



INTRODUCING THE...

BENONI &
FRENCH
DEFENCES

Two 30 minute talks by

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GAMES FOR " BASIC PRINCIPLES IN THE FRENCH DEFENCE"

In this game black fails to successfully attack the white centre, and the disadvantages of his position become apparent.

PORTISCH - TAL, 1961:-

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Ndf3 Qb6 8 g3 cd: 9 cd: f6 10 Bh3 fe: 11 fe: Bb4+ 12 Kf1 Nf8 13 Ne2 Ng6 14 Kg2 0-0 15 Bg4 (Although it looks as though black has the initiative, he has not managed to challenge the white centre. White now prepares the advance of the h-pawn - a very common device, to create weaknesses in the black k-side, as it is short of defensive pieces.) Bd7 16 h4 Ba5 17 Rb1 Qb5 18 h5 Nge7 19 h6 g6 20 Bg5 Nf5 21 Bf5: Rf5: 22 g4 Rf3: (If the rook retreats, then Bf6 & g5, and black will suffocate) 23 Kf3: Bb6 24 Kg3 Rf8 25 Qd2 Bc7 26 Bf4 Be8 27 Rhf1 Bb6 28 Rf2 Nb4 29 Rbfl Nd3 30 Rf3 Qb2: 31 Qd3: Bb5 32 Bg5 Rf5 33 Qc3 1-0.

In the following game, black succeeds in undermining the white centre:-

GOVEDARICA - ULHMANN, URBAS 1977:-

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Ne2 Qb6 8 Nf3 cd: 9 cd: f6 10 ef: Nf6: 11 0-0 Bd6 12 a3 0-0 13 b4? (A careless move allowing black to break out) e5 14 de: Ne5: 15 Ne5: Be5: 16 Ra2 Ng4 17 Ng3 Bd4 18 Nh1 Bd7 19 h3 Ne5 20 Be2 Bc3 (preparing to exploit his advantage by advancing the d-pawn) 21 Qb3 Rac8 22 Rc2 Be6 23 Bd2 d4 24 Qa4 Bd2: 25 Rd2: d3 26 Bg4 Bg4: 27 hg: Rc3 28 Ng3 Ng4: 29 Qd7 Nf6 30 Qf5 Rd8 31 Rel Ra3 32 Re6 Qb4: 33 Rd1 Qg4 and black w n 0-1,41

An example of successful black strategy of exchanging his bad white square bishop:-

SMITH

JOHANSEN, SOUTHPORT 1983

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e5 b6 5 Qg4 Bf8 6 a4 a5 7 Nf3 Qd7 8 Bd2 Ne7 9 Bd3 Ba6 10 Ba6: Na6: 11 0-0 c6 12 Nd1 c5 13 c4 cd: 14 Nd4: Ng6 15 cd: Qd5: 16 Nc3 Qb7 17 Nf3 Be7 (The opening has been a success for black as the white e-pawn is somewhat exposed and white lacks compensating spatial advantage) 18 h4 h5 19 Qg3 Nc5 20 Bg5 0-0 21 Be7 Qe7 22 Ng5 Ne5 23 Qe5 f6 24 Qe3 fg: 25 hg: Rf5. (Now black takes the initiative) 26 f4 Raf8 27 Ne2 e5 28 g3 Qf7 29 Rf2 h4 30 gh: Qh5 31 Qh3 ef: 32 Rf3 Qe8 33 Qg2 Nd3 34 Raf1 Qe4 35 Kh1 Ne5 36 Nc3 Qc4 0-1

However, exchanging the light-squared bishops, is a time consuming manouvre, and s metimes backfires...

SAX - SHORT, LONDON 80.

1e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 b6 4 Nf3 Qd7 5 c4 Ne7 6 Nc3 Bb7 7 Be2 Nbc6
8 0-0 dc: 9 Bc4: (Although black has not yet exchanged the bishops,
he has an excellent diagonal and an outpost on d5, but his develop-
ment lags) Na5 10 Bb5 Bc6 11 Bd3 Nd5 12 Bd2 Be7 13 Ne4 Bb4 14 Rcl
Bb5 15 Bb4: Bd3: 16 Qd3: Nb4: 17 Qd2 Nd5 18 Qg5 Kf8 19 Nc3 Rc8 20
Nd5: Qd5: 21 Rc3 h6 22 Qcl c6 23 b4 Nb7 24 Qa3 Ra8 25 Rc6: (black
still has his nice d5 square, but that is the only thing he can be
proud of. White has capitalised on hes extra activity) 25...g5 26 b5+
Kg7 27 Qe7 and white won 1-0, 34.