

A Complete History of Galtania

Aiden Marshall

Part 1

Early History and the Settlement of the Baltics

In the 6th Century AD, the Slavs migrated north towards the Baltic Sea, first settling in what is now the state of Belaruinya (Беларуиня). They began to mix with the native Baltic population, which is suspected to have shaped some of the uniqueness of the Galtanian Orthography. The first Slavic tribes created the Kingdom of Lityava (Литява) in the year 687 AD. Old Lityavan architecture can still be found near modern-day Tolsin (Толсинка), and some in Minska (Минска). Meanwhile, the native Baltic Population had also established a civilization, the Kingdom of Tackona. If you are well-versed in Galtanian history or have lived in Galtania for any period of time, you will recognize the name Tackona for the Takowna region (Таковна), and the city of Takow (Таков), previously Volzingrad (Волзинград). Meanwhile, in the North Baltics, the Slavs began settling the land. They established the Kingdom of Galternya (Галтерня) in 743 AD, and started expanding in all directions. The Kingdom of Tackona was facing extinction, so they began to trade with their two new neighbors, and over time, the three kingdoms began to speak different dialects of the same language through assimilation.

Religious Wars

In the year 1009 AD, Christianity was officially brought to Galternya by Saint Veroslav, and the religion quickly spread south into Lityava, becoming the official religion in 1023 AD. This left an obvious outlier, Tackona, which still embraced paganism. And so, the two neighboring Kingdoms began to wage religious wars, raids, and missions on Tackona. Tackona lost a lot of

territory in these wars, especially in the East, and so, in 1089, Tackona officially converted to Christianity. Still, this didn't satisfy its neighbors, who seemed intent on fully annexing the crumbling Kingdom for once and for all.

The Military Endeavors of Lityava.

By the 12th Century, Lityava had become one of Eastern Europe's most powerful nations. They now spanned from the Baltic Sea down towards what is now Northwest Ukraine. Their largest city, Minska, was a center for trade and education. The Kingdoms of Galternya and Lityava became very close during this time period, and started seeing themselves as one people. They spoke the same language, and talks of unification of their armies started to come about. These talks wouldn't come to fruition, yet. Meanwhile, the Lityavan army started to expand west. In the Polish-Lityavan war of 1205, Poland was forced to cede some of its eastern territory to Lityava after a dramatic defeat. The Lityavan Crown also began to eye the Baltic people living in what is now the state of Kramplovich (Крамплович). These Baltic people were called the Prussians, and their expansion was beginning to scare Lityava. Still, the Prussians weren't unified under a single state, so Lityava could breathe, for now.

The Conquest of Prussia and Mongol Invasions

In 1237, the Lityavan Crown finally saw it in its best interest to eliminate the Prussians. Lityava had lost some of its South-Eastern holdings to the Kyivian Rus, and the Crown was now determined to keep Lityava afloat. Meanwhile, in Galternya, they were busy dealing with the

Mongol invasion. Galternya's army was losing badly to the Mongols, but they were one of the last powers keeping them from sweeping through Europe. It was during this time that the bond between Lityava and Galternya would grow strongest, as Lityava would put off invading the Prussians in order to help Galternya in the East. However, by the end of the Mongol invasions in 1241, Galternya had lost much of its Eastern holdings, nearly 45% of its land in total, and countless lives. King Drodskiy II of Lityava helped Galternya rebuild after this, strengthening ties.

In 1294, King Drodskiy III of Lityava finally invaded Prussia in an attempt to Christianize it. This early attempt largely failed and caused the Prussians to expand west, mixing with the Germanic people. King Drodskiy III was furious and called on Galternya to lend him more men in order to conquer Prussia. In 1301, Lityava with the help of Galternya, invaded East Prussia again, this time with much success. He captured nearly all of East Prussia, most importantly, its largest city of Grosdon. The Prussians in the west signed a peace deal with Lityava, not wanting to have more of their land taken. They had formed a state at this point, mostly led by the new German population. In 1307, Prussia, now shifted westward thanks to the annexation of its eastern territories, joined the Holy Roman Empire. This helped them rebuild and remilitarize, bitter about their defeat.

The Formation of Galtania

In 1341, King Barashnako of Galternya and King Ivanov of Lityava agreed to formally merge their militaries, planning an invasion of Tackona. King Ventusi of Tackona was caught off guard by the invasion, and after a grueling year long war, Tackona was forced to surrender to its

neighbors. King Barashnako and King Ivanov had long wanted to unify the Galtanyi kingdoms into one kingdom, so the opportunity was clear. The Minska treaty was drafted in 1346, a treaty that unified Galternya and Lityava under a dual monarchy. Officially the kingdom of Galternya-Lityava, the kings decided to incorporate Tackona into the new kingdom. King Ventusi was given a choice, submit and agree to the treaty, or be forcefully incorporated. Ventusi chose the latter, meeting with King Ivanov in the Lityavan city of Grosdon in 1353. Here, the Treaty of Grosdon was signed, establishing the Kingdom of Galtania, with Herbstburg and Minska serving as its two Capital Cities. While the people of Galternya and Lityava were incredibly happy about this treaty, the people of Tackona were distraught. They had lost their Kingdom, their monarchy was now illegitimate, and they had no say in the new Kingdom. Still, they were thankful that their Kingdom hadn't been brutally annihilated.

The Black Death

The Bubonic Plague, or Black Death, first arrived in the Kingdom of Lityava through Grosdon in 1350. However, the Plague only really started to ravage Galtania after unification.

Question for Part 1: Who were the Galtanyi?

The word Galtanyi (Галтаний) refers to the East Slavic peoples who, in the 6th-century migration of the Slavs, migrated from Old Ruinya (Стари Руня) towards the Baltic Sea. These people are distinguished by their shared culture, ethnicity, and language, although many different dialects existed up until the 13th century. There, they established settlements of various sorts. By

1340, only two Galtanyi Kingdoms remained, the Kingdom of Lityava and the Kingdom of Galternya. They had conquered all of the other tribes and kingdoms, becoming the last inheritors of the Galtanyi name. The famous Kurakushkan accent, or Takow accent, is thought to be a result of native Baltic people learning different versions of old Galtanyi, which was in itself a branch of Old Slavonic. This would also explain the many other regional accents found in modern Galtania. It's a result of Old Galtanyi being interpreted differently by different tribes and kingdoms. The Modern Galtanian language evolved from Old Galtanyi, and is the official language of the Republic of Galtania, although other working languages and dialects are recognized, such as Russian, Ukrainian, and Galtanian Russy, the latter being a unique form of Galtanian spoken solely on former Russian territories. Much of Galtanyi culture still exists and is actively practiced through many western areas of modern Galtania. Examples of Galtanyi culture include traditional dances, folk songs, food, and superstitions.

Part 2

Mid-Period Command Structures and Wars

By 1423, the Kingdom of Galtania had largely centralized. The dual-capital system had been abandoned entirely by 1417, and instead, Herbstburg served as the nations capital, although second largest city. The kingdom would exist peacefully for nearly 30 years, until the next recorded major war, the Polish-Galtanian war of 1449. Lasting for 5 years, it was the first major defeat Galtania had to endure since it's unification. 1453 marked the 100th anniversary since the unification of Galtania, and the date the unification occurred, October 19th, was declared a holiday. 1453 also marked the start of a new dynasty, and the end of the Ivanov dynasty, ending with Ivanov the 6th. Nikolas Niatko was proclaimed the new king of Galtania, thus starting the Niatko Dynasty.