

UPSIDE DOWN CHRISTMAS TREE

IN THE 7TH CENTURY ST. BONIFACE, AN ENGLISH MONK, WENT TO GERMANY TO TEACH THE WORD OF GOD. HE DID MANY GOOD WORKS THERE, AND SPENT MUCH TIME IN THURINGIA, AN AREA WHICH WAS TO BECOME THE CRADLE OF THE CHRISTMAS DECORATION INDUSTRY.



LEGEND HAS IT THAT HE USED THE TRIANGULAR SHAPE OF THE FIR TREE TO DESCRIBE THE HOLY TRINITY OF GOD THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT. THE CONVERTED PEOPLE BEGAN TO REVERE THE FIR TREE AS GOD'S TREE, AS THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY REVERED THE OAK. BY THE 12TH CENTURY IT WAS BEING HUNG, UPSIDE-DOWN, FROM CEILINGS AT CHRISTMASTIME IN CENTRAL EUROPE, AS A SYMBOL OF CHRISTIANITY.

