

# Table of Contents

## Preface 9

## THE MIDDLE AGES 11

### Introduction 12

#### Place in Europe and Historical Consciousness 12

- Open Frontiers and the Emergence of the Polish State 12
- The Beginnings of Historical Consciousness 13
- Historical Consciousness and Politics 14
- Expansion of the State in the Fourteenth Century 15

#### Man and the Forces of Production 15

- The Expansion and Integration of the Population 15
- The Birth of Economic Production 16
- The Development of Towns 16
- The Exploitation of Natural Resources and New Forms of Labor 17

#### Social Unrest 18

- The Popular Insurrection of 1037 18
- Rebellions in the Towns 18
- The Hussite Movement 19

#### The Unification of the State and the Integration of the Nation 20

- The Unity of the Nation 20
- The Tartar Threat 20
- The Threat from the Germans and the Teutonic Order 21
- The System of Estates 21
- Political Advancement of the Gentry 22

#### View of the World 22

- The Christian Life 22
- Radical Religious Movements 23
- The Ideas of the Scholars of Cracow 24
- The Particular Value of Justice 24

#### The Arts 25

- The Culture of the Written Language 25
- The Romanesque Style 26
- Gothic Art 27

#### Culture in Society 28

- The Spread of Christianity 28
- General Education and the University of Cracow 30
- Cultural Centers in Society 31
- In the Service of God and Country 32
- Social and Personal Culture 33

#### Foreign Culture in Poland and Polish Culture in the World 34

- The National Version of Universal Christian Culture 34
- Poland in the Eyes of the World 35
- Polish Contribution to Science and Philosophy in the Middle Ages 36

#### Conclusions 36

## THE RENAISSANCE 39

### Introduction 40

#### Place in Europe and Historical Consciousness 40

- The State Frontiers of the Commonwealth of Two Nations 40
- Historiography and Historical Interests 41
- Poland Presents Itself to the World 43

#### Man and the Forces of Production 43

- The Feudal Consciousness 43
- Early Industry 44
- Decline of the Cities and the Landowners' Mentality 45

<b>Social Unrest</b>	46
Peasant Protests	46
The Situation in the Cities	46
Conflict Between the Gentry and the Magnates	47
Ideology of Agreement	48
<b>The Commonwealth of Poland</b>	49
State Sovereignty	49
The King as Ruler of the Commonwealth	50
Reform of the Commonwealth	50
The Arian Concept of Equality and Commonwealth	51
Free Elections: A Test of Political Maturity	52
<b>View of the World</b>	52
The New Natural Sciences	52
Social Issues Before the Tribunal of Reason	53
The Secular Concept of Human Life	54
Religion as Consolation and Christ's Challenge	55
<b>The Arts</b>	56
Art and Poetry	56
Art Centers	57
The Social Roots of Art	58
The Perfection of Language Expression	61
The Intellectual and Poetic Acceptance of the World	61
<b>Culture in Society</b>	62
Development of Printing and Mass Culture	62
The Development of Schooling	64
Study Abroad	65
The Social Sources of Intellectual Education	66
The Spread of Elite Culture	67
The Culture of the Royal Court and of the Countryside	68
<b>Foreign Culture in Poland and Polish Culture in the World</b>	69
Foreign Influences	69
Opinions of Polish Culture	70
Cultural Cooperation	71
Polish Contribution to European Culture	72
<b>Conclusions</b>	73



24/20

2169

## BAROQUE 77

<b>Introduction</b>	78
<b>Place in Europe and Historical Consciousness</b>	78
The Defense of Poland's Borders	78
The Fate and Responsibilities of Ordinary People	79
Historiography	80
<b>Man and the Forces of Production</b>	80
Serf Exploitation	80
The Prospects for a New Economic Mentality	81
<b>Social Unrest</b>	82
The Peasant Question	82
The Conflict Between the Gentry and the Burghers	83
The Catholic Nation	83
<b>The Commonwealth</b>	84
Military Forces	84
The Royal Power and the Freedoms of the Gentry	85
The Politics of the Magnate Families	86
On Ineffective Councils	87
<b>View of the World</b>	87
The Antagonism of Pleasure and Heroism	87
The Arian View of the World	88
Classical Traditions in Attitudes Toward Life	89
Catholic Instructions	90
<b>The Arts</b>	90
The Importance of Poetry	90
Architecture: The Art of the Polish Baroque	92
The Decorations of Life and Death	94

The Art of the Theater 96

### Culture in Society 96

Culture and Education 96

Culture and Life 99

The Burden of Existence 101

Sarmatism 101

### Foreign Culture in Poland and Polish Culture in the World 103

Foreign Contacts 103

Polish Contribution to European Culture 104

### Conclusions 106

## THE ENLIGHTENMENT 109

### Introduction 110

#### Place in Europe and Historical Consciousness 110

The First Partition of Poland 110

The Second and the Third Partition of Poland 111

The New Historiography 112

Historical Culture 113

#### Man and the Forces of Production 114

Revival of the Economy and the New Economic Mentality 114

Medical Care and Protection of the Working Man 115

#### Social Unrest and National Integration 116

Situation of the Peasants and Attempts at Reform 116

The Struggle of the Cities for Their Rights 117

The Situation of the Gentry 117

A Menacing Revolution but Desired 118

#### Reform of the State 119

First Reforms and the Mentality of the Bar Confederacy 119

New Political Consciousness: The Constitution of the Third of May 120

Patriotism and Revolution 121

Patriotism of the Entire Nation: The Kosciuszko Insurrection 122

#### View of the World 122

Freedom and the World 122

The Philosophy of History 123

The Ethics of Justice and Humanity 124

Hedonism and the Philosophy of Love 125

Religion of the Enlightened 126

#### The Arts 127

Science and Poetry 127

The Sources of Art 128

The Variety of Styles 130

#### Culture in Society 132

The Social Distribution of Culture 132

Reform of National Education: The First Ministry of Education in Europe 133

Instruments of the Cultural Offensive: The Press, Books, the Salons, and the Theater 135

Sarmatism, Foreign Fashions and National Culture 137

Folk Culture 138

### Foreign Culture in Poland and Polish Culture in the World 139

Foreigners in Poland 139

Dialogue with Western Culture 140

Poland in the Eyes of the World 142

### Conclusions 144

## THE PERIOD OF BONDAGE 147

### Introduction 148

#### Place in Europe and Historical Consciousness 148

Beauty of the Native Land 148

The People Draw the Frontiers of Poland 149

Special Role of the Tatra Mountains in Polish Culture 150

Historians Deliver Their Verdict on the Nation 151

Worship of the Past and Faith in the Future 152

<b>Man and the Forces of Production</b>	155
Demographic and Economic Development	155
Industrial Re-education of the Community	157
<b>Social Unrest</b>	158
The Struggle for Independence and the Peasant Question	158
The People and the National Life	159
The Workers' Movement and the Proletarian Revolution	161
The Intelligentsia at the Crossroads	162
<b>Battle for the State</b>	163
Grand Strategies	163
The Vision of a Future Democratic Poland	164
Individual Responsibility and Social Community	165
The Increasing Strength of the Nation	166
<b>View of the World</b>	167
The Philosophy of Historical Maturity	167
Various Concepts of Socio-political Activity	169
Existential Problems	171
<b>The Arts</b>	173
Creative Work for the Sake of the Homeland	173
Art and National Integration	174
The Symbolic Expression of the Invisible World	175
<b>Culture in Society</b>	179
New Models of Life	179
Education of the Heart and Education of Reason	181
The Schools of the Partitioning Powers and Education Through Participation in National Life	182
Learning, Art and the Theater as Educational Activity	184
Culture of the Peasant and the Worker	189
<b>Foreign Culture in Poland and Polish Culture in the World</b>	190
Criticism of European Civilization	190
For Your Freedom and Ours	191
The Political and Scientific Activity of the Emigrés	193
Problems of a "Second" Homeland	194
<b>Conclusions</b>	196

## INDEPENDENT POLAND 199

### Introduction 200

#### Poland Between the Wars 200

Place in Europe and Historical Consciousness	200
Social Conflicts and National Goals	202
Ideological Plurality	205
The Art of Dissent and Exploration	208
Elite Culture and Mass Culture	210
Poland and the World	213

#### Occupation 214

The Defeat of 1939 and the Will to Resist	214
The Defense of National Culture	215
Faits Accomplis and Human Values	216

#### People's Poland 217

The Year 1945: New Boundaries and New Historical Consciousness	217
Bitter and Critical Post-war Reflections	218
The Road to Socialist Poland	220
Marxism and View of the World	224
Cry of the Heart	228
Realism and the Variety of Currents in the Arts	231
Prospects for Popular and Everyday Culture	235
Poland and the World	238

#### Index of Names 240

#### List of Illustrations 249