

## France Prešeren

France Prešeren was a Slovenian poet who is now best known for his poem "Zdravljica" ("A Toast") which became the national anthem of Slovenia in 1989.

\* He was brought into this world by mother Mina and father Šimen in 1800, as the third of eight children and the first son in the family. His quite well-educated mother taught him to write and read, and soon he was sent to his uncle who was a Roman Catholic priest. *Why was he sent to his uncle?*

France showed incredible talent already as a child, so his parents provided him with a good education. After finishing elementary schools he attended the State Gymnasium in Ljubljana. He earned his degree in 1828 in Vienna and got a job as a lawyer assistant. *law clerk?*

*Where? in Ljubljana* During the schooling, he met Matija Čop, who later became his intimate and tutor. He was a linguist, literary historian, critic and a polyglot speaking over 15 languages. Prešeren followed his advice and so Čop had a great influence on his poetry. *who else?*

France's love life was a misery. In 1833, he met young woman named Julija Primic, daughter of a rich merchant. It was love at first sight and she became his muse. One of Prešeren's most brilliant poems, "Sonetni venec" ("Wreath of Sonnets"), is dedicated to her. But unfortunately, his love was unrequited. He realised that around 1836 and started a relationship with Ana Jelovšek, whom he met the same year. The latter had three children with him, but he never got married to her. *Did she love him?* Although, Prešeren spent all his life with Ana he had never forgotten Julija Primic.

In 1846, Prešeren moved to Kranj with his family where he finally opened his own law firm. He died there three years later. *where?*

He is one of the leading poets of Slovene literature and ranks among European greatest Romanticists. Over 100 pieces of writing which include "Krst pri Savici" ("Baptism on the Savica"), "Sonetje nesreče" ("Sonnets of Misfortune") with famous "O, Vrba", "Sonetni venec" ("Wreath of Sonnets"), "Zdravljica" ("A Toast"), "Povodni mož" (The Water Man) and "Slovo od mladosti" ("A Farewell to Youth") are one of the most beautiful creations in the history of Slovenian literature. *He produced more than 100 pieces of writing*

His importance is visible in many other things. His birth house in small village of Vrba has been turned into a museum. Central square in Ljubljana is named Prešeren Square and his monument is located there. *some to Slovene culture* His date of death, 8. February, is Slovenian cultural holiday since 1945 and his date of birth, 3. December, is slowly becoming a holiday too. Since 2007, his image is on the Slovene two-euro coin and his effigy was also portrayed on the Slovene 1000-tolar banknote. *examples* And there is also an award named after him, Prešeren Award. *has been the national holiday celebrating his birthday* This is the highest Slovene prize for artistic achievements. *I don't understand the organization of this sentence* *where is Vrba* *Slovenian culture*

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