

ABSTRACTS

Veronka Dáné

■ *The Jurisdiction of the Principality of Transylvania*

Keywords: *Principality of Transylvania, jurisdiction, Tripartitum, parliamentary resolutions*
The jurisdiction of the Principality of Transylvania evolved as a result of a process which lasted many decades, side by side with the state, uniting the characteristics of the pre-Mohács Hungarian Kingdom and the novel characteristics of the new state. The year 1619 could be regarded as the end date of this process. The jurisdiction of the Principality is characterized by unity as well as diversity with regard to the basic statute and the procedures.

Annamária Jeney-Tóth

■ *The Princely Household in the Principality of Transylvania*

Keywords: *Principality of Transylvania, princely household, main and deputy steward, master of the horse, captain general of the court, valet*

The princely household meant a kind of narrowing of the court's society as a travelling section of the central government offices (the chancellery and the treasury) which escorted the prince. It only changed in the case of national and regional assemblies. The leaders of the princely household were the main and the deputy stewards, the master of the horse, the captain general of the court and the valets/chamberlains (cubicularius). The steward of the household supervised the work of the master of the kitchen besides the work of the youths (valets, Lord High Stewards, table masters, cupbearers), furthermore, he also had control over the craftsmen and a part of the protectors of order (doorkeepers, couriers, postal youths).

Gusztáv Mihály Hermann

■ *A Glance at Transylvania's Society in the Age of the Principality*

Keywords: *Principality of Transylvania, privileged orders: the aristocracy, the Saxons, the Szeklers*

After having become independent, subsequently to Hungary's splitting into three parts, Transylvania has kept its feudal structure. The privileged orders were the aristocracy, the Saxons and the Szeklers. There were few aristocratic families, and only 15% of the aristocracy had as many as 1-3 villages. The principal property was very large; the ruler of the country was prince and squire at the same time for the majority of the villeins. The greatest part of

the villeins were Romanian, their number grew continuously due to resettlement from the neighbouring principalities and due to natural reproduction.

András Kovács

■ *Princely Building Operations in Transylvania*

Keywords: *Principality of Transylvania, building operations, late Renaissance, Szamosújvár (Gherla), Nagyvárad (Oradea), Gyulafehérvár (Alba Iulia), Gabriel (Gábor) Bethlen, Collegium Academicum, Giacomo Resti*

The beginning of the Principality coincided with the spreading of the manifestations of the high and the late Renaissance in Transylvania. The castles of Szamosújvár (Gherla) and Nagyvárad (Oradea) are important early relics of the revolution in the field of military science. In the transitional period, Queen Dowager Isabel and her son, John Sigismund, occupy the domains of the bishop and the chapter of Transylvania. Due to these circumstances, the capital of the principality is located at the seat from Gyulafehérvár (Alba Iulia) of the medieval episcopate. The bishop's palace has been remade and extended already in these first decades. The greatest achievement from the era of the princes from the House of Báthory was the castle of Nagyvárad (Oradea).

Gyöngy Kovács Kiss

■ *Mosaic Pieces of Everyday Life in Kolozsvár during the Era of the Principality*

Keywords: *Principality, Kolozsvár, guild life, leisure activities, communication phenomena, regulation of costumes*

The study examines different segments of everyday life in Kolozsvár during the 16th and 17th centuries, including leisure activities and phenomena of social interaction and communication, while regarding the city – viewed as a process in itself – not merely as a location of the discussed events, but as a place which influences citizens as well as outsiders. The discussed domains include guild life and the function of guilds in closed and characteristically self-organizing communities, certain types and specific locations of pastimes and games, gossip and insult as the warrants of publicity, and the regulation of costumes.

Teréz Oborni

■ *The State and Political Regime of the Principality of Transylvania*

Keywords: *Principality of Transylvania, state, political regime, ottoman Porte*

In the 16th and 17th centuries the Principality of Transylvania, a vassal of the Ottoman

Empire, functioned as a state with limited sovereignty. The Hungarian kings considered Transylvania to be an integral part of the Holy Crown of Hungary, and thus never relinquished their claim to it. According to a right, which became a law in 1567, the Transylvanian princes were elected by the Transylvanian estates from 1571 onwards. This paragraph of the Law of 1567 named 'libera electio', that is free election, was repeatedly acknowledged by the Ottoman Porte. The Porte always required pre-election negotiations regarding the person of the future prince, or on occasion ordered its troops to bring a new prince to the Transylvanian throne, as was the case of Gábor Bethlen in 1613. It was the prince who summoned the lords of the Princely Council and decided the matters of discussion. The first of the councillors was the head of the government, the chancellor. The prince also commanded the army, decided in matters of war and peace as well as diplomacy, and in matters concerning the treasury and finances.

Klára Papp

■ ***Aristocratic Society in the Principality of Transylvania***

Keywords: *Principality of Transylvania, aristocracy, baron, count, prince, nobility, landed gentry, armalists*

The new districts from the Partium region, which were included in the Principality of Transylvania, were inhabited by a social stratum formed by hereditary barons and by rich landed gentry, which wanted to take their share of the possibilities offered by the new political power. An important part of the Transylvanian aristocracy has been promoted to the rank of baron or count by the Hungarian king. Some of them were the beneficiaries of the right of free baronship, and many princes have also been accorded the title of imperial prince. The bulk of Transylvanian nobility was composed of the landed gentry, in possession of smaller parcels of land. Similarly to the Hungarian Kingdom, the so-called "armalist" nobility gained in importance also in Transylvania in the 16th and 17th centuries. The Szeklers and, from the beginning of the 17th century, the so-called hajdús benefited from a special form of communal freedom.

András Lajos Róth

■ ***Premonition of Our Europeanism***

Keywords: *Principality of Transylvania, cultural/artistic/intellectual tendencies*

The era of the Transylvanian principality is as significant and rich in events culturally and historically as politically, economically and socially. Actually, these events are the consequences of the mentioned facts. This is the era of considerable changes also on an international scale, resulting in the alignment of Transylvania – as a geopolitical territory – to the European standards; moreover, it even exceeded those standards, for instance, in the case of announcing religious freedom for the first time. It is also the era of great and essential changes, the effects and consequences of which can be perceived even today. Apart from Catholic theories and concepts – considered to be eternal –, further outstanding religious ideologies, including Protestantism and the more radical Unitarianism and Anabaptism, also evolved, determining the most fundamental aspects of Transylvanian culture. It is due to the intellectuals of the western societies, the monarchs and nobles, who supported culture, as well as to the courageous citizenship and to the society always ready to adapt to changes, that Transylvanian culture could ultimately enrich the universal European civilization.

Péter Takács

■ ***The Blessed and Cursed Érmindszent of Ady***

Keywords: *Endre Ady, Érmindszent, Adél Brüll, Paris, poetry, Hungarian history*

Endre Ady was born in Érmindszent, a village which counts less than a thousand inhabitants. He graduated in Zilah (Zalău), and studied law in Debrecen, but soon discontinued his studies. He was a journalist in Debrecen and then in Nagyvárád (Oradea). Ady met Adél Brüll in Nagyvárád, she was called Léda in his poems. He visited Paris with Léda's help. Paris charmed and fascinated Ady. However, Ady was emotionally tied to his birthplace. Ady's poetry was informed by this un-resolved conflict – Érmindszent vs. Paris. His relationship with Léda inspired unusual poetry, both in style and content. Feelings and experiences of everyday reality were transferred into symbols by the poet. The cosmopolitan city and the native village (Paris and Érmindszent) play an equally important role in his poetic world.



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