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Viltuška veja gospodov Mariborskih pred letom 1311

IZVLEČEK

Prispevek predstavlja izvor, zgodnje delovanje ter dosežke rodbine Viltuških – stranske veje rodbine Mariborskih. V času nastanka rodbine je bilo politično stanje na območju današnje slovenske Štajerske precej nestabilno. Razlog za to je bil tudi v tem, da je vojvodina Štajerska konec 12. stoletja dobila novega gospodarja – dinastijo Babenberžanov. Za Viltuške, ki so bili deželnoknežji ministeriali, je bilo to velikega pomena, čeprav viri kažejo, da se jim v 13. stoletju ni uspelo prebiti do vidnejšega položaja na deželni ravni. Rekonstrukcijo dogajanja je omogočila analiza ohranjenih pisnih virov, zlasti Avstrijske rimane kronike in številnih listin.

KLJUČNE BESEDE

gospodje Viltuški, gospodje Mariborski, Štajerska, visoki srednji vek, Ottokar II. Přemysl, Bela IV., Habsburžani, štajerski deželni zbori, ministeriali

ABSTRACT

VILTUŠ (WILDHAUS) BRANCH OF THE LORDS OF MARIBOR (MARBURG) BEFORE 1311

The contribution presents the origin, early operations, and achievements of the Viltuš (Wildhaus) family, a side branch of the Lords of Maribor (Marburg). At the time of the formation of the family, the territory of present-day Styria was faced with a rather volatile political situation. One of the reasons was that, at the end of the twelfth century, the Duchy of Styria obtained a new master – the Babenberg dynasty. This was of a major consequence for the ministerial family of Viltuš, even though according to sources, they passed the thirteenth century without being elevated to a notable territorial rank. The reconstruction of the developments was made possible by an analysis of preserved written sources, especially the Austrian Rhyme Chronicle, and a substantial number of documents.

KEY WORDS

Lords of Viltuš (Wildhaus), Lords of Maribor (Marburg), Styria, High Middle Ages, Ottokar II. Přemysl, Bela IV., Habsburgs, Styrian territorial diets, ministeriales

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S U M M A R Y

Viltuš (Wildhaus) branch of the Lords of Maribor (Marburg) before 1311

The contribution presents the origin, early operations, and achievements of the Viltuš (Wildhaus) family, a side branch of the Lords of Maribor (Marburg). The family existed and was politically active from the period starting at the end of the twelfth century until its extinction in the second half of the

fifteenth century. The research drew on a substantial number of primary sources, especially the Austrian Rhyme Chronicle, and a collection of documents for the history of the former Duchy of Styria. Although researchers were already familiar with the Viltuš family in the past, they usually mentioned it in passing and in connection with some broader topic, most notably the Lords of Maribor.

In the period between the end of the twelfth and early fourteenth centuries, the Eastern Alpine territory was faced with a politically volatile situation. The Babenbergs held the rein in Austria and Styria from the end of the twelfth to the mid-thirteenth century. However, with no undisputed and universally recognized master to succeed them, Austria and Styria passed between hands until 1278, when both duchies came under the Habsburg rule. In accordance with the peace treaty of 1311, the Savinja, which had hitherto been held in pledge by the Carinthian Duke Henry of Gorizia-Tyrol, was handed over to the Habsburgs and incorporated into Styria.

During the second half of the twelfth century, the Styrian branch of the Maribor family built the Viltuš Castle on what was perhaps a forcefully acquired land of the St. Paul Monastery, with which they seem to have maintained close contacts throughout the entire thirteenth century as well as the first years of the fourteenth century. The political plans of the Viltuš family did not differ considerably from those of other families occupying the territory of present-day Slovenian Styria. They exploited the rapidly changing political situation to derive as much personal gain as possible. Thus, for example, they extorted a few estates from the St. Paul Monastery and, in the early 1250s – in alliance with the elected Archbishop of Salzburg Philip – perhaps also actively interfered in noble feuds. Two members of their (extended) family were even promoted to the office of the Bishop of Gurk.

During the second half of the thirteenth and in the first years of the fourteenth century, the Viltuš family inherited vast estates from the Lords of Rogatec (Rohitsch), Konjice (Gonobitz) and Wildon. For a short period, they also came into the possession of (Bamberg's) Muta. Nevertheless, their significance never extended beyond their local environment and they were never promoted to the highest strata of Styrian nobility. The family's political activities remained confined to local events that took place in the southern part of Styria and had no influence on the developments that unfolded in other parts of the duchy.