CONTENTS

Abbreviation 8 Preface 9

Introduction

LITHUANIA - PART OF CENTRAL EUROPE 12

Geographical Centre of Europe? 12; Origin of the Name of Lithuania and the Fate of Its Concept 13; Fundamental Outlines of the History of Lithuania 17; Milestones in the History of Lithuania 22

Chapter I ANCIENT LITHUANIA 23

ANCIENT BALTS AND EMERGENCE OF THE LITHUANIAN STATE 23
Paganism and References to Lithuania in 1009 24; Mindaugas Establishes
the State of Lithuania. Mindaugas's Coronation in 1253 29; Rise of
the Gediminids 34

PAGAN STATE. THE CHRISTIANISATION OF LITHUANIA 37 Algirdas's Great Power 39; Lithuania in Areas of Orthodox Rus' 41; The Christianisation of Lithuania: Was This the End of Europe's Formation? 44

VYTAUTAS'S EMPIRE 47 Changes in Vytautas's Era 48; The Battle of Grunwald 50; Sacred Ruler 53

THE GRAND DUCHY OF LITHUANIA ON ITS PATH TOWARDS THE WEST 57 Christianisation, St. Casimir and Gothic Architecture 59; Script 62; Renaissance and Reformation 67

Chapter II MARRIAGE OF THE POLISH AND LITHUANIAN STATES 70

THE COMMONWEALTH OF BOTH NATIONS 70

The Union of Lublin 71; The GDL in Baroque Europe. Nobles' Democracy 74; A State Religion or Ten Confessions? 79; Nations, Languages, and Writing 81; Vilnius University 86; The Easternmost and Northernmost Baroque Architecture in Europe 91; The Gaon and "Jerusalem of the North" 92

THE EARLIEST CONSTITUTION IN EUROPE AND ITS REPEAL 94
The Enlightenment Comes to the GDL 95; The Constitution of May 3 and the Reciprocal Guarantee of Two Nations 100; Destruction of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania 104

C hapter III LITHUANIA UNDER THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE (1795-1915) 109

THE DRAW OF FORMER STATEHOOD 111

Cultural Autonomy in Napoleon's Shadow 111; The 1830–1831 Uprising 115; The Tsar: "There Shall Be No Poland Here" 118; The 1863–1864 Uprising 120; The "Duchy" of Bishop Motiejus Valančius 122

PEOPLE BECOME A NATION 127

The 1864–1904 Policy of Russification 127; "Lithuanian We Were Born!" 132; An Other Lithuania Seeks Autonomy 135; Post-1905 Lithuania – a Cultural Struggle 138

C hapter IV RESTORATION OF THE LITHUANIAN STATE 145

STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE 146

Lithuania's Plans: From Autonomy to Independence 146; Declaration of Independence of 16 February 1918 152; Treaty of Versailles 155; Peace Treaty of 12 July 1920 With Soviet Russia 159; Last Chance for a Federation With Poland 162; Founding Seimas and Its Decisions 166

BECOMING A NATION 170

Lithuania Gets a Sea Port – Annexation of Klaipėda 170; Democracy of the Left and the Coup of December 1926 173; President Antanas Smetona and Prime Minister Augustinas Voldemaras 179; Antanas Smetona and Juozas Tübelis Tandem 184; Jews and Poles as Lithuanian citizens 188; The Independence Generation 193

ERA OF ULTIMATUMS FROM THREE NEIGHBOURS 200

Lithuania and Poland: Relations Without Relations 200; First Trial of Nazis in Europe and the Loss of Klaipėda 203; Politics of Neutrality and Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact 207; USSR's Ultimatum of 1940 and Soviet Occupation 210

CONTENTS 7

ChapterV

LITHUANIA: THE SOVIET AND NAZI OCCUPATIONS 214

IN THE CLUTCHES OF STALIN AND HITLER 214

The Sovietisation of Lithuania 215; Repression and the June Uprising of 1941 219; The Extermination of Lithuania's Jews – the Holocaust 224; Nazi Self-Government and Lithuanians' Self-Strangulation 228

BACK TO THE USSR 233

Occupation: the Soviets Replace the Nazis 233; War After War – Armed Resistance 238; Sovietisation of the Economy 243; Cultural Unification 249; Education and Russification 252; Lithuanian Diplomatic Service and the Diaspora 255; An Uncompromising Society 258

Chapter VI SINGING REVOLUTION 67

WITH SĄJŪDIS – FOR LITHUANIA! 267

Lithuanian Reform Movement Sajūdis in 1988–1990 267; Restoration of Lithuania's Independence 273; Awaiting the International Recognition of Lithuania 277; Catching Up With Western Europe 284; Neighbourly Relations and Transatlantic Integration 291

The End, or the Scattered Faces of Lithuania 301 Further Reading 305 Sources of Illustrations 307 Index of Personal Names 308