



LUCA SZÉKE

BY: NEZIRE ÖZEREN



- LUCA WAS AND STILL IS A VERY COMMON WOMAN'S NAME IN HUNGARY. IT ORIGINATES FROM THE LATIN LUCIA WITH THE MEANING LIGHT
- BEFORE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR, **DECEMBER 13** (THE NUMBER OF MISFORTUNES) IT WAS THE SHORTEST DAY OF THE YEAR, SO MANY FOLK CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS ARE CONNECTED TO THIS DATE.
- A WELL-KNOWN CUSTOM ON THIS DAY IS CALLED LUCASATION, WHEN BOYS GO FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE CHANTING RHYMES AND WISHING FOR ABUNDANCE AND FERTILITY.
- ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN TRADITIONS OF LUCA DAY IS THE MAKING OF THE LUCA CHAIR

LUCASATION



LUCA DAY



LUCA CHAIR

- *THERE WERE STRICT RULES FOR MAKING THE CHAIR, THEY SHOULD BE MADE OF NINE DIFFERENT PIECES OF WOOD, BUT THEY COULD NOT USE NAILS.*
- *(BLACKTHORN, JUNIPER, MAPLE, PEAR, DOGWOOD, FIR, ACACIA, TAN, AND ROSEWOOD).*
- *THEY COULD ONLY WORK A LITTLE ON IT EVERY DAY TO GET IT DONE BY CHRISTMAS EVE.*
- *HENCE THE SAYING THAT IF WE MAKE SOMETHING VERY SLOWLY THAT :*
"IT IS MADE AS SLOWLY AS LUCA'S CHAIR.
- *ACCORDING TO FOLKLORE, ANYONE WHO STANDS OR SITS ON LUCA'S CHAIR AT CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT WILL RECOGNIZE THE WITCHES PRESENT IN THE CHURCH.*
- *WEATHER IS OBSERVED FROM THE DAY OF LUCA UNTIL CHRISTMAS AND PREDICT THE 12 MONTHS OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR FROM THE 12 DAYS (LUCA CALENDAR)*

LUCA CHAIR



BELIEFS ON LUCA'S DAY:

- 1. YOU SHOULDN'T LEND ANY MONEY BECAUSE LUCA STEALS IT.*
- 2. WE MUSTN'T LEAVE THE BROOM OUTSIDE, OTHERWISE THE WITCHES WILL TAKE IT AND FLY WITH IT BETWEEN US.*
- 3. THEY SAY THAT WOMEN SHOULDN'T WORK ON THAT DAY OF THE YEAR BECAUSE IF THEY DO LUCA WILL PUNISH THEM.*
- 4. MAKING DUMPLINGS: A MALE NAME MUST BE HIDDEN IN EACH DUMPLING, AND THE DUMPLING COMES TO THE SURFACE OF THE WATER FIRST WILL TELL YOU THE NAME OF YOUR PROSPECTIVE HUSBAND.*
- 5. PEEL DOWN 12 SHEETS OF THE ONIONS AND SALT THEM ALL. IF THE SHELL MELTS THE SALT, IT MEANS THAT IT WILL BE RAINY THAT MONTH.*
- 6. GARLIC AND ASHES ARE A MEANS OF PROTECTION AGAINST EVIL WITCHES.*



- *LUCA WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE PERSECUTED THE PERSON SITTING OR STANDING ON THE CHAIR, SO SHE HAD TO FLEE AND SCATTER POPPIES BEHIND HER TO LOSE HER FOOTPRINT. SHE ALSO HAD TO BURN THE CHAIR, THUS PROTECTING THE INHABITANTS FROM HARMFUL SPIRITS.*

THANKS

FOR WATCHING