

# WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THE ASSASSINATION OF FRANZ FERDINAND IN SARAJEVO ON JUNE 28, 1914?



Franz Ferdinand

The purpose of the assassination of Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo on June 28, 1914, was a symbolic act to protest against the Habsburg rule of Bosnia. The assassins themselves were young Bosnian nationalists who opposed the rule of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire.

## The Assassins



GAVRILO PRINCIP



MUHAMED MEHMEDBAŠIĆ



VASO ČUBRILOVIĆ



NEDELJKO ČABRINOVIĆ



CVJETKO POPOVIĆ



TRIFKO GRABEŽ

# WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KILLING, BESIDES THE ASSASSINS THEMSELVES?

## 1) THE BLACK HAND AND DRAGUTIN DIMITRIJEVIĆ (APIS)



<DRAGUTIN DIMITRIJEVIĆ (APIS)>

**Dragutin Dimitrijević**, who is also called Apis, supported the students of Bosnia (assassins) to assassinate Franz Ferdinand, his wife Sophie, and the governor Potiorek of Bosnia.

In early **June 1914**, Apis decided to give **guns and bombs** to the student assassins. He also arranged for the students to **cross the border** without passing the checkpoints.

## 2) THE SERBIAN GOVERNMENT LED BY NIKOLA PAŠIĆ (PRIME MINISTER)



<NIKOLA PAŠIĆ>

**Nikola Pašić**, the **prime minister** of the Serbian government, **knew the plan for assassination** before it happened. Therefore, he ordered the **Serbian ambassador in Vienna to warn Austrians** about the attempt to assassinate the Habsburg heir in Bosnia.

However, the ambassador spoke in **hypothetical terms** and suggested that the heir's visit to Bosnia was too provocative.

As a result, the Austrians **failed to interpret the warning signs**, so they did not cancel the schedule or reinforce guards.



<SYMBOL OF BLACK HAND>

**Black Hand** was a **secret military society** formed to liberate the Serbs living under the rule of Hapsburgs and the Ottomans.

After the **Black Hand council** noticed Apis sent assassins to Bosnia, the members of the council voted for the assassination. They eventually **decided to cancel the attempt** for assassination, but **it was too late** for them to get the assassins back.

# The Balkan Causes of WORLD WAR I

Belle Yuni, Jake Choi, Teayoon Kim

## WAS WAR INEVITABLE AFTER THE MURDER, OR DID POLICY-MAKERS LET THE CRISIS ESCAPE THEIR CONTROL?

In Serbia, Pasic did not explain the relationship between him and the murder clearly enough to the Austria-Hungarians would understand, while Austria-Hungary was doubtful about it and there was an omen of their revenge.

In Austria-Hungary, they found out that the weapon used for the murder was from Serbia. So, Conrad has argued that the Monarchy would be threatened by the union of the enemies and they should be defeated individually, and Serbia gave them a justification by not clarifying Pasic's role in the murder. The Hungarian Prime Minister, Count Stephan Tisza did not want the war to happen, but the majority had already been persuaded by Conrad's claim. Therefore, Austria-Hungary had negotiated with clauses that might violate Serbian sovereignty.

Although there was a real reason for the war for Austria-Hungary, Pasic had provided the justification of the war. Also, he broke the peace by rejecting the ultimatum by Austria-Hungary after he recognized that Russia would help Serbia.



Franz Conrad

## WHY DID A BALKAN CRISIS LEAD TO A WORLD WAR IN 1914, WHEN OTHER CRISES HAD NOT?

### 1) BOTH THE AUSTRIA-HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE SERBIAN GOVERNMENT REACTED STRONGLY TO EACH OTHER.

There are several reasons why they reacted strongly against each other.

First, the Austrians annexed Bosnia in 1908 and later tried to send their police to Serbia to gain control of the state. On the other hand, the Serbs defied the Dual Monarchy of the Hapsburgs in the Austria-Hungarian Empire. Both side considered that their conflicts could not be resolved through negotiations, so they just reacted strong against each other.

Second, the prime minister of the Serbian government, Nikola Pašić, was facing pressure to act strongly by the radical nationalists of Serbia. He thought he would face serious threat of assassination if he responded weak against Austria-Hungarian Empire.

### 2) BELIEF THAT THEY WERE IN ADVANTAGE WHEN WAR OCCURS.

Both Serbia and the Austria-Hungarian Empire believed that they were in advantage when war occurred. It is because Serbia had support promised by Russia and Austria-Hungarian Empire had support by Germany.

### 3) THE EUROPEAN POWERS WERE INVOLVED QUICKLY.

As Serbia and Austria decided to go to war, Russia supported the Serbs because they worried that they would lose their allies if they did not. Germany also supported for Austria. Meanwhile, France and Britain feared that Germany was growing too fast. They decided to participate in the war against Germany to prevent Germany from becoming the dominant power in Europe after the war.