

MORE BOOKS

Prawda historyczna a prawda polityczna w badaniach naukowych. Ludobójstwo na Kresach południowo-wschodniej Polski w latach 1939–1946 (Historical vs. political truth in scholarly research: Genocide in Poland's eastern borderlands, 1939–1946). **Edited by Bogusław Paż.** Wrocław: University of Wrocław Press, 2011. 448 pages. Name, Place, and Subject Indices. ISBN 978-83-229-3185-1. Paper. In Polish, with Foreword, Table of Contents, and summaries of chapters in English.

The majority of the articles in this collection deal with the topic described in the book's title; some are general epistemological articles, still others deal with minorities killing minorities, such as the minigenocide of Polish Armenians in the town of Kutu in Ukraine. An article by Romuald Niedzielko deals with those heroic Ukrainians who tried to shield their Polish neighbors from the detachments of Ukrainians who, often in collaboration with Germans, engaged in particularly cruel murders of Polish women, children, and men. The book is a hard read; in the words of Zofia Nałkowska (pronounced in the context of another genocide), "human beings prepared this fate for other human beings." The editor, whose family came from Ukraine and who together with other Polish survivors escaped to the city of Wrocław (ceded to Poland by the Great Powers after the Second World War), provides a foreword and an emotional dedication as follows: "I dedicate this volume to Colonel Jan Niewiński, a member of the Borderlands Self-defense in the town of Rybcza; to other defenders of the Polish Borderlands; and to the nearly two hundred thousand Poles murdered so cruelly by the OUN-UPA [Ukrainian Revolutionary Army] and SS 'Galizien' — those who fell undefended by a human hand or by human conscience."

From the editor's foreword it is clear that the goal of the book is not to incite revenge, but rather to fulfill a moral obligation to those who perished. The fact remains that Volhynia (now in northwestern Ukraine) had its Polish population thoroughly wiped out not by Russians or Germans, but by Ukrainians. Polish villages and towns were destroyed, and death came by burning people alive or beating them to death. According to the 1939 census, Volhynia was inhabited by 1.4 million Ukrainians and 346,000 Poles; the estimates of how many were killed range from under 100,000 to under 200,000. The reason for the lack of

more exact accounting was the war conditions and German and Soviet occupation of that territory until 1991.

It is to be hoped that books like these will transform personal and painful memories into historical memory, and that these past horrors will be viewed with due detachment by Poles and Ukrainians alike. Good neighborly relations between Poland and Ukraine are important and an awareness of this fact should hasten the transformation of memories.

Angielsko-polskie związki literackie. Szkice o przekładzie artystycznym [English-Polish literary relations: Sketches about literary translation], **by Piotr Wilczek.** Studia o przekładzie pod redakcją Piotra Fasta, no. 32. Katowice: Wyd. Naukowe "Śląsk," 2011. 153 pages. ISBN 978-83-7164-695-9. Paper. In Polish. Summary in English.

A collection of very interesting reflections on translations of Polish poetry into English from Kochanowski to Miłosz on the one hand, and from John Donne to Byron on the other.

Zwycięzca po przejściach: zebrane eseje i szkice, V [The winner after his experiences: Collected essays and texts, V], **by Zdzisław Krasnodębski.** Kraków: Ośrodek Myśli Politycznej (www.omp.org.pl), 2012. 318 pages. Index. ISBN 978-83-62628-29-3. Paper. In Polish.

A collection of essays dealing mostly with German-Polish relations in the twenty-first century. Their author, a distinguished sociologist and professor of sociology at the University of Bremen, shows by means of numerous examples that in recent years, Germany has begun to tense its muscles vis-à-vis its weaker eastern neighbor. The conclusion seems to be that the period of German expiation for crimes committed during the Second World War is over, and a new and assertive Germany has been born. Many of these essays had previously been published in *Rzeczpospolita* and other leading Polish periodicals.

Narracje migracyjne w literaturze polskiej XX i XXI wieku, 2nd vol. [Migration narratives in Polish literature in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries], **edited by Hanna Gosk.** Kraków: Universitas (www.universitas.com/pl), 2012. 402 pages. Index. ISBN 978-83-1682-6. Paper. In Polish.

Essays on Polish literature during the period of Soviet occupation.

