



Klaus Militzer, *Zentrale und Region. Gesammelte Beiträge zur Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens in Preussen, Livland und im Deutschen Reich aus den Jahren 1968 bis 2008* (Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens, Bd. 75; Veröffentlichungen der Internationalen Historischen Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens, Bd. 13), VDG Verlag, Weimar 2015, 379 pp., ISBN: 978-3-89739-847-4.

The presented book is the 75th collected volume in a long established series of studies dedicated to the history of the Teutonic Order. It was published by the Internationale Historische Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens, which has published extensively in the last few years. The volume consists of a collection of articles authored by Professor Klaus Militzer, from the University of Cologne, who is one of the leading researchers working on the Teutonic Order. The volume is 350 pages long and contains 27 articles of various lengths, taken from Professor Militzer's extensive publication history. The articles were all composed between 1968 and 2008. The book also includes a geographical index and an index of persons (pp. 363–379). All the articles (apart from one, which is devoted to the 16th century) concern the history of the Teutonic Order in the medieval period.

The variety of the issues discussed in these, nearly 30, articles is first and foremost geographical in character. The author has studied numerous issues concerning the Teutonic Order both in terms of its local, regional aspect, in three regions of Central and East-Central Europe: Livonia, Prussia and the German-speaking territories of the Reich, as well as concerning the Order as a whole, which means involving various regions of late medieval Europe, for example Palestine and Italy. The results of Klaus Militzer's academic career, which lasted almost 40 years, can be seen to excellently reflect the notions recently expounded during the meeting of the Internationale Historische Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens in Würzburg, namely that the Order's history should be understood as local and regional in some aspects, but global and European in others, which in turn could sometimes lead to internal tension and conflict, while at other times being the source of strength, influence and extensive room for action.

However, a better way to approach this volume is through thematic, rather than geographical, categories. As the publisher did not provide any sort of internal systematization of the material, this review can instead provide a categorization

of Militzer's collected studies, which can bear testimony to this researcher's wide horizons and the quality of his research.

The 27 articles can be grouped into a number of basic thematic categories, which are represented to different degrees. The most numerous group consist of eight articles that focus on topics such as administration, control and organization of conventual life at different levels of the Order's internal structures. Among these is an important article devoted to the emergence of *Kammerballeien*, income from which was allocated directly to the Grand Master's treasury (*Bozen, Koblenz, Österreich und Elsass. Die Entstehung der hochmeisterlichen Kammerballeien des Deutschen Ordens*, pp. 26–44, originally published in 2001). Related to this article is another, outlining the Western European bailiwicks of the Order (*Der Deutsche Orden in seinen Balleien*, pp. 279–293, originally published in 2004). Two other studies concerning the recruitment of new brothers (mostly brother knights) both in the convents located within the Empire, as well as in Prussia and Livonia (*Die Aufnahme von Ritterbrüdern in den Deutschen Orden, Ausbildungsstand und Aufnahmevoraussetzungen*, pp. 45–54, originally published in 1991; *The Recruitment of Brethren for the Teutonic Order in Livonia, 1237–1562*, pp. 55–62; originally published in 1994). The latter of these articles was a summation of the conclusions from many years of prosopographical research carried out by the author together with Lutz Fenske. This research concerned the social and geographical origins of the brother knights in the Livonian branch of the order.¹

Two other articles by Militzer concern the topic of visitations and their role as a tool of internal control within the Order (*Eine Visitationsreise aus dem Jahre 1451/52*, pp. 95–112, first published in 2000; *Visitationen und Visitationsberichte im Deutschen Orden*, pp. 84–94, first published in 2002). Two further articles concerning administrative and organizational issues, are typical case studies, focusing entirely on individual houses of the Order in Giengen and Jungen-Biesen in Cologne (*Die Deutschordenskommende zu Giengen*, pp. 342–349, first published in 1968; *Die Anfänge der Kommende Jungen-Biesen in Köln*, pp. 350–362, first published in 1995). In the latter case study, the analysis concerns the second of the Order's houses in Cologne, which had been established in the 1590's. The most recent of the articles published in the collection concerns the hospitaller activities of the order, in the Empire as well as in Prussia and Livonia. (*Die Hospitaltätigkeit des Deutschen Ordens*, pp. 63–76, first published in 2008).

The second type of articles consists of 4 papers that focus on biographical and prosopographical issues. The first of these focuses on Grand Master Gottfried von

¹ L. Fenske, K. Militzer, *Ritterbrüder im livländischen Zweig des Deutschen Ordens* (Quellen und Studien zur baltischen Geschichte 12), Köln 1993.

Hohenlohe (*Der Hochmeister Gottfried von Hohenlohe*, pp. 1–15, first published in 1990). It is followed by two more biographical studies that concern persons of much lower social status, namely three medics: two Rheinlanders, a noble and a burger, that served at Grand Master's court in the 14th century, and a barber-surgeon apprentice, originally from Prussia, who, thanks to the Order's financial support, was studying in Cologne at the turn of the 14th and 15th centuries (*Zwei Ärzte im Dienst der Hochmeister*, pp. 77–80, first published in 1982; *Ein Lehrjunge aus Preußen in Köln*, pp. 81–83, first published in 2000). The last article in this group is a prosopographical analysis of the Rheinland members of the Livonian branch of the Teutonic Order and Livonian ecclesiastic hierarchy, which was partially incorporated into the Order (*Rheinländer im mittelalterlichen Livland*, pp. 262–278, first published in 1997).

Another category, consisting of four articles, concerns studies of social history, which was also, to an extent, discussed in the papers discussed above. Militzer analyses the issue of burgess members of the Teutonic Order, a topic which has received insufficient attention in the literature, on the example of burgesses from Cologne who are recorded to have been members of the Prussian branch of the Order in the 14th and 15th centuries (*Von Köln nach Preußen. Kölner Bürgersöhne im preußischen Zweig des Deutschen Ordens*, pp. 251–261, originally published in 1999). The multifaceted relations between the Teutonic Order and the aristocracy of the southern German regions of the Holy Roman Empire, are analyzed in another article originally published in 1995 (*Die Einbindung des Deutschen Ordens in die süddeutsche Adelswelt*, pp. 322–341). Two more studies concern the relations between the Order and church dignitaries within the territories of the Empire, and its relations with the very particular type of church institution, namely the universities (*Deutscher Orden und Kirche im Deutschen Reich*, pp. 294–309, originally published in 1997; *Beziehungen des Deutschen Ordens zu den Universitäten, besonders zur Kölner Universität*, pp. 236–250, originally published in 1993).

Breaching the gap between social history and themes of political power, is an article devoted to the issue of governance and judicial authority of the Order in the territories of the Holy Roman Empire (*Grundherrschaft und Gerichtsherrschaft des Deutschen Ordens im Reich*, pp. 310–321, originally published in 2007). Two other papers concern strictly political topics, both of which touch upon issues of great significance for the history of the Order (*From the Holy Land to Prussia: the Theutonic Knights between Emperors and Popes and their Policies until 1309*, pp. 16–25, first published in 1999; *Auswirkungen der Schlacht bei Tannenberg auf den Deutschen Orden*, pp. 176–188, first published in Lithuanian and German in 1993).

The reviewed volume also contains studies on the Order's ideology. Militzer discusses the entwined notions of the Order's ideology and political imagination in two articles concerning the symbolical understanding of the Battle of Tannenberg (*Der Wandel in der Begründung der Existenz des Deutschen Ordens und seiner Selbstrechtfertigung vor und nach der Schlacht bei Tannenberg*, pp. 156–165, first published in 2006; *Das Problem der zwei Schwerter in der Schlacht bei Tannenberg*, pp. 166–175, first published in 2007).

A separate category concerns economic issues which are discussed in three articles in the volume. Militzer is particularly concerned with finances of the Order, particularly the transfer of money and transaction practices. Amongst the three articles, one is a Livonian case study (*Die Finanzierung der Erhebung Sylvester Stodeweschers zum Erzbischof von Riga*, pp. 113–129, originally published in 1979), the second is a wider analysis of the methods of sending money to the papal Curia (*Geldüberweisungen des Deutschen Ordens an die Kurie*, pp. 130–145, originally published in 1993), and the final one is a structural consideration of the relation of the Teutonic Order with the circulation of money in Western Europe (*Die Einbindung des Deutschen Ordens in das europäische Finanzsystem*, pp. 146–155, originally published in 2003).

Other studies on the topic of the Order's economy include the thorough study devoted to hunting (*Jagd und Deutscher Orden*, pp. 189–223, originally published in 1997) and a paper analyzing the supplying of wine for the Grand Master's court in Malbork in the end of the 14th and first half of the 15th centuries (*Das Wein des Meisters. Die Weinversorgung des Hochmeisters des Deutschen Ordens in Preußen*, pp. 224–235, originally published in 1996). However, as both of these articles also discuss issues concerning everyday life in the Order's houses and in the courts of the Order's dignitaries, they are important pieces for the 'Alltagsgeschichte' or 'History of everyday life within the Order' category, which, so far, has not received enough attention in the literature.

Even a casual look at Professor Klaus Militzer's academic achievements in the field of the medieval history of the Teutonic Order makes it clear that the volume under discussion is a collection of only a few of his numerous articles concerning the Order. For each of the categories outlined above, there are more articles in Militzer's bibliography, which have not been included in the volume.² This is because

² See for example: K. Militzer, *Auswirkungen der spätmittelalterlichen Agrardepression auf die Deutschordensballeien*, in: *Von Akkon bis Wien. Studien zur Deutschordensgeschichte vom 13. bis zum 20. Jahrhundert. Festschrift zum 90. Geburtstag von Althochmeister P. Dr. Marian Tumler O.T. am 21. Oktober 1977*, hrsg. v. Udo Arnold (Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens 20), Marburg 1978, pp. 62–75; idem, *Die Wirtschaftstätigkeit ländlicher und städtischer Deutschordenshäuser. Ein Überblick*, in: *Zur Wirtschaftsentwicklung des*

the editor, Udo Arnold's, goal was not to create a complete collection of Miltzer's works on the Teutonic Order, but rather to show the wide variety of themes and topics discussed by him, thus emphasizing the vast extent of his academic research. The 27 papers which appear in the volume were well chosen for this purpose.

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Deutschen Ordens im Mittelalter, hrsg. v. Udo Arnold (Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens 38; Veröffentlichungen der Internationalen Historischen Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens 2), Marburg 1989, pp. 1–24; idem, *Der Deutsche Orden in den großen Städten des Deutschen Reiches*, in: *Stadt und Orden. Das Verhältnis des Deutschen Ordens zu den Städten in Livland, Preußen und im Deutschen Reich*, hrsg. v. Udo Arnold (Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens 44; Veröffentlichungen der Internationalen Historischen Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens 4), Marburg 1993, pp. 188–215; idem, *Die Übersiedlung Siegfrieds von Feuchtwangen in die Marienburg*, in: *Die Ritterorden in Umbruchs- und Krisenzeiten / The Military Orders in Times of Change and Crisis*, hrsg. v. Roman Czaja, Jürgen Sarnowsky (Ordines Militares. Colloquia Torunensia Historica XVI), Toruń 2011, pp. 47–61.