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# The Battle for Central Europe

*The Siege of Szigetvár and the Death of  
Süleyman the Magnificent and Nicholas Zrínyi (1566)*

Belgrad (020553)

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## The Ottoman Conquest in Hungary: Decisive Events (Belgrade 1521, Mohács 1526, Vienna 1529, Buda 1541) and Results

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### The Logic of Conqueror

Parts of *Alexander the Great* by Karel Čapek, 1 May 1937 (translated by Norma  
Comrada):

"I thought that I was following in the footsteps of Achilles and would  
conquer a new Ilium from the glory of the Greeks; in reality, as I see it  
today, it was of utmost necessity to drive the Persian from the Aegean Sea;  
and I drove them back so efficiently, my dear teacher, that I seized all of  
Bithinia, Phrygia and Cappadocia, plundered Cilicia, and did not stop  
until we reached Tarsus. Asia Minor was ours. ... You might say, my dear  
Aristotle, that my paramount political and strategic goal, namely, the final  
expulsion of Persia from Hellenic waters, had now been achieved in full.  
With the conquest of Asia Minor, however, a new situation arose: our new  
shoreline could be threatened from the south, that is, from Venice or  
Egypt; Persia could procure reinforcements and supplies from there for  
waging further wars against us. Consequently, it was essential that we  
occupy the Tyrian coasts and control Egypt, and this way we became  
masters of the entire seaboard. Yet a new danger arose at one and the  
same time: that Darius, relying on the resources of his rich Mesopotamia,  
might sweep into Syria and thereby cut off our Egyptian domains from our  
base in Asia Minor. Thus I had to crush Darius at any cost, and I succeeded  
in so doing at Gaugamela; as you know, Babylon as well as Susa, Persepolis  
[as] well as Pasargadae fell to their knees before us. By this action we  
gained control of the Persian Gulf, but in order to safeguard these new  
holdings against possible incursions from the north, it was necessary to  
march northwards... While our territory now extended from the Caspian

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