

SOFIA KOVALEVSKAYA: NIHILIST GIRL

MATHSJAM V

Nicholas Jackson

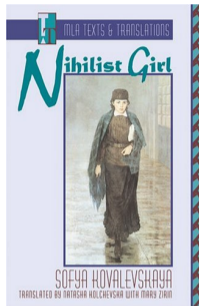
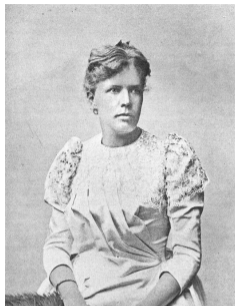
November 2014

SOFIA KOVALEVSKAYA (1850–1891)



- Born Sofia Vasilyevna Korvin-Krukovskaya in Moscow on 15 January 1850, second of three children (Aniuta, Sofia and Fyodor).
- Married a young palæontologist called Vladimir Kovalevsky (1842–1883).
- First woman to be awarded a doctorate in mathematics (Göttingen 1874).
- First woman to hold a permanent chair at a Scandinavian university (Stockholm 1889).
- Died of influenza and pneumonia on 10 February 1891.
- The only woman in *Men of Mathematics* by E T Bell (1937)

LATER CAREER



- 1878: Daughter Sofia Vladimirovna ('Fufa') born.
- 1883: Vladimir commits suicide.
- 1884: Appointed to five-year professorship at Stockholm.
- 1886: Awarded the Prix Bordin of the Academie des Sciences.
- 1888: *The Struggle for Happiness*, cowritten with Anne Charlotte Edgren-Leffler.
- 1889: Appointed to permanent chair at Stockholm.

15 January 2015



Sofia Kovalevskaya's 164th Birthday

