



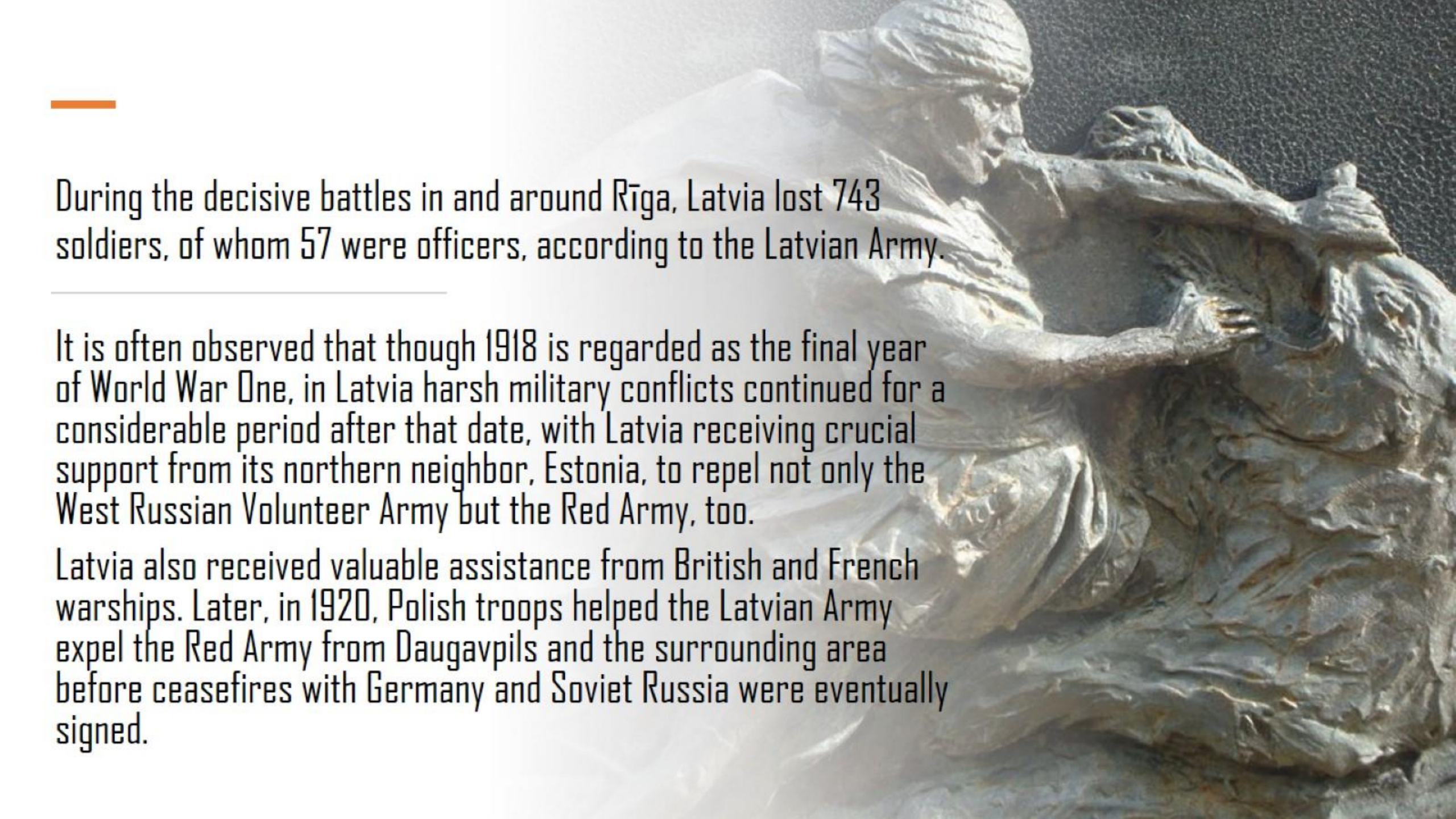
LĀČPLĒŠA DIENA

LATVIAN
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS'
REMEMBRANCE
DAY –
LĀCPLĒŠIS DAY



Lāčplēsis Day (Latvian: Lāčplēša diena)

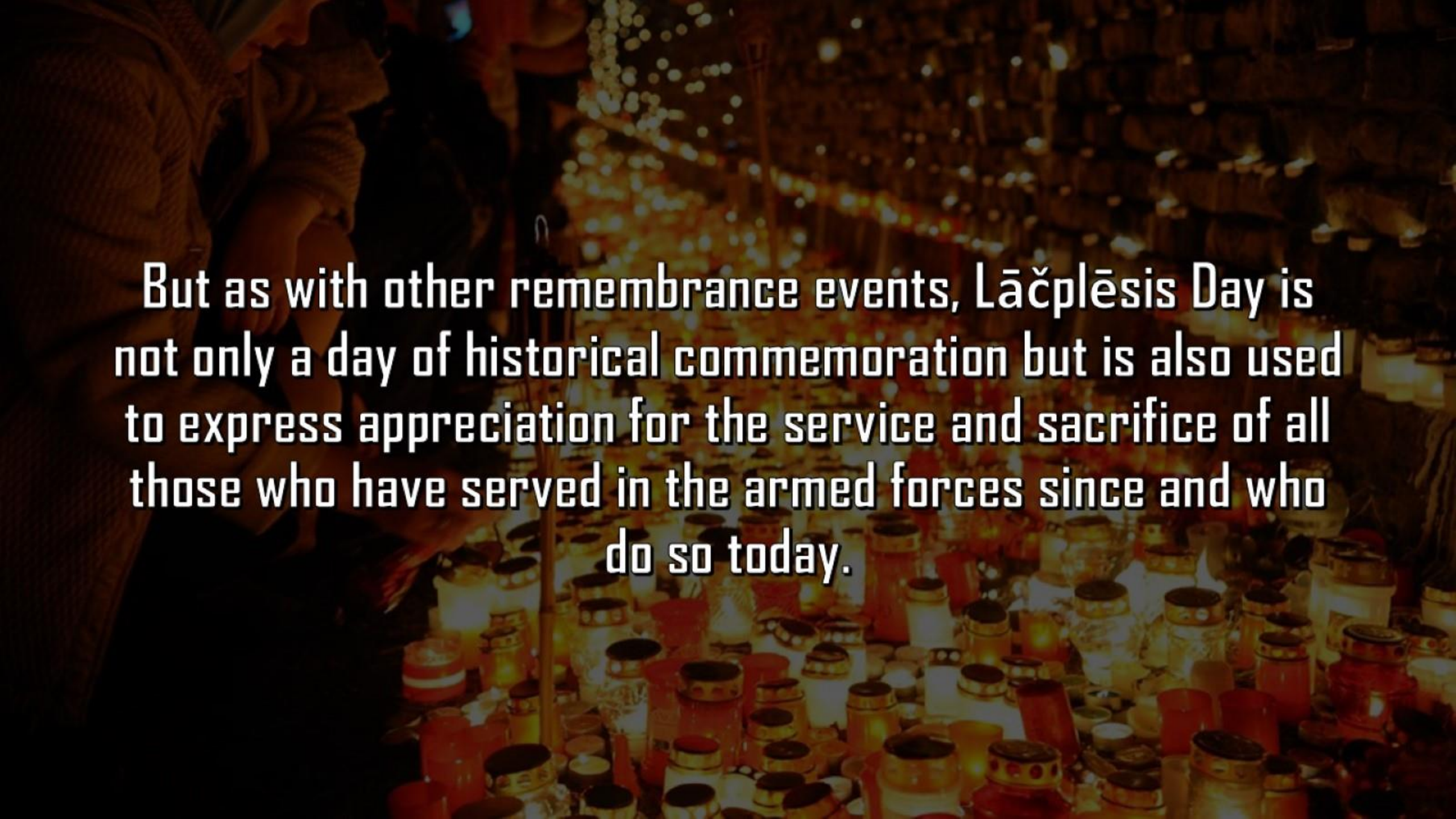
Lāčplēsis Day is a memorial day for soldiers who fought for the independence of Latvia. It is celebrated on November 11th, marking the decisive victory by the Latvian Army over the West Russian Volunteer Army – a joint Russian-German volunteer force led by the warlord Pavel Bermond-Avalov – at the 1919 Battle of Riga during the Latvian War of Independence, thus safeguarding the independence of the nascent nation. It initially was a day of honoring the 743 soldiers that fell in the battles around the Riga area.



During the decisive battles in and around Rīga, Latvia lost 743 soldiers, of whom 57 were officers, according to the Latvian Army.

It is often observed that though 1918 is regarded as the final year of World War One, in Latvia harsh military conflicts continued for a considerable period after that date, with Latvia receiving crucial support from its northern neighbor, Estonia, to repel not only the West Russian Volunteer Army but the Red Army, too.

Latvia also received valuable assistance from British and French warships. Later, in 1920, Polish troops helped the Latvian Army expel the Red Army from Daugavpils and the surrounding area before ceasefires with Germany and Soviet Russia were eventually signed.

A large number of lit candles in a dark room, likely during a memorial service. The candles are arranged in rows and are glowing, creating a warm and solemn atmosphere. The background is dark, and the light from the candles is the primary source of illumination.

But as with other remembrance events, Lāčplēsis Day is not only a day of historical commemoration but is also used to express appreciation for the service and sacrifice of all those who have served in the armed forces since and who do so today.



Lāčplēsis is the name of Latvia's mythical warrior hero



Lāčplēsis ("The Bear-Slayer")

Hero of Latvian mythology.

Legendary hero Lāčplēsis, chosen by the gods to become a hero of his people. Mythology says that there was a very strong man who tore apart a bear with his bare hands.



LĀČPLĒSIS

What you can read

EPIC POEM «LĀČPLĒSIS»

Lāčplēsis ("The Bear-Slayer") is an epic poem by Andrejs Pumpurs, a Latvian poet, who wrote it between 1872 and 1887 based on local legends. It's set during the Livonian Crusades telling the story of the mythical hero Lāčplēsis "the Bear Slayer". Lāčplēsis is regarded as the Latvian national epic.

Source: <https://archive.org/details/bearslayerafreet17445gut>

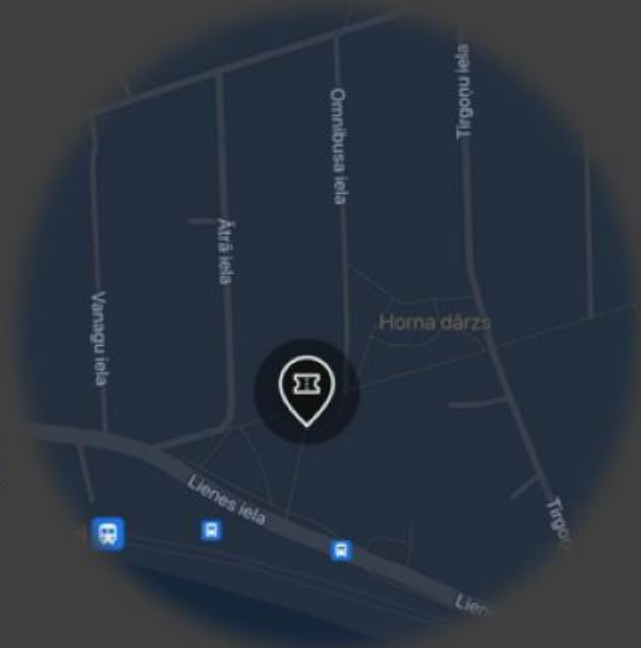


What you can visit

Sculpture "Bearslayer"

Monument in Jūrmala

Jomas street 32, Majori,
Jurmala



What you can visit

Statue in a nich on the Saeima (Parliament) building



Jekaba Street 11, Riga



What you can visit

Laying candles at the Riga Castle on November 11



Pils laukums 3, Riga





THANK YOU!