzantine, Western European, and Islamic.

Modern population	Distance
Hungarian	2.203
Slovenian	2.318
Slovakian	2.391
German	2.445
Croat	2.475
Austrian	2.493
Czech	2.653
Moldovan	2.698
Bosniak	2.843
Ukrainian (Zakarpattia)	2.854

Source

Date: 1743–1793 CE

Y-DNA: R-ARP10

mtDNA: H1b

Location: Hungary

Research: Genome-wide autosomal, mtDNA, and Y chromosome analysis of King Bela III of the Hungarian Arpad dynasty

Sample(s): HU3B