

Dalma Petrovics

The history of Szalánta-Németi in the era of Dualism

Translated by Dóra Babilai

In my research, I intended to focus on the era of Dualism¹ and analyze the extent to which this defining period affected the life, society, ecclesiastical institutions and religious life of a given settlement. During research, I touched upon the history of the local parish, the structure of society and education system.

I would have liked to execute a research that interests me and – as I live in Szalánta – concerns me personally; also, I wanted to examine how governmental decisions of a given era concern minor settlements.

For academic literature background, I relied on primary and secondary sources. Primary archival source material: *Historia Domus*; secondary sources: Györgyné Balogh: *Iskolánk története: 100 éves a Szalántai Általános Iskola* [The history of our school: the primary school of Szalánta is a 100-year old] (Szalánta, 2012) and Gyula Erdődy: *Szalánta-Németi története* [The history of Szalánta-Németi] (Szalánta, 2001).

The primary archival sources I used consist mostly of notes written by parsons of the time. There were relatively few books written regarding the history of both Szalánta and Németi settlements, but the two books I use are apt given the theme of research. *Iskolánk története* [The history of our school] describes the history of the local school's foundation and hardships, in addition to topics pertaining to education, and thus the book was of assistance to my research. The other book that I used, *Szalánta-Németi története* [The history of Szalánta-Németi], studies the entire history of the settlement and consequently, since as I am concerned with a given era only, I only made use of relevant parts.

The questions of my research were the following: Does a significant period such as the Dualism affect the life of a village, and if yes, to what extent? Do governmental decisions influence, and if yes, to what extent the life of a settlement?

The purpose of the study is to shed light on the influence of governmental decisions concerning the society, ecclesiastical institutions and religious life of a village via the history of a micro-settlement.

Amongst research methodologies I relied on local history sources, social history sources, as well as comparison and contrast of sources.

Overall, I was concerned whether a great era such as Dualism affected the life of a village, and if yes, to what degree. As research reveals, there is indeed an affect (primarily observable in relation to laws – public education law, first and second community laws); in my opinion it is unavoidable that in a smaller village, where everyone knows

1 1867–1918, editor's note.



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I am really glad about the tutor system; I think I have the coolest tutor. Our relationship is really informal, my tutor motivates and encourages me about every change. I am also happy that we have a mutual research as well. We are also planning to write a book together, and these things inspire me and have a good influence on me.

one another, any change is more strongly perceived, as for instance when a teacher is laid off due to a due given law. Such an event may touch a larger community less personally than villagers, who are in daily contact with each other.

References

- Balogh Györgyné (2012): *Iskolánk története: 100 éves a Szalántai Általános Iskola*. [The history of our school: the primary school of Szalánta is a 100-year old] Pécsi Kistérségi Óvoda és Általános Iskola, Szalánta.
- Erdődy Gyula (2001): *Szalánta-Németi története*. [The history of Szalánta-Németi] Szalánta.