

## Background

**Pronunciation:** My family name – Mojzsis – is normally pronounced “Moy-Zish” outside of Hungary. In Hungarian pronunciation, it can be phonetically-rendered something like “Moy-Zhish” where the “Zh” sound is similar to the endings found in the Franco-English word “siege”, “liege” or “beige”. Pick the way to say this that you find easiest for yourself.

**History:** My father Mojzsis István emigrated from Hungary in 1956 as a result of the Hungarian Uprising. Although most of my direct family come from the region north of the capital (Budapest) and around the towns of Felsőgöd and Vác (Pest county), historically we are from further north around the village of Alsópetény (Nograd county). Sometime before World War 2, we moved from what is now central Slovakia into a region termed in Hungarian “Ipolyáság” which is just north of the Danube bend and on the eponymous river. These days it is called Šahy and previously it was also known as Eipelschlag (after Eipel, the German name for this tributary of the Danube). At right is the coat-of-arms of Ipolyáság.



Based on conversations with my Grandmother (Mojzsis Istvanné, or Tóth Mojzsis Anna) and my Great Aunt and Uncle (Marika néni and Feri bácsi, of the Sram family) we have been farmers and builders/carpenters since time immemorial.

**Interesting:** There is a story that I find at least amusing and at most potentially enlightening. It appears that I have a namesake in the History of Geology:

Johann August Georg Edmund Mojsisovics von Mojsvar

Or in Hungarian:

Mojzsis János Gusztaf György Ede (Mojsvári)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johann\\_August\\_Georg\\_Edmund\\_Mojzsovics\\_von\\_Mojsvár](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johann_August_Georg_Edmund_Mojzsovics_von_Mojsvár)

Now this is interesting, because “Mojsvár” is an old name for a village/castle east of the town of Zsolna (Žilina) in Trencsén (Trenčín) (county) of contemporary northern Slovakia (the old Felső-Vágmente administrative district of the Kingdom of Hungary).



These days, the town is named Mojš (“Moysh”) which is an ancient Hungarian given name. At right is the coat-of-arms for Mojš (<http://www.mojs.sk/>). The name for this town in Hungarian was Moys (until 1899) and then as “Majosfalva”.

I also found that Mojsvár corresponded with Charles Darwin.

<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-11851>