

**“Stopped were smiles of Czechs,
wasted were their liberties” or what
was a true story of Habsburgs.**

5HD280 From Kafka to Havel

Lecture 2



EVROPSKÁ UNIE
Evropské strukturální a investiční fondy
Operační program Výzkum, vývoj a vzdělávání

MŠMT
MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY

Habsburgs – overview

- Looking for the new ruler after the death of Louis from Jagiello dynasty (1526)
- Ferdinand I. Habsburg was then elected
- Habsburgs ruled over the Czech countries for 392 years
 - During their rule 19 rulers occupied Czech throne
 - Two of them were not Habsburgs

Ferdinand I.

- Began rule of the Hapsburg dynasty over Czech country
- Brother of the powerful emperor Charles V. that ruled over Spain
- Times of religious division
- Ferdinand broke almost of all promises he gave to the Czech Estates



Ferdinand I. By Hans Bocksberger.
Zdroj: Wikipedia.org

A historical map of Prague, showing the city's layout, including the Charles Bridge, the Old Town, and the New Town. The map is titled 'PALATIUM IMPERATORVM' and 'PRAGA' and includes the Latin text 'MAGAR QUID VULGO RAIZIN APPELLATVR'.

Ferdinand I.

- 1547 refusal of the Czech Estates to help Ferdinand in Schmalkaldic war
- His reaction was to punish cities mainly
- 1556 arrival of Jesuits
- In 1526 he was elected as king of Hungary



Rudolph II.

- 1552–1612 (as a Czech king 1576–1611)
- Complicated person
- Inherited mental illness
- He moved from Vienna to Prague in 1583
- Prague became European centre of culture

PALATIUM IMPERATORVM
BOHEMIE QVOD VVLGO RAIKZIN APPELLATVR

Rudolph II.



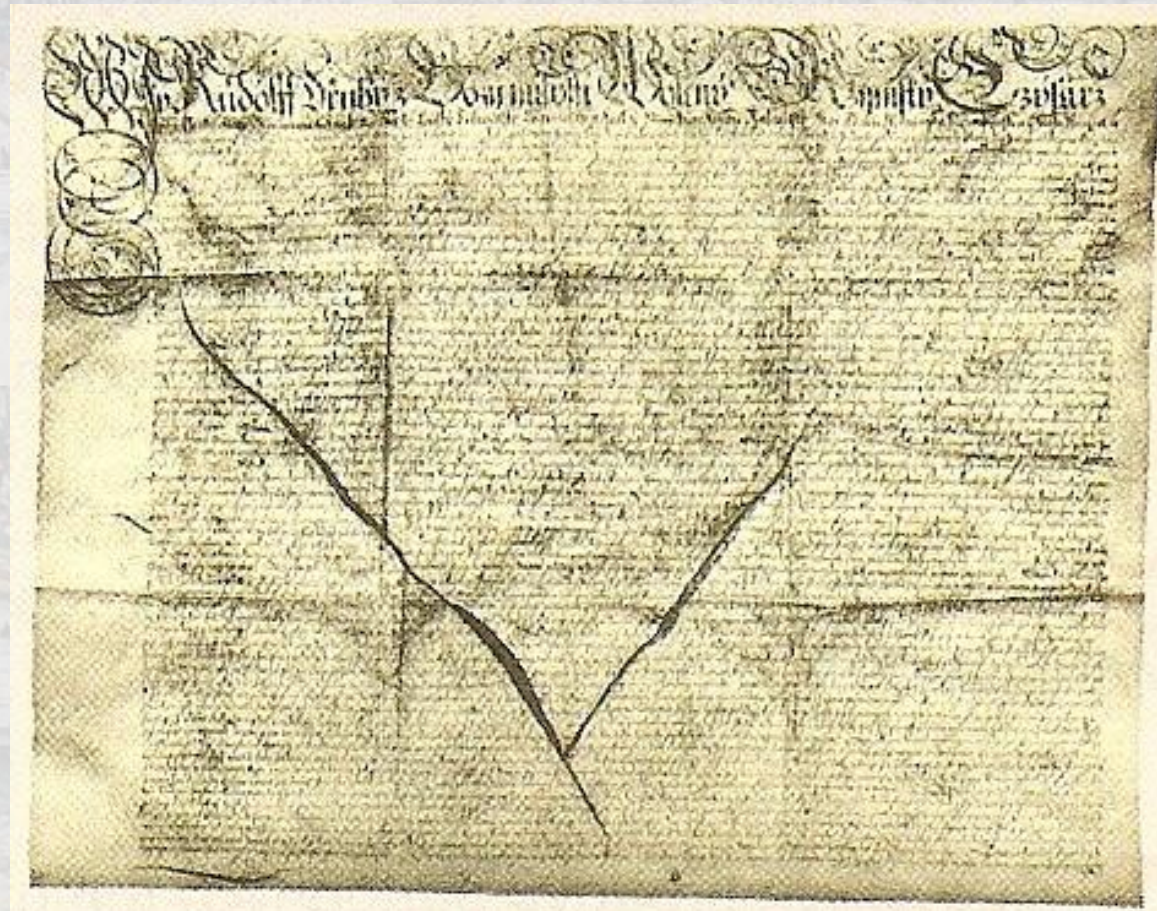
The background of the slide is a faded historical illustration. At the top, there is a Latin inscription: "PALATIUM IMPERATORVM MAGAR QVOD VVLGO RAIZIN APPELLATVR". Below this, a large, detailed cityscape is shown, featuring a prominent castle with a blue dome and several spires. In the foreground, two figures in period clothing are standing on a path, looking towards the city. The overall style is that of a woodcut or engraving from the 16th or 17th century.

Rudolph II.

- Was not a successful emperor
- He was losing parts of the kingdom gradually in favour of his brother Matthias
- He held the Czech kingdom but he had to make compromises with Czech aristocracy
- Letter of Majesty
 - Granted greater religious liberty

IN PALATIO IMPERATORVM
BOHEMIE QVOD VVLGO REICHS AUFFELATV

Letter of Majesty



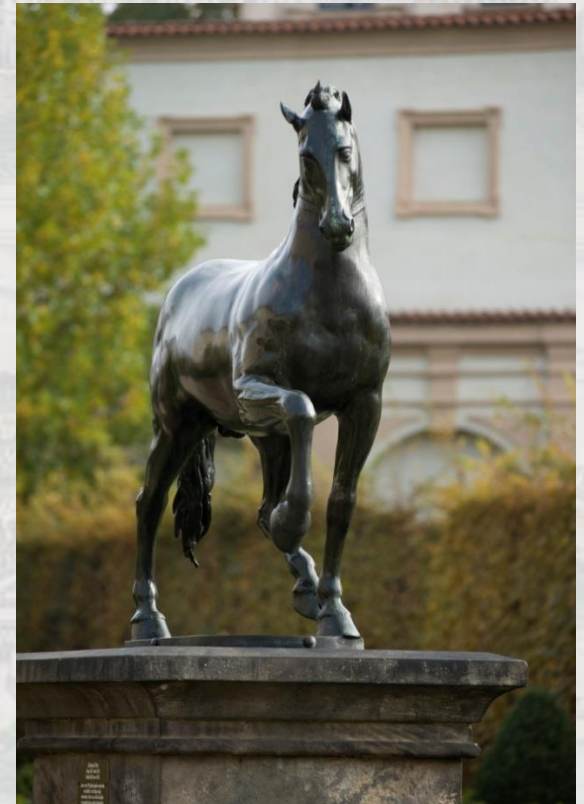


Rudolph II.

- Supporter of artists and alchemists
- Builided collections of art
- Patron to many contemporary artists
 - For example Adrian de Vries or Hans von Aachen
- Many well educated people worked in Prague
 - Tycho de Brahe, Johannes Kepler

Adrian de Vries

- Adrian de Vries
- Stayed in Prague several times since 1593 up to 1626
- In Prague Worked for Rudolph II., his brother Matthias and for Wallenstein



The background is a detailed historical illustration of a city, likely Prague, featuring a river, numerous buildings with spires, and two figures in period clothing in the lower right foreground. At the top, there is a Latin inscription: "PALATIUM IMPERATORVM MAGAR QVOD VVLGO RATAZIN APPELLATVR".

Tycho Brahe

- Tycho Brahe
- Danish astronomer and astrologer
- Combined copernician system with the ptolemaic
- Build observatory in Benátky nad Jizerou
- Died in 1601
- Specualtions about the circumstances of his death

Tycho Brahe





Edward Kell(e)y

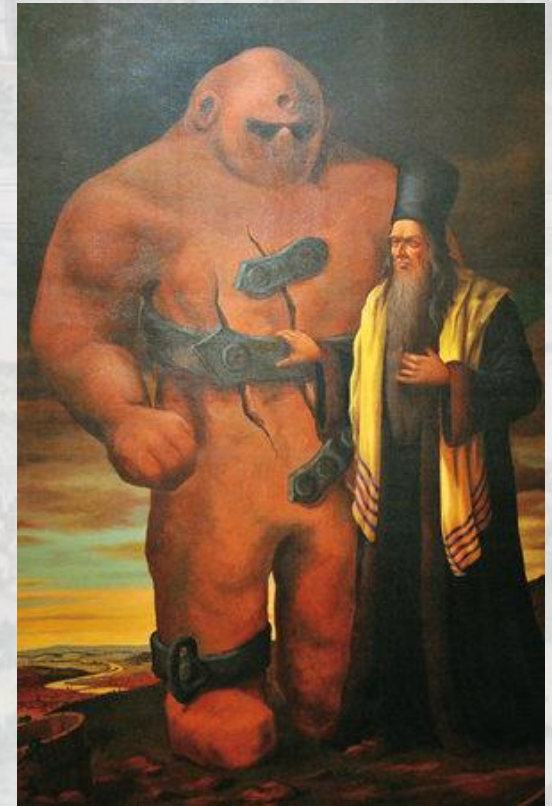
- Edward Talboot (1555–1597)
- British magus and alchemist
- Collaboration with Sir John Dee in England and in Central Europe (Krakow, Třeboň and Prague)
- Pretended to know transforming other metals to gold
- Arrested in Křivoklát (1591) and Hněvín (1595)

Edward Kell(e)y and John Dee



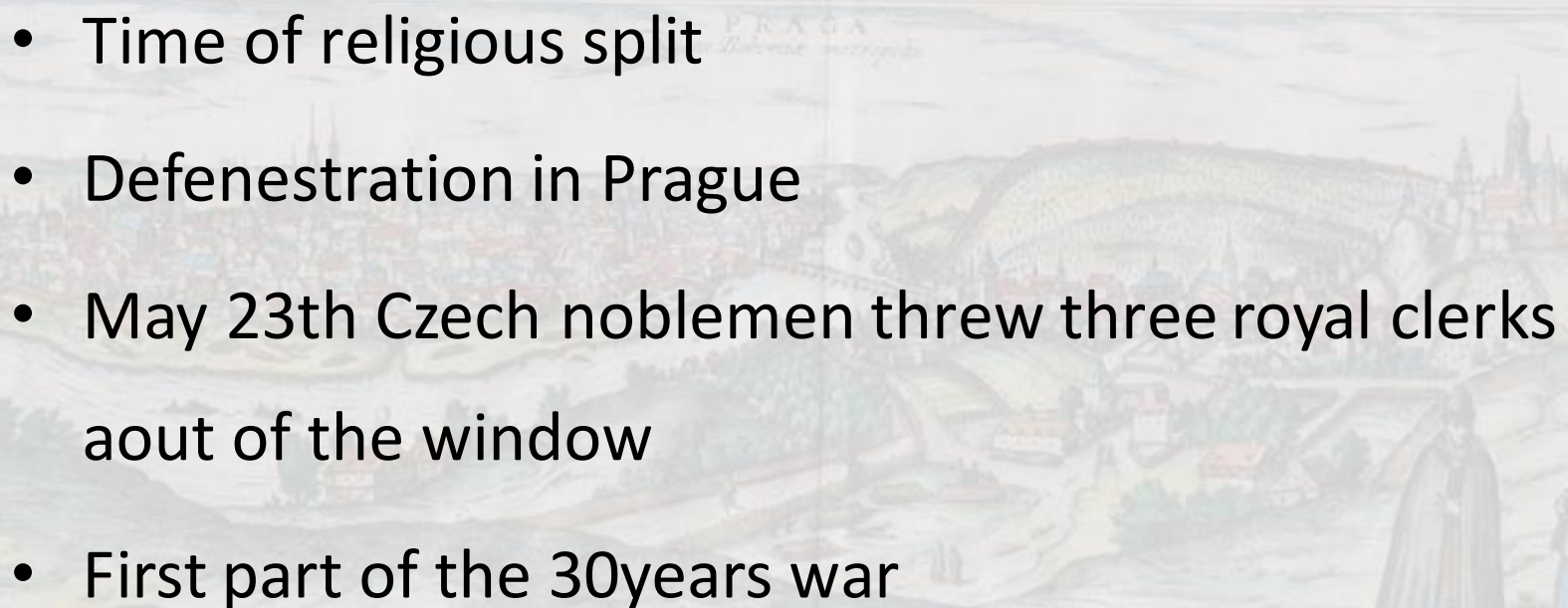
Legend on Golem

- Old Jewish myth known from Bible
- The Prague story
- Rabbi of Prague Judah Loew ben Bezalel
- Golem protect Jewish community from attacks
- Golem was made of clay and was activated by the so called shem put in his mouth
- Golem should have not be activated on Sabbath



Uprising of Czech Estates



- Uprising of the Czech Estates against the king Matthias
 - Time of religious split
 - Defenestration in Prague
 - May 23th Czech noblemen threw three royal clerks aout of the window
 - First part of the 30years war
- 



Battle of the White Mountain

- November 8th 1620 Army of Czech Estates led by prince Christian of Anhalt was defeated by the royal Army and by the army of Catholic League
- July 1621 mass execution of Czech noblemen on Old town Square
- Most of them were burgesses
- Only three men was from high aristocracy

Battle of the White Mountain



Verzeichnis was gestalt der Graff von Schlick vnd andre hohe vnd Niderstands Personen hingericht vnd vollzogen worden.

Process of establishing centralist state

- After Battle of White mountain
- Option:
 - To convert to catholic religion
 - To leave the country (for example Comenius)
- Restriction of Czech state independence

John Amos Comenius



John Amos Comenius by Alfons Mucha

Maria Theresa

- Enlightened absolutism
 - Absolutism combined with state paternalism
- Social and economic reforms
 - Result of unsuccessful wars
 - War on Austrian succession
 - Seven-years war
- Centralization of the state
 - Connected with germanization of state administration



Joseph II.

- Son of Maria Theresa
- Ruled in 1780–1790
- Continued in her reforms
- Goal of the reforms
 - Adaptation on new conditions from above with aim to avoid restructuring of society
- Main acts
 - Abolishing of serfdom
 - Tolerance of other religions than Catholic



Joseph II. By Joseph Hickel.
Source: Wikipedia.org

Ferdinand V.

- Ruled in 1835–1848
- Very weak king but very popular in Czech lands
- Last coronated Czech king
- Lived in Prague and Zákupy after the abdication
- Biedermeier



Franz Josef I.

- Ruled more than 60 years
- Very conservative
- During his rule
 - Main wave of industrialization and liberalization took place
 - Weakening of international economic and political position of the monarchy
 - Internal ethnical tensions
 - Dualization of the monarchy





The end of Habsburg rule

- The First World War
 - Austria-Hungary was too weak to participate in such a long war
 - At the end of war the country was totally exhausted
 - Impossibility to end the war without respect to Germany
 - The role of the USA and resistance of non-German speaking nationalities



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