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## THE TATAR RAID INTO LVIV LAND IN 1629

**Abstract.** In the article there has been conducted a detailed analysis and reconstruction of the events of the last large-scale Tatar raid into Lviv Land in the first third of the 17th century, which took place in September – October 1629. **The purpose of the research** is to carry out a historical reconstruction of the 1629 Tatar raid on the Lviv Land based on a comprehensive analysis of Lviv Grodsky Court records, to determine the geography of the raid's spread, and to study the scale of the socio-economic damage caused. **The methodology of the research** is based on the principles of scientific criticism and historicism, as well as on the use of general scientific (analysis, synthesis, generalization) and specialized historical (historical typological, historical systemic, quantitative, microhistorical) methods. **The scientific novelty** consists in the identification of the settlements of Lviv Land destroyed and affected by the Tatar attack of 1629, and the calculation of the scale of the damage based on a massive array of previously little-studied act materials from Lviv Grodsky Court. **Conclusions.** The Tatar raid of 1629 is considered not only as a military operation but as a profound destabilizing factor

that caused long-term changes in the socio-economic and demographic landscape of the region. In the study there has been reconstructed the chronology and geography of the advancement of the Tatar detachments numbering 7–8 thousand warriors under the command of Devlet Giray and Kantemir Murza. It has been determined that due to a high mobility and the lack of effective counteraction by the Crown troops, the Horde managed to encircle Lviv in a semi-circle, devastating settlements from the towns of Yavoriv and Horodok in the west to Zolochiv and Kozova in the east. The chief focus has been on the strategy of the invaders, which was aimed at capturing human resources (yasyr) and the purposeful destruction of infrastructure to undermine the economic potential of the region. In the study there has been put a particular emphasis on studying the source potential of Lviv Grodsky Court acts (oaths (juramentum), reports (relations) and manifestations). It has been calculated that even two years after the raid, the amount of tax shortfall was 41% for the rural areas and 27,7% for the towns, while the process of farm reconstruction in many cases lasted for over decades.

**Keywords:** Tatar raids, Tatars, Lviv Land, destructions, oaths.

### ТАТАРСЬКИЙ НАБІГ НА ЛЬВІВСЬКУ ЗЕМЛЮ 1629 р.

**Анотація.** Стаття присвячена детальному аналізу та реконструкції події останнього масштабного татарського набігу на Львівську землю у першій третині XVII ст., що відбувся у вересні-жовтні 1629 р. **Мета дослідження** – на основі комплексного аналізу матеріалів Львівського гродського суду здійснити історичну реконструкцію татарського набігу 1629 р. на Львівську землю, визначити географію поширення набігу та дослідити масштаби заподіяних соціально-економічних збитків. **Методологія дослідження** базується на принципах наукової критики, історизму, а також на використанні загальнонаукових (аналіз, синтез, узагальнення) та спеціально-історичних (історико-типологічний, історико-системний, квантативний, мікроісторичний) методів. **Наукова новизна** полягає в ідентифікації знищених та постраждалих в результаті татарського нападу 1629 р. населених пунктів Львівської землі, підрахунку масштабів завданих збитків на основі масиву раніше малодосліджених актових матеріалів Львівського гродського суду. **Висновки.** Татарський набіг 1629 р. розглядається не лише як військова операція, але і як глибокий дестабілізаційний фактор, що спричинив довготривалі зміни в соціально-економічному і демографічному ландшафті регіону. У дослідженні відновлено хронологію та географію просування татарських загонів чисельністю 7–8 тисяч воїнів під командуванням Девлета Геряя та Кантемира мурзи. Встановлено, що завдяки високій мобільності та відсутності ефективної протидії з боку коронних військ ординцям вдалося взяти Львів у фактичне півкільце, спустошивши поселення від містечок Яворова та Городка на заході до Золочева та Козової на сході. Особливу увагу присвячено стратегії нападників, яка була спрямована на захоплення людського ресурсу (ясиру) та цілеспрямоване нищення інфраструктури для підризу економічного потенціалу регіону. Окремий акцент у роботі зроблено на вивченні джерельного потенціалу актів Львівського гродського суду (юраментів, маніфестацій та реляцій). Розраховано, що навіть через два роки після нападу сума недобору податків становила 41 % для сільської місцевості та 27,7 % – для міст, а процес відбудови господарств у багатьох випадках розтягнувся на десятиліття.

**Ключові слова:** татарські набіги, татари, Львівська земля, знищення, юраменти.

**Problem Statement<sup>1</sup>.** The first third of the 17th century was marked by a series of devastating Tatar raids to the Ruthenian Voivodeship of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth at that time. There were at least 13 Tatar raids during that period: in 1605, 1607, 1612, 1615, 1617, 1618, 1620, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1626 and 1629, hence, Lviv land of the Ruthenian Voivodeship suffered (Horn, 1964, pp. 12–13). The objects of the attacks were most often

<sup>1</sup> The article was written within the framework of the research project “Military Destruction in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the 17th Century: A Comparative Analysis of the Phenomenon in the Regions of Red Ruthenia and Greater Poland from an Economic Perspective” (Zniszczenia wojenne w Rzeczypospolitej w XVII wieku: analiza porównawcza zjawiskana obrzeżach Rusi Czerwonej i Wielkopolski w perspektywie gospodarczym XVII wieku), carried out at the Tadeusz Manteuffel Institute of History. The research was funded by the National Science Centre (Poland) under the “Sonata Bis 6” programme, based on decision no. DEC-2016/22/E/HS3/00479.

villages, less often towns and cities, which were more difficult to capture. The Tatars were most interested in human resources – the capture of the slaves, who could later be sold at the slave markets. The infrastructure and network of settlements were also purposefully destroyed in order to undermine the economic potential of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. As a result, regular Tatar attacks brought devastation, depopulation and economic decline. In the case of Lviv land of the Ruthenian Voivodeship, the territory of the Tatar raids, their chronology and the scale of the destruction inflicted are amenable to historical reconstruction. The local population in order to further avoid taxation, turned to Lviv Grodsky Court with numerous oaths (the so-called *juramentum*), manifestations and reports about the damage caused by the Tatar raids. Such documents are particularly well preserved concerning the Tatar raids of the 1620s, in particular for the raid of 1629 – the last in a series of raids into the Ruthenian Voivodeship in the first third of the 17th century.

**Review of Sources and Recent Research.** The topic of research on the Tatar raids into the Ukrainian lands in general and specifically into the territory of the Ruthenian Voivodeship of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth is not new. Numerous scholars, for example, Mykhailo Hrushevskyy (Hrushevskyy, 1907/1993, pp. 326–337; Hrushevskyy, 1909/1995, pp. 21–40) and Ivan Krypiakievych (Krypiakievych, 1991, pp. 162–168) provided a general description of this phenomenon. During the Soviet period, the issue on the Tatar raids into the Ukrainian lands was covered in the articles written by Yaroslav Dzyra (Dzyra, 1971, pp. 83–102), Mykyta Dumka (Dumka, 1970, pp. 114–117), but the Polish historian Mauritsii Horn studied this phenomenon in the most detail. Based on the material of the Grodsky and Zemsky courts of the Ruthenian Voivodeship, he reconstructed in detail not only the chronology and geography, but also the economic consequences of the Tatar attacks of the first half of the 17th century, their impact on demography, settlement development, trade and production (Horn 1962; Horn 1963; Horn 1964). Yaroslav Dashkevych focused on the issue on the Tatar raids due to its relevance and the fact that it wasn't covered enough in the early 1990s. He offered new approaches to the classification and methodology of calculating losses, primarily *yasyr* (Dashkevych, 1993, pp. 40–47). However, since then, the study on the Tatar raids in Ukrainian historiography has not progressed much and rarely goes beyond the format of the individual scientific articles. The issue on the Tatar attacks are currently covered by Ivan Tymiv (Tymiv, 2016, pp. 29–42; Tymiv, 2015, pp. 13–18; Tymiv, 2017, pp. 3–19), Władysław Hrybovskyy (Hrybovskyy, 2000, pp. 206–211), Yuriy Mykhailiuk (Mykhailiuk, 2010, pp. 136–139), Oleksandr Halenko (Halenko, 2003, pp. 52–68), and Yaroslav Lyseyko, Ihor Smutok, Mykola Haliv, Vasyl Ilnytskyi (Smutok, Ilnytskyi, & Haliv, 2024, pp. 258–269; Lyseyko, Haliv, & Ilnytskyi, 2025, pp. 129–140). In the Polish historiography Andrzej Gliwa studied the issue on the Tatar raids the most thoroughly. The focus of his scientific interests was the attacks on Przemyśl land primarily. The scholar convincingly showed that the materials of the Grodsky and Zemsky acts had significant source potential and make it possible to reconstruct the geography, chronology and scale of destruction caused by the Tatar invasions at the local level (Gliwa, 2013; Gliwa, 2016, pp. 703–735).

**The purpose of the research** is based on a comprehensive analysis of the materials of Lviv Grodsky Court, to carry out a historical recreation of the Tatar raid of 1629 on Lviv land, determine the geography of the raids' spread, and study the scale of the socio-economic damage caused.

**The Research Results.** The last major Tatar raid of the first third of the 17th century on Lviv land took place in September-October 1629. The reason for this raid was new Cossack

campaigns in the Crimea. Particularly painful for the Crimean Tatars was the July 1629 expedition of 4 thousand Cossacks to Gezlev, the only port of the Crimean Khanate, where the Cossacks burned the suburbs (Brekhunenko, 2007, p. 62).

King Sigismund III warned of the possibility of the Tatar raid on June 16, 1629, and already on June 19, the monarch announced the first calls for the convocation of the Commonwealth movement (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 380, pp. 3074–3075, 3094–3095; Horn, 1962, p. 54). The Bratslav cornetmaster Stefan Chmielecki regularly informed about the invasion of the “*wojska Tatarskiego niemala potęga*” in his letters dated on June 25, July 1, September 8 and 23, 1629 (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 380, pp. 3072–3073, 3074–3075, 3430–3431, 3468–3469).

The Crimean and Budzha Tatars prepared for a major campaign, which later reached the territory of Lviv land after minor skirmishes and the Tatar raids in the summer of 1629, in August. On September 9, the Ruthenian voivode Stanislav Lubomirsky summoned the nobility to his convoy near Zhabince on the Zbruch River in the Galician land (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 380, pp. 3419–3420). On September 19–20, 1629, the Tatars invaded the territory of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth via the Kuchma route. However, on September 23–27, they carried out an unusual maneuver, entering the territory of Moldavia, and from there on September 27–28, they continued their campaign into the territory of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. The Tatar forces numbered 7–8 thousand soldiers. The Budzha Tatars were led by Kantemir Murza, and the Crimeans and the entire expedition were commanded by Devlet Gerei (Gliwa, 2013, pp. 145–146). The Tatar detachments were divided into two groups. The first group was supposed to enter the territory of Przemyśl land. The second group of the Tatar troops under the command of Sefer Gerei Soltan and Selamet Gerei Soltan was to operate in the territories of Lviv land and Belz Voivodeship. The Tatars moved quickly, which is why the crown detachments of Stefan Khmelnytskyi and Stanislav Lubomirsky, who were near Żabyntsy above the Zbruch, could not oppose them. The Tatar detachments began to operate directly in Lviv land in the last days of September – at the latest on October 1, 1629 (Gliwa, 2013, p. 147).

The entire Lviv land was devastated, only the territories north of Lviv in the direction of Zhovkva and Kamiianka-Buzka suffered relatively little. As an exception, in the very north of Lviv land, near the borders with Busk land, the town of Toporiv and the village of Stovpin, which the Tatars could enter from the north, suffered from the Tatar raid (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 382, p. 1353; c. 358, p. 136; c. 357, pp. 317–318). There were devastated the villages to the west of Lviv, in the vicinity of the town of Horodok – Cherliany, Doliany, Bratkovychi (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 357, p. 311; c. 381, pp. 85, 108). The town of Horodok was damaged by the Horde (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 382, p. 1353). Along the route towards Mostyska, near the administrative border with Przemyśl Land, the Tatars devastated Rodatychi and Tuchapy (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 381, pp. 73, 90–91). The town of Yavoriv was devastated the most northwestern point of Lviv Land (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 382, p. 1353).

The Tatars destroyed villages on the border with Przemyśl land near the town of Rudky in the southwestern outskirts of Lviv land, on the left bank of the Dniester. There is information about the destruction of the town of Rudky, as well as the nearby villages of Pidhaichyky, Vistovychi, Novosilky Hostynni in Lviv Grodsky Acts (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 357, pp. 337–338). On October 1, 1629 the Tatars were in this area – they were several hundred horsemen of the Budjak (Budzha) Tatars under the leadership of Salman Shah Murza (Gliwa, 2013, p. 147). Further east of Rudky, near the town of Komarno, the Tatars destroyed the village of Klitsko, which indicates a plundering operation on the left bank of the Dniester and further

downstream (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 357, pp. 331–332). The Tatars “z gruntu” burned the town of Shchyrets with the nearby villages of Lany and Horozhanka to the east of Komarno (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 381, pp. 387, 88; c. 357, p. 338).

We have only sporadic news about the devastation in Zhydachiv povit. It is explained by the fact that the act books of the Zhydachiv Grodsky Court for the first half of the 17th century are lost. It is known that the Tatars attacked the city of Zhydachiv, destroyed the village of Ruda south of this city and were also in Dolynsky starostvo, where they devastated the village of Yakubiv (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 385, pp. 940–945; c. 357, pp. 294, 320–321).

The most severe devastation in Lviv land was suffered by settlements to the southeast of Lviv. It was a chain of estates on the way from Berezhany in the direction of Svirzh, Bibrka and Davydiv, as well as from Bibrka north to Kurovychi and Borshchovychi. There were devastated numerous villages from the south of Peremysliany town, on the left bank of the Hnyla Lypa River, for example, the villages of Brykun, Pletenychi, Poliukhiv, Pniatyn, Podusiv and Dusaniv near Firleiiiv, already at the southeastern border of Lviv land (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 117, 125; c. 357, pp. 298, 296). The Tatar detachments devastated the villages of Ostalovychi, Utikhovychi and Tuchne on the right bank of the Hnyla Lypa River, also south of Peremysliany (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 317, 136, 128–130). The Tatars destroyed the village of Hlibovychi near the town of Svirzh, and in the direction of Bibrka – Stoky (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 128–130; c. 386, pp. 1219–1220). The town of Bibrka was attacked (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 382, p. 1353). There were devastated the villages of Repekhiv, Trybokivtsi, Bakivtsi, Chyzhychi to the south of Bibrka, to the west – Sukhodil and Lopushna (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 357, pp. 294–296; c. 358, p. 133; c. 381, pp. 89–90). There were attacked the following villages: Pidmonastyr, Budkiv, Hryniv, Vidnyki, Zvenyhorod, Sholomyn and Zubra from Bibrka in the direction of Lviv. The Tatars burned down half a hundred houses in Lviv (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 357, pp. 295–297; CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 381, pp. 87–90). In the end, the Tatars even devastated Lviv suburbs, which is also mentioned in the Act books (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 382, p. 1353).

The destruction was particularly severe east of the axis between the towns of Bibrka and Hlyniany, actually along the road leading to Busk. There were affected the following settlements: Volove, Romaniv, Selyska, Hanachivka, Pid’yarkiv, Horodyslavychi, Pidsosniv, Solova, Kurovychi, Pecheniya, Hermaniv (nowadays – Tarasivka), Zhuravnyki, Vyzhniiani, Rozvoriany; east of Hlyniany – the village of Perekhoiv (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 381, p. 82; c. 357, p. 294; c. 358, pp. 118–124, 129–131, 134–135). The northern part of Lviv land suffered little in the Tatar attack of 1629. There is a note about the devastation by the Tatars of Liashky Murovany (nowadays Murovane) on the northern outskirts of Lviv and the village of Borshchovychi 18 km northeast of Lviv (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 128–129, 132). (The geography of the devastation confirms that the Tatars actually took Lviv in a semicircle, operating not only from the south, but also breaking through to the northern outskirts (the tract to Belz and Zhovkva)).

Apparently, the Tatars moved to the south, from Brody side towards Zolochiv after the operation in Belz land. The furthest point in the north-east of Lviv land, where the Tatar destructions are recorded, was the village of Dub’ye (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 381, p. 90) 12 km south of Brody. There were destroyed the villages of Khylychtytsy, Bonyshyn, Zalissia, Liatske Velyke (nowadays Halytske), Belzets (nowadays Honcharivka) in the vicinity of Zolochiv (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 122–124, 135, 317–318). Then the Tatars went south towards Zolochiv, destroying the village of Pidhiria along the way (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 122–124).

There were affected the town of Kozova, which was the southeastern point of the Tatar invasion in Lviv, further west was Berezhany, to the north of them the villages of Tseniv, Verbiv, Kuropatnyky, and Urman (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 118–119, 121, 126–127, 132–133; c. 383, pp. 1070–1073).

The culmination of the Tatar raid on the Ruthenian Voivodeship were the clashes between the Tatar detachments and the crown army on October 7 near Obelnytsia and Burshtyn on the Hnyla Lypa River and near the village of Ustia near the Dniester River in 1629. It was possible to destroy and disperse the detachments of the Crimean Tatar cavalry in the battles, which planned to cross with the loot to the right bank of the Dniester and join the rest of the troops of Devlet Girey and Kantymyr, who were already in Pokuttia at that time. The only Tatar detachment that escaped the trap prepared by the Polish military leaders near the fords on the Dniester was the cavalry of Salman Shah Murza. These Horde troops managed to bypass the crown units and safely retreated to Moldavia, moving near Kozlov and Ternopil, and on October 9–10, 1629, they were in the area west of Zalizhchyky (Gliwa, 2013, p. 148).

In general, it was possible to find information about 76 settlements in Lviv land that suffered from the Tatar attack in 1629, although in reality there were more. There were found 96 peasant oaths (juraments) about destruction related to this attack in the acts of Lviv Grodskyi Court. There was the information not only regarding Lviv land, but also the adjacent territories of neighbouring lands and Belhorod Voivodeship. It should be mentioned that there were filed only 25 of them in 1630 – 1631, i. e., relatively recently after the Tatar attack. The others were submitted to Lviv Grodskyi in large numbers much later – in 1633 – 1638. It indicates the difficulties that the peasants experienced in rebuilding their farms and the duration of the consequences of the Tatar attack, which sometimes could not be eliminated even after decades.

There were recorded the amounts of taxes that were collected from the peasants in the oaths (juraments) of 1635. There could be found a note quite often that there were “empty fields” in many villages after the Tatar devastation in the documents. The smallest amount recorded in the oaths – 4 zł 24 groszy – was collected from the village of Bonishyn, which belonged to Mykola Seniavsky (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 123–124). At the same time, even six years after the Tatar raid of 1629, there were settlements in Lviv land that did not receive any tax revenues at all. These included Kozova, Nedbalivka, Verbiv (in the share of David Svirzki), which indicated the significant scale of destruction and the complexity of restoring the farms (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, pp. 120, 122–124). The largest amount among the affected villages and towns – 120 zł in 1635 – was collected from the town of Toporiv, which was owned by Władysław Dominik Zasławski (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 358, p. 136). In general, according to our calculations, there entered 42 oaths on the payment of the levy into Lviv Grodskyi books in 1635, it was noted that the results of the Tatar raid and the destruction it caused had an impact on the amounts paid.

There was raised levy in Lviv land two years after the invasion of 1629. At that time, Lviv burgrave Severyn Kżykawsky was responsible for collecting taxes. There were collected 12,521 zł, 14 groszy, and 9 pennies from Lviv land, and the arrears amounted to 8,997 zł and 7 groszy. There were collected 9,150 zł, 19 groszy, and 9 penniazky from the cities and towns of Lviv land. Due to accidental fires and the destruction by the Tatars of Lviv suburbs, mills near Lviv, as well as the towns of Bibrka, Horodok, Yavoriv, Shchyrets, and Toporiv it was impossible to raise 3,506 zł, 7 groszy, and 9 penniazky (CSHAUL, f. 9, d. 1, c. 382, pp. 1350–1354). Taking into consideration the above-mentioned, the amount of the deficit was 41% for the rural areas and 27,7% for the cities.

The Tatar raid into Lviv land in 1629 was the last in a series of similar raids in the first third of the 17th century. The Tatars did not attack Lviv land in the 30s and 40s of the 17th century, which was explained by the struggle for power among the Tatar elites and the reorientation of the raids on Moscow Tsarstvo (Gliwa, 2013, p. 149).

According to the researched material, the Tatar raid of 1629 appears to have contributed to more than just the network of villages' destruction or demographic depopulation. It was a deeply destabilizing factor of the agrarian and tax economy, which forced communities to reconsider their survival models, and the estate owners to look for ways to rebuild and settle their ruined estates. In 1629, the Tatar troops numbering 7–8 thousand people under the leadership of Devlet Geray and Kantemir Murza used the tactic of rapid movement, which allowed them to avoid clashes with the crown army at the initial stage of the invasion. The attack covered mainly the western, southwestern, eastern and southeastern parts of Lviv land. In fact, the Tatars took Lviv in a "semi-circle" and even devastated the suburbs. The greatest concentration of destroyed settlements was to the southeast of Lviv.

The main goal of the attackers was to capture the yasyr (slaves) and destroy the infrastructure in order to undermine the economic potential of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. According to the records in the act books of Lviv Grodsky Court, there was achieved the above-mentioned goal. Mainly, the peasants turned there to testify to the scale of the destruction suffered in connection with the consequences of the 1629 raid. By doing so, they wanted to achieve exemption from taxation, or a reduction in the tax burden. The fact that the oaths submitted after the Tatar raid of 1629 often indicated the amount of taxes that needed to be collected and the amounts actually collected is a fairly accurate measure of the damage caused. In total, as a result of the 1629 raid, cities could not pay about 30% of the planned taxes, and villagers – about 40%, which indicates the catastrophic consequences of the Tatar raid on Lviv land. As a result, in many cases the process of rebuilding farms stretched over decades.

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