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### **The life and career of Oribasius in the light of sources**

The article makes an attempt at summarizing the present research in the life and career of Oribasius. The authors are in favour of the view that Oribasius was a native of Pergamum in Asia Minor. He was born in a well-off, most probably pagan, family and appears to have been first educated in the city of his birth. The cultural tradition of Pergamum and especially its renown as a centre of medicine must have had a considerable influence upon his future profession. Having completed the first stage of education, the young men left Asia Minor for Alexandria, which at that time still was the most important centre of medical science. There he studied under Zeno of Cyprus, a famous iatrosophist of that time.

In the year 355 he had been already a good acquaintance of the future emperor Julian and after the latter's elevation to the position of *caesar*, Oribasius accompanied Julian to Gaul, where he was one of the closest friends of that member of the imperial family. We know that he was in charge of Julian's library and presumably took care of the *caesar's* health. The doctor's political influence is hard to precise but Oribasius is alleged to have played an undefined but important role in Julian's usurpation. Later on he accompanied the rebel on his campaign against the legitimate ruler. When Julian took over the rule over the empire, Oribasius was also at his side. Some sources claim that he was even made *quaestor* at Constantinople. Subsequently, he left the capital, moved with the young emperor to Antioch and followed the ruler on his campaign against Persia. When Julian was fatally wounded, first he tried to save his life and then was present at the young ruler's death-bed.

Some time after Julian's demise, he was exiled from the empire. He stayed for an unspecified time among the barbarians, managing to win their favour due to his competence in the area of medicine. He was called back by emperor Valens or Theodosius and allowed to settle down in Constantinople. Later on his property was also restored to him. Eunapius of Sardes, his biographer, informs us that he married a rich Constantinopolitan lady and fathered four children. He passed away at the very end of the IV<sup>th</sup> or at the beginning of the next century.

Though little can be said about new theories or methods introduced by Oribasius in the area of medical science, the doctor earned his name as one of the most appreciated medical writers of Antiquity and Byzantium. He was prolific enough to write a voluminous work in seventy books, another one in nine books dedicated to his son Eustathius, a medical encyclopaedia in four books for his biographer Eunapius and a shorter treatise which is no longer extant. Additionally, he authored memoirs describing important political developments he participated in. The extant medical works prove Oribasius' considerable

learning, display very clear organization and practicality, i.e. the features which contributed to the popularity of the doctor's writings in late Antiquity, Byzantium as well as later on.

ZBIGNIEW ANUSIK

### **Land ownership in Volhynia voivodeship in 1570**

There is a common and consolidated opinion among Polish historians that Volhynia was a mainstay of the political and economic influence of the great landowners. But in the literature of the subject we could not find any details concerning sizes of the estates and their mutual relations. However, at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was published an invaluable source (the tax register of 1570) which could be a base to reconstruct a state of own of the landlords in Volhynia voivodeship in the times of Lublin Union (1569). After a detailed analysis of the mentioned source the Author is able to state that in 1570 there were 382 landowners in Volhynia voivodeship. Nine owners of the biggest estates (latifundium) paid taxes which total amount was 43,51% of all landowners' payment. Twenty seven great landowners paid 22,80% of all taxes in voivodeship. It means that 36 of the richest landlords of Volhynia had estates in which lived 66,30% (almost 200 000 persons) of all inhabitants of the voivodeship. One hundred fifty one middle landlords paid taxes which amounted to 20,41% of all taxes. The biggest group of the landlords, 195 owners of small estates, paid only 3,02% of all taxes paid in the Volhynia voivodeship. The owners of Crown estates paid 4,66%, and clergy paid 5,61% of all taxes collected in the Volhynia voivodeship. Very interesting is also a statement that 7 of the most famous families of the princes (descendents of the old Gediminids and Rurikids dynastic families): Ostrogski, Czartoryski, Zasławski, Korecki, Wiśniowiecki, Sanguszko and Zbaraski paid 43,75% of all taxes in Volhynia and the area of their large estates was over 24 000 sq. km. It means that they were owners of 59,01% of the area of the voivodeship.

After a detailed analysis of the source the Author is also able to state that in the first years after the Lublin Union Volhynia voivodeship was a well populated and rich region of the Polish Republic. This voivodeship could be a very convenient base to the expansion of local great landlords towards the near empty lands of Kiev and Bratslav voivodeships.

### **Parliamentary debate on electing members of the Military Commission in December 1788**

Thanks to electing its members (on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1788) the Military Commission took over the real power over the army. Overthrown during the parliamentary session of 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1788, the Military Department of the Permanent Council finally stopped functioning.

During the December debate the deputies, who slightly outnumbered the senators, tried to increase their majority in the Sejm. In the confederated Sejm the votes of deputies and the votes of senators carried the same weight and consequently the result of parliamentary voting depended on the overall counting of all the votes. That is why the problem of deputies' representation in the Sejm was a matter of great significance. In order not to decrease the number of deputies it was decided that the current deputies would not become the members of the Commission (there was a fear that the deputies involved in the work of the Commission might neglect their duties as members of Parliament). At the same time the gentry aimed at increasing their majority in the Sejm by excluding from the parliamentary debates those senators who would be elected for the Commission. However, this initiative failed due to the strong opposition of the senators. Instead, the senators suggested that the deputies' majority in the Sejm should be increased directly by increasing the number of deputy seats. The deputies accepted this proposal. For the time being it was not put into practice yet. However, the December debate lay foundations for the compromise between the gentry and the senators concerning preserving the senators' legislative rights within the framework of the "two-chamber" Sejm.

WALDEMAR CUDNY, EWA KUBIAK, RAFAŁ ROUBA

### **The cultural heritage of the Jews of Łódź and its role in the development of contemporary Łódź and the Łódź Region**

This article presents the key elements of the material and non-material heritage created by Łódź Jews. Those heritage elements play an extremely important part in shaping the contemporaneity of Łódź and the entire region. They are part of the cultural heritage of the city and its inhabitants. At every step in Łódź, we meet the houses, factories, palaces, hospitals, memorials and museum collections relating to the Łódź Jews. This opportunity to familiarize with the history of the Jewish people once lived in Łódź is very important for local residents and tourists. The presentation of Jewish culture, is also used to fight negative stereotypes and the phenomena of xenophobia and anti-Semitism in Łódź and the region.

**Political and educational work and moods  
in ground forces in the first years after ending  
the Second World War**

In second half of 40<sup>th</sup>. XX century new communist powers in Poland had the small support of the society, therefore they also tried to convince the Polish people to propagated watchwords and views. On the other hand, the communist authorities also aimed at the pacifying the part of society, which did not want to reconcile to new reality. These aims were realized through the development of the apparatus of the safety and armed forces, which made up the pillars of the new authorities. Therefore, communist reign attached large importance to combining soldiers with new system and ideology, what they tried to realize by the extension in the army of the political apparatus. He had to mould among military man political beliefs consistent with views the new authorities. This activity – from the present-day perspective – should rather characterize as indoctrination. In 1945 the effects of the work of the political apparatus were weakly in the army. On this situation had an influence on the low standard of preparing political officers for their work. The political activity in the army was more and more active gradually, what had the connection with campaigns political to concern on the referendum in 1946 and election campaign to lower house of the Polish Parliament in 1947. Led in military districts political training began gradually to fulfill more and more important part in the mould class character of Polish Army. In 1949 began to create party structures in armed forces, meanwhile the membership to the Polish United Working Party became the necessary condition of the military career. All elements of the political work in the army to be designed for creating new side the Polish Army. The political indoctrination led to pacification hostile moods among soldiers, which become in the short time the conscious “new citizens” devoted to the new communist authorities and ready to stand up for new ideology in every moment.