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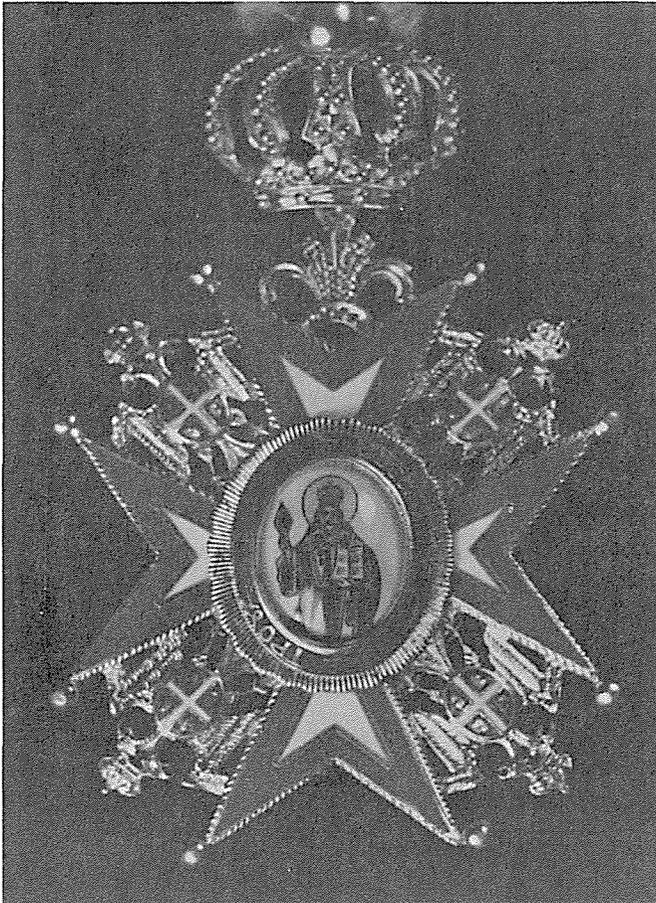
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ORDER OF SAINT SAVA



KNIGHT'S BADGE, GREEN ROBE TYPE

- I. Country: Serbia (also later the kingdom of Yugoslavia)
- II. Name: Order of Saint Sava or Orden Svetog Sava.
- III. Founded by: King Milan I of the Kingdom of Serbia.
- IV. When founded: January 23, 1883 (Russian method of dating) February 4, 1883 (Modern method of dating).
- V. Where founded: The national capitol, Belgrade (Beograd) by a general proclamation of the law issued founding the order.
- VI. History of the country at the time of the founding: Serbia began on the road to being a kingdom in 1159 when the various tribes were united by Stephen Nemanya who became the "Grand Zhupan (Grand Chief) of Rashka". His eldest son, Stephen I (the first-crowned) was crowned King of Serbia in 1217. This first Serbian Empire reached its zenith in the middle of the fourteenth century and declined with the penetration of the Ottoman Turks into Europe. Serbia finally became a vassal state of Turkey in 1389.

In 1804, the peasants of northern Serbia, under the leadership of Kara George (Czerny George) rose against their Turkish landlords and with Russian help succeeded in gaining their independence. In 1813 Serbia was reconquered by the Turks, but in 1815 the second rebellion took place under the leadership of Milos Obrenovich. The Turks eventually recognized him as "Supreme Chief" and in 1830 they granted the Serbian principality an autonomous status in accordance with the Treaty of Bucharest (1812).

The intervening years were ones of constant struggle between the Karageorge and Obrenovich dynasties. Finally, as a result of the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78, Serbia obtained recognition as a fully independent state. On February 22, 1882, the National Assembly, the Narodna Skupshtina, proclaimed the country to be a kingdom and Milan Obrenovich, who had ruled as a Prince since 1874, became king. On the 23rd of January 1883, laws concerning orders in general were passed. These laws included the Order of Saint Sava.

VII. Purpose of the Order: The order was created as a civil merit decoration to be given for services in the fields of religion, education, science and the arts as well as for relief and social work.

VIII. Brief history of the Order: The decoration was founded in 1883 as a Serbian Order. It became a Yugoslavian Order after World War I and was abolished with the proclamation of the People's Federated Republic of Yugoslavia, November 29, 1945. However, it may still be awarded by King Peter II who lives in exile.

IX. Brief history of the patron saint of the Order: Prince Ratsko, 1176-1235, the second son of Stephen Nemanya, was born in 1169. He entered monastic community of Mount Athos in 1191 where he was known by the name of Sava. He became the first Archbishop of Serbia (Serbian Orthodox Church) and established eight bishoprics.

As Archbishop, he crowned his older brother, Stephen, King of Serbia, in 1217. He was regarded as the patron of education. After his death he was elevated to Sainthood thus giving the name to this Order-Saint Sava.

X. Chancery: The affairs of the Order were conducted by the Royal Orders Chancery located at the capitol (Belgrad).

XI. Officers of the Order:

- A. Grand Master (Not a member of the Chancery)
The King.
- B. Chancellor- (in 1902) His Excellency General Dragoutine Franassovitch.
- C. Secretary- (in 1902) Col. Jean Smoudcha
- D. Treasurer- (in 1902) Athanase Petrovitch

XII. Eligibility: The decoration was given to persons whose services were appropriate to the purposes of the Order. It was given to military as well as civilians and to nationals and foreigners alike.

XIII. Nomination and other fees: There must have been some fees as the certificate states that the fees were waived, however, I do not have any knowledge on this item.

XV. Statutes (revisions and dates): In the law of February 16, 1883, the rank of orders was established and in the law of February 13, 1897, the regulations for wearing were set down.

XVI. Divisions of the Order: As far as I have observed there was no distinction for awards to military or civil persons, nationals or foreigners.

XVIII. Motto:

- A. TPOVrOMB CRONMb BbCZ rNPbPrTC
- B. Translation:
 - 1. "By his talents he acquired all"
 - 2. "Self help can do everything"
 - 3. "Received for merit"

XIX. Sash, cravat and ribbon:

- A. Color
A white moire ribbon with blue side stripes and white edges.
- B. Type sash and bow.
The Grand Cross sash has a rosette gathering. The ends of the sash have a sawtooth edge.
- C. Change of color.
If the decoration is awarded during the time of war, the ribbon is a solid red, however, none have been observed with this change.
- D. Widths:
 - 1. Grand Cross: 105mm. wide; White-5.5mm.; blue-17mm.; white-60mm.; blue-17mm., and white 5.5mm.
 - 2. Grand Officer: 53mm. wide; White-2.5mm; blue-9mm.; white-30mm.; blue-9mm., and white 2.5mm