




# Presentation about Nicolaus Copernicus



An aerial photograph of Toruń, Poland, showing the city's architecture and the Frombork Cathedral. The image is split vertically, with the left half in dark grey and the right half in a lighter, natural color. The city features a dense cluster of buildings with red-tiled roofs, a prominent cathedral with a tall spire, and a large green field in the foreground. A road and a river are visible in the lower right corner.

Where was he born and when did he die?

**Nicolaus Copernicus**, Polish **Mikołaj Kopernik** was born on February 19, 1473 in Toruń (*Thorn*) and died May 24, 1543, Frombork. The cause of his death was probably a stroke. He was buried in the Frombork Cathedral.  
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# What did Copernicus study and do

He studied in Krakow, where he became interested in astronomy. Then he studied law and medicine in Italy, in Bologna and Padua, and obtained a doctorate in canon law at the University of Ferrara.

Nicolaus Copernicus was not only a scientist who devoted many years to research in his laboratory in Frombork. He dealt with among others mathematics, medicine, economics, cartography and canon law. He knew Greek and Latin.

*PL) devoted - poświęcić*



## Copernicus family

- **Mother Barbara** (*from home Watzenrode*) - she came from a wealthy middle-class family, very stable in Toruń.
- **Father Mikołaj** - he came from the village of Koperniki, which belonged to his family. He was the **merchant** first in Kraków, and then in Toruń, where he settled in 1458.
- **Brother Andrzej** – brother was born around 1465. He studied at the Krakow Academy together with Nicolaus in the years 1491-1495. He then studied in Bologna in 1498.
- **Sister Barbara** – was born as the second child of Barbara and Nicolaus Copernicus. She joined the Cistercian order in Chełmno and died after 1517.
- **Sister Katarzyna** – She was born in 1471. She was the only one of her siblings to give birth to five children.

PL) *merchant - kupiec*





# Family life

Nicolaus came from a merchant family. His father - also Mikołaj - came from Kraków (*Mikołaj Kopernik's father*). In Toruń he married Barbara Watzenrode. The Copernicus family had four children: Andrzej, Barbara, Katarzyna and the youngest, Mikołaj

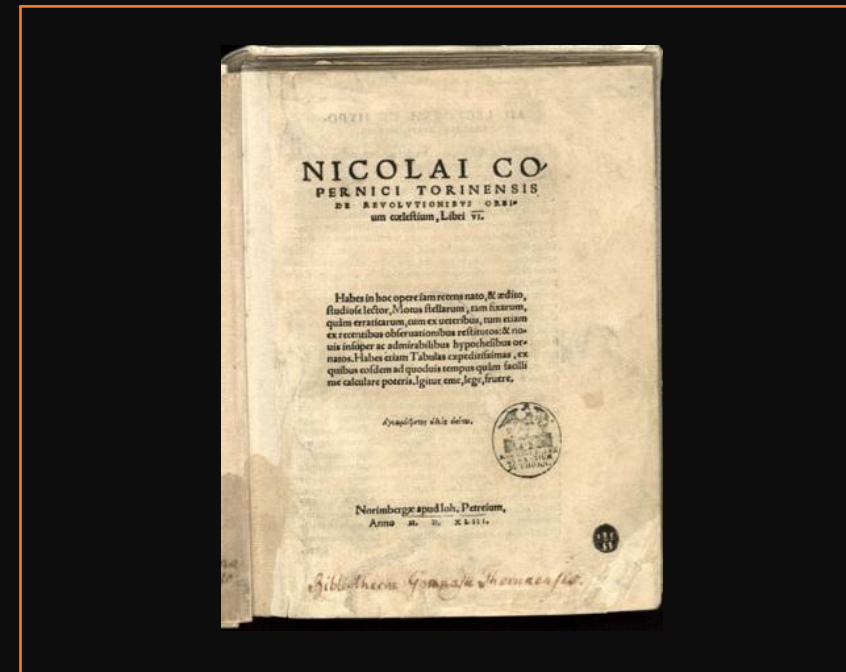
Young Nicolaus spent his childhood and youth in Toruń. The future astronomer was formed in this city. The death of his father in 1483, who had financial problems at the end of his life, affected the family. At that time, his uncle (*mother's brother*), **Lucas Watzenrode** (*who was a bishop*), took care of her and Nicolaus.

# Of the Revolutions of Heavenly Spheres.

It is not known exactly how long it took Copernicus to write his greatest work, "De Revolutionibus orbium coelestium" (*On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres*). The work was hidden for many years. When his book was made available in **1543**, it introduced the heliocentric theory, which proved that the earth revolves around the sun and not the other way around.

The work was published in Nuremberg in the last days of Copernicus' life, who probably did not have time to see it in print or saw it on his deathbed. Unfortunately, he never received the Nobel Prize. The church approved this theory in XVIII.

*PL) revolves - kręci się*





## Nicolaus as a canon

Being an astronomer was a passion for Copernicus. In fact, he spent a lot of time in Warmia, where he was a canon. He was not a priest, but since he belonged to the clergy, he received part of his income for this reason

*PL) clergy – duchowny ( w tym przypadku znaczy duchowieństwo)*



# Housewife or lover?

Interestingly, Copernicus probably had a lover, although he was still a canon at that time. It was the housewife **Anna**. Some people said she was his lover but the others states she was not , but who knows?







# Copernicus Monument

The Nicolaus Copernicus Monument in Warsaw is one of the Polish capital's notable landmarks. It stands before the Staszic Palace, the seat of the Polish Academy of Sciences on *Krakowskie Przedmieście*. Designed by Bertel Thorvaldsen in 1822, it was completed in **1830**.



# Commemoration of Copernicus



Many places are named after Copernicus, such as schools, airports, various research centres, etc., including our school, but not only. A school in our area in Cieksyn, confectionery factory in Toruń or Wrocław - Strachowice airport was also named after him.

*PL) Commemoration - Upamiętnienie*

*Various research centres - różne ośrodki naukowe*

*Confectionery - słodycze*

# Copernicus Banknote?

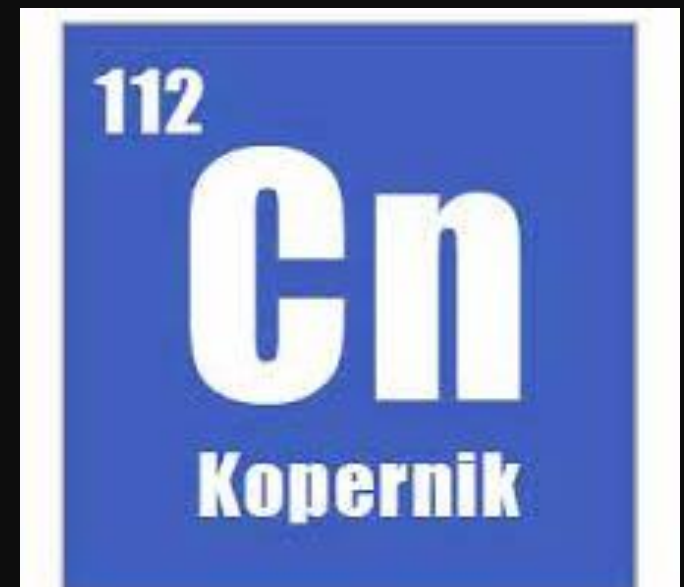


Interestingly, in **1965** a banknote with a picture of Copernicus appeared. This money was used until the end of 1978. In addition, there were many banknotes and coins with his image and this was one of them.

## A chemical element and a crater called Copernicus

One of the most important and striking craters on the Moon, which has been named Copernicus, is located in Oceanus Procellarum, just northwest of the center. It is quite a characteristic crater so it is easy to recognize.

Not only crater is called after Copernicus but also a chemical element (*Copernicium*). It was created in 1996 and interestingly, it was previously called "ununbium" (*Uub*).





## Attempting to recreate the visualization

- In 2005, the remains of Nicolaus Copernicus were found in the Frombork cathedral. Based on the skull, specialists reconstructed the astronomer's probable appearance at the age of 70. The computer visualization turned out to be comparable to his image on the so-called Toruń's portrait of Copernicus. The skull found, mainly the nose, was deformed. Preserved portraits indicate that Copernicus had a slightly deformed left side of his face and a broken nose. Researchers assume that he may have had an accident between the ages of 7 and 12.





Thank you for your  
attention

**Oskar Kowalski**