

Budapest 2001

ZIGMANTAS KIAUPA, AIN MÄESALU,
AGO PAJUR, GUNTIS VILUMSONS

THE HISTORY OF THE BALTIC COUNTRIES



TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. THE PREHISTORIC ERA AND THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES

1.	THE EARLIEST INHABITANTS OF THE BALTIC REGION	13
1.1	CLIMATIC CONDITIONS AND SHAPING OF NATURAL CONDITIONS	13
1.2	THE APPEARANCE OF THE EARLIEST INHABITANTS	14
2.	COMMUNITY OF HUNTERS, FISHERMEN AND GATHERERS OF THE GIFTS OF THE FOREST	15
2.1	THE ECONOMY AND MATERIAL CULTURE	15
2.2	ARCHAEOLOGICAL CULTURES	17
2.3	SPIRITUAL CULTURE, BELIEFS AND RELATIONS WITH REALITY	19
3.	ETHNICAL ORIGIN OF STONE AGE MEN	20
3.1	THE EARLIEST INHABITANTS	20
3.2	THE INHABITANTS OF THE COMB CERAMIC CULTURE	20
3.3	THE INHABITANTS OF THE CORD CERAMIC CULTURE	21
4.	DEVELOPMENT OF CULTIVATION ECONOMY	22
4.1	THE BEGINNING OF A CULTIVATION ECONOMY	22
4.2	EARLY METAL AGE	22
5.	BALTIC TRIBES IN THE 1ST MILLENNIUM AD	25
5.1	ECONOMY	25
5.2	EXTERNAL RELATIONS	26
5.3	SOCIAL ORGANIZATION AND EMERGENCE OF TRIBAL SOCIETY	28
6.	BALTIC PEOPLES AT THE TURN OF THE 1ST-2ND MILLENNIA	29
6.1	THE PEOPLES OF THE BALTIC COUNTRIES	29
6.2	SOCIAL ORGANIZATION	30
6.3	EXTERNAL RELATIONS	30
6.4	ANCIENT RELIGION	33
6.5	THE BALTIC PEOPLES AND CHRISTIANITY	34

II. THE MIDDLE AGES

1.	FORMATION OF STATES AND EXPANSION OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE BALTIC COUNTRIES IN THE 13TH CENTURY	39
1.1	A PAGAN WEDGE IN THE CHRISTIAN WORLD	39
1.2	BEGINNING OF THE CHRISTIAN EXPANSION	39
1.3	FORMATION OF THE LITHUANIAN STATE	41
1.4	FIGHT OF THE BALTS AGAINST THE ORDER UP TO THE END OF THE 13TH CENTURY	42
1.5	OVERVIEW OF THE 13TH CENTURY	43

2.	SOCIO-POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE GREAT DUCHY OF LITHUANIA	44
2.1	THE LITHUANIA OF GEDIMINAS UNTIL CHRISTIANIZATION IN 1387	44
2.2	LITHUANIA DURING THE PERIOD OF JOGAILA AND VYTAUTAS	46
2.3	LITHUANIA IN THE LATE MEDIEVAL AGES (1430–1569)	48
3.	SOCIO-POLITICAL HISTORY OF LIVONIA	50
3.1	SOCIO-POLITICAL STRUCTURE OF LIVONIA	50
3.2.	LIVONIA UNDER THE HEGEMONY OF THE ORDER	52
3.3	LIVONIA DURING THE LATE MIDDLE AGES	53
4.	THE LANDS OF THE TEUTONIC ORDER. THE DUCHY OF PRUSSIA AND LITHUANIA MINOR	56
4.1.	THE RISE AND FALL OF THE TEUTONIC ORDER	56
4.2	THE DUCHY OF PRUSSIA	57
4.3.	LITHUANIA MINOR	57
5.	SOCIETY AND ECONOMY IN THE BALTIC COUNTRIES, 14TH – MID. 16TH CENTURY	58
5.1	DEMOGRAPHIC AND ETHNIC CHANGE.	58
5.2.	THE COUNTRYSIDE	59
5.3	TOWNS	60
5.4.	THE MARKET AND TRADE ROUTES	61
5.5	THE STRUCTURE OF SOCIETY AND THE ECONOMY IN THE BALTIC COUNTRIES ON THE EVE OF THE MODERN ERA	63
6.	THE CULTURE OF THE BALTIC COUNTRIES FROM THE 13TH TO 16TH CENTURY	64
6.1	PAGANISM AND CHRISTIANITY	64
6.2	CULTURAL CENTRES AND CONDITIONS IN THE COUNTRY	65
6.3	SCHOOLS AND WRITING	66
6.4	THE REFLECTION OF MEDIEVAL ART	68
6.5.	THE BEGINNING OF THE REFORMATION	69
7.	THE BALTIC COUNTRIES IN THE LATE MEDIEVAL PERIOD: GENERAL CONCLUSION	71
7.1	CHANGES IN THE GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION	71
7.2.	THE CONSEQUENCES OF SOCIAL CHANGE	72
7.3	THE BASIC FEATURES OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE BALTIC PEOPLES	73

III. THE BALTIC COUNTRIES IN THE EARLY MODERN PERIOD

1.	POLITICAL HISTORY	77
1.1	THE LIVONIAN WAR AND GEOPOLITICAL CHANGES IN THE REGION IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 16TH CENTURY	77
1.2	THE REFORMS OF THE 1560S IN LITHUANIA	78
1.3.	THE LUBLIN UNION (1569) AND FORMATION OF RZECZPOSPOLITA	79

1 4. LITHUANIA WITHIN RZECZPOSPOLITA	80
1 5 THE WAR OF 1600–1629	80
1 6 THE FIRST NORTHERN WAR 1654–1667	81
1 7 DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC POLICY OF THE LITHUANIAN GRAND DUCHY IN THE 17TH CENTURY	83
1 8 LIVONIA AS A PART OF RZECZPOSPOLITA IN THE 17TH CENTURY	83
1.9. THE KURLAND DUCHY IN THE 17TH CENTURY	84
1 10 LIVONIA AND ESTONIA UNDER SWEDISH REIGN IN THE 17TH CENTURY	85
1 11 THE GREAT NORTHERN WAR (1700–1721) AND ITS OUTCOME	85
1 12 LIVONIA AND ESTONIA UNDER THE CONTROL OF RUSSIA IN THE 18TH CENTURY	87
1 13 LITHUANIAN GRAND DUCHY IN THE 18TH CENTURY	88
1 14 DIVIDING RZECZPOSPOLITA	89
1 15 KURLAND IN THE 18TH CENTURY	91
2. DEMOGRAPHIC AND ETHNIC PROCESSES	93
3. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HISTORY	95
3.1. ESTATE AND VILLAGE	95
3 2. TOWN AND TRADE	97
4. INTELLECTUAL LIFE	99
4 1 CONTINUATION OF THE REFORMATION	99
4 2 THE COUNTER-REFORMATION	99
4 3 CULTURAL PROCESSES IN THE 16TH AND 17TH CENTURIES	100
4 4 BAROQUE AND ENLIGHTENMENT IN THE BALTIC COUNTRIES	101
5. SUMMARY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIETY	103

IV. THE MODERN ERA: THE 19TH TO THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY

1. POLITICAL HISTORY	107
1 1 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS AND SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT AT THE TURN OF THE 19TH CENTURY	107
1 2 REFORMS IN ESTONIA AND LIVONIA IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY	108
1 3 THE NAPOLEONIC WARS AND THE BALTIC AREAS	109
1 4 POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE BALTIC THE ABOLITION OF SERFDOM IN ESTONIA, KURLAND AND LIVONIA	110
1.5 THE UPRISING OF 1830–1831 IN LITHUANIA	110
1 6 REFORMS IN ESTONIA AND LIVONIA IN THE 1840'S	111
1.7 THE ABOLITION OF SERFDOM IN LITHUANIA AND LATGALLIA IN 1861	112
1 8 THE UPRISING OF 1863–1864 IN LITHUANIA	113
1.9. REFORMS AND COUNTER-REFORMS IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY	114
1.10 THE 1905 REVOLUTION IN THE BALTIC	116

2.	SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	119
2.1	DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION IN THE BALTIC REGION AND POPULATION GROWTH	119
2.2.	DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL RELATIONS VILLAGE	119
2.3	AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT	120
2.4	DEVELOPMENT OF TOWNS AND INDUSTRY	120
2.5.	DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE AND TRANSPORT	122
2.6	CULTURAL LIFE AND NATIONAL MOVEMENTS	122

V. THE BALTIC STATES 1914–1939

1.	WORLD WAR I (1914–1918)	129
1.1	WAR EVENTS BETWEEN 1914–1917	129
1.2	THE INFLUENCE OF THE RUSSIAN DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION IN THE BALTIC STATES	130
1.3.	THE BOLSHEVIK OCTOBER REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA AND THE BALTIC REGION	131
1.4	THE OCCUPATION OF THE BALTIC REGION	132
1.5	THE RESULTS OF THE GERMAN DEFEAT IN THE BALTIC REGION	133
2.	THE FORMATION OF INDEPENDENT STATES (1918–1921)	135
2.1	THE OFFENSIVE OF THE RED ARMY	135
2.2	THE BOLSHEVIK POWER IN THE BALTIC STATES	136
2.3.	THE TURN IN THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE	137
2.4	PEACE TREATIES WITH SOVIET RUSSIA	140
2.5.	THE BEGINNING OF THE LITHUANIAN-POLISH CONFLICT	141
2.6	DEVELOPMENT OF STATEHOOD	141
3.	INTERNAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT	143
3.1	PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY	143
3.2	OVERTHROW OF THE GOVERNMENTS	144
3.3.	AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES	145
3.4	ETHNIC MINORITIES	146
4.	ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT	149
4.1.	AGRICULTURE	150
4.2.	INDUSTRY	151
5.	CULTURAL LIFE	153
5.1.	EDUCATION AND SCIENCE	153
5.2.	LITERATURE	154
5.3	THEATRE AND MUSIC	155
5.4.	FINE ARTS	156
5.5	SPORT	157
6.	FOREIGN POLICY	158
6.1	THE BEGINNING OF THE 1920S THE BALTIC UNION	158
6.2.	THE END OF THE 1920S INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	159
6.3	THE 1930S GROWING TENSION	160

VI. THE BALTIC STATES IN 1939–1986

1.	THE SOVIET OCCUPATION	165
1.1	THE PACTS ON MILITARY BASES	165
1.2	OCCUPATION	167
1.3	SOVIETISATION	168
1.4	REPRESSION AND RESISTANCE	169
2.	THE OCCUPATION BY NAZI GERMANY	170
2.1	BATTLES IN THE BALTIC STATES IN 1941	170
2.2	OCCUPATION REGIME	171
2.3	REPRESSION AND RESISTANCE	172
2.4	BALTIC NATIONS IN THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE BELLIGERENTS	175
2.5	OCCUPATION OF THE BALTIC STATES BY THE RED ARMY	176
2.6	ATTEMPTS TO RE-ESTABLISH INDEPENDENCE	177
3.	RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOVIET OCCUPATION	179
3.1	INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF THE BALTIC STATES	179
3.2	SOVIETISATION	179
3.3	REPRESSION	180
3.4	RESISTANCE	181
3.5	ECONOMIC REFORMS	182
4.	CHANGES IN THE SOVIET SYSTEM	184
4.1	MELTING PERIOD	184
4.2	ECONOMIC CHANGES	185
4.3	NEW CHANGES IN SOCIETY	186
4.4	RESISTANCE AGAINST THE SOVIET REGIME	189
5.	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE	191
6.	EMIGRATION FROM ESTONIA, LATVIA AND LITHUANIA	194

VII. BALTIC HISTORY 1986–1996

1.	BEGINNING OF THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT IN THE BALTIC STATES	199
2.	RESTORATION OF INDEPENDENCE IN THE BALTIC STATES	203
3.	THE BALTIC STATES AFTER THE RESTORATION OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE	211

CHRONOLOGY	216
-------------------	------------