



The Legend of Saint Kinga – Patroness of Krakow Miners

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Long, long ago, Prince Boleslaw Wstydlivy (1226-1279; **Figure 1**) was the ruler of Poland. He decided to ask the princess of Hungary, Kinga to marry him. Consequently, he sent a message to the court of the Hungarian King Bela IV. Also, he ordered to give an engagement ring to princess Kinga. She agreed to become a Polish princess.

Saint Kinga (1234-1292; **Figure 2**) was born in Esztergom, Kingdom of Hungary and she was daughter of Hungarian King Bela IV and Maria Laskarina.



Figure 1: Prince Boleslaw Wstydlivy sculpture

Kinga's father wanted to give her gold and jewels as dowry, but the princess said that this would not be good, since the Polish king was wealthy and his county lived in prosperity. Kinga's father asked her: „So, what dowry do you want, my daughter?“ After some thought, the princess asked her father to give them salt, which would gain the appreciation of Boleslaw and his subjects. Namely, salt at that time was extremely appreciated.

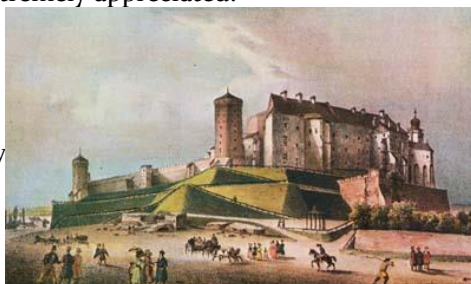


Figure 3: Wawel Hill



Figure 2: Saint Kinga

St. Joseph's Church, Muszyna, Poland

Certainly, a father wanting to meet the request of his daughter, took her to the mine in Marumuresz and said: „You have what you asked, here are rich salt deposits“. However, the king was pensive, because he did not know how to move all the salt to the Polish mine. She lifted her eyes, asking God for advice and after a while she knew what to do. She removed her engagement ring from Boleslaw and threw it into the mine shaft. Courtiers who saw it were a little surprised, but they said nothing.

Soon, Kinga went to the court of King Boleslaw, where he waited for her arrival. Shortly after the wedding took place, and all the knights of the Malopolska and nobles appeared. The King lived in the Wawel Hill Castle in Krakow (**Figure 3**). After several days, seeking to find her dowry, she asked her husband to show her the kingdom. So the whole procession came, and the king showed her the beautiful land of his principality.

At one moment, Kinga told them to stop and directed her servants to dig in the ground. When the attendants came upon a rock and said that further digging was impossible. Kinga ordered to split off a piece of rock. One of the

peasants gave Kinga a white piece of rock, which was a lump of salt. She ordered them to split it and her engagement ring fell out of the lump. Then they all understood what a dowry her father gave her and that the ring, which she threw into the mine in Marumuresz, brought precious salt to Poland. Since then, the mine in Wieliczka is famous for its rich salt deposits. Princess Kinga wisely ruled the Polish people for a long time.

Internet sources:

Figure 1: https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boles%C5%82aw_V_Wstydlivy#/media/File:Boleslaw_V_Wstydlivy.jpg

Figure 2:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kinga_of_Poland#/media/File:%C5%9Awi%C4%99ta_Kinga_%28sculpture%29.jpg

Figure 3: <http://www.krakow-info.com/castle.htm>

Legenda o sv. Kingi – zaštitnici rudara Krakova

Priča o slici na naslovnici sveščića



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Bilo je to davno, u vrijeme dok je princ Bolesław Wstydlwy (1226. – 1279., **slika 1**) vladao Poljskom. Odlučio je zaprositi ugarsku princezu Kingu. Stoga je, prema tadašnjim običajima, poslao poruku na dvor ugarskoga kralja Bele IV. Također je zapovjedio da se zaručnički prsten uruči princezi Kingi. Ona je pristala udati se za njega i postati princezom Poljske.

Sv. Kinga (1234. – 1292., **slika 2**) rođena je u Esztergomu, u ugarskome kraljevstvu i bila je kći kralja Bele IV. i Marije Laskarine.



Slika 1: Princ Bolesław Wstydlwy sv. Josipa,

Kingin otac htio joj je dati zlato i dragulje kao miraz, ali je princeza rekla da to ne bi bilo dobro, jer je poljski kralj bio bogat i živio je u blagostanju. Na to ju je otac upitao: „Kćeri moja, što bi željela kao miraz?” Princeza se zamislila i pitala oca može li joj dati soli, kako bi stekla poštovanje Bolesława i njegovih podanika. Naime, sol je u to vrijeme bila iznimno cijenjena.



Slika 3: Brdo Wawel



Slika 2: Kip sv. Kinge, crkva
Muszyna, Poljska

Naravno da je otac želio ispuniti želju svoje kćeri, pa ju je poveo u rudnik Maramures i rekao joj: „Imaš ono što si željela, ovdje je bogato ležište soli.” Međutim, kralj je bio zamišljen jer nije znao kako premjestiti svu tu sol u rudnik u Poljskoj. Tada je princeza podigla pogled moleći Boga za savjet i nakon nekoga vremena znala je što treba učiniti. Skinula je Bolesławov zaručnički prsten i bacila ga u okno rudnika. Dvorani koji su to vidjeli ostali su pomalo iznenađeni, ali nitko nije ništa komentirao.

Uskoro je Kinga stigla na dvor kralja Bolesława, gdje je on iščekivao njezin dolazak. Nedugo zatim održano je i vjenčanje, kojemu su nazočili svi malopoljski vitezovi i plemstvo. Kralj je živio u dvorcu na brdu Wawel u Krakovu (**slika 3**). Princeza je nekoliko dana nastojala pronaći svoj miraz i upitala muža da joj pokaže kraljevstvo. Tako je krenula cijela procesija, a kralj je Kingi pokazivao svoju prekrasnu zemlju.

U jednome času Kinga je rekla da se zaustave i pokazala slugama da počnu kopati. Došavši do stijene, oni su rekli da daljnje kopanje nije moguće. Jedan od seljaka dao je Kingi komad bijele stijene, koji je bio grumen soli. Ona je naredila da se grumen usitni i pri tome je ispao njezin zaručnički prsten. Tada su svi shvatili što joj je otac dao

u miraz i da ju je prsten koji je bacila u rudniku Maramures pratio i pritom premjestio dragocjenu sol u Poljsku. Od tada je rudnik Wieliczka poznat po bogatome ležištu soli. Princeza Kinga još je dugo i mudro vladala Poljskom.

Mrežni izvori:

Slika 1: https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boles%C5%82aw_V_Wstydlivy#/media/File:Boleslaw_V_Wstydlivy.jpg

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