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## SUMMARY, No. 7 (82), 2009

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This extra large issue deals with the Belarusian historiography of the 1920s. It gave a stunning rise for professional expertise of the Belarusian past. No wonder that the Soviet regime killed its most significant representatives. The Soviet leadership realized that their work was a foundation of a Belarusian nation-building, uncontrollable from the imperial centre. Thus their researches originally appeared in very small academic publications with tiny circulations. They never have been re-published and remain unknown even among the professional historians.

The issue opens with a preface of the «ARCHE» editor in chief **Valer Bułhakaŭ** and the issue guest editor **Aleh Dziarnovič** who discuss either technical things, like the principles of the choice of texts, its historical background, and general ones, e.g. the policy of memory in the Soviet era and in the post-Soviet Belarus.

The rubrics 'Country' presents the pieces on Belarus at the beginning of second millennium — «The Lithuanians and the Slavs in Their Relations over XI—XIIIth Centuries» by **Matvei Liubavsky**, «Two Words on 'Volaty'. On the Problem of the Initial Population of Belarus» by **Anton Jasinski** and «Połack Land in the Beginning of XIVth Century» by **Uładzimier Pičeta**.

The next rubric 'State' presents the Grand Duchy of Lithuania as 'The Lithuanian-Belarusian State': «'The Lithuanian-Belarusian State' in the Beginning of the XIVth Century» by **Matvei Liubavsky**, «Social and Economic Structure of the Lithuanian-Belarusian State in XVI—XVIIIth Centuries» by **Mitrafan Doŭnar-Zapolski** and «The Condition of the Lithuanian-Belarusian State after The Union of Lublin» by **Vasil Družcyc**.

The mediaeval and early modern urban culture in Belarus is the main topic in: «Magistrate in the Belarusian Towns with Magdeburg Rights in XV— XVIIth Centuries», «The Reeves (vojty) and Their Power in the Belarusian Royal Towns with Magdeburg Rights», «The Belarusian Towns in Historical Literature», «Vilnia in the First Half of XVIth Century» (all pieces by **Vasil Družcyc**), «Bieraście in XVIth Century» by **Todar Zabiela**, «The History of Mahiloŭ till It Was Granted the Magdeburg Rights» by **Ciarenči Ściapanau**, «Mahiloŭ Merchant House in 1681—1685» and «Mahiloŭ Community of 'Prasały» (both by **Žmicier Daŭhiała**), «Minsk at the End of XVth and in the Beginning of XVIth Centuries» by **Vasil Družcyc**, «The Ancient Minsk. Sketches from the History of the Castle and the Economy of the Town» by **Žmicier Daŭhiała**, «Sketches from the Social and Economic Life of Navahradak in XVIth Century» by **Andrej Burdziejka**, «Polociae moenia. Historical and Topographical Sketches from Połack Fortifications» by **Žmicier Daŭhiała**.

«Peoples» section tells about different ethnic groups in mediaeval and early modern Belarus: **Izrail Sosis**'s account «Social and Cultural Condition in Lithuania and Belarus before Poland Partition» and **I. Raurebe** «Abram Kunki — a Jew Voyager in Belarus at the End of XVIIIth century», «The Tatars in Belarus» by **Vital Volski**, and «Gypsies in Belarus» by **Žmicier Daŭhiała** highlight the Jewish, Tatar and Gypsy presence in the country.

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«Narratives» section includes «The Belarusian Revival in the XVIth Century» by **Uładzimier Pičeta**, «On the Jubilee of the Belarusian Book-Printing» by **Mitrafan Doŭnar-Zapolski**, «Sketches from the Belarusian Literature of XVIIth Century» by **Žmicier Daŭhiała** and two accounts by **Alaksandar Savič** — «Uniate Schools for Western-Ruthenian Youth before Union of Brest» as well as «Western-Ruthenian Uniate Schools in XVII—XVIIIth Centuries».

The 'Law' section deals generally with a legal legacy of the Lithuanian Statute, which was published three times in XVIth century and created a notorious legal order: «On the Language of the Lithuanian Statute» by **Vasil Družcyc**, «The Land Law in Statutes of 1529 and 1566» by **Uładzimier Pičeta**, «A Land-Lord and a Farmer According to the Lithuanian Statute of 1566» by **Andrej Burdziejka**, «A Land-Lord and a Farmer According to the Lithuanian Statute of 1588» by **Todar Zabiela** as well as two accounts by **Aksińnia Taŭstales** — «Bail Law» and «Family Law According to the Lithuanian Statutes».

The issue ends with the rubrics 'Gentry', which consists of two pieces by **Anton Jasinski** — «An attempt of Critical Study of the Book of the Tributes of Great Dux Casimir» and «Vasil Paŭłavič Lubič, the Clerc of Great Dux Casimir, as a Representative of Big Landowners of XV Century» and a piece by **Uładzimier Pičeta** «Ustava na Vałoki» of Queen Bona».