

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

... continuous war in Pomerania

Poles in the *Primary Chronicle* (1)

‘Се слышю, оже мя хоче дати ляхом Давыдъ. То се мало ся насытиль крове моя, а се хочетъ боле насытити ся, оже мя вдасть имъ! Азъ бо ляхом много зла творих, и хотъль е[смъ] створити и мстити Русьскъи 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 Rusian land...’

Poles in the *Primary Chronicle* (2)

‘В лѣто 6538. Ярославъ Б[ел]зы взяль (...). В се же время умре
Болеславъ Великыи в Лясъхъ, и бысть мятежъ в земли Лядъскъ:
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:**

‘Послушай, господи, и не гнѣваи ся, яко тако же бысть и въ странѣ наши: отбѣжавшемъ нѣкоя бѣды ради чрьнъцемъ, много зла створи ся въ земли той 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:

“Повабливаєтъ мене Владиславъ, лядъскии князъ, на братъя своя” (...) И идоша на середъ земли Лядъское, наидоша брата два Владиславля, Болеслава и Мъжеку, стояча за болотомъ, и перѣхавша на сю сторону, и поклонистася Игореви и съ братъю его, и цѣловавъше кръстъ межи собою, и тако рекоша: “аще кто переступить крестьное цѣлование, на того быти всимъ”. И даста брата [брату] своему Владиславу 4 города, а Игореви съ братъю Визну, и тако узвратиша въ своя си, многъ полонъ вземше’

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 зимъ Владиславъ, лядьскии князь, емъ мужа своего
Петрка, исльпи, а языка ему урѣза, и домъ его розграби, токмо съ
женою и съ дѣтьми выгна изъ земли своея, и иде въ Русь. Якоже
еуангельское слово глаголеть: “еюже мѣрою мѣрить, възмѣрить
ти ся”. Ты емъ руского князя лестью, Володаря, и умучивы и, и
имѣние его усхыти все, **егоже Богъ по нѣколицѣ дѣневъ не
призрѣ**, о немже бѣ въ 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 нашей земли, а жизни нашей, ни сель наших не губите’; ‘мнъ отъцины въ Угрехъ нѣтуть, ни в Ляхохъ, токмо в Рускои земли’; ‘не угринъ, 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. Лѣстъко убъенъ бысть, великии князъ лядъскыи, на сонмъ убъенъ бысть Святополкомъ, [и] Одовичемъ Володиславомъ, свѣтомъ бояръ невѣрныхъ. По смырти брата своего, Кондрать прия Данила и Василка въ 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 Vasylko 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

