

Description

Prince Johannes Corvinus was the illegitimate son of King Matthias Corvinus, the celebrated "Raven King" of Hungary. Because of his illegitimate birth, Johannes was barred from inheriting the Hungarian throne after his father's death, which prevented him from claiming the kingdom his family had transformed into one of Central Europe's most powerful states. He lived in the late 15th and early 16th centuries, and his life represents the first irreversible fracture in the Hunyadi dynasty's grip on power.



Historical portrait of János Corvin (Johannes Corvinus).

The Hunyadi family's rise had been extraordinary. Johannes's grandfather, Janos Hunyadi, was a military genius who saved Europe by defeating the Ottoman Empire at the Siege of Belgrade in 1456. His father, Matthias Corvinus, was elected King of Hungary at just 14 years old and transformed the kingdom into a Renaissance superpower: he established the feared Black Army of Hungary, the first major professional standing army in medieval Europe, and assembled the largest collection of books in Europe outside the Vatican.



15th-century Renaissance portrait attributed to Baldassare d'Este, associated with János Corvin.

But Matthias had no legitimate heir, and that absence proved decisive. Despite his immense achievements, the dynasty's future was left unguarded. Johannes Corvinus inherited his father's prestige but not his throne. His historical significance lies in that rupture: the moment when a rising dynasty lost its hold on power. The Hunyadi legacy, built across two generations of military brilliance and Renaissance ambition, was suddenly reduced to a tenuous line with no secure claim to the crown.

Modern population	Distance
Romanian	2.013
Montenegrin	2.419
North Macedonian	2.481
Serb	2.564

Modern population	Distance
Italian (Friuli-Venezia Giulia)	2.570
Bulgarian	2.580
Pomak (Bulgaria)	2.605
Serb (Montenegro)	2.818
French (Provence)	2.922
Gagauz	3.032

Source

Date: 1743–1793 CE

Y-DNA: E-COR1

mtDNA: T2b

Location: Croatia

Research: The genetic legacy of the Hunyadi descendants

Sample(s): CJM