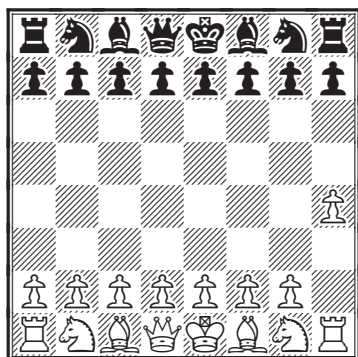


KADAS OPENING



1.h4

The Hungarian player **Kadas** has the dubious distinction of being perhaps the greatest living exponent of 1.h4, a move even Myers, a true fan of bizarre openings, considers poor. It isn't as bad as 1.g4, of course, since it does not create such critical weaknesses in the kingside pawn structure. The opening is also known as the **Desprez Opening**, or, among some Americans, as the **Reagan Attack**, which has something to do with being "thoroughly unmotivated and creates weaknesses with only vague promises of future potential", as Benjamin and I put it in 1987.

From Black's point of view, moves such as 1...b6 point out the irrelevancy of White's move, while 1...g6 makes it easier to justify White's opening by inviting an attack along the h-file.

EXAMPLES AND DISCUSSION

1...c5. 1...d5; 2.d4 c5; 3.e4 dxe4; 4.d5 Nf6; 5.Nc3 was played by Myers. 5...a6! (5...e5; 6.Bg5 h6 allowed White to obtain the advantage in Myers - Vano, Chicago 1972.)

a) 6.a4 Nbd7 and Black is better, according to analysis by Joel Benjamin: 7.Be3 (7.Bg5 h6; 8.Bxf6 Nxf6; 9.Bc4 Bg4; 10.Qd2 g6! and Black will complete development quickly and keep working against the weakness at d5.) 7...Nb6; 8.Bxc5 Nbx5

b) 6.Be3; 6...e6; 7.dxe6 Qxd1+; 8.Rxd1 Bxe6 is an Albin Countergambit reversed, but one which is better for Black, because of the rapid and harmonious development combined with the fact that Black will be able to make use of the g4 square for a minor piece.

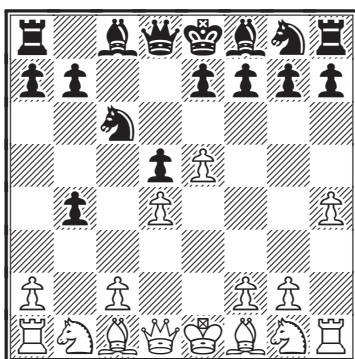
The recommended 1...b6 was actually seen in what might have been the debut of the opening. 2.e4 Bb7; 3.Nc3 e6; 4.d4 h6 (4...Bb4 would have put more pressure on White's center, and Black is at least equal.) 5.Nf3 Nf6; 6.Bd3 d5; 7.e5 Ne4; 8.Qe2 Bb4; 9.Bd2 Bxc3; 10.Bxc3 Nd7; 11.Bxe4 dxe4; 12.Nd2 c5; 13.Nxe4 and White's position was not at all bad in Ledesma – Herrera, Uruguayan Championship 1928.

1...e5; 2.Nc3 Be7; 3.e4 Bxh4 is very greedy play by Black, and sometimes this gets punished. 4.Bc4 Be7; 5.Qh5 g6; 6.Qxe5 Nf6; 7.Nd5 0-0; 8.Nxe7+ Black resigned, Welling – Ten Haaf, Eindhoven blitz 1981. Kadas has tried 2.d4, not without success, but it really is rather loopy and relies on the inability of Black to play defensively.

2.b4 cxb4. Although in the 20th century it is not obligatory to accept gambits, it would be silly to decline this one, as the advance of the h-pawn has no relevance so White is effectively playing a tempo down. **3.e4 d5.**

3...e6; 4.d4 d5; 5.e5 Nc6; 6.a3 Qa5; 7.Nf3 Bd7; 8.Bd3 bxa3+; 9.Bd2 Qb6; 10.c3 f6; 11.Nxa3 fxe5; 12.dxe5 Bc5; 13.Rb1 Qc7; 14.Nb5 Qb8; 15.Bf4 a6; 16.Nbd4 Nge7 Kadas – Stojnqvics, Hungary 1987.

4.e5 Nc6; 5.d4.



White has no pieces developed, and Black can even afford to use the queen immediately, for example 5...Qa5. Or Black can put pressure on the center:

5...Qb6; 6.Be3 h5; 7.a3 Bf5; 8.Nf3 e6; 9.axb4 Bxb4+; 10.c3 Ba5; 11.Bd3 Nge7; 12.0-0 Bxd3; 13.Qxd3 Nf5; 14.Nbd2 Qd8; 15.Bg5 Qd7; 16.Nb3 Bb6; 17.Nc1 Bd8; 18.g3 Bxg5; 19.hxg5 g6. White has no compensation for Black's extra queenside pawns, Kadas – Vign, Tapolca 1986.