

Sources in question

- *Primary Chronicle* (including, but not limited to *The Tale of Bygone Years*)
- *Kievan Chronicle* (preserved in its latest redaction in *Hypatian* and *Khlebnikov Codices*)
- *Halich-Volhynian Chronicle* (attached to the *Kievan* in the 14 c.)

Poland in the 11 c.

- 1034–1040 pagan rebellion
- 1079 murder of Stanislaus of Szczepanów, deposition of Boleslav the Generous
- 1093 barons' rebellion against Władysław I Herman
- 1107 exile of Zbigniew
- 1112 death (assassination?) of Zbigniew
- ... continious war in Pomerania

Poles in the *Primary Chronicle* (1)

‘Се слышу, оже мя хоче дати ляхом Давыдъ. То се мало ся насытилъ крове моея, а се хочеть боле насытити ся, оже мя вдасть имъ! Азь бо ляхом много зла творих, и хотѣль е[смь] створити и мстити Русьскѣи земли...’

‘Now I hear David going to surrender me to Poles. Oh, he has already made me bleed out, but still wants more, and will get it, if he surrenders me indeed! For I’ve done many harm to Poles and would have done even more to avenge Russian land...’

Poles in the *Primary Chronicle* (2)

‘В лѣто 6538. Ярославъ Б[ел]зы взялъ (...). В се же время **умре Болеславъ Великий в Лясѣхъ, и бысть мятежъ в земли Лядскѣ: вставше людье, избиша епископы, и попы, и бояры своя, и бысть в нихъ мятежъ**

‘AM 6538 (AD 1030). Yaroslav captured Belz (...). At these times (*in 1025 – D.D.*), **Boleslav the Great died in Poland, and there was an unrest in Polish land: the rebelling people killed their bishops, and priests, and boyars, and there was an unrest**

Gertrude of Poland

- daughter of Mieszko II; sister of Casimir the Restorer
- married with Prince Izyaslav Yaroslavich ca. 1042
- mentioned in the *Life of St. Theodosius of the Caves* **referring to Polish affairs:**

‘Послушаи, господи, и не гнѣвай ся, яко тако же бысть и въ странѣ нашей: отбѣжавъшемъ нѣкоея бѣды ради чрьньцемъ, много зла створи ся въ земли тои ихъ ради’ (‘Listen, Sire, and don’t be wrathful, as that’s what happened in our land: a lot of trouble had happened to the land, wherefrom the monks flew due to some kind of oppression’).

Gertrude's hard lot (according to A. Nazarenko)

- Izyaslav have had a mistress Olisava (as early as in 1050–?).
- In 1073–1076, Izyaslav 'wandered in foreign lands' deposed by his brothers; in 1078, he died in a battle of Nezhatina Niva.
- Yaropolk of Volhynia, the elder son of Izyaslav (and the only of Gertrude?), started a rebellion against the Grand Prince Vsevolod (1085), flew to Poland, and was assassinated after his return to Rus' in 1086.
- Gertrude (probably) died soon after.

Gertrude the Storyteller?



Contacts with Poland in the 12 c.

‘В лѣто 6653. Посла Всеволодъ по братью свою, по Игоря, и Святослава, и по Давыдовича по Володимира, Изяслава (...) и рече имъ Всеволодъ:
“Повабливаетъ мене Володиславъ, лядьскіи князь, на братья своя” (...) И
идоша на середъ земли Лядское, наидоша брата два Владиславля,
Болеслава и Мъжеку, стояча за болотомъ, и переѣхавша на сѹ сторону, и
поклонистася Игореві и съ братьею его, и цѣловавъше крѣсть межи собою, и
такo рекоша: “аще кто переступить крѣстьяное цѣлованіе, на того быти всимъ”.
И даста брата [брату] своему Владиславу 4 города, а Игореві съ братьею
Визну, и тако узвратишася въ своя си, многъ полонъ взявше’

Contacts with Poland in the 12 c.

‘AD 6653 (AM 1145). Vsevolod (Ol’govich of Kiev) sent for his brethren, Ihor, Svyatoslav, and for Vladimir Davydovich, and for Izyaslav (Mstislavich) (...), and told them: “Prince Władysław of Poland urges that I come help him to fight his brothers” (...). So they went into the very middle of the Polish land, and found two Władysław’s brothers, Bolesław and Mieszko, camped at a bank of a swamp, and the two crossed the swamp, and bowed to Ihor and his brethren, and all the Princes kissed the Holy Cross swearing to stay in peace with each other and saying: “Should any of us violate this cross-kissing, we all raise against him”. And the two brothers surrendered four cities to their brother (Władysław), and Wizna to Ihor with his brethren, and [the latter] returned home, capturing many [Polish] people’

An egocentric point of view

‘Тои же зимѣ Владиславъ, лядьскіи князь, емъ мужа своего Петрка, ислѣпи, а языка ему урѣза, и домъ его розграби, токмо съ женою и съ дѣтьми выгна изъ земли своя, и иде в Русь. Якоже еуангельское слово глаголетъ: “еюже мѣрою мѣритъ, възмѣритъ ти ся”. Ты емъ руского князя лестью, Володаря, и умучивы и, и имѣние его усхыти все, **егоже Богъ по нѣколицѣ днѣвъ не призрѣ**, о немже бѣ в заднихъ лѣтѣхъ писано’.

An egocentric point of view

‘At the same winter (Jan.–Feb. **1146**) Prince Władysław of Poland had arrested one of his men, named Petrok, and blinded him, and plundered his house, and expelled him from their land with his wife and kids only, so Petrok went to Rus’. But what does the Gospel say? «With the measure you use, it will be measured back to you»! You tricked and captured Rusian Prince Volodar, and plundered all his property, but the God did not overlook your crime, **and it took no more than several days [for the punishment to come]** (as already was told above).

(Volodar was captured **in 1122!**)

Interpretation

- The main concern for both the personages and the authors of *Kievan Chronicle* was **‘the land’** (‘то не стоите на naszej земли, а жизни нашея, ни сель наших не губите’; ‘мнѣ отцины въ Угрехъ нѣтуть, ни в Ляхохъ, токмо в Руской земли’; ‘не угринь, ни ляхъ, но одного дѣда есмы внуци’ etc.).
- Poland of the 12 c. was passing **the same** social and political processes as Rus’ itself.
- This made the details of Polish affairs **redundant**: a reader could learn nothing new from Polish history.

Interpretation



Poles in Halich-Volhynian Chronicle

‘Въ лѣто 6737. Лѣстько убьень бысть, великий князь лядскый, на сонмѣ убьень бысть Святополкомъ, [и] Одовичемъ Володиславомъ, свѣтомъ боярь невѣрныхъ. По смърти брата своего, Кондрать прия Данила и Василка в великую любовь (...)’

‘AM 6737 [AD 1229]. The Great Prince Leszek (Biały) of Poland was killed, at a convent he was killed by Świętopełk (and) Włodysław Odonic, as was arranged by treacherous boyars. Konrad (of Masovia) began treating Daniel (of Galicia) and Vasylo with great heart after his brother’s death (...)’

And not just the Poles

- the assassination of King Philip of Swabia (AM 6715 / AD 1207)
- domestic war in Austria after the death of Frederick the Quarrelsome (AM 6762 / AD 1254)

Interpretation

- *Halich-Volhynian Chronicle* main subject are the deeds of 'Romanovichi' (Daniel, Vasylko and their heirs).
- Daniel and Vasylko spent their childhood in exile, in Poland and Hungary.
- The 'Romanovichi' family was integrated into Central European elites.

Interpretation

