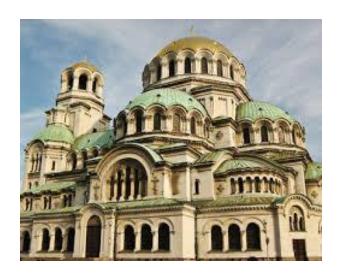
### **HISTORY OF SOFIA**

Elitsa Bineva 7A

### **SOFIA**

- Bulgaria's capital and largest city
- Sofia was originally as Thracian settlement called *Serdica* or *Sardica*, possibly named after the Celtic tribe Serdi that had populated it.. It finally became Sofia from the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> centuty taking on the name from St. Sofia church (wisdom).





### LONG AGO

- Evidence has been found that Sofia was inhabited as early as 7000 years ago. Thracian and Roman remains can still be seen dotted around the city: in the underpass in front of the presidency; behind the Military Club, and behind the Sheraton hotel.
- Sofia's thermal springs meant that it was always an attractive place for settlement. There are springs in the city center, Gorna Banya, Knyazhevo, Bankya and Ovcha Kupel
- commercial, industrial, cultural and economic centre in its region and the Balkans

## THE PANAGYSHITE TREASURE



### MIDDLE AGE

- Sofia first became part of the First Bulgarian Empire during the reign of Khan Krum in 809. Afterwards, it was known by the Bulgarian name *Sredets* and grew into an important fortress and administrative centre.
- After a number of unsuccessful sieges, the city fell again to the Byzantine Empire in 1018. In 1128, Sredets suffered a Magyar raid as part of the Byzantine Empire, but in 1191 was once again incorporated into the Bulgarian Empire at the time of Tsar Ivan Asen I.

# SOFIA'S MINERAL WATER SPRINGS



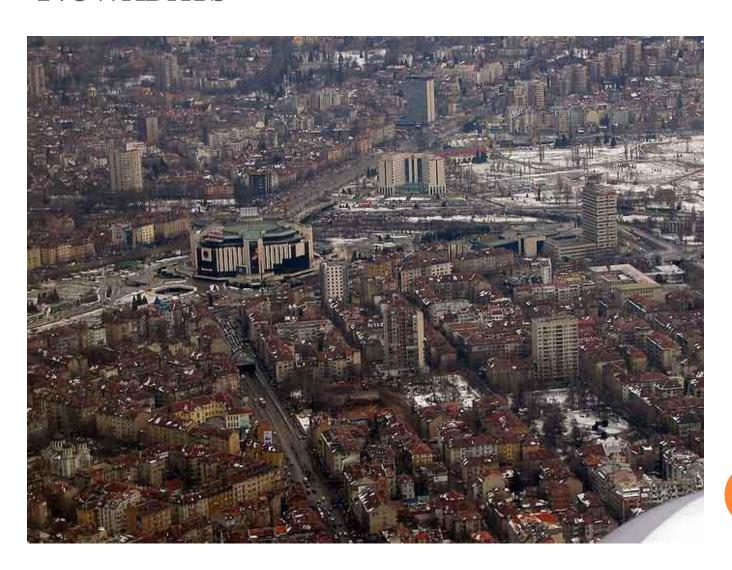
## GROWS BUT DOES NOT AGE



#### LIBERATED BULGARIA

- Sofia was liberated by Russian forces in 1878, during the Russo-Turkish War, 1877-78.
- Sofia became capital of Bulgaria as recently as 1879, after six hundred years. Sofia was felt to possess a strategic location and the change of capital marked the end of Bulgaria's dark ages under Ottoman rule.

# Nowadays



## THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION!

