THE SARMATIAN REVIEW September 2013

Sarmatian Review Data

New discoveries about German death camps in 1933–1945

Number of concentration camps set up by Germans under their Nazi government: 42,500, or six times more than the previous estimate of 7,000.

Breakdown of these into types: 980 concentration camps, 30,000 slave work camps (including extensions), 1,000 camps for war prisoners, 1,150 Jewish ghettos, and at least 500 bordellos staffed by imprisoned non-Jewish women from conquered countries. Berlin alone had 3,000 work camps and "houses for Jews" slated for deportation to death camps.

Source: Holocaust Memorial Museum (Washington, DC) research, as reported by Bernhard Schulz, "US-Forscher: 42.500 Lager in der Nazizeit," *Der Tagesspiegel*, 3 March 2013.

Polish food exports

Value of exports of Polish food products in 2012: 17.5 billion euros, or 14.8 percent more than in 2011. Breakdown of exports by area: 13.4 billion euros to EU, 2 billion euros to countries of the former USSR.

Source: < http://rebelya.pl/post/3534/wciaz-rosnie-eksport-polskiej-zywnosci>, 18 February 2013.

Current economic migration from Poland

Percentage of people with higher education that emigrated from Poland under the present government: 10.2 percent.

Source: Rafał Zaza, "Dylematy, które rząd polski mieć powinien," <wgospodarce.pl>, 15 May 2013.

Crime and punishment in present-day Poland

Number of people killed by the military during workers' protests in the Baltic ports of Poland in December 1970: 45.

Number of wounded: 1,165.

Number of those harassed and then fired from work: hard to estimate because harassment and job loss also touched the victims' families.

Perpetrators facing the court of law in April 2013: communist dictator of Poland Wojciech Jaruzelski (not charged); former deputy prime minister Stanisław Kociołek who directly supervised the Baltic area; two military commanders Mirosław W. and Bolesław F. on whose orders the soldiers began shooting (the remaining nine accused are either deceased or claiming poor health).

The highest possible punishment in Poland for these crimes: life imprisonment.

Warsaw district sentence pronounced in April 2013: Kociołek was freed of charges, while the remaining two received two years' probation. They vowed to appeal.

Source: Rzeczpospolita, 19 April 2013, <rebelya.pl>, 19 April 2013 (both accessed 19 April 2013).

Polish minority in Lithuania

Percentage of Lithuanian population that is Polish by nationality: 200,000, or 6.6 percent according to the 2011 census.

Largest concentration of Poles: Vilnius/Wilno and surrounding areas where the percentage of Poles ranges between 26 and 78 percent.

Percentage of college graduates among Lithuanian Poles: 13.8 percent (as opposed to 21.2 percent among the general population).

Percentage of Lithuanian Poles who declare themselves Roman Catholics: 88.6 percent (as opposed to 82.9 percent among the general population).

Source: Witold Waszczykowski, "Litwini o Polakach. . .", <wpolityce.pl>, 2 May 2013, accessed on the same day.

Russian opinions about the origins of man

In an April 2013 national poll about the origin of man conducted by Obshchestvennoe Mnenie Foundation, 26 percent of Russians declared belief in biological evolution, 31 percent opined that God created man, 30 percent refused to answer, and 12 percent offered still another opinion, such as arrival from another planet.

Russian preferences about school textbooks with regard to Darwinism vs. creationism: 18 percent would like to see only Darwinian evolution taught, 14 percent wish to see only creationism taught, and 44 percent feel that both points of view should be taught.

Source: Sergei Shelin, "Mnogo temnoty i chut-chut mrakobesiia," <gazeta.ru>, 11 May 2013

September 2013 THE SARMATIAN REVIEW

(accessed on the same day). Original at < http://fom.ru/obshchestvo/10906>.

Activities of Jews in Poland before the eighteenth-century partitions

Names of Polish Piast princes and kings who leased their mints to Jewish entrepreneurs: Mieczysław III (Mieszko III, 1173–1209), Kazimierz Sprawiedliwy (Casimir the Just, 1194), Bolesław Kędzierzawy (1201), Leszek Biały (Leszek the White, 1205), Kazimierz Wielki (Casimir the Great, 1310–1370), Władysław Jagiełło (1348–1434).

Punishments imposed by Mieszko III for killing a Jew: as recorded in Wincenty Kadłubek's *Chronicle*, the punishment was the same as for an act of sacrilege or insult against the King; the parents of youth harassing Jews were either fined or sentenced to work in salt mines.

Name of Jewish banker of famed wealth who served as banker to three Polish kings (Casimir the Great, Ludwik I the Great, 1326–1382, and Władysław Jagiełło): Lewko son of Jordan, who leased from the king the Kraków national mint and salt mines in Wieliczka and Bochnia, and was also tax collector for the city of Kraków. He lent money to various dignitaries, including Queen Jadwiga (canonized in 1997).

Results of competition between Jewish and Catholic merchants and burgers in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries: guild members won retail trade whereas Jews took over wholesale and international trade.

Profession that allowed Polish Jews to recoup losses caused by the Khmelnitsky rebellion and other wars between 1648–1680: production and selling of alcoholic beverages (beer, vodka, and mead).

Name of king who between 1649–1668 gave Polish Jews a virtual monopoly in producing and selling alcoholic beverages in the territory of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth: Jan Casimir.

Names of the first Jews who made fortunes on alcohol production and retail trade in vodka and beer: Marek Nekel (also treasurer of the Jewish community in Poland), Jozue Moszkowicz (he received the permit to produce and sell alcohol in Ukraine), as well as some two dozen Jewish *kahals*.

Other means by which Polish authorities helped Jews recover after military turmoil: permission to engage in trade without paying taxes.

Names of Polish Jews who performed various services for the Crown and amassed considerable fortunes in the mid-seventeenth century: Salomon Włochowicz from Kraków, Salomon and Eliah Nekel (sons of Marek Nekel); Lazar Mojżeszowicz from Grodno (all during the reign of Jan Casimir); Lejb Zysmanowicz (secretary to King Michał Wiśniowiecki); Herman Salomonowicz, Benasz Abrahamowicz, Pesach Lewkowicz, Abraham Nasanowicz Rebej, Joachim Pacanowski, Jakób Becalel who held the exclusive right to collect taxes and tariffs in Ukraine, Icko Zelmanowicz, Szmerl Zelmanowicz Szereszewski (collectors of taxes in Lithuania)—all of these were given their privileges by King Jan III Sobieski; Fiszel Lewkowicz (King Augustus II gave him the exclusive right to produce and sell liquor in the Polish part of the Commonwealth).

Source: Ignacy Schiper, *Dzieje handlu żydowskiego na ziemiach polskich* (Warsaw: Centrala Związku Kupców w Warszawie, 1937), pp. 9–14, 153–56.

Choices of Polish high school graduates concerning foreign languages

Number of students who in 2013 declared readiness to take the appropriate exams for obtaining a "Certificate of Maturity" (*matura*): 365,000.

Of these, number of those who selected English as their language of choice: 330,000, or almost 90 percent.

Percentage of students who selected other languages: German, 5.1 percent; Russian, 3.9 percent; Spanish, French, and Italian, less than 1 percent each.

Source: Portal <dlaMaturzysty.pl>, accessed 24 May 2013.

Polish alpinists: triumph and tragedy

Names of the four Polish alpinists who were the first to climb Karakorum Broad Peak (8051 m) on the border between China and Pakistan in winter: Maciej Berbeka, Adam Bielecki, Tomasz Kowalski and Artur Małek.

Number of peaks over 8,000 conquered by other Polish alpinists: 10 out of 14.

Number of peaks in the area no one has conquered in winter: Nanga Parbat (8,126 m) and K2 (8,611m). Tragedy: two of these alpinists perished during the descent.

Source: Portal <wpolityce.pl>, 5 March 2013 (accessed on the same day).