

# **THINKERS PUBLISHING**

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### **The Taimanov Bible: a complete manual for the Sicilian Player by Ivan Ivanisevic, Milos Perunovic & Robert Markus**

The Sicilian Taimanov enjoys to be one of the greatest dynamic opening choices for Black. The resulting positions are rich in dynamic, positional and strategic play.

Our authors have tried to deliver a user-friendly style for all levels of the players. Nowadays, chess players are overwhelmed with piles of information and endless databases. It is very difficult to choose "your variations" and therefore this book will surely come as a great additional help.

In addition to the basic Taimanov ideas we had to keep, we followed in an original manner our two

main concepts: 'almost never play an early ...d6' (Scheveningen style) and 'push ...h5 whenever you can' (Paulsen style).

At the end of the book we carefully selected some practical exercises, enabling you to even improve your knowledge of this up-to-date Taimanov Bible.

**Thinkers Publishing** wishes you success on your lifelong journey of chess improvement!

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Milos Perunovic learned playing chess from his father, who was also his first coach.

His first successes he achieved in his younger years: Four-time champion of Yugoslavia (1993-94-95-96), vice-champion of Europe, category up to 12 years (Verdun, France 1993), vice-champion of the World, category up to 12 years (Minorca Spain 1996).

After these successes he collaborated with the renowned Russian coaches Alexander Nikitin and Orestes Averkin. In 2005 he achieved the title of a Grandmaster. Since 2003 he is a member of the national Serbian team. He participated in four Chess Olympics 2004, 2008, 2012 and 2014 and six European championships. He was the national Champion in 2005 & 2007 and the winner of open tournaments like the "Veselin Boskovic", Belgrade 2005 & Berlin 2014, shared 1st to 6th place in Skopje 2013 and shared 1st - 4th place in Oberwart. He came second in the Chicago Open 2012 and also was participating in the World Cup, Baku 2015.

Ivan Ivanisevic started playing chess when he was 5 years old, while watching his grandfather and father play.

At the age of 10 he started working with IM Petar Smederevac, the coach of the national team of Yugoslavia. This is probably the real reason that he started playing professionally. Before he reached the age of 20 years old, he shared 1st place in the Championship of the former Yugoslavia.

In 1999 he won the title of a Grandmaster. Since 1998 he is a member of the national team and since 2007 continually playing on the first board. He was 4 times the Champion of Serbia.

His most known successes were: Saint Petersburg 2014, Skopje 2015, sharing 1st - 5th place in Dubai 2015, Bergamo 2014, the Bora Kostic Memorial 2006, Nora Gorica 2007, Kavala 2007, becoming the Balkan champion in 2011 and Kozlovely, the rapid championship of Danube 2012.

He was also participant in the World Cup in 2011.

Robert Markus also came from a chess family, his father being a correspondence chess player.

His father explained how the pieces were moving and provided all the needed basics.

He worked 4 years with his first and only coach, FM Jovan Geleta. In that time he became 3 times the champion of Yugoslavia in the junior categories. In 1999 he became an IM, and when reaching 20, he made his 3 GM norms within one year, making him to decide to become a chess professional.

He also played many times in the national team, but his biggest success was to qualify for the World Cup in 2007 and 2009. His highest rating, 2652, he obtained in July 2011.

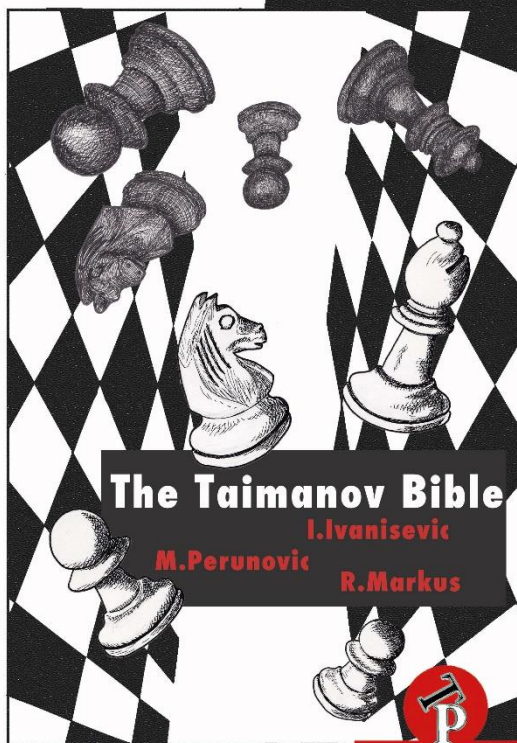


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## The Taimanov Bible

R. Markus • I. Ivanisevic • M. Perunovic



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# Preface

We have to admit that the idea of writing a book was planned for quite some time, but we hesitated to take that step. Why? In today's era of computers we receive daily a sea of information. It's difficult to write something that will have a lasting impact with an important theoretical value. However, the wish prevailed to display the genesis of the Taimanov that lasts for more than twenty years in our chess careers.

With great pride we can state that the majority of the experts of our Sicilian friend comes from Serbia, starting from the legendary Milan Matulovic to Slavoljub Marjanovic, Dusan Rajkovic, Branko Damljanovic, Igor Miladinovic... and this was surely an additional motivation to write this book.

We have tried to deliver a user-friendly style for all levels of the players. Nowadays, chess players are overwhelmed with piles of information and endless databases. It is very difficult to choose "your variations" and therefore this book will surely come as a great additional help.

In addition to the basic Taimanov ideas we had to keep, we followed in an original manner our two main concepts: 'almost never play an early ...d6' (Scheveningen style) and 'push ...h5 whenever you can' (Paulsen style).

We have tried to demonstrate the classic game for the type of positions that occurs in the Taimanov, in order to make our readers primarily able to familiarize themselves with the basic motifs and ideas of this Sicilian. When we believed the variations to be sharp and complicated, we have offered two possible continuations.

The latest fashion which we have to mention, did not even exist when we started to write our book, meaning the 7. ♔f3 line. Readers will have the choice between the peaceful 7... ♘d6 or 7... d6 where we head to a sharp Sicilian, true in its style.

In the famous English attack with '♘e3 – ♔d2 – 0-0-0', in addition to the well-known '...♘b4 and ...♞e5', our second proposal, on which we can safely state that we are most proud of, is liberally called the "Serbian variation" starting with ...♘b4 and ...0-0.

About the specific move order in reaching our Paulsen-Taimanov variation, there are two possibilities. The first possibility is to start with 2... e6 with 4... ♘c6, and the second one is revealed by 2... ♘c6 with 4... ♔c7.

We decided for the move order 2... ♘c6 and 4... ♔c7 because we all learned that way in the Paulsen-Taimanov variation and also for practical reasons.

Firstly, we avoided '5. ♘b5' which is resulting in the typical Hedgehog set-ups, and these positions are not to everyone's taste. Another reason is to keep in reserve the option of playing ...e5 at once or sometimes even ...g6 without touching the e-pawn.

This book is the result of twenty years of our work and playing the Taimanov altogether. We have played over 500 games in this variation and we desired to show all the beauty and richness of "our" variation.

We hope that our book will conjure all this and will help our readers into the labyrinths of our Taimanov Bible.

Ivan Ivanisevic, Milos Perunovic, Robert Markus  
February 2016

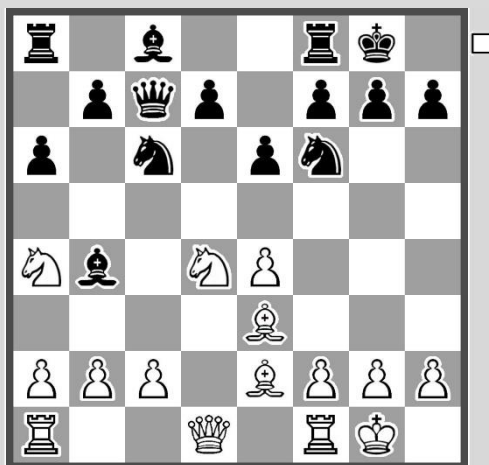


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## Chapter 13 – Classical system

### 6. ♖e2 (with 9. ♘a4 0-0)

1. e4 c5 2. ♘f3 ♘c6  
3. d4 cxd4 4. ♘xd4  
♙c7 5. ♘c3 e6 6. ♖e2  
a6 7. 0-0 ♘f6 8. ♖e3  
♖b4 9. ♘a4 0-0



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## Chapter 13 – Classical system 6. ♖e2

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## PART A – 10. ♖xc6 bxc6 11. f4 ♖b8

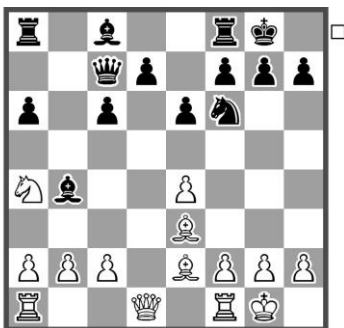
### 11. -- alternatives

1. e4 c5 2. ♘f3 ♘c6 3. d4 cxd4 4. ♘xd4 ♙c7 5. ♘c3 e6 6. ♙e2 a6 7. 0-0 ♘f6 8. ♙e3 ♙b4



Position after: 8... ♙b4

9. ♘a4 0-0 10. ♘xc6 bxc6



Position after: 10... bxc6

11. c4

11. ♙b6 ♙f4

(see analysis diagram next column)

Analysis diagram



Position after: 11... ♙f4

A) 12. ♙d3

B) 12. ♙f3!?

A) 12. ♙d3 ♙e7 transposes to 9... ♙e7 10. ♘c6 bxc6 11. ♙b6. (12... d5!? is also possible.)

B) 12. ♙f3!? Until now his move only occurred in computer games! 12... d5 13. g3 ♙b8 14. exd5 cxd5 15. c4 dxc4!? (see analysis diagram)

Analysis diagram



Position after: 15... dxc4

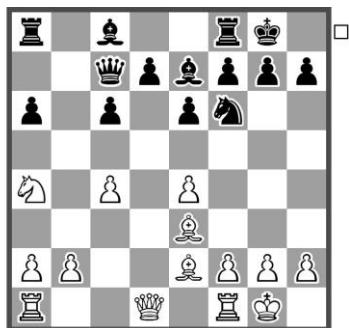
B1) 16. ♙c1 ♘d5 17. ♙d4 ♙b5 18. a3 ♙e7 19. ♙e2 ♙b7 20. ♙xc4 ♙fd8 21. ♙c2 ♘f6 22. ♙b6 (22. ♘c3 ♙e8!? Safest place for Queen at the moment! 23. ♙d1 a5=) 22... ♙d5 23. f3 ♙dc8=

## Chapter 13 – Classical system 6. ♖e2

**B2)** 16. ♖xa8 ♜xa8 17. ♜c1 e5 18. f3 (18. ♜xc4 ♖h3 19. f3 ♖xf1 20. ♔xf1 ♖e7!= Komodo 9.2 – Gull 3.00, 2015) 18... ♖e6! Δ 19. ♖c5 (19. ♖f2 e4 20. ♖b6 ♜b7 21. ♜d4 exf3 22. ♖xc4 ♖e4 23. ♜b6 ♜e7 etc... The black position looks powerful.) 19... ♜d8 20. ♜e2 ♜d2 21. ♜xe5 ♖h3 22. ♖xb4 ♖g4 23. ♜e4 ♜g2+ 24. ♖h1 ♜xh2+ 25. ♖g1 ♜g2+ 26. ♖h1 ♜h2+=

11... ♖e7

11... ♖xe4 12. c5 ♜e5 13. ♖b6 ♜b8 (13... ♖xc5 14. ♖xa8 ♖xe3 15. fxg3 ♜b8 16. ♖d3+) 14. ♖c4 ♜c7 15. ♖f3 ♖xc5 (15... ♖xc5 16. a3+) 16. ♖xe4 ♖xe3 17. ♖xe3±



Position after: 11... ♖e7

12. ♜c2

**A)** 12. c5 ♖xe4 13. ♖d3 ♖f6 14. ♖d4N White might have enough compensation to equalize. The game can continue like this (14. ♖b6 ♜b8 15. ♖c4 a5+ with the idea ...♖a6 and there is no compensation for the pawn.) 14... ♖d5 15. ♖b6 ♜b8 16. ♜e1 g6+ Preventing the famous "Horwitz Bishops". (It's not a good attempt to give

the exchange for 2 pawns with 16... ♖xb6 because White has the strong intermediate 17. ♖e5! ♜d8 18. ♖xb8 ♖d5 19. ♜c1±)

**B)** 12. ♖c3 c5 13. f4 ♖b7 14. ♖d3 ♜ad8 transposes to 11. f4.

12... c5 13. f4 d6 14. ♜ad1 ♖b7 15. ♖f3 ♜ad8



Position after: 15... ♜ad8

16. g4!?

**A)** 16. ♖c3 ♖d7 17. ♜f2 ♖f6 18. ♜d3 ♖xc3 19. ♜xc3 f5= (see analysis diagram)

Analysis diagram



Position after: 16... ♜fe8

**B)** 16. b3 ♜fe8=

This is the ideal set-up for Black in this kind of position. The Knight from f6 is heading

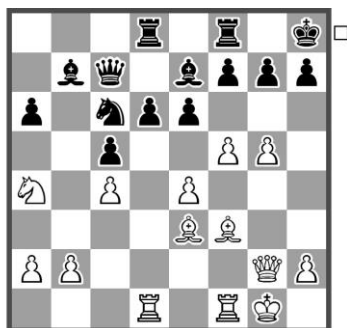
# The Taimanov Bible

for d7 and then depending how White plays he goes to b8 and c6 fighting for the d4 square, or to f8 and g6 where he is a very good defender.

16... ♖d7 17. g5 ♘b8!? 18. f5 ♘c6 19. ♔g2

19. ♙g2 f6!∞

19... ♔h8!



Position after: 19... ♔h8

20. e5

The only way to try to create problems.

20... dxe5 21. ♘xc5

21. ♖xd8 ♘xd8 22. ♙xb7 ♘xb7 23. fxe6 fxe6 24. ♖xf8+ ♙xf8=

21... ♖xd1 22. ♖xd1



Position after: 22. ♖xd1

22... exf5!?

22... ♙xc5 23. ♙xc5 ♖d8 24. ♖xd8+ ♘xd8 25. b4 exf5 26. ♙xb7 ♘xb7 27. ♔d5 ♙g8=

23. ♖d7 ♔a5 24. ♔f2 ♙a8 25. ♙xc6 ♙xc5!?

25... ♙xc6 26. ♖xe7 ♔d8 27. ♖xe5 ♔d1+ 28. ♔f1 ♔g4+ 29. ♔f2 ♔h4+ 30. ♔g1□=

26. ♙xa8 ♙xe3 27. ♔xe3 ♖xa8 28. ♖xf7 f4↗

(see diagram next column)

## Chapter 13 – Classical system 6. ♖e2

### 11. ♘b6 alternative

1. e4 c5 2. ♘f3 ♘c6 3. d4 cxd4 4. ♘xd4 ♙c7 5. ♘c3 e6 6. ♖e2 a6 7. 0-0 ♘f6 8. ♖e3 ♖b4 9. ♘a4 0-0 10. ♘xc6 bxc6 11. ♘b6 ♖b8 12. ♘xc8 ♖fxc8 13. ♖xa6



Position after: 13. ♖xa6

### 13... ♖f8

13... ♖d8 14. ♖d3 ♖d6 15. ♙h1 ♖e5 (15... ♖xb2 16. ♖d4 ♖b4 17. ♖xf6 gxf6 18. f4→) 16. c3 ♖xb2 17. ♙c1 ♘g4! (17... ♙b7?! 18. f4 followed by a4 and White is much better.) 18. f4 ♘xe3 19. ♙xb2 (19. fxe5 ♙b6→) 19... ♖xf4 (19... ♘xf1 20. fxe5 ♘e3 21. ♙e2±) 20. ♙f2 (20. ♖f3 ♘g4↗) 20... ♘xf1 21. ♖xf1 g5 (21... e5 22. g3 ♙d6 23. ♖e2 ♖g5 24. ♙xf7+ ♙h8 25. a4± (see analysis diagram)

Analysis diagram



Position after: 25. a4

like in the famous game Smejkal – Karpov 1973. After this game black players switched from 13... ♖d8 to 13... ♖f8 because it showed clearly the weakness of f7.) 22. g3 ♙d6 (22... ♖e5 23. ♙xf7+ ♙h8 24. ♙h5 ♙d6 25. ♖f7 ♖g7 26. ♙xg5±) 23. ♖e2 ♖e5 24. ♙xf7+ ♙h8 25. ♖d1 ♙c7 26. ♙e7± and it is obvious that White is slightly better without a clear path for Black to draw which was proven in many games.

### 14. ♖d3 ♖d6



Position after: 14... ♖d6

### 15. f4

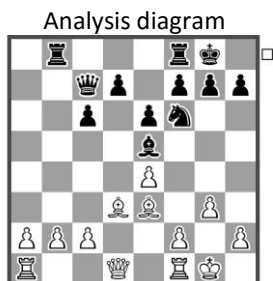
- A) 15. g3
- B) 15. ♙h1
- C) 15. g4

### A) 15. g3

- A1) 15... ♖e5
- A2) 15... ♖xb2

A1) 15... ♖e5 Previously this was considered to be the main line. We look into two lines:  
(see analysis diagram next page)

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Position after: 15... e5

**A1.1)** 16. a4

**A1.2)** 16. c3

**A1.1)** 16. a4 e5xb2 17. e1a2 (see analysis diagram)



Position after: 17. e1a2

**A1.1a)** 17... d5

**A1.1b)** 17... e5c3

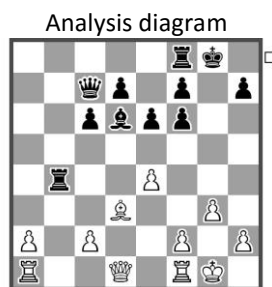
**A1.1a)** 17... d5 18. exd5 e5xd5 19. e5d2 g6 (19... e5c3? 20. e5xh7+ e5xh7 21. e5xc3 e5xc3 22. e5d3+ e5g8 23. e5xc3+; 19... e5f6 20. a5 e5fd8 21. a6 e5c3 22. e5xc3 e5xc3 23. e5f3+ Nisipeanu – De La Riva, Esp(ch) Honor 2006.) 20. a5+

**A1.1b)** 17... e5c3 18. e5d2 (18. e5f4 d6 19. a5 e5xa5 20. e5xd6 e5xd6 21. e5xa5 c5 is about equal.) 18... e5xd2

19. e5xd2 c5! 20. e5e1 (20. c4 e5b4 21. a5 e5a8 22. a6 e5b6 23. e5fa1 e5a7= The white Bishop cannot participate in actions on the queen-side...) 20... c4 21. e5f1 c3 22. e5d4 (22. e5d3 e5a5 23. e5aa1 e5b2 24. e5e5 d5 25. e5g2 is around equal.) 22... e5a5 23. e5e5 d5=

**A1.2)** 16. c3 e5xb2 17. e5c1 e5b7 18. a4!?N e5g4 19. e5d2 e5d6!? 20. e5e2 (20. a5 e5c5 21. e5e2 f5+ 20... e5f6 21. e5f3 e5b8 22. a5 e5a6 23. e5e1+ Somehow in both lines 16. c3 and 16. a4 White is the only one who is playing for something...

**A2)** 15... e5xb2 This move allows White a perpetual check, but probably nothing more than that. 16. e5d4 e5b4 17. e5xf6 (17. c3 e5b2=) 17... gxf6 (see analysis diagram)



Position after: 17... gxf6

**A2.1)** 18. c3

**A2.2)** 18. e5g4+

**A2.3)** 18. e5h5N

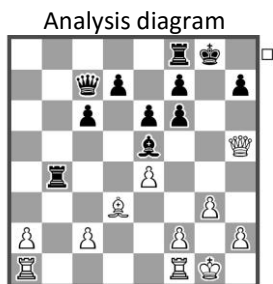
**A2.1)** 18. c3 e5b2 19. e5e5 e5xe5 20. e5xh7+ e5xh7 (20... e5g7 21. e5g4+

## Chapter 13 – Classical system 6. ♖e2

♙xh7 22. ♖h5+ ♙g7 23. ♖g4+=) 21.  
♖h5+ ♙g7 22. ♖g4+=

**A2.2)** 18. ♖g4+ ♙h8 19. ♖h4 ♙e7!?  
(19... ♙e5 20. ♖ab1 ♖fb8 21. ♖xb4  
♖xb4 22. f4 ♙d4+ 23. ♙g2 c5 24. e5 f5  
25. ♖e7 already looks dangerous as  
was demonstrated in some computer  
games...) 20. a4 ♖a5 21. ♙g2 (21. c4  
♖e5! ♖ The Bishop goes to c5 and the  
Rook will enter on b2.) 21... ♖xa4 22.  
c4!? ♖xa1 23. e5 f5 24. ♖xe7 ♖g8 25.  
♖f6+ ♖g7 26. ♖xa1 ♖xa1 27. ♖d8+  
♖g8 28. ♖f6+ ♖g7 29. ♖d8+ ½-½  
Deep Rybka 4 – Deep Rybka 4, 3min  
Internet (blitz) 2010

**A2.3)** 18. ♖h5N ♙e5 (see analysis  
diagram)



Position after: 18... ♙e5

**A2.3a)** 19. ♖ae1 c5 20. f4 ♙d4+ 21.  
♙h1 ♖b7±

**A2.3b)** 19. c3 ♖b2 20. f4 ♙xc3 21.  
e5 ♙d4+ 22. ♙h1 f5 23. ♖g5+ ♙h8  
24. ♖f6+ ♙g8 25. ♖g5+ (25. g4 c5  
and because of the mating threat  
White must give perpetual check.)  
25... ♙h8 26. ♖f6+=

**A2.3c)** 19. ♖ab1 ♖xb1 20. ♖xb1  
♖b8 21. ♖d1 (21. ♖xb8+ ♖xb8 22.  
♙g2 ♖b4 23. f4 ♙d4=) 21... ♙d4 22.  
♖h6 ♖e5 23. ♙g2 ♖g5=

**B)** 15. ♙h1 ♙e5 16. c3 ♖xb2 17. ♖c1  
♙g4 18. f4 ♙xe3 19. ♖xb2 ♙xf4 Because  
the Rook is now on f8, f7 is well protected.  
20. ♖f3 ♙g4 21. g3 ♙g5↑ Being the  
exchange down Black is out of danger. His  
King is much safer than White's, he holds  
the dark squares and his pieces are well  
coordinated.

**C)** 15. g4 ♙xh2+ 16. ♙g2 ♙f4 17. g5  
♙xe3 18. fxe3 (18. gxf6 ♙d4 19. fxe3  
♙xg7±) 18... ♙e8

**C1)** 19. ♖g4 was played in Kasimdzhanov  
– Tregubov, Corsican Masters 2006. 19...  
♖e5 (19... ♖xb2 comes into  
consideration. 20. ♖h1 ♖e5 21. ♖h4 f6  
22. ♖xh7+ ♙f7± The King is safe in the  
centre.) 20. ♖h1 f6 21. g6 h6±

**C2)** 19. ♖h5 g6 20. ♖h6 ♖e5 21. ♖h1  
♖g7= ...f6 is the next move.

15... e5



Position after: 15... e5

# The Taimanov Bible

## 16. f5

16. b3 exf4 17. ♖d4 f3 18. e5 ♘g4 (18... ♙xe5 19. ♙xe5 f2+ 20. ♖xf2 ♙xe5 21. ♖f1 It seems like Black is OK but it is not easy to find a good follow up. White will push a-pawn to a6 and then he will go for the endgame. Black needs to find an improvement on the game Perunovic M – Ivanisevic I, Kopaonik 2005.) 19. ♙xf3 ♘xe5 20. ♙g3 g6 Here White cannot use the bishop pair advantage. The position is semi-closed and White cannot push his a-pawn that easy like in the previous line.

## 16... ♖xb2 17. g4 h6

17... ♙a5 18. g5 ♙c5 19. gxf6 ♙xe3+ 20. ♙h1↑ We do not like this position because Black needs to play a lot of only moves while White can fight for an advantage in several ways. If statistics show anything its 8-2 for White! Here a game illustrating how Black should not play: 20... gxf6 21. ♙g4+ ♙h8 22. ♖g1 ♙g5 23. h4 ♙h6 24. ♖g3 ♙d2 25. ♖ag1 ♖bb8 26. ♙c4 d5 27. exd5 cxd5 28. ♖3g2 ♙a5 29. ♙b3 ♙c5 30. ♙h5 ♙e3? (see analysis diagram)



(30... ♙e3 31. ♙xd5 ♙h3+ 32. ♖h2 ♙e3=) 31. ♖g7! h6 32. ♖1g5! 1-0 (32) Papaioannou I – Kveinys A, Plovdiv 2003. Just one mistake by Black was enough for the defeat. 17... ♙a5 is very risky although the computer evaluation is equal. That's why we think that 17... h6 is the better move.



Position after: 17... h6

## 18. h4

18. g5 hxg5 19. ♙xg5 ♙e7 20. ♙h1N (20. ♖f3 d5 21. ♖h3 ♖fb8↑) 20... d5 (see analysis diagram)

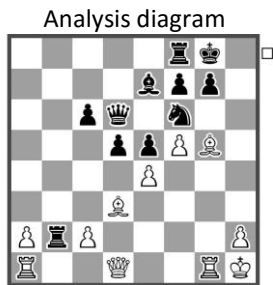


- A) 21. ♙h6
- B) 21. ♖g1

## Chapter 13 – Classical system 6. ♖e2

**A)** 21. ♖h6 ♗d6 22. ♖xg7? (22. ♖g1 transposes to 21. ♖g1.) 22... ♔xg7 23. ♖g1+ ♔h8 24. ♗c1 ♘xe4 25. ♖xe4 ♖fb8 (25... ♖b4?? 26. ♖g6+) 26. ♖g3 ♗f6

**B)** 21. ♖g1 ♗d6 (see analysis diagram)



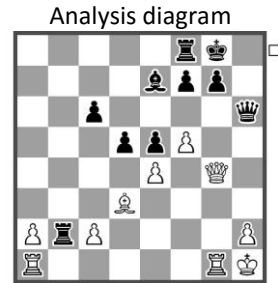
Position after: 21... ♗d6

**B1)** 22. ♗f3

**B2)** 22. ♖h6

**B1)** 22. ♗f3 ♖a8 23. a4 dxe4 24. ♗g2 ♖f8 25. ♖c4 (25. ♖xf6 ♗xf6 26. ♖xe4 ♖c5 27. ♖gd1 ♖b6=) 25... ♖b4 26. ♖xf6 (26. ♖b3 c5 27. ♖h6 ♘e8 28. ♖d2 ♖d4 29. ♖e3 ♖b4 30. ♖d2=) 26... ♗xf6 27. ♗xe4 ♖bxa4 28. ♖xa4 ♖xa4 29. ♖xf7+ ♗xf7 30. ♗xa4 ♗d5+ 31. ♖g2 ♗d1+ 32. ♖g1 ♗f3+ 33. ♖g2 ♗f1+=

**B2)** 22. ♖h6 ♘g4! 23. ♗xg4 ♗xh6



Position after: 23... ♗xh6

**B2.1)** 24. a4 ♖c5 25. ♖ge1 dxe4 (25... ♖a8 is also possible.) 26. ♖xe4 (26. ♖xe4 ♖d8) 26... ♖fb8

**B2.2)** 24. ♖g3 ♖fb8 25. a4 (25. ♖ag1 ♖f6 26. a4 ♖2b4 27. a5 dxe4 28. ♖xe4 ♖a4 and Black stops the dangerous a-pawn.) 25... ♖b1+ 26. ♖g1 ♖xg1+ 27. ♖xg1 (27. ♗xg1 dxe4 28. ♖xe4 ♖b4) 27... ♖a8 28. ♖a1 ♖d8 29. ♗g2 ♖c7 Δ 30. exd5? cxd5 31. ♗xd5? e4 32. ♗xa8+ ♔h7+

**18... ♘d5!**



Position after: 18... ♘d5

(see analysis diagram next column)

Not new, it is all well-known! After White accepts the sacrifice there are several



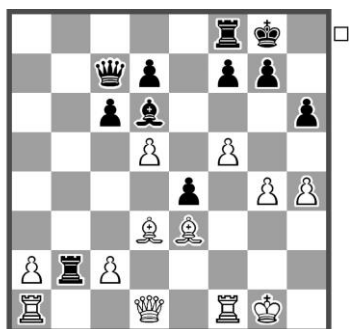
# The Taimanov Bible

variations that end into a draw, for example...

**19. exd5**

19. ♖c1 ♜b6+ 20. ♔g2 ♞e3+ 21. ♙xe3 ♜xe3=

**19... e4**



Position after: 19... e4

**20. ♙c1**

**A)** 20. ♙e2 ♙c5! 21. ♙xc5 ♜g3+ 22. ♔h1 ♜h3+ 23. ♔g1 ♜g3+ 24. ♔h1=

**B)** 20. ♙xe4 ♜e8 21. ♜d3 cxd5 22. ♜xd5 ♜b4 23. c4 ♜xc4 24. ♜fc1 ♜xe4 25. ♜xe4 ♜xe4 26. ♜xc7 ♙xc7 27. ♔f2 ♜xg4±

**C)** 20. ♜c1 ♜fb8! (20... exd3 21. ♜xb2 ♙a3! with a draw.) 21. ♙xe4 (21. ♙e2 cxd5 22. ♙d1 ♙a3 23. ♔g2 ♜xa2 24. ♜xa3 ♜xa3 25. ♜xa3 ♜c4±) 21... cxd5 22. ♙d3 ♜b4→

**20... cxd5!N**



Position after: 20... cxd5

20... exd3 21. ♙xb2 ♜b6+ 22. ♔h1 ♜xb2 23. ♜xd3 ♜a8 is also playable.

**21. ♙xb2**

21. ♙xe4 ♜b4 (see analysis diagram)

Analysis diagram



Position after: 21... ♜b4

**A)** 22. ♜xd5

**B)** 22. ♙f3

**A)** 22. ♜xd5 ♜e8

**A1)** 23. ♜e1 ♙c5+ 24. ♔g2 (24. ♔f1 ♜d4→) 24... ♙g1! (Δ... ♜h2+) 25. ♔xg1 ♜xe4 26. ♜xe4 ♜g3+ 27. ♔h1 ♜f3+ 28. ♔g1 (28. ♔h2 ♜xe4→) 28... ♜xe4→