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**EPICS AND MUSIC IN THE OFFICIAL CULT OF THE
EARLY GRAND DUCHY OF LITHUANIA: GENESIS AND
INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION / ABBREVIATION**

The article is an abbreviation of a wider research reconstructing the genesis and intercultural ties of mythology and music which according the surviving sources was applied in the official cult of the early Grand Duchy of Lithuania

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**EPIKA IR MUZIKA OFICIALIAJAME ANKSTYVOSIOS
DIDŽIOSIOS LIETUVOS KUNIGAIKŠTYSTĖS KULTE:
KILMĖ IR TARPKULTŪRINIAI RYŠIAI / SANTRUMPA**

Straipsnis yra santrumpa platesnio tyrimo, skirto mitologijos ir muzikos kilmės bei tarpkultūrinių ryšių rekonstrukcijai oficialiajame ankstyviosios Lietuvos Didžiosios Kunigaikštystės kulte, remiantis išlikusiais šaltiniais

The Grand Duchy of Lithuania was an important medieval European multicultural state till the end of XVIII-th century which formed or influenced identity of several modern European states and nations: Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, Poland, Latvia, Estonia and Russia. The significant marks of the state ideology are still visible and relevant in many cultural heritage artefacts: especially such as architectural, literary and even musical. Although it is surprisingly odd that the traditional mythological heroic Epos of Lithuanians is not preserved in oral tradition: Muscovians (Igors armaments campaign, Bylinas), Mongolians (Tuuli) and even Finnish (Kalevala) which created their state very late – win this competition in the XIX-th century. Theme «Lack of the Epos» is very popular in Lithuania since the XIX-th century when appeared J. Kraszewskis Trilogy «Anafiel» including «Vitol's lament». The epics' non existence is considered negatively and even positively by many writers and critics (№№ 10). Thus we can review problems of this epic tragedy and fix the lamentable situation simply: reconstruct the lost mythological heroic epics: the heroes, gods, narratives and rituals and even perform it.

The archaic Epos is hidden behind the popular XVI-th century literary legend about Lithuanian ancestor Apollo (№№ 4) - *the ancient Roman god of sun and wolves, also known as twins Videvutis and Brutenis (№№ 5), Vilius (№№ 4), Libon (№№ 15), Lemonius (№№ 12) or Polemon (the Roman king of Pontus, Argonaut or Hercules) (№№ 5, 12, 14)* - who escaped from Roman Empire during turmoil with 500 patricians and established Lithuania on the banks (Litus) of rivers (Dubysa). The comrades-in-arms of Polemon represent four nations (№№ 18) of Medieval Lithuania (Samogitians, Lithuania, Yotvings and Ruthenes). He arrived to realize the new patriarchal cult, monarchy and enforce social-cultural modernisation in peaceful lands of agriculturalists – Samogitia (Earth land)/Ulmigania (№№ 5, 12, 14). This legend, pretty well crystallized in heroic Lithuanian Epos ‘Radvilišias’ (№№ 15) (the end of XVI-th c.). On the other hand we can find legends traces back to XIII-th century in context of Semiagilians (№№ 19) – not only Lithuanians, Prussians and Livonians, what is the most interesting. This legend became the most important cultural myth of renaissance (№№ 12, 14). It symbolises the modernisation of a state as well as returning back to pure Roman pre-Christian roots of Lithuania – the final extension of Roman Empire in Sarmatia-Scythia (№№ 14). Surely the duchy of Muscovy opposed to Lithuania creating its own Roman genesis and claiming Lithuanian dynastic throne (№№ 12). The explosion of renaissance was associated with the Milano duchess who became Polish-Lithuanian Queen Bona and her residence in Plateliai (Samogitia). There she finds place in folk epics cycle replacing some kind of more ancient lady and probably becomes an opposition to Polemon. Although the legend is only interpretation Romana of older Baltic mythology, as common in medieval and renaissance sources (№№ 3, 19). This hero represents the kings and his prototype appears in XIX-th c. folklore sources as traveller and god of river Nemunas (№№ 4). His doubler Vilius (XVth. c.) - founder of Vilnius is related to rivers of Vilnia and Neris/Vilija - Gediminas establishing New Vilnius just repeats his action (№№ 7). Here it's important to note that Polemon was a relative of Nero (Roman emperor). Likely Nemunas hero/river is related to Neris. Surprising is that we are able to reveal the Chronological evolution and intercultural contacts of this Epic cycle.

The earliest epic narratives are seen in V c. B.C. Herodotus descriptions of Scythia-Sauromatia (№№ 19). Ancient Greek historian mentions myths of Sauromatian ancestors who overcame matriarchal Amazon tribes in their language called «oior pata» (slayers of men) although we simply can see that this language was genetically related to proto Baltic languages and meant just «vyro pati» (wives of men) because the legend ends with happy finish: wedding of Sauromatian men and Amazon women. The next Herodotus legend tells about nearby Scythian tribe of werewolves (№№ 2) - Neuroi (related to river Narev/Naura) which escaped from their lands to Budinoi (probably Finno-Ugric Voti) tribes from snakes and mixed with the locals. All these peoples were simply called Hyperboreans (Very northern peoples). The mythology of antiquity mentions Leto who gave a birth to twins Artemis and Apollo – the only Olympic gods worshiped by Hyperboreans, corresponding with Leda who hatched an egg to twins Castor and Pollux (in compare Finnish ornitho-morphic goddess Ilmatar who bears shaman Veinemein from egg on her knee). Twins are important figures in the legend and Baltic, especially Lithuanian mythology in general (№№ 17, 19). According Roman historian Tacitus in I-st century A.D. Castor and Pollux known as Alci were worshiped by Nahanarvalae tribe in sacred forests (reminds Lithuanians alkas – sacred grove). This cult was lead by some kind of priests wearing female clothes. Tacitus was first who mentions Aestiorum gentes (Aesti – Baltic tribes) worshiping Mother of gods and living in neighbourhood of Goths, ruled by kings.

Samogitians around Plateliai lakes have legends of lake queen, called Bona, Catherine, the Swedish (Fish eaters) queen who ruled the country until invasion of Swedes (Vikings) (№№ 13), Crusaders or Lithuanians. The queen practiced polyandry, was despotic and a warrior, similar to Finnish Louhe or Amazons. She could catch the bullets by her hands. She was a witch (Ragana) riding on the water top. She is the main figure Kotrė in Samogitian Pentecost rituals which contain ritualistic transvestism, her feast is called Ragutienė (№№ 9) as well (here she is similar to Ragneda, the Queen of Gnezdovo in Belarus (№№ 6)). She is also called Morė and Magdė associating with biblical prostitute Mary Magdalene. This demonic matriarchal cult was opposed to new cult of Perkūnas, located on mountains which were built by Swedes (Fish eaters, people from the sea).

The Lithuanian Chronicles mention Krivis Lizdeika – the high pagan priest who was found in the Eagle nest and explained Gediminas dream about Iron wolf. He obviously was considered to be an ancestor Krivo of Krivichi tribe with the early important trade and militaristic centre Gnezdowo (Nest place) (№№ 6). They early became the main ethnos of Polotsk duchy, which joined the early multicultural Lithuania. Krivis is most likely similar to shamans of Ural-Altay cultures (№№ 8) and his Roman mythological representative is Diana (as Apollo or Polemon was representative of Gediminas). This surprise explains the celibacy of Prussian high priest Brutenis/Prūsijus which is analogous to Ural-Altay shamanistic traditions. Some relicts of ritualistic transvestism are evident in Russian bylinas (№№ 1) in context about Lithuania (the mystic land overseas) and Lithuanian folklore. The cultural relations of Ural-Altay cultures are seen not only in myths related with shamans, but in language as well: Lithuanian and Prussian are the only languages using word **dangus* for sky which probably roots in **Tangra* (Ural-Altay sky deity). This word could be adapted through Yotvings (№№ 20) or neighbouring Galinds (№№ 16) language – the relatives of ancient Neuroi, some elements of Tengrism mythology inherited from Baltic cultures, like bird Div (**dievas*) in Russian epics are evident as well (№№ 11).

The XIII-th c. chronicles written in medieval Ruthenian (so called Lithuanian) mention gods and heroes which we decipher phonetically and easily detect in living oral Lithuanian tradition in compare with Asian (Ural-Altay, Korean, Hittitic myths) and well known Indo-European equivalents. According J. Malala chronicle (№№ 19) the dead **Šavys* (Bringer to fire) was helped by his son and became the leader of souls to the afterlife. He established the cult of several gods in the area of Prussians, Yotvings, Lithuanians, Yems, Livonians and many others. This mythical event happened in II millennium B.C. The established pantheon consists of **Andajis* (He the past, similar to Hittite Anu) and **Perkūnas*(Thunder)/**Dieverykštis* (Levir, representing the levirate of Baltic monarchs), **Žvarūna* (the dawn star Venus associated with whore) and **Teliavelis* (Divine Smith). Although there appear more gods: **Nunadėjis* (He the present, similar to Kumarbi), **Medeinas* (Forrester), and probably the god of hares. This cult reflects archaic Deities of Early Lithuania prior religious reform of **Šventaragis*, descendant of Polemon/Apollo.

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ФОЛЬКЛОР СЕВЕРНОГО КАЗАХСТАНА

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FOLKLORE OF NORTHERN KAZAKHSTAN

Статья рассказывает про генезис искусства устной традиции казахов и наиболее популярные музыкальные инструменты Северного Казахстана (домбру, кобыз, шертер, саз сырнай), которые звучат по сей день на североказахской земле для аккомпанемента пению и танцам, на календарных и семейных торжествах.

The article is about the genesis of art and oral traditions of the most popular musical instruments of Northern Kazakhstan (dombra, kobyz, sherter, saz syrnay), that are still accompany songs and dances at the calendar and family celebrations.

Северный Казахстан – регион Казахстана, в состав которого входит Северо-Казахстанская, Костанайская, Павлодарская, Акмолинская области и столица страны – Астана. И живут в этом благословленном, богатом на дарования крае, традиционно считаюшимся одним из духовных центров страны, талантливые люди, продолжатели великих традиций великих народных исполнителей, композиторов – Аканасерэ, Биржана сал, Укили Ыбырая, – людей особой внутренней культуры и выдержки, которых называли настоящими людьми искусства. Из седой древности до наших дней дошла казахская народная легенда о неземном, сверхъестественном происхождении музыки, пения. Она рассказывает о том, что парящая высоко в небе божественная песня, пролетая над великой степью казахов-кочевников, опустилась очень низко, поэтому народ, услышавший ее, от природы наделен большим музыкальным даром и способностями. А еще в народе говорят: «Бог вложил в душу каждого казаха частицу кюя с момента его рождения». Не случайно, наверное, люди пришлые, «со стороны», наблюдавшие за жизнью и бытом казахов в XVIII – XIX веках, не без удивления и восхищения отмечали сильно бросающуюся в глаза способность народа к творчеству, стремительной музыкально-поэтической импровизации, широкую вовлеченность в сферу музенирования всего населения – от младенцев до глубоких старцев.

Фольклор Северного Казахстана был создан древними племенами и народами, принявшими участие в этногенезе казахов. Они вели кочевой образ жизни, очень сильна была шаманская традиция, важной частью которой была музыка. Музыкальные мифы и легенды, являющиеся неотъемлемой частью традиционной религиозной системы наших предков, музыкальный инструмент ставят на высшую ступень мироздания как создателя и носителя космического порядка, проводника энергий, объединяющих в гармоничное целое, космос, природу и человека. Корневая музыкальная традиция в нашем регионе передавалась устным путём от отца – к сыну, от учителя – к ученику, из прошлого – в будущее.

Наиболее известные музыкальные инструменты Северного Казахстана – *домбра, қобыз, шертер, саз сырнай, шанкобыз, жетіген, дауылпаз, асатаяқ, сыйбызығы*. Они звучали и звучат по сей день на североказахстанской земле для аккомпанемента пению, на календарных и семейных торжествах. В распоряжении фольклорного ансамбля «Айнаколь» есть лишь небольшая часть из многообразия музыкальных инструментов Казахстана, на которых играют следующие музыканты: Руслан Койшыбаев (руководитель ансамбля) – домбыра; Алмас Омаров – домбыра; Асель Бейсенбина – домбыра; Ерсын Бексентов – домбыра; Асель Сазданова – шертер; Ануарбек Файзулин – шертер; Азамат Бекешев – шертерконтрабас; Жулдыз Жузбаева – кобыз-прима; Беркимбек Зарапулы – кыл-кобыз; Назгуль Камалиева – саз сырнай; Акан Камыров – сырнай (баян); Сайран Сабитов – ударные инструменты.

Домбра (каз. *домбыра*) – казахский народный двухструнный щипковый музыкальный инструмент (рис. 1). Также является народным инструментом у ногайцев. Применяется в качестве аккомпанирующего и сольного, а также основного инструмента в казахской народной музыке. Используются современными исполнителями. Корпус грушевидной формы и длинный гриф, разделённый ладами. Струны обычно настроены в кварту или квинту. Одним из величайших домбристов является казахский народный музыкант и композитор Курмангазы, оказавший большое влияние на развитие казахской музыкальной культуры, в том числе и домбровой музыки: его музыкальная композиция «Адай» популярна в Казахстане и за рубежом. Домбра –