The Veszprém Diocese’s Lower Clergy Disciplinary Affairs and Conflicts between 1847–1849

Fogl, Krisztián Sándor

Throughout centuries, the clergy was the Hungarian society’s intellectual layer: the priest, who had studied Latin, stood at the head of the church community, his authority filled in an important position in the life of the congregation. The confrontation between the priest and his congregation was caused by either the abolition of the tithe or revolutionary promises (freedom, equality, brotherhood), and the philosophy, characterized by the supremacy of reason of the Enlightenment, re-evaluated the social status of the clergy.

In this essay, the author is searching for the answer to his question, how did the revolutionary events of the years 1848–1849 affect the attitude and disciplinary life of the diocese’s lower clergy?

The main sources for the essay can be found in the Veszprém Archdiocesan and Chapter Archives, the church authority containing official correspondents was Acta Dioecesana. In this fond the short Regestas Holy See records are included, which contain counts of indictment, which served as main starting points, further more the author carried out research about accusation letters and decanal reports. The method for approaching the topic was a microhistory, inasmuch as the sources enabled him to do so.

In the first casework, the author has carried out research about György Huszár (1811–1853), the priest of Sümegcsehi (1845–1851), and his relationship with his congregation. The sources he found for the research were the Holy See records, accusation letters and also the Sümegcsehi parish’s Historia Domus. These sources made it possible to write a micro-history essay. In the second casework, he wrote about János Nemesovits (1800–1863), who was a member of the church, who struggled with disciplinary problems. The records of Acta Personalia between 1826–1835 constitute a valuable source for this period of his life, but Nemesovits’ long letters also make up an important starting point for the reconstruction of his biography. One can state, both priests considered their clerical profession as an opportunity for rising on a social ladder. It comes to light how Veszprém’s old priests’ institution (named after Saint Paul) saw their situation (one can read about this in Gábor Fittler’s [1801–1865] and Sándor Szalay’s [1801–1855] letters of complaints). The examined cases are general on the one hand gave a micro-historical research, on the other hand it is certain, that the priests, who were part of the militia or the army, were not always patriotic. Sometimes they joined the army, because they were neglected or they needed money, thus they were hoping for a better future. The priests who were condemned for moral sins usually found it hard to return into the priests’ society.
The power and influence of the Roman Catholic Church was emerged among the other Church (and their religious organizations) in the interwar Poland. The Church declared its independent even so they had tight and varied relationships with the other political groups from this period. Furthermore they had a significant effect over the life of the social organizations.

Churches – thanks to their ballasted financial background – had a main role in the Polish life of press. The Catholic press was started to develop in the end of 19 century and few decades later they had some very important and outstanding number of copies printed papers. From these press, as a daily was a prominent product the Mały Dziennik, which was founded in May of 1935. The newspaper has achieved tremendous success during our era. Its workers (editors or journals) strongly connected with the anti-Semitic ‘endecja’ (‘National Democratic side”).

The Mały Dziennik has very quickly became popular and all part of society found itself readers. The tone of the daily sometimes was radical: they supported the economical boycott against the Jewish community and without any criticism accepted the Nuremberg Laws. They propagated the fight against the freemasonry and Jewish society, furthermore in their journalism were perceptible the strongly anti-communist and anti-German ideology.

The Głos Narodu had an other role in the Polish press at the time. The daily was printed only in few thousand issue (as against with Mały Dziennik, which was printed about 120 thousand issue), mainly target for the intellectuals. Its editor was a famous priest, Jan Piwowarczyk. The paper did not escape the anti-Semitic tone also, some workers raise the ghetto-question, too.
The Effects of the Church Acts of 2011-12 on the Pentecostal Church of Hungary

Nagy, Balázs Milán D.

The essay investigates the effects of the Church Acts of 2011–2012 on the Pentecostal Church of Hungary (PCH). Many smaller congregations initiated negotiations with the leadership of the PCH, when they learnt about the new law amendment. Most of these congregations realized, that they are likely to lose their status as a church. The Pentecostal Leadership intended to help, as opposed to this they also realized that they must also elaborate new church structure, and church leadership.

The essay consists of 4 main chapters. The first chapter examines the different law amendments, and also the direct reactions of the PCH. In the second chapter, all structural and executive alterations are examined that needed to take place for this cooperation. The third chapter reports the main discussions between the joining congregations and the PCH. The fourth chapter investigates the relational changes between the joined congregations and the PCH.

The essay uses mostly primer sources, both written and oral, but also refers to some seconder sources.

Rescue Action for the Hungarian ’Christian Press’ in 1926

Fazekas, Csaba – Klestenitz, Tibor

This paper includes an interesting a formerly unpublished letter written by János Zichy (1868–1944) in April 1926 with a detailed introduction of the circumstances. Zichy was a famous a well-known public figure of the Hungarian Christian policy from the end of the 19th century. In the interwar Hungary he was the president of the ‘Christian National Economic Party’ (= Keresztény Nemzeti Gazdasági Párt), head or leader of different social and political societies. Nevertheless the Zichy’s most important position was the presidency of the ‘Central Press Company’ (= Központi Sajtóvállalat). These company organized the Conservative Catholic press movement in Hungary and published the most wide-spread dailies of the Hungarian right. (Nemzeti Újság = ‘National Press’ and Új Nemzedék = ‘New Generation’)

The ‘Central Press Company’ always had financial problems, the conditions were solved only in short periods. (E.g. by funding a new Public Limited Company, new investors etc.) In the middle of the 1920’s Zichy and his fellows gave up their oppositional political position and supported the prime minister, István Bethlen’s consolidation policy. The ‘Christian press’ met with newer and newer financial problems in connection with the concurrency fight with the liberal press and the lost of daily issues. Zichy wrote a lot of letters to the Hungarian Bishops’ Conference and the rich and important figures of the social life.

The here published letter was addressed to Tasziló Festetics (1850–1933). Zichy gave a detailed analysis about the situation of the ‘Christian
press’ and asked Festetics to support the ‘Central Press Company’. He declared the highly importance of the ‘Christian press’ in the current political fights, moreover its missionary position in the future of mankind. Zichy not only asked financial support from the rich earl, but illustrated the Hungarian press market with detailed data, so it is a very interesting source for the Hungarian church, political and press history, too.

**Documents about Church Policy in Szolnok County from the 1970’s**

*Beke, Péter*

The author collected four documents about the state church policy in the 1970’s focusing on Szolnok county. The first document is the primary source of the Hungarian church policy in the 1970’s: a summary from the decision made by the Political Committee of the HSWP (Hungarian Socialist Worker Party) on 4th December 1973. According to this document, the question of the ‘clerical reaction’ was a political question for the state authorities. To solve this problem, the SOCA (State Office of Church Affairs, in Hungarian: ÁEH) tried to influence the Hungarian Catholic high clergy and the Protestant deans politically. The document tells about the necessary awareness to the different churches and denominations in Hungary and the coordination of the state authorities’ political work on every level. The other three documents show how the theory worked in practice; they inform us about the route of information about religious education from the local to the national level.