Archduke Franz-Ferdinand was heir to the throne of Austria. On 28 June 1914 the Archduke and his wife, Sophie, paid a state visit to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia.

Focus on

Gavrilo Princip and the Black Hand Movement

Gavrilo Princip was only 20 years of age when he killed the Archduke. Princip was a printer, born in Herzegovina, whose real name was Nedjeliko Gabrinovitch. He was a member of the Black Hand, a secret society in Serbia. The Black Hand was organised by Colonel Dimitrievitch. Its aim was to unite all Serbs, including those of the Austrian empire, into an enlarged Serbia. It would achieve this through a campaign of violence. Dimitrievitch had trained some of its members to carry out the murder in Sarajevo. Waiting for Franz-Ferdinand were six young men armed with pistols and guns supplied by the Black Hand.



