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Byzantine Influences on Bulgarian Medieval Culture

Bulgaria, a neighbour of Byzantium, though related to the empire in respect of its religion, culture, and sometimes even transformed into a Byzantine province, never turned into its integral part nor copy or emulator.

It cannot be doubted that it was the Church thanks to which the spirit of Byzantium most profoundly penetrated into the way the medieval Bulgarians thought and acted. From the mid. IX c. onwards, the Bulgarian Church was dominated by its Byzantine ecclesiastic counterpart, whose major centers (Constantinople, Thessaloniki and Mount Athos) exercised spiritual guidance over the subjects of Bulgarian rulers. Christianization and gradual Slavization of the Bulgarian state introduced Bulgaria into Christian and European cultural universalism.

However, it should be also remembered that the same process also settled Bulgaria comfortably within the borders of the Byzantine commonwealth. These were the court of the ruler and subsequent capital centers of the Bulgarian state which were especially prone to follow in the footsteps of the Byzantines and to be affected by Byzantine influences. However, medieval Bulgaria adopted the Byzantine model of government and culture only partially and remodeled it to suit its own, i.e. Bulgarian, interests. Moreover, it was Bulgaria which made the Byzantine model known to Slavic orthodoxy (Serbian and Russian), the Vlachs and the Moldavians, thereby widening the spatial scope of Byzantine impact.

ZBIGNIEW ANUSIK

The Latifundium of Princes' Zbaraski Family in the 16th and 17th Century

The article is about the process of establishing the latifundia of one of the richest magnates' family in the history of Polish Noble Republic in the 16th and 17th century. The princes' Zbaraski traced their origin back to Fedor prince Nieświski. Their patrimony was the southern part of province of Wołyń. Here in the Krzemieniec County they had their families' estates. Four sons of Andrzej prince Zbaraski and Hanna Herburt originated four branches of the family. The second son of the mentioned couple, Stefan prince Zbaraski (d. 1585), voivod of Troki, thanks to three profitable marriages and his own cunningness established the great latifundia which were composed of 7 towns and about 175 villages at Wołyń and Lithuania. However, he did not have sons and all estates of voivod of Troki inherited his unique daughter, Barbara, who married count Gabriel Tęczyński in 1602. The third son of Andrzej prince Zbaraski, prince Jerzy (d. 1580), was the owner of landed estates at Wołyń and Lithuania. He was married twice. His latifundia consisted of 50–60 villages. After his death his estates were inherited by his two living brothers and nephew (Wołyń estates) and two daughters from the first marriage (Lithuanian estates). The youngest son of Andrzej prince Zbaraski, prince Władysław (d. 1581/1582), was also the poorest of all brothers. His estates consisted of about 30 villages at Wołyń and a few villages at Kijów voivodship. His landed estates were inherited by three of his sons, prince Piotr (d. 1604), prince Konstanty (d. 1592) and prince Stefan (d. 1605). Only the eldest of them, Piotr prince Zbaraski, enlarged his estates thanks to the profitable marriage with Ewa princess Wiśniowiecki. Because of their fortunes all sons of prince Władysław belonged to the rich nobility rather than to the magnates. All of them died childless.

The greatest career regarding politics and fortune fell to the descendents of the eldest son of Andrzej prince Zbaraski and Hanna Herburt, prince Mikołaj (d. 1574), starost of Rzemieniec. His only son, Janusz (d. 1608), voivod of Braclaw, married the rich heiress of landed estates

in Braclaw voivodship, Anna princess Czetwertyński. He was a very good husbandman who providently enlarged his fortune. During three decades he built the great latifundia in three voivodships: Wołyń, Braclaw and Kijów. The huge fortune of Janusz prince Zbaraski consisted before his death of about 200 towns and villages. Two sons of prince Janusz, prince Jerzy (d. 1631) and prince Krzysztof (d. 1627), belonged to the exclusive group of the richest Crown magnates. Both of them played a great political role during the reign of Zygmunt III Waza. After death of the younger brother, the only heir of the huge family landed estates was Jerzy prince Zbaraski, castellan of Krakow. During the years 1613–1631 he bought a few landed estates in Krakow voivodship (2 towns and about 40 villages). When he died, he left the latifundia which consisted of 49 towns and about 330 villages. Because of his fortune the castellan of Krakow was the second Crown magnate of his times (richer was only Władysław Dominik prince Zasławski). Jerzy prince Zbaraski died childless as the last male descendent of famous princes' Zbaraski family. After his death the huge latifundia of Zbaraski family were divided between the families of princes' Wiśniowiecki and Warszycki. A little part of the castellan of Krakow legacy was also obtained by the family of princes' Czetwertyński.

WITOLD FILIPCZAK

The Royalist Party in the Kiev Voivodeship 1780–1782

The article discusses the course of sejmik campaigns in the Kiev voivodeship from 1780 to 1782. It shows the activities of the royalist party led by Castellan of Kiev, Józef Stempkowski, who completely controlled the progress of deputational and pre-sejm sejmiks in Zhytomyr (Żytomierz was the city where sejmiks assembled in the Kiev voivodeship) in 1780. The journey to Ukraine made by King Stanislaw August Poniatowski in 1781 was supposed to strengthen the position of local royalists. Yet the influence of the opposition became noticeable in 1782. Its leader Great Crown Hetman Franciszek Ksawery Branicki may have capitalized on his marriage (in 1781) to Aleksandra Engelhardt, a natural daughter of Empress Catherine II. The results of voting on particular issues during the Sejm of 1782 make it possible to discuss the political views of the Kiev envoys. Analyzing the course of the sejmiks from 1780 to 1782 and of the electoral sejmik in 1783, the author depicts the leading members of the royalist party in the Kiev voivodeship.