

TIMIȘOARA

Local Council Office: Timișoara, Bd. C.D. Loga no. 1, telephone no. 0256/408300, fax 0256/490635;

Webpage address:
<http://www.primariatm.ro>

Coordinates:
45°44' 58" N lat.;

21°13' 38" E long.;

Historical landmarks:

IInd century AD - it is assumed that near the present day Timișoara, there was the



town of **Zurobara** (or **Zambara**), approximately indicated on the map of **Claudius Ptolemy**, a hypothesis not confirmed archeologically;

1266 - King Stephen the Vth offered the count **Parabuch** the domain **Papth** (Bobda) in the county of Timiș, the land called Kuke on the territory of the fortress of Caraș, the fiefs called Wolter and Belan belonging to the fortress of Kewe, the land called **Rety of the fortress of Tymes**, and for a certain amount of money the land called Pophth (nowadays the village of Bobda) which was located in the **county of Tymes**; this can be considered the first time that Timișoara was officially recorded in a document;

- half of the land of the town of Rety (Bobda) belonged to the

THE CASTLE



In the beginning of the XIVth century, the Hungarian king Charles Robert of Anjou (Charles I) set its residence in Timișoara. Several Italian craftsmen would contribute to the erection of the royal castle. Almost one century and a half later, the building was rebuilt by John Hunyadi, between 1443 and 1447. The castle has been repeatedly destroyed and then rebuilt. Its initial shape has been kept until nowadays, and the current aspect of the facade dates back to 1856. Up to the end of the second world war, the former royal castle operated as a barrack as well. Afterwards, the impressive medieval building became the Museum of Banat, a destination kept until today.

The City Hall and the Local Council of the City of TIMIȘOARA

CIUHANDU GHEORGHE	Mayor	JUMANCA ROMANIȚA, LC member	SDP
ORZA ADRIAN	Vice Mayor	MOLDOVAN VALENTIN, LC member	CDNPP
GRINDEANU SORIN	Vice Mayor	MOȘIU SIMION, LC member	DLP
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BOGDAN CIPRIAN, LC member	NLP	STOIA TRAIAN, LC member	SDP
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BUNGĂU IONEL, LC member	SDP	SĂRĂCAN MARIA, LC member	DLP
CATANĂ CONSTANTIN, LC member	CDNPP	SARAFOLEAN SILVIU, LC member	CDNPP
BORZA CLAUDIA, LC member	DLP	SZABÓ FRANCISC, LC member	DAHR
CIUHANDU OVIDIU, LC member	DLP	TOADER CORADO, LC member	CDNPP
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JICHICI CIPRIAN, LC member	NLP		

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courtiers of **fortress of Tymes**;

1315 - the **villa** (village of) **Themeswar** (not to be confused with the fortress (var) of Timișoara was mentioned;

1316-1325 - the camp of Timișoara became the residence of the king **Charles Robert of Anjou**, who built here a brick castle;

- the king Charles Robert left the castle of Timișoara for his expedition against **Basarab I**, the one defeating him at Posada;

1397 - in Timișoara, in the presence of king **Sigismund of Luxemburg**, the General Diet of Hungary was opened;

- Sigismund remained for a while in Timișoara, having disagreements with the Hungarian gentry;

1404-1426 - the position of Timiș county head was held by **Filippo Scolari**, called Pipo Spano, a propagator of Renaissance;

1441-1446 - the county head and count of Timiș was **John Hunyadi**; during this period, the fortress of Timișoara is consolidated and updated;

1474 - Timișoara was mentioned for the first time as a city, in diplomas and documents;

1478-1494 - county head of Timiș and captain of Timișoara was **Paul the Knyaz (Pavel Chinezul)**;

- many Romanian and Serbian people who fled from the Ottoman's way settled within the fortress and around it, and Timișoara's surface also extended;

1510 - the plague played havoc with the city;

1514 - the fortress of Timișoara was besieged by the mutinous peasants of **Gheorghe Doja**;

27th July 1552 - Timișoara was conquered by the Ottomans, and the city became capital of a beylerbeylik, led by a beglerbeg;

- the first Ottoman commander of Timișoara was **Kasim pasha**, also called Gazi Kasim pasha, former beglerbeg of Buda.

- Timișoara housed the office of the mufti (head of justice)

and of the chasinedar (treasurer);

- according to the descriptions of certain travellers, Timișoara seemed at that time to be a large and pleasant city (oppidum), at the same time playing an important part in the military control applied by the Ottomans over Transylvania;

- after the implementation of the Ottoman administration, when certain class privileges were cancelled, the Hungarian gentry left Timișoara (Banat), taking refuge in Hungary and Transylvania and, as **Ioan Stoia Udrea** wrote in "Banat Guide" ("Ghidul Banatului") in 1936, "vanished in time";

1596 - the prince of Transylvania, **Sigismund Báthory**, attempted unsuccessfully to conquer Timișoara;

1660 - Timișoara was visited by the Ottoman historian and geographer, **Evlia Celebi**;

- the city was made up of the "**Fortress**" and ten quarters; it had 1,500 houses made of wood and covered with shingle, with brick chimneys, four mosques, four monasteries, seven schools for children, a higher school (madrasah), four baths, 400 stores, the streets were paved with boards, and the garrison was made up of 10,000 so

JOHN OF NEPOMUK

The oldest statue in the region represents Saint John of Nepomuk holding a cross. It was placed in 1720 in front of the current Military Casino, and in 1752 it was moved to the area of the "**Carmen Sylva**" High School. Five years later, the statue was placed near the Decebal Bridge, and then in the area of the current Thermal Swimming Pool (Ștrandul Termal), near the former gardens (1908) and, finally, in the yard of the Roman-Catholic church in Iosefin, at the crossroad of the King Carol I Boulevard and Constantin Brâncoveanu street (1932). The author of the 300-year-old statue has remained anonymous.



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12th October 1716 - the prince **Eugene of Savoy** and the troops of the House of Habsburg conquered the city, and the Ottoman garrison surrendered and retreated to the South of the Danube;

- Banat was organized as a personal province of the crown ("**Kronland**"), its capital being Timișoara and being directly controlled by the Aulic Chamber in Vienna;

- the Field Marshal Hamilton fortified the city;

1716-1734 - the military and civil leader of Banat was the count **Claudius Florimund Mercy**;

- the rich trade companies, recorded in documents immediately after the Habsburg occupation as belonging to the indigenous people, were dissolved;

- from the numerous flocks of sheep, herds of cattle and tree orchards belonging to the Romanian population, after 50 years, what remained was only their memory;

- under the rule of the governor Florimund Mercy, an urban planning project was drawn up, including the road texture, also existing today in the central part of the city, the sewerage system of Timișel, which became Begea, the supply with drinking water and channels for draining waste water;

1718 - the **Beer Factory** started its operation;

1720 - the Hungarian chronicler **Mátyás Béli** wrote that "**in the city of Timișoara the only language that was spoken at that time was Romanian**" (only 52 German families lived in the city);

- the inhabitants were organized, the same as during the Ottoman rule, in confessional communities, led by councils called "magistrate" (administrative authorities), made up of mayors and members of the council. The "Rascien" (Orthodox) community is mainly led by the Serbian population, the Romanians being impeded from holding different positions within the community;

1722 - the settlement of the Germans in Banat began, in several "stages", and the

THE GUILDS' TREE

According to an ancient tradition, in the 19th century, the owners of the households from Timișoara used to personalize their houses by placing a symbol right next to the entrance: "**the sign of the house**". An Aromanian merchant, called Trandafir, who bought the building located at the junction of Mihai Eminescu and Francesco Grisellini Streets in 1827, decided to do the same thing. The sign chosen to personalize his house was an iron tree, ordered from Vienna and mounted in a niche at the ground floor of the building. "The guilds' tree" has become one of the most famous symbols of the city ever since. The original guilds' tree can be seen in the modern and contemporary history room of the Banat Museum, while the copy has been made by the restorer **Adrian Fota** from Timișoara.



German settlers (called later on "Swabians") would make up in the IVth decade of the XVIIIth century the majority of the population in Timișoara, because the Habsburgs first preferred to populate the city with non-Hungarian elements, in order to avoid the possible movements of the Hungarian population against the Habsburg authorities, yet starting with 1730, the Hungarian Catholics were allowed to settle again in the city;

1723-1756 - the new brick fortress was built in a "Vauban" system (**Sebastian de Vauban**, the marshal of France), as well as the North-Eastern part of the bastion (of which some fragments have been preserved until nowadays), the count **Claude Florimund Mercy** being the one proposing to Vienna a project drawn up by master surveyors and builders in Timișoara, a document called "**Construction regulation regarding the city and fortress of Timișoara**", the most important urban planning process in the XVIIIth century occurring in Banat;

16 May 1727 - Saint **John of Nepomuk**

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was chosen as guardian of Banat, and the date of 16 May of each year was declared a holiday;

1728 - the digging and regulation of the Bega channel (the process of turning it into a navigable artery ended in **1771**);

1729 - end of the construction works of the Transylvanian Barrack (Cazarma Ardeleană), which would also be the residence of the commander of the 7 Army Corps, an edifice which was demolished between 1961 and 1965;

24th December 1731 - under the rule of the Mayor **Peter Solderer** the German city hall is founded, on the location of the old Turkish baths (currently: the Old City Hall);

1736-1754 - the Roman-Catholic Dome in Union Square was built;

1737 - the Hospital of the Merciful (Spitalul Mizericordienilor) was founded;

- buildings of burnt brick were built offering a new look to the city, although the population continued to live in hovels, and the clerks, the famous “**beamter**”, lived in small, damp and not so tall houses;

1738-1739 - the plague led to the death of one sixth of the city’s inhabitants;

- in memory of the victims, the Holy Trinity Monument was erected in the square of the Roman-Catholic dome (nowadays, the Union Square);

1734-1754 - the Roman Catholic Bishop palace was built;

1744 - the construction works of the municipal hospital;

1748 - the Orthodox cathedral (nowadays, Serbian) in Union square was built;

1753 - first record of the organized theater in Timișoara;

1754 - the beginning of the construction of the governmental residence (the Baroque Palace,

restored in 2007, located in Union Square);

- the Belgrade Gate (Poarta Belgradului) (decommissioned in 1745), the Petrovaradin Gate (Iosefin), the Transylvanian Gate (towards Fabric), the Vienna Gate (Mehala)

were built, the last two being demolished in 1891;

1758 - a Romanian Orthodox church was set up;

1761 - the end of the construction of the city hall of the Rascian-Illyrian (Serbian) magistrate;

1762 - the first synagogue of the Jewish community was built in the city;

1762-1763 - the second wave of plague;

1767 - the city was visited by the emperor **Joseph II**;

1770 - Timișoara had **10,000 inhabitants**, a quarter of the city’s population during the

THE OLD CITY HALL

The building located in Freedom Square and called “The Old City Hall” housed, between 1737 and 1949, the City Council of Timișoara. “The Old City Hall” was built on the location of an old

Turkish bath (an inscription in Turkish can be found even today on an external wall of the City Hall (the photo on the right). The building was restored in 1782 and 1935. In front of the former City Hall, there is the monument of Virgin Mary and of Saint Nepomuk, carved in Vienna, shortly after the plague that affected Timișoara. Placed initially in the area where the “Continental” hotel is



located nowadays, the statue was dismantled in 1752 in order to be brought to the place where it can be found today. In 1994, the artist **Ioan Oprescu** of Timișoara restored the monument, as a result of a praiseworthy initiative of the Association of the Swabians of Banat in Germany.

Ottoman rule;

1773 - the future emperor **Joseph II** visited Timișoara again;

1774 - **J.J. Ehrler**, in chapter “**On the size of Banat and its inhabitants**” in the study

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“Banat - from its origins until nowadays”;

(1774), mentions the city of Timișoara, together with the city of Vinga and the two boroughs - Becicherecul Mare and Kikinda; 1775 - the Normal School for Boys was founded;

1778-1779 - Banat (three counties) was reincorporated into Hungary, and Timișoara became again the capital of the Timiș county;

1780 - the paper “**Versuch einer politischen und natürlichen Geschichte des Temeswarer Banats**”, by **Francesco Griselini** is published, the first monograph regarding the territories between Mureș and the Danube;

21st December 1781 - **Joseph II** signed the decree for declaring Timișoara a **free royal city**;

“MARIA THERESIA“ BASTION

After the liberation from the Ottomans and the start of the Habsburg rule of the city, the initial purpose of the impressive defence system of the fortress of Timișoara at the beginning of the XVIIIth century was that of a magazine for the imperial army. The bastion had a massive aspect, being built in a baroque style. It covered several streets of the city, as shown by the fragments remained from the construction called after the name of the empress Maria Theresa: “**The Maria Theresa Bastion**”. The Catholic Episcopal office could be found here, and the first floor housed the offices of the tax authorities and the offices of the City Hall engineers. During the period 1970-1971, the Communist authorities wanted to demolish the bastion and build blocks of flats. The architects opposed this idea and even succeeded in rearranging the architectural complex: the first floor housed an exhibition of ethnographic collections of Banat, while the ground floor housed a technical museum, the collections dedicated to old books and various spaces dedicated to exhibitions. The bastion was rearranged and consolidated with European and local funds becoming one of the important touristic attractions of Timișoara starting in spring 2011.



STONE MAP

In the Union Square, upon arriving from Mercy street, the stone masons placed within the pavement a macadam stone different from all the others. The stone having the size of three common slabs was carved representing the map of the Fortress of Timișoara, in a Vauban style, with nine corners, according to the layout of the city in the XVIIIth century.



16th September 1782 - the official solemn proclamation of Timișoara as a free royal city;

1782 - the Piarist elementary school was opened, moved from the Sântana commune (Arad county) to Timișoara, where it operated until 1948;

1784 - the operation within the Fabric district of an Illyric school, separated in 1825 into the Romanian and the Serbian schools;

1787 - the set up of the first bookshop in the city;

1790 - Timișoara was awarded economic autonomy and could be represented within the Diet of Buda, having voting rights;

1794 - the building of the former Rascian City Hall was transformed into a theater;

1806 - Set up of the Roman-Catholic theological seminar in Timisoara (closed in 1950);

1807 - the city was visited by the emperor **Francis I Habsburg** and by the archduke Charles, who were hosted at the “Trumpeter’s” inn (hotel);

1808 - the civil militia was organized;

1815 - the printer **Joseph Klapka**, the future mayor of

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“Zum Trompeter”

At the junction of the streets Eugeniu de Savoya and Augustin Pacha there is a building built in 1747. Five years later, this was transformed into the one floor hotel “Zum Trompeter” (“Trombitas” - “La Trompetistul”- “Trumpeter’s”) - on the basis of the idea of the Seltmann family. The following owners (the Jenő family) replaced the hotel’s stables with a winter garden, adding then a floor and the tower. A new body of the building was built in 1898, and the “Trumpeter’s” became “Hungary” (“Hungaria”). One of the most important guests of the hotel was Alexander John Cuza. He spent here his last days (7th-8th March 1866) on Romanian land, before leaving for exile. Other



public figures which stayed at “Trompetistul” were the emperor Francis I (12th-14th May 1807), Mihai Eminescu, together with the Pascaly troupe, during summer 1868, but also the father of the poet Nikolaus Lenau.

the city, set up the first borrowing library in Timișoara;

1819 - the anti-smallpox vaccine was administered for the first time in Central Europe;

1831 - the “united” evangelic church was set up in Timișoara;

1831-1832 - the cholera led to many victims in the city; 1,361 people died;

March 1837 - the birth of **George Ardelean**, lawyer, journalist, historian, jurispudent of the city of Timișoara, (died on 10th January 1909);

1844-1858 - the writer and historian **Johann Nepomuk Preyer** became Mayor of Timișoara;

1846 - The Roman-Catholic Bishop **József Lonovics** set up the first educational institution (the law school);

1846 (3-18 November) - the composer and the piano player **Franz Liszt** performed three concerts within the theater’s hall;

1847 - **Johann Strauss Jr.** performed concerts in Timișoara in the yard of the beer factory;

18th March 1848 - revolutionary assem-

blies in the yard and in front of the city hall, and the Parade Square became the Freedom Square;

26th April-8th August 1849 - the fortress of Timișoara was besieged by the Hungarian revolutionary troops;

03rd May 1849 - The general of the Hungarian army **Josef Bem** promotes the poet **Petőfi Sándor** to the rank of major in the camp in Freidorf near Timișoara, at a location where nowadays there is a monument dedicated to the Hungarian revolutionary poet;

09th August 1849 - the Hungarian revolutionary army was defeated between Săndrești and Becicherecu Mic, and the Austrian general **Julius Haynau** entered Timișoara victoriously;

1849-1860 - Timișoara is the capital of the Serbian Vojvodina and the Timiș Banat, a newly formed region, which included Banat, Bačka, Syrmia, the official language becoming German and not Serbian as the Serbian leaders had requested;

1850 - the population of Timișoara increased very slowly: it barely amounted to 17,669 inhabitants, almost 5,000 less inhabitants than Arad and as many as Vârșeț, which in the beginning of the Austrian rule of Banat had only 70 houses;

- in the latter half of the XIXth century, after the railway was built, Timișoara became one of the most important railway junctions in the empire;

16th June 1852 - Timișoara was visited for the first time by the emperor **Franz Joseph**;

1853 - the first monograph of the city was published, called “**Monographie der königlichen Freistadt Temeswar**” (**Monograph of the free royal city of Timișoara**), written by the mayor **Johann N. Preyer**;

24th April 1854 - the telegraph service was launched;

1855-1860 - the Dicasterial Palace was built, as an office for the government of

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Serbian Vojvodina and the Timiș Banat, but when it was finished Vojvodina ceased to exist (27th December 1860);

1857 - the railway Seghedin-Timișoara was commissioned;

01st October 1857 - Timișoara became the first city in present day Romania using the street gas lighting;

1860 - Banat was attached to Hungary;

1862 - 1864 - the Bishop **Andrei Șaguna** (supported by **Andrei Mocioni** and **Vicențiu Babeș**) achieved the hierarchical churchly split from the Serbian church;

1863-1865 - the Moresque Synagogue was built, on the present day Mărășești street;

1866 (7th-8th March) - in his way to exile, the ruler **Alexander John Cuza** stopped in Timișoara, spending the night at the "Trompetistul" hotel;

1867 - the German teacher **Franz Xaver Eckert**, in Freiburg, described Timișoara as a city not too large, but well fortified, with high society, military music, English gardens (arranged by the governor Coronini), tasty beer from Steinbeck, public baths with less strict rules, "Zum Trompeter" inn, with high cuisine and excellent wine;

1867-1918 - Hungarian population settled in Timișoara, its administration and economy further developing under Austrian rule;

1868 - the first tour of the theater troupe led by **Mihail Pascaly**, whose prompt was the poet **Mihai Eminescu**;

07th February 1869 - discontented with the attachment of Banat to Hungary, the Romanians of Banat summoned the National Meeting of the Romanians in Hungary, where the creation of the **National Party of Banat and Hungary** was decided, led by **Alexandru Mocioni**;

1869 - the horse drawn tramway was commissioned, the railway line being 6.6 km long;

1870 - the **Sciences High School** was built (nowadays "Nikolaus Lenau");

21st October 1871 - the Philharmonic Society of Timișoara was set up;

1872-1875 - the building of the new theater was built, nowadays, the National Theater "Mihai Eminescu";

01st May 1872 - the first daily paper published in the Hungarian language is the publication "**Temesi Lapok**";

1873 - the set up of the "Romanian reading reunion in Timișoara";

1874 - the meteorological station was commissioned;

1876 - the set up of the first sports association in the city: "**The skating association**";

1876 - the second railway station in Timișoara was built, in the Fabric district (East railway station);

1879 - beginning of the construction works of the city telephone network;

15th September 1879 - the recital in Timișoara of the German composer and piano player **Johannes Brahms**;

1880 - the commissioning of the first iron foundry in the city, and of a brick factory;

1880-1894 - the lawyer **Pavel Rotariu** published the political paper of the Romanians in Banat "**The Luminaire**" ("**Luminătorul**");

1881 - construction works of the "**Notre Dame**" school complex and the Roman-Catholic nun monastery in the Iosefin district;

12th November 1884 - the public street lighting operated on the basis of electricity;

09th March 1885 - **Carol Telbisz** became the Mayor of the city of Timișoara;

01st October 1885 - the private school for the hearing and speech impaired of **Karl Schäffer** was opened;

02nd December 1886 - the set up of the "**Salvation**" ("**Salvarea**") society;

1890 - the birth of **Pera Kostic**, conductor and journalist (died in 1957);

19th July 1891 - opening of the national exhibition for industry and agriculture, visited by the emperor Franz Joseph I;

1893 - the normal School for Boys was built - nowadays "**Jean Louis Calderon**" high-school;

1894 - drilling of the mineral water well in the Dome Square (nowadays, the Union Square);

1894 - the opening, on 15th November, in the St. George square, of the "**modern Kossak photo studio**";

- in 1898, the master Josef Kossak in Timișoara took the photograph of **Franz Joseph** in Buziaș during some military operations, representing the emperor while receiving a petition from a peasant's boy in Buziaș;

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1895 – the first asphalt paved street in present day Romania was located in Timișoara;

1896 - laying of the head stone of the “Millenium” church in the Fabric district;
- The Institute for the hearing and speech impaired was built;

1897-1899 the construction works of

the building of the “Great Station” (“Gara Mare”) (Josefstatter Bahnhof), in a neo-classical style, station also called during the period between the two world wars and until 1947 the “Lady Helen” station;

01st January 1897 - the “Redout” hall in the fortress and the “Curtea Fabricii” Hall in the Fabric district housed the first film presentations;

03rd October 1897 - the inauguration of the Superior State elementary school (the high-school for boys, nowadays the “Constantin Diaconovici Loga” Theoretical Highschool);
1897-1898 - the poet **Ady Endre** was a clerk at the Timișoara Court of Law and lived in a house on the present day Ion Ghica street, under number 12, in the Iosefin district;

6th June 1899 - the birth of **Franz Liebhard**, German writer (died on 18 December 1989)

24th July 1899 - the commissioning of the electric tramway, linking the Fabric district with the Fortress (Cetate) and Iosefin districts;

1900 - start of the construction works of the Palace of the Timiș-Bega Association for Hydrological Land Management (finished in 1902);

15th October 1900 - Inauguration of the Higher Education Institute for Arts and Crafts in Timisoara;

1902 - the railway line to Lugoj was moved to the present day route;

- the set up of the first soccer club in Timișoara, having 30 founding members;

- the set up of the Hospital for children, the businessman **Anton Sailer** donated 50,000 crowns, half of the amount necessary for

building the clinic;

1902-1903 - construction works of the State Highschool for Girls, the future school “Carmen Sylva”;

1903 - the Reformed minister and Hungarian poet, **Michael Szabolcska** set up the Hungarian Choir, nowadays the Choir of the Reformed Church;

25th September 1904 - the inauguration of the building of the hospice and the polyclinic for children;

1904 - the inauguration of the city library including 27,850 books;

1904 - the beginning of the construction works of the city Slaughterhouse;

1905 - the set up of the institution for the protection of the blind;

16th February 1906 - the first concert in Timișoara of **Béla Bartók**, composer and piano player born in Sânnicolau Mare;

1907 - the start of the demolition of the fortress walls, which impeded the development of the city;

27th June 1908 - opening of the first cinema hall;

31st October 1908 - date of birth of **Rudolf Bürger**, member of the national soccer team of Romania, present at the Soccer World Cup in 1930 - Uruguay, 1934 - Italy, 1938 - France, (died on 20th January 1980);

1909 - the commissioning of the hydroelectrical plant on Bega, “The Turbines” ;

1910 - the Mehala commune (Frantzstadt) becomes the 5th district of the city of Timișoara;

- the set up of the **Sports club “The Knyaz” (“Chinezul”)** named after the name of the army leader **Paul the Knyaz** (Pavel Chinezul);

6th November 1910 - the birth of **König Frigyes**, lepidopterist, museum curator (died on 20th July 2002);

1910-1912 - construction works of the “Lloyd Palace” and the imposing buildings in the Opera House Square;

1910-1913 - The Central Post Office was built;

1911-1912 - the new Romanian Orthodox church was built in the Fabric district;

1912 - the laying of the head stone of the Roman Catholic church in the Elisabeth district, finished in 1919;

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7th September 1916 - curfew imposed in the city (Romania was at war against the **Triple Alliance**);

1917 - the set up of the first metrology laboratory in Timișoara, on the 6 Theodor Neculeuță street (Traian Square area);

31st October 1918 - the proclamation of the Banat Republic by **dr. Otto Roth**, whose capital became Timișoara;

- The Romanians in Banat were against the Banat Republic, requesting the union with the motherland, the Kingdom of Romania;

15th November 1918 - the city was occupied by the Serbian army, who wanted to attach to the Kingdom of Serbia;

01st December 1918 - The Banat representatives in Alba-Iulia clearly request the union between Banat and Romania;

03rd December 1918 - the troops of the French colonial army entered the city, mon-

itoring the Serbian occupation forces;

28th July 1919 - the Romanian administration was implemented within the city;

03rd August 1919 - the Romanian Army entered Timișoara;

30th August 1919 - birth of **Arthur Vetro**, painter, graphic designer and sculptor (died in 1992);

04th September 1919 - general mayor was appointed the engineer **Stan Vidrighin**;

- the set up of a new district, Fratelia;

2nd October 1920 - birth of **Ștefan Kovacs**, a winner as the coach of the team Ajax Amsterdam of two European Champions' Cup (died on 12 May 1995);

02nd November 1920 - a powerful fire destroyed the City Theater;

- rebuilt and transformed according to the design of the architect **Duiliu Marcu**, the theater opened again on 15th January 1928;

03rd November 1920 - the beginning of the courses at the Polytechnic School in Timișoara;

1921 - the set up of the soccer team "**Po-litehnica**" Timișoara (the players wore black and white outfits similar to "Sportul Studentesc" and "U" Cluj, both of them representing Universities);

23rd-24th May 1921 - **George Enescu** gave concerts in Timișoara;



"LADY HELEN" RAILWAY STATION

The most important railway station of Timișoara is located in the Iosefin district. The first building of the railway station was built in mid XIXth century, in order to inaugurate the railway line Seghedin-Timișoara. The former buildings houses nowadays the commodity warehouse of the North Station (Gara de Nord). In 1897 the building of the "Great Station" was inaugurated, being built in a neoclassical style; the station was called during the period between the two world wars and up to 1947

"Lady Helen Station", according to the name of the wife of the prince Alexander John Cuza. During the bombardments of the Anglo-American alliance in 1944, the station and a series of buildings around the station were destroyed. The building was immediately repaired. During the 1980s of the former century, another building was added to the old building of the "Lady Helen Railway Station", yet this was not favourable for the architectural complex.



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12th March 1923 - the member of the Episcopal Council **Augustin Pacha** was appointed apostolic manager for the parts of the Romanian Banat of the Roman-Catholic Diocese of Cenad;

11th November - 14th November 1923 - Timișoara was visited by **His Royal Highness King Ferdinand I** creator of the great Romania;

1923 - the beginning of the construction works of the buildings of the Polytechnic School on Mihai Viteazul Boulevard, the buildings having Brâncovenesc style;

04th October 1925 - the laying of the head stone of the Romanian Orthodox church in Mehala district;

1926 - birth of **Cornel Trăilescu**, composer, conductor, and piano player;

23rd April 1926 - the inauguration in the city centre of the statue "She wolf", received as a gift from the Italian authorities;

26th August 1926 - festivities for the official inauguration of the impressive Swabian school "Banatia", nowadays the office of the "Victor Babeș" University of Medicine and Pharmacy;

15th November 1926 - the commissioning of the Hospice for the elderly;

26th July 1928 - birth of **Ion Crișan**, writer, folklorist, and journalist (died on 11 August 1993);

21st December 1928 - the set up of the "Ripensia" club, the first professional soccer club in Romania;

21st June 1929 - birth of **Erika Scharf**, poet and translator;

1929-1930 - the "Capitol" Cinema hall was built (according to the design of the architect **Duiliu Marcu**);

1st March 1929 - birth of **Nicolae Andronescu**, physician colonel, puzzler and publicist;

1929-1934 - arrangement of the Roses Park ("Rosarium") under the guidance of architect **Mihail Deme-trovici**;

05th June 1930 - the set up of the Roman-Catholic episcopal office of Timișoara, the first bishop of the Diocese becoming **dr. Augustin Pacha**;

29th December 1930 - within the statistics of the general census, Timișoara was mentioned with **91,866 inhabitants**;

1931 - birth of **Cornelia Voina**, conductor and piano player;

1931 - the beginning of the construction works of the Romanian Orthodox Church in the Iosefin district according to the design of the architect **Victor Vlad**;

4th July 1931 - birth of **Hans Matthias Just**, writer and publicist;

1931 - the newspaper "6 órai Újság" was issued being drawn up by the publicist and translator **Zoltán Franyó**;

23rd August 1932 - birth of conductor **Remus Georgescu**;

23rd September 1932 - the first issue of the periodical publication "The Country" ("Tara") was published;

1st January 1933 - birth of graphic designer **Lidia Ciolac**;

29th January 1933 - the cinema hall "Atlantic" was opened in the Elisabeth dis-

THE CATHEDRAL

The design of the impressive place of worship was carried out by the architect Ioan Traianescu. 20th December 1936 represents the ceremony of laying the head stone of the cathedral, and in October 1946 King Michael I (Mihai I) of Romania came to Timișoara as founder of the Metropolitan Cathedral. The patrons of the Cathedral are the Three Holy Hierarchs and Saint Iosif cel Nou from Partoș - the first Metropolitan of Timișoara (1650-1653). What makes the building stand out is the mixture of architectural styles: the model of the church Saint Sophia in Constantinople, combined with the style of the monasteries created by Stephen the Great and Holy (Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt). Together with the Romanian Opera House, the cathedral remains the symbol by which Timișoara is most frequently visually identified.



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trict;

1933 - birth of **Alexandru Șumski**, conductor and teacher;

1935-1937 - the Apprentice Center (the present day "Ana Aslan" College) was built;

8th March 1935 - birth of prose writer **Radu Ciobanu**;

26th April 1936 - birth of **Gheorghe Aurel Ardeleanu**, sculptor, playwright, prose writer;

02nd July 1936 - the city was visited by King **Carol II**;

18th July 1935 - birth of **Ioan Holender**, engineer, musician, manager, manager of the Opera House in Vienna (Staatsoper) between 1992 and 2010;

7th October 1936 - birth of **Livius Ciocârliie**, essay writer, reviewer and prose writer;

12th December 1936 - birth of **Iolanda Balaș**, athlete, World and Olympic champion and President of the Romanian Athletics Federation (1998-2005);

20th December 1936 - the laying of the head stone of the Metropolitan Cathedral, the design of the place of worship belonging to architect **Ion Traianescu**;

1938 - the beginning of the construction works of the Administrative Palace (nowadays, the office of the Prefect's Office and of the Timiș County Council), finished in 1943;

24th February 1939 - birth of **Richard Waldemar Oschanitzky**, one of the most important jazz musicians in Romania (died in 1979);

18th June 1939 - birth of **Nicolae Iuliu Diminescu**, former dean of the Ecological Faculty of the Banat University, city council member in Timișoara (1992-1996);

08th November 1939 - the set up of the Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Timișoara;

20th May 1940 - birth of **Francisc Valkay**, former first soloist and choreographer of the Romanian Opera in Timișoara;

2nd September 1940 - the people gather around the statue "She wolf", received as a gift on the part of Rome) in order to protest against the Vienna Award which took from Great Romania the northern part of Ardeal (43,493 square kilometres and 2,667,000 inhabitants, of which over 50% were Romanian);

16th July 1940 - birth of **Tiberiu Ceia**, an important singer of Banat folk music;

1941 - new streets were built (Paris, Bogdăneștilor, Victoriei - today, C.D. Loga),

- Timișoara had 9,050 houses, of which 7,620 with groundfloor, 1,043 with first floor and 384 with two or more floors;

21st February 1942 - birth of **Felicia Giurgiu**, prose writer, linguist, stylist and aesthetician;

15st March 1942 - birth of **Ildico Clara Achimescu**, prose writer and journalist;

18st March 1942 - birth of **Ionel Drîmba**, Olympic world champion in fencing (died in 2006, in Brazil);

25st March 1942 - birth of poet **Ana Blândiana** (Coman);

28st April 1942 - the new council of the Bar of Timișoara took up their positions, President being appointed **Aurel Baci**;

14th May 1942 - birth of **Ștefan Kelemen**, sculptor;

9th July 1942 - the bookshop "The Romanian Book" ("Cartea Românească") held an exhibition including over 200 books published in Banat;

15th August 1942 - birth of **Horst Fassel**, literary historian, translator, reviewer;

6th September 1942- Michael I (Mihai I), accompanied by the baron Antonio Mocioni, visited The Museum of Banat;

15th November 1942 - the set up of the "Timișoara Seismic Station";

- the inauguration of the first trolleybus line travelling along the route Lahovary Square (P-ța Lahovary) - the Cathedral - Duca street - Great Station (Gara Mare) and back;

4th January 1943 - birth of **Mandics György**, poet, prose writer, reviewer, essay writer and mathematician;

23rd April 1943 - birth of sculptor **Bata Marianov**;

24th April 1943 - birth of **Florin Medeleț**, historian, archaeologist and museum curator (died on 8th June 2005);

1943 - two bus lines were launched on the routes Great Station - Ronaț and Freedom Square - Fabric Vineyards;

26th February 1944 - birth of caricaturist **Nicolae (Nic) Lengher**;

16th-17th June 1944 - Timișoara was bombarded by the British military air force;

03rd July 1944 - the city was bombarded by the British and American air forces;

- the total number of victims of the two air

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“CORSO” AND “SUROGAT” (“SURROGATE”)

Coming from the Metropolitan Cathedral and going towards the Opera House, the tourist has two choices: walking through the Victoria Square (Opera House square) on the left side or on the right side. Whichever you choose, there are arguments supporting either of the two sides of the central part of Timișoara. The “Lloyd” restaurant gave the name of the left side of the Victoria Square: “Lloyd Walk” (“Aleea Lloyd”) (we



mention here the name of another luxury restaurant at the beginning of the XXth century, “Palace”). 70 years ago, the “Lloyd walk” (Aleea Lloyd (or “Corso”)) was the walking area for high society in Timișoara, a very well lighted promenade with famous shops. On the other side, on the “Surrogate” (“Surogat”), mostly young people, qualified workers and people working in various factories in Timișoara would usually go for a walk, especially from the Fabric district. The students were allowed to go for a walk on the “Surrogat” (“Surogat”) only upon the approval of the school management, while the soldiers had to prove to the patrols of the Timișoara garrisons that they were on leave.

raids taking place in the area of the North Station was as follows: 102 dead, 221 injured 254 destroyed houses and 358 damaged houses;

25th July 1944 - birth of **Marius Teodorescu**, Ph. D. professor, primary physician surgeon, former member of the local council of the city of Timișoara;

12th September 1944 - the Soviet occupation army entered Timișoara;

1944 - the newspapers “The Banat fighter” and “Szabad Szó” were published, as well as the new series of “Temeswarer Zeitung”;

2nd January 1945 - birth of **Ioan Radin-Peianov**, prose writer and translator;

4th January 1945 - birth of **Eugen Bunaru** (Barbeș) - poet and publicist;

15th June 1945 - solemn opening of the **West University**;

August 1945 - within the Polytechnic Institute The Faculty of Agriculture was set up, which would later underlie the set up of the Agronomic Institute in 1948;

18th October 1945 - the first Romanian professional theater in Timișoara was opened;

March 1946 - the Romanian Opera was set up;

August 1946 - the set up of the “**Victor**

Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy;

28th March 1946 - birth of **Ionel Cinghiță**, sculptor and restorer;

26th August 1946 - birth of **Vasile Bogdan**, prose writer and publicist;

06th October 1946 - the Metropolitan Cathedral was consecrated in the presence of King Michael I (Mihai I), of the patriarch Nicodim and of the metropolitan Nicolae of Transylvania, as well as the thousands of believers;

24th January 1947 - birth of **Viorica Bălteanu**, literary historian, translator and linguist;

12th February 1947 - birth of **Oscar Berger**, stage manager, chief editor and director of „Timișoara” daily newspaper;

5th March 1947 - birth of **Mihai Olariu**, engineer, industrialist, vice mayor of Timișoara (1990-1992 and 1992-1994), local council member (1994-1996), county council member (1996-2000 and 2000-2004);

17th April 1947 - “Banatul” State Philharmonic becomes a professional concert institution;

22nd April 1947 - birth of **Dorin Popovici**, Ph.D. professor, engineer, member of the

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local council of Timișoara (1996-2000);

27th April 1947 - the official opening of the Romanian Opera with the premiere of the opera "Aida" by Giuseppe Verdi;

15th June 1947 - birth of **Gheorghe Ciuhandu**, Ph. D engineer, mayor of Timișoara from 1996 onwards;

5th July 1947 - birth of **Silvia Mihăiescu**, graphic designer;

27th September 1947 - the set up of the Banat Metropolitanate;

12th December 1947 - birth of **Viorel Coifan**, Ph. D. engineer, the former sub-prefect, president of Timiș County Council (1992-1996 and 1996-2000), deputy (2000-2004), member of the county council;

1948 - Fratelia (Chișoda Nouă) became the VIth district of the city;

-Timișoara had **111,987 inhabitants**;

1948 - the set up of the Pedagogical Institute (as of 1962, it has been a University);

12th February 1948 - birth of **Mircea Purceld**, economist, former member of the county council, deputy (2000-2004 and 2004-2008);

15th April 1948 - the commissioning of the Mehala-Ronaș tramway line;

May 1948 - the newspapers "The Banat Fighter" ("Luptătorul bănățean"), "The Banat sports" ("Sportul bănățean") and "Horizon" ("Orizont") were published;

25th June 1948 - birth of **Corneliu Murgu**, tenor, manager of the Romanian Opera in Timișoara (from 2000 onwards);

June 1948 - in the "Roses Park" (Rosarium)) the first outdoor theater was opened, including 2,000 seats;

August 1948 - the inauguration of the **Airport of Sports Center** (thousands of people took part in the aviatic show);

9th November 1948 - birth of **Pia Brînzeu**, essay writer, art critic, translator;



24th November 1948 - the building of the

Piarist (Roman-Catholic) high school became part of the patrimony of the Polytechnic University of Timișoara;

1949 - the set up of the Timișoara Subsidiary of the Writers' Union of Romania;

7th February 1949 - the set up of the Higher Art Institute;

2nd April 1949 - **Dan Flavius Șurianu** was born in Timișoara, Ph.D., professor, engineer, vice mayor of the city of Timișoara (1996-2000);

25th July 1949 - birth of writer **Dana Gheorghiu**;

1950 - **Freidorf** was attached to the city, becoming the VIIth district of Timișoara;

28th April 1950 - birth of **Rodica Binder**, essay writer and journalist;

2nd February 1950 - birth of **Lucian Alexiu** (Blaga), publisher, poet, translator;

17th March 1950 - birth of **Smaranda Vultur**, reviewer and essay writer;

17th February 1950 - birth of **Bujor Hoinic**, composer, conductor, piano player and teacher;

May 1950 - the city hospitals accommodated 653 beds;

28th June 1950 - birth of **Nora Novak**, graphic designer, painter;

4th September 1950 - the swimmer **Elisabeta Bock** became national champion in 200 metres freestyle;

1950 - the set up of the **Timișoara Region**;

- birth of **Nae Tarnoczki**, guitar player and vocalist, author of the book "**Rockstory - West of Bega**" (died in 2009);

- the former Military School was arranged and transformed into the "**New Clinics**" hospital, including four departments;

18th May 1951 - birth of violinist **Ion Fernbach**, manager of the "Banatul" Philharmonic in Timișoara between 1997 and 2008;

28th May 1951 - birth of poet **Constantin Gurău**;

12th September 1951 - birth of poet

Petru (Puiu) Ilieșu;

23rd October 1951 - birth of **Marlene Heckman Negrescu**, prose writer and translator;

1951 - **Ghiroda Nouă** (Crișan Colony) and the **Plopi Colony** (Colonia Plopi) become districts of the city, the VIIIth and respec-

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tively the IXth district;

1st January 1953 - birth of **Dorel Borza**, former prefect of Timiș, vice mayor of Timișoara (1996-2008), deputy (1990-1992), senator (from 2008 onwards);

18th September 1952 - birth of **Horia Mircea Rusu**, Timiș deputy between 1990 and 1992 and 1992-1996 (died on 29 January 2001);

1952 - birth of **Horia Olivier Julien Șurianu**, composer, musicologist;

1st January 1953 - the set up of the Hungarian State Theater (since 1990, the “Csiky Gergely” Theater);

- the set up of the German State Theater;

2nd January 1953 - birth of **Dan Ioan Șipoș**, Ph. D. eng. economist, former member of the county council, president of Timiș County Council (2001-2004);

1953 - the commune **Ciarda Roșie** became the X district of the city;

5th July 1953 - birth of **Dan Negrescu**, prose writer, essay writer, translator, Latinist;

1954 - the set up of the Puppet Theatre (Iosefin district), nowadays the “Merlin” Theater;

17th October 1954 - birth of **George Lână**, poet and publicist;

25th August 1955 - birth of **Ilie Chelariu**, poet and journalist;

- birth of **Ioana Rauschan**, writer and director (died on February 2010);

21st February 1956 - Timișoara had **142,257 inhabitants**;

3rd April 1956 - birth of **Eleonora Ringler Pascu**, literary historian, translator, Germanist;

15th April 1955 - birth of **Dan Bara**, former manager and secretary general of the Timiș Prefecture, former member of the county council;

15th May 1956 - birth of **Hedy M-Kiss**, textile-tapestry artist designer;

16th November 1956 - “Știința” Timișoara won the Romanian Men’s Handball Championship;

4th November 1956 - The regional broadcasting centre in Timișoara started to broadcast shows in the Serbian and German languages, as well;

11th September 1957 - birth of **Toró T. Tibor**, teacher, physicist, researcher, for-

mer deputy (2000-2004);

7th January 1958 - The Polytechnic student **Alexandru Gunsberger** became national chess champion;

9th May 1958 - the set up of the “School Sports Club” in Timișoara;

1st July 1958 - The Soviet troops left Banat;

6th July 1958 - the team “Știința” Timișoara won the national soccer cup;

19th August 1958 - birth of **Marius Iuliu Mare**, lyrical artist, baritone at the Romanian Opera in Timișoara (died on 13th March 2010);

13th June 1959 - birth of **Maria (Maia) Barna**, national trade union vice-leader, deputy (from 2008 onwards);

14th July 1959 - birth of the plastic artist **Marcel Brăileanu**;

15th February 1960 - birth of **Stelian Acea**, painter and photographer;

16th February 1960 - birth of **Mariana Cernicova-Bucă**, publicist, writer, PhD professor;

1960 - the set up of the “Vulturii” UMT soccer team, following the merger of UMT with “Vulturii”, the latter being the team of the Ronaț area;

1961 - start of the construction works for the building housing the **West University** (finished in 1965);



1961 - beginning of the musical activity of the Band “The Saints” (Sfinții), later called “Phoenix”, a rock band who would become the symbol of an entire generation;

14th January 1962 - birth of poet **Marian Oprea**;

13th March 1962 - birth of journalist and historian **Sorin Forțiu**;

1962 - the Museum of Banat finished drawing up the documents necessary for arranging the Zoo in the Green Forest (112 hec-

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tares);

1st June 1963 - birth of **Claudiu T. Arieșan**, Ph. D. Reader, prose writer;

26th August 1963 - birth of **Luminița Juçu**, vocalist, singer of Banat folk music;

17th November 1964 - birth of **Marius Ghilezan**, journalist, sports chronicler, former adviser within the Government of Romania (2001-2004);

1966 - the development, within the Timișoara Polytechnic Institute, of **MECIPT-1**, the first computer of first generation in the Romanian University environment, created by a group of students among whom the future **Ph.D. eng. Dan Bedros**, Knight of the Legion of Honour;

22nd December 1966 - birth of **Iosif Ștefan Tasi-TAJO**, plastic artist;

13th July 1967 - birth of **Gabriel Marineasa**, prose writer, publisher;

27th August 1967 - birth of writer **Cătălin Dorian Florescu**;

1967-1968 - the construction works of the "Ion Vidu" **Music High School**, having a concert hall with splendid acoustics;

1968 - the "Olimpia" Gymnasium was built;

18th April 1968 - birth of **Dan Leopold Ciobotaru**, archeologist, manager of the Museum of Banat;

6th June 1968 - birth of **Mircea Băcălă**, jurist, prefect of Timiș county (from 2009 onwards);

8th October 1968 - birth of **Dana Mercea - Miclăuș**, painter;

1969 - the arrangement of the "Timișoara 700" market;

2nd April 1969 - birth of **Liubinca Perinaț Stancov**, poet and translator;

June 1969 - the women's handball team **Universitatea Timișoara** (coach **Gh. Lache**, having as players: Geta Bratie, Hilda Hrivniac, Cristine Metzenrath Petrovici, Iolanda Rigo, Erji Simo, Teri Szekely, Lucreția Neghină, Angela Moșu, Ana Nemetz, Lucreția Anca, Iolanda Benko, Elena Onofraș) won its first title as champion of Romania;

1969 - Ph.D. professor **M. Ghermănescu** publishes the first encyclopedic treaty of functional equations in the world;

1970-1974 - the construction works of the County Hospital (Spitalul Județean) (archi-

tect **Nicolae Dancu**);

1970 - the beginning of the development of the "Agronomic Institute" (USAB) in Calea Aradului;

July 1971 - the inauguration of "Continental" hotel (169 rooms, restaurant and reception halls, manager **Oliviu Mureșan**);

1972 - the rugby team **Universitatea Timișoara** (captain **Gh. Rășcanu**) won the title of champion of Romania;

23rd March 1972 - birth of **Linda Saskia-Menczel**, sculptor;

16th August 1972 - in Orțișoara, at the border with Arad county, the Olympic flame (on its way to München for the opening of the XX edition of the Olympic Games) was taken over by the rugby player **Gh. Rășcanu**;

- in Timișoara, the Olympic flame was carried up to the Olympic Corner (especially arranged "At the clock", in the Opera House Square) by the rower **Doina Bărdaș**, multiple European and world skiff champion;

1974 - the beginning of the construction works of the Electrotechnical Faculty (finished in 1976);

23rd August 1975 - birth of **Mile Alin Cârpenișan**, journalist, war correspondent (died on 22 March 2010);

16th March 1977 - birth of **Dana Delia Pintilie**, "Miss Romania 1995";

23rd November 1976 - birth of poet **Laura Mircea**;

13th February 1978 - birth of writer **Cristina Chevereșan**;

22nd September 1978- start of the activity of the "Ars Poetica", literary club led by the writer **Aurel Turcuș**;

25th May 1979 - birth of painter **Sorin Scurtulescu**;

20th October 1979 - Birth of **Andrei Popovici** (Andreas Frey), "Mister Univers 2005";

1980 - the rearrangement of Piața Unirii;

18th March 1980 - the set up of the "Helion" Anticipation Club at "Youth Center";

27th April 1980 - birth of **Nada Stojici**, sculptor;

13th June 1980 - is born **Tudor Crețu** - poet, prose writer, reviewer, television journalist;

12th December 1981 - birth of **Oana**

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Balogh-Bleich, painter;

1980-1982 - the construction works of the Construction Faculty;

1985 - **Adrian Armand Bărar** (born on 15th January 1960) formed the band “**Cargo**“, together with Octavian Iepan - guitar, Tibi Gajdo - bass guitar, Dinel Tollea - keyboard, Naș Ionel Tarnoczi - vocalist;

15th December 1989 - the parishioners of the Reformed Church gathered in front of the Parish on 1st Timotei Cipariu street, in order to protest in a peaceful manner against the forced transfer to another parish of Minister **László Tőkés**;

- the militia and security (Securitatea) were among the peaceful demonstrators;

- the Baptist believers of Minister Petre Dugulescu came to support the demonstrators, upon the request of the Reformed minister;

17th-18th December 1989 - the forces of order of Ceaușescu fired war bullets at the anti-Communist demonstrators in Timișoara;

20th December 1989 - the Romanian Opera House housed the creation of the **Romanian Democratic Front**, led by **Lorin Fortuna**;

- Timișoara became the first city in Romania to be free of Communism, and the bond created among the city inhabitants was extraordinary;



- one hundred thousand inhabitants of Timișoara chanted together in a single voice: “**There is a God!**”;

22nd December 1989 - the radio station in Timișoara resumed its activity;

- start of broadcast of the Timișoara Free TV Station;

- the daily paper “**The Banat Fighter**” started to be published (ten issues);

27th December 1989 - **Ilie Stepan** composed the song “Timișoara, Timișoara” with the lyrics of the writer **Marian Odanțgiu**;

- the song was recorded on 8th January, in the TVR Timișoara studio by the band “Pro Musica” (vocalist **Mario Florescu**), and the chorus of the song, “Timișoara, Timișoara”, was also sung by six paratroopers who were guarding the TV station at that time;

5th January 1990 - issue of the daily paper “**The Banat Rebirth**” (editor in chief **Ion Dancea**);

23rd January 1990 - issue of the daily paper “**Timișoara**” and the weekly paper “**The Western Gazette**”

February 1990 - issue of the weekly paper “**Agenda**” (editor in chief **Zoltan Kovacs**);

February 1990 - the set up of the present day “Independent Trade Union of the Pre-University Education” (SIIP);

-the first President was **Nicolin Krsta**, and currently SIIP (6,500 members who pay membership dues) is led by President **Virgil Popescu**;

May 1990 - the first privat clinic in Banat (after 1989), named „Praxis” (Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Ecography), was established by Ph.D. Professor **Ioan Sporea**;

7th August 1990 - **Liviu Borha** was named mayor of Timișoara;

1990 - the paper “**Temeswar-Temeschburg**”, authors: **Nikolaus Engelmann** and **Lorenz Klugesherz**, was published in Germany, at “Verlag Löhle”;

- the aim of the German authors seemed to have been that of presenting only the German and Austrian influences over Timișoara, yet ignoring the other influences: Serbian (Illyrian), Jewish or Romanian influence;

1991 - the issue of the publication “**Diana**”, (publisher AJVPS Timiș, founders: **Ion Dancea**, **Neboișa Rosici**, **Dan Gruia**, **Sorin Bergheanu**);

- the **General Urban Plan** was completed (PUG, updated again in 1998) trying to explain the major street design, proposing a new update of the concentric radial system in Timișoara;

1992 - issue of the “**Banat Almanac**” (“**Almanahul Banatului**”, director Dinu Barbu), a new series, as a homage paid to

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Virgil Molin, publisher and printer in Banat during the period between the two world wars;

- the opening of the Central University Library in Timișoara (BCUT, General Manager being **Ph. D. professor Vasile Țâra**);

- the set up of the the Intercultural Institute in Timișoara (IIT), under the patronage of the Council of Europe (Manager **Victor Neumann**, and afterwards **Călin Rus**);

1 May 1994 - TV "Europa Nova" (TEN) starts broadcasting; the first director of TEN was **George Boieru** and the first Editor-in-Chief was **Florin Boieru**;

- the current director of TV Europa Nova is journalist **Stelu Iordache**;



20th June 1994 - the official opening of the Botanical Park;

1996 - the issue of the daily paper "The Day's Agenda" ("**Agenda zilei**"), publication ended in 2009;

6th February - the birth at "Bega" maternity hospital of the first baby in Romania conceived via in vitro fertilisation;

8th February - at the premises of the "**Cioca**" Utilitarian Airport the first private pilot licence in Romania was awarded (for helicopter) to **Cristian Andronic**;

01st March - the radio station "**The Voice of the Gospel**" started its broadcast;

06th July - the first edition of the Street Theater Festival "**Sărbătoarea Saltimbancilor**", organised by the "Csiki Gergely" Theater;

July - the first Orthopedic privat clinic (after 1989) was established by **dr. Jenel Marian Pătrașcu** (JMP Clinic Ltd);

1997 - in the "Soarelui" zone, a new school was opened, school no. 30, grades I-VIII;

- the inauguration of the first fast food restaurant "Mc Donald's" in the city;

- TVR Timișoara TV station organized the first national competition in the audio-video field, "**Tele Vest**";

- the Cooperation protocol **Danube - Criș - Mureș - Tisa (DKMT)** was signed;

1998 - the **Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Timișoara** (President **Emil Mateescu**) became member of the cooperation regarding the Danube-Criș-Mureș-Tisa Euroregion;

- the first edition of the festival "**Customs and traditions of the ethnic groups in Banat**";

- the set up of the "**Banatul**" Fishermen's Association;

2000 - the trade region of Timișoara covered a surface of 186,949 sm of shops (560 sm/1000 inhabitants)

- the "Almanahul Banatului" publishing house published the volume "VIP in Banat, the first who's who in Banat" , including brief biographies of 500 important figures in the history of Banat;

- the "Louis Țurcanu" hospital hosted the inauguration of the pediatric oncology and hematology clinic;

2001 - the first heart surgery in Romania, using laser;

- the inauguration in the Fortress (Cetate) district of the **Honorary Consulate of Austria** in Timișoara (Honorary Consul, lawyer **Vasile Onofrei**);

- Timișoara is the first city in Romania benefiting from the "**Geografic Information System**" (GIS), having an efficiency comparative to the one in the European Community;

2002 - the issue of the first newspaper ("**Monitorul Primăriei**") published by the Timișoara City Hall and distributed to its inhabitants free of charge;

- the first standard international triathlon in Romania was organized by the "Athletic Club Maraton";

- under the guidance of the Timiș County Council, the first issue of the publication "**Fireflies**" appeared, being drawn up by a group of Romanian speaking teachers and pupils in Jula (Hungary), Vârșeț (Serbia) and Timișoara, a magazine which was a **national prize winner** in 2005, awarded by

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the Ministry of Education and Research;
 - the first issue of the regional edition of the daily paper “**Ziua de Vest**”;
 - the “**Aeroport**” district became part of the city administration, being taken over by Ministry of National Defense;
2003 – the development of the first sculpture park in Romania (“Triade”), located at the junction between Mureș street and Calea Martirilor (“the Martyr’s path”);
 - the inauguration of the “**Casa Austria**” Polytraumatology Hospital, built with Austrian support;
 - the inauguration of the **Honorary Consulate of the Netherlands**;
 - the commissioning of the first block of flats for young people and young married couples through the program of the **National Housing Agency (ANL)**;
 - the beginning of the execution works of the **Technological and Industrial Park** in Timișoara;
2004 - the upgrading of the “**Traian Vuia**” International Airport;
 - the facade of the County Clinical Hospital was restored;
 - in the Ciarda Roșie district, the citizens set up the first District Advisory Council;
June 2004 - the first mandate of **Constantin Ostaficiuc** as President of the Timiș County Council;
2005 - the set up of the “**Richard Oschanitzky**” **Jazz and Pop Faculty**, the first faculty of this kind in Romania;
 - the horseman **Teodor Panca** (“Iarilo Horse Club”) won the Romanian Cup for horse racing, in the individual contest;
 - “Radio Timișoara” (manager, **Mihai Anghel**) broadcast the first show in the Ukrainian language;
2006 - the issue of the publication “**Agenda of the Timiș County Council**” (“**Agenda C.J. Timiș**”), being distributed free of charge in the entire Timiș county, in DKMT and in the Valley of Timoc (East Serbia);
1th April 2008- The first tram to run in Timișoara during the 19th century is exposed in Liberty Square, becoming one of the touristic attractions of the municipality;

10th April 2008 - the Banat Village Museum in Timișoara housed the set up of the “**Association of Rural Press in the Historical Banat**” - president, poet **Vasile Todj**;

24th June 2008 - the second mandat of Constantin Ostaficiuc as President of the Timiș County;

31th Decembre 2008 - total population:307,347 inhabitants;

2009 - the beginning of the restoration of the **Theresia Bastion**;

19th February 2009 - the inauguration of the Honorary Consulate of Franței in Timișoara (Honorary Consul, **Dan Bedros**);

17th July 2009 - the opening in Timișoara of the Honorary Consulate of Hungary (Honorary Consul, **Zoltán Pánczel**);

12th February 2010 - the weekly paper “Agenda” celebrated 20 years from its first issue;

March 2010 - the opening of the largest private hospital in western Romania, “**Athena**”;

April 2010 - the climber **Horia Colibășanu** in Timișoara conquered the most dangerous peak in the Himalaya Mountains, Annapurna (8,091 m);

November 2010 - renovated thanks to the efforts of the County Council, the Theresia Bastion becomes an important tourist attraction in the Banat region;

1 December 2010 – the elegant Baroque



Room of the Arts Museum, carefully renovated under the coordination of the restoration artist **Camelia Crișan**, the scene where famous artists such as Franz Liszt, Johannes Brahms or George Enescu played, is inaugurated by a glamorous reception, on the occasion of the **National**

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Day of Romania;

Total population on 1st January 2009:

311,586 inhabitants, as follows:

- male population = 146,134 persons

- female population = 165,452 persons

(State and private) school institutions:

Colleges = 9; Theoretical high schools =

14; Vocational schools = 11; Elementary

schools (I-VIII) = 22; special schools = 6;

Kindergartens with extended hours = 42;

Kindergartens with normal hours = 14;

Kindergarten with weekly hours = 2; Private

kindergartens = 10; Private schools = 19;

Sanitary institutions:

Clinical County Emergency Hospital; Clinical

Municipal Emergency Hospital; "Victor

Babeș" Clinical Hospital for Infectious

Diseases and Pneumophysiology; Clinical

Emergency Hospital for Children "Prof. dr.

Louis Țurcanu"; "Dr. Dumitru Popescu" Ob-

stetrics and Gynaecology Clinical Hospital;

Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases; Timiș

County Ambulance Service;

Cultural institutions:

"Banatul" State Philharmonic; "Csiky



Gergely" Hungarian State Theater; German

State Theater; City Cultural Center; Roman-

ian Opera House; "Mihai Eminescu"

National Theater; "Merlin" Theater for chil-

dren and youth; Museum of Banat; Museum

of the Banat Village; Art Museum;

Culture and Art Center of Timiș County;

Fitness and sports facilities:

the city hall swimming place (former ICIM);

swimming pool of elementary school no.

30; Sports facility - appurtenance to "Dan

Păltinișanu" Sports Complex; „Tineretului"

swimming place; Fitness facility - former

„Tehnometal"; „Bega" Sports Complex;

„Olimpia Gymnasium"; Gymnasiums

belonging to city schools;

Churches and other places of worship:

"Three Holy Hierarchs" Timișoara Metro-

politan Cathedral (1936-1940); "The

Assumption of Mary" Romanian Orthodox

Church - Calea Aradului (2003); "The Na-

tivity of Mary" - Calea Lugojului; "Descent

of the Holy Spirit" - Cetate (1997); "Assump-

tion of Mary" Romanian Orthodox Church -

Elisabetin (1784); "Saint Archimandrite

Stephen" - Calea Martirilor; "Saint Elias" -

Fabric (1931); "Holy Sovereigns Constantine

and Helen" - Fabric East (1945);

"Descent of the Holy Spirit" - Fabric West;

"Holy Apostles Peter and Paul" - Fratelia

(1963); "Descent of the Holy Spirit" - Frei-

dorf (1975); "The Nativity of Mary" - Iosefin

(1936); "The Ascension of Jesus" - Mehala

(1937); "The Nativity of Mary" - Pădurea

Verde (1746); "Holy Apostles Peter and

Paul" - Plopi (1969); "The Assumption of

Mary" - Ronaț (1988); "Holy Apostles Peter

and Paul" - Fabric vineyards (1997);

Romanian Orthodox Church - Kuttl Square

(1931-1936); Synagogues: Cetate (1863-

1865); Fabric (1899); Roman Catholic

Churches: Bălcescu Square (1912-1919);

Romanilor Square (1896-1901); Mehala;

"Saint George" Roman Catholic Dome -

Union Square; "The Nativity of Mary" Greek

Catholic Church; Reformed Church Cetate

(1902); Serbian Orthodox Churches:

Cetate (1748); Fabric (1745); Mehala

(1786); Baptist Churches: Betel (1923);

baptist Church no. 2 (1950); "Emanuel"

(1975); "Golgota" (1979); "Betania" (1979);

"Gethsemane" (1994); "Vox Domini"; "Ma-

ranata" (1999); "Ecclesia" (2003); Plopi

(1995); "Stanca" (2003); "Holy Trinity";

German Baptist Church (1878); Hungarian

Baptist Church (1923);

Annual Church Festival and Other

Cultural events:

Timișoara Day (3 August); Timișoara

Annual Church Festival (the Patron of the

Metropolitan Cathedral - Saint Joseph the

New of Partoș, 15 September)

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CITIZENS OF HONOUR

Sorin Comoroșan; Horst Waffenschmidt; Helmut Schneider (1994); Corneliu Coposu; Diemut R. Theato; Ștefan Popa Popa's; Johannes Poigenfürst (1995); Gunther H. Kohler; Hubertus Gollnick; Pius Brânzeu; Corina Peptan; Ioan Holender; Alfred H. Moses; Iolanda Bals Söter; Iulius Podlipny (post mortem); Prof. dr. Alexandru Niculescu (1998); Ioachim Miloia (post mortem); Frederic König; Martyrs of the December 1989 Revolution who died in Timișoara (post mortem); H.H. Nicolae Corneanu (1999); Ana Blandiana; Dan Mateescu; Carla Pelz; Corneliu Murgu; Vasile Deheleanu; Florin Călinescu; Fighters of the anti-Communist resistance in Banat, martyrs of the Romanian people (post mortem); Ernest Neumann (2000); Dorin Teodorescu; Wolfgang Clement; Petru Drăgan; Johann Pinkert; James Rosapepe; Vladimir Jurăscu; Mircea Șerbănescu; Vasile Pinteau (2001); Deliu Petroiu; col. (ret) Ion Enescu (post mortem); Gheorghe Tohăneanu; general (ret) Mircea Tomescu; Viorel Cosma; Francesco Pasi; Vittorio Maggi; Anavi Ádám; Cosmin Contra; general (ret) Ioan Nicolae Drăghici; Diogene Bihoi (post mortem); Székely László (post mortem); Ioan Munteanu; Eugen Todoran (2002, post mortem); Viorel Șerban; Margit Șerban; Dorin Tudoran; Iosif Costinaș; Simona Amănar Tabără; Klaus Peter-Marte; Iosif Pilz (2003); Dan Potra; Constantin Gruescu; Dorina Nowak; Dionisie Linți (post mortem); Gheorghe Leahu (post mortem); Johnny Weissmüller (post mortem); Michael Guest; Karl-Ernst Nowak (2004); Pieter Jan Wolthers; Jean Parigi; Pater Berno Rupp (2005); Marius Munteanu (post mortem), Horia Colibășanu, Alexander Josef Ternovits (2006), Paul Goma, Aurel Anton, Mariana Șora, Mihail Șora, Mugur Isărescu, Ioan (Hansi) Moser, Roland Gunesch, Alexandru Folker, Alexandru Buligan, Oskar Szuhaneck, Șerban Foarță, Constantin Lache, Phoenix Band (2007), Gabriel Banat, Dan. V. Poenaru, Toma Dordea, Nicolae Doran, several war veterans, former members of the soccer team Știința Timișoara in the championship season 1957-1958, Alexandru Șumski, Nicolaus Wolcz, Cornel Ungureanu, Livius Ciocârlie, Constantin Flondor, Adalbert Przibram (2008), His Majesty King Mihai I of Romania, Rolf Maruhn (2009); Mile Cărpenișan (post mortem), Horia Rusu (post-mortem), Mile Cărpenișan (post mortem), Robin Anthony Barnett, Constantin Octavian Luca (2010).

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MARTYR HEROES OF THE TIMIȘOARA REVOLUTION – December 1989 –



17 December

Andrei Maria, 25 years, Aparaschivei Valentin, 48 years, Apro Mihai, 31 years, Avram Ioan Vasile, 40 years, Balmuș Vasile, 26 years, Balogh Pavel, 69 years, Bărbat Lepa, 43 years, Bânciu Leontina, 39 years, Belehuz Ioan, 41 years, Belici Radian, 25 years, Bonțe Petru Ioan, 22 years, Boțoc Luminița, 14 years, Caceu Margareta, 40 years, Caceu Mariana Silvia, 37 years, Carpîn Dănuț, 29 years, Chôrôsi Alexandru, 24 years, Ciobanu Constantin, 43 years, Cruceru Gheorghe, 25 years, Csizmarik Ladislau, 55 years, Ewinger Slobodanca, 21 years, Fecioru Lorenț, 38 years, Ferkel-Șuteu Alexandru, 43 years, Florian Antoniu Tiberiu, 20 years, Gîrjoabă Dumitru Constantin, 24 years, Grama Alexandru, 18 years, Hațegan Petru, 47 years, Ion Maria, 57 years, Iosub Constantin, 17 years, Ioțcovici Gheorghe Nuțu, 25 years, Istvan Andrei, 42 years, Jugănaru Dumitru, 37 years, Lăcătuș Nicolae, 28 years, Luca Rodica, 30 years, Lungu Cristina, 2 years, Mardare Adrian, 20 years, Mariș Ștefan, 40 years, Miron Ioan, 58 years, Motohon Silviu, 35 years, Munteanu Nicolae Ovidiu, 25 years, Nagy Eugen, 17 years, Opre Gogu, 30 years, Osman Dumitru, 24 years, Oțeliță Aurel, 34 years, Păduraru Vasile, 30 years, Pinzhoffer Georgeta, 35 years, Popescu Rozalia Irma, Radu Constantin, 33 years, Sava Angela Elena, 25 years, Sava Florica, 33 years, Simicin Nicolae, 32 years, Sporer Rudolf Herman, 33 years, Stanciu Ioan, 42 years, Tako Gabriela Monica, 10 years, Tășală Remus Marian, 23 years, Todorov Miroslav, 25 years, Țintaru Teodor Octavian, 21 years, Vărcuș Ioan Claudiu, 15 years, Wittman Petru, Zăbulică Constantin, 30 years, Blîndu Mircea, 27 years, Zornek Otto, 53 years, Pisek Ștefan, Ewinger Slobodanca, Ianoș Paris, Radu Constantin, Pisek Ștefan și Zornek Otto.

18 December:

Ciopec Dumitru Marius, 20 years, Ianoș Paris, 18 years, Leia Sorinel Dinel, 23 years, Măriuțac Ioan, 20 years, 5. Nemțoc Vasile Marius, 19 years.

19 December:

Curic Veronica, 32 years, Reiter Edita Irina, 39 years.

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“Pasha’s Fountain”

The beylerbeylik rulers of Timișoara had their summer residence on the outskirts of the city, on present day Calea Torontalului. “Pasha’s Fountain”, the designation of the residence of the Ottoman governor, was made up of a central pavilion located in the center of an Oriental garden, probably Persian, the latter being, according to the Islamic East, the model of the garden of Paradise. At Pasha’s Fountain, on 3rd September 1695, the sultan Mustafa II himself seemed to have made a halt (**image - upper right**); during his rule, Dimitrie Cantemir was a “capuchehaia”, that is a representative of the Moldavian ruler in Istanbul. In 1697, the future ruler of Moldavia - also passing through Timișoara - reached the



Ottoman camp during the battles in Petrovaradin and Zenta. The defeat suffered then by the army of Sultan Mustafa II in front of the Habsburgs determined Dimitrie Cantemir to consider that the Roman Empire was faltering. The political analysis of this condition was carried out by Cantemir in his well known writing “**History of the Growth and Decay of the Ottoman**

Empire“ (“Incrementa atque decrementa aulae othomanicae” - paper translated and published during that time in English, French and German).

And exactly during the days when Mustafa II was visiting the Pasha’s residence - he being the first sultan to have reached Timișoara - the family of a retired Janissary (Mustafa aga, native of Eger fortress-Hungary) welcomed their last child, who would be later known in historiography as **Elhac Ibrahim Naimeddin “Temesvari”** (“**from Timișoara**”), the author of the chronicle “**The Garden of the Martyrs at the Borders**”, in which he wrote about those he had heard of from his father as well as about what he went through until 1716. In 1716, at the summer residence called “**Pasha’s Fountain**”, Mehmed Aga signed in front of the prince Eugene of Savoy the instrument of surrender via which Timișoara was passing from Ottoman rule under Austrian rule.

“Pasha’s Fountain” was kept and used by the commanders of the fortress of Timișoara after the Ottomans retired, yet bearing a new name: “Präsident Garden”. It was then managed by the Serbian (Illyrian) Orthodox Diocese, and the Hungarian revolutionary army destroyed it during the siege of Timișoara in 1849. “Pasha’s Fountain”- “Präsident Garden” burnt down at that time, but its ruins could be seen until a couple of years ago upon exiting Timișoara, on Calea Torontalului.



Carol Telbisz, the Mayor who transformed Timișoara into a modern city

Carol Telbisz was Mayor of the city of Timișoara for 29 years, between 1885 and 1914. He was born in 1854, in Cenad. He was the descendant of a Bulgarian family in Star Bișnov (Besenova Veche). He studied law in Budapest, and was awarded the Ph.D. (in business law) in Vienna. He worked several years in the administration area and became Mayor of Timișoara when he was 31 years old, and afterwards he became a baron (nemes).

The period during which he was mayor stood out due to the fact that the city gave up its military functions, as a fortress protected by strong fortifications, evolving towards an open industrially developed city. During the administration of Carol Telbisz the sewerage and the city water supply were updated as well as the street lighting, and the electrical tramway was launched. Educational and cultural institutions were built, public libraries were opened and many of the important factories of Timișoara were set up, preparing the city for the future



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generations who, in Telbisz's opinion, had the duty "to transform Timișoara into a large, beautiful and modern city." Toward the end of the Telbisz administration, Timișoara was considered the third most important city in the Austrian/Hungarian empire, following Vienna and Budapest. For his outstanding merits as a Mayor of Timișoara, Carol Telbisz was awarded in 1890 the function of royal councillor, and in 1900 he was awarded the IIIrd class Order of the Iron Crown of the Royal Court. In 1905 he became councillor of the Court. Upon celebrating 20 years as a Mayor, he was named citizen of honour of Timișoara. He died in 1914.

The first Romanian Mayor of Timișoara

Stan Vidrighin (1878-1956) was born in Rășinari commune, Sibiu county. He graduated the Polytechnic Faculty in Budapest (1900). Postgraduate traineeships at Universities in Dresda, Berlin, Hamburg, Köln, Strasbourg and London. Deputy elected for the Great National Assembly in Alba Iulia on 1st December 1918, member of the Great National Council. In 1904 he was appointed chief engineer of the technical service of the Timișoara City Hall. He designed the general project for the sewerage system of the waste water and meteoric water and the city water supply system. The sewerage works began in May 1909, simultaneously for the two sewers on the left and right bank of river Bega. The works for the water treatment plant (April 1911) were awarded to be carried out to a company in Budapest. On 26th October 1912 Timișoara witnessed the commissioning of the sewerage system and the city treatment plant, among the first in the country. Stan Vidrighin

was elected Mayor of Timișoara in 1919, his vision about the capital city of Banat being that of a city striving for an European status. Following a false accusation, a criminal case was filed against him, and, thus, he gave up his position as a mayor of Timișoara on 30th April 1921. Thanks to his organizational and professional capabilities, Stan Vidrighin was chosen in that same year rector of the Polytechnic School in Timișoara, which he had also founded together with professor Traian Lalescu. Vidrighin won his second term as Mayor of Timișoara for the period 3rd January 1922 - 31st August 1922, and in 1923 he was called to Bucharest in order to manage the water supply and sewerage system of the capital city of Romania, his experience in Timișoara being extremely important. He then held the position of general manager of the Romanian Post and Telecommunications, and then that of manager of the Romanian Railways. He died in 1956.



"THE ACADEMIC OF THE TRAMWAY LINES"

In 1920, the Mayor Stan Vidrighin appointed as chief engineer at "Timișoara Communal Tramway" a young engineer who had previously worked until the beginning of the first world war at the "Siemens" power cord factory in Budapest. His name was **Corneliu Mikloși**. He was born in the Arad commune Covăsânț (in 1887). Mikloși attended the "Moise Nicoară" high school in Arad. He attended the Polytechnic in Karlsruhe, and then the Technical University in Budapest, which he graduated in 1909. An Assistant Professor, and then an engineer working for "Siemens", the young Mikloși was enrolled into the army and forced to fight in the Austrian Hungarian army. After 1 December 1918, he settled in Romania, in Timișoara. He had an extraordinary career. He was chief engineer at the "Timișoara Communal Tramway" starting in 1920, after this company merged in 1922 with the Electrical Plant and after the set up of the "Timișoara Electromagnetic Stations", Corneliu Mikloși became their manager and would keep this office until 1949. The future academic is the person who conceived as early as 1920 the construction of workshops for own service works of the tram waggons. These workshops turned in time into a real Tramway Factory. During the period 1922-1924 a total number of nine motor type D waggons were manufactured. During the same period the type C trailer-waggon was also designed, and until the start of the war several waggon types were designed and manufactured, so that in 1946



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the manager Mikloși launched the first tram waggon with bogies. He also launched for the first time in Romania the trolleybus ("firobusul"). Being a supporter of modern technology, Corneliu Mikloși set up in 1936, "The Study Support Club", with research operations in the field of welding, under the guidance of the Polytechnic School of Timișoara. As a matter of fact, the academic Corneliu Mikloși is the first manufacturer in the world of the "Taurus" machine for welding head rails "in situ". Between 1949 and 1962 he was a university Professor. Starting from 1954 he was the head of the Welding department and manager of the Technical Research Centre of the Romanian Academy in Timișoara. He was a corresponding member of the Romanian Academy starting from 1954, and then a permanent member from 1955. Mikloși's concern regarding the condition of the employees of the Electromecanic Stations became real through several objectives achieved during the period that he was a manager: the specialized library, the workers' mutual assistance association, the Credit Union, the brass band and the choir of the personnel in the Traffic control department, Electrica Sports Association, the Stadium (UMT), the Bella-Vista and Brădișor chalets on the Muntele Mic, the Cultural Palace of IET (later known as "1 Mai" Club).

Corneliu Mikloși died in 1963. His bust is located in a small park within the premises of the Mechanical Faculty in Timișoara on 1st Mihai Viteazul Boulevard. Mircești Street in Timișoara was named after the famous academic after 1989.

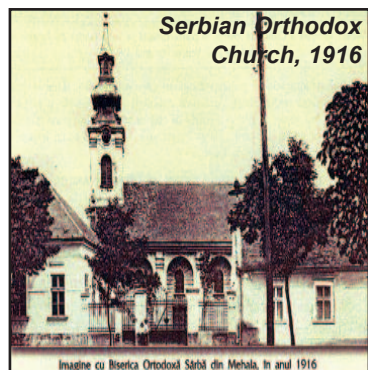
The square with three churches

Josef Geml, the last Austrian Hungarian Mayor of Timișoara, wrote in his monograph "**Old Timisoara during the last part of the century - 1870-1920**") about the commune of **Mehala**, at that time, the following: "There is only one house with a first floor - in the square, where the teacher-nuns once were; it is the city's property and it hosts a part of the state school and an orphanage. All the other public buildings can also be found in the square, that is the Romanian, the Serbian and the Roman Catholic churches, the old building of the city hall transferred to the State which turned it into a school, the city hall built in 1902, then the buildings of the Romanian and Serbian schools".

Which square was Geml referring to in his paper? The square the former Mayor of Timișoara referred to is called nowadays **Avram Iancu Square**. The Romanian and Serbian orthodox people in Mehala (Újváros after 1718, and then Franzstadt from 1910) prayed together in the same church - Saint Nicholas church - built in 1786 and painted by **Nicola**



Romanian
Orthodox
Church



Serbian Orthodox
Church, 1916

Imagine cu Biserica Ortodoxă Sărbă din Mehala, în anul 1916

Alexici, but the Romanian-Serbian orthodox Parish in Mehala was set up prior to this, in 1744. **Nicolae Ilieșiu** pointed out in his monograph dedicated to the city of Timișoara that the separation of the Romanian believers from the Serbian believers took place only in 1887. And it did not just simply happen! On the second Easter day in 1887, the choir conducted by **Iosif Nișiu** began singing in Romanian "Christ is risen!". The priest **Constantin Hadji**, a priest both for the Romanian and Serbian believers until that moment, continued to serve in the Romanian language. The Serbian believers guided by **Uroș Vuici** - teacher at the Serbian school in Mehala - started to cover the voices of the Romanian choir and the priest talking in Romanian by singing loud in Serbian. A public scandal resulted which also reached the Royal Curia in

Budapest, which in 1890 decided the separation of the Illyrian Serbian church from the Romanian Orthodox church.

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The Roman Catholic church in Mehala whose patron is the Holy Virgin Mary was built in 1887, with the money donated by the inhabitants of this district. It was built in a Neo-Gothic style with Neo-Romantic elements. It has a main altar and two secondary altars built in the Gothic style by the sculptor **Ferdinand Stuflesser** from South Tyrol. The painting of the main altar with the Holy Virgin holding the baby Jesus in her arms was remade in 1975, after an old photograph.

The Romanian Orthodox church (cathedral) in Mehala would be built in 1925, on the land given to the Parish by the City Hall in the Prince Michael Square, as Avram Iancu Square was called up to the beginning of the 1950s. The religious ceremony of laying the head stone of the Romanian Orthodox church took place on 4th October 1925. The Mayor Lucian Georgievici's (3rd August 1922-17th July 1926) invitation to the Romanian royal family to take part in the event was honoured by **King Ferdinand** and **Queen Mary**, accompanied by **Prince Charles** (the future King Carol II) and **Princess Helen**. The church was consecrated on 10th October 1937.



The poor school sisters in Iosefin district

In 1833, in Bavaria, **Karolina Gerhardinger (Mary Theresa of Jesus)** founded the Order of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. The fame of these nuns also reached Banat. The Bishop of the Diocese in Cenad, Alexandru Csajaghy, learned about the Order in Bavaria and, intending to set up a school for training and educating girls in the Diocese (which at that time had a large number of Roman Catholic believers), visited prioress Mary Theresa in Munich. The Bishop from Banat convinced her that a strong school was needed in Banat, and the prioress sent to Timișoara six nuns, in October 1857. The first prioress was Maria Ludmilla. After her death, in 1859, the position of prioress was held by Abundantia Litschgy. The six nuns succeeded in building their first monastery in the Cetate district, near the present day Museum of Banat. The nuns were granted permission to take over the management of the school for girls, and for the students coming from different towns in Banat a boarding school was built. Prioress Abundantia had the initiative of founding several branches of the Order, as well charitable institutions: an orphanage, an elementary school and kindertens.

Starting from 1882, the monastery in the Iosefin district (an impressive building complex built in 1881 thanks to the financial support given by the new Bishop Alexander Bonnaz) became the centre of the Order. The church of the monastery was built in 1894, in Neo-Romanesque style, the expenses being incurred by the nuns. The consecration took place



on 8th October 1895, the patron of the church being the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The monachal complex housed the activity of the elementary school, kindergarten with extended hours, Higher school for girls, Higher pedagogical school, and also a school where needlework could be learnt. The nuns took care of every aspect regarding the kindergarten, the schools and the boarding school, and they also employed for a limited period of time teachers specialized in certain subject matters.

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Between 1935 and 1937 a new wing of the school complex was erected, designed by the architect Michael Wolf, in the Bauhaus style, having its entrance on Tinereții Boulevard. During the summer of 1944, during the British-American attack on the North railway station in Timișoara, the Notre Dame Institute was attacked with fire bombs, and a part of the buildings and church ornaments were destroyed. At that time, the schools of the Notre Dame Order had more than 700 female students of different denominations and different nationalities: Hungarian, German, Romanian, Bulgarian, Slovak, Serbian or Jewish. After 1948, in the building of the Notre Dame Institute operated the Banat College “Dositei Obradovici” Serbian high school and the Students’ Cultural Centre.

In 1948 the Order was suppressed, the “Securitate” carried out investigations regarding several nuns, the Communist authorities cancelled their right to teach, and thus, certain nuns emigrated to Germany. But there were also other nuns who remained in Banat, in the church in the Iosefin district, their material and spiritual property. After 1989, when the Order was reestablished, the nuns were able to resume their activity.

On 10th November 2008, the dome of the former church, in the presence of the bishop **Martin Roos**, the Mayor of Timișoara **Gheorghe Ciuhandu** and of the priest Knight of Malta **Peter Szabo** (upper left image), hosted the ceremony for celebrating 150 years from the set up in Timișoara of the **Notre Dame Order of the School Sisters**.

THE FIRST CIVIL HOSPITAL

The Mayor of Timișoara **Peter Solderer** (1722-1742) attempted as early as 1726 to build a city hospital for the local community. The registers of the XVIIIth century mentioned the fact that the first ill people started to receive healthcare services at the civil hospital in

Timișoara, in 1745. The building was completed in 1744, during the term of Mayor Andreas Pfann (1742-1745), and the hospital was officially recorded in 1751. The Timișoara city hall boasted of the institution even more because at that time cities like Vienna or Budapest did not have a city hospital. It is said that the hospital located on the present day Mărășești street was built on the location of the former harem of Hassan Pasha, the beglerbeg of the wilayah of Timișoara. Allegedly, also during the Ottoman ruling, in the same location, there was a military hospital where the Sipahis and Janissaries injured in battles were treated. In 1757, multiple floors were built for the building, the architectural style being the baroque which was typical for that area. Ten years later (1767), the emperor Joseph II, visited the city hospital and made a 12,000 guilder gift, an important amount at that time.

In 1849, towards the end of the bourgeois revolution, the troops of the Hungarian revolutionaries bombarded Timișoara, and the hospital building burned down being subsequently rebuilt from community funds. The building was given a larger range of applications, temporarily hosting other different institutions: a school, a printing house, mail coaches, a poor-house, any type of warehouses. The municipality needed a new hospital, but money was very hard to raise. However, the construction of a new building started in 1914, but the war stopped the investment for a long period of time. The efforts of the well known physician of Timișoara, **Aurel Căndea**, efforts made within the period between the two world wars (1930-1931, Mayor was **dr. Cornel Grofșorean**), determined the city administration to allot the money necessary and to carry out considerable repair works for the building of the city hospital. The building facade was restored 75 years later (2004-2005, the Mayor of the city was **Ph.D. eng. Gheorghe Ciuhandu**).



TIMIȘOARA

“GREEN HOUSE”

In 1885 Pădurea Verde Vocational School for Foresters was set up, receiving from the Austrian Hungarian authorities a building in the shape of a bastion, a former hunting house, a space in which up to that moment the aristocracy in Timișoara would spend their time during weekends. The sylvan institution also received a land lot for a nursery garden with a surface of 20 jochs, a forest for practical works with a surface of 1,239 jochs, as well as other dependencies. The school was also called the “Green House” School, due to the colour of the main structure of the building, but maybe also due to the fact that it was located at the heart of the Green Forest (Pădurea Verde), one of the “lungs” of Timișoara. Within the school there was also a Hunting Museum, with exceptional endowments. Starting on 1919, different forms of education have operated within the group: Sylvan Middle School (Forst-Mittelschule, 1919-1923), School for heads of forest divisions (1923-1946), School for forest assistant engineers (1946-1948). In the academic year 1948-1951, the institution received its present day name “Timișoara Sylvan Technical School”, being managed by Principal Ion Vlaheli. In 1952, upon the request of the Soviet occupants, the school was evacuated in a few days. The place of the Sylvan Technical School was taken by that of a military unit of the Red Army, specialized in radio jamming. In 1953, the school moved to Curtea de Argeș and Râmnicu Vâlcea. The exhibits of the Hunting Museum were hand-



ed over to the Museum of Banat - a part of them, the big mammals - and the dioramas, the collections of hunting trophies and the hunting system models were brought to the Sylvan school in Curtea de Argeș.

The forest complex shall remain unused until 1956, and afterwards, due to the efforts of certain teachers, such as the engineers **Aurel Țeicu** (the uncle of the composer Marius Țeicu), **Victor Postolache** and **Aurel Vancea**, the sylvan school in Caransebeș was moved to Timișoara. The education establishment in Pădurea Verde (Old forest) would be called from this moment on the Vocational School for sylvan foresters, the Technical school for sylvan foremen, Postgraduate school and the Forestry High school (1969-1999). Nowadays there are different forms of education: sylvan high school - full-time, Vocational school, Postgraduate school, Vocational training courses for foresters. The graduates of the sylvan high school in Timișoara included the future ambassador of Romania in Maroc, **Vasile Popovici** (class of 1976), but also the prose writer, essay writer and translator **Radu Pavel Gheo**, class of 1987.

ALPINET PARK

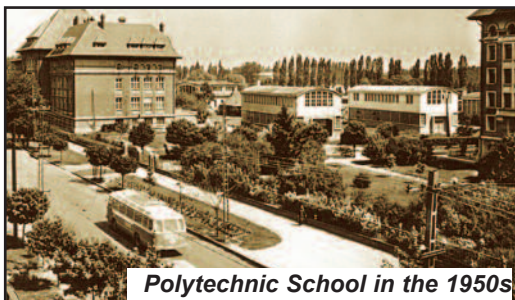
The Alpinet Park in Timișoara (the former name was Arboretum) was created by the architect Mihai Demetrovici, the same person who created the famous Rosarium - the Park of Roses - during the XXth century (the period between the two world wars). The park, located on the left bank of the Bega river, is not very large (it has less than 21,000 square metres), but it is very pretty and includes a collection of various alpine and subalpine species. It is enclosed by the Bega river, the Traian and the Bishop's bridges (podul Episcopului) and the Tudor Vladimirescu embankment (Splaiul Tudor Vladimirescu) (which continues towards the West University with the Vasile Pârvan Boulevard). Near the Bishop's bridge, one can see moored the brewery boat “Pelican”. The embankment of Bega between the two bridges represents a proper promenade area very well liked by the Timișoara inhabitants.



TIMIȘOARA

THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

After the creation of the Greater Romania, the Mayor of Timișoara, Stan Vidrighin, asked in 1920 the Governing Council (the first government of the national Romanian state) for the right of setting up of a polytechnic school in Timișoara. The council of ministers approved on 22nd October 1920 the opening of the University courses at the Polytechnic University in Timișoara, the start date of the courses being 15th November 1920. King



Polytechnic School in the 1950s

Ferdinand I signed the royal decree confirming the decision of the Council of Ministers. The courses of the first academic year of the Polytechnic School (having four Faculties) were carried out in the Fortress (Cetate) district, in the building of the Communal School (on Carol Telbisz street). 1923 marked the start of the construction works of the first pavilions of the Polytechnic University, in the Elisabeth district. The main wing, the hostels and the laboratories were inaugurated on 11th November 1923. This is the beginning of the development of a University institution which is key for the engineering minds in Timișoara. The graduates of the Polytechnic University in Timișoara became public figures of the Romanian scientific and public life. With very few exceptions, the mayors of Timișoara and the leaders of Timiș county in the last two decades graduated the Polytechnic University of Timișoara. The buildings in the complex of the Old Polytechnic distinguish themselves through harmony and proportion; the frames of the entrance and of the windows ensure a high level of elegance. The exterior part is covered with apparent bricks, being adorned with delicate Arabian ornaments. Through the subsequent construction works which followed after 1993, through the spectacular development of the faculties, the Polytechnic School became a University fortress for tens of thousands of students.

THE PARK OF ROSES

The beautiful Park of Roses (Parc al Rozelor (Rosarium)) started to be set up in 1891. On the land contained between the Coronini (Fabric) Park and the Scudier (Central) Park, the City Hall approved the set up of a Universal Exhibition. Here is where the floral and the arboreal arrangements are carried out on a surface of 90 thousand square metres. The aspect is that of an English park, being arranged by famous florists at the end of the XIXth century. Being visited during that period by the Austrian Hungarian emperor Franz Joseph, the park was named after the emperor, and afterwards, during the period between the two world wars, the park was called "Rosarium". The architect Mihai Demetrovici is the one who thoroughly and with artistry arranged the "Rosarium" between 1929 and 1934. Over



1,000 species and variants of roses were planted. After the second world war, the park hosted an open-air theatre. Upon the exit from the "Rosarium" there was the Creation House of the Plastic Artists in Timișoara, where famous artists of the contemporary Romanian painting and sculpture have carried out their activity.

TIMIȘOARA

IOLANDA BALAȘ

12th December 1936 is the birth date of **Iolanda (Jolan) Balaș**, the one who the sports encyclopedias consider even today "The greatest high jumper of all times". Ioli had a difficult childhood: in order to help her family during the hard years after the war, she would sell local newspapers in the street. But she had a remarkable vitality, which was noticed by Luiza Lupșă (a champion in long jump), who saw Iolanda playing in the courtyard of her home, where the athlete spent her childhood together with the late rugby player Mircea Cosma (1946-2010). Luiza Lupșă and her husband guided Iolanda to join the "Electrică" Club (on whose sports ground **Ion Söter** achieved in the high jump contest a jump of 1.925 metres on 1st May 1949, setting a new national record, he being also the first Romanian to have jumped over the two meter bar). Ioli shall stay at "Electrică", her coach being Luiza Lupșă, up to the moment when the club was disestablished (1953); afterwards, she went to CCA (Steaua) Bucharest. When she was 19 years old, Iolanda Balaș set her first world record (14th July 1956). What followed was a really impressive career: she won 14 titles of national champi-



on, but also 14 world records (her high jump record of 1.91 metres, set in 1961, which was broken almost ten years later). She was a two-time European champion, in Stockholm (1958) and Belgrad (1962), two time Olympic champion, winning the gold medal at the Olympics in Rome (1960) and Tokyo (1964). She retired from her sports activity in 1967, when she married her former coach Ion Söter. She is a graduate of the Institute for Physical Culture (Institutul de Cultură Fizică). She was elected president of the Romanian Athletics Federation (1991-2005). She was vicepresident of the Romanian Olympic Committee (1998-2002). She was awarded the Order of Labour (1960), the Order of the Star of Romania (1962), the Order of the Sports Merit (1964) and the National Order of the Star of Romania with the rank of officer (2000). Master emeritus in sports (1951 and 1958). In 1963 she was awarded by the International Olympic Committee the trophy "Mohamed Taher Pașa" (bearing the name of the founder of the Mediterranean Games), as a symbol of their appreciation for her support shown to olympism. She is a citizen of honour of the city of Timișoara (1998) and of the city of Bucharest (2001).

IONEL, THE FENCER

The fencer **Ion (Ionel) Alexandru Drîmbă** was born on 18th March 1942, in the Elisabeth district, where he spent his childhood together with his best friend, **Bela Kamocsa**, the late bass guitar player of the bands "Sfinții" and "Phoenix". He practised fencing since childhood and when he was 17 years old, at the national junior championships in 1959, he won the title for sword and épée. In 1964 he became double champion in the senior competition, for épée and sword, and in 1968 and 1969 he won the title of champion in fencing. He was world champion both in the individual and the team contests (Montreal, 1967), he was European champion in Paris in 1968 and 1969, he won the World Cups "Coppa Giovannini" in Bologna



(1967), "Souvenir Rommel" in Paris (1968), "Coppa Martini" in Torino (1970). However, his biggest success would be the title won at the Olympic Games in Mexico in 1968, where he won the gold medal in the individual fencing contest. In 1970 he settled in Germany, where he would work as a coach for a period of two years, in Ulm. He also settled in California, and then in Brasil where he worked as a coach for 20 years, carrying out his activity also in Venezuela, when asked by a Romanian from Timișoara settled in Caracas, **Mihai Zisu**. Drîmbă came back in Romania for a short period of time in 1996, when asked by **Alexandru Mironov**, but he did not stay too long in Romania, being disappointed at the way he was treated by the Romanian olympic authorities at that time. He died in Brasil, in 2006.

TIMIȘOARA

THE ADMINISTRATIVE
PALACE

Avram Imbroane (born on 9th December 1880, in Coștei, in the Serbian Banat (died on 23rd September 1938 in Bucharest) was a theologian, a politician from Banat, a deputy, who intended to build in Timișoara a school for girls which would bear the name “**Sofia Imbroane**”- the name of her wife, Sofia (image on the left). The building was initially designed in 1933 by architect **Matthias Hubert** and his collaborators, **Cornel Liuba** and **Edmund Stanzel**. The construction works could not be completed due to the economic crisis which affected the world between 1929 and 1933, Imbroane family succeeding however in supporting the erection of a few floors.

In 1938, the building underwent significant changes. The Romanian state decided that the Timiș-Torontal county needed a new Administrative Palace, the old one, the Baroque Palace in the Union Square, being no longer compliant with the needs of the administration. As such, the initial plans for the school for girls were transformed by the architect **Victor Vlad**, while the business

man from Lugoj, C. Purcariu, carried out further interior and exterior changes in order to provide the school with the functions necessary for an administrative building. In 1940, the administration of the Timiș-Torontal county moved into the new office, but the works went on until 1943. The Administrative Palace has an impressive aspect from wherever you would look at it, having a facade adorned with classical columns with Corinthian chapters provided with Romanian plastic details. In 1971 the halls and the interior stairways were provided with marble slabs from Simeria. Following 1989, the Administrative Palace became the office of the Prefect's office and the office of the Timiș county council. In 2007,



the Palace stairways were adorned with the impressive work of the sculptor Ștefan Că-lărășanu (wooden bell), and 2008 marked the start of the construction works for a new wing of the Administrative Palace, as an office for certain services and directorates of the County Council, being also provided with an elegant conference hall.

THE CITY HALL (THE SUPERIOR SCHOOL
OF COMMERCE)

The impressive building which presently hosts the City hall of the city of Timișoara also hosted the Superior School of Commerce (Școala Comercială Superioară) from 1929 until 1946. The construction works for this building started in 1914, but the works were interrupted during the war (1914-1918). After Banat was united with Romania, the funds necessary for completing the construction were allotted.

The school plans were drawn up by the same well known architect of Timișoara, **Székely László**, and the building was supervised by engineers **Pautz Stefan** and **Alexandru Ioțcu**. The building was erected between 1920 and 1925, but the exterior coating was finished in 1929. The Superior School of Commerce (having the status of a high school during the two world wars) has two permanent educational departments, in Romanian and in German, and for a short period of time, even a Hungarian department. The building is impressively large, and is provided with an elegant turret, the windows are arched and the facade has stucco with Romanian motifs. It is one of the representative buildings in Timișoara.