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The Presence of the *Ius Regium* in the Szekely Land: The Illusion of a Scientific Consensus

Keywords: ius regium, nota infidelitatis, sententia capitalis, right of donation, Tripartitum, value of the Hungarian forint

The Szekely legal history, especially the presence of the *ius regium* in the Szekely Land has been in the centre of research ever since the birth of critical historiography, but due to the controversial interpretation of sources and the lack of scientific discussion, an ultimate scientific consensus is yet to be formed. This study aims to confront the opinions, exploit the neglected sources, and harmonize the historiographical and legal aspects. In conclusion we can state that, although the *ius regium* could have been enforced in some special cases, both the custom and the judicial practice of the Voivodal Table hindered this opportunity, and the *ius regium* was not introduced to the Székely Land in a general level at all until the articles of the Diet of Segesvár in 1562.

Anikó Szász

Almaşu, an Administrative Centre in Cluj County (1541–1600)

Keywords: Almaşu, market town, estate, fortification, castrum, administrative centre

Based on the documents preserved in various archives, this study offers a presentation of Almaşu market town (Cluj County) and its administrative role in the estate bearing the same name. Although it was not situated by the main roads, neither did it have the function of county seat, nor a significant commercial role, Almaşu market town stood out as an administrative centre of a large estate and as a settlement located in the vicinity of a military defense fortification. According to the documents, in the second half of the 16th century the estate managed from Almaşu market town and the fortification (castrum) and owned by 3-4 powerful Transylvanian families consisted of 70 villages and two market towns.

Zsolt Bogdándi

The Sources of Law of the Transylvanian Princely Table in the 16th Century

Keywords: Principality of Transylvania, Princely Table, Source of Law, litigations, judicial practice

This study presents the different manuscript or published sources of law that were referred to in the course of litigation in the Transylvanian central court of law, the Royal/Voivodal/Princely Table (*Tabula, Curia*) and its court of appeal, the court of personal presence in the second half of the 16th century. Based on the analyzed archival sources – mainly the various *allegationes* made by the lawyers – one can conclude that different sources provided the grounds that were frequently given for the decisions of the court. The data presented shows that besides the Tripartitum, which was mostly referred to, the lawyers used during the litigations the laws of the

Hungarian Kingdom, the *Decreta* of the Transylvanian diets and the Table even judged some cases according to its own custom.

Petra Mátyás-Rausch
Scribe Péter Váradi and the Estate of Zalatna

Keywords: mining, Transylvanian Principality, Estate of Zalatna, administration

The mining domain of Zalatna formed during the reign of György Rákóczi, and it was in existence in this form until 1848. Péter Váradi took part in the organization of this domain, but this reorganization violated the jurisdiction of the mining leader (Heinrich Lisbona). It was possible that he tried to remove the chief of the mining domain, Lisbona, and this way wanted to regain his former influence. His ambitions were not a complete success, because Péter Váradi could stay at his workplace. The villages of mining domain Zalatna had different phylogenies, but because of geographical nearness, they were in close relationship with each other. This domain consisted of three parts; the middle part was the most developed, because here the most important branch was the gold mining. In spite of its mining activity, the town of Zalatna over the socage didn't have to do a special mining work. The new mining domain could be directed easily, but the head of the domain had to do a very hard work.

Andor László
Prince István Bocskai's testament

Keywords: István Bocskai, Transylvania, Age of Principality, political relations, Fifteen Year' War, political testament

After the hopeless struggles of the Fifteen Years' War, the Hungarian politicians realised that they could not act independently between the two empires. First of all, they aspired for the ending of the long war, while they had to accept the division of the country. The two Hungarian states were forced to live separately, and accepted the supremacy of the Habsburg and the Ottoman Empire. In his testament, written after the signing of the dual peace treaties in 1606, prince István Bocskai gave political advice and also used it to present a political model: he was the first to use the testament as a genre to summarize his political thoughts. According to this, hard won peace had to be kept by the mutual respect of the independence of the Hungarian Kingdom and of the Transylvanian Principality and their bilateral treaty of alliance, which would secure their mutual assistance. The powerful principality could support the privileges of the estates of the kingdom estates, for example their religious freedom. This way, he underlined the importance of the division of these two countries. The following decades proved the validity of Bocskai's concept: the stability of the region could be secured according to his principles. Radical changes happened only after a serious change in the balance of the power of the great empires at the end of the 17th century.

Ágnes Szalai

The Dormant Treasure of Princely Transylvania: Honey

Keywords: honey, economic treasures of 17th centuries, wax

In the Principality of Transylvania, honey was one of the important economic treasures of the 17th century. One of its most important uses was in nutrition, and was used as both a sweetener and a preservative. Recognizing its beneficial effects, it also played a prominent role in medicine, and its “by-product,” the wax, was also used in mining and estates for lighting. The economic value of honey and wax is also shown by the fact that the Saxon lands also owed a tenth of the honey to the treasury. In addition, special attention was paid to bee farming on each princely and fiscal estate. In some periods, there was a princely monopoly on collecting and trading in honey and wax. The aim of the study is to show what honey was used for in Transylvania during the 17th century. In addition, I will walk around the activities of the economic staff set up in Transylvania to perform tasks related to honey and wax.

Kornél Nagy

Armenian Uniate Bishop Stefan Stefanowicz Roszka's Relations with the Armenians in Transylvania

Keywords: Church-Union, Catholicism, Armenian Uniate (Catholic) Church, Transylvania, Roman Catholic Episcopacy in Gyulafehérvár/ Alba Iulia, Canonical Visitation

Bishop Stefan Stefanowicz Roszka (Armenian: *Step'anos Step'anean Rōšk'ay*) (1670–1739), alumnus of the Seminary called Urbanian College (*Collegium Urbanum*) in Rome, was regarded as a good shepherd by the remembrance of the Armenian community in Transylvania. According to the old historical literature, Bishop Roszka, once and for all, has destroyed the root and branch of the Eastern (Monophysite) heresy and schismatism in the Armenian communities in Transylvania. In this manner, he had managed to re-convert the Armenians for the true Catholicism during his pastoral activity and canonical visitation amongst the Armenians in Transylvania done at the behest of the Apostolic Holy See's authorities (e.g., *Sacra Congregatio de Propaganda Fide*) in the late 1720's and the early 1730's. However, in recent times, the modern scholarship has radically tinged and undermined this theory or myth. As a consequence of his official correspondence with the Holy See's authorities, throughout his complete ecclesiastical activity, Bishop Roszka had actually protected the Armenians and their Uniate Church in Transylvania from the increasingly fierce 'Latinisation' church-policy led by the Roman Catholic (Latin rite) Episcopacy in Gyulafehérvár (*Alba Iulia*). Therefore, this study aims primarily at summarising and concentrating upon Bishop Roszka's relations with the Armenians in Transylvania from church-historical point of view, resting upon the partly discovered and entirely undiscovered documents kept at archives in Budapest, Gyulafehérvár, Rome, Venice, Vienna, the Vatican City, and Yerevan. Finally, as a conclusion, through Bishop Roszka's ecclesiastical activities and relations, we have received a wide picture of the church-history in the early-18th-century-Transylvania, which is still regarded, more or less, as an undiscovered area from a scholarly point of view.

Judit Pál

Changes in the Officers of Székely Seats from the Compromise of 1867 to the Dissolution of the Seats

Keywords: Szekler officials, Compromise of 1867, administrative elite, composition of the civil servants corps

The study is a prosopographic analysis of the Szekler officials in the period immediately following the Austro-Hungarian Compromise. I sought answers to the question: to what extent did the political change affect the civil service in the Szekler seats, respectively to what extent did the civil servants before the Revolution of 1848, those during the Revolution, during neo-absolutism, those from 1861 and from 1862-1867 survive or return to power? The analysis revealed that in the summer of 1867 there were major changes, which means that we are dealing with a total change of the administrative elite, and most of the new officials were new people, except in the seat of Odorhei, where the officials mostly returned from 1861. Next, the study followed the changes in the administrative elite of the Szekler seats, respectively of the counties until 1884, to see to what extent the composition of the civil servants corps was affected by the administrative-territorial reform of 1876, which resulted in the abolition of both the Szekler and Saxon seats.

László Fazakas

„Salvation is Expected from the Construction of the Water Supply” – Demands for Water Supply and Sewerage System in Cluj

Keywords: Cluj, waterworks, sewer system, water supply, 19th century, urban history

In Cluj, in the second half of the 19th century, more and more requirements were formulated for the construction of a modern water supply and sewerage system. However, we know nothing about the demands' background. What social and economic processes formed these demands? Who demanded the modern water supply and sewerage system? In this paper I will answer these questions.

Gabriella M. Lezsák

The archeological exploration of the land of Transylvania and the accurate report of the work accomplished so far

Keywords: Transylvanian Scientific Research Institute, Archaeological Department, Archaeological School of Kolozsvár, Daco-Roman continuity theory

In the following paper I tried to summarize the activity of the Archaeological Department of the Transylvanian Scientific Research Institute (*Erdélyi Tudományos Intézet*, ETI) led from its

formation until its end (1940-1949) by Gyula László, one of the most emblematic figures of Hungarian archeology in the 20th century. The significance of the department lies not only in its remarkable archeological activity, but also in reinforcing Hungarian identity through the purposeful development of archeology as a field of national importance. Even though the leading archeologists of the Horthy Era joined the defining historians of the age in resisting the ideas of national-socialism, Gustaf Kossinna's theory of "settlement archeology", involving the identification of archeological cultures with ethnic groups made an influence on the local archeologists as well, especially in the context of the sharpening debate about the historical claim on Transylvania, following the Treaty of Trianon. While Romanian archeologists argued for the theory of Daco-Roman continuity, the Archeological School of Kolozsvár focused on its disproof, the unearthing of Hungarian vestiges in Transylvania, and on demonstrating migration and discontinuity. However, the perception of the interpretation of archeological artefacts was also influenced by the so called "Rural Movement", facilitating the creation of a third-way, independent, folkloristic perspective.