

SUMMARY OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

TITLE OF THE THESIS: *Naming practices of inhabitants of the former deaneries of brzeg and bochnia on the basis of parish records from the years 1801-1900*

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The aim of the dissertation was to analyse nineteenth-century names, to reconstruct the anthroponymic resources of the time and to determine naming tendencies that once functioned in the region of the former Brzesko and Bochnia deaneries.

The linguistic material was extracted from 318 birth registers (LibriNatorum). 50 248 records were obtained from the source base for the research. As the records included a range of linguistic as well as sociological or cultural information, the analysis of the collected anthroponymic material was based on documentary-statistical and sociolinguistic methodology.

The research approach in the dissertation led to the reconstruction of the naming systems of representatives of the nobility, the middle class and the peasantry living in the study area, depending on the social group they belonged to. It also made it possible to illustrate the changing tendencies in the choice of forenames over the century, to determine the naming fashions of the time and to identify the most popular, rare and unique names. It was enabled to present fluctuation of names in the naming repertories of a given generation or social class.

Moreover, the numerous extra-linguistic information contained in the documents provided a basis for a comprehensive discussion of the issues related to polyonymy registered among children born between 1801 and 1900, as well as naming motivation, i.e. the determination of probable factors determining the choice of specific names.

This was followed by an examination of issues rarely or completely absent from onomastic studies. The dissertation also addresses the topic of names given to illegitimate children - including naming tendencies of illegitimate children in the context of the potential phenomenon of stigmatization, and differences and similarities in naming according to social class.

The numerous registers of the names of twins were also extensively analysed. The chapter delineates the typical naming duets of the nineteenth century and provides an overview of the likely, conventional and unconventional patterns of selection of names for siblings.

The last issue of the dissertation dealt with the naming of children from a Jewish background. It presents records of the names of the neophytes living in the region and indicates according to which tradition - Christian or Jewish - children were named at the time.

The dissertation concludes with a list of all the first names, together with source references, which were given to children in the studied parishes throughout the 19th century.