

## Summary

### **The Participation of the Clergy in the First Serbian Uprising**

A significant number of priests took part in the First Serbian Uprising. They encouraged the people for the uprising, took part in the battles and led the rebels from one victory to another. Many of them went to diplomatic missions. The priest Matija Nenadović was certainly the most important among them.

The First Serbian Uprising had a great influence upon the Serbian clergy and the Serbian people in Vojvodina, Montenegro and Bosnia. In Vojvodina, the rebels were mostly supported by the metropolitan of Karlovce, Stephan (Stratimirović), and the bishop of Backa, Jovan (Jovanović). The mitropolitan of Cetinje, Petar I, was informed about the preparation for the uprising and took part in it personally, although his contribution to it was not as significant as it was expected.

There were a lot of victims among the priests. Some of them died as martyrs for the Christian faith.

The clergy was aware that taking up arms was neither their task nor their aim. However, they were also aware that the sacrifice was necessary for their people in order to win freedom. As soon as the goal had been achieved and the freedom won, the priests who had survived, returned to their religious services in church.