



Priester im Deutschen Orden. Vorträge der Tagung der Internationalen Historischen Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens in Wien 2012, hrsg. v. Udo Arnold (*Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte des Deutschen Ordens*, Bd. 77; Veröffentlichungen der Internationalen Historischen Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens, Bd. 15), VDG Verlag, Weimar 2016, 242+XIV pp., ISBN: 978-3-89739-866-5.¹

When considering the military, political and economic role of military orders, it is sometimes easy to forget the obvious fact that we are dealing with organisations which were also religious communities.² Because of this, the priest brothers in military orders, who formed an important category of the brethren, are often overlooked³. Indeed, their role in military orders, for example in the Teutonic Order, was often overshadowed by that of brother knights.⁴ This is precisely the reason why it seems important to provide a historical study of this group and bring to light their role within military orders.

The collection of papers under review is an attempt to do just this in the case of the Teutonic Order. The volume is the result of the 15th conference of the *Internationale Historische Kommission zur Erforschung des Deutschen Ordens*, which took place in Vienna in 2012. The conference took place on the 125th anniversary of the birth date, and 25th anniversary of the death of the Grand Master of the Teutonic Order, Marian Tümler. The materials from the conference were published four years later, as the 77 volume of the *Quellen und Studien zur Geschichte*

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- ¹ The article was written during the preparation of the author's doctoral thesis. The author received a doctoral scholarship from the National Science Centre. Nr. 2016/20/T/HS3/00471.
 - ² In reference to the Teutonic Order see: A. Mentzel-Reuters, *Der Deutsche Orden als geistlicher Orden*, in *Cura animarum. Seelsorge im Deutschordensland Preußen*, hrsg. v. S. Samerski (Forschungen und Quellen zur Kirchen- und Kulturgeschichte Ostdeutschlands 45), Köln–Weimar–Wien 2013, pp. 15–43. In the context of liturgy this was recently addressed by W. Rozykowski, *Studia nad liturgią w zakonie krzyżackim w Prusach. Z badań nad religijnością w późnym średniowieczu*, Toruń 2012.
 - ³ J. Sarnowsky, *The Priests in the Military Orders – A Comparative Approach on Their Standing and Role*, in: J. Sarnowsky, *On the Military Orders in Medieval Europe. Structures and Perceptions*, Farnham–Burlington 2011, s. 1–2.
 - ⁴ See S. Kwiatkowski, *U źródeł niskiej pozycji księży w zakonie krzyżackim*, in: *Krajobraz gruntwaldzki w dziejach polsko-krzyżackich i polsko-niemieckich na przestrzeni wieków. Wokół mitów i rzeczywistości*, ed. J. Gancewski (Biblioteka „Mraǳowskich Studiów Humanistycznych”, Historia 1), Olsztyn 2009, pp. 175–183.

des Deutschen Ordens.

The volume starts with an introduction written by its editor, Udo Arnold. The authors of individual articles discuss various topics related with the functioning and role of priests in the Teutonic Order. The wide spectrum of addressed issues is evident in the form of the volume itself. The first issue under discussion is the role of priest brothers in the Middle Ages. Arno Mentzel-Reuters, whose study has already been mentioned, emphasizes that despite the relatively low status of priest brothers in the Teutonic Order, there existed two offices in the order, which could only be filled by a member of the clergy. This was the office of the chancellor of the Grand Master, and of the procurator general to the Roman Curia.⁵ The two first articles, by Klaus Militzer and Jan-Erik Beuttel focus precisely on these two offices. The priest brothers who served in these roles were often members of the Prussian cathedral chapters. This leads to another issue, namely the extent to which priest brothers partook in the forming of the church hierarchy, especially in the region of the Teutonic Order's dominion in Prussia. Radosław Biskup focuses on this issue and considers the mechanisms behind the appointing of bishops in this region.

The next three articles concern the issue of priest brothers in a more local context. Rombert Stapel and Anette Löffler focus on the Utrecht bailiwick; Stapel discusses the priest brothers from this region, while Löffler analyses Teutonic Order's liturgy in this region. 13th century clergy from the bailiwick of Bozen (It. Bolzano) is considered by Francesco Filotico. The next study, by Arno Mentzel-Reuters, is a discussion of the intellectuals and mystics among the Teutonic Order's priests. The article by Damian Hungs is an attempt at a more general look at the clergy members of the Teutonic Order. Hungs considers issues such as the number of priests, their standing in the Order, their origins and education and their living conditions, all this within a wide time framework. Later periods are addressed in the next few articles by Michel Van der Eycken and Bernhard Demel. The first of these concerns the priests in the bailiwick of Biesen in the 19th century, while the second focuses on the education of the Order's priests in the regions of Germany, Silesia and Moravia since the time of the reformation until secularization. In the next article, Arnold Othmar Wieland discusses the turn of the Teutonic Order from a military order to a congregation of priests in the 20th century. In the final article, Udo Arnold, the editor of the volume, provides a profile of the Grand Master Marian Tumler. The volume also includes an index of places and persons, which was written by Ulrike Arnold.

⁵ Mentzel-Reuters (as n. 2), p. 21.

The variety of the papers included in the volume indicates the wide geographical and chronological spectrum of issues connected to the priest brothers of the Teutonic Order. The studies focusing on the origins, education and careers of the Order's clergy can be seen as prosopographical studies that may open venues for further, international, research on the priests of the entire Teutonic Order. The volume presents the priest brothers both as important officials of the Order and of the dioceses, as well as intellectuals and finally as ministers. Thus, it reflects the multiple roles they played within the Order.

One of the main problems of the volume is the very long period of time between the conference and publication. During those four years, the amount of literature concerning the studied topics has increased significantly, but this has not been addressed in some of the articles. For example, in the case of the first two articles, it would be worth noting the recent prosopographical research conducted by Radosław Krajniak. His numerous studies on the Teutonic Order's chapter in Culmsee (Pol. Chełmża), especially his 2013 monograph, would be highly useful in supplementing the studies of the priest brothers holding important offices.⁶ Martin von Linow, the chaplain of the Grand Master, is the subject of a whole separate article, thus the discussion of his profile has been significantly expanded since previous studies.⁷ The author of this review has also discussed parish priests of the Order as part of a study on the clergy of Thorn (Pol. Toruń); among them were important members of the Teutonic Order such as Andreas Pfaffendorf and Andreas Ruperti.⁸ The references made by German researchers to Polish studies, some of which has recently focused exactly on the issue of Teutonic Order's clergy in Prussia, are very general and focus almost entirely on the studies which have been published in German.⁹

⁶ R. Krajniak, *Prepozyci krzyżackiej kapituły katedralnej w Chełmży w latach 1266–1457*, *Zapiski Historyczne* 75 (2010), 3, pp. 7–37 (the article is also available in English: *Provosts of the Teutonic Cathedral chapter in Chełmża in the years 1266–1457*, *Zapiski Historyczne* 75 (2010 [2012]), 3, pp. 5–32); idem, *Prałaci kapituły katedralnej w Chełmży w okresie krzyżackim (do 1466 r.)*, in: *Kościół i duchowieństwo w średniowiecznej Polsce i na obszarach sąsiednich*, ed. R. Biskup, A. Radzimiński (Ecclesia clerusque temporibus medii aevii 3), Toruń 2013, pp. 73–117; idem, *Duchowieństwo kapituły katedralnej w Chełmży do 1466 roku. Studium prosopograficzne*, Toruń 2013.

⁷ Idem, *Martin von Linow – kariera duchownego krzyżackiego z przełomu XIV i XV w.*, *Komunikaty Mazursko-Warmińskie* 4/278 (2012), pp. 719–733.

⁸ M. Sumowski, *Duchowni diecezjalni w średniowiecznym Toruniu. Studium prosopograficzne*, Toruń 2012. This study requires a number of corrections and expansions. Remigius Stachowiak already noted some in his discussion of this monograph written for the *Zeitschrift für die Geschichte und Altertumskunde Ermlands* 58 (2014), pp. 103–105.

⁹ Among the publications which could be of interest to researchers working on the clergy of the Teutonic Order are for example: M. Dorna, *Bracia zakonu krzyżackiego w Prusach w la-*

Despite what the title of the volume suggests, it is not a synthesis of the issue. The problems discussed in the volume are a direct consequence of the research conducted by the authors. There are certainly many more areas of research connected to the issue of priest brothers in the Teutonic Order, which could be further expanded on. Examples of this surely include biographical and prosopographical studies, which have also been undertaken by some of the authors of the volume. As has been pointed out earlier, international cooperation would be highly commendable, and could lead to more complete profiles of the clergy members of the Teutonic Order. The social significance of these clergymen, especially in medieval Prussia also seems worth a detailed study.¹⁰

The undeniable, overall achievement of the volume, apart from studies of selected issues addressed in individual articles, is the fact that it reminds the readers about the role of priest brothers as important members of the Teutonic Order. The significance of individual studies included in the volume is particularly apparent in this context as they form an overview or panorama of the discussed theme. Thus, this collected volume may serve as a source of inspiration for further studies, including detailed research as well as more general works focusing on the Teutonic Order's clergy.

Marcin Sumowski (Toruń)

tach 1228–1309. Studium prosopograficzne, Poznań 2004 (a new edition in German: *Die Brüder des Deutschen Ordens in Preussen 1228–1309. Eine prosopographische Studie*, übers. v. M. Faber, Wien–Köln–Weimar 2012). In the case of the number of clergy members of the Order, which has been discussed in the reviewed volume by Damian Hungs, one should take notice of the results of the research of Sławomir Józwiak, *Liczebność konwentów zakonu krzyżackiego w Prusach w pierwszej połowie XV wieku*, *Zapiski Historyczne* 72 (2007), 1, pp. 7–22. Other useful, supplementing, titles are two articles about the priests in Marienburg (Pol. Malbork), which were published at the same time as the volume under discussion: S. Józwiak, J. Trupinda, *Wieża Klesza i jej mieszkańcy w średniowieczu*, in: *Wieża Klesza i Domek Dzwonnika na Zamku Wysokim w Malborku. Dzieje i konserwacja*, ed. J. Hochleitner, M. Mierzwiński, Malbork 2016, pp. 9–13; W. Długokęcki, *Z dziejów duchowieństwa na zamku malborskim w końcu XIV – pierwszej połowie XV wieku*, in: *Wieża Klesza* (as above), pp. 15–24.

¹⁰ Some of the problems connected to the functioning of the priest brothers of the Teutonic Order in Prussian cities are discussed by the author of this review in his doctoral thesis, supervised by professor A. Radziwiński, entitled: „*Clerus et cives*. Niższe duchowieństwo w miejskiej przestrzeni społecznej późnośredniowiecznych Prus” [Eng.: *Clerus et cives*. Lower clergy in the urban social space of late medieval Prussia].