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# LIETUVIŲ ATGIMIMO ISTORIJOS STUDIJOS

5

*Simonas Daukantas*

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# Studies in the History of Lithuanian National Revival Volume 5: Simonas Daukantas

## S u m m a r y

### I. ARTICLES. STUDIES.

#### *Elmantas Meilus*

#### ON DAUKANTAS' FAMILY

Based on the archives and Vytautas Merkys' monograph (Simonas Daukantas. Vilnius, 1991), the article tries to analyze whether the family of the Lithuanian historian and educator Simonas Daukantas was of the noble or peasant origin.

In the first section of the article, relying mostly on the inventories of the 17th and 18th centuries as well as on the Lenkimai Church christening, death and marriage books of the 18th – beginning of 19th centuries, the version of Daukantas' peasant origin is discussed.

The second section which is mostly based on the Court cases of the Duchy of Samogitia of the 16th–18th centuries and other original documents, the version of his noble origin is analyzed.

In the third section, which mostly relies on the document of 1820, confirming Daukantas' noble origin, the disagreements between the first two sections are analyzed. However, the final conclusion is not drawn.

The appendix to the article presents the document of 1820 in the original (Polish) language which confirms that Daukantas' family belonged to the gentry. It also encloses four genealogical tables and the table, where all the Daukantases, back to the inventories of the 17th–18th centuries in Skuodas County, are registered.

*Roma Bončkutė*THE FIRST LITHUANIAN HISTORY: TWO COPIES OF "DARBAI" –  
"THE WORKS" BY SIMONAS DAUKANTAS

The article presents the results of textological investigations conducted on the copies of Simonas Daukantas' "The Works". They specify the origin and time of rewriting the historic copies. The conclusion arrived at is that the later copy from the point of view of its language is closer to the original, however the earlier one is more complete and reliable.

*Giedrius Subačius*THE POINT OF VIEW OF SIMONAS DAUKANTAS  
TO STANDARD LITHUANIAN

Simonas Daukantas intended to create Standard Lithuanian on the basis of both the Samogitian and the Aukštaičiai dialects, but he did not clearly know how to put this into practice.

*Saulius Pivoras*SIMONAS DAUKANTAS – THE FOUNDER OF LITHUANIAN NA-  
TIONAL HISTORIOGRAPHY

The article expresses the idea that Simonas Daukantas' works we have not yet been seriously analyzed from the point of view of their historiographic concept and problematic approach. When making clear the reasons for this fact and the outlook rooted in the historic consciousness of the society, it turns out that the so-called "historiography of romanticism" has not been evaluated until the present Daukantas' personality and his works were analyzed by linguists, experts in literature and scientists in socialpolitical history of the 19th century. Still, the latter could not evaluate the so-called "romantic historism" and Daukantas' merit to historiography. It has been noted that Daukantas in some places essentially changed his historic evaluation (the role of Mindaugas in the establishment of the Lithuanian State). The article sets the goal for deeper and more precise examination comparing Daukantas' works with the historiography of other countries of that period. There is no doubt that Daukantas was, in fact, the founder of the Lithuanian national history.

*Vytautas Berenis*COMPREHENSION OF SIMONAS DAUKANTAS' AND JUOZAS  
JAROŠEVIČIUS' HISTORIC LITHUANIA

Simonas Daukantas' and Juozas Jaroševičius' historic works are not ascribed to popular books of the 19th century Lithuanian society. However, the concepts of these historians made influence to the later historic consciousness of the society. Daukantas in his work "The Character of the Ancient Lithuanians, Highlanders and Samogitians" and Jaroševičius in his work "Picture of Lithuania from the Point of View of Its Civilization from the Most Ancient Times Up to the End of the 18th Century", introducing the concepts of "culture" and "civilization" for the first time tried to present the entire history of Lithuanian Culture. The object of Daukantas' culture is the authenticity of the Lithuanian ethnographic heritage. Jaroševičius' concept of Lithuanian civilization covers cultural achievements and interrelations of pagan Lithuanian community as well as those of different nations in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Having different understanding of christening in Lithuania and the spread of Polish culture in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania as well as different comprehension of the terms "Lithuanian" and "Lithuanian culture", the two historians came to different conclusions. Daukantas saw the reasons of Lithuanian state and its nation's decline in the period of Polish-Lithuanian Unified State and the influence of Polish culture. Jaroševičius' concept of the development of Lithuanian civilization was based on completely different presumptions and conclusions: dynamic development of Lithuania was determined by the marked influence of Polish Civilization. Thus, the historic concepts of Daukantas and Jaroševičius reflected some of the ideas of the first half of the 19th century on the heritage of the ancient Lithuania and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. While the historian from Žemaitija (Samogitia) conceived the past from the point of view of the developing national ideology, describing it in estate, language and ethnic criteria, Jaroševičius' historiographic viewpoint expressed ethnopolitic mentality which was alive in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and which later was described in Lithuanian national ideology as "Polish" and "favouring the union".

*Zigmantas Kiaupa*COLLECTION OF WORKS ON LITHUANIAN METRICS BY  
SIMONAS DAUKANTAS

Simonas Daukantas' work on Lithuanian Metrics (LM) proves his interest in historic sources. In the archives of Daukantas preserved in the Institute of Lithuanian Literature there are more than 1000 pages of LM extracts, which make four thick collections. Two of them are kept in Vasilis Stefanik Scientific Library in Lvov, with the acts of political history of 1385–1635 in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Among the archives of Daukantas there is a collection of Žemaitija (Samogitia) Privileges by Jurgis Plioteris with analogous work done by Daukantas. Daukantas prepared it for publishing. The Library of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg has the variant ready for press with the acts of 1390–1715. Daukantas' historic records also include the collection of privileges of 1495–1792 for independent towns, laymans and church land owners to establish little towns, to open markets and fairs. Daukantas' collections were not published, but he shared his materials with Lithuanian historians: Teodoras Narbutas, Motiejus Valančius, Simonas Stanevičius, Mykolas Balinskis, Antanas Muchlinskis.

Simonas Daukantas' investigations and efforts to spread historic data is related to his romanticism and proves his, as a historian's, criticism. These works are written to historians and sophisticated fans of history.

*Egidijus Aleksandravičius*KSAVERAS KANAPACKIS – PUBLISHER OF SIMONAS DAUKANTAS'  
BOOKS

Ksaveras Kanapackis (1813–1866) published at his own expense two books prepared by Simonas Daukantas: Phaedrus' "Pasakos" – "Fairy Tales" and Cornelius Nepos' "Gyvatos Didžiųjų Karvaidų senovės" – "Life of the Great Ancient Warriors" (both in 1846 in St. Petersburg). By now the former misterious figure of Ksaveras Kanapackis can be more precisely described. He was one of Daukantas' colleagues in the Senate. We get to know about his deeds from several actions brought against him in the Commercial Court (1843–1845). They prove that the poor functionary received the money to publish Daukantas' books.

*Kazys Grigas*

FICTION AND SCIENTIFIC ELEMENTS OF STYLE  
 IN SIMONAS DAUKANTAS'  
 "BŪDAS" – "CHARACTER"

Simonas Daukantas' merit in the history of Lithuanian culture and literature as a founder of Lithuanian historic prose has not been properly evaluated. In his historic works one can often meet the picture of the Lithuanian forest, majestic pictures of battles and stories on the cultural past of the nation. They are individualized, expressive and artfully vivid. Today most of them are of aesthetic and educational value and are worth to be published as the most significant examples of the 19th century Lithuanian literature, taught at schools and included into the educational programs on national culture.

The article analyzes the relations between fiction and scientific descriptions in Daukantas' "Character". The attention is drawn to two tendencies which became clear due to Daukantas' use of proverbs and varied phraseology in stylistically different episodes.

*Vytautas Jurgutis*

## SIMONAS DAUKANTAS'

## "DAINĖS ŽEMAIČIŲ" – "SONGS OF SAMOGITIANS"

Simonas Daukantas continued the collection and publication of national songs started by Pilypas Ruigys in the 18th century. In 1846, after having published "Songs of Samogitians", Daukantas had an idea to continue this work further. There are more manuscript collections of national songs gathered by his colleagues. Though in most of his works Daukantas tried to avoid loan-words or used to correct them, in songs he would often leave the loan-words due to their artistic features and mark them in the footnote. He was the first to publish songs of literary origin, making a few corrections in traditional songs and more accurately correcting songs of literary origin. Sometimes Daukantas used also to edit the structure of the songs and recreate one variant from several sources.

## II. REVIEWS

*Giedrius Subačius*

### THE BOOK FOR DAUKANTAS' FRIENDS

The book under review is Egidijus Aleksandravičius' "Prieš aušrą (Jaunieji Daukanto bičiuliai)" – "Before Dawn (Young Friends of Daukantas)" – Vilnius: Žaltvykslė, 1990, 190 p. It is a study on the 19th century – the age of changes and cultural development. The impulse to write it was the genesis of the only known portrait of Simonas Daukantas. The book analyzes the dissemination of Daukantas' ideas and concentrates its attention on J. Zenkevičius, the author of Daukantas' portrait. The language of the book is very expressive.

## III. PUBLICATIONS

### APPLICATIONS WRITTEN BY SIMONAS DAUKANTAS

*Prepared by Vytautas Merkys*

The article covers written applications of the famous Lithuanian historian and educator Simonas Daukantas (1793–1864) to the authorities of Vilnius University (1825) with the request to certify his studies at the Faculty of Literature and Free Arts.

There are also the applications written to the Russian Haroldy of the Boarding Senate (1837–1845) for the documents confirming his gentry origin and to the other Department of the Senate, where he had been working, for vacation and resignation from his duties because of the illness and retirement (1850–1851). Besides, correspondence between governmental institutions concerning Daukantas' applications is included.

### FROM THE THREE SIMONAS DAUKANTAS' INSCRIPTION BOOKS

*Prepared by Roma Bončkutė*

This publication presents three Simonas Daukantas' inscription books. These three inscriptions give some information about his inclinations, aims and preparations for creative work. As neither plans, nor sketches of works have been found in Daukantas' heritage, these three books fill the gap and make us familiar with the initial creative process. Besides, from the spell-

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ing in Lithuanian inscriptions, the time of his other works can be more  
accurately established.

THE PREFACE OF THE COLLECTION OF SAMOGITIANS (ŽEMAIČIAI)  
PRIVILEGES WRITTEN BY SIMONAS DAUKANTAS

*Prepared by Zigmantas Kiaupa*

The Preface to the Collection of Samogitian' Privileges prepared and written by Simonas Daukantas between 1846–1855 in St. Petersburg or Varniai is presented. Here Daukantas describes the evolution of Samogitia (Žemaitija) on the break of the 14–15th centuries in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, the genesis of privileges, the meaning of the name “Žemaitija”, explains the status of some social categories of the population and Samogitian denominative words.

SUPPLEMENTS TO SIMONAS DAUKANTAS' LETTER OF SEPTEMBER  
9, 1842 TO TEODORAS NARBUTAS

*Prepared by Zigmantas Kiaupa*

In the supplements the texts by Simonas Daukantas written to Teodoras Narbutas are presented, where Daukantas analyzes the origin of the gentry Coats of arms, informs Narbutas on the former register about the privileges in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, gives the description of the archives of the Polish Kingdom of 1730, focuses his attention on the main documents, quotes and discusses them.

*Saulius Žukas*

THE FIRST COLLECTION OF DOCUMENTS ABOUT SIMONAS  
DAUKANTAS

The suggested publication on the archives is “Medžiagą S.Daukanto biografijai” – “The Material for Simonas Daukantas Biography”, published in the United States of America in 1898 and prepared by Mečislovas Davainis-Silvestraitis and Aleksandras Burba. In this book, the reminiscences on Daukantas, letters, other archival data, the portrait of the historian, recreated according to the stories of his witnesses, are described. The presented materials – facts on his way of life, communication with his relatives and likeminded persons – make us better understand the life of the person who became the legend of Lithuanian cultural history.