

FINLAND

Suomi

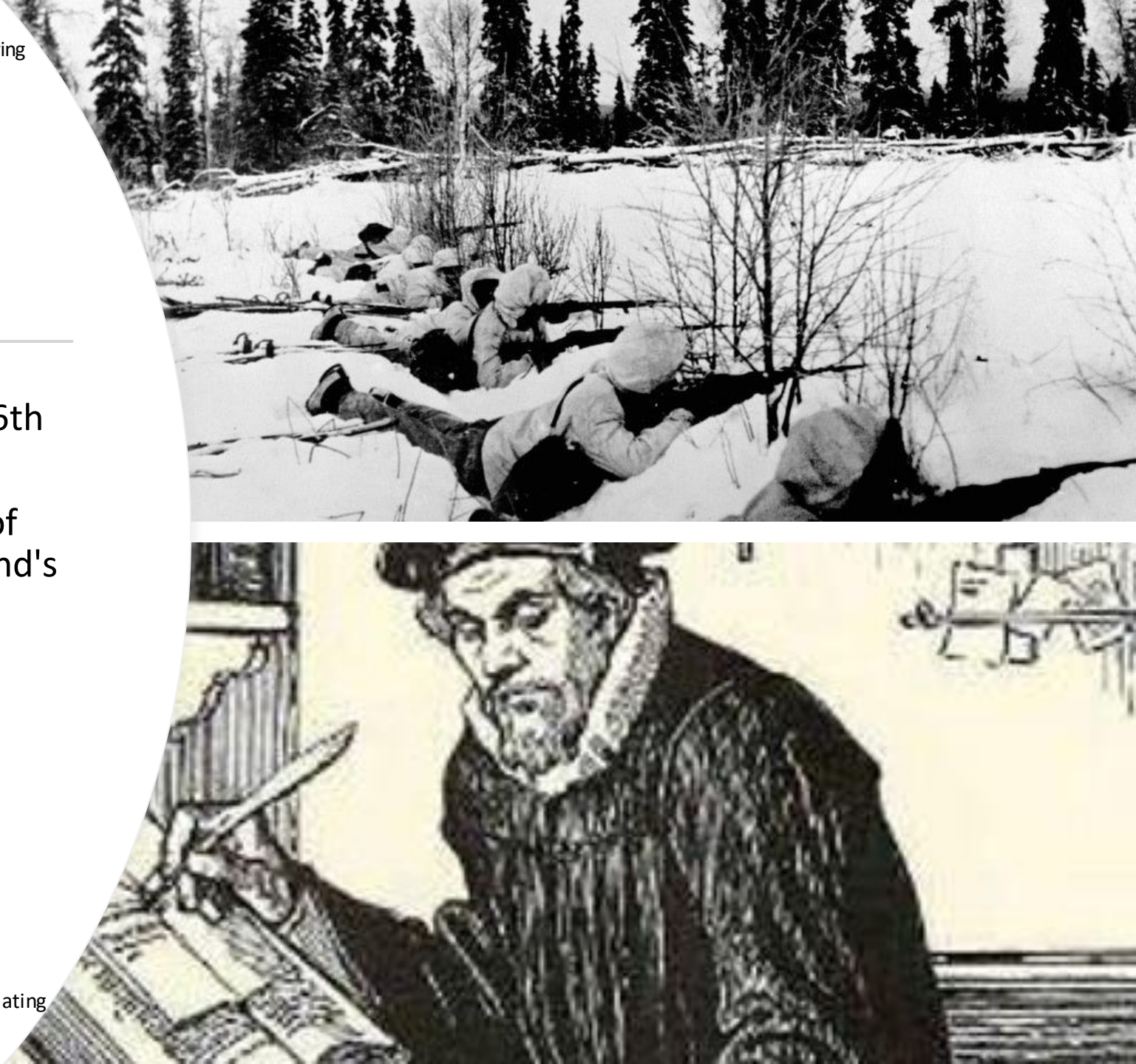


Finnish snipers during
the Winter War

HISTORY

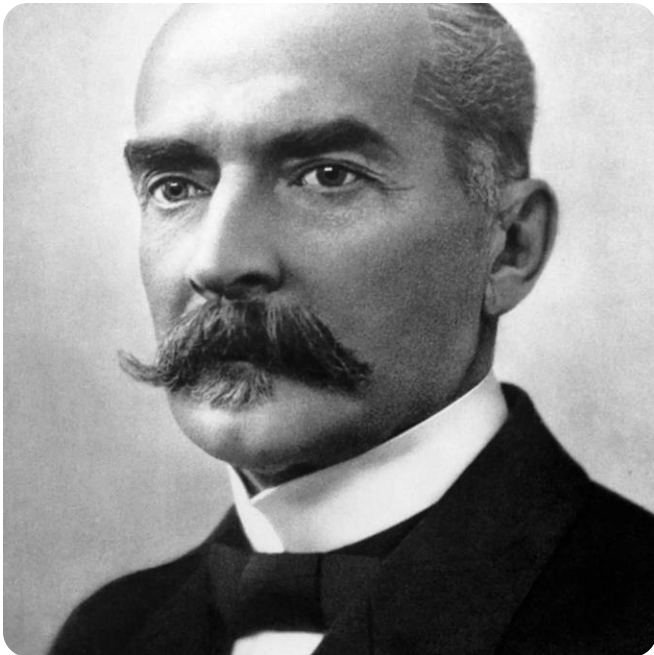
- Finland declared independence on the 6th of December 1917.
- Before its independence, Finland was part of the kingdom of Sweden and, after Finland's land was conquered by it, Russia.
- The first book written in the Finnish language was the *ABC Book* by Mikael Agricola, the founder of the Finnish language.

Mikael Agricola translating
the Bible to Finnish





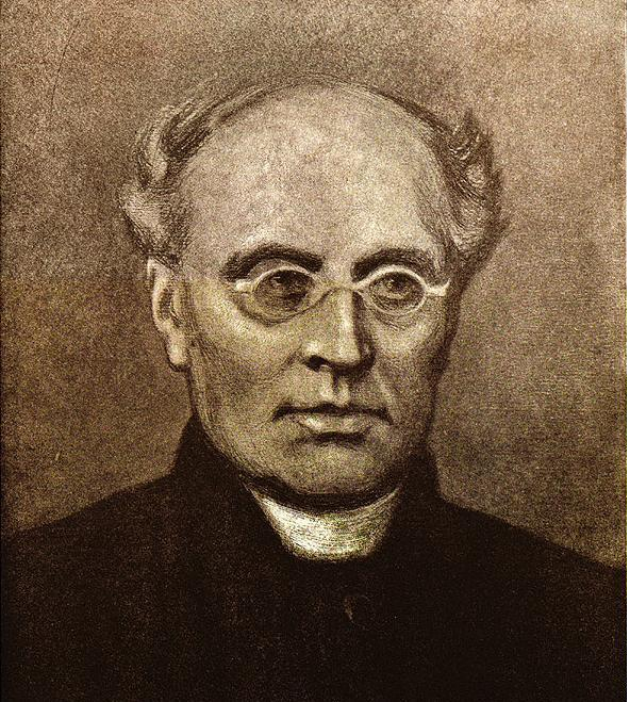
Tarja Kaarina Halonen



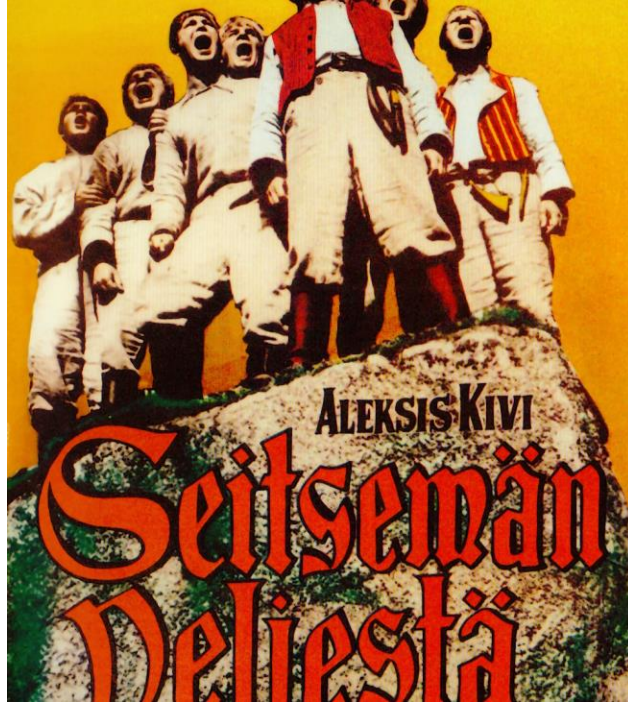
Kaarlo Juho Ståhlberg

HISTORICAL FIGURES

- Alexander I of Russia
 - The Russian Tsar who conquered Finland in 1809
- Kaarlo Juho Ståhlberg
 - Finland's first president
- Carl Gustaf Emil Mannerheim
 - Commander of the victorious side during the Finnish Civil War of 1918
- Tarja Kaarina Halonen
 - Finland's first female president



Portrait of Johan Ludvig Runeberg



Seven Brothers movie adaptation poster

LITERATURE

- Aleksis Kivi
 - Seven Brothers, 1870
- Johan Ludvig Runeberg
 - Our Land, Finnish national anthem, 1848
 - The Tales of Ensign Stål, 1848
- Elias Lönnrot
 - Kalevala, 1835, a collection of old folk stories that can be sang in its entirety. It is also the Finnish national epic



Iconic art piece from Kalevala

TRADITIONS

- Mid Summer
 - Often spent at a summer cottage
 - Sauna and swimming
 - A (excessively) large fire pit is lit
- Independence Day
 - All lights are turned off with the exception of two candles, which are lit on a window sill
 - Families get together to watch The Unknown Soldier, a Finnish war film depicting a group of Finnish soldiers in 1941 in the Continuation War against the Soviet Union



The Unknown Soldier 2017 movie adaptation



Mid Summer fire pit at night

Kimi Räikkönen



Sauli Niinistö



MODERN NOTABLE FIGURES

- Kimi Räikkönen AKA "The Iceman"
 - Finnish Formula One driver
- Ilkka Paananen
 - CEO of Finnish video game company, Supercell
- Antti Tuisku
 - Finnish pop singer
- Sauli Niinistö
 - Finland's current president
- Sanna Marin
 - Finland's current prime minister

Sanna Marin

