

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

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Title of dissertation: MACIEJ FROM GOŁAŃCZA COAT OF ARMS PAŁUKA (ca. 1285-1368). Bishop of Włocławek and Politician

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SUBJECT MATTER AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this dissertation is to show a complex biography of Maciej from Gołańcza coat of arms Pałuka, Bishop of Włocławek in the years 1323-1364. Maciej took over the bishopric after the death of the Bishop of Włocławek Gerward. In 1364 the bishopric was in turn taken over by a new Bishop of Włocławek Zbylut. The subject of this thesis is to show the whole life of Maciej, from the time of his birth (probably in 1285 year) to his death on May 16, 1368. The research includes his career as a clergyman. The doctoral thesis focuses on his career from the moment when he took over the bishopric of Włocławek until his resignation in 1364. The aim of the thesis is to show the whole activity of bishop Maciej in the different fields of study – political, economic, church and structural. In the first place, the dissertation focuses on the descent and the closest family of the Bishop of Włocławek Maciej of Gołańcza. The research provides biographies of Maciej's father, mother and two brothers. The doctoral thesis describes also the members of the Włocławek and Kruszwica cathedral chapters, namely all officials in the bishopric of Włocławek in the years 1323-1364. The purpose is also to prepare a list of all people from the surroundings of Bishop Maciej, as well as to examine church officials and other officials, and include the list of the canons of both cathedral chapters. The dissertation ends with the research about Maciej's travels. The main purpose of this work is to write the biography of Bishop Maciej Pałuka. In recent years, research about Maciej of Gołańcza and about members of the Włocławek and Kruszwica cathedral chapters in the years 1323-1364 has not become very popular. This dissertation tries to create for the first time a comprehensive biography of Maciej and a complex description of the members of both cathedral chapters.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The dissertation involves the use of deduction and induction methods. The induction method was used to formulate views and conclusions. The deduction method was used to analyze views. Methods of sources analysis were also applied. The geographical method was used to show the distribution of villages which belonged to the Włocławek bishopric in the

14th century. By using this method I try to show the geographic extent of the diocese as well as why Bishop Maciej had to exchange villages. Furthermore, I try to show when located activity was the most intense. The genealogical method was used to describe the members of the bishop's family from the house of Pałuka. One part of the thesis presents officials who belonged to the Włocławek and Kruszwica cathedral chapters. This method was applied to analyze the affinity between Maciej and other members of the house of Pałuka family, for instance between Maciej and Zbylut from Wąsosza or Wojciech from Łekno. The thesis deals with kinship between members of both cathedral chapters, for instance between Sędziwoj from Szubin and Świętosław from Szubin. It is important to demonstrate that the kinship between Maciej and the members of the cathedral chapters affected the officials in the cathedral chapters. It was an obvious case of nepotism. The prosopography method was used to describe the surroundings of the Maciej Bishop of Włocławek. As a part of this method, I examined family kinship between members of the Włocławek and Kruszwica cathedral chapters as well as careers and promotions of members of both cathedral chapters. The important issue is to show the promotion of family members and to present nepotism in both cathedral chapters. This method is the most useful when I try to describe Maciej's career before he took over the bishopric. The research includes biography of people from the house of Pałuka who were members of the Włocławek and Kruszwica cathedral chapters in the years 1323-1364. The comparative method was used to compare different sources. This method was used to present the economic activity of Maciej Bishop of Włocławek. By using this method, I try to illustrate the problem by preparing the schedule. The table presents the number of villages Maciej placed. The comparative method is to show when the activity was the most intensive and in which period he made the largest number of locations. The cultural studies method according to Gerard Labuda refers only to Maciej's activity in the sphere of literature, because during his episcopal activity he wrote the calendar of Włocławek.

CONCLUSIONS

This dissertation tries to explain all problems in the biography of Bishop Maciej. Maciej Pałuka was a son of Sławnik the Castellan of Nakło and Małgorzata the sister of Gerward, Maciej's predecessor as the Bishop of Włocławek. Maciej was born about 1285. The excerpt from Jan Długosz chronicles describes that Maciej probably survived as only one out of twelve children after birth but it may be just a literary fiction. Maciej had two older brothers: Świętosław and Zbylut. Thanks to Bishop Gerward, in 1308 Maciej received the office of scholastic in Włocławek. In 1311 he was promoted to the office of dean. Maciej was an active person, for which reason he was present in many documents. He was very loyal to

the former Bishop of Włocławek, Gerward. Maciej accompanied him on a trip to Avignon. In Avignon Maciej took over the bishopric of Włocławek. In the years 1320-1321 Maciej gave evidence in the Polish-Teutonic lawsuit in Inowrocław and Brześć Kujawski. His testimony was not very important. He had a lot of overheard information or from his brother Świętosław.

To sum up all the aspects mentioned in the doctoral thesis, the Bishop of Włocławek Maciej was a very important figure in the history of Kujawy. He was very enterprising. Indeed, he cared very much about his diocese. He developed the bishopric and he fought for his rights. Maciej had a conflict with the Teutonic Order. In the years 1326-1332, the Teutonic Order attacked Polish lands. They plundered many cities. The Teutonic Order army took captive many people and murdered all defenders of the castles. The aggression of the Teutonic Order on the Polish lands at the beginning of the 14th century particularly affected the territories belonging to the bishopric of Włocławek. Maciej was loyal to Władysław Łokietek and later his son Kazimierz Wielki. His activity as a bishop of Włocławek was very extensive. He was active also in the political sphere. Maciej was present during the battles with the Teutonic Order in 1326-1332. He cared for the reconstruction of the bishopric of Włocławek after the attacks of the Teutonic Knights. Maciej started to build castles for example in Raciążek and Gołańcz, the cathedral in Włocławek and churches. He developed the bishopric. He located new villages, appointed village leaders etc. Maciej was not only a cleric. He was also a church activist. An example worth mentioning is that he was a collector of the tithe and Peter's pence, he granted indulgences and he appeared in many church documents. He also had a conflict with the Johanniter Order from Lubiszewo.

Maciej was accused of treason after he had signed the agreement with the Teutonic Order on August 24, 1330. He had to sign the arrangement with the Teutonic Order in order to take care of his bishopric and the inhabitant's safety. Thanks to this agreement, Bishop Maciej regained Włocławek and Raciążek and the prisoners were liberated. It is an important issue that this arrangement 'tied the bishop's hands'. In 1339, Maciej could not testify in the Polish-Teutonic trial. On the other hand he announced the Warsaw verdict and he took part in peace talks. Maciej also signed the peace documents in Kalisz. Unfortunately, Maciej was forced to make an agreement with the Teutonic Order because the Teutonic army was more numerous. The Bishop of Włocławek had no other choice because the Polish army did not come and the scale of the destruction of the bishopric was enormous. Moreover, on 25 March 1340 Maciej began to rebuild the Włocławek cathedral. Perhaps he was afraid of the Teutonic Order's reaction because they forbade rebuilding the cathedral in Włocławek. After Maciej signed the

agreement he could focus on the reconstruction of the diocese. Perhaps Władysław Łokietek knew earlier about this agreement. Despite the differences in relations from the battlefield, after the battle of Płowce Maciej ordered to count all the bodies of the dead knights who fought during this battle. He also ordered to bury the deceased and he built a chapel at the place of the battle. To sum up, the results of the Polish-Teutonic battle were quite extensive. The inhabitants surrendered to the Teutonic Order because they worried about their own lives and they hoped that the enemy's army would be less cruel.

Although there were misunderstandings between Maciej and King Kazimierz about the position of the Włocławek provost, Maciej had good relations with the monarch. Maciej's candidate became the new provost in Włocławek. In 1364 Maciej put the rule of the diocese in the hands of Zbylut. According to Jan Długosz, Maciej regretted this decision very much. Maciej even warned against giving offices to family members. Maciej was a sick and elderly man. Maciej claimed that the new bishop and his nephew Zbylut treated him unworthily. On 16 May 1368, Maciej died and he was buried in Włocławek.

Taking everything into consideration, the cathedral chapters were a very big support for Bishop Maciej. The dissertation contains the biographies of the members of the Włocławek and Kruszwica cathedral chapters in years 1323-1364. The doctoral thesis also included a list of canons. Maciej had a number of officials (church officials, economic officials and others). In both cathedral chapters, there were many people from the house of Pałuka. On the basis of sources' analysis and literature of the subject it was concluded that people from Maciej's family were promoted very fast and they took over the highest offices in the chapters. During Maciej's episcopal activity, he did not complain about the cooperation with representatives of his family, which is why the information provided by Jan Długosz can be misleading. As it was said in the conclusion of the research, Maciej was a very good bishop who defended and protected his diocese and its inhabitants.

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